

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.

What type of letter is each of the following texts?

17

Hi, Mum!

How's it going? We're spending a wonderful time! Yesterday we went sightseeing in the city centre on foot. We stopped everywhere we wanted and saw much more than you would from a bus window. Yet very tired by the evening, we felt extremely glad we had done that.

Missing you,
Laura

18

Hi, Nick!

I'm really sorry I didn't give back your tablet as I'd promised. I felt awful after the classes and Mum took me to the doctor. Will you be home tonight? I'll ask my brother to bring it to you.

Sandra

19

Dave!

I'm writing to thank you for the party! It was really cool! I met some nice guys and hope we'll become friends. The show was fantastic and the menu was superb. Your mum's cake is off the charts! Pity I had to leave early and missed the lottery. Anyway, it was a great night!

Thanks again. See you,
Tyler

20

Dear Hiring Manager!

I'm writing to express my interest in getting the Graphic Designer position listed on MediaBrand.com. I have experience in designing websites as well as magazine covers. I enclose my CV and recommendation letters.

Look forward to hearing from you.
Sincerely,
Lara Dull

21

The Daffodil Corporation will be happy to see you and your spouse or a guest to celebrate the holiday season with fellow employees and good cheer! We're planning our annual holiday dinner to end the year!

December 20 at 7:00 p.m.
The Daffodil Hotel
Conference Room, 3rd floor

- A A job application
- B An invitation
- C A letter of complaint

- D** A thank-you note
- E** An offer
- F** A postcard
- G** A leaflet
- H** An apology

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.

The story told in a popular Hollywood film, which was awarded several Oscars in 2008, became true on Indian TV. Sushil Kumar, an ordinary Indian young man who lives in the poorest state of the country, became famous after he, like the character of «Slumdog Millionaire», won a million dollars in a quiz show «Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?». At the age of 27 Sushil appeared to be the first winner of the show in the history of India. Working as a computer operator with a salary of about \$130 a month, he could never think of becoming a millionaire one day. The final question that led the lucky young man to the victory was: «Which colonial power sold its rights for the Nicobar Islands to Britain on the 16th of October, 1868, and thus stopped its presence in India?» Sushil's answer «Denmark» guaranteed him realisation of almost all his material wishes. In particular, as he said in his after-show interview, he was going to build a house for his family. After the show Sushil didn't waste his money. He bought a house, a scooter, a small computer and an electrical generator. Besides, he helped his brother to repay his debts and bought some jewellery for his wife. As for the rest of the money, Sushil decided to deposit it. In India most people make their living for one dollar a day and such shows are very popular among them because they give an opportunity to earn money or show talents. For many of them it's the only possibility to improve their financial situation.

22 What is stated in the text?

- A** The story of Sushil Kumar was similar to that described in the film.
- B** Sushil Kumar acted in a Hollywood film.
- C** The story of Sushil Kumar was awarded an Oscar.
- D** The story of Sushil Kumar happened in 2008.

23 What is true about Sushil Kumar?

- A** He lived in one of the US states.
- B** He never worked.
- C** He worked for less than \$150 a month.
- D** He worked as a computer operator for 27 years.

24 Which of the following isn't true?

- A** There were no Indians who had won in this show before Sushil Kumar.
- B** Sushil knew he would win.
- C** Sushil was asked some questions after the show.
- D** The question about Denmark allowed Sushil to win the game.

25 What did Sushil do with the money?

- A** He spent it to buy a lot of things for his family.
- B** He bought a house and many different useful things.
- C** He helped his brother, bought a house and gave the rest to his wife.
- D** He bought a house, spent some for his family and relatives and deposited the rest.

26 Why do the Indians like such shows?

- A** Because Sushil was the first winner of it.
- B** Because they don't like living for one dollar a day.
- C** Because it's a chance to earn money.
- D** Because they don't have many good shows.

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.

Most of the poisonous creatures on the Earth are reptiles, arachnids or sea inhabitants. Here's a rundown of the five most poisonous creatures, counting down to the winner.

27 A pale yellow scorpion which is found in the Middle East and North Africa looks translucent. Even its name is frankly terrifying. The Deathstalker is a small scorpion measuring less than 10 cm which is equipped with a nasty sting. Its lethal venom can cause a good deal of pain as well as respiratory failure. Generally the sting alone would not be sufficient to kill an adult unless the person has heart problems or allergies.

28 One of the most unassuming ocean's killers is the blue-ringed octopus. This tiny octopus, which is about the size of a golf ball, could easily sit in the palm of your hand. However, the venom from this creature can cause blindness, paralysis, respiratory failure or even death. The anti-venom of the blue-ringed octopus bite is still unknown. So, in case of severe envenomation the only treatment is to put the victims on life support until they can breathe for themselves.

29 One of the most toxic ocean creatures is the cone shell. This cone-shaped snail shell contains a creature which can deliver seriously dangerous venom. This little mollusk is armed with a hollow barbed harpoon. A single drop of its conotoxin would be able to kill twenty adults. There is no anti-venom available so anybody who gets a high dose of venom eventually dies. That's the reason why this marbled cone snail is rated as one of the most dangerous in the world.

30 Cobras objectively have a reputation of deadliness. Their typical place of living is in the jungles of India and China. They can be easily recognised by their wide hoods. The death caused by its toxin is almost instantaneous. Cobras can spit their toxin, which is immensely painful, and once it enters the blood stream it quickly leads to a lethal final. Seven millilitres of the toxin is enough to kill an elephant or twenty humans.

31 One more sea creature using its venom for hunting and defence is the box jellyfish. It floats in the waters near Asia and Australia and it is hard to notice it because it is almost transparent. There are actually a few species of the box jellyfish and they are all armed with thousands of tiny stinging cells and strong venom. The most dangerous of them has venom powerful enough to kill sixty adults. Its sting leads to increase of blood pressure and then to heart attack. In fact, box jellyfish have been responsible for many deaths and countless painful stings.

32 The Brazilian Wandering Spider or Banana Spider was registered in the Guiness Book in 2007 for being the most venomous spider. It is said to have the most neurotoxic venom of any living spider, even a drop of its venom could prove fatal to a human. The danger of this species aggravates due to its wandering nature. When the aggressive creature isn't hunting or on the move, it may hide during daytime in any highly populated place like houses or cars, which increases the chances of accidental discovery by human beings.

Which text describes a creature _____

A a victim of which has no chance to be treated in case of being stung?
B that can cause death within a very short time?
C which has been recorded as the most dangerous of the kind?
D whose name speaks for itself?
E which is almost invisible?
F which lives on palm trees?
G which can cause serious health problems in spite of its size?
H which uses its toxin to kill big animals such as bears and lions?

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.

A sweet meringue-based confection, (33)_____, is probably one of the most Instagram-looking desserts, (34)_____. The taste of macaroon is what really matters. A typical macaroon, which consists of two cookies and a jam or buttercream filling (35)_____, should be mildly moist. It should easily melt in the mouth, or (36)_____. Confectioners use eggs, white sugar and ground almond to create the dessert, and they also add food colouring in order to present macaroons in plenty of different flavours, (37)_____. In fact, there exist two methods of making a macaroon — the French method and the Italian one. The difference between them is the way of making the meringue, (38)_____ or almond powder.

- A otherwise it's not a «real» macaroon
- B which is widely known as a French macaroon
- C but both meringues are combined with ground almonds
- D sandwiched between them
- E which definitely makes them even more popular
- F though it's mainly valued for another reason
- G and served with coffee or tea
- H what helps them in creating a perfect confection

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.

A man was travelling around the world. He had visited many places and was on his way home. One day he stopped for the night in the forest and made his bed under a (39)_____ tree. That tree was a special one — it could (40)_____ dreams but the man, of course, couldn't (41)_____ of it. He was tired after his long journey and fell (42)_____ very soon. When the man woke up he was very hungry and a thought appeared in his head, «It'd be great to have something to eat.» Suddenly delicious dishes appeared in front of him. The man quickly (43)_____ his hunger and thought, «Pity there's nothing to drink. I'm thirsty.» And again his wish came true. A jug with clear water appeared immediately. After the man had quenched his thirst he thought, «Where have the dishes and the water come from? It seems like evil spirits are putting me on!» The tree did its job and (44)_____ spirits appeared at once frightening the man and making him (45)_____ with fear. The man was scared to death and kept thinking about the worst, «The evil spirits will probably kill me!» (46)_____, his thought came (47)_____. The evil spirits cracked down on him and killed the man. The moral of the story is: our thoughts can materialise. We form our life with our (48)_____ of thinking. So, try to think positively in order to become happier!

	A	B	C	D
39	spitting	spreading	sparkling	stretching
40	fulfil	make	fill up	guess
41	learn	be aware	know	inform
42	sleep	slept	sleepy	asleep
43	satisfied	suffered	supplied	saved
44	clever	busy	evil	kind

	A	B	C	D
45	chill	stress	faint	tremble
46	Certainly	However	Moreover	In addition
47	live	true	real	actual
48	trace	kind	way	type

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.

Vlogging is creating a blog which includes video content only. One (49)_____ easily understand that the word itself appeared by combining the words «video» and «blog». Everybody who (50)_____ to become a vlogger only needs a camera and internet connection. However, to share (51)_____ really worthy content, it's essential that your video is creative and concerns an interesting topic. Vloggers who gain (52)_____ great popularity have thousands of followers, that's why their profiles are often (53)_____ for advertising by different companies. This is how some vlogs can be turned into businesses for their creators.

	A	B	C	D
49	must	had to	can	could
50	wants	wanted	want	will want
51	any	some	the	more
52	a	an	the	—
53	using	use	be used	used

In 1985 a famous British comedy writer (54)_____ a comic event to raise money for the terrible famine in Ethiopia and called it Comic Relief. A charity event within this initiative is Red Nose Day, which (55)_____ once every two years. (56)_____ this day there are lots of special TV shows which viewers can call in to make a donation. People wear red noses and take part in different fun events (57)_____ money. The money raised (58)_____ used to help people living in difficult conditions in the UK and other countries.

	A	B	C	D
54	had organised	has organised	organized	organising
55	to hapen	happens	happening	is happened
56	In	At	On	For
57	to raise	raising	raised	raise
58	must	has been	are	is