READING for the State Exam 1

10. Установите соответствие между заголовками 1–8 и текстами A–G. Запишите свои ответы в таблицу. Используйте каждую цифру только один раз. В задании есть один лишний заголовок.

1. Tourist Boom	**5. Practical Invention**
2. Ancient Wonder	**6. Struggle for Survival**
3. Living Longer	**7. Important Event**
4. Great Beginning	**8. Agriculture Success**

A. Surely nothing has done more for the comfort and happiness of mankind than the advance of medical knowledge! Lots of people have benefited from aspirin and lots of lives have been saved by penicillin. Surgeons can perform the most amazing operations. Average life expectancy in Europe has risen dramatically over the last hundred years.

B. Only a few years before men were walking on the moon, reputable scientists declared that it was impossible. But in 1969 Neil Armstrong stepped out of his space capsule and made his famous statement, 'That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.' However, progress in this area is slower now. Not as much money goes into research as in the 1960s.

C. Computers have already revolutionized the way we live and work. But it is early days for computers. We do not know how much they are still changing the world. Al ready, Internet users can buy things and study holiday offers.

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It's much easier to edit and print documents using a PC. More computer wonders are yet to come.

D. The greatest wonder of the modern world is simply that we are still here. We have bombs that could destroy the world but we try our best not to use them. Because of people's effort no government dares to use such weapons. The year 2001 marked the 100th anniversary of the Nobel Peace Prize, the most famous attempt to raise awareness of the issues of war and peace.

E. In 1724, Jonathan Swift wrote, 'Whoever makes two blades of grass or two ears of corn grow where only one grew before serves mankind better than the whole race of politicians'. In Europe farmers have done it and we produce enough food to feed the world. If only politicians could find a way to share it with those parts of the world where there is still famine.

F. It is true that the Olympic Games are now commercialized and there is greed and drug abuse. However, it is a competition in which every country of the world takes part. Every four years, for a brief moment, we see these countries come together in peace and friendship. We see people from warring countries shake hands. We feel hope again for the future of mankind.

G. In the past, a holiday used to mean simply a day when you did not work. Now mil lions of holidaymakers travel to all parts of the world. Perhaps, not all people like to see lots of tourists in their countries, but we must admit that a phenomenon which sees the population of Greece treble is a wonder of the world.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G

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11. Прочитайте текст и заполните пропуски A–F частями предложений, обозначенными цифрами 1–7. Одна из частей в списке 1–7 — лишняя. Занесите цифры, обозначающие соответствующие части предложений, в таблицу.

Hogmanay is a Scottish holiday that celebrates the New Year. Observed on December 31, festivities typically spill over into the first couple of days of January. In fact, there's a tradition known as 'first-footing', **A** …… . Of course, the guest must be dark-haired and preferably male. Redheads and women aren't nearly as lucky! This tradition stems from the time when a red— or blonde-haired stranger was probably an invading Norseman. Gifts are given to guests, and one of the popular food items on the Hogmanay menu is the black bun, **B**……. .

In addition to national observance, many local areas have their own customs **C**……. In the town of Burghead, Moray, an ancient tradition called 'burning the clavie' takes place each year on January, 11. The clavie is a big bonfire, fuelled primarily by split casks. One of these is joined back together with a big nail, filled with flammable material, and lit on fire. Flaming, it's carried around the village and up to a Roman altar known to residents as the Douro. The bonfire is built around the clavie. When the burnt clavie crumbles, **D**…… .

In Stonehaven, Kincardineshire, the locals make giant balls of tar, paper and chicken wire. These are attached to several feet of chain or wire, and then set on fire. A designated 'swinger' whirls the ball around his head and walks through the village streets to the local harbor. At the end of the festival, any balls still on fire are cast into the water, **E**……. .

The town of Biggar, Lanarkshire, celebrates with a big holiday bonfire. In the early 1940s, one or two locals complained about the size of the fire, and celebration organizers agreed to have a smaller fire. This was erected as promised, but before it was lit, the local traditionalists trucked in cartload after cartload of coal and wood, making a giant pyre, F…….!

The Presbyterian church disapproved of Hogmanay in the past, but the holiday still enjoys a great deal of popularity.

1. when it comes to celebrating Hogmanay
2. which then burned for a whopping five days before running out of fuel
3. the locals each grab a lit piece to kindle a fire in their own hearth
4. where they are able to follow national traditions
5. which is quite an impressive sight in the dark
6. which is a really rich fruitcake

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7. in which the first person to cross a home's threshold brings the residents good luck for the coming year

A	B	C	D	E	F

*Прочитайте текст и выполните задания **12-18**. В каждом задании запишите в поле ответа цифру 1,2,3 или 4, соответствующую выбранному Вами варианту ответа.*

In a first class carriage of a train speeding Balkanward two Britons sat in friendly, fitful converse. They had first foregathered in the cold grey dawn at the frontier line, where the presiding eagle takes on an extra head and Teuton lands pass from Hohenzo Ilern to Habsburg. After a day's break of their journey at Vienna the travellers had again foregathered at the train side and paid one another the compliment of settling instinctively into the same carriage. The elder of the two was a wine businessman. The other was certainly a journalist. Neither man was talkative and each was grateful to the other for not being talkative. That is why from time to time they talked.

One topic of conversation naturally thrust itself forward in front of all others. In Vienna the previous day they had learned of the mysterious vanishing of a world-famous picture from the Louvre.

'A dramatic disappearance of that sort is sure to produce a crop of imitations,' said the Journalist.
'I was thinking of the spiriting away of human beings rather than pictures. In particular I was thinking of the case of my aunt, Crispina Umberleigh.'
'I remember hearing something of the affair,' said the Journalist, 'but I was away from England at the time. I never quite knew what was supposed to have happened. '
'You may hear what really happened if you respect it as a confidence,' said the Wine Merchant. 'In the first place I may say that the disappearance of Mrs. Umberleigh was not regarded by the family entirely as bereavement. My uncle, Edward Umberleigh, was not by any means a weak-kneed individual, in fact in the world of politics he had to be reckoned as a strong man, but he was unmistakably dominated by Crispina. Some people are born to command. Mrs. Umberleigh was born to legislate, codify, administrate, censor, license, ban, execute, and sit in judgement generally. From the kitchen regions upwards everyone in the household came under her despotic sway and stayed there with the submissiveness of molluscs involved in a glacial epoch. Her sons and daughters stood in mortal awe

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of her. Their studies, friendships, diet, amusements, religious observances, and way of doing their hair were all regulated and ordained according to the august lady's will and pleasure.

This will help you to understand the sensation of stupefaction which was caused in the family when she unobtrusively and inexplicably vanished. It was as though St. Paul's Cathedral or the Piccadilly Hotel had disappeared in the night, leaving nothing but an open space to mark where it had stood.

As far as it was known, nothing was troubling her; in fact there was much before her to make life particularly well worth living. The youngest boy had come back from school with an unsatisfactory report, and she was to have sat in judgement on him the very afternoon of the day she disappeared. Then she was in the middle of a newspaper correspondence with a rural dean in which she had already proved him guilty of heresy, inconsistency, and unworthy quibbling, and no ordinary consideration would have induced her to discontinue the controversy. Of course the matter was put in the hands of the police, but as far as possible it was kept out of the papers, and the generally accepted explanation of her withdrawal from her social circle was that she had gone into a nursing home. '

'Couldn't your uncle get hold of the least clue?'

'As a matter of fact, he had received some information, though of course I did not know of it at the time. He got a message one day telling him that his wife had been kidnapped and smuggled out of the country; she was said to be hidden away, on one of the islands off the coast of Norway I think she was in comfortable surroundings and well cared for. And with the information came a demand for money; a lump sum of 2000 pounds was to be paid yearly. Failing this she would be immediately restored to her family.'

The Journalist was silent for a moment, and then began to laugh quietly.

'It was certainly an inverted form of holding to ransom,' he said. 'Did your uncle succumb to it?'

'Well, you see, for the family to have gone back into the Crispina thraldom after having tasted the delights of liberty would have been a tragedy, and there were even wider considerations to be taken into account. Since his bereavement he had unconsciously taken up a far bolder and more initiatory line in public affairs, and his popularity and influence had increased correspondingly. All this he knew would be jeopardised if he once more dropped into the social position of the husband of Mrs. Umberleigh. Of course, he had severe qualms of conscience about the arrangement. Later on, when he took me into his confidence, he told me that in

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paying the ransom he was partly influenced by the fear that if he refused it, the kidnappers might have vented their rage and disappointment on their captive. It was better, he said, to think of her being well cared for as a highly valued paying guest on one of the Lofoden Islands than to have her struggling miserably home in a maimed and mutilated condition. Anyway he paid the yearly instalment as punctually as one pays fire insurance. And then, after a disappearance of more than eight years, Crispina returned with dramatic suddenness to the home she had left so mysteriously.'

'She had given her captors the slip?'

'She had never been captured. Her wandering away had been caused by a sudden and complete loss of memory. She usually dressed rather in the style of a superior kind of charwoman, and it was not so very surprising that she should have imagined that she was one. She had wandered as far afield as Birmingham, and found fairly steady employment there, her energy and enthusiasm in putting people's rooms in order counter balancing her obstinate and domineering characteristics. It was the shock of being patronisingly addressed as 'my good woman' by a curate who was disputing with her where the stove should be placed in a parish concert hall that led to the sudden restoration of her memory. '

'But,' exclaimed the Journalist, 'the Lofoden Island people! Who had they got hold of?' 'A purely mythical prisoner. It was an attempt in the first place by someone who knew something of the domestic situation to bluff a lump sum out of Edward Umberleigh before the missing woman turned up. Here is Belgrad and another custom house.'

(Adapted from "The Disappearance Of Crispina Umberleigh"by H. H. Munro)

12. The two Britons in a first-class carriage were

1) colleagues. 2) friends. 3) fellow travellers. 4) acquaintances.

13. When Mrs. Umberleigh disappeared, all the family

1) regarded it entirely as bereavement.

2) felt a sense of loss.

3) were extremely surprised.

4) suffered a lot.

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14. The narrator considered Mrs. Umberleigh to be

1) domineering.
2) sympathetic.
3) the heart of the family.
4) kind to her relatives.

15. On the day of her disappearance, Mrs. Umberleigh

1) sent for the police.
2) went to a nursing home.
3) spent the afternoon with her son.
4) wrote a letter to a rural dean.

16. Mrs. Umberleigh's husband paid 2000 pounds yearly mainly because

1) he was afraid that the kidnappers would do harm to his wife.
2) he did not want to put at risk his political career.
3) he wanted his wife to be well cared for.
4) he believed she would be happy on one of the Lofoden Islands.

17. Mrs. Umberleigh disappeared because

1) she went abroad.
2) she went into a nursing home.
3) she was kidnapped.
4) she had a sudden loss of memory.

18. During her absence Mrs. Umberleigh

1) worked for charity.
2) lived happily.
3) cleaned people's houses.
4) assisted a curate.

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