

A. READING (10.0 ms)

I. Circle letter A, B, C or D to identify the answer to complete the text. (4.0 ms)

A beauty contest, or beauty pageant, is a competition between people, based largely on the beauty of their physical appearance. The modern beauty pageant can trace its origin to the Miss America pageant, first held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, in 1921, under the title 'Inter-City Beauty' (1) _____. The following year the title was named as Miss America. Other contests include the yearly Miss World competition and Miss Universe, which are the two largest and most famous international beauty contests. Women from around the world (2) _____ in the competition for these titles. To be selected as Miss World or Miss Universe, a contestant must be celibate or single. If a Miss World fails to live up to people's expectations, she may, be disqualified. The organizers of the major beauty contests represent their contests as being events of world importance. (3) _____, many other people consider beauty contests to be (4) _____ entertainment event of no great importance.

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|----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1/ A. Contest | B. Organise | C. Representative | D. Sponsor |
| 2/ A. interest | B. participate | C. excite | D. involve |
| 3/ A. Besides | B. Furthermore | C. Therefore | D. However |
| 4/ A. mass | B. popular | C. agreeable | D. remarkable |

2. Read the following text and answer the questions. (6.0 ms)

I knew it was going to be a bad day when, on the way to the airport, the taxi driver told me he was lost.

I had booked my flight over the telephone, so when we finally arrived, I had to rush to the reservation desk to pay for my ticket. The woman at the desk told me that my name was not on the passenger list. It took fifteen minutes to realize that she had spelled my name incorrectly. She gave me the ticket and told me I'd better check in my luggage quickly or I'd miss my flight. I was the last person to get on the plane.

I found my seat and discovered that I was sitting next to a four-year old boy who had a cold. I sat down and wondered if anything else could go wrong. I hate flying, especially take-off, but the plane took off and everything seemed to be all right. Then, a few minutes later, there was a funny noise and everything started to shake. I looked out of the window and – oh my God - there was smoke coming out of the wing. All I could think was "The engines are on fire. We are going to crash. I am too young to die,"

Almost immediately, the captain spoke to us in a very calm voice "Ladies and gentlemen. This is your captain speaking. We are having a slight technical problem with one of our engines. There is no need to panic. We will have to return to the airport. Please remain seated and keep your seat belts fastened."

A few minutes later, we were coming on to land. The pilot made a perfect landing on the runway. It was over. We were safe. That day I decided not to fly again. I caught

another taxi and went home. But as I closed the front door. I looked down at my case. Somehow I had picked up the wrong suitcase.

*** Questions:**

1/ How long did it take her to get her ticket?

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2/ Was there nothing wrong with her on the way to the airport?

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3/ Why did the plane have to come back to the airport?

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4/ On that day, what did she think of after being safe from the flight?

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