Reading for 11th grade

Task I

Read the story. Are the statements below true (T), false (F) or is there no information (NI)?

THE LAST MEAT EATER

'Put some oil in a pan: just a little. You mustn't use too much:
After all those years, Nathan could still hear the echo of his grandmother's voice.
'Wait until it's hot, sizzling hot'.
Nathan adjusted the knob on the cooker and watched the electric ring go bright red. Then he took the packet from the table and opened it. There was one steak, one large juicy red beefsteak. It looked delicious. His hands shook as he sprinkled a little salt and pepper on it.
'Hold a wooden spoon in the oil and when you see bubbles, you know it's hot enough.'
Nathan checked. There were lots of tiny bubbles rising up from the bottom of the pan.
He looked nervously round the kitchen. Suddenly, he had a flashback. He was six years old; his
grandmother was cutting a steak into bite-sized pieces for him to eat. His grandfather said, 'Eat your meat before they make it illegal!' And then he'd laughed, they'd all laughed. But he wasn't laughing now.
Nobody was. It wasn't illegal to laugh; not yet, at least. But so many other things were; so much had been forbidden since the 'Fundies' had come to power twenty years ago. And eating meat was one of them.
He thought he heard a noise, but when he glanced outside, there was nobody there, just fields and trees. There was no reason for the police to suspect him. But still he felt anxious ... and guilty.
'Just a few seconds on each side; don't burn it.'
The oil spat and *jumped* when he put the meat in the pan. He held it down with the wooden spoon and counted to ten, then he flipped it over and pressed down again. The smell was incredible: it made his mouth water; his stomach turned and twisted in excitement.
The meat was so tender the knife went through it as if it were butter. It was brown on the outside and pink on the inside and when he cut it, a little blood ran underneath the green lettuce on the white plate.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

He speared a piece of meat with his fork and held it in front of him. Was he really going to eat meat for the first time in two decades? Did he dare break the law? The penalties were severe. Was it worth the risk?
He put the meat in his mouth and began to chew slowly.
He heard a voice in his head; another memory, another echo from the past.
'Eat it up. It'll make you big and strong.'
A tear trickled down his cheek. He knew it was wrong, but it tasted so good.
He heard the vehicle rumble to a stop in front of the house. He heard the heavy footsteps approaching. He heard the door fly open. But he didn't care anymore.

1	At the beginning of the story, Nathan's grandmother tells him how to fry a steak.	
2	Nathan's family used to think the idea of eating meat becoming illegal was unrealistic.	
3	The Fundies are an extreme right-wing political party.	
4	Nathan feels worried as he's cooking.	
5	Nathan does not like the smell of the steak.	
6	Nathan eats up the whole steak.	
7	At the end of the story, Nathan is arrested for eating meat.	

Task II

You are going to read an extract from a novel. **(A, B, C** or **D)** For questions **8-15,** choose the answer which you think fits best according to the text.

On Saturday mornings I worked in the family shop. I started cycling down to the shop with Dad on Saturdays as soon as I was big enough. I thought of it as giving him a hand and so I didn't mind what I did, although it was mostly just fetching and carrying at a run all morning. I managed not to think of it as work and I looked forward to the bar of chocolate my grandmother passed me unsmilingly as I left. I tried not to look at her; I had reason to feel guilty because I'd generally already eaten some dried fruits or a sliver of cheese when no one was looking. As soon as I was fifteen, though, Dad said, 'That's it, our Janet.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

You're of working age now and you're not coming to work unless your grandmother pays you properly.' He did his best to make his chin look determined. 'I shall speak to her.'

The next Saturday, Gran called me into her little office behind the shop. I always hated going in there. She had an electric heater on full blast, and the windows were always kept tightly closed whatever the weather. There were piles of dusty catalogues and brochures on the floor. 'You're wanting to get paid, I hear,' Gran said. 'Yes, please,' I replied. It was rather like visiting the headmistress at school, so I was very quiet and respectful. Gran searched through the mess of papers on her crowded desk, sighing and clicking her tongue. Eventually she produced an official-looking leaflet and ran her fingers along the columns of figures. 'How old are you?' 'Fifteen ... Gran,' I added for extra politeness, but she looked at me as if I had been cheeky. 'Full-timers at your age get forty pounds for a thirty-five-hour week,' she announced in such a **19** way as to leave no doubt that she wasn't in favour of ***this***. 'No wonder there's no profit in **20** shopkeeping! So, Janet, what's that per hour?' Questions like that always ***flustered*** me. Instead of trying to work them out in my head, I would just stand there, unable to think straight. 'I'll get a pencil and paper,' 1 offered. 'Don't bother,' snapped Gran angrily, Til do it myself. I'll give you a pound an hour; take it or leave it.' Til take it, please.' 'And I expect real work for it, mind. No standing about, and if I catch you eating any of the stock, there'll be trouble. That's theft, and it's a crime.'

From then on, my main job at the shop was filling the shelves. This was dull, but I hardly expected . , to be trusted with handling the money. Once or twice, however, when Dad was extra busy, I'd tried to help him by serving behind the counter. I hated it. It was very difficult to remember the prices of everything and I was particularly hopeless at using the till. Certain customers made unkind remarks about this, increasing my confusion and the chances of my making a fool of myself.

It was an old-established village shop, going back 150 years at least and it was really behind the ty times even then. Dad longed to be able to make the shop more attractive to customers, but Gran . wouldn't hear of it. I overheard them once arguing about whether to buy a freezer cabinet. 'Our customers want frozen food,' Dad said. 'They see things advertised and if they can't get them from us, they'll go elsewhere.' 'Your father always sold fresh food,' Gran replied. 'People come here for quality, they don't want all that frozen stuff.'

Actually, she gave way in the end over the freezer. Mr Timson, her great rival, installed one in his shop at the other end of the village and customers started making loud comments about how handy it was, being able to get frozen food in the village, and how good Mr Timson's sausages were. That really upset her because she was proud of her sausages and she ungraciously gave Dad the money to buy the freezer. Within a couple of weeks, she was eating frozen food like the rest of us.

8. How did Janet feel when she first started her Saturday morning job?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A She enjoyed the work that she was given.
B She was pleased to be helping her father.
C She worried that she was not doing it well.
D She was only really interested in the reward.

9. What do we learn about her grandmother's office in the second paragraph?
A It needed decorating.
B It was untidy.
C It had too much furniture in it.
D It was dark.

10. 'This' (line 19) refers to
A shopkeepers' profits.
B a thirty-five-hour week.
C Janet's request.
D the recommended wage.

11. 'Flustered' (line 20) means
A bored.
B angered.
C confused.
D depressed.

12. Why did Janet's grandmother react angrily to her offer to fetch a pencil and paper?
A Janet was unable to answer her question.
B Janet had been unwilling to help her.
C Janet had made an unhelpful suggestion.
D Janet had answered her rudely.

13. What did Janet's father and grandmother disagree about?
A how to keep their customers loyal to the shop
B the type of advertising needed to attract customers
C the type of customers they needed to attract
D how to get new customers to come to the shop

14. What eventually persuaded Janet's grandmother to buy a freezer?
A She found that she liked frozen food after all.
B A new shop opening in the village had one.
C It was suggested that her products weren't fresh.
D She responded to pressure from her customers.

15. What impression do we get of Janet's feelings towards her grandmother?
A She respected her fairness.
B She doubted her judgement.
C She disliked her manner.
D She admired her determination.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Listening Comprehension Test
For 11th Form Students

Directions:

In this test you will carefully listen to a text read aloud twice. The text is followed by 10 true/false statements and 10 multiple-choice questions You should do the first 10 tasks following the first reading of the text on the basis of what is stated or implied in the text. The text will be read a second time and you should do tasks 11 through 20 following the second reading of the text on the basis of what is stated or implied in the text. For each task you will choose from two symbols (+ or –) or four possible answers (A, B, C, or D), as specified prior to each task. Choose the best answer and circle the symbol or letter of your choice on the answer sheet.

You will hear an interview with a girl called Amy Fisher, who attends an art class on Saturday mornings. For questions 1 - 7, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

1 Why did Amy join the art class?

A Some friends asked her to go with them.

B Her mother was keen for her to learn to paint.

C She wanted to learn how to paint properly.

2 Amy says when she first arrived at the class, she felt

A worried by the number of students there.

B nervous about how good the other students might be.

C surprised that some students were quite young.

3 What did Amy decide to concentrate on?

A experimenting with printmaking

B improving her drawing techniques

C learning to paint in oils

4 Why was Amy concerned about giving a presentation of her work?

A Some of her pictures were unfinished.

B She didn't feel she'd done enough to show other people.

C She thought her work didn't look very imaginative.

5 What did Amy discover from her work at the art club?

A She was good at producing pictures on the computer.

B She had a natural eye for using colour.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

C She was talented at finding unusual subjects.

6 What does Amy say about her teacher at the art club?

A She dresses in a very different style from Amy's schoolteachers.

B She's inspired Amy to do more research into different artists.

C She's made the students feel their contributions are valuable.

7 Amy thinks that as a result of going to the club, she will

A make gifts for friends.

B do more art at school.

C visit galleries in her city.

Statements 8 through 15 (on your answer sheet circle + if the statement is true, - if it is false).

8. Amy Fisher was rather good at painting, so she joined the art class to improve her techniques.

9. Amy felt at ease when she got there since the atmosphere was rather welcoming.

10. She confessed that had a feeling of relief when she came to know about average success of her groupmates.

11. Painting with oil suited Amy better that other activities in class.

12. Amy had put a lot of imagination into her few completed pieces.

13. Despite picking up ordinary subjects for the pictures, Amy made them look impressive due to the combination of the colour scheme.

14. Her art teacher is inspiring during their art classes as she always encourages her students to do more that they can.

15. The art teacher has a rather weirs looks, which is typical for their profession.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Writing Comprehension Test
For 11th Form Students

Directions:
In this test you will select from three writing tasks. Choose the one that you feel you are most capable to write about. You will then begin writing your essay on the pages provided. When you are finished close your papers, lay down your pen and wait for us to collect your test materials.

1. According to Bill Gates, "Leaders will be those who empower others" and, in life, we come across many different types of leaders in different parts of our lives. Choose a person whom you believe to be a great leader and describe the qualities he or she has that characterize him/her as a leader?
In your opinion, are these qualities unique or do all great leaders possess them? How have leaders influenced your own life? Or how have you influenced others as a leader?

2. In today's technological age, communication experts are worried that people are too wired and too distracted by their electronic devices. Experts have noticed that people are slowly replacing face- to-face communication with emails and texts, which isolate people instead of connecting them.

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