

Reading part 3

3

Read the text and the questions below. For each question, choose the correct answer.

A hotel under the sea

Want to sleep under the sea? The company Planet Ocean has plans for an exciting underwater hotel, which they hope to build in locations all over the world.

The hotel won't be large, with only 12 guest rooms, plus a restaurant. Guests will get to the hotel in a lift – so no diving or getting wet! The hotel will float 10 metres under the ocean, although it will be attached to the sea bed to prevent it from moving too far. Because it won't be very deep under the water, the sun will shine down and provide light. Guests will get great close-up views of the fish and other sea creatures, which won't be bothered by the hotel and so won't make any effort to avoid it.

The hotel's design, with clear plastic walls, means guests will be able to see the sea and all the creatures that live there around, above and below them in their rooms. They will almost get the feeling that they are swimming in the ocean. The luxury rooms will have a shower, TV and even the internet. The restaurant will serve high-

quality meals. As you might expect, Planet Ocean want to encourage people to eat less fish, so guests won't find any on the menu. What's more surprising is that the atmosphere will be silent, so guests will have to imagine the sound of the ocean around them.

The hotel won't be cheap to build and it won't be cheap to stay in. But the designers are especially proud of the fact that it will be environmentally friendly. It will use electricity, of course, but it will produce its own, and won't disturb ocean life at all. In fact, the designers hope some sea creatures will build their homes on parts of the building, which will bring real benefits to the underwater world.

Planet Ocean's future designs include a moving hotel. It perhaps sounds like this will work in the same way as a cruise ship, but this is not the case. In fact, rather than moving between continents and countries, it will stay within a single country's waters, but only occasionally change positions around its coast.

- 1 What do we learn about the hotel?
 - A Guests will have to swim down to get to it.
 - B Its lights will shine into the sea so guests can see the fish.
 - C It will only have a small number of rooms.
 - D Fish and other sea creatures will be scared of it.
- 2 What might guests find strange about staying at the hotel?
 - A swimming from their rooms into the ocean
 - B having ocean life in their room
 - C enjoying a meal of freshly caught fish
 - D being unable to hear the ocean
- 3 What is the best thing about the hotel, according to the designers?
 - A It won't cost much to build.
 - B It won't use much electricity.
 - C It won't cause any damage to the environment.
 - D Fish and other sea creatures won't come very close to it.

- 4 Planet Ocean's moving hotel will
- A rarely move from one site to another.
 - B travel between various countries.
 - C be similar to a type of cruise ship.
 - D remain close to the coast of each continent.

5 What might a guest in this hotel say?

A

It's very expensive, but the facilities are quite basic and the windows are too small to see outside.

C

Seeing the fish up close is amazing, but it's a shame that the hotel disturbs sea life.

B

It's great to stay in such a beautiful hotel that is also good for the planet.

D

It's a great idea, and I love the fact that it can move around and travel to different locations.

2

Read the text and the questions below. For each question, choose the correct answer.

The price of a perfect holiday?

Cruises are becoming more and more popular, with around 20 million passengers per year now enjoying holidays on board luxury ships. Many people see a cruise as the perfect way to sit back and do nothing, and enjoy time off work. Everything you could possibly need is within easy reach. On board, there are shops, theatres, cinemas, swimming pools and leisure centres. There are more facilities, in fact, than most towns offer their residents. It's therefore easy to see why they are so popular. But what is the effect on the environment of this trend?

Although it usually takes less energy for a vehicle to move through water than over land, cruise ships are often huge, with the biggest ones carrying up to 6,000 passengers. Moving such large vehicles requires enormous engines, which burn as much as 300,000 litres of fuel a day. One scientist has calculated that cruise ships create as much pollution as 5 million cars going over the same distance. Because they are out at sea, they also burn dirtier fuel that isn't allowed

on land. Unfortunately, no government has control over the amount of air pollution out at sea.

Cruises also produce huge amounts of rubbish, and cruise ships aren't usually good at recycling. Waste water from showers and toilets is usually poured directly into the sea – as much per day as from a small town. Waste food from restaurants isn't put into the sea, but still causes problems when brought back to the land.

Cruise ships also cause difficulties in the cities where they stop. Popular destinations can get five or six ships per day, with thousands of tourists at a time. Good for restaurants? No. Restaurant owners complain that the visitors look around for a few hours and then return to their ship to eat. What's more, the crowds can put off other tourists, who complain that the streets are too busy. Some towns have banned cruise ships or put a limit on the number that can stop at the same time. People who care about the environment worry that as the cruise industry continues to grow, so too will the issues for our planet.

- 1** What is the writer trying to do in paragraph 1?
- A** persuade people to go on cruise ships
 - B** explain why cruise ships have become so popular
 - C** compare cruise ships with a typical holiday resort
 - D** describe how the services cruise ships offer have changed
- 2** One reason cruise ships cause a lot of air pollution is because
- A** they carry large numbers of cars as well as passengers.
 - B** their engines are not as efficient as those of other ships.
 - C** it takes more energy to move through water than over land.
 - D** they use types of fuel that are not permitted on land.
- 3** What do we learn about the waste products on cruise ships?
- A** All the waste products are carried back to shore.
 - B** Waste food is often thrown away at sea.
 - C** Most cruise ships recycle their waste products.
 - D** An enormous amount of the waste water isn't recycled.
- 4** How do some people feel about the cruise ship passengers who visit their cities?
- A** surprised that they are rude to other tourists
 - B** annoyed that they don't spend money on meals
 - C** happy that they fill up all the restaurants
 - D** pleased to see so many visitors to the city
- 5** Which best describes large cruise ships?
- A** They seem to offer ideal relaxing holidays, but they aren't environmentally friendly.
 - B** They are becoming very popular and they bring a lot of benefits, in spite of their problems.
 - C** They used to cause a lot of pollution, but things are improving now.
 - D** They cause pollution in the sea and on land, so cities are planning to ban them in the future.

Read the text and the questions below. For each question, choose the correct answer.

Athletics in Jamaica

Jamaica has produced some of the world's best athletes, including stars such as Usain Bolt and Veronica Campbell-Brown. Is this success partly due to one event – the Jamaica Schools' Championships?

The four-day Championships have taken place every year since 1910. Nearly 200 school students take part in front of an audience of over 30,000 people. The event is also shown on live TV, and the whole country watches what is sometimes called Jamaica's mini-Olympics. The competitors take it very seriously, and they all want to win. Classmates and former students also come to support and encourage their schools.

School coach Dwayne Simpson has trained many young stars. He believes the Championships have an important role in the development of young athletes. They are the biggest schools' competition in the world, he says, and other countries are now looking to copy them. He also believes that the Championships give young athletes a reason to practise. They want to do well for their school, so

they work and train together as a team, so they produce better results.

The Championships have turned many young students into stars, but those who are most talented as adults don't always win as young teenagers. Olympic gold medallist Usain Bolt, for example, failed to win a single race at the Championships as an under-15 runner. Olympic champion Veronica Campbell-Brown was always easily beaten in the lower-age groups before finally winning as an older student.

Nathaniel Day, a young runner from Britain, has studied and trained in Jamaica for the last two years. 'Young athletes here get experience of being on TV from the age of 12,' he says, 'so when they're older, they aren't scared of big occasions and they perform well. In the UK, athletes don't perform in front of the cameras until they're adults, and sometimes they find it hard to deal with.' According to Nathaniel, the Championships also give young athletes a goal. 'Because it's such a big event, it gives them an idea of how exciting it is to perform in an Olympic stadium. It helps them develop the ambition to become champions.'

- 1 What does the text say about the Championships?
 - A Thirty thousand people watch them on TV.
 - B Young athletes take part just to have fun.
 - C They started over 100 years ago.
 - D Some former students take part.

- 2 What does Dwayne Simpson say about the Championships?
- A Other countries should try to hold a similar competition.
 - B They have grown too big in recent years.
 - C They encourage young athletes to do their best.
 - D Schools are always keen to do well.
- 3 In paragraph 4, what does the writer say about Jamaica's Olympic champions?
- A They could beat even the oldest students in some races.
 - B They occasionally lost races, but only to much older students.
 - C They tried much harder after losing all their races as teenagers.
 - D They took time to develop into world-class athletes.
- 4 According to Nathaniel Day, the event
- A helps young athletes get used to being filmed.
 - B is more exciting than the Olympics.
 - C makes some young athletes feel nervous of big occasions.
 - D is hard for some young competitors to deal with.

- 5 Which best describes the Jamaica Schools' Championships?

A It's an international competition which prepares young athletes for the Olympics.

B It's an important event which helps young athletes to improve.

C It's a huge social event which brings people together to have fun.

D It's a local event which gives young athletes the chance to perform in a relaxed atmosphere.