

UNIT 4 – PRACTICE 1

READING SKILL

I. Fill in each blank in the passage with the correct word from the box. There are some extra words.

houses	variety	popular	characteristics
historical	home	unique	history

Ha Noi's Old Quarter was established hundreds of years ago on the east side of the ancient Thang Long citadel. In the old days, the Old Quarter, a system of narrow streets, alleys and houses, was (1)_____ to several guilds such as bronze casting, forging, jewelry making, wood carving, silk and clothes trading. Small, beautifully styled houses built along with a (2)_____ local culture. Streets in the Old Quarter still have names describing their original goods or craft, for example, Hang Bac or "Silver Street". The ground-floor shops of the (3)_____ here now sell handicrafts, fine arts, and food. But the quarter also has a number of pagodas, temples, (4)_____ relics, and festivals dedicated to the founders of some the local crafts. Now, many guild streets, like Hang Quat street, don't make fans anymore, but they are remembered as craft streets. The architecture and lifestyle of the local people reflect typical (5)_____ of traditional guild streets in Ha Noi.

II. Choose the word or phrase among A, B, C or D that best fits the blank space in the following passage.

Either boys or girls, usually aged from seven to ten, play the two-person game of "Mandarin's Box". They draw a rectangle on the ground and (1)_____ it into ten small squares called "rice fields" or "fish ponds".

They also draw two additional semi-circular boxes at the two (2)_____ of the rectangle, which are called "mandarin's boxes" – the game's name, each person has 25 small pebbles and a bigger stone.

Each player places the stone in one of the mandarin's boxes and five small pebbles in each of the other squares. Then the game begins. The first player takes up the contents of one square on his or her side of the board, but not a mandarin's box and distributes the pebbles one by one, (3)_____ with the text square in (4)_____ direction. Since each square contains five pebbles at the beginning, the first move will distribute five pebbles to the left or right.

After the last pebble is distributed, the player takes the contents of the following square and repeats the distribution (5)_____. But if the following square is one of the mandarin's boxes, the turn ends and passes to the other player.

If the last pebble falls into a square that precedes one empty square, the player wins all the contents of the square following the empty square and (6)_____ these pebbles from the board. However, if there are two or more empty squares in a row, the player (7)_____ his or her turn.

Once a player has taken pebbles from the board, the turn is (8)_____ to the other player. If all five squares on one player's side of the board are emptied at any time, that player must place one pebble he or she has aside back in each of the five squares so that the game can resume.

The game (9)_____ until the two mandarin's boxes both been (10)_____. At the end of the game, the player with more pebbles wins, with each of the large stones counting as ten points.

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|--------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. A. divide | B. share | C. separate | D. leave |
| 2. A. aims | B. ends | C. small points | D. stops |
| 3. A. start | B. starting | C. start | D. having started |
| 4. A. no | B. all | C. either | D. both |

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|--------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|
| 5. A. action | B. method | C. change | D. process |
| 6. A. ends | B. disappears | C. leaves | D. removes |
| 7. A. loses | B. succeeds | C. fails | D. wins |
| 8. A. gone | B. made | C. handed | D. rewarded |
| 9. A. starts | B. pauses | C. stops | D. continues |
| 10. A. held | B. taken | C. moved | D. accepted |

III. Read the reading passage and choose the correct answer.

Cardamom is not as widely used as a spice in the United States as it is in other parts of the world. This fruit of the ringer plant provides oil that basically has been used **solely** as a stimulant in American and English medicines. Other cultures organized the **multipurpose** benefits of this aromatic fruit. In Asia it is used to **season** sauces such as **curry**, in Middle Eastern countries it is **steeped** to prepare a flavorful golden-colored tea; in parts of Northern Europe it is used as a spice in various types of pastry.

- The word "**solely**" in the passage could best be placed by _____.
A. initially B. only C. reportedly D. healthfully
- The word "**multipurpose**" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.
A. health B. singular C. recognized D. varied
- Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word "**season**" in line 5 _____.
A. divided B. forecast C. spice D. put a time limit
- "**curry**" in the passage is _____.
A. the fruit of the ringer plant B. a spicy type of sauce
C. a culture in the area of the Middle East D. a type of golden-colored tea
- The word "**steeped**" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.
A. soaked B. dried C. stored D. grown