Engleski jezik

Reading Paper

Task 1
Questions 1-12

You are going to read an article in which people talk about couch-surfing, staying the night at the home of another person or welcoming one in your own, for free.
For questions **1-12**, choose from the people **A-F**. Mark your answer on the answer sheet.
There is an example at the beginning (**0**).

Couch-surfing

A Aida

Although I'm a budget-loving gal, I didn't think couch-surfing was for me. I like to enjoy my breaks while travelling without strangers, in peace and quiet. Nevertheless, I did welcome two people this year. While others beg their parents to do it, it was the other way around with my mom. We hosted a Korean girl and her father. As true Poles we prepared our best dish for a warm welcome. They turned up on their bikes after cycling for 5 months on their way to Barcelona! It was really inspiring.

B Benjamin

My girlfriend and I have been travelling across the USA for the last two weeks. Our first hosts were an amazing couple in Seattle: high school sweethearts planning their upcoming nuptials in Cuba. They welcomed us with kindness and a lodge far from luxury but all to ourselves. We really had a laugh sharing our stories. They had recently spent five months couch-surfing through Europe meeting strange people, such as a sun-gazing girl in London obsessed with greasy English breakfasts and a famous French circus performer who sang day and night!

C Chris

We've had plenty of fascinating guests come through our house over a span of two years but my favourites were four Hungarians. I came back one day from work and the house was empty. Soon they came in with bags of groceries, intent on repaying the favour by cooking us dinner. They said it was a family custom and made delicious Hungarian goulash and a kuglóf cake. Thanks to them, Budapest is now first on my ever growing list of places to see!

D Dana

I begged my parents to let me couch-surf with my friend Bella to Scotland but it was in vain so Bella went alone and had a rough time. First she stayed on a ranch and had to help around all the time and then her next host bailed out on her. She managed to get to Glastonbury festival and is now having a blast. She thought it was funny and even tried to talk me into joining her, but even if my parents let me, I no longer have the courage.

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E Erin	F Fabian
I have surfed many "couches" with friends, but I went to the idyllic Caribbean Island alone and had a bumpy ride. My host was Dutch, worked from home, had no manners, had kids and was really looking for a babysitter and not a guest. I couldn't go, do or be anywhere alone. After she yelled at me for making one phone call, I packed up and hitch-hiked my way out of there, which, for a solo female traveller, was way too scary.	I've couch-surfed alone numerous times. When I was in Beijing, I stayed at this apartment of a really rich Chinese guy in the most posh neighbourhood, with my own bedroom, a king size bed and a jacuzzi. My host was a manager working half a week with his wife in Paris, so I had this unbelievable place all to myself. He trusted me with the keys and everything, and gave me restaurant coupons and tips on where to go! I had the best time!

Which person…

0 likes taking a rest during travels without being disturbed by unknown people?

1 stayed with a host of European origin?

2 has already made up their mind about their next destination?

3 was amazed by the host's accommodation?

4 had a really difficult time during the last experience?

5 has never had any couch-surfing experience of their own?

6 introduced their traditional cuisine to their guests?

7 was entertained by their hosts' couch-surfing experience?

8 was talked into a couch-surfing experience?

9 is couch-surfing at the moment of speaking?

10 was pleasantly surprised by their guests' gratitude?

11 needs approval for couch-surfing?

12 couch-surfs on their own?

	A	B	C	D	E	F
0	X					
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						

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Task 2
Questions 13-18

Read the text below.
For questions **13-18**, choose the correct answer (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**).
Mark your answer on the answer sheet.

Climbing Everest

Karen and I have been climbing mountains for the past 10 years. We've conquered Aconcagua, Matterhorn and Kilimanjaro. Last year we were climbing Khan Tengri in Asia when an avalanche hit on the other side of the mountain killing eleven. It didn't scare us because climbing is all about preparation and tactics.

For example, on Khan Tengri there are always more people climbing from the south, although we can't understand why since the southern side is very avalanche-prone. This is why we chose to climb north. It's more technical, but the last day of the climb, called summit day, is the same for both routes, reasonably steep and difficult. However, there are factors beyond anyone's control in mountaineering, but that's true of everything in life.

After years of climbing, we finally had the time and funds to attempt Mt Everest, every mountaineer's dream. Friends told us it would be a hard test for our relationship because climbing can put you in some pretty intense situations. However, unlike some of the people we'd climbed with who fought all the time, we considered ourselves quite experienced when it came to making tough decisions. And we never fought unless we were extremely tired. We might have had lengthy debates, but we talked them out and resolved the problems. And each time we learned a little more about ourselves and each other.

After deciding to climb the big E, we started to prepare seriously. We went to the gym every day and were advised yoga was a must for building up our self-confidence. Having prior experience at high altitudes was key, though. Both of us had gone up just over 7000 metres twice without any unusual effects and we believed we knew how our bodies reacted to the lack of oxygen and the acclimatisation process. Special training for altitude, however, would have been very useful, providing its effects didn't last for only a short time.

We arrived in Kathmandu in April and flew into the mountains to Lukla a few days later than planned due to strong winds. From there it took us 10 days to trek to base camp, carrying all our equipment in very low temperatures of minus 40 degrees, not uncommon even in May. A base camp is where you spend your time adjusting to the high altitudes and preparing for the last

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climbing phase. There we experienced another delay due to a leaking oxygen tank, which we needed for going above 8000 meters.

While we were waiting for it to be replaced, our expedition, consisting of 4 people, us and two guides, spent time planning, talking and playing cards together. We knew people from several other expeditions there. However, because moving around base camp, which can have up to 200 people in it and is quite spread out, is difficult at high altitudes, communication between teams is difficult even with each team's immediate neighbours. As a result, we used the internet to get updates about their plans.

On May 20th we set off from base camp on our final climb to the top. After 3 days of climbing in difficult weather, we were ready for summit day. We started early and moved fast. We had discussed our goals for the last day before hitting the slopes. Karen usually led and set the pace, but after weeks of climbing, we agreed we'd swap roles at regular intervals. If things went badly, and she started to lose enthusiasm, I'd be the motivator. But they didn't. On May 24th we finally made it to the summit.

13 Why did Karen and Mark climb on the north side of Khan Tengri?

A Because there are fewer people climbing the north side.
B Because the last day of the climb is less difficult.
C Because there are fewer avalanches.
D Because it was more challenging.

A ☐
B ☐
C ☐
D ☐

14 While climbing mountains, Karen and Mark

A fought when they had to make difficult choices.
B would end up fighting after a long debate.
C fought when they were exhausted.
D never had a serious argument.

A ☐
B ☐
C ☐
D ☐

15 According to Mark, what was most important in preparing for the climb?

A They had climbed high mountains in the past.
B They raised their self-confidence doing yoga.
C They had regular sessions at the gym.
D They had altitude training sessions.

A ☐
B ☐
C ☐
D ☐

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16 Why did Karen and Mark have to postpone the final stage of the Mt Everest climb?

A Because of strong winds that lowered visibility.
B They hadn't yet adjusted to the high altitudes.
C The temperatures were uncommonly low.
D Because of problems with climbing gear.

A ☐
B ☐
C ☐
D ☐

17 In base camp, the couple and members of the other expeditions they knew

A walked over to each other's tents to hear the news.
B communicated through neighbouring teams.
C exchanged information through the internet.
D spent their time hanging out together.

A ☐
B ☐
C ☐
D ☐

18 On summit day

A Mark and Karen took turns leading.
B Mark took on the role of motivator.
C Karen set the climbing goals.
D Karen led the climb.

A ☐
B ☐
C ☐
D ☐

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Task 3
Questions 19-24

Read the text on the next page.
For questions **19-24**, choose from the sentences **A-H** the one which best fits the gap.
There are **two** sentences that you do **not** need. Mark your answer on the answer sheet.
There is an example at the beginning (**0**).



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