

UNIT 6_ VIET NAM THEN AND NOW

C.READING

II. Read the text about the London Underground transit system, and decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

The London Underground, or the Tube, is the popular public transportation system of London. The concept for the London Underground was first proposed in the 1830s, by a lawyer called Charles Pearson. However, not until 1863 was the first section of the Underground built, and opened to the public. On its opening day, it transported 38,000 passengers, and within the first year it had been used by 9.5 million passengers.

The system has been improved significantly over the past century, and now it includes twelve lines serving Greater London, operating from 5.00 am through to 1.00 am, Monday to Saturday. On Sundays, it operates a reduced service. For the passengers' convenience, the system is also interconnected with the overground train network, which links to other parts of the country outside London.

To enable passengers to get around easily, London Underground maps are distributed freely at all stations. Along with a plan of the Tube system, the free maps contain useful tips for safe and efficient travelling. The map itself is a design classic, with the various lines indicated in different colours, and clearly indicated junctions showing the stations where passengers can change between lines.

T F

1. It was first proposed by a famous London architect.
2. The system was opened to the public in the 18th century.
3. The system operates around the clock.
4. It is convenient to travel on the Tube because it connects with the rail system above the ground.
5. London Tube maps are provided free of charge at every station.
6. There are twelve lines in the Underground system.
7. You have to pay for tips about London Tube travelling.

III. Read the passage, and choose the correct answer A, B, C or D for each question.

Street Food Shoulder Poles on Saigon streets

Street food shoulder pole is familiar with Saigon people throughout many years. Nowadays it has become a special thing that makes travelers curious. In small areas of District 1 and District 3, we could count more than 100 vendors who earned money using shoulder poles. A shoulder pole, also called a carrying pole, is a **yoke** of wood or bamboo, used by people to carry a load. The vendors put their goods in two baskets from each end of the yoke.

In the downtown, we can meet young women with their shoulder poles. The baskets are covered with plastic wrap carefully to protect the foods from the street dust. In a tight space of one basket, she could mix the ingredients and bake the cake on a small charcoal which was defended by carton. The ready cakes were put in other basket.

In the morning or evening, on rainy or sunny day, Saigon streets are marked by shoulder poles of people from different regions of the country, which has become a unique part of Saigon. It has been said that it isn't hard to live in Saigon if you work hard. With the carrying pole on shoulders, the vendor has turned it into a "store". The reason is very simple, they don't have enough money to open a real store. Every day these women continue their journey through Saigon streets under the sun and the rain, selling cheap things or street foods to earn money and feed their children.

1. A shoulder pole _____.

- A. is the connection between wood and bamboo
- B. used to be called a carrying pole
- C. is a bar made of wood or bamboo
- D. is used to put goods on street vendor's shoulders

2. Street food shoulder pole is _____.

- A. used by street vendors to carry things
- B. a characteristic of District 1 and 3
- C. used to make foreign travelers curious
- D. a way for passer-by to have food

3. All of the following are true about shoulder poles EXCEPT that _____.

- A. street vendors can bake cakes there
- B. the two baskets have the same function
- C. they can contain enough things to serve some customers
- D. they can be protected from dust

4. All of the following are benefits of shoulder poles EXCEPT that _____.

- A. they can help street vendors to sell many things without a store
- B. street vendors can support their families with the help of shoulder poles
- C. it is a way for street vendors to carry goods around the streets
- D. women are marked by unique shoulder poles from different regions

5. The word “yoke” in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.

A. a piece of wood that is shaped to fit across a person’s shoulders to carry two equal loads

B. a wooden bar that is connected to the vehicles or loads so that they can be pulled away

C. something that connects two things or people, usually in a way that limits freedom

D. a long piece of wood that is fastened across the necks to pull heavy loads