Reading comprehension (Beginner): 7-9

7.	
8.	
9.	

7.

Hachiko was an Akita dog born in Akita prefecture（縣，日本行政區）on November 10, 1923. In 1924, Hidesaburo Ueno, a professor at the University of Tokyo, adopted Hachiko and formed an unbreakable bond with he dog. At the end of every single day, as Ueno got off at Shibuya station to make his way home, Hachiko would leave the house alone to greet him at the station. This routine went on every day until May of 1925, when Ueno had a cerebral hemorrhage（腦溢血）during a lecture. He died that day.

Hachiko, from that day on, continued for the next nine years to leave the house and wait at the station at the exact time the train was due to arrive. In 1932, an article in the Asahi Newspaper highlighted his loyalty and brought him into the national **spotlight**, where his faith to his master became an example of devotion to which Japanese children could look up to.

We do not know for sure how Hachiko and Professor Ueno spent their time in the span of 1 year and 4 months that they were together. It is obvious, however, that a strong, unbreakable bond had developed between them so that the dog would spend every day of his life waiting for his master to come back. Hachiko's undying devotion, love and faithfulness definitely deserve our respect.

（　）(1) Why did Hachiko go to Shibuya station every day? (A) To watch the passersby. (B) To take a train. (C) To greet his master. (D) His master worked there.

（　）(2) Why did Ueno stop showing up at Shibuya station? (A) He got off at a different station. (B) He was offered a job at the University of Tokyo. (C) He moved. (D) He died during a lecture.

（　）(3) How did most people know about Hachiko's story in the first place? (A) Ueno wrote an article about his dog. (B) His story was in a newspaper. (C) Ueno was interviewed by a local TV show station. (D) Hachiko was found dead at the train station.

（　）(4) Which word is closest in meaning to **spotlight** in the second paragraph? (A) Attention. (B) News. (C) Rumor. (D) Place.

（　）(5) What is the best title for the passage? (A)"A Love that never Died" (B)"The history of dogs" (C)"Japanese dogs" (D)"A responsible owner"

8.

Dan Cummings was only 19 years old when his life changed forever. He broke his neck in an accident that left him paralyzed from the chest down. The doctors diagnosed him as quadriplegic（四肢癱瘓）and told him that he would never be able to walk again. Instead of accepting their opinion as truth, he was determined to beat the odds and regain his ability to walk.

He had to physical therapy for 3 years without any notable progress. His

LIVEWORKSHEETS

insurance refused to pay for more. But he refused to give up. He moved to California so he could take part in a much more intensive rehabilitation（復健）program called Project Walk, which uses innovative therapies to help patients with spinal cord injuries regain and improve motor skills. After 4 years of hard work, he proved the doctors wrong with the help of a walker, he could walk again.

He decided to dedicate his life towards helping others who have also suffered spinal cord injuries. He founded a physical rehabilitation center called Journey Forward to support other patients with spinal cord injuries. And then, 10 years after he got injured, he managed to walk a mile in support of the center, raising $75,000 for the organization. This was all made possible by his remarkable drive and determination to never give up.

(　) (1) Which of the following is true about Dan's disability? (A) He was born without limbs. (B) He never walked again. (C) He can't move his arms. (D) He became disabled by accident.

(　) (2) What can we say about Dan's attitude towards his disability? (A) He is negative. (B) He is positive. (C) He is indifferent. (D) He is surprised.

(　) (3) Why did Dan move to California? (A) To take a job. (B) To recover from an injury. (C) California has lower insurance costs. (D) To organize a charity event.

(　) (4) What is Dan's role in Journey Forward? (A) He is a patient there. (B) He is an investor. (C) He is the founder. (D) He is a customer.

(　) (5) Why did Dan walk a mile when he was 29? (A) To raise money. (B) To visit a friend. (C) To receive physical therapy. (D) To see a doctor.

9.

With dreams of becoming millionaires overnight, people buy lottery tickets to try their luck. They always think that after winning the first prize, they can resign or retire immediately. However, Eric Hong, the general manager of Taiwan Lottery, said that only three out of the 230 billionaire-jackpot winners have chosen to quit. All of the three were engaged in high-risk jobs, including construction and the chemical industry. Plus, the first thing most winners do is keep their identities confidential and keep a low profile. This is because people around the winners usually want them to share the prize, which really **gets in their hair**.

A few years ago, Eric Hong met a winner who had changed his lifestyle too quickly. He replaced his old car with a luxury sports car, so his neighbors and relatives were suspicious. They called and visited him every day asking for financial support. Eric Hong took the initiative to call him; Hong advised that the winner move to another city to avoid such harassment. After thorough consideration, the winner accepted the suggestion, changed his phone number, and left his hometown.

Believe it or not, according to a number of surveys, 70% of lottery jackpot winners end up declaring bankruptcy. Many of them point out that getting rich in a totally unexpected way may not be a blessing. It becomes obvious that the prize is too large to handle. Therefore, unexpected fortunes may eventually destroy ordinary lives. Years ago, a taxi driver in Pingtung County won a NT$22 million lottery jackpot. To our surprise, he squandered the entire jackpot in less than two years. Later, he made his story public, hoping to warn future prize winners. The advice he gave was that winners should turn to experts with financial management backgrounds to avoid the crisis caused by sudden wealth.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(　) (1) What is the best title for the passage? (A) Happily Ever After: The Life of Lottery Winners (B) Winning the Jackpot: A Blessing or Tragedy? (C) Eric Hong, a Famous Financial Expert (D) Spend and Share Money Wisely

(　) (2) According to the passage, which of the following is true? (A) An instant fortune is something terrible in disguise. (B) Lottery winners should not buy expensive luxuries. (C) Most jackpot winners do not resign from their jobs. (D) Lottery winners may ask their friends for money.

(　) (3) Which of the following words is closest in meaning to "get in their hair" in the first paragraph? (A) Offer a helping hand. (B) Give them a hard time. (C) Exchange something for money. (D) Make up their mind.

(　) (4) According to the passage, which of the following is true about the taxi driver? (A) He kept his identity confidential. (B) He bought an imported sports car. (C) He quit his job as a construction worker. (D) He expressed regret over his lack of a financial plan.

(　) (5) What does the author imply with the sentence "70% of lottery jackpot winners end up declaring bankruptcy"? (A) Prize winners should be aware of the potential crisis ahead. (B) Prize winners should keep in contact with their banks. (C) Prize winners should declare their prize winnings. (D) Prize winners should avoid connections with banks.

LIVEWORKSHEETS