READING

Task 1

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

1 **WE ARE OPEN!**

Community Kitchen

Free Meals Every Weekday. 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM. Enjoy a delicious meal!
No questions asked. Simply arrive anytime between 4:30 and 5:30 PM and take a seat. Our volunteers will serve you a hot meal.
Everyone is welcome. Contact us: (585) 327-89-01.

2 **Outdoor Film Festival**

Enjoy classic films under the stars at the Dingo Outdoor Film Festival. Bring your own blanket and picnic and watch a selection of beloved movies.
Event Dates: May 30th — June 2nd.
Tickets: $15 (includes popcorn and a soft drink).
Location: Central Park, West Lawn.
Get your tickets at www.downtownfilmfest.com

3 **Mountain View Lodge**

Get closer to nature at Mountain View Lodge! Nestled in the heart of the mountains, our lodge offers modern comfort and breathtaking views.
Enjoy outdoor activities like hiking and skiing, and relax by the fireplace in the evening. Mountain View Lodge – your gateway to adventure and quietness.
Phone to book: (914) 567-8901.

4 **Spanish Language Course**

Immerse yourself in the Spanish language with our comprehensive course designed for all levels. Improve your speaking, listening, and writing skills through interactive lessons.
Course Duration: 12 weeks (evening classes available).
Enroll today at www.spanishforyourmastery.com

5 **Urban Veggie Café**

Discover delicious, cruelty-free options. Our menu features a variety of fresh, organic, and locally sourced ingredients, crafted into mouth-watering vegetarian and vegan dishes. Whether you're a veggie lover or just curious, Urban Veggie Café offers a guilt-free dining experience that's as good for the planet as it is for your taste buds.

Which advertisement is about _____?

A handcraft for youth
B a place to experience plant-based meals with fresh, local produce
C an event where you can watch movies in an open-air setting
D a place that serves meals at no cost
E an art exhibition
F a job opportunity
G an active rest in the core of scenic landscapes
H an opportunity to gain and apply new verbal skills

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

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Task 2

Read the texts below. For questions (6–10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Finding Freedom in a Tiny Home

Living in our tiny house in Asheville, North Carolina, has been a transformative experience for me, my husband Jake, and our two kids, Emily and Lucas. When we made the decision to downsize, it wasn't just about saving money—it was about living more intentionally and in harmony with our core values. We wanted to simplify our lives, reduce our environmental impact, and create a space that truly felt like home, even if it was small.

Our tiny house cost around $52,000, which was a huge relief compared to the price of a traditional home. Without the burden of a hefty mortgage, we've been able to focus our finances on things that matter to us, like traveling to visit family in nearby Charlotte or taking weekend trips to the Blue Ridge Mountains. This financial freedom has allowed us to pursue our passions without the stress of being tied down by debt. We can invest in experiences that enrich our lives, and that has made all the difference.

Living in a tiny house as a family has also brought us closer together. The limited space means we spend more time in each other's company, and it has encouraged us to be more mindful of how we use our space. Every corner of our home is carefully thought out to serve a purpose. We've had to be selective about what we keep, letting go of things that don't add value to our lives. This has helped us embrace minimalism, focusing on what truly matters: our relationships, our health, and our happiness.

Our tiny home is also a testament to our commitment to the environment. We wanted to reduce our carbon footprint, and living in a tiny house has helped us achieve that. Our energy use is minimal, and we've incorporated sustainable practices like using energy-efficient appliances and minimizing waste. The house itself produces far fewer emissions compared to a traditional home, and that's something we're really proud of. It's a small step, but it feels good to know we're contributing to a more sustainable future.

For our family, living in a tiny house isn't just about downsizing — it's about "**right-sizing.**" We've found a balance that offers us financial freedom, a simpler, more meaningful life, and a way to live that aligns with our values. The experience has brought us closer together, made us more mindful of our impact on the world, and given us the freedom to focus on what truly matters. Tiny living isn't just a trend for us; it's a lifestyle that has changed our lives for the better.

6. What was the primary motivation for the author's family to move into a tiny house?

- ☐ **A** To escape from city life.
- ☐ **B** To save money and live a humbler life.
- ☐ **C** To follow a popular trend.
- ☐ **D** To impress friends and neighbours.

7. How has living in a tiny house affected the family's travel habits?

- ☐ **A** They have stopped traveling to save money.
- ☐ **B** They travel less frequently because they enjoy spending time in their tiny home.
- ☐ **C** They now prefer to stay in eco-friendly resorts when they travel.
- ☐ **D** Their greater financial flexibility allows them to travel to visit relatives and take weekend trips.

8. How does the author's family contribute to environmental sustainability through their tiny house lifestyle?

- ☐ **A** They collect water for daily use.
- ☐ **B** They use solar panels to generate electricity.
- ☐ **C** They consume less energy and produce less waste.
- ☐ **D** They grow their own food.

9. What does the phrase "right-sizing" mean in the context of the text?

- ☐ **A** Moving into a home that is the perfect size for a large family.
- ☐ **B** Achieving harmony between financial priorities and personal lifestyle choices.
- ☐ **C** Downsizing to the smallest possible living space.
- ☐ **D** Adjusting to a new standard of living.

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10. What is the main message the author wants to convey about tiny house living?

- ☐ **A** It is a lifestyle choice that can improve overall well-being.
- ☐ **B** It is only suitable for certain types of people.
- ☐ **C** It is a solution to the housing crisis for everyone.
- ☐ **D** It is a trend that will eventually fade away.

Task 3

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

11 The disappearance of legendary Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen is quite unusual. He was the first to sail the Northwest Passage and beat England's Robert Falcon Scott to the South Pole by several weeks. However, Roald Amundsen didn't die while exploring new territories; he vanished during a rescue mission for Italian pilot and engineer Umberto Nobile, whose airship crashed in the Arctic in 1928. Amundsen's plane is believed to have crashed near Bear Island in Norway's Svalbard archipelago. Amundsen's fate remains a mystery, though three objects found soon after his disappearance suggest a crash south of Bear Island.

12 Since the 17th century, Stonehenge has been associated with the Druids, but the timeline doesn't add up. So, who built it?
The answer is complex. Stonehenge's construction took place in several phases over about 1500 years. Neolithic hunter-gatherers were long thought to be the builders, but new evidence suggests Stonehenge's builders were descendants of Mediterranean farmers who migrated to northwestern Europe 6000 years ago.
Whoever built Stonehenge, their achievements were astonishing. We still don't know how they transported and erected the stones, some of which came from a Welsh site 200 miles away, without wheels.

13 We don't know who wrote the Voynich Manuscript, where, or when. Even more puzzling, we have no idea what it says. The text is full of strange plants, astrological charts, and bizarre images. The writing system doesn't match any other known script. Some scientists, like U. S. Army cryptographer William Friedman, think it's a made-up language. Others say it might be a dead language or a secret code.
The book, found by bookseller Wilfrid Voynich in 1912, has six sections: plants, astrology, weird biology, "cosmological medallions", pharmaceuticals, and recipes. Scientists say it dates back to the early 15th century. Its true meaning is still a mystery.

14 On December 5, 1872, the British ship Dei Gratia discovered the Mary Celeste adrift about 400 miles east of the Azores, with no sign of its crew. Nobody knows what happened to the 10 people on board. Arthur Conan Doyle wrote a sensational short story about the fictional "Marie Celeste" in 1884. People got very interested in the mystery. Many ideas about what happened have been suggested, like a dangerous leak, a big wave, a dangerous cargo or a violent storm. Despite numerous theories, the mystery remains unsolved.

15 The Terracotta Army, a remarkable collection of life-size clay figures discovered near the tomb of China's first emperor, is a breathtaking evidence of ancient artistry. Dating back over 2,000 years, these warriors, horses, and chariots were accurately crafted to accompany the emperor in the afterlife. Each statue is remarkably detailed, reflecting the high level of skill of the unknown artists who created them. How these lifelike statues were produced and fired is another mystery of this archaeological marvel.

16 In the fourth century BC, Plato told the story of Atlantis, a powerful empire that supposedly ruled much of Europe and Africa before disappearing under the ocean. According to his account, Atlantis was home to a highly advanced civilization, whose people were supposedly half-human, half-gods.
Most experts think Atlantis is a fictional story, but it still sparks interest and debate about its possible origins. Some researchers think the story of Atlantis might have been inspired by the Minoan civilization, which was based on the island of Crete. The Minoans experienced severe

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damage from the eruption of Thera, a volcano in Greece. But there is no solid evidence connecting the Minoans to Atlantis, so the mystery of the lost island continues.

A This ship owes its fame to a well-known writer.
B That legendary island may have its real prototype.
C When the water levels fall far enough that the remains of this city become visible and visitors can wander among the rubble.
D The way in which the huge objects were moved to the site is a mystery.
E This famous explorer went missing trying to save a victim of the air crash.
F Some experts think the language of this book is invented.
G That book was translated into 36 languages.
H These sculptures were meant to protect the ruler after his death.

	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.

Europe has many beautiful islands, but the Faroe Islands remain wonderfully unspoiled **(17)** _____. This independent nation consists of 18 small islands situated between Iceland and Norway and is governed by Denmark. It's a perfect destination, if you are **(18)** _____.

Start your adventure by flying into Tórshavn, **(19)** _____, which you can reach with a short flight from Copenhagen, Paris, or Edinburgh. You should visit Gásadalur to see the famous waterfall from a scenic trail.

Every moment in the Faroe Islands offers stunning views. **(20)** _____ are along the coast of Vágar Island and in Gjógv. This island is home to thousands of puffins that are not bothered by human visitors. Watching these charming birds **(21)** _____ is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

The Faroe Islands provide a rare chance to experience untouched nature and breathtaking landscapes. **(22)** _____, this hidden gem is a must-visit destination.

A if you love adventure and wildlife
B the most beautiful hikes
C due to their remote location
D is accessible from major European cities
E the vibrant capital city
F hikers or birdwatchers
G in their natural habitat
H is closely related to Icelandic

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

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USE OF ENGLISH

Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (23–27) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Ivory Coast has launched its first child vaccination program against malaria, a major health **(23)** _____ in Africa. This initiative aims to **(24)** _____ about 250,000 children under two years old with a three-shot vaccine developed by Oxford University and approved by the WHO. The vaccine, shown to be over 75 % effective in the first year, also includes a booster for extended **(25)** _____. Manufactured by India's Serum Institute, the vaccine costs $4 per dose. More than 95 % of global malaria cases and deaths **(26)** _____ in Africa, with young children and pregnant women being the most affected. This program marks a **(27)** _____ step in malaria control, with other African nations also beginning similar efforts.

23
- ☐ **A** monitor
- ☐ **B** issue
- ☐ **C** illness
- ☐ **D** medicine

24
- ☐ **A** immunize
- ☐ **B** discover
- ☐ **C** monitor
- ☐ **D** diagnose

25
- ☐ **A** wellbeing
- ☐ **B** protection
- ☐ **C** health
- ☐ **D** provision

26
- ☐ **A** follow
- ☐ **B** highlight
- ☐ **C** occur
- ☐ **D** disturb

27
- ☐ **A** significant
- ☐ **B** analyzed
- ☐ **C** reckless
- ☐ **D** unintended

Task 6

Read the text below. For questions (28–32) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Benefits of Exercise

Exercise is widely known for its physical benefits, such as weight control and increased energy. However, it also offers significant psychological advantages. For instance, engaging in physical activity can help **(28)** _____ symptoms of depression and anxiety by increasing endorphin levels, which improve mood. If you are straggling **(29)** _____ stress, exercise **(30)** _____ stress levels, enhancing your cognitive functions and mood. Regular exercise can also boost self-esteem and self-confidence, leading **(31)** _____ a more positive self-image. Additionally, exercise can improve sleep **(32)** _____ your circadian rhythm. Finally, physical activity boosts brain function, supporting memory and creativity.

28
- ☐ **A** reduces
- ☐ **B** to reduce
- ☐ **C** reduced
- ☐ **D** reducing

29
- ☐ **A** with
- ☐ **B** about
- ☐ **C** out
- ☐ **D** for

30
- ☐ **A** decrease
- ☐ **B** is decreased
- ☐ **C** might decrease
- ☐ **D** must decrease

31
- ☐ **A** in
- ☐ **B** at
- ☐ **C** to
- ☐ **D** for

32
- ☐ **A** by regulating
- ☐ **B** regulatory
- ☐ **C** have regulated
- ☐ **D** regulate

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