Extra Training

Reading Task 2141

The following questions are incomplete situations. Beneath each sentence you will see four words or phrases, marked (1-4). Choose the one word or phrase that best completes the situation.

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1. The boss was beside himself with anger. Someone had made a mistake in the latest calculations and the figures of the final results went wrong. _____ , because to say anything would mean either to admit a mistake or, what was even worse, to be fired at once.

1. *Mary tried to explain*
2. *All the staff were keeping silence*
3. *It was the question of the reputation.*
4. *Everyone ran away from him*

2. When Dr.Hapgord came home, he could barely move. That terrible epidemic of cholera kept all the doctors in the town busy at least eighteen hours a day. The patients were constantly brought to the hospital and as there were no places in the building left, _____ . The nurses had to run across the yard bringing medicine and clean sheets.

1. *they asked the city mayor to give them his villa for the patients.*
2. *the patients were given a lot of water to drink .*
3. *a dozen of tents were placed on the lawn in front of the hospital.*
4. *and the babies were crying in the neighbouring houses.*

3. Max would have never thought that Julia might be his girl friend, _____ . She was so beautiful and so independent that he didn't even try to ask her to date with him. He only looked at her secretly now and then. But all of a sudden she began to speak first. She told him that he was perhaps the only person she could trust and asked him to come to the party on Saturday. How could he refuse?

1. *if it hadn't been for their talk the day before.*
2. *because she had never looked at him and never would.*
3. *if she hadn't looked at him the previous day.*
4. *so he was always carrying Stimorol pro-Z in his pocket.*

4. John noticed Mr.Gibson standing near the doors of the supermarket and ____ , because he wanted to avoid meeting him after what had happened the week before.

1. *ran to him smiling happily.*
2. *gave him a hearty hug*
3. *thought of saying something bad to him*
4. *went to the opposite side of the street at once.*

5. The house, they were living in, was old and looked shabby. The winds, rains and especially sun changed the colour of the paint. And the walls, once deep blue, were _____ . And though Angela liked those flowers, she would have gladly painted the house if it were not for the lack of money.

1. *like purple roses in autumn*
2. *like faded forget-me-nots*
3. *even darker among the flowers*
4. *still full of colour*

6. Sophy was reading the book for the second week. She couldn't say that the book was not interesting at all, _____ . She preferred reading about love and exotic places, in other words about the things that couldn't be found in that one.

1. *but it was given by the teacher of literature*
2. *but it was not the style she liked*
3. *but she promised to bring it back without reading.*
4. *though she always wondered how difficult it was to be a writer.*

In the rest of this section you will read a passage. It is followed by several questions about it.
For ***questions 7-10,*** *you are to choose the one BEST answer to each question.*
Answer all the questions following the passage on the basis of what is STATED or IMPLIED in this passage.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

In 1807 Noah Webster began his greatest work, An American Dictionary of the English Language. In preparing his manuscript, he devoted ten years to the study of English and its relationship to other languages, and seven more years to the writing itself. Published in two volumes in 1828, An American Dictionary of the English Language has become the recognized authority for usage in the United States.

Webster's purpose in writing it was to demonstrate that the American language was developing distinct meanings, pronunciations, and spelling from those of British English. He is responsible for advancing simplified spelling forms: 'develope' instead of British form 'develop'; 'theater' and 'center' instead of 'theatre' and 'centre'; 'color' and 'honor' instead of 'colour' and 'honour'.

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7.. When was An American Dictionary of the English Language published?

1. *1817*
2. *1807*
3. *1828*
4. *1824*

8.. According to the passage, which one of the following spellings would Webster have approved in his American dictionaries?

1. *Develop*
2. *Theatre*
3. *Color*
4. *Honour*

9. According to the author, Webster's purpose in writing An American Dictionary of the English Language was to_____

1. *respond to the need for new schoolbooks*
2. *demonstrate the distinct development of the English language in America*
3. *promote spelling forms based upon British models*
4. *influence the pronunciation of the English language*

10. In how many volumes was An American Dictionary of the English Language published?

1. *One volume*
2. *Two volumes*
3. *Three volumes*
4. *Four volumes*



Summer sunset in Kolomna

LIVEWORKSHEETS