

READING B2

Read the text about a Theatre competition. Parts of the text have been removed. Choose the correct part for each gap (1-8).

There are two extra parts that you should not use.

The first one (0) has been done for you.

Music Theatre NOW

Music Theatre NOW (MTNOW) is the premier competition for first productions of new works which have been professionally created anywhere in the world. Since 2008, more than 1,000 world premieres of new opera and music theatre have entered our competition to (0) ____ that brings together practitioners and presenters from across the globe. Former winners (Q1) ____ around the globe, such as Operadagen (Rotterdam), Prototype Festival (New York) or Shanghai International Contemporary Theatre Festival ACT. MTNOW has been a launch pad for several successful international careers.

A jury of five internationally acclaimed music theatre professionals (Q2) ____ . These ten winners will be invited to present their works in short lectures at the international convention of Music Theater NOW at the Operadagen festival in Rotterdam, in May.

MTNOW prize-winners are (Q3) ____ and invaluable networking opportunities. They will also receive advice from other professionals, because many curators and presenters from around the world (Q4) ____ . Past winners of Music Theatre NOW were invited by many producers to present their works as a result of (Q5) ____ . For the upcoming round, several festivals have declared a serious interest in inviting prize-winners to stage their productions in the near future.

We are looking forward to (Q6) ____ of professional opera and music theatre. The jury welcomes submissions that demonstrate dynamism textually, in genre, score, or staging. We welcome works made by opera and theatre institutions, works created by festivals, or works created by individuals: the jury (Q7) ____ that demonstrate new developments and dynamism.

Special attention will be given to works (Q8) ____ from outside of the Western European tradition. As a guideline for regions where music theatre or opera are not well defined: we encourage interdisciplinary submissions, where music plays the dominant role.

(Abridged from www.mtnow.org)

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- A winning a unique opportunity for international exposure
- B winning the match
- C have staged their works at various festivals
- D winning the competition
- E will appreciate a broad range of submissions
- F will be invited to attend the convention
- G will select ten outstanding productions
- H whose musical and theatrical vocabulary originates
- I *take part in our unique convention*
- J groundbreaking submissions from all forms
- K whose performers don't come

READING B2

Read the article about Britain's first spaceport, then choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for questions 1-5. Only one answer is correct. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Britain's First Spaceport

Britain's first spaceport will launch its first rocket in 2020, according to developers at the US firm which is developing the site.

The project in Sutherland, on Scotland's north coast, is running well ahead of schedule. It will initially host launches of rockets and satellites, but commercial passenger trips could then follow, handing adventurous Brits the chance to pay for flights to space.

The announcement comes after research warned that Scotland's plans to build Europe's first spaceport risked being overtaken by similar projects in Scandinavia.

The US firm had previously said Scotland's first launch was scheduled for the 'early 2020s'. Northern Europe is the ideal spot to launch satellites and other space gadgets into polar orbits – trajectories that pass over both of Earth's poles.

The orbital paths offer constant sunlight for solar-powered batteries as well as clear transmission signals to Earth for satellites.

Scotland's A' Mhòine peninsula, in Sutherland, is one of several locations vying to build a spaceport in the region, with rival bids also launched in Norway and Sweden.

Research commissioned by the agency warned last week that the success of the project hinges on it being the first to send satellites into space.

Outside of the United States, Scotland produces more satellites than any other country, with the space industry supporting 20,000 jobs in the region.

The UK Space Agency hopes that building a spaceport will cement Britain's position as a world leader in satellite technology.

Figures published by the agency suggest the UK could compete to launch an estimated 2,000 satellites by 2030.

Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock, a scientist who presents *The Sky at Night* on BBC Four, believes the Sutherland spaceport could provide a big boost to the UK economy.

She said: 'Small satellites really are a global winner and many countries are latching onto them. It's going to be a small, compact and bijou spaceport, but it's going to do a lot and it's going to make a lot of difference, especially to the UK economy because now we'll have an end-to-end system. We already build our own satellites but we will launch our own satellites, and we will use the data from our own satellites. The data itself is worth billions because countries around the world want to know what's happening in their neck of the woods. This is a much smaller spaceport, with smaller rockets, which means we can turn it round quite quickly. The space industry is moving away from these big, lumbering, large satellites to quick turnaround satellites, perhaps something that university students can take from an idea to building a satellite within 18 months and have the capability to launch it from the UK and get the science and the data they want really quickly.'

(Adapted from www.dailymail.co.uk)

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0 Who is in charge of building the spaceport?

- A The UK Space Agency.
- B A group of Brits who want to have the chance to fly into space.
- C A British agency that organises commercial passenger trips.
- D *An American company.*

Q1 Where is Britain's first spaceport being built?

- A In eastern Scotland.
- B In Scandinavia.
- C In the USA.
- D In Sutherland

Q2 Why is the project running well ahead of schedule?

- A Because Scotland risked being beaten by similar bids in Scandinavia.
- B Because the UK agency wants to organise passenger trips by 2020.
- C Because the EU is building similar sites in northern Europe.
- D Because Britain wants to launch about 2,000 satellites by 2030.

Q3 When was the first rocket initially expected to be launched?

- A In 2022.
- B By 2030.
- C In the first years of the 2020s.
- D At the end of the next decade

Q4 Why is northern Europe considered a suitable site to launch satellites?

- A Because the orbital track of the satellites will pass over one of the poles, the North Pole.
- B Because it provides clear transmission signals and constant sunshine for solar-powered batteries.
- C Because the UK space industry already supports around 20,000 jobs in this region.
- D Because Britain already has a leading position in world satellite technology

Q5 What kinds of satellites are going to be launched from this spaceport?

- A Small, compact, bijou satellites.
- B Big, lumbering, large satellites.
- C Small, quick turnaround satellites.
- D Satellites built in the USA.

READING B2

Read the texts about the origins of some famous dishes.

Match the questions (1-8) with the descriptions (A-E).

You can choose each description more than once.

The first one (0) has been done for you.

Some Famous Foods

A

Although many people assume that 'Caesar salad' originated in Rome and was named for Julius Caesar, the salad is believed to have been invented by an Italian immigrant in Tijuana, Mexico. In 1924 Caesar Cardini, owner of a restaurant on a busy street, was running low on ingredients and was caught by surprise when a large group of patrons arrived. In an attempt to improvise, he tossed together a few items he had on hand: romaine lettuce, garlic, croutons, Parmesan cheese, olive oil, eggs and Worcestershire sauce. Impressed with the creation, patrons quickly spread the word and a salad sensation was born.

B

Many people are aware of the association between sandwiches and the British statesman John Montagu, 4th earl of Sandwich (1718-92). According to one account, Montagu, a gambler in his private life, was deep in poker play and unwilling to break for food. He requested that a servant bring him a piece of meat, stuffed between two slices of toast, so he could eat without stopping the card game. Apparently, his friends supported his request and began asking for the same as a 'sandwich'. The 11th earl of Sandwich (a direct descendant) established a sandwich shop called The Earl of Sandwich in Florida in 2004; franchise locations still operate throughout the United States and in London and Paris.

C

The origin of the hearty 'Reuben' sandwich appears to be less clearly defined. One account dates back to 1914, when an actress, one of Charlie Chaplin's friends, visited Arnold Reuben's deli in New York City. Hungry, she insisted, 'Reuben, make me a sandwich, make it a combination, I'm so hungry I could eat a brick.' As requested, Reuben stacked ham, turkey, Swiss cheese, coleslaw and Russian dressing on rye bread. The actress was so impressed that she suggested he continue to offer the sandwich and name it an Annette Seelos Special, in her honor. The deli owner decided to name the sandwich after himself - a Reuben special. A second story claims that Reuben Kulakofsky, a Lithuanian-born grocer in Omaha, Nebraska, invented the Reuben. Kulakofsky supposedly created the sandwich with his poker buddies, who met weekly at the Blackstone Hotel.

D

Fittingly, a dish ('Eggs Benedict') often consumed to alleviate a hangover may have been inspired by that very condition. According to legend, one morning in 1894, Lemuel Benedict, a fashionable Wall Street stockbroker, stumbled upon the Waldorf Hotel for breakfast. Complaining of a hangover, he ordered à la carte items from the menu, believing his concoction would help ease the aftermath of his drinking. His order consisted of poached eggs, buttered toast and bacon, with a side of hollandaise sauce.

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E

You may assume that 'French toast' was invented in France. However, the etymology of the popular breakfast dish is still a bit unclear. During medieval times, a battering process frequently was used to make stale loaves of bread more appetizing. But were the French truly the first to dip and fry their bread? An extremely similar dish, suppedorate, was popular in England during the Middle Ages. And then there's the myth of an innkeeper in Albany, New York, named Joseph French. In 1724 he advertised the dish as 'French Toast', because he reportedly had not learned to use apostrophes.

Which dish...		
0	<i>contains an adjective of nationality in its name?</i>	E
Q1	might derive its nickname from the surname of a NY Stock Exchange broker?	
Q2	is also sold in franchise shops bearing the name of its inventor?	
Q3	is made by dipping and frying stale bread?	
Q4	was invented by an aristocratic man to prevent players from interrupting their game to eat?	
Q5	was invented by chance with the only ingredients left in the owner's restaurant?	
Q6	possibly derives its name from the first name of a card player?	
Q7	is often ordered because it is believed to reduce the effects of a hangover?	
Q8	also contains cheese, ham, turkey and dressing?	