

## Task A

Read the text below. For questions (1-5) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

A large portion of scientific research remains forever off the public attention. **Only** some of the studies deliver results that are important for the scientific community and **make** their way to textbooks. Then there are those studies that represent «achievements that **cannot** or should not be reproduced». Every year the Annals of Improbable Research highlights this last group with the Ig Nobel Prize.

The Ig Nobel Prize is a parody of the Nobel Prizes and is given out in late September or early October each year for ten unusual or trivial achievements in scientific research. **The** Ig Nobel Prizes honour achievements that make people laugh, and then think. The prizes are intended to celebrate the originality, honour the imagination and raise people's interest in science, medicine, and technology.

The prizes are presented to the winners by actual Nobel laureates. One person, Sir Andre Geim, won actually both an Ig Nobel Prize (in 2000) and a real Nobel Prize (in 2010). He won the Ig Nobel Prize for an experiment where he and another scientist successfully levitated a frog using magnets.

During the ceremony, each Ig Nobel Prize winner is given 60 seconds to explain their research. If they go over the time, a little girl, «Miss Sweetie Poo», will walk up to them and yell «Please ' stop: I'm bored» continually until the speaker stops. It was also once traditional for audience members to throw paper airplanes at the stage while the ceremony was taking place, but this practice has died out in recent years due to safety concerns.

Some examples of work that resulted in people winning the Ig Nobel Prizes include:

Veterinary Medicine: For the discovery that cows who are given names produce more milk than cows that don't have names.

Economics: For the invention of Clocky, an alarm clock on wheels that motors itself away — off the dresser and onto the floor — and hides, forcing you to get out of bed, find it and turn it off.

Linguistics: To a group that conclusively demonstrated that rats occasionally are unable to distinguish between Japanese and Dutch recordings played backwards.

Medicine: For research on how listening to country music affects suicide rates.

Astrophysics: For a paper illustrating that black holes **fulfil** all the technical requirements to be the location of biblical Hell.

Ornithology: To a group that researched why woodpeckers **don't** get headaches.

The Ig Nobels may be silly, but that's the point: not all **science** has to be serious and earth-changing. Ridiculous things exist right alongside the **significant, but that** doesn't make the universe's ridiculousness less meaningful. To paraphrase **the** Ig Nobel's motto, just because something makes someone laugh, it doesn't mean it won't **also make them** stop and consider the amazing things that exist in the world.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ The Ig Nobel Prize is
- A awarded for a discovery that usually makes its way to **textbooks**.
  - B** a mockery and an imitation of the Nobel Prize award.
  - C given out twice a year.
  - D intended to celebrate the significance of science.
- 2 Sir Andre Geim \_\_\_\_\_
- A made a frog fly.
  - B won actually two Ig Nobel Prizes (in 2000 and 2010)
  - C successfully levitated another scientist.
  - D never won the Nobel Prize.
- 3 What does not happen during the ceremony?
- A Each Ig Nobel Prize winner has 60 seconds to tell about his research
  - B A little girl, “Miss Sweetie Poo”, makes makes the speakers stop talking.
  - C Audience members throw paper airplanes at the stage
  - D The winners are presented with prizes by actual Nobel laureates
- 4 It was discovered that \_\_\_\_\_
- A cows who are given names produce better milk
  - B an alarm clock can run
  - C rats cannot attimes tell the difference between Japanese and Dutch recordings played backwards
  - D listening to country music affects suicide rates
- 5 What conclusion does the writer come to?
- A The Ig nobel Prize researches are silly and unimportant
  - B Science has to be serious and earth-changing
  - C Ridiculous things can be as important as the most serious ones
  - D If something makes someone laugh, it won't make them stop and consider the amazing things that exist in the world

## Task B

Read the texts below. Match choices (A— H) to (6-11). There are two choices you do not need to use.

Malware is a type of a computer code that includes viruses, worms, and Trojans horses that are potential threats to computer systems today. Let's look at some of them.

- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ **Worms** are designed to replicate themselves quickly to spread to other computers, often through a computer network. Most worms are only designed to spread as quickly as possible, so they do not usually try to change the computer systems they pass through. However, worms can create threat to the security, deleting files or even sending files via email. This is a common method for spam senders to spread junk email quickly, as the more computers are infected, the faster the spam mail will spread.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ **Trojan Horses**, or Trojans for short, are different from worms because they don't replicate themselves. Rather, Trojans are designed to trick you into downloading them to cause data loss and sometimes total-system harm. Just as in the ancient Greek story of the wooden horse that was to deceive the soldiers of Troy, Trojans present themselves as useful, interesting or routine programs to trick you into installing them **on** your computer.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ **Spyware** is designed to gather information about you without your knowledge. This information can be sent to another party without your consent, and it can even be used to take control over a computer. Spyware is capable of collecting any type of data, including your Internet history and banking information. Some forms of spyware can even install additional software or change your Internet settings, which can be a mere annoyance, or a problem that can take days to fix.
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ **Ransomware** infects your computer with the aim to restrict access to your computer system, perhaps preventing you from surfing the Internet or accessing the hard drive, and then demanding a payment to the malware creators. Some of the trickiest ransomware designers have acquired millions of dollars from unsuspecting users.
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ **Rootkits** are secret types of malware that tries to gain administrator access on your computer and then hide itself so you don't know it is in your system. This type of malware is generally difficult to detect and remove.  
Malware is not limited to these five examples, fortunately, antivirus software is designed to combat these threats by preventing the programs from entering your system.
- 11 \_\_\_\_\_ **Bots** are the type of software designed so as to automatically do certain tasks. Although some bots are created for relatively harmless purposes, bots can be also used for placing advertisements on websites, DDoS attacks, or malware distributing.

**This malware** \_\_\_\_\_

- A gets facts about a computer user without informing him/her.
- B is usually hidden deep inside your computer.
- C functions with the user's informed permission.
- D can easily copy itself.
- E is usually hidden within another program.
- F runs automated tasks.
- G refers to an ancient myth.
- H limits your opportunity to use your computer.

### Task C

Read the text below. For questions (12-16) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Marie Curie was born in 1867. She is one of the greatest scientists ever to have lived. She was a pioneer in the field of radioactivity and discovered the chemical elements radium and polonium. Curie is the only person ever to win two Nobel Prizes in two different sciences. Other achievements include being the first female professor at the University of Paris.

Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland. Her father was a Maths and Physics teacher and had a big influence on Marie's early education. From an early age Marie was an exceptional student with an amazing memory. She often went without food and sleep to study. Her brilliant mind led her to Paris to study and conduct her research.

She met her future husband Pierre Curie at the university. He considered Marie to be a genius and instantly wanted to work with her. They got married and spent most of their time together in their laboratory studying radioactive materials. Their research led to the discovery of radium, for which they were honoured with the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1903.

Pierre was killed in 1906 and Marie was devastated and extremely lonely. She threw herself even deeper into her work and won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1911. She spent the 1920s raising funds for more research with radium. In 1934 she died from a condition caused by decades of exposure to radiation. Before that no one knew how deadly radium could be.

- 12 What is the best title for this text?
- A The Discoveries in Physics.
  - B Marie's Family Life.
  - C Marie Curie: the Great Scientist.
  - D Marie Curie: the Early Years.
- 13 Marie Curie \_\_\_\_\_
- A was one of the greatest mathematicians.
  - B studied radioactivity.
  - C discovered radiance.
  - D was the first female professor at the University of Warsaw.
- 14 Curie won \_\_\_\_\_
- A the Nobel Prize in Biology.
  - B two Nobel Prizes in Chemistry.
  - C two Nobel Prizes in two different sciences.
  - D no Nobel Prizes.
- 15 Who or what influenced Marie's early education?
- A Her Maths teacher.
  - B Her father.
  - C Pierre Curie.
  - D The works of Albert Einstein.
- 16 Marie and her husband \_\_\_\_\_
- A studied radioactive materials together.
  - B met at school.
  - C were honoured with the Nobel Prize for Maths.
  - D died in the same year.