LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *You will hear the text* **Notting Hill Carnival** *twice. Before you listen to it, read the questions in about* ***2 minutes****. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have* ***5 minutes*** *to answer the questions, choosing among A, B, C, or D. Then you will hear the text again and will have* ***2 minutes*** *to check your answers. For every correct answer you will get* ***2 points****.*

1. In 1833, black people in Trinidad went out to the streets
- **A.** to abolish slavery.
- **B.** to protest against their white masters.
- **C.** to celebrate their freedom.
- **D.** to participate in a traditional carnival.

2. In the 1950s, immigrants from the West Indies
- **A.** were welcomed to London.
- **B.** were met with hostility and prejudice.
- **C.** were expected to express their creativity.
- **D.** were encouraged to preserve their cultural identity.

3. The Notting Hill Carnival goes on for
- **A.** one day.
- **B.** two days.
- **C.** three days.
- **D.** a week.

4. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as part of the Carnival?
- **A.** Calypso music.
- **B.** Traditional crafts.
- **C.** Colourful costumes.
- **D.** Caribbean food.

5. The Notting Hill Carnival has been held outdoors since
- **A.** 1833.
- **B.** the 1950s.
- **C.** 1964.
- **D.** 1988.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Directions: *You will hear the text* **An Attack on Queen Victoria** *twice. Before you listen to it, read the questions in about* ***2 minutes****. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have* ***10 minutes*** *to answer the questions, choosing among A, B, or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have* ***2 minutes*** *to check your answers. For every correct answer you will get* ***1 point****.*

6. There were four members of the royal family in the carriage.
- **A.** True.
- **B.** False.
- **C.** No information in the text.

7. The attacker was immediately arrested by policemen.
- **A.** True.
- **B.** False.
- **C.** No information in the text.

8. The Queen panicked when the shot rang out.
- **A.** True.
- **B.** False.
- **C.** No information in the text.

9. The pistol shot did not make the royal carriage stop.
- **A.** True.
- **B.** False.
- **C.** No information in the text.

10. Prince Albert did not witness the attack.
- **A.** True.
- **B.** False.
- **C.** No information in the text.

11. The attacker wore a shabby old cap.
- **A.** True.
- **B.** False.
- **C.** No information in the text.

12. Hamilton had worked as a bricklayer in France.
- **A.** True.
- **B.** False.
- **C.** No information in the text.

13. A toy gun was used for the attack.
- **A.** True.
- **B.** False.
- **C.** No information in the text.

14. Hamilton had meant to frighten the Queen for political reasons.
- **A.** True.
- **B.** False.
- **C.** No information in the text.

15. Hamilton did not try to run away after he fired the shot.
- **A.** True.
- **B.** False.
- **C.** No information in the text.

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READING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among A, B, or C. For every correct answer you will get* ***1 point.***

The Most Famous Sewing Machine

Isaac Merritt Singer was the man who designed the first practical and efficient sewing machine and used mass-production techniques to manufacture it. He also pioneered the hire-purchase system of buying on credit in small installments, which revolutionised consumer behaviour.

The Singers were a German immigrant family in Upper New York State, where Isaac was born in 1811. He had an unhappy childhood and a minimum of schooling. As a youth, he developed a passion for the theatre and worked as an actor whenever he could. He also took jobs as a labourer, carpenter or mechanic, and invented various machines. He was working in a machine-shop in Boston in 1851 when he was given a sewing machine to repair. Eleven days later he had constructed a better sewing machine, which he patented. He then set up I.M. Singer & Company with two partners named Zieber and Phelps to manufacture the machine. He promoted it energetically, taking it on demonstration tours around the country.

The Sewing Machine War between rival patent-holders and manufacturers ended with Singer's dominating the American market. Lady demonstrators were hired to disprove suggestions that women were too incompetent to work a machine. Singer's hire-purchase deals caused *Scientific American* to comment on the curious fact that customers preferred to pay $100 in monthly installments of $5 rather that $50 outright, even though they had the money. To increase his share in the profits, Singer ruthlessly pushed Phelps out of the company and swindled Zieber out when the latter fell ill. Singer convinced him he had little time left to live and owed it to his family to settle his affairs, by selling his shares to Singer at a knock-down price. Thus, Singer ended up as the company's single owner. But the unhealthy interest of the press in his private life became so tiresome that he took refuge in Europe in 1863 where he lived until his death in 1875.

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16. Singer invented the world's first sewing machine.
A. True.
B. False.
C. No information in the text.

17. As a youth, Singer didn't have a stable job.
A. True.
B. False.
C. No information in the text.

18. Women demonstrators were hired because men were incompetent to sew.
A. True.
B. False.
C. No information in the text.

19. Americans preferred to buy the sewing machines on credit.
A. True.
B. False.
C. No information in the text.

20. In his dealings with his business partners, Singer was unscrupulous.
A. True.
B. False.
C. No information in the text.

21. Zieber fell ill when Singer bought his shares.
A. True.
B. False.
C. No information in the text.

22. Singer left the United States because his profits were falling.
A. True.
B. False.
C. No information in the text.

23. By Singer's death his company dominated the world market of sewing machines.
A. True.
B. False.
C. No information in the text.

Directions: *Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among A, B, C, or D. For every correct answer you will get* ***1 point.***

Stickeen

The little fellow was adopted with enthusiasm by the Stickeen Indians as a sort of a good-luck totem and was named 'Stickeen' for the tribe. He could endure cold and hunger like a bear and swim like a seal. Some of his sly, soft, gliding motions brought

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the fox to mind. He was short-legged and bulky and his hair was long and silky and slightly waved. His most noticeable feature was his fine tail, which was about as airy and shady as a squirrel's and was carried curling forward almost to his nose. But his strength of character lay in his eyes. They looked as old as the hills, and as young, and as wild.

We sailed week after week through the long, intricate channels and inlets among the innumerable islands and mountains of the coast. The days that were too stormy for sailing I spent in the woods or on the mountains, wherever my studies called me, and Stickeen always insisted on going with me, however wild the weather, gliding like a fox through the bushes, wading through snow, swimming icy streams with the patience and endurance of a determined mountaineer, never tiring or getting discouraged.

Yet none of us was able to make out what Stickeen was really good for. He always insisted having his own way. He never obeyed an order, and never fetched birds the hunter shot. No matter what advances you might make, rarely a glance or a tail wag would you get for your pains. But though he was apparently as cold as a glacier, I tried hard to make his acquaintance, guessing there must be something worthwhile hidden beneath so much courage, endurance and love of wild-weathery adventure.

24. Stickeen is the name of
- **A.** a good-luck totem.
- **B.** the man who adopted the 'little fellow'.
- **C.** an Indian tribe.
- **D.** an Indian word for a 'foundling'.

25. Stickeen was
- **A.** a man.
- **B.** a squirrel.
- **C.** a seal.
- **D.** a dog.

26. Stickeen was
- **A.** old.
- **B.** young.
- **C.** middle-aged.
- **D.** There is no information in the text.

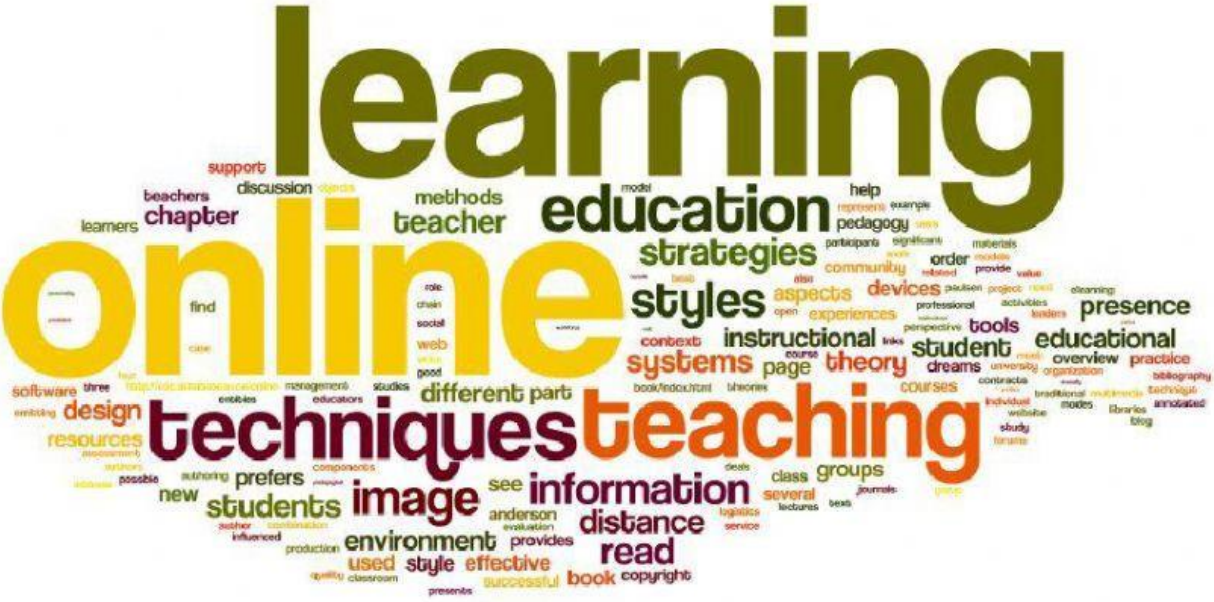
27. Stickeen's companion was
- **A.** an explorer.
- **B.** a mountaineer.
- **C.** an adventurer.
- **D.** a tramp.

28. Stickeen and his companion travelled
- **A.** by sea.
- **B.** on land.
- **C.** along rivers.
- **D.** All of the above.

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29. The nature of the region through which they were travelling was
- **A.** monotonous.
- **B.** varied.
- **C.** gloomy.
- **D.** cheerful.

30. As a companion, Stickeen was
- **A.** friendly and obliging.
- **B.** hostile and disobedient.
- **C.** reserved and self-dependent.
- **D.** cold and secretive.



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