

Reading Comprehension

This part consists of two passages, each followed by several related questions. For each question, **choose the most appropriate answer based on the text.**

Text I (Questions 18-22)

- (1) Silk is a strong, shiny fiber, or thread, that is used to make cloth. It has a natural beauty that few other fibers can equal, and is therefore often called the "Queen of Fibers." Silk comes from the protective coverings – or cocoons – of small insects called silkworms. These worms are raised on silk farms where they feed on the leaves of mulberry trees.

- (10) No one knows exactly when silk was discovered. According to a Chinese legend, it was discovered almost five thousand years ago in the garden of Emperor Huang-Ti. The Emperor ordered his wife, Hsi-Ling-Shi, to find out what was damaging his mulberry trees. Hsi-Ling-Shi found white worms eating the mulberry leaves and spinning shiny cocoons. She accidentally dropped a cocoon into hot water, and when she pulled it out she noticed that it was made of a beautiful, shiny thread which had come loose in the water. She had discovered silk.

- (15) It is not known how much, if any, of this story is true. But historians do know that silk cloth was first produced in China. The Chinese carefully guarded their secret; for about 3,000 years, they were the only ones who knew how to make silk.

- (20) Silk first reached the West in the days of the Han dynasty, around 200 B.C.E. Traders from ancient Persia bought richly colored silk fabrics from Chinese merchants and transported them to Damascus. From Damascus, they were taken to the Roman Empire and exchanged for gold.

- (25) Silkworms were only brought to the West around 550 C.E. At that time, the Persians controlled all the silk coming out of China, selling it at extremely high prices. The Roman Emperor Justinian, who objected to paying so much money to the Persians, sent two monks to China as spies. Risking death, the monks stole some silkworm eggs and mulberry seeds and managed to take them out of the country. This is how the Chinese silk monopoly came to an end.

Questions

18. The main purpose of the text is to -

- (1) explain why silk is such a special type of fiber
- (2) present some information about silk and its history
- (3) suggest that many stories about silk are not true
- (4) explain the importance of silk to the Chinese

19. Why is silk called the "Queen of Fibers"?

- (1) It was discovered by the Emperor's wife.
- (2) It is very beautiful.
- (3) It is so strong.
- (4) It is very difficult to make.

20. It can be understood from the second paragraph that Hsi-Ling-Shi -

- (1) discovered silk by accident
- (2) could not save the Emperor's mulberry trees
- (3) wanted to raise silkworms in the Emperor's garden
- (4) did not do what Huang-Ti ordered

21. The author mentions the Han dynasty (line 16) because during that time -

- (1) silk was made in ancient Persia, as well as in China
- (2) Damascus was the world's silk-trading center
- (3) the Chinese discovered how to make colorful silk fabrics
- (4) silk from China was first brought to the West

22. The main purpose of the last paragraph is to -

- (1) describe events which brought the Chinese silk monopoly to an end
- (2) discuss trade between Persia and Rome during the time of Emperor Justinian
- (3) explain why silkworms could not be brought to the West before 550 C.E.
- (4) explain why Chinese silk was sold for such high prices in the West

← המשך לעמוד הבא

Text II (Questions 23-27)

- (1) Bobby's parents and teachers described him as a highly excitable twelve-year-old whose performance at school was poor. He displayed little self-control, had recurring bad dreams and complained of acute stomach pains and fatigue. Since the age of ten, Bobby had become increasingly combative; he constantly started arguments at home and at school.

The results of a comprehensive physical examination by a pediatrician indicated that there was nothing wrong with Bobby. However, the doctor suggested that the boy might be suffering from the recently discovered overconsumption-undernutrition disorder, otherwise known as "junk-food syndrome."

- (10) This disorder is caused by a diet of empty-calorie foods. Children who are abnormally aggressive frequently eat too many calories in relation to the nutrients – mainly vitamins and minerals – they consume. These nutrients are essential for the proper metabolism of calories in the body. If there are insufficient nutrients and too many calories, brain functioning may be disrupted, causing aggressive behavior.

- (15) It was found that Bobby's diet was full of empty-calorie foods: sugared cereal, chocolate milk, pie, soft drinks and cookies. Urine and blood tests showed that his body lacked important nutrients, particularly B vitamins. Bobby's parents were advised to eliminate candy, doughnuts and ice cream from his diet, and to add more vitamin- and mineral-rich foods such as fruit, hard-boiled eggs and whole-grain products. They were
- (20) also told to supplement his diet with Vitamin B pills. Within three weeks, Bobby had improved markedly in several ways. He no longer suffered from nutritional deficiencies, his schoolwork improved and his random aggressiveness had virtually disappeared.

- (25) Obviously, not all human aggression can be explained by diet. It does appear, however, that some abnormal behavior may be the result of eating habits which upset delicate biochemical balances in the brain.

Questions

23. The author's main purpose in telling Bobby's story is to -

- (1) present facts related to the overconsumption-undernutrition disorder
- (2) criticize parents who do not pay attention to their children's diets
- (3) discuss recent discoveries about how the brain works
- (4) suggest a number of ways of dealing with aggressive behavior in children

24. The main purpose of the first paragraph is to describe -

- (1) Bobby's relationship with his parents and teachers
- (2) the causes of Bobby's aggressive behavior
- (3) Bobby's medical history between the ages of ten and twelve
- (4) symptoms indicating that Bobby had a problem

25. The sentence "It was found ... cookies" (lines 15-16) is used by the author to show that -

- (1) tests were required before Bobby's problem could be diagnosed
- (2) no simple explanation for Bobby's problem could be found
- (3) people whose diet is similar to Bobby's may become aggressive
- (4) the pediatrician who diagnosed Bobby's problem was probably right

26. Which of the following best describes the content of the fourth paragraph?

- (1) A description of Bobby's diet followed by suggestions for treatment and the treatment's results.
- (2) A description of Bobby's behavior before his problem was diagnosed and after it was treated.
- (3) A list of foods Bobby ate followed by a description of how these foods affected his behavior.
- (4) Proof that Bobby suffered from an eating disorder and a description of his symptoms.

27. The author's conclusion in this text is that -

- (1) the only way to eliminate abnormal behavior in children is to change their diet
- (2) junk food causes aggression in children more often than in adults
- (3) certain eating habits may cause behavioral problems
- (4) a child's performance in school is directly related to the foods he eats

Reading Comprehension

This part consists of two passages, each followed by several related questions. For each question, **choose the most appropriate answer based on the text.**

Text I (Questions 18-22)

- (1) Thomas Gainsborough, one of Britain's greatest painters, was born in Suffolk in 1727. From an early age he showed a talent for drawing; at the age of fourteen, he went to London to study painting. When he was nineteen years old, he returned to Suffolk, married Margaret Burr and began painting and selling portraits. In 1759 he and his wife
- (5) moved to the area near Bath, which at that time was a popular holiday resort. Many of Gainsborough's paintings were bought by the wealthy people who visited the town. Despite his great success, he was unwilling to participate in the social life of his clients. He preferred living in the countryside, where he led a quiet life in the company of his wife and close friends.
- (10) Nevertheless, in 1774, when he was invited to become one of the founding members of the Royal Academy of Art, Gainsborough moved to London. There he painted King George III and the royal family, as well as portraits of leading aristocrats, politicians, writers and actors. Gainsborough painted about 500 such portraits, for which he received large sums of money.
- (15) Gainsborough preferred to paint landscapes, but because he could not sell them, he often set the people he painted within a landscape. His portraits reveal his gentle nature and sensitivity. Because of these qualities, most critics and scholars believe that his best portraits are those of women. These portraits are considered superior to those of Sir Joshua Reynolds, his main competitor, and resemble those of Anton Van Dyck, who had
- (20) painted at the English court more than 100 years earlier. As was customary in his day, Gainsborough tried to make the subjects of his portraits look as attractive as possible. While Gainsborough's early portraits reveal great attention to detail, his later ones are more impressionistic. Gainsborough's most famous work is a portrait entitled *The Blue Boy*, which shows his preference for cool blue and green colours.

Questions

18. The main purpose of the text is to -

- (1) compare the work of Gainsborough to that of other artists
- (2) discuss Gainsborough's most famous works
- (3) describe different styles of 18th-century painting
- (4) describe the life and work of a famous British painter

19. Gainsborough moved to London in 1774 despite the fact that -

- (1) he was invited to join the Royal Academy of Art
- (2) King George III asked him to paint his portrait
- (3) Bath was a popular holiday resort
- (4) he preferred living quietly in the country

20. According to the text, Gainsborough's portraits of women -

- (1) were not as popular as his landscapes
- (2) are not as good as Reynolds'
- (3) were painted in the style of *The Blue Boy*
- (4) are similar to those of Van Dyck

21. Gainsborough's most famous work, *The Blue Boy* -

- (1) includes many details
- (2) is painted in the artist's favourite colours
- (3) influenced the Impressionist painters
- (4) is one of his earliest paintings

22. It can be understood from the text that Gainsborough is best known for his -

- (1) impressionistic paintings
- (2) landscapes
- (3) portraits
- (4) paintings of Bath

← המשך לעמוד הבא

Text II (Questions 23-27)

- (1) What do football players and prehistoric man have in common? To answer this question, we must go back to about 8000 B.C.E. At that point in history, a transition occurred: People began to depend less on hunting than on farming for their food. Crops were cultivated and animals were raised. These changes, which made food more readily available, resulted in a new phenomenon: leisure time. Even though the practical need to hunt for food had diminished, the psychological need remained, and so adult males began hunting as a sport in their free time. The animals they hunted for fun and excitement were often unsuitable for eating, but that did not matter. The chase was the most important thing.
- (5)
- (10) Centuries later, when people began to live in cities, urban men had a problem: Crowded together in huge numbers, they had nowhere to hunt. The solution came in the form of the stadium. In many ancient cities, stadiums were constructed where animals could be attacked and killed for sport. In the Colosseum of ancient Rome and, later, in the bullrings of Spain, this corrupted form of hunting – killing without the chase –
- (15) attracted crowds of men who were desperate to become involved in a group hunting activity even if they were only spectators.

- Over time, "spectator hunting" was largely replaced by a new kind of "hunt": team sports. Like the traditional form of hunting, many team sports involve either aiming an instrument or chasing an object, or a combination of both. Team members work
- (20) together to corner the "animal" – the ball; throwing a dart replaces throwing a spear. It seems that modern-day sportsmen are the closest analogue we have to ancient hunters. They show passionate loyalty to their team, wear distinctive symbols and clothing, and discuss their team's victories endlessly and in great detail, just as their prehistoric counterparts probably did.

Questions

23. According to the first paragraph, around 8000 B.C.E. -

- (1) prehistoric man began hunting animals for food
 (2) people began to get more of their food from farming than from hunting
 (3) people's need for leisure time increased
 (4) prehistoric man first began to play team sports in his free time

24. It can be inferred that "the psychological need" mentioned in line 6 is the need -

- (1) to belong to a group
 (2) to have enough food
 (3) for fun and excitement
 (4) for leisure time

25. "The solution" (line 11) is the solution to the problem of -

- (1) building stadiums
- (2) finding animals to hunt
- (3) finding a place to live
- (4) not having a place to hunt

26. The author calls hunting in stadiums a "corrupted form of hunting" (line 14) because -

- (1) the hunters killed the animals without having to chase them
- (2) the animals were not really attacked by the hunters
- (3) most people did not enjoy being spectators
- (4) it attracted crowds of desperate men

27. According to the text, what do modern-day sportsmen have in common with prehistoric man?

- (1) They are loyal to their team and enjoy discussing their victories.
- (2) They need great physical strength in order to survive.
- (3) They have a psychological need for leisure time.
- (4) They enjoy being spectators more than they enjoy hunting.



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תשובות סופיות

הבנת הנקרא | אנגלית - פרק ראשון

27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	שאלה
3	1	4	4	1	1	4	1	2	2	תשובה

הבנת הנקרא | אנגלית - פרק שני

27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	שאלה
1	1	4	3	2	3	2	4	4	4	תשובה

Reading Comprehension

This part consists of two passages, each followed by several related questions. For each question, **choose the most appropriate answer based on the text.**

Text I (Questions 20-24)

(1) Marco Polo was an Italian traveler and explorer. He was the first European to travel across Asia and write about what he saw. His book, *The Travels of Marco Polo*, is one of the most famous travel books ever written.

(5) Marco Polo was born in Venice, Italy, in 1254. His father, Niccolo, was a merchant who earned a living buying and selling goods from faraway places. When Marco was 17 years old, his father and uncle decided to travel to China. Marco went with them and had extraordinary adventures, which people enjoy reading about to this day.

(10) The 12,000-kilometer journey to China took three and a half years to complete. It was a trip filled with amazing new discoveries: paper money, burning coal, exotic foods. Twenty-four years later, Marco returned to Italy with many exciting tales to tell.

As an old man lying on his deathbed, Marco Polo said: "I didn't tell half of what I saw, because no one would have believed me."

Questions

20. According to the text, *The Travels of Marco Polo* was -

- (1) not written by Marco Polo
- (2) not very popular
- (3) first published in China
- (4) a true story

21. In line 5, "earned a living" could be replaced by -

- (1) did not like
- (2) had a job
- (3) first traveled
- (4) wrote books

22. According to the second paragraph, Marco Polo went to China -

- (1) because he was a merchant
- (2) with his father and uncle
- (3) because he had read books about it
- (4) to visit his father

23. Which of the following is not something that Marco Polo saw for the first time on his trip?

- (1) burning coal
- (2) travel books
- (3) paper money
- (4) exotic foods

24. According to the last paragraph, Marco Polo -

- (1) made up most of his story
- (2) did not tell all of his story
- (3) had no one to tell his stories to
- (4) did not have many stories to tell

Text II (Questions 25-29)

- (1) The expression "blind as a bat" notwithstanding, bats have no trouble catching mosquitoes in midair – a remarkable high-speed feat. They accomplish this via a process called echolocation. By sending out high-frequency sonar signals that bounce off airborne mosquitoes, bats are able to pinpoint an insect's location and go in for the kill. Dolphins use a similar technique. By emitting clicking sounds and measuring how long it takes for the echoes to come back, dolphins can create a three-dimensional mental map of their surroundings.

- (10) Daniel Kish, a psychologist and educator who is blind, has adapted echolocation for his own needs. By making clicking noises with his tongue, Kish is able to "see" obstacles in his path and negotiate unfamiliar surroundings. In fact, Kish has used echolocation to lead mountain-biking tours and wilderness hikes for blind people. Now, along with more conventional means such as canes and guide dogs, this technique is being taught to blind people to help them navigate their everyday world.

- (15) Ben Underwood, a 14-year-old from California who has been blind since he was two years old, is one of only a few people who rely solely on echolocation to get around. With clicks about as loud as the snapping of fingers, he can distinguish among metal (a soft echoing sound), wood (a dense sound) and glass (a sharp sound). Furthermore, by judging how loud or faint the sounds are, Ben has learned to gauge distances.

- (20) But can humans achieve the same level of proficiency in echolocation as dolphins and bats? Peter Scheifels of the University of Connecticut, who studies hearing and sound production in animals and people, thinks not. Whereas Ben clicks about once every half second, a dolphin makes 900 clicks per second and a bat even more. As a result, dolphins and bats are able to visualize objects much smaller than those visualized by humans. Still, this has not stopped Ben. With the help of echolocation, Ben
- (25) skateboards, plays basketball, and rides horses. According to Scheifels, "Ben pushes the limits of human perception."

Questions

25. The main purpose of the text is to _____ echolocation.

- (1) discuss the different species that use
- (2) demonstrate that humans can also use
- (3) present the advantages and drawbacks of using
- (4) introduce two individuals who use

26. According to the first paragraph, what enables bats to catch mosquitoes in midair?

- (1) sonar signals emitted by mosquitoes
- (2) bats fly faster than mosquitoes
- (3) the high-frequency sounds bats emit
- (4) bats' excellent sense of smell

27. The main purpose of the second paragraph is to -

- (1) describe Daniel Kish's clicking techniques
- (2) discuss conventional techniques used by blind people to find their way around
- (3) explain how Daniel Kish teaches echolocation to blind hiking enthusiasts
- (4) discuss Daniel Kish's adaptation of echolocation

28. In line 10, "negotiate" is closest in meaning to -

- (1) prefer
- (2) navigate
- (3) nominate
- (4) accomplish

29. It can be inferred from Scheifels' statement in lines 25-26 that he -

- (1) thinks Ben could improve his echolocation skills
- (2) regards Ben's behavior as unsafe
- (3) believes human perception has no limits
- (4) is impressed by Ben's special abilities

Reading Comprehension

This part consists of two passages, each followed by several related questions. For each question, **choose the most appropriate answer based on the text.**

Text I (Questions 20-24)

- (1) Shoppers often become impatient when the cashier at the supermarket has trouble scanning an item into the computer. After several attempts, the familiar beep sounds and everyone breathes a sigh of relief as the checkout process gets back on track. Despite such occasional glitches, scanning is a process we have come to depend on. It is made possible by a little invention known as the bar code.

- (10) Bar codes consist of printed patterns of vertical black bars and white spaces. The patterns are "read" by a scanner and then translated into numbers by a computer. This numeric code contains information about the item, including the type of product and its price. The 12 digits printed beneath the bars enable a cashier to type the bar code into the computer manually if necessary.

- (15) The concept of the bar code dates back to the late 1940s and was the brainchild of a college student named Joseph Woodland. The bar code had the potential to revolutionize the storing and tracking of product information. Nevertheless, commercial success was slow to come. It was only in the 1960s that the bar code took off, when the U.S. grocery industry began to automate the checkout process in an effort to improve customer service and inventory control, and minimize cashier errors. It is estimated that since then, the bar code has saved the grocery industry \$17 billion annually, not to mention the valuable time that it has saved customers.

- (20) Nowadays, the use of bar codes has expanded far beyond the grocery store. Bar codes are used in a variety of industries by over a million companies in more than a hundred countries. To name just a few: airlines use bar codes to track luggage, and scientists place tiny bar codes on individual bees to monitor the insects' mating habits. Each day, over five billion bar codes are scanned. Despite its inauspicious beginnings, the bar code has become an integral part of today's fast-paced world.

Questions

20. The main purpose of the text is to -

- (1) discuss how bar codes improve customer service and inventory control
- (2) argue that bar codes cause more problems than they solve
- (3) describe the origins of the bar code and its role in industry
- (4) discuss the economic significance of the bar code

21. Which of the following is not a characteristic of the bar code mentioned in the second paragraph?

- (1) It consists of bars and spaces.
- (2) It can be read by scanners or people.
- (3) Its length depends on the type of product.
- (4) It contains product information.

22. The word "brainchild" (line 11) can best be replaced by -

- (1) original idea
- (2) secret code
- (3) commercial success
- (4) first job

23. The main purpose of the third paragraph is to discuss -

- (1) the automation of the grocery industry
- (2) the history of the bar code
- (3) how much time and money the bar code has saved customers
- (4) how Joseph Woodland invented the bar code

24. "Despite its inauspicious beginnings" (line 23) could best be restated as -

- (1) even though it was not an instant success
- (2) even though it is used all over the world
- (3) even though many stores used it incorrectly
- (4) even though shoppers get impatient when scanners do not work properly

Text II (Questions 25-29)

- (1) High on a mountainside in the Black Hills of South Dakota is the Mount Rushmore Memorial, a vast sculpture depicting the faces of four American presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt. This monumental sculpture, carved out of the face of the mountain, is regarded as a national treasure.
- (5) Some thirty kilometers away, a second monument – less imposing than Mount Rushmore – immortalizes another great leader.

- (10) In 1939 – inspired by the Mount Rushmore project which was still underway – Chief Henry Standing Bear, a Native American leader and member of the Lakota tribe, expressed the following wish: "My fellow chiefs and I would like the white man to know that the red man has great heroes too." Sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski fulfilled this wish when, in 1948, he began work on a monument to Chief Crazy Horse, the fearless Lakota warrior and revered leader who had struggled against government seizure of his people's lands in the 19th century. The monument, still incomplete, depicts Crazy Horse on horseback, his left hand extended toward the land before him.

- (15) Even in its unfinished state, the sculpture of the famed Lakota hero draws tens of thousands of visitors every year. Despite its popularity with the public, not all Native Americans are pleased with the endeavor. Some consider it a desecration of the land and criticize the damage done to the natural terrain. Indeed, according to eminent Lakota medicine man Lame Deer, "the whole idea of making a beautiful, wild mountain
- (20) into a statue goes against the spirit of Crazy Horse."

Questions

25. The main purpose of the text is to -

- (1) describe the life of Chief Crazy Horse
- (2) discuss a monument to a Native American leader
- (3) compare the Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse memorials
- (4) discuss five great American leaders

26. According to the first paragraph, the Mount Rushmore Memorial is -

- (1) huge
- (2) new
- (3) beautiful
- (4) unfinished

27. According to the second paragraph, Crazy Horse -

- (1) lived in the Black Hills
- (2) was Standing Bear's father
- (3) built a monument to the Lakota tribe
- (4) fought to protect Native American land

28. The main purpose of the last paragraph is to -

- (1) present reactions to the Crazy Horse monument
- (2) explain the effect of the Crazy Horse monument on the surroundings
- (3) suggest that Crazy Horse himself would have disliked the monument
- (4) point out how popular the monument to Crazy Horse is with tourists

29. In line 18, "terrain" could best be replaced by -

- (1) hero
- (2) landscape
- (3) spirit
- (4) pollution



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הבנת הנקרא | אנגלית - פרק ראשון

29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	שאלה
4	2	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	4	תשובה

הבנת הנקרא | אנגלית - פרק שני

29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	שאלה
2	1	4	1	2	1	2	1	3	3	תשובה

Reading Comprehension

This part consists of two passages, each followed by several related questions. For each question, **choose the most appropriate answer based on the text.**

Text I (Questions 18-22)

- (1) Every time you sit down to eat – about three times a day or one thousand and ninety-five times a year – all five of your senses start working. The look of food may please or disgust you. The sound of food frying may increase or decrease your enjoyment. The feel of food as it touches your tongue may satisfy or disappoint. The smell of food may increase or ruin your appetite. Finally, the taste of food either completes your pleasure or results in disappointment. In order to enjoy food, all your senses – sight, hearing, touch, smell, taste – are important.

- (10) Some interesting research concerning food and the senses was conducted by a Russian scientist named Ivan Pavlov. Dogs always salivate* when they see food. By ringing a bell just before giving them food, Pavlov was able to train the dogs to salivate at the sound of the bell alone – without seeing the food. He called this "conditioning." Not surprisingly, we are all conditioned to some degree with regard to food. You may feel pangs of hunger when looking at a picture of a fresh green salad caught by the camera at the exact second it is being covered with golden dressing. You may salivate at the sound of a potato chip being eaten, or at the sound of cola being poured into a glass. These are treats for the eyes and the ears.

- (20) Taste and smell, however, certainly play the biggest roles in enjoying food. The two are closely related. Most people do not realize that there are many tastes that can only be recognized with the help of the sense of smell. Surely you have noticed that when you have a bad cold with a blocked nose, you have difficulty tasting. But, if you're still not convinced, a simple experiment will prove it. Hold your nose and drink some apple juice and then some onion juice. You won't be able to tell the difference – both will taste sweet.

* salivate - to produce saliva, a liquid formed in the mouth

Questions

18. The writer's main purpose in this text is to -

- (1) discuss the relationship between the senses and food
- (2) present evidence that sight is the most important sense
- (3) describe the experiments conducted by Pavlov on food and the senses
- (4) explain why foods taste the same when they cannot be smelled

19. It can be understood that the writer mentions the number of times a person eats each year in order to -

- (1) suggest that eating three meals a day is a good idea
- (2) argue that it is necessary to eat but not to enjoy food
- (3) show that the five senses are affected by food quite often
- (4) provide information on why people eat so frequently

20. In line 11, "this" refers to -

- (1) ringing a bell without giving the dogs food
- (2) research on dogs conducted by Pavlov
- (3) training the dogs to salivate at the sound of the bell alone
- (4) the fact that dogs always salivate when they see food

21. In lines 12-15 ("You may feel . . . a glass") the author describes people's reactions to -

- (1) feelings of hunger
- (2) the sight and sound of food
- (3) experiments involving food
- (4) the taste of various foods

22. The purpose of the experiment discussed in the last paragraph is to -

- (1) prove that apple juice and onion juice actually have the same taste
- (2) show how difficult it is to smell food when one has a bad cold
- (3) show that smell is needed to taste the difference between foods
- (4) prove that people could enjoy food more if they used all of their senses

Text II (Questions 23-27)

- (1) Not all great folk heroes were necessarily virtuous people. A few of them were villains, whose adventures so captured the imagination of ordinary folk that they were recounted many times, creating legends that gained momentum and size like snowballs rolling downhill. Despite the fact that these men were ruthless and sometimes violent, they fascinated honest citizens.
- (5)

- Such is the case of 18th-century highwayman Dick Turpin, one of the glamorous "Gentlemen of the Road" – fashionably dressed and well-mannered men who robbed helpless travellers on isolated routes. He was idolized by the press of his day, who created a legend that has lasted over 250 years. Turpin was born in 1705 in Hampstead, England. He became a butcher but soon began trading in stolen meat. Later, he drifted to smuggling and armed robbery, and finally became a highwayman. He spent four years as a "Gentleman of the Road," and his increasingly outrageous robberies amazed all of England.
- (10)

- It was nearly impossible to prevent highway robbery from occurring. The main form of transport at that time was the horse-drawn stagecoach, which travelled slowly across huge areas of thinly populated countryside, unprotected by a police force. The only rest stops were at coaching inns, where Turpin often drank and gambled while gathering information from unsuspecting wealthy travellers.
- (15)

- The fame he acquired was not always deserved, for an adoring press often credited Turpin with robberies even when he had been far from the scene of the crime. By 1738 he had accumulated sufficient money to retire and, moving to another part of the country, he adopted the life of a country gentleman. Returning home drunk one day, Turpin shot a farmer's chicken. When the farmer protested, he threatened to shoot him as well. This episode led to Turpin's arrest. Further enquiries linked him to incidents of horse-stealing, an offence punishable by hanging. Turpin remained a hero to the end: When the rope was placed around his neck, he jumped to an instant death.
- (20)
- (25)

Questions

23. The expression "snowballs rolling downhill" (lines 3-4) is used to show that -

- (1) villains often became very famous
 (2) criminals may become heroes, depending on their activities
 (3) some legends keep growing and spreading
 (4) the adventures of heroes and criminals are spectacular

24. It can be inferred from the text that the men called "Gentlemen of the Road" were given this name because -

- (1) of the way they dressed and acted
- (2) they robbed only wealthy travellers
- (3) of the attention they received
- (4) no one knew that they were thieves

25. It was nearly impossible to stop Dick Turpin because he robbed travellers -

- (1) where there were few people and no police
- (2) while gambling with them
- (3) who were travelling on horseback
- (4) when they stopped at coaching inns

26. According to the third paragraph, travellers at the coaching inns -

- (1) rested while Dick Turpin robbed their stagecoaches
- (2) were suspicious of travellers who did not look wealthy
- (3) discussed the outrageous robberies with Dick Turpin
- (4) did not realize they were giving information to a robber

27. Why was Turpin hanged?

- (1) He committed many stagecoach robberies.
- (2) He was found guilty of stealing horses.
- (3) He shot a farmer's chicken.
- (4) He threatened to kill a farmer.

Reading Comprehension

This part consists of two passages, each followed by several related questions. For each question, **choose the most appropriate answer based on the text.**

Text I (Questions 18-22)

- (1) Rubber is one of the most interesting and important raw materials. Natural rubber comes from the juice of a tree, whereas synthetic rubber is made from chemicals. Rubber is useful for several reasons: It holds air, keeps out moisture, does not conduct electricity, and most importantly, is elastic.
- (5) When the early European explorers first came to Central and South America, they saw the Indians playing with bouncing balls made of rubber. The explorers learned that the Indians made waterproof "shoes" from latex, the milky white juice of the rubber tree, by spreading the latex on their feet and letting it dry. In 1770, an English chemist named Joseph Priestley discovered that the material could be used to erase pencil
- (10) marks. By the late 1700s, scientists had found that hardened latex dissolved in turpentine could be used to waterproof cloth. In 1823, Charles Macintosh, a Scottish chemist, began manufacturing the "macintosh" raincoats that became world-famous. He made them with a layer of rubber between two layers of cloth. In 1839, Charles
- (15) Goodyear, an American inventor, accidentally discovered a way to make rubber stronger and increase its resistance to heat and cold. He unintentionally spilled a sulfur-rubber mixture containing other ingredients on a hot stove while conducting an experiment. The rubber compound was "cured" by the stove's heat, enabling it to stay tough and firm even in extreme temperatures.
- (20) Today, people depend so much on rubber that it would be almost impossible to get along without it. This, however, is not the case with most other materials. If we lack one material, we can usually substitute another. A house can be built of wood, brick, stone, concrete, glass, or metal. Clothes can be made of cotton, silk, wool, or other fibers. But what about the tires of an automobile, truck, or bus? It is hard to imagine them made of anything but rubber. Only rubber is elastic, airtight, water-resistant,
- (25) shock-absorbing, and long-lasting.

Questions

18. The Indians discovered that latex could be used -

- (1) for making juice
 (2) to make synthetic rubber
 (3) instead of milk
 (4) to keep out water

19. In line 17, "compound" could be replaced by -

- (1) experiment
- (2) ingredient
- (3) mixture
- (4) juice

20. The main purpose of the second paragraph is to present -

- (1) the discoveries of different uses for rubber
- (2) a description of experiments conducted on rubber
- (3) the difference between the way Indians and Europeans used rubber
- (4) reasons for using things made of rubber

21. It can be understood from the text that other materials cannot be substituted for rubber because -

- (1) they do not have all of rubber's special qualities
- (2) people today have become too dependent on them
- (3) they cannot be produced as easily as rubber
- (4) only rubber comes in both a natural and a synthetic form

22. A good title for this text would be -

- (1) Differences Between Natural and Synthetic Rubber
- (2) Long-Lasting Raw Materials
- (3) The Raw Material We Can't Do Without
- (4) The Accidental Discovery of Rubber

Text II (Questions 23-27)

- (1) The most famous dream theorist of all, Sigmund Freud, claimed that "a dream is the fulfillment of a wish." By this he meant that desires, goals and fantasies that are powerful motivating forces in a person's life, but are nevertheless unacceptable to the conscious mind, find expression in disguised and symbolic forms in dreams. However,
- (5) according to a new theory developed by Robert P. Vertes, a neuroscientist, dreaming may have a significance that even Freud never imagined. Far from simply providing an unpredictable nightly journey through fantasyland, it may be what keeps us alive.

- (10) Our dreams occur during a phase of sleep called REM sleep, discovered in the early 1960s. Named for the rapid eye movements that are observed during this sleep stage, REM sleep typically occurs throughout the night as part of a fairly regular 80 to 90 minute cycle. However, unlike the inactivity of body and mind that characterizes most of our sleep, the REM phase is accompanied by a storm of electrophysiological brain activity which is closer to that seen when one is awake than to any other stage of sleep.

- (15) Is dreaming really necessary? This question brings us back to Vertes' theory. Except for the brief REM periods, Vertes says, sleep involves a suppression of brain activity that, if left undisturbed, could result in serious harm to the nervous system as a whole. It's as if sleep confronts the brain with a state of deep unconsciousness, not unlike a coma, that is antagonistic to its normal waking function. "REM serves the important function of periodically activating the brain during sleep without awakening
- (20) the sleeper or disturbing the continuity of sleep," Vertes says. "Failure of the periodic activation provided by the REM episodes may lead to a permanent loss of consciousness and possibly death during sleep." There may, therefore, be more than symbolic truth to the expression that to deprive a man of his dreams is to rob him of life itself.

Questions

23. According to the first paragraph, Freud believed that desires, goals and fantasies -

- (1) are created by the conscious mind
- (2) result from powerful motivating forces
- (3) are expressed symbolically in dreams
- (4) may be used to disguise our dreams

24. Neuroscientist Robert Vertes has theorized that dreaming -

- (1) has less significance than Freud believed
- (2) may be necessary to keep us alive
- (3) provides us with a journey through fantasyland
- (4) fulfills our most powerful wishes

25. REM sleep is called REM because it -

- (1) was discovered in the 1960s
- (2) is a cycle which occurs at night
- (3) occurs every 80 to 90 minutes
- (4) is accompanied by rapid eye movements

26. In line 13, "that" refers to -

- (1) brain activity
- (2) a stage of sleep
- (3) the REM phase
- (4) the inactivity of body and mind

27. A suitable title for the text would be -

- (1) The Importance of Dreaming
- (2) Dreams – an Expression of Fantasies
- (3) Dreams and REM Sleep – a Conflict in Terms
- (4) Freud or Vertes – Who is Right?



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תשובות סופיות

הבנת הנקרא | אנגלית - פרק ראשון

27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	שאלה
2	4	1	1	3	3	2	3	3	1	תשובה

הבנת הנקרא | אנגלית - פרק שני

27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	שאלה
1	1	4	2	3	3	1	1	3	4	תשובה

19. A recent study has confirmed a relationship that had long been suspected: in the United States, cockroaches are the leading cause of asthma in children living in the inner cities.

- (1) According to a recent study, children living in the inner cities are more likely to suffer from asthma than children living in areas without cockroaches.
- (2) A new study has raised suspicions about the long-held belief that cockroaches are responsible for the high rate of asthma in inner-city children.
- (3) Cockroaches cause many types of illness in inner-city children, the most common of which is asthma, according to a recent study.
- (4) For many years, it was thought that cockroaches were probably a primary cause of asthma among inner-city children; this link has now been proven.

Reading Comprehension

This part consists of two passages, each followed by several related questions. For each question, **choose the most appropriate answer based on the text.**

Text I (Questions 20-24)

(1) On December 1, 1955, a black woman named Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white person on a public bus. This simple act made her an important figure in American history.

(5) Mrs. Parks lived in Montgomery, Alabama, a city in the southern United States. Until the late 1960s, black people living in the South did not have the same rights as white people. They were not allowed to attend the same schools and universities, live in the same neighborhoods, or eat in the same restaurants. Black people could only ride at the back of public buses, and they had to give up their seats to white people if the bus was full.

(10) Rosa Parks went to work by bus every day. One evening, the 42-year-old Mrs. Parks refused to give up her seat to a white person. She was tired after a long day at work, but she was even more tired of being treated badly because of the color of her skin.

(15) The police arrested Rosa Parks and charged her with breaking a city law. This made the 45,000 black residents of Montgomery angry. In protest, they refused to ride the city's buses; instead they walked to work or shared taxis and cars. The protest lasted more than a year. It ended only after the Supreme Court ruled that not giving black people equal rights on buses was against the Constitution of the United States.

(20) Recently, the Henry Ford Museum bought the bus that Rosa Parks rode. It had been lying in a field for many years. The museum paid \$492,000 for the old bus, which was then restored. It is now on display for all to see – a monument to one woman's courage.

Questions

20. A good title for this text would be -

- (1) Rosa Parks and the Supreme Court
- (2) Public Buses in Montgomery, Alabama
- (3) The Henry Ford Museum Buys a Bus
- (4) How Rosa Parks Made History

21. According to the second paragraph, until the late 1960s, black people in the southern United States -

- (1) were not allowed to ride public buses
- (2) could live only in black neighborhoods
- (3) had the same rights as white people
- (4) would not eat in restaurants

22. It can be understood from the third paragraph that Rosa Parks -

- (1) worked for 42 years
- (2) was tired of riding buses
- (3) did not want to go to work
- (4) wanted to be treated equally

23. The main purpose of the fourth paragraph is to -

- (1) describe how Rosa Parks broke the law
- (2) discuss the importance of equal rights
- (3) discuss the Constitution of the United States
- (4) describe the results of Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat

24. In line 16, "ruled" could be replaced by -

- (1) refused
- (2) studied
- (3) decided
- (4) remembered

Text II (Questions 25-29)

- (1) Many people find the subject of twins fascinating, especially cases of identical twins raised separately. Stories of twins meeting for the first time after years of separation capture the imagination. These stories sometimes have an almost mythical or fairy-tale quality, like those describing the reunion of long-lost lovers, destined to live happily ever after. It may be that they arouse our fantasies about what life would have been like if we had been brought up by different parents, or if wealth instead of poverty – or poverty instead of wealth – had come our way.

- (10) Identical twins separated at birth and raised apart are of particular interest to psychologists. Unlike fraternal twins, who develop from two eggs, identical twins develop from a single egg and sperm and thus share the same genetic makeup. Therefore, each pair of separated identical twins makes a good natural experiment in which genetic factors remain constant while environmental factors vary. This situation, impossible to duplicate in the laboratory, gives researchers a unique opportunity to investigate the relative influence of heredity and environment on various traits. The central question is this: How alike – or different – are genetically identical twins who have been raised in different environments? If they differ greatly with respect to a particular trait, environment may have had a greater effect on the development of that trait. If they are very similar, heredity may have been more important.

- (20) Some incredible cases have been reported by scientists, such as that of Herta and Berta, identical twins raised on different continents who did not even share a common language. Nevertheless, both enjoyed drama and art, both suffered from depression, and both had been given the nickname "Kitty" – in different languages – because each purred like a cat when she was happy.

Questions

25. The main purpose of the text is to -

- (1) describe the psychological and genetic differences between twins
- (2) present advantages and disadvantages of raising identical twins separately
- (3) describe a number of scientific experiments that have been done on twins
- (4) explain why identical twins separated at birth are the focus of much interest

26. What is being investigated in the "natural experiment" (line 11)?

- (1) the effects of wealth and poverty on raising children
- (2) the differences between identical and fraternal twins
- (3) the contribution of eggs and sperm to the genetic makeup of twins
- (4) the relative influence of heredity and environment on people's traits

27. One might conclude that environment plays a major role in development if -

- (1) identical twins who were raised apart developed very different traits
- (2) laboratory investigations could show that most pairs of twins have similar traits
- (3) fraternal twins raised in different places had similar personalities
- (4) there were greater differences between fraternal twins than between identical twins

28. It can be inferred that the case of Herta and Berta would support the claim that -

- (1) identical twins raised apart share a special language
- (2) heredity has a greater effect on people's traits than environment has
- (3) psychologists should study twins from all over the world
- (4) many twins separated at birth suffer from depression

29. The nickname given to Herta and Berta was based on -

- (1) a sound they both made
- (2) their love of drama and art
- (3) the fact that they both liked cats
- (4) the languages they spoke

Reading Comprehension

This part consists of two passages, each followed by several related questions. For each question, **choose the most appropriate answer based on the text.**

Text I (Questions 20-24)

(1) The statement "The hotter the climate, the hotter the food" reflects a common perception: in countries with hot climates, the food is spicier than in colder areas. But does this perception match reality? And if people in hot countries really do prefer hot food, why is this the case?

(5) Paul Sherman and Jennifer Billing, behavioral ecologists at Cornell University, conducted a comprehensive study of spice use around the world. In particular, they wanted to know why spices feature so prominently in tropical cuisines. Is it simply that more spices grow near the equator? Does pepper cool us off by stimulating sweating? Do spices help disguise the taste of spoiled food? Or did the use of spices arise as a form of protection against food-borne bacteria and other disease-causing agents that are more problematic in warm climates?

(15) Microbiologists have known for years that many of the chemicals that give spices their distinctive flavors also inhibit the growth of microbes, including bacteria and fungi. But before Sherman and Billing, no one had ever conducted a systematic study of the link between this fact and the varied use of spices in different climates.

(20) Sherman and Billing hypothesized that, if spices are indeed used for their antimicrobial properties, their use should be more common in hotter countries, where food is more likely to become contaminated. In order to test this hypothesis, they read cookbooks from 36 countries around the globe, collecting and comparing more than 4,500 traditional meat-based recipes.

(25) They found that the higher the average temperature of a country, the greater the proportion of recipes calling for at least one spice. Every recipe in the hot-weather countries required one or more spices, compared with only 67% of Norwegian recipes. In addition, they found that the hotter the country, the greater the use of spices that have an especially strong antimicrobial effect. According to Sherman and Billing, the explanation is not that more spices are available in hotter places: even onion and garlic, potent antimicrobials that grow in every country studied, appear in more recipes from warm countries.

Questions

20. The main purpose of the text is to discuss the question -

- (1) Do more spices grow near the equator?
- (2) Why do spices have antimicrobial properties?
- (3) Do spices help disguise the taste of spoiled food?
- (4) Why do spices feature so prominently in tropical cuisines?

21. According to the first paragraph, _____ the statement "The hotter the climate, the hotter the food."

- (1) research has disproven
- (2) it is impossible to prove
- (3) many people agree with
- (4) the author disagrees with

22. According to the third paragraph, Sherman and Billing were the first to -

- (1) realize that the chemicals that give spices their distinctive flavors also inhibit the growth of microbes
- (2) hypothesize that spices are important in hot climates because they help disguise the taste of spoiled food
- (3) argue that people in hot countries eat spicy food because more spices are available to them
- (4) research the connection between the use of spices and their antimicrobial effects

23. The main purpose of the fourth paragraph is to -

- (1) present the results of Sherman and Billing's study
- (2) compare meat-based recipes from different countries
- (3) describe the researchers' hypothesis and method
- (4) explain why people in hot countries should use spices

24. The last paragraph mentions onion and garlic as examples of spices that -

- (1) are available everywhere but are used more in hot countries
- (2) have potent antimicrobial properties but are used more in cool countries
- (3) are grown mostly in hot countries but are used all over the world
- (4) have weak antimicrobial effects but are used mostly in warm countries

Text II (Questions 25-29)

- (1) The eagle is the subject of an ode by William Shakespeare, the swallow of a short story by Oscar Wilde. But what about the pigeon? As a matter of fact, China has a long history of what might be called "pigeon culture." The bird is immortalized in the *Pigeon Classics*, a book written some time during the Ming dynasty (1368-1644). Pigeon
- (5) breeding in China dates from that period, when armies used the birds to deliver messages. Even today, pigeons are utilized to fly information into mountainous areas of the country that are difficult to reach by other means.

- (10) By the 17th century, pigeons were being trained to do acrobatics. They performed in air shows, their feet adorned with elaborately carved bamboo whistles that piped music as they flew. In the 1930s, Chinese pigeon owners began breeding their birds for racing. This pastime was outlawed during the Cultural Revolution of the 1970s as a "feudal, capitalist sport," and pigeon breeding came to an end. As a result, when the government looked for pigeons to release at the opening ceremony of a national sports competition in 1980, none were to be found. So, in 1982, the Beijing Pigeon
- (15) Association was formally established. At the 1990 Asian Games in China, 60,000 pigeons were released over the stadium.

- (20) Today, 3 million of the 7 million registered pigeon breeders in the International Homing Pigeon Federation live in China. One of them, Sun Mi, who has raised pigeons since the age of 8, now has 80 pigeons living in a dovecote on the roof of his small home in central Beijing. He is so attached to them that he has put their coop next to his bedroom.

Still, pigeon raising in China is not without problems, primarily related to cost and cleanliness. For example, a racing pigeon in top form may sell for as much as 100,000 yuan in a country where the average monthly salary is about 600 yuan.


Questions

25. The word "breeding" in line 10 could be replaced by -

- (1) performing
(2) raising
(3) flying
(4) racing

26. According to the second paragraph, during the 1970s -

- (1) the Chinese government did not allow pigeon racing
(2) pigeon culture was important in China
(3) thousands of pigeons were released throughout China
(4) the Beijing Pigeon Association was created



27. According to the third paragraph, Sun Mi -

- (1) is one of China's 7 million registered pigeon breeders
 - (2) has pigeons living in every room of his house
 - (3) likes his pigeons so much that he sleeps near them
 - (4) is eight years old
-



28. A continuation of the last paragraph would probably discuss -

- (1) recent increases in the average monthly salary in China
 - (2) modern Chinese poems about pigeons
 - (3) problems of raising pigeons in other countries
 - (4) cleanliness problems caused by pigeon breeding
-



29. A good title for the text would be -

- (1) China's Pigeon Culture in the Past and Present
 - (2) *The Pigeon Classics* and Other Literature About Birds
 - (3) Sun Mi and the Beijing Pigeon Association
 - (4) A History of Pigeon Racing in China
-



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