Reading Quiz 6

Answer questions 1-7 which are based on the reading passage below.

Vancouver Reading Passage

Vancouver is quite different from virtually any other city in North America. Despite the fact that it is a large modern cosmopolitan city, it seems to have a relaxed small-town, close-to-nature feel about it. There is little comparison with other large Canadian cities such as Toronto or Montreal, which are more akin to the large eastern US centers like New York and Chicago. Vancouver, like all large North American cities, is a conglomerate of high-rise cubic

office towers, although urban planners have kept the heights down. There are, however some notable exceptions such as the Marine Building at the north foot of Burrard Street once the tallest structure in the British Empire, the courthouse at Howe & Robson, and the library at Georgia & Hamilton.

Vancouver offers a wide range of attractions catering to all tastes but those with only a day to spare cannot be better advised than to take one of the many organized excursions recommended by the Vancouver Tourist Office.

Stanley Park, a 1,000-acre nature preserve, is Vancouver's best-known landmark and a muy for any visitor. It was established in 1887 and, in the opinion of many, is the most beautiful urban park in the world. Contrary to popular belief, this park was not established through the foresight of the city council of the day, but at the urging of a real estate developer called Oppenheimer. He is now considered the father of Stanley Park. All areas of the park are accessible to the public except for Dead Man's Island, which has a small naval base.

The Eco Walk is a fun and informative way to see the park. The guide gives information on the trees, plants, birds, and animals as well as on the rich aboriginal culture and legends of the park. The walking is medium paced, taking 3 hours to complete and covering 5 miles of relatively flat paved and graveled trails over the selected seawall and forest paths. This walk is suitable for families, including active seniors.

There is also a world-class aquarium in the park and was the first to have killer whales in captivity and probably the first one to stop making them into a side-show. The aquarium feels the purpose of keeping the whales, namely re-educating the public and stopping the hunting of them, has been accomplished. In 2000, the last remaining killer whale at the aquarium was sold to Sealand in California, where it died shortly after arriving. The main threat to the park is the sheer volume of people who want to be in it. Efforts are being made to restrict the amount of automobile traffic passing through One of the ultimate goals is to eliminate the causeway leading to Lions Gate Bridge, but this will not likely occur until well into the 21st century.

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Beaches are also a big attraction and temperatures are usually high enough to tempt most people to have a swim. However, one of the biggest days on these beaches is on New Year's Day when the annual “Polar Bear Swim” attracts several hundred die-hard individuals out to prove that Vancouver is a year-round swimming destination.

Chinatown is North America's third-largest, in terms of area, after San Francisco and New York. It is steeped in history and is well worth walking around. It is most active on Sundays when people head to any of the wide selection of restaurants that offer dim sum. Chinatown also contains the world's thinnest building at only 1.8 meters wide.

Questions 1-7

Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer in the reading passage?

Write

YES - if the statement agrees with the views of the writer

NO - if the statement contradicts the views of the writer

NOT GIVEN - if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about thi

NOT GIVEN

1. When compared with Toronto, Vancouver has some similarities.
2. If time is limited, it is inadvisable to go on any of the official day trips available.
3. Oppenheimer built Stanley Park with the help of the city council.
4. Fit elderly people can take the eco-walk comfortably due to the leveled paths.
5. The aquarium's decision to sell its last killer whale was wrong.
6. The main problem in the park is that the people are too loud.
7. The warm weather makes Vancouver beaches a popular destination for swimming.

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