MISCELLANEOUS ENGLISH TESTS

Reading Comprehension MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 12

15 questions · Choose the correct answer. Online test and answer key with explanations:
https://englishtestsonline.com/reading-comprehension-test-12/

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 15

(Please note: The following questions are related to a specific reading passage, available solely before the first question. Remember, referring back to the reading text while answering the questions may be helpful to ensure accuracy.)

Styles of cooking have changed a great deal over the last few years. Elaborate sauces and rich desserts are being replaced by simple, low-cost foods. The fast-paced lifestyle of today's world has limited the amount of time people have to prepare meals. Along with this, the astronomical prices of gourmet, five-course meals have made them impractical for most families. Health considerations also seem to play a major part in the changes in food preferences. Fresh, low-cost, locally available ingredients make much more sense for people who wish to maintain their health, vitality, and proper weight.

1. **People these days are paying more attention _____.**
   A) to their health
   B) to how well they prepare meals
   C) to how elaborate sauces are made
   D) to astronomical gourmets
   E) to what families want to eat

2. **Five-course meals are _____.**
   A) not very practical for the modern family
   B) low cost and healthy
   C) vital and healthy
   D) easily available
   E) easily prepared in limited time

3. **Modern families prefer _____.**
   A) low cost, fresh foods
   B) non-healthy, vital foods
   C) gourmet foods
   D) limited meal times
   E) locally available gourmet produce

4. The rose is the first thing that comes to mind for most people when they hear the word 'flower'. The rose has been known throughout the Northern Hemisphere as far back as literature records. The name for the rose is almost the same in every European language. However, Europeans are not the only people to have given this flower importance. Writers and poets of ancient civilisations such as the Persians and Chinese also praised the flower. Dried roses have even been found in Egyptian tombs.

   The rose _____.
   A) is a flower that has been known to only a few lucky civilizations
   B) has been written about on Egyptian tombs
   C) is the first flower known to people
   D) has been treasured by many different civilizations
   E) can be found in only certain areas of the world

5. **We know that ancient civilizations prized the rose because _____.**
   A) the Persians grew it in their gardens
   B) modern poets have praised it
   C) the Egyptians painted it on their tombs
   D) northern writers mention it
   E) it is referred to in the earliest forms of literature

6. **The best TITLE for this passage is _____.**
   A) A Rose by Any Name
   B) Roses and Man's History
   C) The Universal Flower
   D) The Ancients and the Rose
   E) Literature and Roses

7. Good students usually have good study habits and know how to plan their time efficiently. Some find it helpful to draw up a five- or six-day programme each week and plan what they will do and when. Of course, one cannot always stick to such a plan; unexpected things often happen, but even the making of such a plan forces us to think about what we ought to do during the week, and this is the first step towards doing it.

   A weekly study programme can be very useful _____.
   A) after good study habits have been established
   B) but doesn't lead to better study habits
   C) so long as it isn't very detailed
   D) even if one doesn't keep to it exactly
   E) if one knows it can't be changed

8. Good students _____.
A) only do what they ought to do and not what they want to do
B) waste a lot of time thinking about what they ought to do
C) owe their success to good study habits and careful planning of their time
D) take five or six days to do what they could do in two or three days
E) can't plan their time efficiently without someone to help them

9. One advantage of drawing up a work plan for the week is that _____.
A) we realize that a lot of work we do is unnecessary
B) unexpected problems can be avoided
C) we can give ourselves two whole free days
D) it reminds us of what we have to do during the week
E) we soon grow used to working at regular times

Many people who have to start the day early find it difficult to wake up properly. For some of them, the solution is very straightforward: they drink two cups of coffee and the feelings of fatigue disappear. This is the effect of caffeine, one of a family of stimulants found not only in coffee but also in such drinks as tea, cola, and cocoa. Taken in reasonable amounts, this stimulating chemical may help some people to work more efficiently. However, excessive quantities can cause several irritating, unhealthy side effects. Studies show, in fact, that more than two cups of coffee a day can cause unpleasant symptoms such as nervousness, irritability, stomach pain, and insomnia.

10. The passage suggests that it is inadvisable for one to _____.
A) drink any tea, coffee or cocoa at all
B) drink more than two cups of coffee a day
C) start the day without a stimulant of some sort
D) use any other stimulant but caffeine
E) drink less than one cup of coffee

11. Caffeine and other similar stimulants _____.
A) can produce certain unpleasant side effects if large doses are taken
B) are completely harmless
C) always have a negative effect upon people
D) actually never lead to improved work efficiency
E) are so useful for health

12. The passage points out that many people begin the day with two cups of coffee _____.
A) even when they don't feel sleepy
B) because by doing so, they soon feel wide awake
C) because there is less caffeine in coffee than in tea
D) if they know the day ahead is likely to be an irritating one
E) because alcohol is more harmful

Like so many other materials in Japan, paper has also been the subject of artistic consideration for many hundreds of years. During one period of the country's history, the paper on which a poem was written was considered as important as the poem itself. A thousand years ago, there were entire towns actively engaged in making paper. Such towns still exist today, but there were also many farming villages which, then as now, made paper to earn extra income during the winter. Currently, about half of Japan's farmers must supplement their incomes with winter jobs. Although a large amount of winter employment is provided by construction companies, some farmers continue to work in such cottage industries as paper-making.

13. It is obvious from the passage that the art of paper-making in Japan _____.
A) was considered unimportant work
B) has disappeared owing to industrialization
C) was of no economic value at all in the past
D) was only practised by the peasants in the country
E) has a long history

14. The passage emphasizes that approximately fifty per cent of the farming population in Japan _____.
A) is not satisfied with current farming policies
B) prefers town life to village life
C) engages in a secondary occupation in the winter
D) plans to give up farming and go into construction work
E) is very poor

15. It is suggested that paper-making _____.
A) encouraged the development of poetry in Japan
B) is still one of Japan's cottage industries
C) has never been a significant commercial interest in Japan
D) has seldom been regarded as an art by the Japanese
E) and construction are the two major areas of employment in Japan

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