MISCELLANEOUS ENGLISH TESTS

Reading Comprehension MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 08

15 questions · Choose the correct answer. Online test and answer key with explanations:
https://englishtestsonline.com/reading-comprehension-test-8/

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.)

Occasionally during the night, one can see meteors. They resemble streaks of light and for this reason, are called falling stars. As meteors travel through space, they sometimes fall into the Earth's gravitational pull and the friction between these rocks and the atmosphere causes most of them to burn up before they reach the surface of the Earth. At times, however, very big pieces of meteors fall to Earth and although they are burned up to a large extent, some pieces do reach the surface. These are then called meteorites. The largest meteorite to have been found is the Hoba meteorite. It was found in Namibia and weighs 60 tons.

1. **Meteors that hit the Earth _____.**
   A) are known as meteorites
   B) are called falling stars
   C) are found in the Hoba
   D) will land in Namibia
   E) burn up due to friction

2. **The Earth's atmosphere _____.**
   A) has many meteors in it but we cannot see them
   B) prevents most meteors from falling into the Earth's gravitational pull
   C) and the friction it causes prevent many meteors from becoming meteorites
   D) attracts the large falling stars to the Earth
   E) is so hot that it burns up rocks easily

3. **Meteors are _____.**
   A) huge stars that travel in space
   B) pieces of rock that travel through space
   C) able to easily land on Earth
   D) always in their travel in our atmosphere
   E) usually present in Namibia

There are about 1,400 species of flying mammals referred to as bats. They are the only real flying mammals on Earth. Most bats feed on a diet of insects. Some feed on flowers and fruits, but the most interesting are the vampire bats of the Americas, which suck the blood of large birds and other mammals. Unfortunately, these vampire bats are capable of transmitting rabies and are for this reason considered dangerous. The other types of bats are of no danger to man and are even considered helpers of nature by way of their diet which helps control the insect population in various areas of the world. Although the misunderstood bat has represented fear and terror in the West, it is seen as a sign of good luck and long life in the East.

4. **The majority of the bat population _____.**
   A) are vampires
   B) transmit many illnesses
   C) feed on a diet of insects
   D) are dangerous to man
   E) live in the Americas

5. **According to the passage, the bat is misunderstood because _____.**
   A) it is capable of transmitting rabies
   B) it has been associated with fear in the West
   C) its value as a natural enemy of insects is not generally known
   D) it is the only flying mammal
   E) animals are endangered by most bats

6. **The insect population of the world _____.**
   A) is controlled only by vampire bats
   B) represents fear and terror to bats of the east
   C) is eaten by vampire bats
   D) in some areas develops because of the influence of the bat
   E) is maintained at normal levels in certain areas because bats eat insects

In 1924, Thomas Watson Sr. changed the name of his company to International Business Machines. The company produced many types of electronic machines. In 1952, Watson's son, Thomas Jr., took over as the head of the company and proceeded to manufacture their first computers. These first computers were produced for scientists. Over time, many other forms of the computer were produced. In 1981, the firm marketed its first personal computer. Unfortunately, this world-renowned and respected company, better known as IBM, is now, like many other companies, in financial difficulty.

7. **A good TITLE for this passage is _____.**
   A) Thomas Watson Sr. and Jr.
   B) Financial Difficulties
   C) IBM: Yesterday and Today
   D) The First Computer
   E) Electronic Machines

8. **IBM's first personal computer _____.**
   A) was manufactured for scientists
   B) caused financial difficulties for the company
   C) was created by Thomas Jr.
   D) was produced after other types of computers had been marketed
   E) made the company world known

9. **IBM _____.**
A) was the first company to produce personal computers
B) went bankrupt in recent years
C) belongs to a family of scientists
D) has been around since 1952 as a computer manufacturer
E) is the only company to produce personal computers

10. Sumo wrestling is an extremely popular sport in Japan. The sumo champions are exceptionally large men who are not only tall but also weigh 130 kilograms or more. The reason these wrestlers are so big is that the objective of the game is for one wrestler to either throw his opponent out of the ring or force him to the ground. The larger a wrestler is, the greater his chances of winning a match. These matches are usually very short, with most lasting less than one minute.

Sumo wrestlers are extremely large _____.
A) because they must use their bodies against their opponents
B) because this is a Japanese sport
C) due to their great strength
D) so that they can object to their opponents
E) to force the ring to wrestle with him

11. **The length of these matches _____.**
A) is very tall
B) is usually more than one minute
C) is about 13 kilograms
D) is generally under a minute
E) goes on until the bell rings

12. **To win the match, _____.**
A) both wrestlers must stay in the ring for one minute
B) one large wrestler must give up his ground
C) the larger wrestler's weight must be more than 130 kilos
D) the force of the larger wrestler is measured
E) one wrestler must push the other out of the ring or to the ground

13. Although all spiders kill their prey by injecting them with venom, only a few are dangerous enough to cause harm to people or large animals. The venom of the spider is delivered through a pair of powerful fangs. This venom is fatal for most insects and sometimes small animals. Among the most dangerous spiders are the black widow spiders. The European black widow can cause serious illness in humans, whereas the North American black widow has been known to cause fatalities on several occasions.

Most spiders _____.
A) can cause the death of people
B) inject venom with their fangs
C) eat widow spiders
D) are found in Europe and America
E) are of the family of the black widow

14. **The venom of the spider _____.**
A) will kill any animal
B) is powerful against the fangs of insects
C) is deadly to most insects and sometimes to small animals
D) affects large animals quicker than small
E) is dangerous to most people

15. **The black widow spiders _____.**
A) are only dangerous when they are found in Europe
B) are fatal to all
C) are harmless to humans
D) are among the most dangerous spiders
E) usually cause illnesses only in animals

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