一、 篇章結構

Answer 01

Antarctica is the coldest, windiest, highest and driest continent on the planet. It has an average altitude of about 2,100 meters. The South Pole is situated at nearly 2,900 meters. __(1)__ The subzero temperatures, strong winds and terrible storms continue to be a great challenge for modern explorers.

Given these hardships, the sight in December 2010 of the national flags of five competitors at the finish line of the Antarctic 100K Ultra Race touched people throughout the world. One of the flags waving rapidly not far from the South Pole was that of the Republic of China. __(2)__ Chen finished second in the ultramarathon with a time of 15 hours, 15 minutes and 58 seconds. __(3)__

After Chen's achievement, other Taiwanese runners participated in the 100-kilometer race. __(4)__ Chen also had to fight against his sprained ankle and injury caused by severe cold.

"Oftentimes, there was no one around in the expansive icy wilderness. I was running alone and close to being burnt out from a deep sense of physical exhaustion as well as loneliness. I often thought of my family, instructors, friends and all the people who'd helped me participate in the race that enabled me to overcome moments of weakness and keep moving," Chen recalls of his Antarctic adventure. "__(5)__ My tears did not turn to ice though because I kept crying the whole time. I was very excited with joy to make it!"

(A) It was there because of 24-year-old Tommy Chen.
(B) In the last 200 meters, when I saw the finish line, I burst out crying.
(C) He was the first Asian ever to have completed the extremely difficult event.
(D) The extreme temperatures, which fell as low as minus 18 degrees Celsius, went on.
(E) Early tales of Antarctic exploration are filled with stories of how men battled to survive in the extreme weather.

Answer 02

It is estimated that around one million plastic bottles are purchased every minute. What's more, recycling efforts are failing to keep pace with production, which is expected to quadruple by 2050. Partly because of this, up to 12.7 million tonnes of plastic enters the world's oceans each year. __(1)__ These are tiny pieces that are sometimes too small to be seen. Microplastics pollute water in ways that we are just starting to learn more about. __(2)__ Even worse, they have made their way into the food chain, especially the salt in our diets. Microplastics have been found in fish, in tap water, and in bottled water. __(3)__

Recently, tiny plastic particles have been found in sea salt in the US, China, France, Spain, and the UK. Researchers believe most of them are broken down from single-use plastics. __(4)__ "Plastics," she said, "are in the air, water, the seafood we eat, the beer we drink, and the salt we use." Her team worked together with researchers at the University of Minnesota to examine microplastics in salt, beer and drinking water. __(5)__ Microplastics were found in

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almost all of them.

(A) A research project on plastic pollution in salt was led by Professor Sherri Mason of the State University of New York.
(B) They examined 12 different kinds of salt, including 10 sea salts, bought from grocery stores around the world.
(C) No one knows yet how the human body deals with them.
(D) They are being found everywhere in the environment.
(E) A lot of it breaks down into so-called microplastics.

Answer 03

The Rain Tree Lodge is located next to the Colo-i-Suva national rainforest and park outside Fiji's capital, Suva. Tom, the owner of the cabin, __(1)__. The boat is __(2)__ glued together with a layer of foam and some plastic sheeting for the seats and floor deck. It may look weak, but surprisingly the boat __(3)__ as they paddle around in it. The boat-building crew is also experimenting with a sandwich-style floating platform that could be used by farmers in Fiji __(4)__. The Rain Tree Lodge's owner hopes that his experiments and designs can be used by Fijians __(5)__ in the country. He also hopes this boat will inspire other Fijians to reuse materials.

(A) to float their crops down river to the market
(B) composed of pieces of plastic bottles
(C) to make use of the many plastic bottles dumped
(D) built a plastic bottle boat with the help of his employees
(E) can remain afloat supporting three Fijian men

二、綜合測驗

Answer 01

Do you know the difference between the terms *meteoroid*, *meteor*, and *meteorite* in astronomy? Many people find these words confusing. However, the difference is all about their __(1)__.

Meteoroids are far up in the sky. They are chunks of rock or metal that speed through space. Some are very large and may be hundreds of feet wide. Others __(2)__ the size of a small stone. Most meteoroids travel around the sun in space and stay away from the Earth. However, sometimes a meteoroid will enter the Earth's atmosphere. Friction with the atmosphere will cause it to __(3)__ and burn while traveling at high speed. As a meteoroid begins to burn in the atmosphere, it leaves a streak of light. When this tail-like light is falling down toward the Earth, it is called a meteor, or a shooting star. Most meteors vaporize completely before they hit the ground. If any meteor __(4)__ its fiery journey through the atmosphere and lands on Earth, it is called a meteorite. Large meteorites can cause great explosions and much destruction on the surface of the Earth. __(5)__, Barringer Crater in the American state of Arizona, measuring 1,200 m in diameter and some 170 m deep, was produced by a meteorite impact.

( ) (1) (A) size (B) weight (C) location (D) temperature
( ) (2) (A) may be (B) would be (C) must have been (D) could have been
( ) (3) (A) wear out (B) turn off (C) break through (D) heat up

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( ) (4)(A) approaches (B) survives (C) confirms (D) targets
( ) (5)(A) Indeed (B) Nevertheless (C) For example (D) In short

Answer 02

We all know that too much stress is not good for our health, but too little is not ideal, either. While __(1)__ stress can be dangerous to the body, short-term stress is actually healthy.

Short-term stress triggers the production of protective chemicals in our body and strengthens the body's defenses. __(2)__ our body is in a vulnerable situation, a burst of stress will quickly mobilize the body's own repair system to defend the damaged areas. This __(3)__ us from physical discomfort and sickness. Small amounts of stress hormones may even sharpen our memory. A recent study found that when rats were forced to swim – an activity that places them under stress for a short while – they remembered their way through mazes far __(4)__ than rats that were in a relaxed state.

The key to a healthy lifestyle is to keep our stress level __(5)__. Too much stress will make us cranky and sick. Too little stress, on the other hand, will lead to boredom and low motivation.

( ) (1)(A) contagious (B) chronic (C) diagnostic (D) tedious
( ) (2)(A) Till (B) Unless (C) When (D) Whereas
( ) (3)(A) conceals (B) derives (C) shields (D) transforms
( ) (4)(A) harder (B) better (C) less (D) further
( ) (5)(A) balanced (B) balancing (C) balances (D) to balance

Answer 03

It has long been assumed that creativity is some unusual trait enjoyed by the few. However, according to a wide array of scientific and sociological research, creativity is __(1)__ a sign of rare genius than a natural human potential. Thus, it can be nurtured and encouraged.

It is believed that taking breaks from a problem can help __(2)__ a moment of insight or stimulate new ideas. Unconventional solutions can also be explored. That is why some of the most successful companies in the world, such as 3M and Google, encourage their employees to __(3)__ all sorts of relaxing activities, such as playing pinball and wandering about the campus. During such breaks, the mind turns inward, __(4)__ it can subconsciously puzzle over subtle meanings and connections.

Another way to increase creativity is to take risks. This is because many breakthroughs come up when people venture __(5)__ their usual routines or areas of expertise. This can be done by, for example, learning new skills or traveling to new countries.

( ) (1)(A) more (B) less (C) better (D) worse
( ) (2)(A) spark (B) carve (C) drill (D) grind
( ) (3)(A) refer to (B) answer for (C) take part in (D) put up with
( ) (4)(A) if (B) but (C) where (D) which
( ) (5)(A) into (B) without (C) under (D) beyond

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