# 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  Charming 2-Bedroom Apartment for Rent**

Located in the heart of Lincoln-City, this spacious 2-bedroom apartment features modern conveniences, hardwood floors, and a private balcony.
Monthly Rent: $1,800 (utilities included).
Available from June 1st.
Phone: (265) 586-70-90.

**2  Calling all tennis enthusiasts!**

We welcome players of all ages and skill levels, making it perfect for families, friends, and anyone who wants to enjoy some friendly competition and exercise in the fresh air.
Dates: October 1st – 3d.
Registration Fee: $50 per team.
Location: Rivaldy Avenue, Court 3.
Ready to take the court?
Don't miss out! Sign up today.
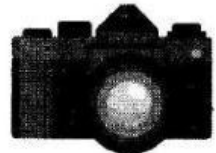Phone: (312) 456-7890.

**3  Smoked BBQ Bar**

Calling all barbecue lovers!
We're serving up the juiciest ribs and tastiest pulled pork in town.
Your favorite sports are always on.
Come for the food, stay for the flavor!
Location: Fisher Lane, 8.
Phone: (607) 120-73-34.

**4  Customer Service Representatives Wanted**

Join our dynamic team at CityTech Solutions! We're looking for enthusiastic individuals with excellent communication skills to provide top-notch service to our clients.
Full-Time & Part-Time Positions Available.
Salary: $18–$22 per hour + benefits.
Phone us: (555) 123-4567.

**5  Beginner's Photography Workshop**

Capture the world through your lens with our beginner's photography workshop. Learn the basics of camera settings, composition, and editing techniques from professional photographers.
Course Duration: 6 weeks (evening classes available).
Tuition: $250 (includes a free photo editing software trial).
Address: 251 Green Street, Dowton.

**Which advertisement is about _____ ?**

A  shopping
B  finding a cozy place to live
C  theatrical play
D  learning a new creative skill
E  where to enjoy something yummy
F  a job opportunity
G  social event that involves physical activity
H  commuting

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

# Task 2

## Briefly about Tattoos

Are you interested in tattoos? You might be surprised to learn that tattooing is a tradition with deep historical roots, extending far beyond modern times. Although tattoos might seem like a recent invention, they are actually a significant part of human history. From ancient civilizations to the present day, people across the globe have been using tattoos for various reasons. In ancient cultures, tattoos were not just for personal expression but also served religious, cultural, and social purposes.

The oldest known tattoos were found on Ötzi the Iceman, a preserved mummy dating back to around 3300 BC. Discovered in the Alps, Ötzi's tattoos, made with charcoal, were strategically placed on his body, possibly for pain relief similar to acupuncture.

In ancient Egypt, tattoos appeared on mummies from around 2000 BC. These tattoos were mainly found on women and may have been associated with fertility and spiritual protection. Some Egyptian figures even showed women with tattoos, suggesting that tattooing was an important part of their culture.

The Nubian culture south of Egypt also practiced tattooing, with blue tattoos done in dot patterns. Similarly, the Scythians from central Asia had tattoos of mythical animals, with designs found on various body parts.

Tattoos have always been more than just body art. In many **indigenous** cultures, they were markers of status and identity. Polynesian cultures, for instance, used elaborate tattoos as a symbol of social rank. In Japan, tattoos were once used to mark criminals, but later became associated with the Yakuza, a sign of commitment and status within the group.

Throughout history, tattoos have also been used for protective purposes. Some ancient cultures believed that tattoos could provide health benefits or spiritual protection. For example, the tattoos on Ötzi the Iceman might have been related to therapeutic practices.

Tattooing has evolved significantly over the centuries. While ancient methods involved tools like wooden and bronze needles, modern tattooing uses specialized equipment and inks. Today, tattoos are widely accepted as a form of personal adornment and self-expression, though their historical significance remains. You can even remove tattoos, a technology that would have been unheard of in ancient times. Cultural attitudes have shifted, with tattoos becoming more mainstream and less stigmatized than in the past.

Despite the many changes, the reasons people get tattoos today — whether for personal, spiritual, or aesthetic reasons — are not so different from those of our ancient ancestors. The art of tattooing continues to reflect our ongoing desire to express and define ourselves through permanent marks on our skin.

6. **How did ancient cultures primarily use tattoos?**
   - ☐ **A** Solely for decorative purposes.
   - ☐ **B** As a form of punishment.
   - ☐ **C** For spiritual and social reasons.
   - ☐ **D** Primarily as a status symbol for the wealthy.

7. **Why might the tattoos on Ötzi the Iceman have been placed on his body?**
   - ☐ **A** To mark his social status.
   - ☐ **B** As a form of artistic expression.
   - ☐ **C** To ease discomfort or pain.
   - ☐ **D** To symbolize his religious beliefs.

8. **How did the tattoos of the Nubian culture differ from those of the Egyptians?**
   - ☐ **A** They were designed with a series of small, repetitive marks.
   - ☐ **B** They were exclusively done on males.
   - ☐ **C** They used different pigments and techniques.
   - ☐ **D** They were only found on statues and artwork.

**LIVEWORKSHEETS**

9. **In the text, what does "indigenous" most closely mean?**
   - ☐ **A** Ancient and outdated.
   - ☐ **B** Native or originating from a particular place.
   - ☐ **C** Modern and contemporary.
   - ☐ **D** Imported or foreign.

10. **How have cultural attitudes towards tattoos changed over time?**
   - ☐ **A** Tattoos have consistently been seen as a negative symbol.
   - ☐ **B** There has been no significant change in tattoo perceptions.
   - ☐ **C** Tattoos are now universally accepted in all cultures.
   - ☐ **D** Tattoos have become more socially acceptable in recent decades.

## Task 3

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

11 Marie Skłodowska, born in Warsaw in 1867, was the youngest of five children. Her parents were both teachers, and her father taught math and physics. Marie was passionate about these subjects but faced gender barriers. She even attended lectures at Krakow University dressed as a man until she was caught. Marie and her sister joined the Flying University, a secret school that admitted women.

Marie Curie moved to Paris in 1891, earning degrees in mathematics and physics while supporting herself as a tutor. She became the University of Paris's first female professor and married Pierre Curie in 1895. Marie's research on radioactivity led to discoveries of polonium and radium and the development of radiotherapy, a key cancer treatment. She was the first person to win two Nobel Prizes, in Physics (1903) and Chemistry (1911).

12 Frida Kahlo, a renowned 20th-century artist, led a life full of challenges and triumphs that deeply influenced her art. Born in Mexico City in 1907, Frida faced many hardships, including a severe bus accident in 1925 that led to chronic pain and medical issues. During her recovery, she discovered her passion for painting.

Kahlo's art is known for its unique style and vivid exploration of Mexican culture, surrealism, and personal pain. Her self-portraits, often featuring symbolic elements, provide an intimate look into her life and struggles. She also had a complex relationship with fellow artist Diego Rivera, which deeply influenced her work.

Despite her early death in 1954, Kahlo's legacy endures, with her art continuing to inspire and captivate audiences worldwide.

13 Sophie Germain's passion for mathematics faced severe obstacles early in her life. Unable to attend university due to gender restrictions, Germain adopted the identity of a male student who had left using his lecture notes and submitting work under his name. Her true identity was revealed when a professor, impressed by the sudden improvement in the student's work, requested a meeting. Fortunately, the professor was supportive and encouraged her. Germain, working from home with limited resources, became deeply interested in number theory. She boldly corresponded with Carl Gauss, a leading mathematician of the time, under her male pseudonym. After three years, Gauss was astonished to discover her true identity and praised her to his colleagues. Germain became the first woman to win a prize from France's Royal Academy.

14 Fanny Mendelssohn, a gifted German pianist and composer, was Felix Mendelssohn's elder sister. She displayed exceptional talent from a young age, even memorizing J. S. Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier by the age of 13. Felix admitted she was a superior pianist and his chief musical advisor until he left home. Despite her talent, their father was merely tolerant, and Felix believed she was too constrained by traditional female roles. Queen Victoria mistakenly attributed the Mendelssohn song "Italien" to Felix, discovering later it was Fanny's work. Fanny composed 460 pieces, including the Piano Trio in D, Quartet in E-flat, Piano Sonata in G minor, and Das Jahr. She died of a stroke while conducting one of Felix's oratorios.

**15** In the 19th century, long before computers existed, Augusta Ada Byron became the first person to be called a "computer programmer." Born to poet Lord Byron and Anne Milbanke, Ada was raised by her mother, who insisted she study mathematics, a rare pursuit for women at the time. At 17, Ada met Charles Babbage, who mentored her in advanced math. Ada translated and expanded on an article about Babbage's Analytical Engine, envisioning it could handle more than just numbers, including music. Her concept of looping commands laid the groundwork for modern computing. Her contributions went largely unrecognized until the 1950s, leading to the naming of the programming language "Ada" in her honor in 1980.

**16** Amelia Earhart was a pioneering American aviator who set numerous records and championed women in aviation. Born on July 24, 1897, in Atchison, Kansas, Earhart defied gender norms, excelling in basketball and auto repair, and later worked as a Red Cross nurse during World War I. Captivated by aviation, she took flying lessons in 1921 and purchased her first plane, nicknamed "the Canary." Earhart made history by flying solo across the Atlantic in 1932 and from Hawaii to the U.S. mainland in 1935. In 1929, she helped found the Ninety-Nines, an organization for female pilots.

In 1937, Earhart vanished over the Pacific Ocean on July 2. She was officially declared lost at sea on July 19, 1937.

**Which historic person _____?**

A designed the first solar heating system

B made significant contributions to cancer treatment and won two prestigious international awards

C coined the terms "bug" and "debugging" when she had to remove moths from the device

D was recognized by her relative as a greater instrumentalist

E had a relative who convinced her to go into science.

F disguised herself as a student of the opposite gender to overcome university access restrictions

G went through a serious accident that influenced her artistic career

H excelled in sports and mechanics in the young age

|    | 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.**

### Duct Tape: The Handy Fix-All

When you don't have the right tool, duct tape often saves the day. People use it for almost anything — from holding car mirrors in place **(17)** _____.

Duct tape's story began during World War II. The U.S. military needed a waterproof tape **(18)** _____. Researchers at Johnson & Johnson's Permacel division made a special tape **(19)** _____. The tape was strong, water-resistant, and easy to tear into strips, which **(20)** _____.

Soldiers liked it so much they nicknamed it "duck" tape because it reminded them of a duck's waterproof feathers. After the war, many veterans started working in construction and brought the tape with them. It became a common item in many industries, **(21)** _____.

Manufacturers soon made it with a silver top layer to match metal ducts, and duct tape became the reliable fix-all that we know today. The story of duct tape shows how a simple invention **(22)** _____.

A its usefulness and adaptability

B to making creative items like duct tape wallets or even shoes

C and quickly found new applications

D and highlights its creative and practical uses

E started as a military tool and became widely used

F by changing medical tape

G was well-suited for various needs

H to keep ammunition cases dry

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

# USE OF ENGLISH

## Task 5

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

For seven years, Finland has been the world's happiest country, **(23)** _____ the UN's World Happiness Report. In Helsinki, this happiness is most **(24)** _____ during summer, when long daylight hours spotlight the city's blend of nature and urban life. With 300 islands, two national parks **(25)** _____ by public transport, and **(26)** _____ green spaces, Helsinki is a paradise for outdoor lovers and sauna enthusiasts. Professional "happiness hacker" Lena Salmi, who **(27)** _____ outdoor city tours, highlights the city's happiness hotspots, emphasizing the calming influence of the sea. Salmi, a sports journalist turned happiness expert, found her joy in reconnecting with Helsinki's natural beauty.

| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ☐ A topping | ☐ A hidden | ☐ A obvious | ☐ A abundant | ☐ A views |
| ☐ B lowering | ☐ B distant | ☐ B accessible | ☐ B generous | ☐ B guides |
| ☐ C avoiding | ☐ C evident | ☐ C booked | ☐ C deep | ☐ C helps |
| ☐ D surpassing | ☐ D unapparent | ☐ D adoptable | ☐ D disruptive | ☐ D attends |

## Task 6

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

### Reuniting with a Lost Cat

Recently a London family **(28)** _____ with their lost cat, Lily, who went missing last month and was adopted by another family. Lily was last seen **(29)** _____ Halloween, and her original owners, the Cronin family, initially thought she was hiding in their house. They began searching as soon as they realized she was gone and **(30)** _____ found her on the London Animal Care Centre's adoption website. Katie Cronin called the centre the next day, only to discover Lily **(31)** _____. After CTV News aired a story about the situation, Lily's new owners contacted the Cronins. Lily has since returned to the Cronin family, and her brief owners received an offer to adopt **(32)** _____ cat free of charge.

28 ☐ A reunited
    ☐ B has reunited
    ☐ C was reuniting
    ☐ D get reunited

29 ☐ A between
    ☐ B about
    ☐ C around
    ☐ D approximately

30 ☐ A furthermore
    ☐ B expectedly
    ☐ C eventually
    ☐ D lately

31 ☐ A is adopted
    ☐ B was adopting
    ☐ C adopted
    ☐ D had been adopted

32 ☐ A other
    ☐ B another
    ☐ C the others
    ☐ D same