OPEN AIR THEATER READING

Read the text and questions below. Do the multiple choice

In Britain, the ancient tradition of open-air performances is still alive and well. Cornwall has some of Britain's older working theaters, with one open-air theater actually built into a cliff, a project only recently completed.

Two actors, Dave James and Muriel Thomas came from London theaters to join a theater company called Coastline. They now regularly perform in just such a theater, by the sea. "One thing about performing outside is we never know what's happen. For example, if a bird lands on stage, we can't act as if it's not there—the audience are all watching it. So, we just bring the bird into the plan, too. Once, about 30 dolphins came past, jumping out of the water and showing off. The audience were all chatting about them instead of watching the play, so the actors just gave up for a while and watched the dolphins, too."

The weather can also be difficult. Sometimes it's been so bad," said Muriel, "that we've asked the audience if they really want to stay. But usually they sit with their coals and umbrellas and say, "Yes, please carry on!" They must feel it isn't much fun, but no one's returned their ticket so far."

Coastline's director, John Barnack, works hard to introduce people to theater. "Many people think of theaters as clubs where they don't belong and are not welcome." He explains. "Sitting in the open-air changes that feeling. The audience are far more involved – they aren't sitting in the dark, at a distance like in normal theaters, and that improves the actors' performances, too. I'm very proud of the work they've done so far."

21. What is the writer trying to do in the text?
A follow the development of open-air theater in Britain
B describe how one one-air theater was built.
C explain what it's like to work in an open-air theater.
D Warn readers about the disadvantages of attending open-air performances.

22. When plays are disturbed by local wildlife, the actors
A change their performance to include it
B carry on as though nothing had happened.
C stop and have a chat with the audience.
D cancel the rest of the performances.

23. What's the audience's attitude to bad weather during performances?
A They worry about the actors getting wet.
B They say that is stops them enjoying the pay.
C They accept is as they have come well-prepared.
D They feel they should have their money back.

24. What does John Barnack say about outdoor theater?
A He's afraid the atmosphere is more stressful for actors.
B He's happy that the audience feel comfortable being there.
C He's worried that it creates an atmosphere similar to a club.
D He welcomes the distance it creates between actors and audience.

25. What would an actor from the coastline company write in his or her diary?
A A difficult performance today—it was pouring rain. Luckily the audience couldn't see my face in the dark
B The theater looks so old it's hard to imagine they've just finished it. I'd prefer to be by the sea while I'm performing, though
C I'm glad I moved from the London theater scene. But I don't think our director is satisfied with what we've done so far
D I'm keeping a tradition going and it tests my acting skills, as I never know what unexpected things I'll have to deal with



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