

一、篇章結構

1.

Niki de Saint Phalle, one of the most famous artists of the 20th century, was a French-American born in 1930. She was brought up in a very conservative family, and yet, she rejected the staid, conservative values of her family to pursue a career in painting. (1) Fortunately, painting offered her an effective therapy and a way to develop as an artist. Her famous "Nana" series gained universal praise. It is a testimony to the glory of women. (2) Some of these sculptures are very big, "so that men would look small next to them." Saint Phalle used vivid colors in these works and her female subjects dance cheerfully and merrily. (3)

Saint Phalle's sculptural park, "The Tarot Garden," inspired by Tarot cards, is situated in the Italian province of Tuscany. (4) The park contains sculptures of the symbols found on Tarot cards. The brightly colored combinations of buildings and sculptures reflect the metaphysical qualities represented by the 22 main tarot cards. The sculptures, however, have nothing to do with fortune telling. (5)

Saint Phalle passed away on May 21, 2002, in San Diego, California, at the age of 71. Her death meant the loss of a woman of diverse creative talents.

- (A) The series is mostly composed of life-size dolls of women in various roles such as brides and new mothers.
- (B) Work on the garden began in 1979, and it was officially opened to the public in May 1998.
- (C) Many modern women artists create sculptures that have become iconic pieces of feminist movement.
- (D) Through these joyful and powerful images of Nana, the artist sends a positive message to all women.
- (E) Her rebelliousness created a series of conflicts with her family, which led to a nervous breakdown at age 23.
- (F) Instead, the works focus on the elements of life experience, personality, and self-knowledge that the cards refer to.

2.

When you walk past an "honesty box," do you ever wonder if it is rational to pay? Let's take an example. (1) The honesty box has a note that says, "1 dollar each." You can easily grab a bottle and no one is going to say anything if you don't pay that 1 dollar. (2)

It's a good opportunity, because a similarly sized bottle of water would cost 2 dollars in a store. If you took a bottle and left 1 dollar in the box, you would save 1 dollar. But, if you took a bottle and left nothing in the box, you would save 2 dollars. (3) Even if you don't pay, no one is really getting hurt, at least not too badly. So a rational, but cheap person could probably not justify parting with his money.

But wait a second. (4) By voluntarily paying that 1 dollar, you are actually doing your part to create a more honest society. In addition, you are supporting unity in your community. (5) By acting like a free-rider, you are taking advantage of them and their willingness to believe in total strangers. Is it really worth breaking that trust for 1 dollar?

- (A) You see a lot of bottled water on a table in a public area.
- (B) Remember, those who set up the honesty box are of the opinion that people are generally good, fair, and honest.
- (C) After all, it's not a crime, right?
- (D) What about your conscience and sense of public spirit?
- (E) Things sold through an honesty box system are generally of small values.

二、閱讀測驗

1.

Bullies have been around forever, but what's worse, technology nowadays provides a whole new world for their actions. The emotions of our kids and teens may be seriously affected not only in the real world but also in cyberspace. Generally speaking, staying involved in **their** lives both online and offline can help parents protect them from possible threats. Here are some suggestions on how to cope with this modern type of bullying.

First, offer comfort and support. To make your child feel less alone, share with him or her any of the bullying experiences you have had or heard about. Let the child know it is not his or her fault. And you will figure out what to do about it together. Second, report the situation to the school. Let a teacher, counselor or the principal know about the problem and take steps as needed, but make sure that your child knows the plan and feels comfortable with it. Third, encourage your child not to react to cyberbullying, for doing so may just worsen the situation. At the same time, however, don't delete the threatening texts and messages. Save or even print them for future use.

- () (1) Where is this passage most likely taken from? (A) A travel guide. (B) An advertisement. (C) A parenting magazine. (D) A doctor's description.
- () (2) According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true? (A) Responding to bullying will not be helpful.

(B) There have always been bullies in the world. (C) Horrible texts left by bullies should be kept. (D) Bullying only happens online in the modern world.

() (3) Who or what does the word “**their**” probably refer to? (A) Children. (B) Parents. (C) Bullies. (D) Threats.

() (4) Which of the following can be inferred from the passage? (A) Bullies on the Internet usually have their own emotional problems. (B) Staying connected with children makes it easier to identify bullying. (C) If parents have been bullied, their children are more likely to be bullied. (D) The principal at school usually knows best how to prevent cyberbullying.

() (5) What is the author’s tone throughout the reading? (A) Angry. (B) Chatty. (C) Amused. (D) Objective (客觀的).

2.

The recent worldwide interest in minimalism has had many people asking questions about its most famous advocate. Who is Marie Kondo, they wanted to know. With her best-selling book about tidying up, as well as the follow-up TV series, she is a familiar face to millions. Many people are aware of the “KonMari” method, which is Marie’s way of organizing a home. Fewer know much about the lady herself.

Born Kondo Mariko in 1984 in Tokyo, Japan, Marie has been interested in cleaning up and organizing since she was a little girl. At junior high school, she would sneak into empty classrooms and tidy up the bookshelves while her classmates were doing P.E. She nominated herself as the bookshelf manager for her class so that she could indulge her passion for tidying up. As a follower of the traditional Japanese Shinto religion, Marie grew up believing that organizing and cleaning can be a spiritual practice. Now, she mentions her religion when people ask her about the origins of her passion for cleaning.

At the age of 19, Marie established a consulting company that gave people advice on organizing. This was when she began to develop the KonMari method, which consists of gathering up all your belongings one category at a time, then deciding which items should be kept and which should be discarded. The business grew fast, and customers soon found themselves on a three-month waiting list for Marie’s services. Some of them suggested she write a book about her methods. The rest, as they say, is history.

() (1) What is the main idea of this passage? (A) The early life and career of a famous Japanese woman. (B) The contents of a best-selling book about tidying up. (C) The process of following a method known as KonMari. (D) The religious aspects of a popular social movement.

() (2) What does the passage tell us about the KonMari method? (A) It is a traditional religion in Japan. (B) It is a way to become more organized. (C) It is the name of a best-selling book. (D) It is the name of a popular TV series.

() (3) When did Marie Kondo develop a passion for tidying up? (A) In 1984. (B) During her childhood. (C) When she went to college. (D) After she started a company.

() (4) Why does the passage mention the Shinto religion? (A) It sparked Marie Kondo’s interest in tidying up. (B) It spread from Japan to other parts of the world. (C) People who practice it must read Kondo’s book. (D) It is an important subject in Japanese schools.

() (5) Who recommended that Marie Kondo write a book? (A) Her religious leader. (B) One of her friends in high school. (C) The boss of her company. (D) Some of her business clients.