

Test for 8th Form Students

Task 1. Read the text and mark the sentences below True (T) or False (F).

The Mint is the only place in Britain where real money has no value!

Strangely, or perhaps not very strangely, there is a place in Britain where money has no value. It's called the Royal Mint, and it's situated in South Wales. The Mint stands behind high security fences. It is not open to tourists, but as a journalist, I was able to organise a visit. Tourists can visit the recent visitor centre, next door.

In many ways, the Mint is a very odd place! As I walked round, I could see silver coins lying on the ground! Nobody stops to pick them up, they might as well be stones! Indeed, on the road outside the main building, there were coins squashed into the surface! Here the streets really are paved with money! Coins and banknotes are worthless!

People who go into the Royal Mint, visitors and people who work there, are not allowed to take money in with them. They cannot take it out with them either! As a visitor, I had to leave all my money in a security locker, before I could enter. Inside the buildings, people must use special plastic coins!

The Royal Mint has been making coins for over 1,100 years, since the year 886. It's one of the oldest factories in the world! For hundreds of years, the Mint belonged to the Kings of England. Today's King has nothing to do with it, except that his head appears on all new British coins.

Until the 1960's, the Mint was in London, close to the Tower of London; but as it developed, the London site became too small. The Mint had to move to a bigger factory in Llantrisant, in South Wales. Today it is among the biggest coin-making factories in the world, but things are changing.

In the age of credit cards, people use fewer banknotes and fewer coins. In the 1980s, the British Royal Mint made coins for about 60 countries, including some European countries. But the last foreign coins were made in 2024. Now the Royal Mint only makes British coins - pounds, pennies, and special coins.

A new activity is being developed too. The Mint now extracts gold from old unwanted electronic goods - like phones and computers. It's a very specialized job... a part of the new "circular economy".

1. The Royal Mint is located in North Wales.
2. The Royal Mint is open to the public.
3. Coins and banknotes have no value inside the Royal Mint.
4. People working at the Royal Mint can bring their own money inside.
5. The King of England still owns the Royal Mint.
6. The Royal Mint has been in the same location since it was founded.
7. The Royal Mint is one of the biggest coin-making factories in the world.
8. The Royal Mint still makes coins for many foreign countries.
9. The text states that people use more banknotes and coins now than before.
10. The Mint has begun a new project to extract gold from old electronic devices.

(10 x 1p = 10p)

КВНЗ «Харківська академія неперервної освіти»
Завдання II етапу Всеукраїнської учнівської олімпіади з англійської мови
2024-2025 н.р.

Task 2. Read the text below and for questions 1-5, choose the answer (A, B, C, D) which you think is best according to the text.

A US tourist who got lost in the Amazon jungle for nine days has been found safe and well. The 36-year-old man, whose name is Thomas, went missing while on a guided tour of the rainforest in Ecuador. He was found by local villagers who alerted the authorities. Thomas told reporters that he had become separated from the rest of the group when he stopped to take some photographs. He said he had tried to find his way back but had got lost. "I didn't have any food or water with me," he explained. "I just drank water from rivers and ate fruit I found on trees." Thomas said he had been cold at night and had slept in a cave to keep warm.

Rescue teams had been searching for Thomas since he disappeared. They used helicopters and boats to search the area. "We were about to call off the search when we heard that Thomas had been found," said one of the rescue team members. He added that it was very unusual for someone to survive for so long in the jungle without any supplies.

Thomas was taken to hospital where he was checked over by doctors. Apart from being dehydrated and suffering from insect bites, he was in good health. He was discharged from the hospital a few hours later. "I'm just glad to be back with my family," he said. He thanked the rescue teams and the villagers who had found him. "They were amazing," he said. "I don't know what would have happened if they hadn't found me."

1. What happened to Thomas while he was in the Amazon jungle?
 - a) He got lost while taking photos.
 - b) He was attacked by a wild animal.
 - c) He fell ill and couldn't continue the tour.
 - d) He decided to explore the jungle on his own.

2. How did Thomas survive in the jungle?
 - a) He had brought enough food and water.
 - b) He ate insects and drank river water.
 - c) He ate fruit and drank river water.
 - d) He didn't eat or drink anything.

3. How did the rescue teams search for Thomas?
 - a) They made use of a special transport.
 - b) They followed footprints in the jungle.
 - c) They used dogs to track his scent.
 - d) They asked local villagers for help.

4. Who found Thomas?
 - a) A rescue team.
 - b) Local villagers.
 - c) A group of tourists.
 - d) A wildlife ranger.

5. How did Thomas feel about the rescue teams and the villagers?
 - a) He was disappointed in their efforts.
 - b) He thought they were too slow in finding him.
 - c) He believed they could have done better.
 - d) Expressing gratitude, he praised their assistance.

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Task 3. Read the text. Five sentences have been removed from the text. For items 1-5, decide which sentence below goes into which gap. There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

The Special Olympics

The Special Olympics were founded in Chicago, Illinois in 1968, and since then they have become an important sporting event both in the United States and around the world. 1)_____ In addition to these local and national competitions, there are Special Olympic World Games. There are winter and summer World Games which both take place every two years.

So, what is special about the Special Olympics? The program was designed for athletes who want to compete in important sport events but have intellectual disabilities. 2)_____ One is to encourage these people to improve their fitness. Another is to help them feel confident and more comfortable in the world. In addition, the Games help create positive public feelings about people with disabilities.

The Special Olympics feature a wide variety of sports including athletics, gymnastics, swimming, sailing competitions and judo. 3)_____ For example, in sailing competitions, each Special Olympics athlete is paired with a trained coach. This person can assist the competitor if necessary and help maintain a safe situation. If a boat contains over three crew members, the majority of them must be Special Olympics athletes.

For cycling competitions the rules are different. In this case, the cyclists who are not visually impaired race by themselves. 4)_____ This person, known as a 'pilot', helps them follow the course and avoid dangerous situations. Training for the cycling competition starts with practicing riding in single rows. It also includes doing simple repairs and reviewing the rules of the race. 5)_____ The athletes' health and happiness are always top priority.

The inspirational motto of the Special Olympics is, 'Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.' Today, 5.7 million athletes around the world share that mission.

- A. These sports are the most popular with the athletes.
- B. Competitors also learn about bike safety; for example, why they must wear a helmet.
- C. Today there are competitions in 180 countries featuring 30 different summer and winter sports.
- D. Because of competitors' abilities, the games have different rules.
- E. However, athletes who can't see well or are blind have someone by their side.
- F. They believe that changing the rules does not help athletes.
- G. Most of the competitors come from Europe and the Americas.
- H. It has several important goals.

(5 x 1p = 5p)

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Task 4. Read the text and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each space.

Holidays

Most people enjoy going (1)_____ for their holidays, and having the opportunity to (2)_____ in an interesting city or a seaside (3)_____. If you speak (4)_____ languages, you can make new friends, and (5)_____ home some interesting (6)_____ as presents. But before you can do that, you have to (7)_____ your destination, and that is often a problem! If you fly, then you may find that your flight has been (8)_____. (9)_____ by train can also be difficult, since trains are often (10)_____ in the summer, and you might have to reserve a (11)_____ in advance. Whichever way you (12)_____ you can have problems with your (13)_____ and it is often difficult to find good (14)_____. Apart from this, you might not be able to afford the (15)_____!

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|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1 A out | B forward | C abroad | D foreign |
| 2 A remain | B pass | C spend | D stay |
| 3 A resort | B post | C too | D one |
| 4 A strange | B stranger | C foreigner | D foreign |
| 5 A fetch | B take | C go | D get |
| 6 A memories | B souvenirs | C memoirs | D recollections |
| 7 A reach | B arrive | C go | D travel |
| 8 A waited | B reversed | C delayed | D booked |
| 9 A Journeys | B Travels | C Voyages | D Passes |
| 10 A filling | B occupied | C overdone | D crowded |
| 11 A post | B chair | C seat | D position |
| 12 A voyage | B travel | C trip | D tour |
| 13 A baggages | B luggage | C goods | D sacks |
| 14 A staying | B homes | C lodges | D accommodation |
| 15 A fare | B fair | C far | D fur |

(15 x 1p = 15p)

Task 5. Read the text and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each space.

Maria's Homecoming

When the bus stopped in a small square, Maria (1)_____ her magazine and didn't realize that she had arrived at her destination. 'This is Santa Teresa,' Martin said. '(2)_____ home! I suppose your cousin (3)_____ for us. Come on. (4)_____ the bags.' Maria thought, 'All those years when I (5)..... in New York, I used to dream of this moment. And now it's real, I can't believe it! Here I am, (6)_____ in the square.' Santa Teresa was Maria's birthplace, but she (7)_____ the town at the age of six. She had some memories of the town, and some photos, but did she belong here still? She didn't know. Nobody (8)_____ in the square. Perhaps her cousin Pablo (9)_____ Maria's letter. 'What (10)_____ now?' asked Martin. 'There isn't even a hotel here!'

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|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 A was reading | B read | C had read | D used to read |
| 2 A You arrive | B You're arriving | C You've been arriving | D You've arrived |
| 3 A waits | B will be waiting | C has waited | D is going to wait |
| 4 A I'll carry | B I carry | C I've carried | D I carried |
| 5 A live | B have lived | C was living | D am living |
| 6 A I really stand | B I was really standing | C I had really stood | D I'm really standing |
| 7 A was leaving | B had left | C used to leave | D has left |
| 8 A was waiting | B is waiting | C waits | D waited |
| 9 A wasn't receiving | B didn't use to receive | C hadn't received | D hasn't received |
| 10 A are we going to do | B have we done | C did we do | D are we doing |

(10 x 1p = 10p)