

Name: _____

Group: _____

Reading and listening exam

1 Read the text and choose A, B, or C.

The best place in the world to live

Vancouver is the third biggest city in Canada. It's in the south west of the country and it has a population of 2.6 million. A recent study showed that it's the best city in the world to live. The study looked at areas like weather, transport, education, healthcare, and safety. This study happens every year and Vancouver is usually number one.

We asked Vancouver resident Jacob Meyers if he agrees.

I've lived in Vancouver all my life. I work for an engineering company and I've travelled on business to many Canadian cities. Two years ago another company offered me a very good job in Montreal but I didn't take it because I never want to leave my city. Let me tell you why not:

Vancouver is situated between the mountains and the Pacific Ocean. That means the summers aren't too hot and the winters aren't too cold. It also rains a lot, in summer and winter. Some people don't like that but I do because our gardens and parks are always green and fresh. Every day I cycle or walk for an hour in a park and in Vancouver you're never more than a few minutes from one.

I don't feel frightened when I walk in Vancouver's streets at night. Of course, Vancouver has a high population and there's crime in every big city, but compared to the USA, for example, it's quite safe.

But my favourite thing about Vancouver is its incredible mix of nationalities. I've got friends here from all over the world. And there's an enormous variety of foreign food in the restaurants and markets. I've eaten wonderful dishes from China, India, Italy, Greece, and Japan and I haven't been to any of these places.

- 1 Two million, six hundred thousand people live in Vancouver.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 2 Jacob moved to Vancouver when he was a young boy.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 3 He lived in Montreal for two years but didn't like it.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 4 The temperatures in Vancouver are comfortable.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 5 There are a lot of parks in Vancouver.
A True B False C Doesn't say

- 6 Jacob walks to work.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 7 He has a bike.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 8 He says that Vancouver is safer now than before.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 9 Jacob can speak a lot of foreign languages.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 10 You can eat food from many different countries in Vancouver.
A True B False C Doesn't say

2 Read the text and choose A, B, or C.

The Rock Garden of Chandigarh

In Chandigarh, a city in northeast India, there is an amazing garden. There are tall rocks and small paths between them. There are waterfalls, pools, and hundreds of sculptures. The sculptures are surprising because they are all made from rubbish, like plastic jewellery, bottles, broken pots, sinks, toilets, and pieces of electrical equipment.

The garden has a surprising history too because it was built in secret! A man called Nek Chand started building the garden in 1957. He chose some land in a forest near the city, where there were rocks and a river. Nobody was allowed to build here, so Nek knew that people wouldn't see him there. Then he started to collect rubbish and make the sculptures.

Nek's project was illegal, but for 18 years, nobody found it. However, in 1975, some government officials discovered it. By that time, the garden was nearly 49,000m² in size. The government tried to destroy the garden, but when the people in the city heard about it, they wanted to keep it.

In 1976 it became a public park. After that, Nek Chand received a salary so that he could work in the garden full-time, and fifty more people were employed to work there with him. People paid to visit the garden. Nek put collection centres around the town so that he could make more recycled sculptures.

However, the garden wasn't safe yet. In 1990, the local government tried to build a road through the park, just for VIPs. But local people protested, and their plan failed. Later, Nek became famous. He travelled to the USA to tell people about his garden. But when he returned, his garden was destroyed! It took a long time to rebuild it and keep it safe.

Now, a charity manages the garden. Five thousand visitors visit this special place each day. Volunteers, workers, and local children still work here. They keep the garden clean and learn to make sculptures. If you like, you can volunteer here too!

1. What is the most surprising thing about the garden?
 - a. the rocks
 - b. the waterfalls
 - c. the sculptures
 - d. the plants

2. When Nek first started building the garden he was...
 - a. breaking the law
 - b. collecting rubbish in the forest.
 - c. working as a government official.
 - d. living in the forest.

3. When the garden was discovered in 1975,...
 - a. The local people wanted to destroy it, but the government didn't.
 - b. The government wanted to destroy it, but the local people didn't.
 - c. Both the government and the local people wanted to destroy it.
 - d. Both the government and the local people wanted to keep it.

4. What happened while Nek was in USA?
 - a. Someone stole some sculptures.
 - b. A road was built through the park.
 - c. Some VIPs visited the garden.
 - d. People destroyed the garden.

5. Which of the following is NOT true about the garden now?
 - a. There is a road for VIPs through the garden.
 - b. People are still making new sculptures there.
 - c. The local government doesn't manage the garden.
 - d. You can volunteer to work there.

Listening

1. Listen to 5 people and answer the questions.



Selina



David



Ruth



Ben



Justin

- 1 Selina was surprised when she arrived in London because it was the summer but _____.
 - a the weather was bad
 - b there weren't many tourists
 - c the weather was good
- 2 David would like to _____.
 - a get a completely new job
 - b change the job that he has
 - c do a job he did before
- 3 When Ruth talks about Mamma Mia she doesn't mention _____.
 - a the actors
 - b the soundtrack
 - c the story
- 4 Ben thinks that women drive _____ than men.
 - a more slowly
 - b less dangerously
 - c better
- 5 Justin went to a karaoke bar _____.
 - a a long time ago
 - b quite recently
 - c last year

Listening 2

Listen about Couchsurfing. Mark the sentences True or False.

- 1 CouchSurfers usually pay their host a little money.
- 2 You need to create a profile on the website.
- 3 When you find a person with a bed, you call them to agree the days you want to stay.
- 4 You have to offer other people a bed in your house or flat.
- 5 CouchSurfing is safe because you can read what other travellers say about the host.
- 6 The host always shows their guests their city.
- 7 You can CouchSurf all over the world.