

Variant 1

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

1. The most popular countries for Americans to visit are England and Italy. TRUE
- 2 Philip's experience before his current job was travelling to Turkey with a tour group. FALSE
- 3 The speaker had no travel experience before getting his job. FALSE
- 4 The speaker thinks the company made getting the job much too easy for him. FALSE
- 5 You cannot be a successful travel guide if you are timid and shy. TRUE
- 6 Getting a job with Philip's firm is a three-step process. FALSE
- 7 The speaker says the most important quality for a travel guide is to be interested in the people you travel with. TRUE
- 8 It is difficult to get a job as an American tour guide because many young people want a job that lets them travel. TRUE
- 9 Philip says that one difficulty of his job is that when working he has too much time off. FALSE
- 10 A tour guide can be responsible for up to fifty people at a time. TRUE

2. Complete the sentences with the correct words from the box.

In the Chinese zodiac, rats (1) are considered witty, imaginative and curious. Now scientists (2) have discovered another attribute.

They have (3) found that rats can be helpful. The (4) researchers placed a free-roaming rat in an arena with a caged rat. In a few days, the free rat realized it (5) could push the door open and release the caged rat.

After figuring this out, it did so (6) repeatedly day after day.

They then did (7) what we refer to as a celebration. The trapped rat was (8) running around the arena, and the free rat ran (9) after the trapped rat..

There was also a (10) difference in the behaviour of male rats and female rats.

Variant 2

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The article says it is important for parents to agree that you are old enough to have a pet. TRUE
- 2 Dogs make good pets when you live in a small flat. FALSE
- 3 When choosing a pet shop, choose one with a knowledgeable staff who can give you information about the pets. TRUE
- 4 It is better to buy a fully-grown animal than a young one. FALSE
- 5 A hamster's cage must be big enough to allow your hamster to move around. TRUE
- 6 A hamster sleeps in wood shavings. TRUE
- 7 The article says that it is very important to make sure your hamster has water. TRUE
- 8 A hamster will consider chips and crackers a good treat. FALSE
- 9 You should clean your hamster's cage every year. FALSE
- 10 The article recommends that you bring your hamster home for a visit to be sure it will be happy in your flat. FALSE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

There was once a poor man, who lived in a house next to a wealthy merchant (1) who sold oil and honey. As the merchant was a kind neighbour, he one day sent a (2) bottle of oil to the poor man. The poor man was (3) delighted and put it carefully away on the top shelf.

One evening, (4) as he was looking at it, he said half aloud, «I wonder how (5) many oil there is in that bottle. There is a large quantity. If I should sell it, I could buy five sheep. Every year I should have (6) lambs, and before long I should own a flock. Then. I should sell some of the sheep, and be (7) rich enough to marry a wife. Perhaps we might have a son. And (8) what a fine boy he would be! So tall, strong and (9) obedient! But if he should disobey me,» and he raised the staff which he held in his hand, «I should punish him thus!»

And he swung the staff over his head and brought it heavily to the ground, knocking, as he did so, the bottle (10) off the shelf so that the oil ran over him from head to foot.

Variant 3

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 A small boy wanted to buy a hamster. FALSE
- 2 The money the boy had was not enough to buy a puppy. TRUE
- 3 Lady was the mother of the puppies. TRUE
- 4 The puppies were small and puffy. TRUE
- 5 One puppy couldn't hear well. FALSE
- 6 The little boy wanted the puppy that limped. TRUE
- 7 The store owner presented the puppy to the boy. TRUE
- 8 The boy insisted on paying the full price for the puppy. TRUE
- 9 The boy needed a puppy to run and jump and play with him. FALSE
- 10 The boy had a damaged leg so he believed he could become a good friend to the puppy. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

A Museum Fit for a King

Located on (1) the Seine River in the heart of Paris, the Louvre is (2) the biggest art museum in the world. It has seven major areas, (3) more than one hundred different rooms, and (4) nearly 300,000 items in (5) its collection.

The Louvre is (6) made up of several different buildings that (7) were added over many centuries. The very first section, built more than eight hundred years ago, was originally (8) used as a fortress to protect Paris from the Vikings. Within a hundred years, King Charles V had turned one of the towers into a library. (9) During his reign, "King Henry" IV added a huge section called the Grande Galerie. After the French Revolution, the art in the Louvre was available for everyone to enjoy. The museum opened to the public for the first time (10) on November 8, 1793.

Today, the Louvre is owned and operated by the French government.

Variant 4

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The author sets his piece in an African country. TRUE
- 2 In this context the word pen means shed for cattle. TRUE
- 3 Lions hunt only in the daytime. FALSE
- 4 The lioness successfully captured her prey. FALSE
- 5 The cubs depend only on the male lion. FALSE
- 6 The lioness feeds the cow to her hungry cubs. FALSE
- 7 The lioness cannot stay long with her cubs. TRUE
- 8 Herders kill lions for sport. FALSE
- 9 Livestock means farm animals. TRUE
- 10 Livestock is used as currency among the Kenian people. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

The Earth from Above: the Role of Satellite Photography

Deserts are dry, desolate places where water is extremely rare and precious. It

(1) seldom rains, and the rain never lasts long, so the only plants and animals that live in the desert are those that, are able to conserve water.

Not many people live in the desert. Those who do live near water. Almost all of the 60 million people in Egypt live (2) along the Nile River. In satellite pictures, the agricultural land hugging the Nile River looks like a green ribbon winding through the dry Sahara Desert.

In some places near the equator, rain falls year-round. The warm temperatures and (3) fine weather result in lush tropical rainforests in Central and South America, Africa and Asia.

There are more species of animals and plants in the rainforests than anywhere else on Earth — so many that most have not even been (4) named. People living in the forests and, more recently, scientists have learned that many of the exotic plants are valuable. Some of them are sources of food and others are sources of important medicines.

In some parts of the world, the rainforests, are in danger. (5) Because satellite pictures show rainforest destruction very clearly, they are being used to monitor this huge jungle. Even a rainforest the size of the Amazon can be photographed in only a few hours by a satellite.

{By Sally Ride, American astronaut}

Variant 5

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

1 From the text we can say when the story takes place. TRUE

2 Callao harbour was deserted. FALSE

3 There was a large pile of fruit baskets and boxes on the deck of the raft. TRUE

4 Herman was sitting on the heap. TRUE

5 There was a red parrot in the cage. FALSE

6 Herman wanted to go ashore, but was afraid the boat would arrive soon. FALSE

7 The motorboat that arrived was full of officers and sailors. TRUE

8 The officers didn't speak English. TRUE

9 The parrot opened its cage and got out. TRUE

10 The parrot said some words in Spanish. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

Dear friends,

Being here is such a rich experience, it's hard to stop talking about it — and harder still to know where to start. When we got (1) off the plane in the capital it was so hot I thought there must be some humidity alert. However, I was wrong, of course; it was actually unseasonably cool that day, as I now realize.

Those were the days, though, when we couldn't get (2) enough of this place. The people were the friendliest people on earth, and nothing we did seemed to disturb them. After a while that changed, of course, and it began to dawn on us that one or two things about our culture appeared to be different from theirs, and that probably we shouldn't be quite so sure we weren't disturbing the locals, since maybe they didn't express their (3) view the same way we did!

Training is now less pressing than at the beginning, though during those early weeks I remember it was very intense; and we were so incredibly busy all the time that we couldn't wait for it to get over. On the other (4) hand, we were scared to death that one day it would be over, and we would have to say goodbye and go out and start to work.

And it did come to an end. The last three months, we have been learning language and training for our future work positions. Now we can start what we set out to do: our jobs. I start working next week and I will tell you more after I have finished some work. I hope to (5) hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Amy

Variant 6

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The flowers were in full bloom on that day. TRUE
- 2 The people of the village began to gather around the post office and the riverbank. FALSE
- 3 The lottery didn't start exactly at ten o'clock. FALSE
- 4 The lottery in the village took two days. FALSE
- 5 There were not many people in the village, and that allowed the lottery to go quickly. TRUE
- 6 The lottery was held in one of the classrooms of the local school. FALSE
- 7 The women began gathering for the lottery before the men. FALSE
- 8 The women wore old dresses and warm sweaters. TRUE
- 9 The men were speaking about work on the farm and weather. TRUE
- 10 The children came as soon as their mothers called them. FALSE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

- 1 people
- 2 heart
- 3 reserved
- 4 conversation
- 5 Lastly



Variant 7

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 Before movies, Americans got their entertainment from radio shows. TRUE
- 2 Programmes for children and comedy shows were broadcast on the radio in the 1920s. TRUE
- 3 All types of movies were presented in the 1920s except Bible stories. FALSE
- 4 Two big changes in movies since the 1920s are music and sound. FALSE
- 5 Two big changes in movies since the 1920s are sound and colour. TRUE
- 6 When one character throws a pie in the face of another, it is an example of slapstick. TRUE
- 7 When characters hit each other in the face with pies, it is an example of a silent movie. FALSE
- 8 Charlie Chaplin got famous after the role of a poor funny little man. TRUE
- 9 The audience loved «the Little Tramp», because he made them laugh. TRUE
- 10 «The Little Tramp» was successful because he was always lucky. FALSE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

The cake is home-made, decorated with «Happy Birthday Sophie» in red icing. We gather (1) around the 4 year-old and sing the birthday song. Cake comes (2) with assorted flavours of ice cream. Sophie's friend Duncan grabs from (3) another little guest's plate, and the adults make them share. When it's finally time to (4) open gifts, Sophie's (5) too tired to care. Sophie's not a party animal, (6) but she is a dog, as are Duncan and half the guests at the feast arranged (7) by Doggie Heaven, a Seattle bakery and boutique for dogs. I'm visiting my hometown after several years of living in Hong Kong, and I'm (8) stunned by the contrast. In parts of Asia, many people still (9) prefer to cook a dog (10) than pet it. But in America, a dog is man's best-friend.

Variant 8

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The main character in the story was kind and good-natured. FALSE
- 2 His father gave him a bag of nails in order to build a fence. FALSE
- 3 First, the boy drove many nails into the fence. TRUE
- 4 Driving nails into the fence taught the boy to control his anger. TRUE
- 5 For the boy it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence. TRUE
- 6 Finally the day came when there were no nails left. TRUE
- 7 The boy was told to pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper.
TRUE
- 8 The nails left holes in the fence. TRUE
- 9 The father wanted the boy to repair the fence. FALSE
- 10 Using the example of the fence the father wanted to demonstrate that words can be as painful as a knife. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

- 1 do
- 2 hard
- 3 race
- 4 aim
- 5 have won

Variant 9

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The mule in the story was young and strong. FALSE
- 2 The farmer wanted to help the mule, but didn't know how to do it. FALSE
- 3 The farmer had made a decision to leave the mule in the well. TRUE
- 4 The neighbours came to help the farmer to pull out the mule. FALSE
- 5 First the mule was in despair. TRUE
- 6 The mule quickly realized how he could step up. TRUE
- 7 The old mule couldn't get rid of panic. FALSE
- 8 It was a hard and often painful job of shaking the dirt off and stepping up. TRUE
- 9 The mule managed to change the situation in his favour. TRUE
- 10 The moral of the story is: life is impossible without problems. FALSE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

Author J. K. Rowling is open to the possibility that she may write (1) another Harry Potter book. Or maybe even (2) a few more. That's what she (3) told talk show host Oprah Winfrey in an interview recently.

The Harry Potter series beginning with Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone and ending with (4) the seventh novel, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, (5) brought Rowling international fame. More (6) than 400 million books (7) have been sold worldwide. The series also made her one of the richest (8) women in Britain, according to Forbes magazine. So (9) will we see another Harry Potter novel in the very near future? Probably not very soon. Rowling says she's moved on to a new phase in her writing. In the meantime, kids can always close their eyes, wave a wand... and (10) make a wish.

Variant 10

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The house the little girl lived in seemed small and ordinary. TRUE
- 2 The house the girl liked was situated next to her house. FALSE
- 3 The house of the girl's dream had a golden roof. FALSE
- 4 The girl had a loving family. TRUE
- 5 The girl was allowed to go outside the garden fence when she left school. FALSE
- 6 The girl rode her bike across the valley to meet her friend. FALSE
- 7 When the girl saw the house, she was disappointed. TRUE
- 8 Nobody lived in that house! TRUE
- 9 The girl came inside the house. FALSE
- 10 The girl was surprised by how her own house looked. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

«Mardi Gras» is (1) the French for «Fat Tuesday». Perhaps the city most famous for its Mardi Gras celebrations is Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Carnival is an important celebration in (2) part of Europe including Nice, France and Venice, Italy. It is only in Ireland and the United Kingdom where the festival is called Shrove Tuesday (3) instead of Mardi Gras and pancakes are the tradition.

In Brazil, the Carnival-celebrations (4) occur in Recife, Salvador and Rio de Janeiro. Thousands of people from (5) across Brazil and around the world come to attend the festivities.

Venice is home to one of the most famous Carnival celebrations in the world, in (6) addition to one of the oldest. The Carnival of Venice was (7) first recorded in 1268. It was not until a modern mask shop was founded in the 1980s that Carnival enjoyed a (8) revival.

In Nice Carnival became famous when Charles II began taking his holidays in Nice. All that was required to take (9) parades was a costume and a mask. The city of Nice still celebrates Mardi Gras with (10) most of flower-covered floats and brilliant night-time light displays.

Variant 11

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The millionaire in this story was blind. FALSE
- 2 He didn't do what doctors told him to. FALSE
- 3 At last he invited a monk as a medical expert. TRUE
- 4 The monk's advice was to look at green objects. TRUE
- 5 The millionaire invited painters to paint the house in different colours. FALSE
- 6 The monk came to the millionaire wearing green. FALSE
- 7 The monk poured green paint on the servants. FALSE
- 8 The monk said he didn't actually mean to paint everything green. TRUE
- 9 The millionaire bought a pair of green spectacles in order to see the world green. FALSE
- 10 According to the moral of the story, the world starts changing after our attitude to a situation is changed. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the box.

New York is an invisible city, a chameleon hiding in plain sight, a place that two people will never experience in quite the (1) same way. (2) Despite this, it is — like all great cities — constantly being explored, examined, and explained.

But New York moves (3) too fast to be easily understood. Just when you think you understand (4) it, the city dances away, changed. New immigrants (5) arrive transforming entire neighbourhoods of the city. Rents go up, buildings come down, and stable businesses disappear only to be replaced by new industries that were unimaginable just a few months (6) earlier.

But even more powerful than the changes caused (7) by time are the changes caused by place, by ethnicity, by character. New York is a vision embraced by many people personally, each, unlike any other.

Which New York you see depends on who you are and (8) where you live: my New York is not, and never will be, (9) yours.

But while we may not be able to live in all of these intersecting cities, (10) visiting them is a definite possibility.

Variant 12

1. Read the text and choose the correct item.

1. The author retired because he was...
b) tired.
2. The phrase making retirement possible means...
c) the author earned enough money to live on.
3. The author of the story was a...
b) writer.
4. The author had...
b) heart trouble.
5. The text prompts that the writer is...
a) successful.
6. ... advised him to write a new book.
a) The author's wife

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

Alysia's sitting room is a beautiful room, very feminine and done in good taste. Upstage left is a large bay (1) window, from it, one can view a large tree with a birdhouse of unusual size and shape. The room faces south, so it is flooded with light. To the right is a door leading to the kitchen; there is another door leading to the bedroom. Downstage left is a door leading outside.

When the curtain rises, Alysia is sitting on the floor. It is before dawn, but a minute or so after the curtain rises, (2) light begins to fill the room. Alysia is cleaning the sitting-room carpet, an unusual task for this hour. She uses a (3) piece of cloth with quick movements, rinses and continues rubbing the carpet. (4) After a while, she stares at the cloth in her hand, drops it, raising herself to her knees, and then covers her face with her hands. She sits back on the floor leaning her head against a chair, looking (5) helpless and lost. She is sobbing quietly. Then she stares at the new streaming light from the window. The sound of a milk bell interrupts the silence. When she hears it, she jumps up, looks desperately about the room, wipes the traces of tears from her eyes and goes to the window and looks out.

Variant 13

1. Read the text and choose the correct item.

1. The narrator was...
c) unconscious.
2. Derek could see, nothing because...
c) he was too weak to come to himself.
3. Mr Armstrong was...
b) Derek.
4. When Derek managed to raise the corner of his eyelid he saw...
b) a person wearing a white coat.
5. Derek didn't answer the questions because...
a) he became unconscious again.
6. The narrator couldn't...
a) move.

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

Cultures are divided into «low-context» and «high-context». In low-context cultures (1) such as North America, Britain, Sweden and Germany, people say things very plainly, and rely on clear verbal communication. High-context cultures such as France, Japan, Spain, Saudi Arabia, China and South Korea often use silence or (2) hand signals to communicate.

Shaking hands is often the most common form of (3) greeting people, but even this can create problems. In Japan, people bow to each other. In England, people shake hands firmly while in Italy and France people shake hands all the time but not as firmly as the English.

People from «low-context» cultures, tend to (4) look into other people's eyes, but in «high-context» cultures such as China and Japan, this can be interpreted as aggressive behaviour.

One thing that the British and the Americans do share when meeting each other, however, is the desire to break the ice by making a joke.

Cultures and peoples vary so much, though, that it is impossible to please all of the people all of the time. The best thing you can do under these confusing circumstances is to be polite to (5) everyone you meet.

Variant 14

1. Read the text and mark the following statements. «True» or «False».

- 1 The story happened long ago. TRUE
- 2 The King ordered his servants to place a huge stone on a roadway. FALSE
- 3 The King was watching the road from a shelter. TRUE
- 4 Most people of the kingdom ignored the stone. TRUE
- 5 No one blamed the King for not keeping the roads clear. FALSE
- 6 The peasant was carrying some wood. FALSE
- 7 It was difficult for the peasant to move the rock away from the road. TRUE
- 8 The peasant didn't manage to move the rock away. FALSE
- 9 Under the rock there was a purse. TRUE
- 10 The King went out of the shelter and thanked the peasant for his job. FALSE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the tables.

Bengali is a region in India with (1) its own language and its own culture. It is a practice of Bengali nomenclature to grant every person two names. (2) These names are a pet name, or daknam and a good name or bhalonam. The meaning of daknam is the name by (3) which one is called by close friends and family. It is used at home and in (4) other private situations. Pet names are a remnant of childhood, a reminder that life is not always (5) so serious, formal, and complicated; Pet names are never (6) recorded officially. Everyone in Bengali has a pet name. These are the names by which even adult people (7) are known in their respective families, the names (8) by which they are scolded and missed and loved.

Unlike good names, pet names are frequently (9) meaningless, silly, ironic. Every pet name is paired with a good name, that (10) is used as identification in the outside world.

Variant 15

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The characters of the story lived in a small town. FALSE
- 2 The farmer didn't have money to return his debt. TRUE
- 3 The moneylender was not a pleasant person. TRUE
- 4 The moneylender wanted to marry Myra and get his money back. FALSE
- 5 The farmer tried to convince his daughter to marry the moneylender. FALSE
- 6 According to the moneylender's offer, Providence had to help decide the matter. TRUE
- 7 Myra wished to pick the white pebble. TRUE
- 8 The moneylender wanted to cheat the farmer and his daughter. TRUE
- 9 The farmer noticed that the moneylender had put two black pebbles into the bag. FALSE
- 10 Myra let the pebble fall and did it on purpose. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

There was a time, long ago, when all the animals in the forest (1) had long, thick tails. Some of them were (2) wise enough to keep their tails, but some were not. How (3) did this happen?

Once there was a fisherman (4) who earned his living selling fish from a cart. One cold winter day, while the fisherman (5) was crossing the woods, a wily fox (6) smelled the fish and followed the cart at a close distance. The fisherman kept his fish in long baskets, and the sight of the fish made the fox's mouth water. .

So, the fox leaped on the cart and dropped a basket onto the snow.

The fisherman did not notice (7) anything and continued his journey. The fox opened the basket and got ready to enjoy her meal when a huge bear (8) appeared.

«Where did you get all that tasty fish?» the big bear asked, looking terribly hungry.

«I (9) have been fishing» the fox lied.

«Fishing? How? The lake is frozen over,» the bear said, suspiciously. «How did you manage (10) to fish?»

«I fished with my tail,» was the fox's reply.

Variant 16

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 Britain is considered to be the leader of Europe when it comes to learning foreign languages. FALSE
- 2 Less than half of other European countries can speak another foreign language. FALSE
- 3 More than half of the British population know two foreign languages. FALSE
- 4 Lots of British people think that learning foreign languages is very difficult. TRUE
- 5 Not all other European countries were as good at languages as Sweden, Denmark and Holland. TRUE
- 6 Two per cent of the people in Luxembourg speak a foreign language. FALSE
- 7 Besides England, Portugal speaks the lowest number of foreign languages. TRUE
- 8 The BTC experiment concluded that less than 18% of Britons spoke Spanish or German. FALSE
- 9 Ninety per cent of the hotel staff could not answer questions in German. TRUE
- 10 The researchers from the BTC asked the hotel workers about learning foreign languages. FALSE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the box.

Some of the great (1) paintings which disappeared during World War II had been concealed in the Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg.

There are literally hundreds of paintings, 74 of which are masterpieces. Among the (2) artists represented are Degas, Van Gogh, Cezanne and Picasso.

The value of these works of (3) art is enormous. Although no official amount has been given, (4) experts believe they are worth about £200 million. (5) however, valuing paintings-such as these is extremely difficult because the market changes so much from year to year.

It is the (6) impressionist works which are of greatest value, the most outstanding being Degas' «Place de la Concorde». This work is particularly special because of the balance between the (7) scenery in the background and the figures in the foreground. There are also excellent examples of the work of Gauguin, one of which had never been seen in (8) public before.

However, not all the paintings are the masterpieces the Russians first thought they were. Several of the works have been discovered to be (9) fakes. One Toulouse-Lautrec was almost put into an exhibition at the Hermitage before an expert worked out that it was an excellent, but (10) valueless copy.

Variant 17

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The elderly couple lives an unusual life. FALSE
- 2 The wife has a sister and visits her every year. TRUE
- 3 In summer, they usually have a lot of work about the house. TRUE
- 4 They have lived in their house for two years. FALSE
- 5 The couple spends every summer holiday at the seaside. FALSE
- 6 Last summer, one of the couple's relatives was in hospital. TRUE
- 7 They didn't feel at home in the caravan they had chosen. TRUE
- 8 The weather changed for the better. FALSE
- 9 They had to spend the night at the train station. FALSE
- 10 They prefer to have their holidays at home. TRUE

2. Complete the sentences with the correct words from the box.

Jane Adams (1) was born in 1860. In 1889 she decided to start (2) fighting the poverty she saw in Chicago. She wanted to live (3) among the poor people, so she found and rented Hull House. The «house» became a social centre. She thought the way to improvement was (4) through education.

The people in the (5) neighbourhood needed a cultural and intellectual life. Some Hull House (6) activities included reading classes for young women, kindergarten classes, and a Boy's Club. They wanted laws for (7) better housing, an eight-hour workday, and the right for (8) women to vote.

Jane Adams also (9) tried to help immigrants. She (10) believed that the multicultural experiences brought to America would be the key to world peace.

Variant 18

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The man in the story had no wife. TRUE
- 2 Sonya had a brother and a sister. FALSE
- 3 Sonya was the eldest child. TRUE
- 4 It was Sonya's duty to wash the dishes every morning. FALSE
- 5 Sonya didn't want to wash the dishes because she didn't like it. FALSE
- 6 The father was rude to his daughter. FALSE
- 7 Sonya didn't obey her father. TRUE
- 8 Sonya got to school by bus that day. FALSE
- 9 The father felt guilty and couldn't say a word. TRUE
- 10 Sonya easily forgave her father. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

What (1) do you think of when you hear the word «desert»? We usually think of deserts as hot, dry places, but there can be (2) too hot and cold deserts. Scientists define deserts as areas of land where (3) less than ten inches of rain falls per year and (4) few plants can grow. In Arctic and Antarctic regions, there is very (5) little rain. Precipitation is almost always (6) frozen in the form of ice or snow, and because it stays frozen on the ground, plants cannot (7) use it to grow. So these regions (8) are considered deserts and given the special label «cold desert» to describe (9) their temperatures, which can range from 10 to 50° F (10) in summer and from -50 to 10° F in winter.

Variant 19

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The text tells the legend of the Loch Ness Monster. FALSE
- 2 From the text we can say in what part of the United States Bear Lake is situated. TRUE
- 3 There is no evidence of the monster's presence before June, 1868. TRUE
- 4 S. M. Johnson was a scientist who first described the Bear Lake Monster. FALSE
- 5 The monster's mouth is really huge. TRUE
- 6 The monster's legs are as big as its ears. FALSE
- 7 The monster moves fast in the water as well as on land. FALSE
- 8 The monster has been seen only once. FALSE
- 9 People who saw the monster described it in the same way. FALSE
- 10 Bear Lake is really worth visiting even though there's no monster in its waters. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the box.

Paris — the City of Light — shines year-round, (1) but it has a special appeal in winter. Sure, the (2) weather can be cold but if you dress in layers, you'll keep warm and easily deal with temperature changes as you go from cold streets to (3) heated museums and cafés.

Slow (4) down, and enjoy your favourite museums and monuments. — spending one-on-one time with the Mona Lisa and Venus de Milo is (5) worth the extra clothes you had to pack. Attend a (6) cooking demonstration or take a short course in art or architecture. Get into cafés to warm (7) up and enjoy a break from sightseeing or shopping.

One of Europe's greatest treats is strolling down the glowing Champs-Élysées in winter. From (8) late November through mid-January, holiday lights adorn city streets, buildings, and (9) monuments, and the Champs-Élysées beams with a dazzling display of lights on the trees that line the long boulevard. The city springs for 1,000 fresh-cut fir trees to put up and (10) decorate around town, 300 of which ring the traffic circle at the lower end of the Champs-Élysées.

Variant 20

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The story took place in summer. FALSE
- 2 The girl in the story didn't feel positive about herself. TRUE
- 3 Nobody loved the girl. FALSE
- 4 The girl told her boyfriend that Christmas would be the perfect time to get married. TRUE
- 5 The girl promised to marry the boy as soon as she could see. TRUE
- 6 The girl didn't know who donated the pair of eyes to her. TRUE
- 7 When she saw her boyfriend, she was disappointed as he was not tall enough. FALSE
- 8 She didn't want to marry the boy. TRUE
- 9 The boy was crying when he left her. TRUE
- 10 From his letter she found out who had given the eyes to her. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct word from the table.

Brazilian New Year is one of (1) the most traditionally celebrated festivals for the people living there. New Year in Brazil is (2) known as Ano Nove (Portuguese) but is more popularly known as Revillion. It is celebrated (3) on January 1.

New Year is the time (4) when people from various parts of the world like to celebrate it in Brazil. Pubs, party halls, clubs, beaches and even roads (5) are overcrowded. New Year's celebrations in Brazil reflect (6) its culture and traditions. (7) On the New Year's Day, it's a tradition to eat lentils and rice. It is (8) believed to bring in wealth, health and good fortune in the coming year. New Year is celebrated with (9) much devotion and sincerity by the (10) fishermen of the city. They believe the catch at the time reflects the catch for rest of the year.

Variant 21

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The author describes the days of his childhood. TRUE
- 2 The story happened at the weekend. FALSE
- 3 It was the father who cooked dinner in their family. FALSE
- 4 For dinner they liked to eat burnt biscuits. TRUE
- 5 The boy and the father didn't complain, about the food. TRUE
- 6 The mother was sorry the dinner was not perfect. TRUE
- 7 The father didn't want to upset the mother by criticizing her cooking. TRUE
- 8 The boy had a long talk with his father at dinner. FALSE
- 9 The boy's father thought that nobody had to be perfect. TRUE
- 10 From the text we can say that the author had a happy family. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the box.

Have you ever observed the (1) behaviour of birds in the face of trouble?

For days and days they make their nest, sometimes gathering materials brought from (2) far away.

And when they have completed the nest and are ready to lay (3) eggs, the weather or the work of humans, or some animal, destroys it, and it falls to the ground, all that they have done with so much effort. Do they stop and leave their work? No way! They start building the nest again and again (4) until they have eggs in the nest again.

Sometimes, and very often before the chicks are (5) hatched an animal, a child, or a storm (6) destroys the nest once again, but this time with its valuable contents. It hurts to go (7) back and begin again. .. Even so, the birds do not stop, they continue to sing and build, and (8) keep singing and building.

Do you sometimes get the feeling that your life is not what you had dreamed about? Do you sometimes want to say: «Enough, the effort is not worthwhile, it is all too much for me»?

Are you tired of it all? Do you feel that the (9) daily struggle is a waste of time, your trust has been betrayed, your goals not reached just as you were about to get them?

No matter what happens... Never give (10) up as long as you are alive.

Variant 22

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The man and his wife were old and unhappy. FALSE
- 2 They didn't have much money. TRUE
- 3 The wife had a short haircut. FALSE
- 4 The wife wanted her hair to grow longer and look neat. TRUE
- 5 The man couldn't afford to buy a comb. TRUE
- 6 The man had broken his watch. FALSE
- 7 The man went to a watch shop to buy a new watchstrap. FALSE
- 8 The man earned some money and bought a comb for his wife. TRUE
- 9 The wife sold her hair in order to make a present for her husband. TRUE
- 10 They cried as they were sorry about their poverty. FALSE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the box.

The (1) habit of reading is one of the greatest resources of mankind; and we enjoy reading books that belong to us much more than if they are (2) borrowed. A borrowed book is like a guest in the house; it must not suffer while under your roof. You cannot leave it (3) carelessly, you cannot mark it, you cannot (4) turn down the pages. And then, some day you really ought to return it.

But your own books belong to you; they are for use, not for (5) show; you should own no book that you are afraid to mark up; or to place on the table, wide open and face (6) down. Everyone should begin (7) collecting a private library in youth; the instinct of private property can here be cultivated with every advantage and no evils.

Books have the advantage of being separate personalities, so that if you sit alone in the room, you are (8) surrounded with close friends. You do not have to read them all. (9) most of my indoor life is spent in a room containing six thousand books; and I have to answer the invariable question, «Have you read all of these books?» «Some of them (10) twice» This reply is both true and unexpected.

Variant 23

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The Fourth of July is also called Independence Day. TRUE
- 2 The American colonies declared their freedom from the United States. FALSE
- 3 Many Americans watch sports such as basketball on July 4th. TRUE
- 4 On Independence Day people watch a beautiful show of fireworks. TRUE
- 5 The story also discussed Halloween, which falls on the last Thursday of October. FALSE
- 6 It is customary for children to ask people for sweet things at Halloween. TRUE
- 7 Children like dressing up in costumes at Halloween. TRUE
- 8 The third holiday mentioned, Thanksgiving, occurs in autumn. TRUE
- 9 Early Americans celebrated Thanksgiving to express thanks for rainfall. FALSE
- 10 Thanksgiving is a time to express gratitude for good health and freedom. TRUE

2. Complete the sentence! with the correct words from the box.

There was once a man called Koba, a hunter. One day he left his house and went off to hunt in a place (1) which was far away.

When he was out hunting, he suddenly heard the mighty roar of a lion very close to him. Never had he heard (2) such a roar before. Greatly alarmed, Koba turned and ran as fast as he could (3) towards his camp. He (4) was carrying a bow and some arrows. On the way his bow (5) caught in the low branches of a tree. He pulled but (6) could not release the bow, and he (7) thought it was the lion who had caught it, but he was (8) too frightened to turn his head to look.

«Please, King of Animals,» cried Koba, «let go of my bow. I (9) have not come to hunt you.» He waited (10) for an answer from the lion, but as it was the branches of a tree holding his bow, there was no answer. From that day onwards, for the rest of his life, Koba never hunted again. He became a farmer.

Variant 24

1. Read the text and choose, the correct item.

1. Central Park is called «a wonder» because of.;
c) the beauty of the area.
2. Most of Central Park is covered by...
a) plants.
- B. Central Park is located in...
c) Manhattan.
4. The founders of the park wanted New Yorkers to have..
a) a place to get away from the noise and stress of the city.
5. The land that became Central Park was originally...
b) stony, swampy and wet.
6. Central Park has already existed for...
c) 150 years.

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

People talk about the (1) importance of consistency in forming good habits. When I make a goal, (2) the first thing do is declare it around my pack — my family, my dogs. We're (3) more powerful as humans when we are in a pack. To do that involves projecting the right energy: calm and confident.

To get into a calm and confident state, watch dogs. The first thing they do (4) in the morning is stretch. Then they walk, and you see them (5) breathing deeply, picking up on a scent. A good walk makes dogs (6) happy. Rolling in the grass makes them (7) feel happy, too. We're also animals. So move (8) carefully into your mission, do it every day, and use the simplest things to keep you well-balanced and sensible. If you (9) won't achieve your goal — and even if you (10) do — just keep going.

Variant 25

1. Read the text and choose the correct item.

1. Why is «ladybug» an incorrect name?
c) Ladybugs don't have beaks or sucking mouthparts.
2. Which of these statements about ladybugs is true?
a) Ladybugs can be of many colours.
3. How does a ladybug protect itself from hungry birds?
a) It looks like it would taste nasty.
4. People like ladybugs because...
a) they have pretty colours.
5. It takes ... for ladybug eggs to hatch.
c) five to seven days
6. What do baby ladybugs eat?
c) Aphids.

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

Edward Bellamy was born (1) in 1850 in Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts, to a long line of New England Baptist ministers. He was (2) educated in the United States and in Germany, and at length (3) studied law. Working (4) as a journalist and editor in New York and (5) Springfield, he began to publish fiction in 1879, and by 1898 he (6) had published five novels and a collection of short stories. (7) Among them was the novel now considered the (8) author's masterpiece, *Looking Backward*. The visionary novel not only (9) brought literary fame to Bellamy but established (10) him as an important social and economic theorist.

Variant 26

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 A man found a butterfly. FALSE
- 2 The man kept an eye on the cocoon. TRUE
- 3 The butterfly had difficulties in coming out of the cocoon. TRUE
- 4 The man used the scissors to destroy the cocoon and the butterfly. FALSE
- 5 The wings of the butterfly were large and fresh. FALSE
- 6 The man thought that the butterfly's wings would grow. TRUE
- 7 The butterfly got the ability to fly very soon. FALSE
- 8 The man's kindness made harm to the butterfly. TRUE
- 9 The man wasn't able to help the butterfly to get out of the cocoon. FALSE
- 10 The moral of the story is: haste makes waste. FALSE

2. Complete the sentences with the correct words from the box.

Toronto (1) has a huge sports stadium, a science centre and great museums. But (2) there is one attraction it doesn't have that (3) some big cities have — a large aquarium.

Now, an aquarium may be (4) built in Toronto. If it is approved by the City Council, it could be ready (5) by July 2015. The aquarium would be in a large building. It could have many (6) thousands of fish and marine animals including sharks. One idea is to have a jellyfish, room (7) with special lighting and mirrors. Another idea is for a tunnel that people could walk (8) through to see the fish swimming around and above them.

An aquarium would make a lot of money for Toronto. It would also (9) attract school groups for field trips to see the life that (10) exists underwater.

Variant 27

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

- 1 The boy gets up early and walks to school. FALSE
- 2 The bus takes each child to school personally. TRUE
- 3 The pupils' «Tablet PCs are kept in the Hearing Centre. FALSE
- 4 Every morning the teachers record attendance in a special book. TRUE
- 5 Each pupil swipes his card before the lessons. TRUE
- 6 The learning days always start with the same lesson. FALSE
- 7 There is usually one student in the Assembly Hall. FALSE
- 8 In the Assembly Hall the pupils listen to school news. FALSE
- 9 The children never take snacks from home. FALSE
- 10 A snack is usually a packet of crisps, fruit or a couple of biscuits. TRUE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the box.

Chicago, Illinois was (1) founded in 1833, near a canal between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi (2) River.

It boasts the United States' tallest building and one of the world's largest office (3) buildings. With the elevated trains, the city looks, feels, and in fact is big.

Chicago is the home of the blues and the truth of jazz, the (4) heart of comedy and the idea of the skyscraper.

As the hub of the Midwest, Chicago is easy to find — its picturesque skyline calls across the (5) waters of Lake Michigan, a first impression that soon reveals world-class museums of art and science, miles of (6) sandy beaches, huge parks and perhaps the finest downtown collection of modern architecture in the world.

Chicago is a stronghold of the Democratic Party and has been home to many influential (7) politicians, including the current President of the United States, Barack Obama.

The city's popular (8) culture is found in novels, plays, movies and songs. Chicago has numerous (9) nicknames the best-known include: «Chi-town», «Windy City», «Second City», and the «City of Big Shoulders». Chicago has also been called «the most (10) American of big cities».

Variant 28

1. Read the text and choose the correct item.

1. George says that most visitors to Greece don't often see...
c) Athens.
2. Problems the tourist may experience in Athens include...
a) noise and traffic.
3. From his description of it, you should probably visit the Plaka...
b) with a tour.
4. A major attraction of Rio is...
c) the climate.
5. Richard says that Rio is considered...
a) romantic.
6. From this article, you might conclude that an archipelago is...
a) a lot of islands.

2. Complete the sentences with the correct words from the box.

The United States is more diverse than it is usually (1) shown in films. A usual film features a cast of white people, and maybe (2) a few characters from other races, too. About two-thirds of the (3) population is White, but the other one-third, which (4) consists of minorities, (5) does not correspond to what is shown in the theatre.

Additionally, the (6) problem of poverty is usually not depicted in films. More (7) than 15% of the US population lives (8) in poverty and that is usually ignored. The last major inaccuracy

is the (9) depiction of religious life. The vast majority of Americans are religious, and this does not usually (10) show up in films.

Variant 29

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False».

1 The actor described in this passage appeared in his first role in the Star Wars trilogy.

FALSE

2 He has wanted to be an actor since he was very young. TRUE

3 He left school rather early. TRUE

4 His parents were actors as well. FALSE

5 The actor got his role in Star Wars because he has a famous acting relative who was already in the cast of the movie. FALSE

6 Ewan McGregor won his role in the Star Wars movies by meeting the casting agent and talking to the director. TRUE

7 Ewan McGregor became successful surprisingly quickly. TRUE

8 He is described as an unusually serious and thoughtful person. FALSE

9 He can be sharply sarcastic. TRUE

10 He has a warm smile and a charming manner. TRUE

2. Complete the sentences with the correct words from the box.

We tend to magnify celebrities places in our lives (1) whether we love them or hate them.

The fact is, feeling closer (2) than we are to the stars is not unhealthy, at least for a (3) majority of us. It's (4) easier than ever to keep up with celebs in real time (5) through the media, reality shows and social networking. The direct access that (6) many celebs, provide makes us privy to many details of (7) their lives. And many stars aren't exactly shy about sharing what clothes they're (8) wearing, (9) what food they are eating or what they are (10) doing. We no longer have to rely solely on information from a star's publicist, but are given a virtual front-row seat to their fears, heartbreaks, successes and failures.

Variant 30

1. Read the text and mark the following statements «True» or «False»

- 1 From the text we can say what season it is. TRUE
- 2 The author is at work. FALSE
- 3 The author can hear a bird, singing near the open door. FALSE
- 4 The insect trying to fly through the glass of the windowpane is a bee. FALSE
- 5 The author can see a way out for a fly. TRUE
- 6 The author believes that the try-harder strategy doesn't always work. TRUE
- 7 According to the author, trying another approach could help the fly. TRUE
- 8 The author says that a person can get success if he does his best. FALSE
- 9 From the story we know what happened to the fly. FALSE
- 10 The author wants us to learn from this story that working harder may bring a breakthrough. FALSE

2. Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

Racing along country roads and (1) through the cities of France each year, the best bicyclists in the world take part in the Tour de France.

In 1903, the race was held for the first (2) time as a publicity event for the newspaper, L'Auto. It was an instant success. Every July since then, the race has taken place.

The Tour de France is divided into different races for each day, called «stages». Each stage is also a different style of bicycle racing. Sometimes the terrain is flat, so the race is a sprint. At other times, the race goes through the mountains, so the (3) bicyclist needs to have better endurance. (4) Judges give points to the winner of each stage. The racer who is winning the most sprints gets to wear a green jersey. The winner of the most mountain races wears a white jersey with red polka dots.

Until a few years ago, all of the winners were from Europe. Most were from France. In 1986, American Greg LeMond became the first bicyclist who was not European, to win the Tour de France. (5) Another American holds the record for the most Tour de France wins. Lance Armstrong has won the race seven times.