

Reading

Task 4

Read the texts below. Match choices (A—H) to (17—21). There are three choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Where are these notes likely to be seen?

17

To all the staff!
A two-hour meeting will be held next Friday.
Time: March, 10th at 9 a.m.
Place: Teachers' Room.
Topic: End of Year ceremony on May, 31st.
Please, be punctual and ready for the discussion.
All the propositions will be taken into account.

18

The 10:40 service for Cardiff will leave from platform 6 as usual. The 2:20 service will leave from platform 4 today, not platform 2. All other trains for this destination will leave from platform 5 according to the timetable.

19

To be taken with a glass of juice at three-hourly intervals up to five times daily.

20

Use this area for study. Keep silence. Make sure you return all the books to the proper shelves.

21

The fitting rooms are on the 1st floor next to the customer services. Not more than four items allowed at a time.

- A Box office
- B College cafeteria
- C Department store
- D Medical prescription
- E Local school
- F University library
- G Hospital for children
- H Railway station

Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (22—26) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

On 21st April, 2016 the Queen of the United Kingdom, who is also the Queen of fifteen more countries, celebrated her 90th birthday. On this occasion four official portraits of hers had been published. For them Elizabeth II had posed together with her great-grandchildren, children, the Crown Princess and with the dogs of her majesty. Besides, jubilee stamps had been published, a jubilee coin had been struck, and several documentaries had been released. Queen Elizabeth II

is the longest-reigning queen of the UK. She's very popular all over the world. Her life has always been interesting for millions of people. Here are some facts about Her Majesty the Queen of the UK.

Though Elizabeth II was born in April, 1926, her official birthday is celebrated in June. This appears to be a tradition since the times of King Edward VII, whose birthday was in November but who wanted to celebrate it in fine weather.

The house where the British Queen was born nowadays is occupied by a Chinese restaurant.

Elizabeth wasn't supposed to become a reigning monarch. She was only the third to be eligible to succeed. After her grandfather George V had died in 1936 and her uncle Edward VIII had abdicated, George VI became the King and his daughter turned out to be his direct heir.

In February, 1945 the future Queen joined a women self-defence formation and was trained as a driver mechanic.

Elizabeth first met her husband when she was only eight and he was five years older. The children played with a toy railway together and as the Queen's governess says, she fell in love with Philipp at first sight. Elizabeth's parents weren't inclined to having Philipp as their son-in-law. However, the young couple got married when the future Queen turned the age of legal majority.

Elizabeth II has four children, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. At the same time, she's got thirty goddaughters and godsons.

In 1953 Elizabeth II was crowned as the Queen of Great Britain. She was the first monarch in British history whose coronation ceremony was seen on TV by a 27-million audience all around the UK.

During the reign of Elizabeth II the country has known twelve Prime Ministers, seven Popes and the same number of Archbishops of Canterbury.

All the state decisions in the UK are made on behalf of the Queen. However, the fact is that the British monarch reigns but doesn't rule.

- 22 What is true about the birthday of Elizabeth II?
- A She was born in 1926 in a house next to a Chinese restaurant.
 - B Her Majesty's birthday is celebrated twice a year.
 - C The British Queen was born in November.
 - D Elizabeth II celebrates her birthday according to modern traditions.
- 23 Which of the following is stated in the text?
- A Elizabeth II predictably became the Queen.
 - B Elizabeth became the direct heir after a number of events which led her father to the throne.
 - C George V chose Elizabeth to succeed.
 - D Edward VIII was divested of his right to the throne.
- 24 What is known about the Queen's husband?
- A He met Her Majesty in his childhood.
 - B He was sympathized with by the royal family.
 - C He became the King of the UK in 1953.
 - D He liked playing with a toy railway as a child.
- 25 What is correct about the Queen's family members according to the text?
- A All her descendants are pretenders to the British throne.
 - B Elizabeth is a godmother for some of them.
 - C Each of her children gave her grandchildren.
 - D She's already become great-grandmother five times.
- 26 Which fact about the reign of Elizabeth II is wrong?
- A She makes the most important decisions as for the country's development.
 - B She's experienced the governing of a dozen Prime Ministers.
 - C The Queen's coronation ceremony was watched by 27 million British citizens.
 - D Every important decision in the state is made in the Queen's name.

Task 6

Read the text below. Match choices (A—H) to (27—32). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

If you want something more than just a cute cat or a funny puppy you'd better think of having a more unusual pet. There are a few exotic pets which are popular to own nowadays.

- 27 Sugar gliders are very sociable and rather active creatures. They are marsupial animals like many other Australian species. They got their name thanks to a layer that covers the body from the front leg to the hind leg and gives the animals an opportunity to glide from tree to tree. An adult glider is about 17 centimetres long and weighs less than 100 grams. These cuddly tiny animals can be taught numerous funny tricks as they are playful and trainable. They are considered to be loyal and thus can become a good pet both for families and for single people. However, you should keep in mind that sugar gliders lead active nightlife.
- 28 Hedgehogs are extremely cute and need pretty low maintenance. They sleep a lot and don't demand a lot of attention. In spite of having spines, hedgehogs are incredibly friendly and can make perfect pets. Hedgehogs enjoy being handled and can purr, whistle, and snuffle to boot. If you're a night owl it's a pet for you — hedgehogs usually sleep at daytime and are up at night. Hedgehogs are often mistaken for small porcupines but the two species have no relation.
- 29 Spotted genets are independent animals though they still can make good pets if you just take their character into consideration. Genets look like a mix of a cat, a raccoon and a ferret. They can range in size from 1 to 7 pounds. They are very active and agile. They are also rather skittish so it's better not to bring them to a place where other pets live. The native land of spotted genets is Africa.
- 30 Fennec foxes only ever weigh about 3 pounds. Their distinctive feature is their enormously big ears which actually serve to dissipate heat. Besides, their hearing is very sensitive. They can easily be house-trained and can learn to use a litter box. This desert animal can make an excellent pet though usual foxes cannot. It's absolutely safe to keep it at home. If taken care of properly it can live up to 14 years in captivity.
- 31 Not everybody agrees these striped animals can make good pets. It may have something to do with their «smelly» reputation. Anyway, skunks are not that popular. In fact, if you have their scent glands removed, which is a usual procedure for pet skunks when they're about a month old, you won't have to live with the stench. Skunks are very intelligent and curious. They can entertain themselves with toys. They require little care and are easy to look after.
- 32 While being a rodent, the capybara is nothing like a hamster or guinea-pig. An adult grows up to 1.2 metres and can weigh about 45 kilos. Capybaras are unlikely to become fully domesticated, so those who want to have such a pet need to handle a young one. Since capybaras are semi-aquatic animals, they need a place to swim like a pond or a pool. Besides, they demand lots of outdoor space. The animal is not recommended for families with children as these rodents aren't as tolerant as usual pets. In some areas, capybaras are illegal to be kept as pets, that's why you should always make sure your place doesn't have exotic pet legislation which would keep you from owning a capybara.

This animal _____

- A can't boast being very easy-going.
- B is a nocturnal creature of a small size.
- C has a funny body part which is useful in hot areas.
- D probably won't be a good friend for your son or daughter.
- E is a marsupial which never stays up after the sunset.
- F has nothing to do with another spiny animal.
- G can be adapted to living at home after a little surgery.
- H smells bad and is moody enough.

Task 7

Read the text below. Choose from (A—H) the one which best fits each space (33—38). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Haggis, (33)_____, is actually a type of pudding which contains liver, heart and lungs of a sheep. The meat products are minced (34)_____. All this mixture is seasoned with onion, pepper and some other spices, (35)_____. Now it's ready to be boiled. Haggis has been considered to be a distinctively Scottish dish (36)_____. However, it was also long popular in England, and its origin is still more ancient. The term «haggis» dates back to the 15th century. Haggis used to be favoured as a savoury and nourishing, (37)_____. Nowadays it's celebrated as a tradition and served with some ceremony, particularly on Burns Night held annually on January, 25. As a rule, haggis is accompanied (38)_____.

- A and is also loved by common people
- B the national Scottish dish
- C by turnips and mashed potatoes
- D and mixed with beef suet and oatmeal
- E but at the same time inexpensive meal
- F since the mid-18th century
- G and packed into a sheep's stomach
- H by waiters dressed in national costumes

Use of English

Task 8

Read the text below. For questions (39—48) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

The image of the White House is (39)_____ on a 20-dollar banknote. However, it's itemised in the list of top US attractions for another reason. First of all, the White House is a symbol of the American nation and the (40)_____ of the US president's power. It's been for more than two centuries that the White House serves (41)_____ an attribute of the nation's might. The classical architecture of the building is rather neat though elegant. The (42)_____ stone on the official residence of the US presidents, known all around the world as the White House, was laid on October 13, 1792 in Washington D.C. at the address of Pennsylvania Avenue, 1600. The (43)_____ for the building was chosen by the first president of the country George Washington who also acted as a co-designer of the building. In June, 1800 the construction was (44)_____. Unfortunately, Washington himself was deprived of being the first inhabitant of the White House as by the end of the process of building it the country had been already governed by its second president John Adams. There exist several (45)_____ about why the White House is called this way. One of the most popular says that the building got its name after it had been (46)_____ white in 1814 to liquidate the aftermath of the fire. Anyway, the name was officially confirmed only in 1901. In the 20th century the building was reconstructed and redecorated several times. Nowadays it's a six-storey building (47)_____ 132 rooms, 32 bathrooms and three elevators. Almost all the rooms (48)_____ the private ones of the President and his family are opened to the public.

	A	B	C	D
39	made	presented	representing	held
40	load	strength	strong	weight
41	as	like	for	in

	A	B	C	D
42	main	corner	lower	oldest
43	sight	site	highlight	area
44	completed	ended	built	made
45	versions	ways	possibilities	works
46	decorated	rebuilt	covered	painted
47	uniting	combining	including	containing
48	excluding	despite	containing	uniting

Task 9

Read the texts below. For questions (49—58) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

The whole world (49) _____ Haiti in February, 2010 after the island had suffered one of (50) _____ terrible earthquakes ever. Rescue teams came from places (51) _____ far away as Iceland and China. Volunteers and local people cleared the main roads so that food and medical supplies (52) _____ be delivered through. The disaster affected 3 million people. Thousands lost their lives or were badly injured, even more lost their homes. The earthquake also caused tsunamis in nearby fishing villages, (53) _____ damaged beaches and swept a number of houses out to the sea.

	A	B	C	D
49	had helped	has been helping	helping	was helping
50	most	the most	more	more than
51	that	so	as	such
52	could	can	will	must
53	who	which	where	what

Pizza, as we know it today, was born in the 18th century in Naples, Italy. It is known that oven-baked flatbread dishes (54) _____ long before that time, but it was Naples (55) _____ people first put tomatoes on top and got a brand new dish. (56) _____ two original pizza recipes are considered to be the Marinara and the Margherita. Both of them (57) _____ tomato toppings, but the Marinara recipe also contains oregano, garlic and olive oil, (58) _____ the Margherita includes basil and mozzarella cheese.

	A	B	C	D
54	have eaten	were eaten	ate	have been eaten
55	where	which	that	when
56	The	A	That	This
57	had	has	are having	have
58	when	while	and	as