

## II. READING TEST

45 min; 20 points.

**Task 1** (5 points, 1 point per item). Read the text about an unusual music style. Choose the correct answer for each space (21–25) to complete the text. There is an example (0).

### WIZARD ROCK

When asked about popular music styles, most of us will probably mention Hip-Hop, Rock, Pop etc. Still, there are some unusual music styles that no one (0) **D** about. One such crazy style is *Wizard Rock*.

*Wizard Rock* is modelled on J. K. Rowling's famous novels about Harry Potter. Bands that play in this style usually take the names of the (21) \_\_\_\_ that appear in the novels and films made after the novels. Popular groups that play *Wizard Rock* (22) \_\_\_\_ 'Harry and the Potters', 'Draco and the Malfoys', and 'Remus and the Lupins'.

*Wizard Rock* was founded by brothers Paul and Joe DeGeorge in 2002. The brothers created this style when they were trying to lighten up a show (23) \_\_\_\_ in their house. Paul acted as Harry in his seventh-year, while Joe acted as the fourth-year version of Harry. So far, they have played over 800 shows and are best known for their outdoor (24) \_\_\_\_ performances. There are no (25) \_\_\_\_ about what can be called *Wizard Rock*. Anything goes, as long as there is a 'wizardly touch' in the song or the band.

- |     |              |              |                 |          |
|-----|--------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|
| 0.  | A discusses  | B says       | C suggests      | D talks  |
| 21. | A characters | B actors     | C persons       | D roles  |
| 22. | A consist    | B list       | C include       | D title  |
| 23. | A appearing  | B happening  | C demonstrating | D making |
| 24. | A active     | B live       | C alive         | D real   |
| 25. | A rules      | B directions | C arrangements  | D styles |

**Task 2.** (4 points, 1 point for the right answer.) Read the text about the challenges Spain faces. For questions 37–40, choose the correct answer, A, B, or C. There is an example (0).

### SPANISH RESIDENTS SAY 'REFUGEES WELCOME BUT TOURISTS GO HOME'

ANTI-TOURIST graffiti has appeared painted across walls in Spain, where visitor numbers have grown rapidly due to a decrease in holiday trips to terror-plagued Tunisia, Egypt and Turkey. Messages reading 'TOURISTS GO HOME REFUGEES WELCOME' have been painted onto walls on the island of Mallorca, where the local population are becoming annoyed by the holidaying visitors – despite the huge boost the tourism industry gives the Spanish economy. In total, tourism accounts for 16 per cent of jobs in Spain and 12 per cent of the economic output. Despite this, a growing number of residents are protesting against the arrival of visitors, which they believe is causing harm to the reputation of their towns and cities.

Luis Clar, who heads a resident association in Mallorca, said: "They want to turn us into a theme park, a place you close the doors on at night because no-one lives there." Already, people living in Mallorca have lost parking spaces in areas popular with tourists, after city officials decided the cars were ugly and unsympathetic to visitor experiences. Locals are angry over queues and crowded beaches or streets, and worried the city will lose its identity as more tourist-focused shops or attractions open.

Barcelona residents also say tourism is a bigger problem than poverty. Barcelona Mayor Ada Colau has announced plans to limit the number of tourists entering the city as part of a strategy to balance the tourism sector's interests with those of residents. For example, large tourist groups have been banned from visiting the famous La Boqueria public market at peak times, including Fridays and Saturdays between hours when locals do their weekly shopping and it can be visited by pairs or no more than 15 tourists coming together. The country, however, has opened its arms to refugees fleeing from Syria, damaged by war, promising to take in 17000 people. Amnesty Spain director Esteban Beltran has claimed that the system of refugee protection in Spain needs improving, explaining the speed with which people are entering the country is too slow – especially given the population's broad pro-refugee view: Spanish people have welcomed them. He said: "There are governments like ours that don't want to take in, that welcome them in small amounts, despite public opinion that on the whole wants to take them in, as do most regional public administrations."

0. Why are more and more tourists coming to Spain?

- A Graffiti painted on walls attract many tourists. ☐
- B Many popular tourist destinations have become dangerous. ☒
- C Spain's economic growth influences tourists' choice. ☐

26. What is the positive side of tourism in Spain?

- A the opportunity to find a job ☐
- B the growing number of refugees ☐
- C the changing conditions in towns and cities ☐

27. What do local people in Mallorca dislike about tourism?

- A the need to buy new nice cars ☐
- B the facilities designed for tourists ☐
- C too many theme parks in the area ☐

28. What is Barcelona Mayor's decision about the market La Boqueria?

- A Tourists can go to the market only in small groups. ☐
- B Tourists can go to the market only at weekends. ☐
- C Tourists can go to the market only with locals. ☐

29. What does Mr Beltran say about the refugee problem in Spain?

- A Locals want refugees to enter Spain slowly. ☐
- B Spanish government welcomes public opinion on refugees. ☐
- C Spain accepts refugees in small numbers. ☐

**Task 3.** (5 points. 1 point for the right answer.) Read the text about the benefits of reading comic books. For questions 36–40, choose from statements A–G the one which best summarises each paragraph. There is **one extra statement** which you do not need to use. There is an example (0).

#### THE BENEFITS OF COMIC BOOKS

- A Many comic books have been made into films.
- B Comic books help struggling students build self-belief.
- C Comic books can help us learn to love reading.
- D Many comic stories teach us values.
- E Comic books may improve your memory.
- F Reading comic books can enrich your language.
- G Reading comic books is a good exercise for the brain.

0. A

*You must have heard about Spider-Man or the X-Men. You've probably even seen most of their movies. Did you know that the TV series 'The Walking Dead' and 'Men in Black' are also based on comic books? Let's explore the benefits of comic books in detail.*

30. \_\_\_\_

Lots of students who are struggling to improve their reading skills can benefit from the visual format of comic books. Research shows that comic books attract those readers who find other texts too challenging or boring. With their intense visual story and focus on characters, comic books are much more involving than other literature, such as novels or short stories, and cause a lot of interest. Besides, comic books are really good value for money!

31. \_\_\_\_

Comic book readers are made to create the meaning of the story from different elements. All the components of a comic book, such as language, images, special symbols, depend on each other and help the reader get the message of the story. Comic book readers also love video games for the same reason that they like comic books, but books require a more complex intellectual process, they can actually change the ways in which we think.

32. \_\_\_\_

Often comic books are seen as unhelpful for kids, but what most people don't realise is that these books help us learn not only new language, but also positive messages: supporting others, doing one's best, working as a team. For example, self-confident characters such as Superman or Spiderman remind us that there is always a way to overcome weakness, or give us motivation when we feel sad. The stories of the characters are so powerful that they stick in your memory forever.

33. \_\_\_\_

When people think of comic books, they focus on the images and don't take into account the text and the number of sentences used on every page. Comic books provide a unique opportunity to learn a lot of new words, phrases and useful expressions in visual context, that is, extra information from pictures makes it easy to understand the new words and memorise them, so you can use them in the future.

34. \_\_\_\_

Comic books are usually short and easy-to-read. Therefore, they're particularly useful for children with poor reading skills who may find it hard to finish a traditional book. When they complete a short comic book, they not only learn about human values or enrich their vocabulary, but, most importantly, they become proud of their personal achievement and feel highly positive about themselves.