

TEST 15
READING

Task 1

Read the text below. Match choices (A-G) to (1-5). There are two choices you do not need to use.

ARE YOU LEFT-HANDED?

1 _____
Life is easier if you are right-handed. You can open a can of tomatoes, use a pair of scissors or write a cheque without problems. In earlier times left-handed people were sometimes thought to be bad or even dangerous and were sometimes even killed.

2 _____

Even quite recently, children who wanted to use their left hands were taught to use their right instead. The teacher of King George VI of England (1895–1952) tied his left hand behind his back to make him use his right, and it was probably because of this that he had speech problems later in his life. However, modern ideas about how children use their hands are very different. Some doctors now think that the choice is made when babies are still very young. Look at this advice from a modern book for parents:

3 _____

‘There is no natural law which states that one hand is superior to the other, so it should never bother you if your child is left-handed’.

But why is anyone left-handed?

4 _____

Psychologist Dr. Marian Annett thinks that a long time ago people used both hands equally*, what changed things was that human beings learned to speak.

The left hemisphere controls the right-hand side of the body and the right controls the left. Speech became connected to the left hemisphere of the brain; and as speech became more and more important, so the left hemisphere became more powerful, and so the right-hand side of the body was used more. This means that left-handers are often slower to speak and read than right-handers. But left-handed people have advantages too.

5 _____

According to the recent scientific theories, left-handed people have a better chance of becoming great sportsmen. Left-handedness emerges most strikingly in the arts; back in the Renaissance, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and Hans Holbein were all notable left-handers. There are even famous left-handed people in the world of music like Beethoven and Paganini. You may also add such talented individuals as Paul Klee, Charlie Chaplin, Lenny Bruce, Greta Garbo, Marilyn Monroe, and the problem of left-handedness will never bother you again.

A Modern ideas concerning left-handed people are not so strict.

B It is easier to live if you are right-handed.

C There is no natural law what hand is superior to the other.

D The left-handed people have a better chance in sport and in the arts.

E The problem of left-handedness will always bother the human society.

F Speech became connected to the right hemisphere of the brain.

G Some doctors think that the choice is made when children grow older.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							

Task 2

Read the text below. For assignments (6–10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C, D).

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS

Have you ever heard of the Sandwich Islands? This is simply another name for Hawaii', given to the islands by Captain Cook to honour the Earl of Sandwich.

Captain Cook, although a talented navigator and a restless traveller, was very unromantic when it came to naming islands he discovered. Another example of Cook's lack of imagination are the Society Islands, which owe their name to the Royal Society in London.

One of the Society Islands is Tahiti, which was once the residence of such people as Paul Gauguin and Robert Louis Stevenson.

Gauguin settled down on Tahiti in 1891. He was permeated by the rich nature that surrounded him. He admired the simple and gentle people of Tahiti, living in accordance with natural laws. He portrayed them in his world-famous paintings.

Stevenson sailed to Tahiti with his whole family, hoping to cure himself of tuberculosis and intending to live and write there till the end of his life.

Stevenson's mother was enchanted with Tahiti. In the village church at Tautiara (Tahiti) you can still admire the silver communion vessels given by her. It is also Tahiti that inspired Stevenson to write a book which is now known all over the world: 'Treasure Island.'

6. Who gave such a name to Hawaii?
A Christopher Columbus B Captain Cook
C Robert Louis Stevenson D Paul Gauguin
7. What islands did Captain Cook discover?
A Kuril Islands B Hawaii and Society Islands
C Maldives and Antilles D Galapagos Islands and Society Islands
8. What island was once the residence of such people as Paul Gauguin and Robert Louis Stevenson?
A Hawaii B Madagascar
C Easter Island D Tahiti
9. What did Paul Gauguin like about Tahiti?
A food B customs and traditions
C language D nature and people
10. Why did R. Stevenson move to Tahiti?
A to find new friends there B to cure himself of tuberculosis
C to find his family D to cure himself of hepatitis

Task 3

Read the text below. Match choices (A–H) to (11–16). There are two choices you do not need to use.

ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

11 _____.

In the XXI th century the ecological problems have become especially actual and painful. Water and air pollution causes about five percent of deaths nowadays. It is more dangerous to walk down the street of a big city than to cross it!

12 _____.

Traffic pollution now kills more people than accidents. Poisonous fumes cause numerous health problems. And it's not just pollution from fumes that is affecting people's health. Noise pollution from traffic, trains and airplanes hurt sleep and provoke different mental problems.

13 _____.

14 Ships and tankers constantly pollute seas and oceans with oil and other pollutants. Vast water areas are covered with oil coat. As a result fish die or becomes poisonous and people suffer from stomach diseases. Birds can't fly because their wings become heavy.

15 It is clear that pollution now is a top topic for news and constant concern of different international organisations that develop ecological programs. Many of them aim at introducing eco-friendly transport that uses the solar energy or alternative fuel.

16 But this is just one aspect of the programs. More important is to change people's habits and behaviour. Rolling and biking should be popularised. People must use more public transport. Government should encourage clearer transport.

17 All these measures will help to reduce the air pollution and decrease the level of traffic noise. People will sleep peacefully and breathe clearer air. They will eat clearer vegetables and fruit. People will need less oil and danger of oil pollution in the oceans will not be so sharp. We will be healthier and happier. Only active steps will save people from the ecological catastrophe and we all must realise it!

Ecological problems have become especially actual because _____

- A water pollution provoke stomach diseases.
- B water and air pollution causes about five percent of deaths.
- C noise pollution affects people's health.
- D people like to walk down the street of a big city.
- E it is very important to change.
- F we have to develop ecological programs.
- G people like mild climate.
- H active steps will save mankind from catastrophe.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								

Task 4

Read the text below. Choose from (A-H) the one which best fits each space (17-22). There are two choices you do not need to use.

IN HOSPITAL

Last year I studied in Great Britain and had some health problems. I had many colds and sore throats. The Smiths, the family I stayed with, decided that I had (17) _____ in hospital. In hospital they said that I had problems with my tonsils. They advised me to be operated on. Usually all British families have private (18) _____ to pay their medical bills. It covers in about 50 percent of medical costs. The rest is paid by (19) _____. I wasn't a British citizen and I hadn't any medical insurance. But the Smiths kindly agreed to pay all expenses. So on Wednesday I was taken to hospital. The operation was scheduled on Thursday. I had to have several tests before operation.

I was taken to a large hospital with many departments. First of all I was taken to the X-ray department where they took pictures of my tonsils and throat and analysed them. Then they tested my blood and (20) _____. After the tests I was placed into my ward. My neighbour, a boy of my age who had undergone an operation the day before, told me that there was nothing to be afraid of.

On Thursday I was taken to the operation room. They had given me an injection before operating on so I (21) _____. I felt rather lonely in the strange surroundings of the operation room and a pretty nurse comforted me during the operation. It lasted about 20 minutes. So in about 45 minutes I was back in my ward. The next day I left the hospital. They told me to see the doctor once again to make sure that everything was okay and I had to take some pills for some time. But operation (22) _____ and I haven't had any health problems till these very days.

A general taxation.
 B happened
 C didn't feel any pain
 D health insurance
 E was a success
 F made several more tests
 G along
 H to be consulted

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
17								
18								
19								
20								
21								
22								

USE OF ENGLISH

Task 5

Read and complete the text below. For each of the empty space (23–27) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

A GOOD MORNING (Part 1)

When I was a boy I (23) _____ a long way from school. I had to walk through the forest to get to our school. I usually (24) _____ my father's gun with me.

One day, coming from school, I heard cries from Mr. Epperly's house. His dog, Old Ranger, (25) _____, with a mad dog, half an hour before. Now all the people (26) _____ of Old Ranger because the dog could have become mad too. They all asked Mr. Epperly to shoot Old Ranger.

Mr. Epperly said he could not do it himself. He asked some people to do it but nobody agreed. Mr. Epperly came up to me and said:

'Joe, why can't you take the dog with you to the forest on your way home and shoot it?'

I told Mr. Epperly I did not want to shoot Old Ranger.

'(27) _____ you one dollar, if you do it,' he said.

I had never had a dollar. I did not want to shoot Old Ranger but now it seemed to me that all the people wanted it.

23	A live	B lives	C lived	D had lived
24	A took	B take	C takes	D had taken
25	A fought	B fights	C has fought	D had fought
26	A was afraid	B were afraid	C will be afraid	D would be afraid
27	A I'll give	B I'd give	C I'm giving	D I give

Task 6

Read and complete the text below. For each of the empty space (28–32) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

A GOOD MORNING (Part 2)

Mr. Epperly gave me one dollar, I took Old Ranger and went to the forest. I knew I could never shoot Old Ranger. So I (28) _____ to take him secretly home. At home I explained everything to my mother. She let me keep the dog in the yard for a month.

It was the most difficult time in my life. The Epperly children did not want to walk to school with me. And the other children at school asked me, 'What (29) _____ with your dollar?' They didn't want to play with me. I could not explain anything to them.

Then came the happy morning. 'You can take Old Ranger home now, Joe,' my Mother said. 'A month (30) _____. The dog isn't dangerous any more.'

I took the dog. He was very happy to go with me. We were not far from Mr. Epperly's house when Old Ranger barked. All the family (31) _____ of the house.

Mr. and Mrs. Epperly (32) _____ to see me and Old Ranger.

Then I gave the dollar back to Mr. Epperly.

28	A decides	B decide	C had decided	D decided
29	A had you done	B did you do	C have you done	D do you do
30	A was over	B is over	C has been over	D had been over
31	A ran out	B rans out	C has ran out	D had ran out
32	A are very glad	B have been very glad	C was very glad	D were very glad