篇章結構

03

When Simon Hart was born, the nurses and the doctor could not believe what they saw. __(1)__ But his parents hugged their new-born son with happy tears in their eyes as if there were absolutely nothing wrong with him. __(2)__ Growing up, Simon never saw himself as different from other boys because his parents and the kids in the neighborhood all treated him like a normal boy. __(3)__ He noticed some kids in school would look at him differently and discuss things about him behind his back. They would walk away when he wanted to play with them. __(4)__ He began to see that his disability could be quite scary to some kids. Not knowing what to do, Simon decided to talk to his parents about what had happened at school. __(5)__ They also told him that the most important thing is to be patient because the kids would soon realize that he was just like other normal boys who love to play.

(A) They suggested that he share the story of how he was born without limbs with his classmates.
(B) The baby came into this world with neither arms nor legs.
(C) To Mr. and Mrs. Hart, God had given them a perfect boy.
(D) However, things changed when he started elementary school.
(E) Although there wasn't any physical bullying, Simon felt deeply hurt inside.

04

3D printing is a relatively new but promising technology available to professional prosthetists and amateurs alike. Free, editable designs are even available online. So, anyone with access to a 3D printer and a DIY mentality can create a bespoke artificial limbs at a low price.

__(1)__ However, this will soon change. In the meantime, technology is making cost-effective artificial limbs a reality and encouraging creative people from all over the world to participate in their design.

Ivan Owen is an artist who designs props and gadgets. He created a mechanical hand for a steampunk gathering and posted videos of it online. __(2)__ He collaborated with Owen on creating a prosthetic hand for himself. A mother then by chance saw their project and wanted a version of the artificial hand for her son Liam. Owen realized that 3D printing would allow the family to create new prostheses on the cheap as Liam grew out of old ones. Owen decided to put the design files up for free online so others could expand and improve on the designs. __(3)__

3D-printed prostheses are a cost-effective way to keep up with a child as they grow, or damage their current one in the act of being a kid. __(4)__ Personalized artificial arms allow children to express themselves, just like wearing any other accessory. So, they can take pride in themselves and their prosthesis.

Right now the field of 3D-printed artificial limbs is young, and many devices are prototypes. What started as a DIY movement for people to be empowered to make their own artificial hands is now influencing how professionals make artificial limbs. __(5)__ People with limb loss will be able to afford multiple devices in different styles and swap them in and out to suit their mood.

(A) Even more importantly, children don't necessarily want a realistic artificial limbs: They want one that suits their personality.
(B) This led to e-NABLE, an online community where anyone can help collaborate on 3D printed artificial limbs designs and get help printing and assembling their own.
(C) 3D-printing materials cannot yet replace the long-term durability of traditionally-made artificial limbs.
(D) A carpenter in South Africa who had lost four fingers in an accident saw these videos.
(E) The ability to produce cheaper prosthetics is also already leading to an era of designer artificial limbs.

閱讀測驗

03

Mozart is widely seen as the greatest composer in the history of western music. His great gifts have been praised all over the world. Mozart was born into a family of good standing. His father was a famous musician and his mother came from a respectable middle-class family. Mozart showed his talent for music at an early age. At four, he could play instruments. At five, he could compose. At seven, he even published his first piece of music.

Known as a child **prodigy**, Mozart took his musical talent seriously. His father, also his teacher and supporter, decided to take him around Europe to perform. Their first trip was successful, with Mozart impressing his imperial audience. Then he performed for the French king and moved on to England, where he was taught by Bach's son. At nine, he wrote his first symphony. The family kept traveling, to Amsterdam, and to Vienna, where Mozart composed a wonderful comic opera at the age of twelve. The Mozart family had even more success in Italy when the genius was fourteen. However, as he grew into a man, he was not praised as much when he was a child. He couldn't get a well-paid job either in his beloved Italy or in Vienna. In the only job he did get, where he had to reluctantly follow his employer's demands, Mozart was laid off at twenty-one. He ran into career problems no matter where he went. Meanwhile, he fell

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in love with a woman called Constanze and married her without his father's permission. Mozart had a happy marriage, though he still did not succeed in making money.

In his later years, he fell sick and struggled to make a living. He died at the age of just thirty-five. During his short life, Mozart composed countless works, even when he was ill. Today, he is still considered the greatest composer in history.

( ) (1) What is the main idea of this passage? (A) Mozart's disappointments. (B) Mozart's success. (C) Mozart's life story. (D) Mozart's relationships.

( ) (2) What does the passage NOT say about Mozart's life? (A) He suffered from other people's jealousy. (B) His childhood was a time of great activity. (C) Mozart showed a great gift for music as a child. (D) Mozart's father helped in his development.

( ) (3) How did Mozart ignore his father? (A) By wasting all his money. (B) By traveling to Italy alone. (C) By refusing to accept a job. (D) By marrying without his approval.

( ) (4) What do we know about Mozart's later years? (A) He didn't feel well so he gave up composing. (B) He regretted that he had not put his talent to good use. (C) He composed a lot but didn't make a fortune. (D) He finally gained respect after he got sick.

( ) (5) What is the word "prodigy" closest in meaning to? (A) Celebrity. (B) Genius. (C) Icon. (D) Master.

04

After 111 days, Kevin Lin from Taiwan completed an ultramarathon across the Sahara, the largest desert in the world, with other two runners. This ultramarathon was first proposed by Charlie Engle, who went to Matt Damon's production company to persuade them to film a documentary about **it**. This film documented not only the endurance needed to run the ultramarathon, but also the nomadic (游牧的) people of the Sahara Desert and their daily struggle to find water. Another goal of the ultramarathoners was to raise awareness for the clean water nonprofit group H2O Africa.

There were three runners, Charlie from the USA, Kevin from Taiwan, and Ray Zahab from Canada. Their original plan was to run 50 miles per day for 80 days. The run began in Senegal, went across Mali, Niger, Libya, and ended in Egypt. The runners and their support team had to deal with problems such as dangerous areas, disease, and war-torn regions. They finally finished the ultramarathon in 111 days after running 4562 miles (7300 km).

Fourteen supporters from Taiwan went to Egypt and wrote a diary on Kevin's website about their journey. Some of them rented a car and met the runners in Salloum, Egypt, and ran a few miles with them. They were excited about the documentary. They said, "Although we only joined their trip for such a short time, we learned how hard it is to live without water. We are happy to see that they finished this great challenge!"

Kevin's father wanted him to study hard for a college degree. However, Kevin chose to run the marathon, and left home instead. At the age of 15, Kevin visited Ruei-Gen Pan and asked Pan to train him. Later, he entered Taipei Physical Education College. During his career in ultramarathon running, Ruei-Gen Pan has always been his greatest supporter and adviser in competitions. Kevin's story has encouraged many Taiwanese, and his dedication to ultramarathon running will always be remembered.

( ) (1) What does **it** refer to in the first paragraph? (A) H2O Africa. (B) The Sahara Desert. (C) The ultramarathon. (D) A production company.

( ) (2) What was the aim of the documentary? (A) To show the natural beauty of the Sahara Desert. (B) To bring people's attention to the problem of water shortages. (C) To record the life of Kevin Lin and his homeland. (D) To explain why nomadic people struggle to run ultramarathons.

( ) (3) Which of the following challenges that the three runners would face were NOT mentioned? (A) Wild animals. (B) Unsafe places. (C) The risk of disease. (D) Regions destroyed by war.

( ) (4) How did the 14 supporters from Taiwan feel about Kevin Lin's journey through the desert? (A) Fearful. (B) Nervous. (C) Touched. (D) Speechless.

( ) (5) Which of the following statements is true about Kevin Lin? (A) Ruei-Gen Pan is more than a coach to Kevin. (B) Only Kevin was shown in Matt Damon's film. (C) Kevin was not brave enough to run across the desert. (D) Kevin's father strongly encouraged him to run ultramarathons.

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