

## ■ Reading

### Task 1

Read the text below. Match choices (A—H) to (1—5). There are three choices you don't need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

#### Forgive in Order to Forget

When you forgive someone who has done you wrong and hurt you, you are closing the chapter of your past. It shows that you have stopped all the blame and let your resentment go.

Some people do not want to pardon someone who has offended them because they do not want to let go so easily. It gives them a sense of power or dominance by making the other person feel guilty.

But that's not how it works. If you keep the bitterness within or speak about it over and over, you are the one who suffers the pain. The more you think or talk about it, the more you emotionalize it.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

The first thing to do to enable you to pardon people who have done you wrong or hurt you, is to do it to yourself first. The mistakes, errors and negligence that you did were because you were once ignorant, selfish and immature. You were unaware of the repercussions of your actions.

Forgiving yourself frees your mind from self-hate and self-destructive habits and attitudes. It gives you a peace of mind. It's like a burden has been lifted from your shoulders and it'll make you feel that you can now move on and start fresh.

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

There are people out there who gain pleasure from hurting others and hurling abuses. Refuse to allow them to break your spirit. Stay strong inside and face the challenges. Keep in mind that regardless of what they do, your goodness is never lost. Pardon them for their ignorance and tell yourself that they are only revealing what exists inside their hearts and souls.

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

One of the reasons that you are unforgiving and holding on to grudges is because you focus on the negatives. Always think and look for the good in people and situations. By doing that you can't feel angry at the same time.

People fail to see the good in others but you can make a choice to think and see differently. Love others unconditionally. Love people for just being themselves and for being there to teach you lessons about life.

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

Concentrating on the object of your anger will make you think negative thoughts and cause immense stress. Shake off and forget the past so that you

can move on. By focusing on your personal growth and expecting a better life ahead, you'll forget your hostility and bitterness.

(5) \_\_\_\_\_

If you need to apologize or pardon someone, today is the day. Don't wait for the right time because you may not live long enough. Life is short. The sooner you do it, the better you will feel about yourself.

- A Forget the Past and Focus on Your Future
- B Maintain Your Spiritual, Mental and Emotional Strength
- C Look for the Good in People
- D Self-Forgiveness
- E Get Help
- F Do It Immediately
- G Apologize
- H Write a Letter

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Task 2

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Read the text below. For questions (6—10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Do you ever think about your old friends or former schoolmates? Are you interested in what they look like, where they study and whether they've changed a lot? Actually plenty of British adults are. One of the most successful Internet ventures in Britain has shown how profitable nostalgia can be.

The website Friends Reunited was started for fun in 1999 by a couple who were interested to know what their old school friends were doing. The project snowballed and by 2005, the site had 12 million members. One surprising fact is that Friends Reunited has never been advertised, its success is entirely due to word-of-mouth.

You can search for a school, college or university and find a list of the members who were there in any year. You can also post a personal profile showing what you are doing now, and read other people's details.

Friends Reunited has also led to many successful school reunions, and people meeting up with each other after many years. In particular, many people use the site to look up their childhood sweethearts and many couples have actually rekindled relationships after contacting each other through the site.

6. The text tells about \_\_\_\_\_  
A successful business ventures.  
B a website.  
C old school friends.  
D people's relationships.
7. According to the text, the website Friends Reunited was started for \_\_\_\_  
A fun.  
B business.  
C making money.  
D reuniting people who used to be in love.
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8. The website was started by \_\_\_\_\_  
A a schoolboy.  
B a student.  
C a couple.  
D a group of school friends.
9. How do people receive information about the site?  
A Through mass media.  
B Through newspaper advertisements.  
C From mouth to mouth.  
D From site to site.
10. The author believes that the website Friends Reunited has led to \_\_\_\_\_  
A many successful school reunions.  
B the popularity of schooling.  
C welfare of many Internet sites.  
D the disrespect of other websites.



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### Task 3

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Read the text below. Match choices (A—H) to (11—15). There are three choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

#### Symbols of American Nation

- (11) The Liberty Bell is one of America's most enduring symbols of freedom. It was rung on July 8 in 1776, to celebrate Congress's adoption of the Declaration of Independence. It is inscribed with the words from the Bible, «Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof».
- The Liberty Bell, first made in England and weighing over 2,000 pounds, was shipped to Pennsylvania in 1752. It is now rung only on special occasions. On display in Philadelphia, it attracts thousands of visitors every year.
- (12) The bald eagle is one of America's best-known symbols. It became the national bird of the United States in 1782, and appears on the face of the Great Seal. The eagle has been used as a symbol of strength and bravery dating back to Roman times.
- The bald eagle is found only in North America. The eagle is not really bald, but has that appearance because white feathers cover its head. Bald eagles are protected by federal law.
- (13) The Black Hills of South Dakota are home to a spectacular memorial. Carved into a granite cliff are the heads of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln, four of America's greatest Presidents. They were chosen to represent the nation's founding, philosophy, expansion, and unity.
- The sculptures are approximately 60 feet high, and are 5,725 feet above sea level. On a clear day they can be seen from over 60 miles away. Gutzon Borglum designed and supervised construction of the Mount Rushmore memorial, which was completed in 1941. The figures were cut from the stone by using drills and dynamite.
- (14) The Statue of Liberty has become a symbol of the United States and a symbol of freedom to people all over the world. It was given to the United States by the people of France in 1884 as a symbol of friendship between

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the two nations. The statue, which stands on a large concrete pedestal, rises over 150 feet high and is made of 300 copper sheets fastened together. A spiral staircase brings visitors up from the base of the statue to the crown. Windows in the crown give people an unforgettable view of the harbour.

- (15) The rose, said to be about 35 million years old, has been used as a symbol of love, beauty, war, and politics throughout the world. The flowers are generally red, pink, white, or yellow and grow naturally throughout North America. The rose became the official flower of the United States in 1986. In October 1985, the Senate passed a resolution that declared the rose as the National Floral Emblem of the United States. Senate Joint Resolution 159 was passed by the House of Representatives on September 23, 1986.

This America's symbol \_\_\_\_\_

- A is the official flower of the United States.
- B is inscribed with the words from the Bible.
- C is a famous patriotic figure of the USA.
- D is considered to be the world's most beautiful bridge.
- E commemorates four American Greatest Presidents.
- F was presented by France.
- G is called the Stars and Stripes.
- H can be found on the face of the Great Seal.

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Task 4

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Read the text below. Choose from (A—H) the one which best fits each space (16—21). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Nothumbria School is a secondary school, it's for girls only, and it's a grammar school, which means (16) \_\_\_\_\_ before they can enter the school.

The girls tend to sit an exam at the age of 12 in their primary schools, and, depending on the results of that exam, they take in about the top 30 per cent of intelligence levels.

There are only 145 grammar schools in Britain out of the several thousand secondary schools in the country, so it isn't typical (17) \_\_\_\_\_.

There are about 1 000 pupils. There's a main school (18) \_\_\_\_\_ which are run separately. In the main school there is a uniform. Pupils are supposed (19) \_\_\_\_\_ striped shirt. In the second and third years they're supposed to wear a navy jumper, and in the fourth and fifth years it's a burgundy jumper. It's (20) \_\_\_\_\_ school jumper with the school emblem on. And they have to wear a navy skirt. At the moment they let the girls wear any type of shoes (21) \_\_\_\_\_. But they used to make girls choose between five different pairs of shoes, and the girls had to wear one of those.

- A of secondary education in this country
- B determine the degree
- C knowledge is required
- D the girls have to pass an exam
- E a specially designed
- F and a sixth form
- G as long as they're black and smart
- H to wear a blue and white



## Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (22–33) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

The British actress Keira Knightley has rejected (22) \_\_\_\_\_ that her film «The Duchess» (2008), a historical drama set in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, parallels the life of Princess Diana. The film tells the (23) \_\_\_\_\_ life story of Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, who was the great-great-great-great aunt of Diana, Princess of Wales.

In the film Knightley (24) \_\_\_\_\_ an aristocratic woman who gets married to a man who is in love with another woman. It is this storyline that mimics the experience of Princess Diana, who married Prince Charles and (25) \_\_\_\_\_ that he was continuing a longstanding secret relationship with another woman. Speaking to the BBC, Keira Knightley was quick to play down the similarities in the stories, saying her (26) \_\_\_\_\_ was «an interesting enough person to argue that a film is completely about her, without comparisons».

In (27) \_\_\_\_\_, the actress claims not to remember the story of Prince Charles and Princess Diana's unlucky marriage. «I was 11 when Diana died, so I don't really know what the actual story is, so I don't (28) \_\_\_\_\_ I can comment on the parallels», Knightley told reporters at a (29) \_\_\_\_\_ press conference.

Whether the Diana (30) \_\_\_\_\_ exists or not, the film «The Duchess» provides a fascinating insight into personal relationships in a society (31) \_\_\_\_\_ divorce was a taboo.

The film is also a visual (32) \_\_\_\_\_, as the architecture and fashion of the 18<sup>th</sup>-century England are carefully (33) \_\_\_\_\_ down to the smallest detail.

	A	B	C	D
22	argues	claims	entitlement	request
23	truth	truthful	true	truly
24	acts	plays	participates	perform
25	discovered	detected	encountered	awared
26	part	role	position	character
27	actually	truth	detail	fact
28	opinion	sense	feel	impress
29	recent	fresh	up-to-date	contemporary
30	correction	connection	collection	connecticut
31	which	why	whether	where
32	enjoy	delight	please	desire
33	recreated	recreation	procreative	recreating

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### Task 6

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Read the text below. For questions (34–45) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

#### The Father and His Sons

A father (34) \_\_\_\_\_ a family of sons who always (35) \_\_\_\_\_ with each other. One day, he told them (36) \_\_\_\_\_ him a bundle of sticks. When they did so, he placed the bundle into the hands of each of (37) \_\_\_\_\_ in succession,

and ordered his sons to break the bundle (38) \_\_\_\_\_ pieces. They tried with all their strength, but (39) \_\_\_\_\_ not able to do it.

He next opened the bundle, took the sticks separately, one by one, and again put them into his (40) \_\_\_\_\_ hands, upon which they broke the sticks (41) \_\_\_\_\_.

Then he said, «My sons, if you (42) \_\_\_\_\_ of one mind, and unite (43) \_\_\_\_\_ to assist each other, you (44) \_\_\_\_\_ as this bundle, uninjured by all the attempts of your enemies. But if you are divided among yourselves, you (45) \_\_\_\_\_ as easily as these sticks».

	A	B	C	D
34	to have	have	has	had
35	is quarrelling	are quarrelling	were quarrelling	quarrelling
36	to bring	bring	ringing	will bring
37	they	their	theirs	them
38	in	on	at	between
39	be	was	were	been
40	son's	sons	sons'	sons's
41	easy	easily	ease	easier
42	are	will be	should be	been
43	would rather	had better	would like	in order
44	be	are	will	will be
45	will break	will broken	be broken	will be broken