Reading Comprehension Practice

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

- Do you do any types of art? Do you write lyrics or music, play a musical instrument, create comics, paint, draw, dance, create jewellery or decorative items, etc.?
- What is it about the arts you do that attracts you to them?

A Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (1-5). There are three choices you do not need to use.

www.choices.com

1

Incredible deals at Dubois!!!

This week only:

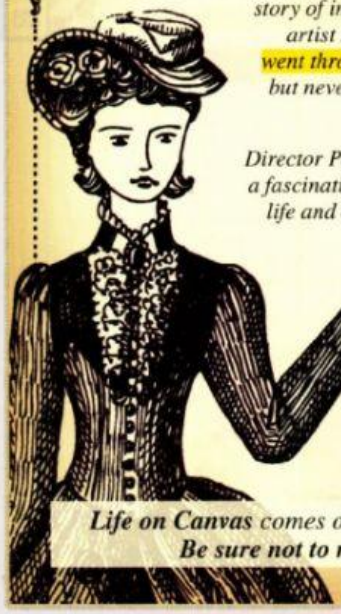
High-quality paper at half-price!

Watercolours and brushes **20%** OFF!

We are here to support professional artists, students and anyone else who wants to express themselves through art!

Click here to join our email list for **10%** off your first order!

2



Life on Canvas *tells the true story of influential 19th-century artist Louise Simon, who went through many difficulties but never gave up on her art.*

Director Penelope Hall offers us a fascinating look at the artist's life and controversial work.

Simon is portrayed on the big screen by Anabelle Stanley, in a performance that has already received glowing reviews.

Life on Canvas *comes out on 13 March*
Be sure not to miss it!

3

Do you love singing but are worried you are out of tune?

It's time to stop worrying and join GOLDEN VOICES!

Share your voice with us and get ready to meet amazing people and participate in exciting performances and music festivals.

No audition is required, everyone is welcome!

Rehearsals @ The Yellow Building
(102 Green Park Road) every Wednesday, 7-9 p.m.

☎ 070 3579 1241 (Martin Stone)
email: goldenvoices@email.com

4

How much do you know about Ukrainian folk dance?
What are the origins of the hopak dance?
And how is hopak related to martial arts?



Join host Joel Brooks and guests Olena Klymenko and Bohdan Martyniuk, who share with us their deep knowledge of their home country's folk dances. As usual, Joel and his guests are also going to discuss this week's art and culture news!

Art lovers, tune in to Culture FM this
Saturday 15/12 at 3 p.m.!

5

Every year, an exciting event for bookworms takes place in the city of Marengo. We celebrate the genius of great authors and give new authors the opportunity to present their work.

Readers have the chance to attend entertaining discussions and workshops.

And of course, everyone is invited to dress up as their favourite fictional character!

We look forward to seeing you all!

Time: 20–25 May
Place: Marengo Gardens
Email events@marengo.com
or Call 706-324-2775

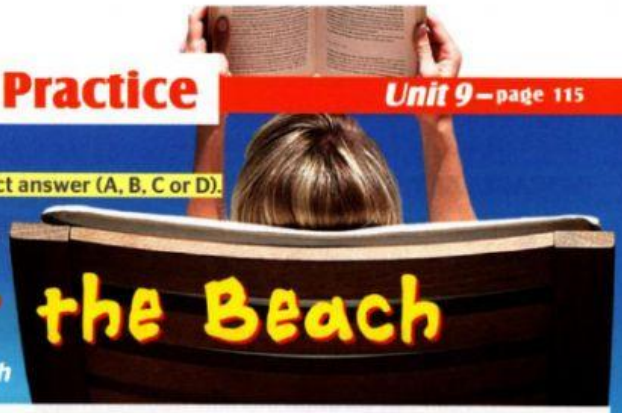
Which of the advertisements is about _____?

A. a literary festival	☐	E. a choir	☐
B. a film soundtrack CD	☐	F. an art supply shop	☐
C. a chat show	☐	G. a biographical film	☐
D. a weekly newspaper	☐	H. a live dance performance	☐

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading Comprehension Practice

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



Reading for the Beach

by resident book reviewer Magda Dutch

Holidays are just around the corner, and I get excited thinking of all the time I'll have on the beach or elsewhere, catching up on reading fiction. This year I'm going to reread one of my all-time favourites, Henry Miller's *Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch*. For anyone not familiar with Miller's writing, this is probably the best work of his to start with. It describes the years he spent in an isolated and very unconventional rural community, bringing up his two children at times single-handedly. Miller writes about his interesting encounters with some of the inhabitants, who shared his non-conformist approach to life. His carefree spirit and his love for his children emerge in this part-autobiographical, part-philosophical book.

Of course, this type of reading is not necessarily everyone's cup of tea, so I asked a couple of my colleagues to tell me about their summer reading preferences. Ben Blair, one of our sports correspondents, had this to say, 'This year I'm not really sure what I'm in the mood for, but more than likely it will be *Fever Pitch* by Nick Hornby. I've already managed to read a couple of excerpts. It's principally about Hornby's own deep passion for football, and especially for the Gunners, the Arsenal team. Being from North London myself, I am an avid fan of the Gunners too. In every chapter, he describes a specific match and how that related to what was going on in his life at that time. Apparently, his description of Arsenal's last-minute league win is so vivid that it is like experiencing the moment all over again. So, even though I have already got an idea of what I'm going to read, I can't wait to get my nose into it!' Well, Ben sounds quite enthusiastic, so, although I'm not really into football, I might try reading it.

The choice of our fashion editor, Julie Scowan, was something completely different. 'My favourite book, without a doubt, is *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel García Márquez. It's a book that really needs to be read a number of times in order to be fully absorbed. It's not that it's a difficult read, but there are so many characters involved, in lots of different relationships, that sometimes it's hard to keep track. However, Márquez has a way of involving you. The images he presents are so colourful, and his portrayal of Latin American culture with all its superstitions is so vivid, that you become immersed in it. I could really identify with the main character of the story, which really helps.'

I have to say I wholly agree with Julie and can endorse her choice, having already read the book. So, whatever your choice, literature lovers, I wish you all a good solid read this summer!

1. What does the book reviewer say about Henry Miller?
   A. He was divorced.
   B. He was not a conventional person.
   C. His writing style changed over the years.
   D. He studied philosophy.
2. What do we learn about *Fever Pitch*?
   A. It's an autobiographical book.
   B. It's written exclusively for fans of the Gunners.
   C. Some parts of it are fiction.
   D. Readers will have to have watched a Gunners' match to understand the book.
3. What is Julie's opinion of *One Hundred Years of Solitude*?
   A. She likes the fact that there's a single storyline.
   B. The writing manages to engage the reader.
   C. The plot is quite straightforward.
   D. She finds the superstitions very strange.
4. What is **TRUE** of the book reviewer?
   A. She only reads when on holiday.
   B. She has to read for work, but she doesn't get the same enjoyment.
   C. She believes Henry Miller's book will be enjoyed by all types of readers.
   D. She thinks *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is a very good novel.
5. Which of the following has the book reviewer **NOT** read?
   A. *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel García Márquez
   B. *Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch* by Henry Miller
   C. *Fever Pitch* by Nick Hornby
   D. The text does not say.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

- Why do you think people suggest specific books to read in the summer?
- Which book would you suggest for a holiday read?

LIVEWORKSHEETS