NMT 2025

Task 1. (1-5)
Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (1-5). There are three choices you do not need to use.

1___





Lend a hand to isolated retirees by offering weekly assistance with errands and engaging in friendly conversations to brighten their days.

A support elderly people
B promote traditional music
C help children grow
D preserve nature
E work with animals
F volunteer on a farm
G organize cultural events
H build homes

2___



4___

Participate in a reforestation initiative aimed at restoring biodiversity near polluted water bodies; collaborate with eco-activists and biologists.



3___

Join our global culture event team to coordinate performances, traditional cuisine stalls, and international crafts exhibitions.



5___



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Task 2. (6-10)
Read the text. For questions 6-10 choose the correct answers (A, B, C or D).

Why is a baker's dozen not 12?

Request a dozen eggs from a farmer, a dozen steaks from a butcher, or a dozen pencils from a travelling office supplies salesman, and you will almost certainly receive 12 of your chosen item (although counting errors do happen). But a baker's dozen is commonly understood to mean 13. Are bakers just bad at counting? Not quite.

There are a few theories as to why a baker's dozen became 13, but most think it has its origins in the fact that many societies throughout history have had extremely strict laws concerning bakers' products. This is due to the fact that it is fairly easy for bakers to cheat customers and sell them less than what they think they are getting.

These societies took this very seriously as bread was a primary food source for many people. So in Britain from the mid-13th century up to the 19th century there was the Assize of Bread and Ale law. This law set the price of ale and what weight a loaf of bread should be. So basically, in terms of bread, it settled the relationship between the price and quality of wheat and what the price and quality of a loaf of bread from a certain quantity of wheat should be.

Even though this law appeared at the request of bakers, it still caused a problem for them. If they happened to accidentally cheat a customer by giving them less than what they were supposed to according to the law, the punishment and fines were severe. Depending on where the lawbreaker lived, it could include for example losing a hand.

In those times it wasn't that hard to accidentally cheat a customer. Making a loaf of bread with an exact weight was nearly impossible by hand without modern day tools. So, bakers began giving more than what the statute outlined to make sure they went over and never under. Specifically, in terms of the "baker's dozen", if a vendor or other customer were to order a dozen or several dozen loaves of bread from a baker, the baker would give them 13 for every dozen they ordered. Likewise, when selling quantities of anything, they'd give 13 measures when only 12 were purchased.

This practice eventually made its way into the Worshipful Company of Bakers (London) guild code. This guild was actually started in the 12th century and had a large part in putting together the conditions of the Assize of Bread and Ale law.

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6. Why did many societies have strict laws about bread products?

A Customers wanted more bread than bakers could produce.
B Bakers were not very good at counting.
C It was not very difficult for bakers to give customers less than they paid for.
D It was easy for bakers to sell more bread.

7. What did the Assize of Bread and Ale law regulate?

A the weight of a loaf
B the price of bread
C the quality of bread
D all of the above

8. Why was the Assize of Bread and Ale statute a problem for bakers?

A They did not want it to appear.
B They had to pay money or recieve another punishment if caught cheating.
C They had to take less money for products.
D They all lost a hand if they made a mistake.

9. Why wasn't it hard to accidentally cheat a customer?

A All the loaves were underweight.
B No one knew how big a loaf should be.
C It was hard to make loaves which were all the same weight.
D They did not use any tools.

10. How did the bakers make sure they did not cheat customers?

A They gave one extra loaf if anyone bought 12 loaves.
B They always sold 13 loaves.
C They did not sell bread to vendors.
D They always gave the exact amount of bread the law ordered.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Task 3. (11-16)
Read the texts and match them to choices A-H.

Daily Habits in Different Countries

11. Japan

In Japan, maintaining silence on public transport is more than a sign of good manners — it's a deeply rooted cultural norm. Engaging in phone conversations, playing music aloud, or speaking in an elevated tone is considered extremely rude. Even friends travelling together tend to keep their voices down, maintaining a calm and respectful environment. Public trains and buses often display "manner posters" reminding passengers to be quiet and considerate. In fact, using mobile phones in priority seating areas is strictly prohibited. Keeping the atmosphere peaceful is a collective responsibility passengers take seriously.

12. Spain

In Spain, lunch is not just a quick bite — it is the main meal of the day and can last for up to two hours. After that, especially in small towns, people often take a short rest called a “siesta.” Although this custom is slowly disappearing in larger cities due to modern work patterns, it remains common in rural areas and among older generations as a valued element of Spanish cultural identity. Lunch usually begins around 2 p.m. and consists of several courses. Many local businesses, including shops and offices, close between 2 and 5 p.m. to allow people to enjoy their meals and relax before returning to work. This rhythm allows people to recharge both physically and mentally, maintaining a balance between work and personal life.

13. Sweden

In Sweden, there is a daily cultural ritual known as “fika”, which goes far beyond simply drinking coffee. It is an intentional break, typically taken with coffee and a sweet pastry such as a cinnamon bun, but its true purpose lies in creating moments of meaningful connection. People gather with friends, family, or co-workers to pause their day and enjoy each other's company in a relaxed setting. Some workplaces have more than one fika a day, and it is often scheduled into the working day as an expected activity. The concept reflects the Swedish value of balance between productivity and well-being, encouraging people to slow down and prioritize human interaction.

14. India

In Indian culture, dining is a multisensory experience, and eating with one’s hands — specifically the right hand — is viewed as both natural and respectful. While cutlery is available in most restaurants, many locals still consider it more natural and respectful to eat by hand. This custom is especially prominent in traditional households and religious or festive contexts, where it also symbolizes humility and cultural authenticity. The left hand, associated with personal hygiene, is generally avoided at the table. Thorough handwashing before and after meals is considered essential, underscoring the importance of both cleanliness and ritual purity.

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15. Germany

In Germany, being punctual isn't just appreciated — it's expected. Arriving even five minutes late to a meeting or a dinner with friends can raise eyebrows and may be seen as disrespectful. Germans often say, "Time is money," and they truly live by that principle. Schedules are taken seriously, and being late is interpreted as poor planning or lack of consideration. Public transportation is also held to high standards of punctuality, with delays often announced and apologized for. Sticking to timetables is part of daily life, and being "fashionably late" just doesn't fly here.

16. South Korea

In South Korea, meals are a shared experience built on principles of respect and harmony. Dishes are typically placed at the center of the table for everyone to reach, rather than served individually. It is customary to wait for the eldest person to begin eating before others start, and showing good manners while dining is essential. Using both hands when passing a dish or pouring a drink is a sign of politeness and humility. Speaking loudly or focusing on your phone during a meal is frowned upon, as meals are seen as an important social moment. Table etiquette reflects a deep sense of community and hierarchy that shapes daily interactions.

In this country ...

A people value unspoken rules that ensure everyone can travel peacefully.

B locals follow a precise structure in their daily meals, especially in the evening.

C social interaction is deliberately built into the workday to promote balance.

D meals are enjoyed more fully when shared with others in silence.

E eating customs reflect not just preference, but deep cultural philosophy.

F managing time strictly is viewed as both a moral and practical necessity.

G mealtimes serve as a way to express respect and reinforce social roles.

H some traditional routines survive despite growing pressure to abandon them.

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Task 4.
Read the text. Choose the correct answer which best fits each space (17-22). There are two choices you do not need to use.

A great pirate

Born in 1780, Jean Lafitte, together with his brother, **17**_____ .
The Lafitte brothers earned a reputation for piracy because they sometimes attacked Spanish ships in the Gulf, but it was smuggling **18**_____ .
The local Governor Claiborne of Louisiana had been trying to imprison the heads of illegal smuggling operations, which included Lafitte, before the start of the war.

During the War of 1812, which saw the English fight against the United States, Lafitte was approached by the English. They planned to capture New Orleans and offered to **19**_____ .
Pretending to think about taking the offer, Lafitte waited for the English to leave and then **20**_____ . He offered to help protect Louisiana.

Claiborne, **21**_____ , ignored the offer. Sometime after, an American warship attacked and destroyed Lafitte's base and captured 80 of his men.

Claiborne offered a $500 reward **22** _____ .
When Lafitte saw this he made similar posters calling for the governor's capture and offering a bigger sum of $5,000.

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Use of English

Task 5.
Read the text. Choose the correct answer which best fits each space (23-27).

The biggest human migration on Earth

Chunyun (The Lunar New Year), or spring migration, is the world's largest annual human migration. The migration lasts **23** _____ 40 days. *The Lunar New Year*, or *Spring Festival*, is the most important holiday in the Chinese cultural calendar. It **24** _____ as a time of family reunions and reconnection, prompting separated members to travel long distances and sit together at one table. No matter how far parents or their offspring have to travel in China, they are always willing **25** _____ the journey home during *The Chinese New Year*. College students and migrant workers are the main travellers during the holiday. These workers usually come from the rural parts of China, **26** _____ long distances to find work opportunities, they move to big cities far from home. For many, *the Chinese New Year* is their only holiday, and a rare chance to spend time with family - including their children, who are normally **27** _____ in the care of grandparents.

Task 6.
Read the text. Choose the correct answer which best fits each space (28-32).

Hunger for power

If you think that politics is boring, you haven't watched *House of Cards*, an American political drama. It is directed by David Fincher, who is known for *Seven* and *Fight Club*, among **28**_____. This TV series is set in the capital of the USA and tells the story of Francis Underwood (Kevin Spacey), a fictional Democratic congressman.

Kevin Spacey **29**_____ the role of a ruthless politician who wants to take revenge on the people that have betrayed him, including the President of the United States himself. He is very cynical and uses a young political reporter to reveal his rivals' dark secrets to the press. His power hungry wife is no angel **30**_____ . They both stop at nothing to reach their goals and destroy their enemies.

The series **31**_____ a remake of the 1990s British political miniseries and has become a great success, receiving many **32**_____ for excellent acting and directing.

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