

Grade 8- READING

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, c, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

A

BEACHCOMBER

After retiring, my uncle – a lover of the sea – took up a strange leisure activity: he spends most mornings at the beach, looking for things that the sea sends ashore. He says: 'It's a multi-beneficial leisure activity. I can get some exercise, bending, picking up, and walking. I can breathe the fresh air and enjoy the vastness and quietness of the sea. Sometimes I watch the children playing beach games and I feel years younger. At the same time, I can also clean the beach. It's volunteer work, isn't it? Many of the things I pick up from the beach are still useful to someone. I clean them and sell them at the Sunday flea market in the town nearby. Do you know of any leisure activity that pays? Mine does!'

1. When does the writer's uncle often go to the beach?

- A. in the morning
- B. in the afternoon
- C. at noon
- D. in the evening

2. What kind of volunteer work does he do?

- A. Collecting rubbish on the seashore
- B. Raising money for local environmental campaigns
- C. Helping injured animals
- D. Walking to raise awareness of environment problems

3. What is NOT mentioned as a benefit of his leisure activity?

- A. He can get some exercise.
- B. He can enjoy fresh air.
- C. He can earn some money.
- D. He can socialize with friends.

4. What does the writer think about his uncle's leisure activity?

- A. It's strange.
- B. It's boring
- C. It's good for the environment
- D. It's relaxing

5. What is the sea like?

- A. It's frigid and stagnant.
- B. It's vast and quiet
- C. It's peaceful, but polluted.
- D. It's foamy and polluted.

MY VILLAGE

We are Khmer Krom, one of the biggest ethnic groups in the south of Viet Nam. We live by farming – mostly rice – and fishing on the Mekong River. Life is sometimes hard as our work depends heavily on the weather. When it is not harvest time, the men of the village go fishing from early morning and don't return until late afternoon. By the time they return, most of the village women will be waiting for them on the river bank. They wait to buy the fish, which they will later sell at the local market or bring to the nearby town for a higher price. We children will be there too. We love running around the beach and waiting for the boats to come in.

Our most important festival of the year is the Chol Chnam Thmay, which celebrates the New Year. It

falls in mid-April. Every family tries to prepare well for the festive activities. The community also visits and helps poor families so that everybody has a happy New Year.

1. Where do the Khmer Krom live?

- A. in the mountainous region
- B. in the south of Vietnam
- C. in the north of Vietnam
- D. in Central Vietnam

2. What does the Khmer Krom mostly live on?

- A. Making fish sauce
- B. Rice farming and fishing
- C. Doing traditional crafts
- D. Farming and tourism

3. Why is life hard for the Khmer?

- A. Because their jobs depend heavily on the weather.
- B. Because they used basic tools in farming
- C. Because of unhealthy soil and polluted water
- D. Because they lack education and training

4. What do the women do with the fish they buy from the fishermen?

- A. They dry and keep them for winter months.
- B. They sell them in the local market or the town nearby.
- C. They make fish sauce
- D. They cook delicious dishes and sell them at the restaurants for tourists.

5. What is NOT TRUE about Chol Chnam Thmay?

- A. Every family tries to prepare well for the festival.
- B. It's a celebration of the New Year.
- C. It's the most important festival of the Khmer
- D. It's celebrated at the end of March.

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, c, or D to indicate the correct word that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

NGOC LU BRONZE DRUM

Dong Son bronze drums are very famous _____ (1) its cultural value. They are often used as a musical instrument in festivals and rituals. Of about 200 drums discovered, Ngoc Lu bronze drum is considered _____ (2) beautiful drum of the Dong Son culture ever found in Vietnam. It is now preserved at the National Museum of Vietnam History in Hanoi. This drum has a large size and an ancient look with many decorative _____ (3). These patterns include a multi-ray star (symbolizing the shining sun) and in between the star rays are designs of stylized peacock feathers.

The Ngoc Lu bronze drum is the most typical one in the bronze drum system of Vietnam, and at the same time it _____ (4) the brilliant peak of the Dong Son culture. The drum represents _____ (5) knowledge, artistic talent of the ancient Viet.

- | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. A. in | B. for | C. of | D. with |
| 2. A. as | B. more | C. most | D. the most |
| 3. A. materials | B. patterns | C. styles | D. ingredients |
| 4. A. symbolizes | B. symbolized | C. has symbolised | D. is symbolizing |
| 5. A. science | B. scientist | C. scientific | D. scientifically |

WRITING

Mark letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the sentence that is closest in meaning to the original sentence in each of the following questions.

1. The last time I saw Rose was three years ago.

- A. I haven't seen Rose since three years.
- B. I haven't seen Rose three years ago.
- C. I didn't see Rose for three years.
- D. I haven't seen Rose for three years.

2. Dad started collecting stamps five years ago.

- A. Dad has collected stamps for five years.
- B. Dad was collecting stamps for five years.
- C. Dad collected stamps five years ago.
- D. Dad has started to collect stamps for five years.

3. many/ place/ the world/ / people/ used/ dye/ cloth/ nature/ material/.

- A. In many places in the world, people used dyeing cloth by natural materials.
- B. In many places in the world, people used to dye cloth with natural materials.
- C. In many places in the world, people used to dyeing cloth by natural materials.
- D. In many places in the world, people used to dye cloth with nature materials.

4. local government/ suggest/ build a road/ Nam Cat Tien Park.

- A. The local government suggested building a road through Nam Cat Tien Park.
- B. The local government suggested us to build a road through Nam Cat Tien Park.
- C. Local government suggested to build a road through the Nam Cat Tien Park.
- D. Local government suggested building a road through the Nam Cat Tien Park.

5. She / have / opportunity / study / Australia /last year.

- A. She has had an opportunity to study in Australia last year.
- B. She had an opportunity studying in Australia last year.
- C. She has an opportunity studying in Australia last year.
- D. She had an opportunity to study in Australia last year.

6. It's difficult for Hoang to earn his living.

- A. Hoang finds it difficult earning his living.
- B. Earning his living is difficult for Hoang
- C. Hoang finds it difficult earn his living.
- D. To earn his living are difficult for Hoang.

7. The table and the desk are the same size.

- A. The table is bigger than the desk.
- B. The table is not as big as the desk.
- C. The desk is bigger than the table.
- D. The table is as big as the desk.

8. We have never seen such a pretty flower display.

- A. This flower display is prettier than some we've ever seen.
- B. This is the prettiest flower display we've ever seen.
- C. This is one of the prettiest flower displays we've ever seen.
- D. This flower display isn't as pretty as those we've ever seen.

9. Your car is more expensive than mine.

- A. My car is as cheaper as yours.
- B. My car is not as expensive as your.
- C. My car is as expensive as yours.
- D. My car is cheaper than yours.

10. *It took me 4 hours to read the first chapter of the book.*

- A. I spent 4 hours reading the first chapter of the book.
- B. I spent 4 hours read first chapter of the book.
- C. I spent 4 hours to read the first chapter of the book.
- D. I spent 4 hours reading first chapter of the book.

11. *She likes watching TV more than reading books.*

- A. She prefers watching TV than reading books.
- B. She prefers watching TV to reading books.
- C. She prefers to watching TV rather than read books
- D. She prefers watch TV rather than read books.

12. *She is the most intelligent woman I have ever met.*

- A. I have never met a more intelligent woman than her.
- B. She is not as intelligent as the women I have ever met.
- C. I have ever met such an intelligent woman.
- D. She is more intelligent than me.

Mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the most meaningful sentence written from the given words.

13. *read/ newspaper/ morning/ give/ he/ please/.*

- A. Read newspapers in the morning gives he please.
- B. Reading newspapers in the morning gives him pleasure.
- C. Reading newspapers on the morning will give him pleased.
- D. To read newspapers in the morning give him please

14. *I / look forward / make / own conical hat / Tay Ho village / Hue.*

- A. I look forward to making my own conical hat in Tay Ho village in Hue.
- B. I look forward to make my own conical hat in Tay Ho village in Hue.
- C. I look forward making my own conical hat in Tay Ho village in Hue.
- D. I am looking forward to make my own conical hat in Tay Ho village in Hue.

15. *First poem/ much/ good/ second.*

- A. First poem is much good than the second.
- B. The first poem was much better than the second.
- C. First poem is more best than the second.
- D. The first poem is much the best for the second.

16. *In/ past/ most/ girls/ like/ knit/ sweaters/ themselves.*

- A. In the past most girls like to knit sweaters for themselves.
- B. In the past most girls liked knitting sweaters for themselves.
- C. In the past most girls liked to knitting sweaters for themselves.
- D. In the past most girls like knitting sweaters for themselves.

17. *Hoi An / beautiful / than/ town/ Vietnam.*

- A. Hoi An is much beautiful than town in Vietnam.
- B. Hoi An is much more beautiful as than any town in Vietnam,
- C. Hoi An is more beautiful than any other town in Vietnam.
- D. Hoi An is the most beautiful than all town in Vietnam.

18. No-one / kind-hearted / than / my mom.

- A. No-one is more kind-hearted than my mom. ☐ B. No-one isn't as kind-hearted than my mom.
C. No-one is as kind-hearted than my mom. D. No-one isn't more kind-hearted than my mom.

19. We were late for school because of the heavy rain.

- A. We came to school late because the heavy rain.
B. We were late for school because the rain is heavy.
C. Because it rained heavily, we were late for school.
D. Because the rain was heavy, we come to school late.

20. This/ by far/ / good/ experience/ I/ ever/ have

- A. This is by far a good experience I have ever had.
B. This is by far the best experience I have ever had.
C. This is by far a better experience I have ever had.
D. This is by far the best experience I ever had.