CHUYÊN ĐỀ 4 – KỸ NĂNG ĐỌC

IV. KỸ NĂNG ĐỌC

Exercise I: ***Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B,C or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.***

From the start of his career as a writer, Mark Twain was fascinated with inventions. As a result, he chose to spend much of his available income on various types of inventions, generally without much success. In fact, he lost most of the money he invested. By 1887, the 49-year-old author had invested most of his money in one project, the Paige typesetting machine.

Twain expected the Paige machine to be completed in 1889. Unfortunately, the machine was never completely finished, and by the early 1890s, Twain knew he was in a serious financial situation. He worked hard to take care of his problems by producing a number of books **in a row**. He wrote *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* (1892), *An American Claimant* (1892), *Tom Sawyer Abroad* (1893), and *Pudd'nhead Wilson* (1894). However, all of these works did not solve his financial problems, and he was forced to declare bankruptcy.

1. This passage mainly discusses how an author _____.

   A. invested poorly in inventions B. wrote so many books

   C. created his famous works D. created a successful invention

2. According to the passage, what interested Mark Twain?

   A. giving investment advice B. work as a typesetter

   C. the world of banking D. new ideas and products

3. Where was the majority of Twain's money in 1887?

   A. in a bank account B. invested in various inventions

   C. invested in one invention D. invested in his writings

4. It can be inferred from the passage that the Paige machine was _____.

   A. created by Mark Twain B. ready in the 1890s

   C. close to being completed D. a great success

5. Look at the expression **"in a row"** in paragraph 2. This expression could be best replaced by _____.

   A. one after another B. very quickly

   C. on time D. in a straight line

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercise II: ***Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.***

I get a lot of letters at this time of year from many people who have a cold which won't go away. There are many different stories about how to prevent or cure a cold. That's why it is often difficult to know what to do. We know that colds are rarely "dangerous", except for weak people such as the elderly or young babies. These people are always uncomfortable and usually **most** unpleasant. Of course, you can buy a lot of medicines. They will help to make your cold less unpleasant. However, you must remember that nothing can actually cure a cold or make it go away faster. Any strong medicine used to make you feel better could be dangerous if you are already taking drugs for some other illness. Thus, check with your chemist or doctor to see whether they are all right for you. And remember they might make you sleepy. Please don't try to drive if they do! Lastly, whatever you may be told about magic foods or drinks, the best answer is to keep yourself strong and healthy. You'll have less chance of catching a cold. And if you do, it shouldn't be so bad.

1. The writer of the passage wants _____.

   A. to write in an amusing way

   B. to give general advice

   C. to complain about his/her health

   D. to persuade people to have more foods and drinks

2. Colds are _____.

   A. very dangerous
   B. not dangerous at all
   C. unpleasant
   D. usually fatal

3. What is the key to avoid catching a cold?

   A. having magic foods and drinks
   B. sleeping a lot
   C. taking a lot of medicines
   D. keeping yourself strong and healthy

4. The underlined word "**most**" as used in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

   A. very
   B. in the highest degree
   C. greatest
   D. absolutely

5. The writer of the passage is probably _____.

   A. a nurse
   B. a health care specialist
   C. a novelist
   D. a reporter

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercise III: ***Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B,C or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.***

Scientists are trying to make the deserts into good land again. They want to bring water to the deserts, so people can live and grow foods. **They** are learning a lot about the deserts. But more and more of the earth is becoming deserts all the time. Scientists may not change the desert in time.

Why is more and more land becoming deserts? Scientists think that people make deserts. People are doing bad things to the earth.

Some places on the earth don't have very much rain. But they still don't become deserts. This is because some green plants are growing there. Small green plants and grass are very important to dry places. Plants don't let the hot sun make the earth even drier. Plants don't let the wind blow the soil away. When a little rain falls, the plants hold the water. Without plants, the land can become a desert much more easily.

1. According to the passage, deserts _____.

   A. can all be turned into good land soon

   B. never have any plants or animals in them

   C. get very little rain

   D. are made by people

2. The underlined word **"They"** in the passage refers to _____.

   A. scientists B. deserts C. people D. foods

3. Small green plants are very important to dry places because _____.

   A. they develop together with grass

   B. they let the sun make the earth even drier

   C. they don't help to hold the water

   D. they don't let the wind blow the earth away

4. Land is becoming deserts little by little because _____.

   A. there is not enough rain

   B. people don't do what scientists wish them to do

   C. plants can't grow there

   D. scientists know little about the deserts

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5. After reading this, we learn that _____.

A. plants can keep dry land from becoming deserts

B. it is good to get rid of the grass in the deserts

C. all places without much rain will become deserts

D. it is better to grow crops on dry land than to grow grass

LIVEWORKSHEETS