

NMT Practice 8

Reading

Task 1

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (1–5). There are three choices you do not need to use

1

Murlough National Nature Reserve County Down

A beautiful coastline for a summer
outdoor adventure
Murlough south end nature walk



Route details

Time 1 hour 15 mins

Distance 3 miles (4.8 km)

2

Sissinghurst Idyllic Holiday

How about exploring
the world-famous Sissinghurst Castle Gardens
with no other visitors in sight?
Book a stay at one of our unique holiday cottages
and enjoy exclusive access to special places.

- **Sleeps** 8
- **Bedrooms** 4
- **Preferred changeover day** Saturday
- **Minimum stay** 3 nights
- **Number of dogs welcome** 1

3

Agatha Christie's most cherished objects at Greenway

Greenway in Devon was Agatha Christie's
family beloved holiday home.

We display some of the most marvellous
and mysterious of
the family's treasures including over
12,000 fabulous objects.

**Open Tuesday thru Sunday 10am–
4pm**

4

Call State to State

in less than ten cents per minute!

There are never any minimums,
monthly fees,
or risky credit card sign-ups.

Sign up today and receive
60 minutes' free calling
on a calling card.
Call 1-800-438-7964
and begin saving on
all of your long distance calls today!

5

Wherever you're stuck

Emergency car service is now a free-
phone call away. 1-800-TOW-TRUCK
is the only phone number you need
for quick, professional, friendly help
anywhere in America, 24 hours a day.
1-800-TOW-TRUCK service is covered
by most insurance companies
and auto clubs.

Wherever you're stuck
1-800-TOW-TRUCK

Which advertisement is about ____?

- A** on-road assistance
- B** car racing
- C** a literary festival
- D** information service
- E** a hiking tour
- F** a guest house
- G** a private collection
- H** a telecom provider

Task 2

Read the text below. For questions (6-10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D)

Cabinet Office Chief Mouser

Larry the cat currently holds the official role of chief mouser to the Cabinet Office, a position that's said to date back hundreds of years.

Prime Minister David Cameron was responsible for bringing Larry to Downing Street in 2011. The four-year-old cat was a rescue who came from a dogs and cats home. Though Larry was thought to have a strong hunting instinct, it wasn't until two months into his period of office that he started showing Downing Street's mice that he meant business. As *The Guardian* reported in April 2011, Larry "preferred hanging out in the corridors of power to walking in the grass" and the building's staff was forced to train the cat "by giving him a toy mouse to play with when he failed to catch any mice for two months." Finally, "Larry appeared through a window from the Downing Street garden with a mouse in his mouth." Ever since Larry has continued his duties between daily cat naps.

On Larry's first day on the job, *ITV News* reporter Lucy Manning paid a visit to 10 Downing Street. Such attention was a new thing for Larry at the time, and he didn't immediately like it. Instead, he lashed out and scratched Manning on the arm four times, then hid under a table and refused to come out.

In a 2016 interview with *the Sunday Times*, Prime Minister Theresa May noted there were parts of Number 10 where Larry has certain seats where he expects to sit on. However, her own office chair was not one of them.

During American President Donald Trump's June 2019 visit to 10 Downing Street, Larry – who is allowed outside – decided to hang out under Trump's limousine (nicknamed "the Beast") to take shelter from the rain ... and reportedly wouldn't move, which pulled up Trump's departure. He did eventually walk off (hopefully in search of mice). Earlier that day the cat was about to disrupt the photo session of Trump and Prime Minister Theresa May in front of 10 Downing Street.

On the whole, Larry is likely to be most interested in the ongoing territory war between him and Palmerston, the Foreign Office cat. In 2016, Palmerston, named after 19th-century Prime Minister Lord Palmerston, was hired as the Foreign & Commonwealth Office's Chief Mouser. Like Larry, Palmerston used to be a stray. Soon after Palmerston moved in, the cats had a couple of rows, including a major one in August 2016, during which they "*were at each other hammer and tongs*," according to witnesses. Larry lost his collar in the battle and messed up Palmerston's ear as they "*literally ripped fur off each other*." The territory war was so bad that police had to step in, and Larry had to be taken to a vet clinic.

Larry is now so famous that he has published his own diaries (with help from author James Robinson), has his own picture gallery and newspaper cartoon and was mentioned by David Cameron in his resignation speech. Besides, Larry has an impressive 136,000 subscribers on Twitter, has inspired a book, and now a competition for the best poem about him.

- 6 How did Larry appear at 10 Downing Street?
- A Larry was rescued when attacked by stray dogs.
 - B Larry was taken from a pet shelter several years ago.
 - C Larry was given to the Cabinet Office as a present.
 - D Larry came in through a window four years ago.
- 7 How did Larry start his career as a chief mouser?
- A He caught a mouse under the table.
 - B He occupied the Prime Minister's seat.
 - C He injured a media representative.
 - D He hit the national media headlines.
- 8 Which of the following is **TRUE** according to the text?
- A Larry received a nickname from President Trump.
 - B Larry interfered with President Trump's leaving.
 - C Larry searched for mice under President Trump's car.
 - D Larry was present in a photo with President Trump.
- 9 What is **NOT TRUE** about Palmerston?
- A He got the name of a British statesperson.
 - B He was homeless before appearing in the Office.
 - C He had regular violent fights with Larry.
 - D He was taken to the veterinarian by the police.
- 10 What is the evidence of Larry's popularity?
- A The cartoon about Larry won a national competition.
 - B James Robinson writes Larry's personal newspaper column.
 - C David Cameron himself opened Larry's picture gallery.
 - D Larry enjoys lots of followers in social networking.

Task 3

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (11-16). There are two choices you do not need to use

11

Edinburgh Castle

Located on an extinct volcano is the powerful Scottish symbol of Edinburgh Castle. It captivates visitors with so much to see in its ancient buildings and panoramic views of the city. See the room where the future King James, son of Mary, Queen of Scots, was born, or the Honours of Scotland, also known as the Scottish Crown Jewels, which are among the oldest in Europe, and the Stone of Destiny, the ancient coronation seat of Scotland's Kings. Witness the firing of the One o'clock gun which has become an Edinburgh tradition since 1861.

12

Windsor Castle

The magnificent Windsor Castle is the Queen's favoured weekend residence. Visit the castle's luxurious apartments, decorated with priceless historical artworks. Step inside the stunning St. George's Chapel, burial place of 10 monarchs and many aristocrats. View Queen Mary's incredible Dolls' House, which features miniature versions of decorations from Windsor Castle. The Dolls' House took over 3 years and 1,500 craftsmen to complete, and even features electric lighting and toilets. Summer visitors can enjoy the famous Changing of the Guard ceremony.

13

Hampton Court Palace

Hampton Court Palace is one of just two surviving palaces owned by one of England's most famous kings, Henry VIII. The palace welcomes over half a million visitors every year, drawn not only by the wealth of royal history, but also by the well-groomed riverside gardens, the royal parkland surrounding the palace. And of course, you must visit the famous Hampton Court Palace maze, in whose confusing passages it is so easy to get lost. Another highlight of any visit to Hampton Court Palace is the Chapel Royal.

14

Kensington Palace

This beautiful 17th century palace in West London is famous as the home of Princess Diana. Take the time to see the King's Staircase and the King's State Apartments with the fabulous murals along the staircase. Kensington Palace is the perfect venue for a special exhibition of some of the most iconic dresses worn over the decades by prominent royals including Her Majesty The Queen, Princess Diana and Princess Margaret. The exhibition is a wonderful illustration of how styles have changed over time, and how members of the royal family both set the trends and mirrored the trends of the era.

15

The Palace of Holyroodhouse

Open throughout the year, the Palace of Holyroodhouse is the official residence in Scotland of Her Majesty The Queen. It stands at the end of Edinburgh's Royal Mile against the spectacular backdrop of Arthur's Seat. One of the most important highlights of the Palace is the Great Gallery. It is the largest room in the Palace and is decorated with 96 paintings of the Royal House. Today the hall is used regularly by Queen Elizabeth for State ceremonies and official entertaining. In the oldest part of the palace, visitors can climb the tower where Mary, Queen of Scots, lived in the royal apartments.

16

Bamburgh Castle

A coastal castle with spectacular views is the king of castles. It has evolved from a wooden palisade to the fortress it is today. Bamburgh is one of the largest inhabited castles in the country. It is still owned by the Armstrong Family, who opened it up to visitors in the 1900's, and remains to this day an icon of the North East of England. Fourteen rooms house a magnificent collection of china, porcelain, artwork and armour. It was also one of the world's first "coastguard" stations and the site for the development and testing of the world's first "lifeboat".

Which of the places _____?

- A** displays fashionable clothes of different periods
- B** gives a chance to find a way through a labyrinth
- C** is a birthplace of a royal member
- D** has been used for military purposes until now
- E** serves as a venue for formal receptions
- F** is located on the seashore
- G** is badly damaged by gun fire
- H** has a toy building with copies of real objects

Task 4

Read the text below. Choose from (A–H) the one which best fits each space (17-22). There are two choices you do not need to use

The conservation movement – the protection of natural resources and wildlife – was first formulated and implemented (17) _____. That this happened relatively early, during Theodore Roosevelt’s administration (1901–1909), meant that later generations of Americans could still enjoy their country’s natural wonders.

It was very difficult for many Americans to believe that their continent-sized nation with its enormous forests, thousands of lakes, and vast wilderness areas could have the problems which many smaller and more crowded nations faced. True, Los Angeles obviously had a problem with air pollution, but there was still nothing anywhere like the “killer smog” (18) _____. Similarly, the U.S. had such enormous resources, (19) _____ that they could ever be exhausted.

Starting in the early 1960s, however, Americans finally realized that the U.S. was in danger of destroying many of its national treasures. A good example of this is (20) _____, the shallowest of the Great Lakes. Industrial wastes, chemicals, and fertilizers were endangering the once enormous stocks of fish. Suddenly, it seemed, the lake was almost “dead”, and the millions who used its sandy beaches and fished its waters were shocked (21) _____.

Public attention to the problems of pollution has now become part of American life. Even the familiar Coca Cola can has been affected. Today, by law, these cans must be made so (22) _____.

- A as a political program in the United States
- B that the rings on top can’t be thrown away
- C that it was hard to imagine
- D that the environment will be spoiled
- E which caused some 3,500–4,000 deaths in London in December 1952
- F that this could have happened
- G what was happening to Lake Erie
- H what most people need to know

Task 5

Read the text below. For question (23-27) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D)

Roald Dahl's Adventures

When Roald was sixteen, he decided to go off on his own to holiday in France. He (23) _____ the Channel from Dover to Calais with £24 in his pocket (a lot of money in 1933). Roald wanted to see the Mediterranean Sea, so he took the train first to Paris, then to Marseilles where he (24) _____ a bus that went all the way along the coastal road towards Monte Carlo. He finished up at a place called St Jean Cap Ferrat and (25) _____ there for ten days.

He travelled back home the same way but, by the time he reached Dover, he had (26) _____ no money left. Luckily a fellow passenger gave him ten shillings for his tram (27) _____ home. Roald never forgot this kindness and generosity.

23	A	swam	B	crossed	C	went	D	left
24	A	got on	B	took off	C	came in	D	put on
25	A	stood	B	spent	C	sat	D	stayed
26	A	absolutely	B	definitely	C	certainly	D	hardly
27	A	fare	B	fee	C	payment	D	money

Task 6

Read the text below. For questions (28-32) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D)

Online shoppers in the United Kingdom make 87 percent of their purchases online. That's an increase of almost 9 percent compared to the situation last year, when 80 percent of purchases was conducted online. Consumers in the UK keep (28) _____ shops and price comparison websites online so they can get the best deals and prices. The fact they can (29) _____ compare prices and the wider choice of products are the most important reasons why UK consumers go and shop online instead of buying things in-store.

The study has also found that (30) _____ consumers in the United Kingdom shop online, the laptop is the device most commonly (31) _____ in the evening, while smartphones are used more at all (32) _____ times of the day. Currently, 78 percent of Brits use their mobile phone for online shopping when they are travelling or commuting.

28	A	browsing	B	browse	C	to browse	D	to be browsing
29	A	easy	B	easiest	C	easier	D	easily
30	A	what	B	when	C	why	D	which
31	A	used	B	is used	C	are used	D	have used
32	A	the others	B	other	C	another	D	others