MINI TEST 1

In the last third of the nineteenth century a new housing form was quietly being developed. In 1869 the Stuyvesant, considered New York's first apartment house, was built on East Eighteenth Street. The building was financed by the developer Rutherfurd Stuyvesant and designed by Richard Morris Hunt, the first American architect to graduate from the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. Each man had lived in Paris, and each understood the economics and social potential of this Parisian housing form. But the Stuyvesant was at best a limited success. In spite of Hunt's **inviting** façade, the living space was awkwardly arranged. Those who could afford them were quite content to remain in the more **sumptuous**, single-family homes, leaving the Stuyvesant to young married couples and bachelors.

The fundamental problem with the Stuyvesant and the other early apartment buildings that quickly followed, in the 1870's and early 1880's was that they were confined to the typical New York building lot. That lot was a rectangular area 25 feet wide by 100 feet deep - a shape perfectly suited for a row house. The lot could also accommodate a rectangular tenement, though it could not **yield** the square, well-lighted, and logically arranged rooms that great apartment buildings require. But even with the awkward interior configurations of the early apartment buildings, the idea caught on. It met the needs of a large and growing population that wanted something better than tenements but could not afford or did not want row houses.

So while the city's newly emerging social leadership commissioned their mansions, apartment houses and hotels began to sprout in multiple lots, thus breaking the initial space constraints. In the closing decades of the nineteenth century, large apartment houses began dotting the developed portions of New York City, and by the opening decades of the twentieth century, spacious buildings, such as the Dakota and the Ansonia finally transcended the tight confinement of row house building lots. From there it was only a small step to building luxury apartment houses on the newly created Park Avenue, right next to the fashionable Fifth Avenue shopping area.

Question 1*:* The new housing form discussed in the passage refers to _____.

A. single-family homes

B. apartment buildings

C. row houses

D. hotels

Question 2: The word "inviting" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.

A. open

B. encouraging

C. attractive

D. asking

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Question 3: Why was the Stuyvesant a limited success?

A. The arrangement of the rooms was not convenient.

B. Most people could not afford to live there.

C. There were no shopping areas nearby.

D. It was in a crowded neighborhood.

Question 4: The word "sumptuous" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.

A. luxurious

B. unique

C. modern

D. distant

Question 5: It can be inferred that the majority of people who lived in New York's first apartments were:

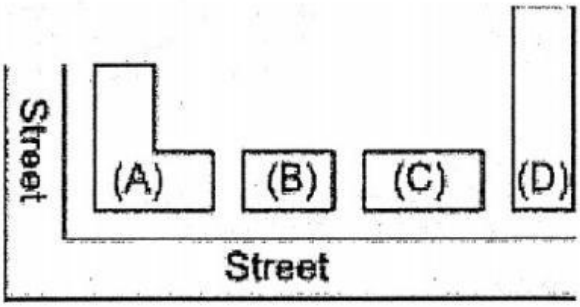
A. highly educated

B. unemployed

C. wealthy

D. young

Question 6: It can be inferred that the typical New York building lot of the 1870's and 1880's looked MOST like which of the following?



A. (A)

B. (B)

C. (C)

D. (D)

Question 7: It can be inferred that a New York apartment building in the 1870's and 1880's had all of the following characteristics EXCEPT

A. Its room arrangement was not logical.

B. It was rectangular.

C. It was spacious inside.

D. It had limited light.

Question 8: The word "yield" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.

A. harvest

B. surrender

C. amount

D. provide

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Question 9: Why did the idea of living in an apartment become popular in the late 1800's?

A. Large families needed housing with sufficient space.

B. Apartments were preferable to tenements and cheaper than row houses

C. The city officials of New York wanted housing that was centrally located.

D. The shape of early apartments could accommodate a variety of interior designs.

Question 10: The author mentions the Dakota and the Ansonia in paragraph 3 because _____.

A. they are examples of large, well designed apartment buildings

B. their design, is similar to that of row houses

C. they were built on a single building lot

D. they are famous hotels

LIVEWORKSHEETS

MINI TEST 2

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is the main political and economic organization for that area. The leaders' summit is their last meeting before the launch of the ASEAN Economic Community, or AEC, on December 31.

The AEC will be equivalent to the world's seventh largest economy. **It** was set up to create a highly competitive single market and production area. Organizers hope it will ease the movement of capital, goods, investment, services and skilled labor across ASEAN countries. The goal is to make the whole area more competitive and economically successful. But some business leaders have low expectations for the ASEAN summit. Anthony Nelson is a director at the US - ASEAN Business Council in Washington. He believes that security will be an important issue at the meetings, especially after the terrorist attacks in Paris last week.

"The November summit includes the East Asia Summit, which primarily focuses on political and security issues. So that's going to be a big part of what is actually going on around the summit. A lot of the work that business gets really involved in tends to happen around the ASEAN economic ministers' meeting in August." But the AEC may have only limited influence on business activity when it comes into being next year. Experts expect little to change at first because there is still much to be done.

"The ASEAN single window, which is a customs project, is still very much a work in progress. But beginning next year they will start limited trials with five of the 10 ASEAN countries. And there have been past mutual recognition agreements for **credentials** of skilled professionals. But there's still a lot of work to be done in terms of actually **implementing** those agreements." Some critics say the AEC will mainly help businesses, not the majority of people in Southeast Asia. Earlier this year, the ASEAN Civil Society Conference and ASEAN Peoples' Forum expressed concern about regional economic **integration**. In a statement, the group said such a move would mean unequal and unsustainable economic growth. This, it said, would result "in worsening poverty and inequalities of wealth." Jerald Joseph is co- chair of the ASEAN People's Forum. He says people crossing borders to find employment need more protections. He said: "Cross - border migrant workers don't have the same level of protection or interest in the whole negotiation. So that's a little bit of a pity, a wasted chance, if it's not reflected in the coming document." The 27th ASEAN Summit includes the organization's partners. Nations including China, India, Japan and the United States are to attend.

Question 1: ASEAN is the main political and economic organization in _____.

A. East Asia

B. Southeast Asia

C. West Asia

D. North Asia

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Question 2: What does the word "It" in paragraph 2 refer to?

A. ASEAN

B. Organizer

C. AEC

D. Business Council

Question 3: According to Anthony Nelson, what is the important issue at the meetings?

A. Security

B. Climate change

C. Business

D. Economy

Question 4: According to the passage, what aspect tends to happen around the ASEAN economic ministers?

A. Security

B. Climate change

C. Business

D. Economy

Question 5: According to the passage, how many countries in the ASEAN will start limited trials?

A. 3

B. 5

C. 7

D. 10

Question 6: The word "credentials" in paragraph 4 can be replaced by ____.

A. letters

B. salutations

C. invitations

D. certificates

Question 7: The word "implementing" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to ___.

A. carrying out

B. producing

C. concentrating

D. focusing

Question 8: The word "integration" in paragraph 4 can be replaced by ____.

A. utilization

B. contribution

C. combination

D. separation

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Question 9: According to the passage, what would delay the increase of the economy?

A. the recession

B. the poverty

C. the move

D. the employment

Question 10: According to the passage, who require more assurance?

A. travelers

B. immigrants

C. residents

D. tourists

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