READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage and mark the letter a, b, c, or d to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the blanks.

Reading 1:

Producing electricity from wind energy has many advantages. Firstly, it brings money into poor rural areas around the country. It creates thousands of jobs for the local people. Wind energy is an easy crop for farmers to sell. Farmers do not have to depend on water or sun to make money. Farmers can receive a lot of money from farm renting. Secondly, wind power does not produce pollutants, so the costs for health care also decrease. The American Lung Association is in favor of wind energy because it keeps the air clean and free from pollution. They also launch a Healthy Air Campaign to promote the use of wind energy.

Wind energy also keeps energy bills down for the users. It is becoming more competitive with other types of energy in terms of cost. Wind farms leave most of the farmer's land free for other uses while providing a steady income.

1. This text is about _____.

A. the disadvantages of wind energy B. the benefits of wind energy

C. the production of wind energy D. producing electricity

2. Wind energy helps the farmers_____.

A. get more jobs B. grow more crops C. earn less money D. earn more money

3. Another advantage of wind power is _____.

A. clean and safe for health B. reducing pollutants

C. cleaning the water D. cleaning the air

4. The campaign of the American Lung Association aims at _____

A. advertising the wind turbines B. supporting the growth of wind energy

C. cleaning the air D. reducing pollutants

5. The prices of wind energy is _____.

A. increasing B. decreasing C. staying the same D. reducing

Reading 2:

For hundreds of years, one remote hill in the middle of England has hosted one of the weirdest and most hazardous festivals in the world. It's the Cooper's Hill Cheese Rolling Festival. The event is held every year at the end of May. Some people believe that the festival originated from a tradition of rolling burning bundles of sticks down the hill to celebrate the end of winter. Today, the festival has grown into an international event, with over 15,000 participants and spectators from all over the world joining each year.

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The rules are simple. A large wheel of cheese is rolled down the hill, and participants chase after it. The first runner to make it to the bottom of the hill is the winner. The winner of the race is allowed to keep the cheese as a prize.

Cooper's Hill is only 200 meters long, but it is very steep. As a result, racers do not run down the hill; instead, they usually fall down the hill head over heels. This has led to a lot of accidents. For this reason, the event was officially canceled in 2010. Outraged fans have continued the event unofficially since then.

1. What is the passage mainly about?

A. Different food festivals around the world. B. An unusual and dangerous festival in England.

C. Tips for winning the race in the Cheese Rolling Festival. D. The history of the Cheese Rolling Festival.

2. What is the origin of the Cheese Rolling Festival?

A. It is held every year in May.

C. It is held to represent the birth of the New Year after winter.

B. It takes place at Cooper's Hill in Gloucestershire.

D. It comes from the tradition of rolling burning bundles of sticks down the hill.

3. The word 'outraged' in the last sentence is closest in meaning to _____.

A. upset B. pleasant C. keen D. big

4. According to the passage, which of the following is <u>true</u>?

A. All the runners in the race are from England.

B. The race is dangerous because the hill is very long.

C. Most participants cannot stay on their feet while they run down the hill.

D. The winner is the first person to catch the cheese.

5. The festival was officially canceled in 2010 due to _____.

A. a large number of participants. B. the bad weather in Gloucestershire

C. the steep slopes of Cooper's Hill. D. the dangerous aspect of the event

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