

## READING PRACTICE

Read the text carefully, then choose the correct answers.

Life in the big city is face-paced, fun and exciting. There are countless job opportunities and activities to occupy your time. However, with the good, there also comes the bad. Although the big city has more job opportunities; there are also more people competing for a single job. This can make your job search frustrating. Oddly enough, you will see hundreds, if not thousands of jobs available each week, but you still might remain unemployed, especially when the economy is down. In addition, the cost of living is typically higher in big cities, and it can **cost you an arm and a leg** for a small apartment in a decent area of the city, not to mention other costs to fulfill your basic demands. Diversity is a good thing, but the amount of people can be a bit overwhelming if you are not accustomed to it. There will always be crowds and always be people around. Moreover, traffic can be a nightmare in the big city. It can get so bad that it can turn you into an evil person. If you hate driving in traffic, then the big city life is not for you. Heavy traffic also contributes to the pollution, which is one of the biggest disadvantages of living in the city. Obviously, our health is affected most with certain diseases relating to respiratory system and other body parts. A lot of premature deaths are supposed to be the result of long-term exposure to small particles. Most importantly, there is always more crime in a big city, causing you second case your decision for living in a big city. You are much more likely to be a victim of a crime living in a big city than in a small town.

1. According to the passage, some good things of living in the city are\_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. excellent educational system and recreational activities
  - b. excellent educational system and countless job opportunities
  - c. countless job opportunities and activities to occupy your time
  - d. a lot of kinds of entertainment and shopping centers
2. While big cities have more job opportunities, it also give\_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. more competition for a single job
  - b. higher salary
  - c. growing economic crisis
  - d. greater chances of being unemployed
3. What does the phrase “cost an arm and a leg” mean?
  - a. your legs and arms have good value
  - b. cost a small amount of money
  - c. you must work hard to earn money
  - d. cost a lot of money
4. According to the paragraph, city is not a perfect place for\_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. extroverted people
  - b. introverted people
  - c. people who hate driving in traffic
  - d. people who prefer a busy life
5. In the big city, people tend to\_\_\_\_\_ when traffic is getting heavy.
  - a. go crazy
  - b. get enough time to relax
  - c. wait a bit longer
  - d. slow down themselves
6. Which of the following sentences is NOT true?
  - a. Pollution causes health problems.
  - b. Cities are always crowded.
  - c. It costs a lot of money to live in a big city.
  - d. Crime is not a serious problem in

big  
cities.

Read the passage and choose the best answer each of the following questions.

When I was a little girl, I lived with my family in a village near Bristol. Because of the war, most people didn't use to have much food. We were lucky as we had lots of land, so we used to grow our own vegetables and we had chickens, rabbits and a pig. But mother would feed us lentils every day - which I really hated. I still can't stand them now. I remember hiding lentils in my pockets - and I

sowed them in the garden. I think that was the beginning of my gardening career, because after I left home that's what I studied at college.

We didn't have a television until I was about ten. Instead, we listened to the radio a lot after school, and we would play cards and board games, and play with friends outside.

Nowadays, people buy so many clothes, but when I was little, people used to make them all. My grandmother would cut up old clothes and make skirts and blouses from them. And she used to give us a home made jumper every year that she knitted from wool of old jumpers. These jumpers were lovely, bright and stripy. And when we made holes in our socks, grandmother would always mend them for us. We didn't have a lot in those days, but I had a very happy childhood.

1. People at that time didn't have much food because\_\_\_\_\_.  
**A.** they didn't have enough land                      **B.** there was a war  
**C.** they didn't know how to do agriculture              **D.** they were lazy
2. How many kinds of animals did the writer's family have?  
**A.** one    **B.** two    **C.** three              **D.** four
3. What does the writer think was the start of her gardening career?  
**A.** She had to do all the gardening when she was small.  
**B.** She liked planting lentils.  
**C.** She sowed lentils in the garden because she hated eating them.  
**D.** Her family advised her to study gardening at college.
4. What did children at that time usually do for entertainment?  
**A.** Listening to the radio, playing cards and board games, playing with friends outside, going to the circus.  
**B.** Playing cards and board games, flying kites, playing with friends outside.  
**C.** Watching TV, listening to the radio, playing cards and board games, playing with friends outside.  
**D.** Listening to the radio, playing cards and board games, playing with friend outside.
5. Where did the writer's clothes come from?  
**A.** Her grandmother made them.                      **B.** Her grandmother bought them.  
**C.** She made them by herself.                              **D.** She wore her sister's old clothes.