

Reading 5: Items 20-23**Situation:** Read the feature story.

- (1) It is still believed by some that opening an umbrella indoors will bring bad luck. The origin of this superstition is not totally known. It is generally believed to have started in Ancient Egypt. Back then, umbrellas protected people of noble blood from the heat of the sun, not from the rain and were thought to push away spirits who might harm them. To open an umbrella inside or even in the shade would anger the god of the Sun.
- (2) Another theory states that the superstition had its roots in 18th century London, England. At that time, the inhabitants of London had umbrellas that were water-proof and extremely large in size. These umbrellas had metal spokes, and they were not convenient to open inside a building. They could cause injury to people or break objects inside a house or in a small space. Because of this, it was often recommended that one should not open up an umbrella while visiting another house as a general rule.
- (3) Some believe that bad luck does not occur if the umbrella has just been opened outdoors and then brought inside to dry. Bad luck is also associated with an umbrella if it is the color black, was received as a gift, has never been used outside in the rain, is opened on a ship, or is dropped on the floor.



20. What is the main idea of this passage?

1. The god of the Sun was highly regarded in Ancient Egypt.
2. Bad luck results from opening an umbrella inside a house.
3. There are different theories about the origin of the umbrella superstition.
4. Londoners do not generally open up their umbrellas while visiting neighbors.

21. Which information can be found in paragraph 2?

1. Londoners' life style in the 18th century
2. The exact size of an umbrella used in London
3. The difficulty of getting an umbrella in the 18th century
4. The reason why people did not open umbrellas inside London houses

22. Based on the passage, who is most likely to have bad luck?

1. Lulu, who has opened her umbrella on a ship
2. Linda, who has used her umbrella outside in the rain
3. Liz, who has dried her open umbrella inside the house
4. Lala, who has given a black umbrella to a friend

23. What can be inferred from the passage?

1. Black is considered the symbol of death.
2. In the 18th century, most houses in London were very small.
3. The god of the Sun was the most powerful god in Ancient Egypt.
4. The exact origin of the superstition about opening umbrellas indoors is likely to remain unknown.



Part Three: Writing (9 items)

Writing 1: Items 24 - 27

Directions: Choose the best word/words to complete the text below.

Dear Diary,

Yesterday I prepared myself for the charity run by having two hours of _____ (24) _____.

My mom and dad are worried about me _____ (25) _____ so much time on running and other activities. They asked me to _____ (26) _____ more attention to my studies. I understand their concern; _____ (27) _____, I have decided to focus more on my classes from now on.

24. 1. long light jogging
2. jogging light long
3. jogging long light
4. long jogging light

25. 1. spend
3. spending

2. to spend
4. to have spent

26. 1. lay
3. take

2. pay
4. put

27. 1. after
3. although

2. before
4. therefore



Writing 2: Items 28 - 32

Directions: Choose the best word/words to complete the movie review below.

I went into this film with low expectations and ____28____. What's more, this is the new standard against ____29____ I will judge all Batman films. The thriller and ____30____ elements are the strongest aspects. Each actor's ____31____ is believable, with Jeffrey Wright's the strongest for me. The portrayal of Bruce Wayne ____32____ a troubled and flawed character has never felt more real. The score and cinematography are also masterful.

28. 1. pleasantly surprise
2. pleasantly surprised
3. was pleasantly surprising
4. was pleasantly surprised

29. 1. who
2. which
3. whom
4. that

30. 1. story gothic detective
2. gothic story detective
3. gothic detective story
4. detective story gothic

31. 1. conflict
2. gratitude
3. direction
4. performance

32. 1. as
2. if
3. like
4. between

