

Reading

Task 1

Read the text below. For questions 1-5 choose the correct answer (A,B,C or D)

NEW HUNT FOR PERU'S 'LOST' INCA CITY

A French writer and adventurer plans to explore one of the most remote parts of the Peruvian Amazon in search of a "lost" or "secret city" that may have been built by the Incas, but there are fears that the expedition could endanger the health of isolated tribes that have never been exposed to common human diseases.

Thierry Jamin believes that the city, which he calls "Paititi", could lie somewhere in a 215,000-hectare protected area called the Megantoni National Sanctuary in the Cuzco region of south-east Peru.

"The magnificent discoveries realised by my group in the valleys of Lacco, Chunchusmayo and Cusirini in the north of the department of Cuzco lead towards a precise zone situated in the national sanctuary of Megantoni," Jamin said.

"Several natives of the forest – Matsiguengas – assert that 'monumental ruins' exist at the top of a strange square mountain. I think that we are very close to officialise the existence of this big archaeological site."

According to his website, Jamin is planning a six-week expedition starting in July. He will be assisted by an NGO based in Cuzco that he leads and a group of Machiguengas from a village near the sanctuary.

The search for Paititi or an Inca "lost city" has attracted scores of people and considerable controversy ever since the 16th century, with conflicting theories and ideas about where it might be and whether it really exists.

But some experts fear that such an expedition would pose a threat to isolated indigenous Nanti people – sometimes called "Kugapakoris" – within the sanctuary. One of the main reasons for the sanctuary's creation 10 years ago was to protect indigenous people who have had little or no contact with outsiders and are extremely vulnerable to infectious diseases because of their lack of resistance.

Jamin said that he will apply to the ministry of environment, which oversees management of "protected natural areas", for permission to enter the Megantoni sanctuary. He said he has already applied for permission from the ministry of culture.

However, Ramon Rivero Mejia at the culture ministry says it has received no application from Jamin, any member of his team or the NGO that Jamin presides over. [42]

1 Everything is true about the location of the lost city except:

- A It could be found on the territory of more than 200.000 hectares.
- B It lies at the foot of a strange square mountain;
- C It is the region in the south-east Peru;
- D It is the protected territory of the National sanctuary of Megantoni.

2 According to the text, the expedition can turn out to be a failure because:

- A The remote parts of the Peruvian Amazon are difficult to reach;
- B “the secret city” is lost;
- C It can result in the increase in the rate of the inhabitants’ illnesses.
- D Isolated tribes can endanger the expedition by unknown disease.

3 The search for the “lost city” is accompanied by:

- A A six-week expedition;
- B Combined efforts of a group of natives and the sanctuary representatives;
- C Disagreeing as for “the lost city” location;
- D A 7-hundred-long conflict of theories and ideas about its origin.

4 The sanctuary was founded a decade ago:

- A To protect ingenious people from aggressive civilization;
- B To prevent spreading of outside culture;
- C To provide protection for inhabitants from being infected;
- D To limit the contact of the inhabitants with outside world.

5 The author of the article implies that:

- A The permission for the expedition is to be given by the number of ministries;
- B All possible threats to “the lost city” inhabitants have been considered.
- C The existence of “the lost city” has been proved;
- D The secret of Peru’s “lost city” is going to be revealed very soon.

Task 2

Read the texts below. Match (6-11) to (A-H) choices.

6



Aescher
Guesthouse,
Switzerland

It's a minor miracle the Aescher Guesthouse got through Swiss planning permission departments. Its precarious cliff-top perch means guests wake to a panorama like no other: rocky summits marching along the Swiss-Liechtenstein border, teensy towns concealed among wispy clouds below. Facilities are basic: guests sleep in dorms, and washing facilities consist solely of sinks. Chances are, however, everyone is too enraptured by the view to care about their personal hygiene scruples.

7



Uma by COMO,
Bhutan

A tiny kingdom squigged between the leviathan nations of India and China, Bhutan's status as one of the world's most remote countries has been preserved by the Himalayan mountains rising around it. A fine spot to admire said peaks is Uma by COMO: a hotel and spa set among peaceful rice terraces in the upper reaches of the Mo Chhu valley. Rooms have huge beds and blonde-wood surfaces, and command views of the Mo Chhu River on its epic journey downstream to India and the Bay of Bengal.

8



Bloomfield
Lodge, Australia

Bloomfield Lodge sits near the shores of Cape Tribulation: a remote, rainforested stretch of Queensland's coast, named by an irritable Captain Cook after his ship ran aground here in 1770. These days, arriving still isn't without complications. The reward at the end is more than ample: luxury timber cabins set up in the canopy, with verandas overlooking the blue shallows of the Pacific.

9



The Dash,
Cumbria

The Lake District's The Dash farmhouse isn't as frantic as its name suggests, set at the head of a sleepy, otherwise uninhabited valley, silent but for the gurgling of the Whitewater Dash waterfall and the baas of contented Cumbrian sheep. Dating in parts to the 16th century, the farmhouse has been recently refurbished, with open fires for drying soggy boots. The view, meanwhile, hasn't changed in the intervening five centuries: heathery slopes, silvery lakes and Scotland visible as a faint smudge in the distance.

10



Mihir Garh
Rajasthan, India

Mihir Garh sits in splendid isolation amid the Thar Desert near Jodhpur. It looks like an enormous sandcastle, a mirage; but there is nothing insubstantial about this 'fort of the sun'. It took 150 masons, artisans and craftsmen two years to build what the owners describe as 'a dream realised'. Certainly, it has the feel of a place where commercial considerations play second fiddle to the unbridled pleasure of creation. But the luxury isn't as important as the pervasive sense that someone has granted you access to their fantasy world.

11



Saugerties
Lighthouse, New
York State, USA

Saugerties Lighthouse is an historic 1869 landmark that makes a wonderful base for exploring the scenic Hudson Valley. Located 100 miles north of New York City, the red brick building has played a pivotal role in safely guiding steamboats, barges and other vessels safely along the Hudson River over the years. More recently (in the mid 1990s), the lighthouse was transformed into a two-room B&B, providing safe haven of a different sort. Its rooms have quaint touches of Americana - antique furnishings, quilt bedspreads - and ample natural light, with windows overlooking the river.

Which of the places is described by the following:

- A. The place provide the visitors with splendid sights of the countryside.
- B. Luxury lost in the sand emptiness.
- C. This place is hardly for the tourists who are used to having luxurious amenities.
- D. Visitors are sure to enjoy the breathtaking views on the Asian riverside.
- E. The place combines the functions of the lighthouse and the hotel.
- F. Do not try to harbour the place unless you are experienced enough.
- G. Tourists can take pleasure from swimming in the shallow waters of the river.
- H. From the beacon to the hotel.

Task 3

Read the text below. Choose from (A-H) the one which best fits each space (12-17). There are two choices you do not need to use.

See 300 Gardens This Weekend

Green fingers are crossed for fine weather this weekend, **12**.....The National Garden Scheme (NGS) has more than 300 gardens **13**.....Most gardens are privately owned and not generally open to the public; visit www.ngs.org.uk. To find your nearest.

Research commissioned by the NGS reveals-(**14**).....-that time spent in a garden promotes health and happiness. (**15**)....., one in three associated the garden with happy childhood memories.

The actress Jane Asher, (**16**)....., recalls :”My grandmother had a large weeping willow in her garden in Essex with a tap right in the middle of the exciting gloomy tent (**17**).....I remember the lovely feeling of the wet, muddy, squishy grass on my bare feet.

- A. as if it were necessary
- B. when the country’s biggest open garden festival takes place
- C. created by the drooping branches
- D. in a survey of 2,000 people
- E. flourished by the caring citizens
- F. opening on June 7–8 in aid of cancer charities Macmillan and Marie Curie
- G. if the weather is good enough
- H. who is promoting this weekend

Use of English

Task 4

Complete the gaps by choosing A, B, C or D.

London Eye

Since it was officially opened on New Year's Eve 1999, as part of the millennial celebrations, the London Eye (18)... one of (19)... London's most popular attractions.

It has 32 closed "pod" capsules, fitting a total 800 people, (20)...on a huge Ferris wheel. One go-round takes half an hour (21)... the wheel circling at only twice the speed of a tortoise sprinting, so you can step on and off without the wheel needing to stop.

(22)... London Eye is (23)...structure in London, so the far-reaching views over London are spectacular. On a clear day, you can see (24)... Windsor Castle, and the slow speed of the rotation means there is plenty of time to see everything and take lots of photos.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 18 A had come | B became | C has become | D become |
| 19 A the | B - | C a | D such |
| 20 A be rotating | B to rotate | C is rotating | D rotating |
| 21 A for | B with | C of | D on |
| 22 A a | B the | C - | D from |
| 23 A the four-tallest | B the fourth-tallest | C fourth-tallest | D the fourth-tallest |
| 24 A as far as | B so far as | C as far so | D so far so |

Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (25-30) choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

Smallest House in Great Britain

On Conway Quay in North Wales you can find the smallest house in Great Britain. (25)... house (26)...just over 3 metres by 1.8 metres. It has been occupied by various residents since the 16th century.

The last one was a fisherman named Robert Jones, who at about (27)...would have found living in the house quite difficult.

Today the Smallest House in Great Britain is a popular tourist attraction (28)... thousands of visitors every year. They can pay a small entrance fee for access (29)... the house, look around the two rooms, and listen to an audio recording explaining some of its visitors. During opening hours an attendant is found outside the building dressed in the traditional Welsh costume (30)... is understandably popular for photo opportunities.

- 25 **A** the **B** – **C** a **D** only
- 26 **A** measures **B** measuring **C** measure **D** measured
- 27 **A** 2-metres-tall **B** 2 metre tall **C** 2-metre-tall **D** 2-metres-tall
- 28 **A** to fascinate **B** fascinating **C** fascinated **D** fascinates
- 29 **A** in **B** to **C** for **D** through
- 30 **A** what **B** who **C** why **D** which