一、 篇章結構

1.

What kind of chocolate do you like the best? __1__ However, if you have the courage to try them, you may find them delicious. Actually, it is interesting to put different flavors together. __2__ But when you hear that chocolate can be combined with the following ingredients, you may think people who try this are crazy!

Take bacon, for example. __3__ It has a wonderful taste that is both salty and sweet. Besides, pork products like ham are often served with brown sugar in the West. In Asia, sweet and sour pork is a popular dish as well. Therefore, it makes sense that chocolate and bacon would go well together.

Another example that may surprise you is the combination of chocolate and hot peppers. If you pour melted chocolate on top of them, you'll get a spicy hot chocolate treat. You can also take thick-cut potato chips and coat them halfway with chocolate. It will give you a crispy, salty and sweet treat!

Last but not least, you can coat sun-dried tomatoes with chocolate, or even small pieces of broccoli. In France, they're known for making chocolate covered ants, as well as serving chocolate with bread.

__4__ You might find a taste that you'll fall in love with!

(A) There are so many treats made of chocolate, yet some chocolate recipes may sound very strange.
(B) For example, things that are both sweet and sour or sweet and salty can taste great.
(C) You'll be surprised how good a strip of bacon tastes after it is dipped in melted chocolate and left to harden.
(D) These chocolate recipes may not be for everyone, but it wouldn't hurt to give them a try.

2.

Agatha Christie is one of Great Britain's most beloved writers of mystery novels. One of her most famous novels is *Murder on the Orient Express*. __1__

The story begins in Istanbul, where famous detective Hercule Poirot receives a telegram. The telegram is about Poirot is urgently needed in London, so he books a ticket for the Orient Express to go back to Paris and then on to London. On the train, Poirot meets a colorful group of characters, one of which is a person named Samuel Ratchett.

Ratchett is an American businessman, and Poirot immediately dislikes him. __2__ Poirot refuses to help, and the train still travels toward Paris. However, in the middle of the night, the train gets caught in a terrible snowstorm and is forced to stop. Around this time, Ratchett is discovered to have been murdered.

Because there is no way to escape from the train, it becomes apparent to all of the characters that the murderer must still be aboard the train obviously. __3__ He finds many unusual items in the sleeping carriage where Ratchett was murdered, and he begins to figure out the reason why the murder was committed.

If you're a fan of mystery novels, *Murder on the Orient Express* is definitely a classic. __4__ If you want to find out how the mystery is solved, read the book or watch the film, and admire Hercule Poirot for his murder-solving magic!

(A) Since no police can be called during the snowstorm, Poirot takes up the case and starts hunting for clues.
(B) The Orient Express is a train that runs between Paris to Istanbul, and Agatha Christie had

LIVEWORKSHEETS

taken the train many times herself.
(C) In addition, it was made into a film as well.
(D) Ratchett asks Poirot for help, though, as his life is being threatened.

3.

Workers in clothing factories often suffer terrible conditions, are paid low wages, and are treated badly by their employers. __1__ The employers are not the only people at fault. The people who buy the clothes are also responsible.

The rights of workers are violated in factories that are dangerous, dark and dusty. Working long hours without breaks and without good pay can ruin people's health. __2__ The owners of these factories live in countries where laws do not protect the safety and health of workers. __3__ In other words, we actually have the power to turn the situation around.

People may know that some clothes are made in terrible conditions, but this idea is not present in our minds when we buy a cheap item of clothing. __4__ In the experiment, when consumers were shown photographs of the conditions in a cheap clothing factory (after they had paid their money), the vast majority chose to donate their money to help the workers instead of buying the clothes.

If we can all keep the thought of these poor workers in our minds, we can slowly make a difference to the clothing industry. Hopefully serious working situations can be solved one day.

(A) This is the situation for thousands of people who make the clothes we buy.
(B) An experiment in Germany showed that if people think about the conditions of clothing industry workers when buying clothes, then they will choose not to buy those clothes.
(C) Employers want to increase profits, so they keep wages low and ignore the poor conditions in their workplaces.
(D) Yet many of us buy these clothes, so we are part of the process.

4.

In the dictionary, family is defined as a basic unit of social structure. However, its meanings vary greatly from time to time and from culture to culture. __1__ Still, it has always been regarded as reproductive, economic, social, and educational. Nowadays, we see family as a small social cluster consisting of husband, wife and children, but it has not always been like this.

__2__ Later, men learned to domesticate (馴服) animals and refused to let it pass down the female line, starting to impose restrictions on women. This is when the patriarchal (父權) era began. Father became the supreme authority in the family, the entire household, and sometimes a little village. This period lasted for thousands of years.

Not until the 19th century do women have equal rights with men. __3__ Young people started their families much later and focused more on their careers. Families become smaller and more mobile. __4__ However, in many other cultures, especially in Asia, family still has a sacred meaning and blood binds are as important as ever before.

(A) During the times of hunting and gathering plants for food, families were centered around older females.
(B) The concept of family evolves, adapting to the new surrounding conditions.
(C) Traditional family ties began to loosen.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(D) The structure of the family, therefore, underwent a basic change.

5.

People who have spent a long time in prison often find it very difficult to have a normal life after they are released. __1__ Every year, more than 400,000 ex-convicts go back to prison for committing another crime.

There are several reasons why these people have difficulty starting a normal life. One of their main problems is finding a job. After years in prison, they don't have any recent work experience, so employers are not interested in them. Many of these ex-convicts also haven't learned the skills they need to succeed at a job.

__2__ So instead of getting help from their families, ex-convicts have to survive by themselves. Sometimes there is help available for ex-convicts, such as job training, drug abuse programs, and education. Sadly, many of the people who need this help don't know about it. __3__

Some government programs are starting to work towards changing this situation by assigning each prisoner a support worker. __4__ Of course, it would be even better if they didn't commit crimes and go to prison in the first place!

(A) An ex-convict is not even allowed to associate with their own friends and family if those people have a criminal record.
(B) Keeping people in prison is very expensive, so it would be better to help people stay out of prison after they are released.
(C) Therefore, they never use these programs that could help them improve their lives.
(D) In the United States, about two-thirds of the prisoners who are released end up being arrested again.

二、 閱讀測驗

1.

Chocolate is one of the desserts that we love the most. We often want it during times of stress or when we are in pain. Chocolate lovers say their mood changes after consuming some chocolate because it makes them happy. Believe it or not, scientists have found clear evidence to support the claims.

There are more than three hundred known chemicals in chocolate. Some of these chemicals do influence our brain. Scientists have been experimenting with certain chemicals which may affect our moods. Most people already realize that chocolate contains caffeine (咖啡因), a substance which enables us to feel more active and alert. While this is the reason for some of the good feeling from eating chocolate, the content of caffeine in chocolate is actually very small. In slightly higher amounts, researchers have found another substance called theobromine (可可鹼), which is found in chocolate and has the similar effect with caffeine. Phenylethylamine (苯乙胺), also found in chocolate, has a very strong energizing effect. These chemicals in combination affect our neurotransmitters (神經傳輸線) in our brain that control how we feel. Our neurotransmitters become more active and makes us feel more lively.

Next time you need to stay alert and feel a little more energetic, why not grab a piece of chocolate? As long as you don't eat too much, chocolate is the perfect "feel good" food.

(1)　　(　) When do people want to eat chocolate most?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(A) When one wins the game.
(B) When a baby was born.
(C) When one breaks up with his/her lover.
(D) When one's parents are not home.

(2) ( ) What's the effect of phenylethylamine?
(A) To make people feel energetic.
(B) To make people feel less active and alert.
(C) To control how people feel.
(D) To make people feel sleepy.

(3) ( ) What can we infer from this article?
(A) There are less than three hundred unknown chemicals in chocolate.
(B) Some of the chemicals in chocolate have an effect on our brain.
(C) The amount of caffeine is higher than any other chemicals in chocolate.
(D) Only when you eat certain amount of chocolate can help you cheer up.

(4) ( ) What is the best title of this article?
(A) The Dark Side of Chocolate.
(B) The Secret behind the Benefits of Chocolate.
(C) The Main Ingredients in chocolate.
(D) The Policy of Chocolate Production.

2.

Nowadays, it's no longer enough for beauty companies to launch high-quality products. People these days demand that these businesses should be environmentally responsible as well. Around 25 percent of consumers say that they are motivated to buy cosmetics if they know a company is environmentally conscious. Now the beauty industry is responding to these demands.

One of the biggest problems with the modern cosmetics industry is the use of palm oil. Many make-up products and beauty creams contain this kind of ingredient. In countries such as Malaysia and Indonesia, the demand for palm oil has led to large-scale deforestation (砍伐森林). This, in turn, results in higher levels of greenhouse gas emissions (排放), making global warming even worse.

Another major issue relating to cosmetics is the use of water as the main ingredient. Most beauty products contain a high percentage of water, which sometimes reaches 95 percent. However, around 11 percent of the global population lives without access to clean drinking water. The amount of clean drinking water is in short supply.

To handle these problems, some major companies are making big changes. L'Oréal, for example, has fulfilled its promise to be a "deforestation-free" business by 2020. Unilever, which uses a million metric tons of palm oil per year, has claimed it would collect all its palm oil in a sustainable manner. Both Unilever and L'Oréal have also announced that they would use less water in their production processes.

As consumers, we can do our part. When shopping for beauty products, look for the "Ecocert" label. This means that the product is environmentally friendly. Keep in mind that we should work together to protect the Earth.

(1) ( ) What is the best title for this passage?
(A) Beauty or Environment?—A Difficult Choice.
(B) What Cosmetics Have Done to the Environment.
(C) The Beauty Industry Is Changing, Thanks to Consumers.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(D) L'Oréal vs. Unilever: Which Is More Eco-Responsible?

(2) ( ) According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?
(A) Unilever has been adopting the zero-deforestation policy since 2020.
(B) One out of three shoppers is environmentally conscious.
(C) The heavy use of palm oil contributes to the rise of global temperature.
(D) Most beauty companies resist changes regardless of consumers' demands.

(3) ( ) What does the "Ecocert" label indicate about a product?
(A) It is produced by a deforestation-free business.
(B) It is produced without testing on animals.
(C) It does not contain palm oil as an ingredient.
(D) It does less harm to the environment.

(4) ( ) According to the passage, which of the following is an opinion, but **NOT** a fact?
(A) Around 11 percent of the global population has no access to clean drinking water.
(B) Consumers and cosmetics companies should work together to protect the planet.
(C) Many make-up products and beauty creams contain the ingredient of palm oil.
(D) L'Oréal has announced that it would use less water in its production process.

3.

Camille Mahlknecht, 9, has some big fun planned for this weekend. She and other residents of Agoura Hills, California, plan to pick up trash during their city's annual cleanup. At the same time, Wissam Raed, 12, will be busy volunteering too. Thousands of miles away in Lebanon, Wissam plans to put on a play at an orphanage and bring potted plants to elderly people at a senior citizen center.

Some other children like Nathan White, 10, have personal reasons for volunteering. Nathan's grandmother died of a heart attack. To help raise money for medical research, Nathan participated in Jump Rope for Heart. He and five other boys took turns jumping rope for two and half hours and collected more than US$1,200 in donations for the American Heart Association.

Millions of children around the globe lend a hand to their communities every year. Schools and parents also contribute to the rise in youth service. For example, many schools offer community service activities for students to join. Teachers either combine volunteer work with classroom lessons or make service work a requirement. Parents, on the other hand, encourage their kids to volunteer and do it with them.

Community service is particularly important in this recession time. As the need for monetary support and other aid has increased, many charitable organizations have experienced a significant drop in donations. Camille and other children who volunteer thousands of hours annually can fill in some of the gaps.

According to research, kids who start volunteering are twice as likely to continue doing good deeds when they are adults. So, grab a paintbrush, a trash bag, or whatever you need to help your community. You'll love how you feel after helping others. Even dirty work can be lots of fun, if it's for a good cause.

(1) ( ) What's the writer's purpose of writing this passage?
(A) To recommend youth service programs to schools.
(B) To ask charity organizations to serve the community.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(C) To urge children to take part in volunteering activities.
(D) To propose alternatives for doing community services.

(2) ( ) What is the main idea of the 3rd paragraph?
(A) Community service is gaining popularity among children.
(B) Families and schools help to make community service popular.
(C) Children now depend more on their teachers than on their parents.
(D) Nathan White had a special reason to raise money for medical research.

(3) ( ) Why is community service important in a time of recession?
(A) It raises money for school activities.
(B) It teaches children to take care of the sick.
(C) It gives charity organizations some needed help.
(D) It encourages parents and teachers to work together.

(4) ( ) What can be inferred from the passage?
(A) Community service can help prevent juvenile delinquency.
(B) Children will probably leave school and work as volunteers.
(C) Organizing sports events for the school is a kind of community service.
(D) Children who do volunteer work are more likely to grow up to be caring adults.

4.

In 1968, a group of French doctors and journalists became concerned about images they were seeing around the world, including people who were victims of war and children dying of hunger. They decided to try a new idea: __3__ instead of waiting for patients to come to them. This was the idea that started the international organization Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) three years later.

MSF's first mission was to Nicaragua in 1972 where an earthquake had killed thousands of people. Since that time MSF has provided emergency aid to people in need all over the world. The organization helps people of every race, religion, and belief. MSF now has 25 partner organizations in more than 70 countries around the world. Tens of thousands of health workers in these countries help MSF with their work.

MSF helps people who are victims of war and conflicts. It also helps __4__ such as earthquakes and floods. MSF is prepared to respond within minutes after a disaster. The group provides medical care, tents, clean water, and other supplies. MSF also helps people, especially those in poorer countries, whose health is threatened by diseases. MSF provides short-term relief as well as long-term care when needed.

MSF accepts gifts of money to help carry out its mission but does not make any profit. All of the money MSF receives goes into the aid it provides to people in need. More than 100 million people around the globe have benefited from this aid during the past 50 years.

(1) ( ) What's the purpose of this reading?
(A) To explain the origin and mission of MSF.
(B) To introduce those who set up MSF at first.
(C) To encourage people to give money to MSF.
(D) To list some partner organizations of MSF.

(2) ( ) Which of the following statements about MSF is **NOT** true?
(A) It provides both short-term and long-term relief.
(B) It helps those who are victims of war and conflicts.
(C) It was set up by French doctors and journalists in 1968.
(D) It accepts money from others, but doesn't make any profit.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(3) ( ) Which of the following best fits into the blank 3?
(A) to train more local doctors
(B) to help people live a healthy life
(C) to build more new hospitals
(D) to go where doctors are needed
(4) ( ) Which of the following best fits into the blank 4?
(A) those living in remote areas
(B) people affected by natural disasters
(C) people suffering from poverty
(D) those who don't have food to eat

5.

In 1711, an English writer called Alexander Pope wrote that “To err is human; to forgive, divine.” It has become a famous saying since then. “Err” means “making mistakes” or “doing something wrong,” and “divine” means “of God.”

Recently, a young English visitor arrived in New Zealand. The trip took thirty six hours, so he was very tired. He arrived in the north of the country but had to travel to the South Island to meet his friends. He rented a van and began to drive. After only two hours on the road, he fell asleep and the van hit a much smaller car, killing an eighteen-year-old girl. Of course, he was very sorry about what he had done, and the girl's parents were heartbroken.

Accidents like this happen around the world every day, but this one seemed to be different because of the way it ended. As the parents of the girl saw that the young man __3__, they asked the judge not to punish him. They thought that he was already being punished by the great sadness in his heart. They said that even though their daughter was already dead, they did not want to see the young man's life end without forgiveness. So they forgave him.

As the saying tells us, it is easy to make mistakes, but it is always difficult to forgive. Forgiveness is something so wonderful yet difficult that it's almost an act of God.

(1) ( ) What is the best title for this reading?
(A) How to Forgive Others
(B) A Story of Forgiveness
(C) Forgiveness Brings Happiness
(D) True Meaning of Forgiveness
(2) ( ) Which of the following is NOT true about the young English visitor?
(A) He was very tired because of the long flight.
(B) In order to meet his friends, he rented a car and drove.
(C) An accident happened two hours after he was on the road.
(D) He had to get to the north of New Zealand to meet his friends.
(3) ( ) Which of the following best fits into the blank?
(A) agreed to give them lots of money
(B) was too tired to remember anything
(C) was very sorry for what he had done
(D) didn't think he had done anything wrong

LIVEWORKSHEETS