6th YEAR

WEB SAMPLE 2024

PART I: LANGUAGE

A. Rewrite these sentences without changing their meaning.

1. 'Don't forget to lock your door at night!' the hotel manager told me.
   The hotel manager reminded _____ door at night.

2. Sally told the police that a ghost was following her.
   Sally told the police that she _____ by a ghost.

3. They are planning to release 'The Conjuring 4' in 2024.
   By 2025 _____ 'The Conjuring 4'.

4. Sarah was really scared, but she went to the haunted house anyway.
   In spite of _____ , Sarah went to the haunted house.

5. I heard a spooky noise in the attic so I went upstairs.
   If I hadn't heard a spooky noise in the attic, _____ upstairs.

B. Complete the text with the correct tense or form of the verbs in brackets. Use modals if necessary.

A night at the old mansion

The old mansion emerged in front of me as I made my way up the path. Despite my nervousness, I [1](not resist) _____ thinking about the stories I had heard about this place. They said strange things [2](happen) _____ there at night. I [3](always - attract) _____ by ghost stories and I was about to live my own.

As I stepped inside, I felt a chill run down my spine. The air was thick with a spooky silence. I explored the rooms, taking in the smell of the old furniture as I walked around. But as I [4](make) _____ my way to the attic, something changed. The air grew colder and I saw a ghostly figure standing at the end of the room. I tried to run, but my legs [5](not move) _____. The figure moved closer. It was as if time [6](stop) _____ and it was just the two of us. Suddenly, the figure vanished and I [7](leave) _____ alone in the empty attic. I stumbled out of the mansion and back onto the path. My heart didn't stop [8](pound) _____ in my chest.

As I look back on that night, I wonder what [9](happen) _____ to me if I had stayed a moment longer. However, I'm not scared to death. Actually, this time tomorrow, I [10](travel) _____ back to the mansion to find out.

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C. Fill in the blanks with the words from the box. There are **five extra words** that you do not need to use.

ALTHOUGH	**BECAUSE**	**BY**	**DESPITE**	**IN ADDITION**
MAY	**PROBABLE**	**PROBABLY**	**SHOULDN'T**	**SO**
SUCH	**THOSE**	**UNLESS**	**WHETHER**	**WHO**

Do you believe in ghosts?

While many people dismiss ghosts as a mere superstition, surprisingly, there are [1]_____ who *do* believe in them. In fact, many individuals claim to have actually seen them or experienced their presence. There are numerous stories of people [2]_____ have encountered ghosts. Nevertheless, sceptics argue that these experiences [3]_____ be explained by natural phenomena or psychological factors.

[4]_____ the existence of ghosts remains a topic of debate, it is undeniable that these stories have captivated people's imagination for centuries. Many people are fascinated [5]_____ the idea of an afterlife and the possibility of communicating with the spirits of loved ones who have passed away.

[6]_____, enough books, movies and television shows have been produced on the topic of ghosts to suggest that it is a cultural phenomenon that [7]_____ won't disappear anytime soon. By now, the notion of ghosts has become [8]_____ an integral part of our collective consciousness that people are likely to continue to tell stories about these supernatural entities for years to come.

In conclusion, [9]_____ the lack of concrete evidence to support the existence of ghosts, the idea of these spectral entities continues to capture the imagination of many people. [10]_____ they are real or not, the stories of ghosts will undoubtedly persist for many generations to come.

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D. Complete the following conversation.

Tom and Nick are making plans together.

Tom: Hey, Nick! You look tired! Did you sleep well last night?

Nick: No, not at all. I wish I [1]_____.

Tom: You watched a horror movie before bedtime? That was not a good idea, was it?

Nick: I know, but it had so many good reviews! I'm sure you would have loved it.

Tom: I promise [2]_____.

Nick: Please, do so tonight! The second part is on at the cinema and I'd like to watch it with you. How about [3]_____?

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Tom: Saturday's OK, but 5 o'clock is too early for a horror movie. I'd rather [4]_____ _____.

Nick: There's another show at 9.

Tom: That's perfect! Listen, I'm quite busy. Would you mind [5]_____ _____?

Nick: No, it's OK. I have a discount if I use the app. I'll buy them.

PART II: READING

E. Read the passage and answer the questions ***in your own words***.

Ghosts: superstition or supernatural?

Ghosts and superstitions have long fascinated and intrigued people across cultures. From ancient legends to modern superstitions, the concept of ghosts has become deeply rooted in our collective consciousness. They manifest in numerous forms and can differ across cultures. Some widely recognized superstitions include avoiding walking under ladders, not opening umbrellas indoors and the belief that breaking a mirror brings seven years of bad luck. Whether you consider them legends or find yourself knocking on wood just in case, superstitions provide a fascinating hint into our collective human psyche.

Superstitions are deeply rooted beliefs that certain actions, objects, or circumstances can bring good or bad luck, influence the outcome of events, or even determine one's fate. They end up being a constituent of a culture through the passage of time and socialization. As individuals grow up within a specific cultural framework, they inherit and adopt these beliefs from their families, communities, and wider societal influences. Through rituals, traditions and shared experiences, superstitions become an integral part of cultural identity, connecting people with their heritage and shaping their worldview. These beliefs come from various sources such as ancient religious practices, historical events and natural phenomena. For example, the fear of black cats crossing one's path dates back to ancient Egyptian times when cats were revered as sacred beings. Exploring the historical context behind superstitions can provide valuable information of their development.

Superstitions often serve as cultural markers, reflecting the values, fears and hopes of a society. They offer a sense of security and control in a world filled with uncertainties. They offer explanations and a perceived sense of influence over unpredictable consequences. Additionally, the power of personal experiences, cultural influence and the need for comfort and reassurance contribute to the perpetuation of superstitions.

Along these lines, some people argue that the belief in ghosts has also been transmitted through generations. However, others claim their existence is real. The investigation into the paranormal dates back to ancient times, where beliefs in spirits and the afterlife were customary. However, organized scientific inquiry into the paranormal gained prominence in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These early actions paved the way for the development of modern paranormal research methodologies. Scientific research into the existence of ghosts adopts a methodical and objective approach. Paranormal investigators employ various tools and techniques, such as electromagnetic field detectors, thermal imaging cameras and audio recording

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devices, to capture and analyze data during investigations. They meticulously document and examine reported phenomena, looking for patterns and anomalies that cannot be easily explained by natural or known phenomena. While scientific inquiry into ghosts struggles to provide concrete evidence, to this day there's no technology capable of convincing the scientific world of the validity of their findings.

Ghosts, with their enigmatic presence and ethereal nature, continue to intrigue and captivate human imagination. While the existence of ghosts remains a subject of debate, their influence on cultural beliefs and superstitions is undeniable.

1. How do superstitions become part of a culture?

   _____

   _____

2. Where do superstitions originate?

   _____

   _____

3. What role do superstitions play in society?

   _____

   _____

4. How did research of the paranormal become more objective?

   _____

   _____

5. Why can't science confirm the existence of ghosts?

   _____

   _____

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PART III: WRITING

F. Choose ONE of the following questions. Write your answer in **about 150 words**.

1. **A STORY.** You have decided to enter a short story competition on an international website for amateur writers. The story must **begin** with the following words:

   I heard a strange noise outside...

   We will publish the best story on our website!

   Write **your story.**

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2. **A REVIEW.** You see this announcement on an English-language student website:

> **Reviews wanted**
>
> Which is the best horror movie you have ever seen? We would like to know!
>
> The most interesting review will be published on our website.

Write **your review**.

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