

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



VALLEY Bike

Explore Pioneer Valley on a ValleyBike.

Enjoy the Ride in eight cities and towns including **Amherst, Easthampton, Holyoke, Northampton, South Hadley, Springfield, West Springfield** and arriving soon, **Chicopee!**

Register today at www.ValleyBike.org

Follow us on social media @ ValleyBike

2



JOIN OUR TEAM!

Management Opportunity

Up to \$16 an hour to start

\$500 Welcome Bonus

E-mail your resume to: fpsbk@fpsbk.net

3



AMANO MARKETPLACE

Connecting you with the traditions & spirit of Latin America through fair trade products.

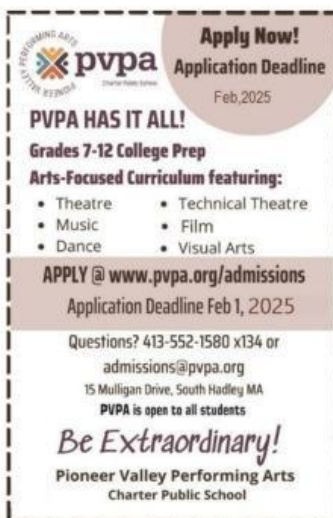
Based in Amherst, MA!

-Holiday Discounts Sitewide-

Additional discounts available by subscribing to our newsletter today!

www.amanomarketplace.com

4



Apply Now!
Application Deadline Feb. 2025

PVPA HAS IT ALL!
Grades 7-12 College Prep

Arts-Focused Curriculum featuring:

- Theatre
- Music
- Dance
- Technical Theatre
- Film
- Visual Arts

APPLY @ www.pvpa.org/admissions
Application Deadline Feb 1, 2025

Questions? 413-552-1580 x134 or admissions@pvpa.org
15 Mulligan Drive, South Hadley MA
PVPA is open to all students

Be Extraordinary!
Pioneer Valley Performing Arts
Charter Public School

5



WE BELIEVE THAT RELATIONSHIPS ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN SALES.

LET US SUPPORT YOUR HEARING HEALTH JOURNEY.

WE OFFER REAL HELP FOR YOU.

FLORENCEHEARING.COM | 413-776-1700

Which advertisement is about _____?

- A eating out
- B hiring a vehicle
- C shopping opportunities
- D a job offer
- E an educational institution
- F a holiday party
- G medical services
- H a visit to the theatre

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

Task 2

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

My First Day of College

My name is John. I am someone who never went to college but always thought about it. The only way I attended was in listening to my children talk about their classes and all the interesting things they were learning. College was just a lifelong dream of mine. I just turned sixty-four years old in September. I still thought about that old dream. Was it too late? I had lots of time now. Would I dare try? There was an Advant-Age Programme at the local University. I decided to step out of my comfort zone and sign up.

The day finally arrived. My first day of school. The great adventure was about to begin and all I felt was terror. As I drove along the interstate, my mind filled with so many negative thoughts. The old inferiority complex closed in as I began to think to myself, "What am I doing?" "I am making one giant of a mistake." "I am not smart enough to go to college." "I am too old and gray." "The kids will laugh when they see me in class." "I probably won't live long enough to get a degree." "Even if I did get a degree, I couldn't get a job." "Who would hire me?" "Wait a minute, what is this talking about a degree? I won't even pass my first class." "My memory is terrible. I can't even remember what I did yesterday, let alone remember what I will learn in class." "Maybe I should just turn the car around and go home."

Then, all at once, I saw it! A large billboard sign on the side of the road with a picture of Kermit the frog. I love that little guy. I slowed down a little and read the words next to his picture: Eats Flies, Dates a Pig, Hollywood Star. "*Live your Dreams*". Was Kermit speaking to me? Sure, I had lots of things going against me but maybe I could try to live my dream. I didn't turn the car around but continued on to my destination. Positive, I was feeling positive!

I drove a little farther on up the highway and there was another billboard. This one had a picture of Albert Einstein with his tongue sticking out. What a strange picture! The caption read, "*As a student he was no Einstein,*" and also included these bold words in red, "*Confidence*". Forget my negativity. My outlook began to change completely. YES, I can do this! I was now approaching the exit for the college and there stood still another billboard. This one showed a photograph of a triumphant woman in a cap and gown. Under the picture was her name, Nola Ochs, age 95. "*Oldest College Graduate*". In bold print were the words, "*Live Life*".

Thank you, Foundation for a Better Life. I am enjoying being a college student at Kutztown University. You helped me to live my lifelong dream. I am Living and Loving Life!

6 What is **TRUE** of John, according to **PARAGRAPH 1**?

- ☐ A He made up his mind to change his way of life.
- ☐ B He decided to go to college together with his children.
- ☐ C He signed up for a free tuition programme.
- ☐ D He launched an Advant-Age Programme.

7 On his way to college John thought about everything **EXCEPT** _____.

- ☐ A his college curriculum
- ☐ B his career opportunities
- ☐ C his fellow students
- ☐ D his exam failure

8 What evoked John's positive feelings?

- ☐ A a road sign
- ☐ B a student's motto
- ☐ C a character's words
- ☐ D a scientist's speech

9 What helped John to change his point of view?

- ☐ A Einstein's memoirs
- ☐ B his children's support
- ☐ C inspiring real-life stories
- ☐ D efficient college staff

10 Why does John feel happy?

- ☐ A He has become the oldest student in the college.
- ☐ B He has helped others to achieve their lifelong dreams.
- ☐ C He has set up Foundation for a Better Life.
- ☐ D He has managed to realise his ambition.

Task 3

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

Unusual Museums

11

Wellcome Collection

Wellcome Collection is a free museum. The museum's permanent galleries connect science, medicine, life and art in thought-provoking and unexpected ways. Recent temporary exhibitions have covered a diverse range of topics from the psychology of magic to representations of chronic illness. Upstairs, the Reading Room is home to more than a thousand books – but isn't just for reading. You can discover more than 100 historical objects, play 19th-century board games or strike up a conversation with a stranger.

12

The Foundling Museum

The Foundling Museum explores the history of the Foundling Hospital, the UK's first children's charity and first public art gallery. Through a dynamic programme of exhibitions, the museum celebrates the ways in which artists of all disciplines have helped improve children's lives for more than 275 years. The moving story of the Foundling Hospital, and the kids who grew up there, is revealed through artworks and objects. Paintings, sculpture, furniture and ceramics are also displayed in beautiful 18th-century interiors, reconstructed from the original Hospital building.

13

The Museum of Brands

Immerse yourself in a kaleidoscope of images and iconic brands at *the Museum of Brands*. Decade by decade, the museum's collection takes visitors on a nostalgic journey through 200 years of social change, culture and lifestyle. Discover over 12,000 original items, from motorcars, music and television to sweets and household goods. It offers you a journey through the Time Tunnel to see how the brands evolved, and how we evolved with them. It is an exciting new way of looking at the past through the things that generations of families have thrown away.

14

The Postal Museum

The Postal Museum reveals five centuries of British social and communications history through the eyes of its iconic postal service covering everything from design and technology to the intimacy of personal letters. Alongside permanent exhibition galleries and a temporary exhibition space, Mail Rail, London's secret Post Office Underground Railway, has opened to the public for the first time in its 100-year history, including a ride through some of the original tunnels. The Discovery Room is the place to come to delve deeper into the history of the postal service, and where you can survey original archive material. The museum welcomes inquiries from researchers.

15

The Fan Museum

This unique museum houses the world's finest collection of fans and fan leaves including exquisite examples from the 18th and 19th century. For conservation reasons it is not possible to display the whole collection together at any time; therefore, the museum features two distinct displays: the first is permanent and serves as an introduction to fans. Temporary exhibitions are changed every 4 months. *The Fan Museum's* beautifully restored houses date from 1721 and provide a superb and elegant setting, together with the landscaped Japanese-style garden, the spectacular orangery with its much-admired murals and fascinating gift shop.

16

The V&A Museum of Childhood

The V&A Museum of Childhood houses the UK's national collection of childhood objects, ranging in date from the 1600s to the present day. As well as toys, dolls and games, the museum has a wealth of objects relating to aspects of childhood including home, childcare, play, learning and clothing. Rare, hand-crafted objects sit alongside well-loved toys from the 20th century, allowing an insight into how different children might have lived, thought and felt, through the objects they were surrounded by throughout their childhood. In addition, the museum runs temporary exhibitions and displays, activities, events, workshops, projects and an award-winning programme for schools.

This museum _____.

- A invites everyone to think about their health
- B provides access to its parts below the land surface
- C offers a fun look at consumer culture history
- D reveals facts about the lives of the famous
- E holds educational meetings
- F used to be a place for abandoned children
- G boasts a perfect space to enjoy nature
- H gives a chance to buy hand-crafted toys

	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.

**New York Teen Learns 20 Foreign Languages in
Just Four Years!**

Doner is what is known as a polyglot — someone who speaks many different languages. While this is common in many parts of the world (17) _____ where most people speak one language, or two at most.

His ability with language led him to produce YouTube videos about his experiences and (18) _____ in the past year. One of his videos has already been viewed a million times. It shows Doner, a student at The Dalton School on the Upper East Side, speaking French, Hausa, Wolof, German, Yiddish, Hebrew, Arabic, Pashto, Farsi, Mandarin Chinese, Italian, Turkish, Indonesian, Dutch, Xhosa, Swahili, Hindi and Ojibwe – at varying levels of proficiency.

Most of the languages Doner speaks come from places that are not important in the American understanding, such as Pashto (19) _____. Many of his fans from other parts of the world are simply astonished and delighted to hear someone (20) _____ speak their languages at all.

“We don’t learn a lot about Arab or Islamic history in school,” Doner said. “And I think that by learning languages (21) _____. You are learning about the culture, everything from cooking to TV, to poetry, to politics, to whatever it may be. And I think that fosters a much better understanding.”

Doner just finished the SATs and does not know (22) _____. He is considering a career in translation or working abroad in general. But he can also imagine himself teaching languages in the U.S.

- A where he wants to go to college
- B these have expanded his huge fan base
- C whether his ability is inborn or learned
- D who grew up talking English
- E it is extremely rare in the U.S.
- F when languages are presented as cold subjects
- G that is the official language of Afghanistan
- H you are effectively learning a lot more

	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).

Singing the Way Home

Pet owners usually have no (23) _____ but to implant their pets with microchips to help identify the animals if they get lost. However, one Siberian Husky did not need the modern technology – he could sing his way home!

The chain of events began when the police officers saw a lost dog. After giving some first aid, they (24) _____ their records to see if anybody had reported a missing husky. They found one that matched the dog they had found. However, (25) _____ rushing over to the station, the owner asked the officers to help him identify the dog by playing him the soundtracks to two popular children's TV programmes.

To the astonishment of the police, upon (26) _____ the tune, the husky began "singing". The owner, who was listening on the phone, (27) _____ the dog's voice and rushed over. "I cried the whole way here," the man said while embracing his pet.

- 23 ☐ A preference
☐ B opportunity
☐ C selection
☐ D choice

- 24 ☐ A looked through
☐ B looked about
☐ C looked down
☐ D looked out

- 25 ☐ A except for
☐ B instead of
☐ C owing to
☐ D aside from

- 26 ☐ A hearing
☐ B listening
☐ C observing
☐ D picking

- 27 ☐ A remembered
☐ B approved
☐ C realised
☐ D recognised

Task 6

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

What is a Robot?

When you think of a robot, what do you see? A machine that looks a bit like you and me?

The reality is that robots can come in many different shapes and sizes. What a robot looks like depends on (28) _____ purpose. Flying robots (29) _____ look like helicopters, or have wings like insects or birds. Cleaning robots often look like little vacuums. Robots that (30) _____ to interact with people often have a face, eyes, or a mouth – just like we do!

(31) _____ they look like us or not, most robots have three essential ingredients that (32) _____ them a robot: sensors, actuators, and programs.

- 28 ☐ A their
☐ B its
☐ C his
☐ D her

- 29 ☐ A have
☐ B need
☐ C might
☐ D ought

- 30 ☐ A are meant
☐ B mean
☐ C meant
☐ D have meant

- 31 ☐ A When
☐ B Why
☐ C While
☐ D Whether

- 32 ☐ A making
☐ B make
☐ C makes
☐ D is making