

Reading - Part 3

Questions 14 - 18

For each question, choose the correct answer.

SUMMER CAMP IN EDINBURGH

by Emma Lee, age 12

I've just come back from a summer camp I did in Scotland and I'd like to tell you about it. It was my very first holiday without my family so I was a little worried at first. My mother drove me to the airport early in the morning and by quarter to seven I was on the plane by myself.

The flight lasted one hour and a half. During the journey, I made friends with another girl, Ida, who was going to the same summer camp. She was from Denmark but her English was quite good. When we arrived, we found a young lady waiting for us just outside the airport.

The summer camp only lasted twelve days, but I did so many things that it seemed much longer. In the morning we could do different activities: I really enjoy art so I chose a drawing course and improved my cartoon drawing skills. We also did sports I often do, like horse riding, table tennis and football. Ida also asked me to join the guitar course so now I can play a few songs.

When I came back a few days ago I was glad to see my family again, but I was also a little sad because I was going to miss my new friends from the summer camp. Anyway, Ida and I text each other every day and she promised she will visit me next month.



14 How did Emma feel about leaving?

- A a bit scared about travelling alone
- B glad that she was going to a new country
- C bored because she didn't like travelling by plane

15 What did Emma do during the journey?

- A She chatted with her best friend, who was going to the same summer camp.
- B She started talking to somebody on the plane.
- C She met a young lady who worked at the airport.

16 How long did Emma's stay at the summer camp?

- A a few days
- B less than two weeks
- C 20 days

17 Which new things did Emma learn at the summer camp?

- A to play a musical instrument
- B to draw cartoons
- C to play several sports

18 What's Emma planning to do in the future?

- A She's going to a summer camp again next summer.
- B She's going to text her new friend every day.
- C She's going to meet Ida soon.

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MY ORGANIC GARDEN*by Larry Davidson, age 13*

Last year my family and I started to make our own fruit and vegetable garden. We wanted to do something for our planet so we decided to grow our own plants organically. This means that we only use natural ways to look after them. For example, we put our old fruit and vegetables on the ground where the plants grow, but other people just throw all their old food in the bin. Also, now we grow our own fruit and vegetables, so we don't need to buy them.

Having an organic garden is clearly a healthier option because the fruit and vegetables you grow will be safe for people and animals, too. We had to work very hard. At first, we were afraid because we might not have enough time to do everything, but then we realised that each of us could look after the garden on different days.

To make our garden we used a large wooden box which was about the size of our kitchen table. We cleaned it and made 20 holes at the bottom for the water to drain out. We covered the holes with some little stones and the soil where the plants could grow.

Then we planted very tiny plants and watered them every day. On the left we planted tomatoes, onions, carrots and potatoes, while on the right there were a few melons and strawberries. In about a month we picked our first fruits and vegetables. We were so excited when we had them for dinner!



14 Why did Larry and his family build an organic garden?

- A to save money on vegetables and fruit
- B to help the natural world
- C to stop making so much rubbish

15 How did Larry feel in the beginning?

- A tired because he spent the whole day on the garden
- B lucky because he could eat a lot of healthy food
- C worried because it could be too much work

16 Who looked after the garden?

- A only Larry
- B only Larry's family
- C both Larry and his family

17 How big was the box Larry used for the garden?

- A smaller than a table
- B as large as a table
- C larger than a table

18 What does Larry say about the fruits and vegetables he planted?

- A The vegetables and fruit were in different parts.
- B The plants were very small, but delicious.
- C They first ate the fruit, then the vegetables.

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TRENTON BIOLOGY FAIR*by Anita Jones, age 12*

Last month, all the science teachers at my junior high school decided to set up a biology fair. They asked all the students to plan and make a project for the two-day fair last week. I was in a group with my best friends Wei-ling, Julia and Pedro. All the groups worked hard on their projects for two weeks before the fair.

My group did an experiment to find out what happens to your teeth when you drink sugary drinks: we used three eggs because their shells are similar to the outside of our teeth. We put them into different glasses with cola, apple juice and plain water. Then we checked how the colour changed and took pictures that we pasted on a large whiteboard in the hall.

The other groups from my class worked on a lot of interesting projects, too. It was great to walk around the hall and look at the other students while they worked: one group showed how important light is to grow plants. Another group stopped an apple from turning brown by using lemon juice.

We all worked really hard and at the end of the two weeks our teachers chose the top four projects. They gave a prize to each of them. The top prize went to a group of older students. It's a pity that my group didn't get a prize but that's not so important. I was just pleased we took part and we had a great time together.



14 How long did the students prepare for the fair?

- A 2 days
- B 1 month
- C 2 weeks

15 What was the main topic of Anita's experiment?

- A eggs
- B teeth
- C sugar

16 Where did the students work on their projects?

- A in the hall
- B in a garden
- C in their classrooms

17 What did the group who worked on the apple find out?

- A Apples turn brown when you put them into lemon juice.
- B Apples don't change their colour if you use lemon juice.
- C Brown apples turn white with lemon juice.

18 How did Anita feel when the teachers chose the best projects?

- A angry because her group didn't win
- B happy because she enjoyed working with her classmates
- C tired because her group had done a lot of work.

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A VISIT TO FLORENCE

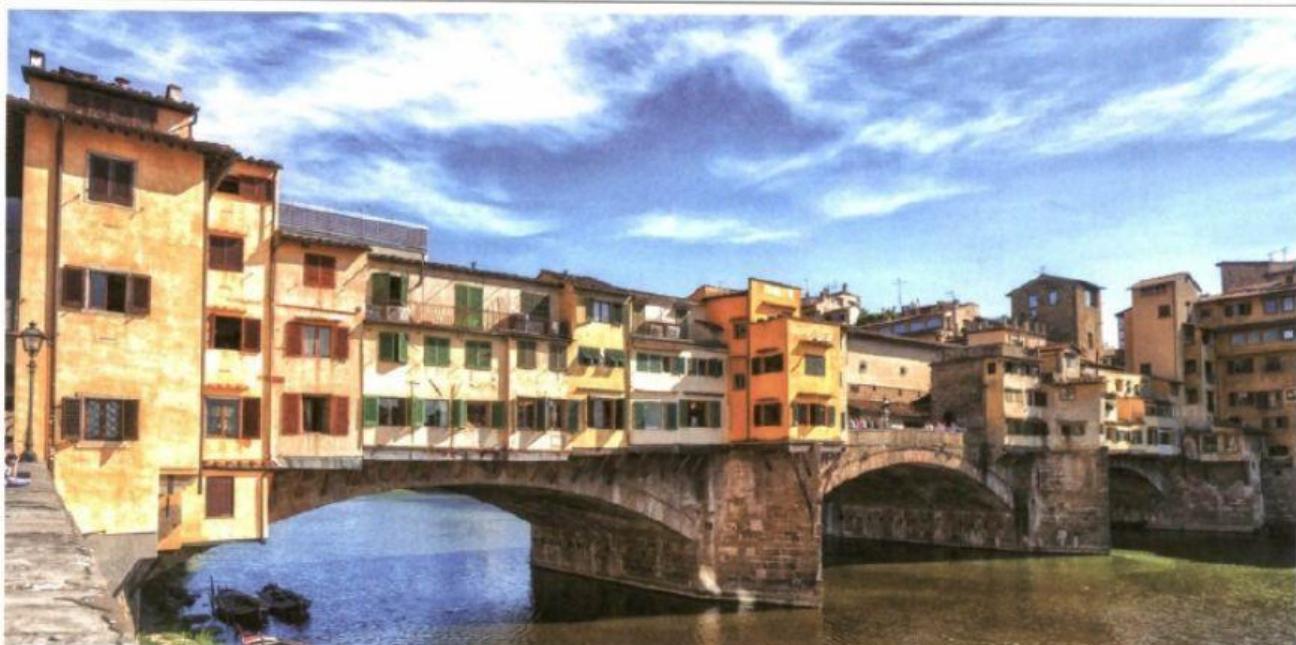
by Jamal Mohamed, age 12

I often travel abroad with my parents. They're both painters so they really enjoy visiting museums all over the world. Last summer we went to Italy. We visited a lot of beautiful cities but the one I liked best was Florence. The lady who took us sightseeing was my father's art teacher. She's lived in Florence for over 30 years so she knows a lot of interesting facts about the city.

Florence has a lot of things to see. On the first day we went to the Uffizi Museum. There were a lot of beautiful paintings, but I was a bit frightened when I saw Caravaggio's Medusa. This painting shows the head of a woman whose hair is actually snakes! My little brother started crying when he saw it, so we had to leave the room!

We spent the next three days walking around the town. Fortunately, it was sunny all the time, so we visited several wonderful buildings in the city centre and had a nice walk along the Arno river. There are a lot of nice bridges, but one of the oldest ones, Ponte Vecchio, is amazing because it's got real shops on it.

I never thought I would find Florence so interesting. It's a shame we only stayed there for four days, so we weren't able to see that much. However, my parents have decided we'll go back. We're going to spend a few weeks there next time so we'll have time to visit what we missed.



14 Why did Jamal's parents decide to visit Italy?

- A They wanted to visit beautiful cities.
- B They are interested in art.
- C They wanted to see his father's art teacher.

15 Why did Jamal and his family leave the Uffizi Museum?

- A Jamal was frightened by a picture.
- B There were some snakes in the museum.
- C Jamal's little brother was upset.

16 What did Jamal and his family do in the following days?

- A They went sightseeing.
- B They went shopping.
- C They went sunbathing by the river.

17 Why is Ponte Vecchio so special?

- A because it's the oldest bridge
- B because it's more beautiful than the other bridges
- C because it has buildings on it

18 What does Jamal say about his trip?

- A He thought it was a bit boring.
- B He is sorry that it was so short.
- C He's sad because he misses Florence.