

GRAMMAR

Read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C, or D) best fits each space. Then, circle the correct option on the following page.

The Adventure of the Midnight Sun

In a small village surrounded by big mountains and thick woods, (1) ____ lived a group of teenagers who always (2) ____ for adventure. Among them, Alex, who was very interested in the old stories about their village, came up with an idea (3) ____ everyone liked. "Why (4) ____ we hike to the old ruins on (5) ____ longest day of the year? They say it's the only night when the special sun (6) ____ the hidden treasures shine," he suggested one day when they were all hanging out by the river.

Despite the excitement, Mia wasn't sure. "But hasn't everyone who tried never found anything? Maybe it's just a story," she said, always the one who thought things through among her friends. However, the chance for an adventure was too good to pass up. They agreed that they would get ready for their trip, making sure to take everything they (7) ____ need.

The day before the hike, they checked their backpacks. They had maps, compasses, and had even borrowed a tent, although no one (8) ____ outside before. "We must stay together all the time," (9) ____ Jake, who had read every book (10) ____ how to survive. "And remember, if we (11) ____ lost, we should stay in one place and wait for (12) ____ to find us," he added, always worried about staying safe.

As the night came, they felt (13) ____ excited. They started their walk under a sky full of stars, with only their flashlights and the occasional light from the sky (14) ____ see by. The forest (15) ____ alive, with sounds and shadows (16) ____ between the trees. Even with their plans, they felt both excited and a (17) ____ scared.

After walking for a few hours, just when they had started to feel tired, they (18) ____ at the ruins. What they saw was (19) ____ amazing than they could (20) ____ imagined. The old stones of the ruins shone under the light of the special sun, which (21) ____ fully gone down. It made everything look like it was from another world.

Alex was (22) ____ first (23) ____ talk, breaking the quiet. "Let's look around carefully. There (24) ____ be more here than just treasure," he said, excited but cautious. As they looked through the ruins, they found old objects and signs on the stones, each telling a story from a long time ago.

Suddenly, Mia, (25) ____ had gone off to a hidden part of the ruins, (26) _____. "Guys, come here!" Running over, they found a small room hidden away, its entrance covered by plants. Inside, lit by the strange light, (27) ____ a picture showing the village and the ruins, with the sky lights all around.

"It looks like these ruins were a meeting place for the ancient people of our village," said Mia, amazed by what they had found. "Maybe the real treasure isn't gold or jewels, but the stories and connection to our past," she (28) _____, her doubts replaced by a new feeling of wonder.

As the morning came, they knew it was time to go back. Their adventure didn't lead them to find gold, but it gave them something much better: a night of fun, friendship, and better understanding of their village's history. They went home as the first light of morning appeared, tired but happy about their night.

The adventure with the special sun (29) ____ stay in their hearts as a reminder that sometimes, the best treasures (30) ____ the adventures we have and the stories we find.

(The Adventure of the Midnight Sun. Text generated by ChatGPT, OpenAI, 29 January 2024, <https://chat.openai.com/chat>.)

G R A M M A R – continued

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. A) where | B) which | C) there | D) it |
| 2. A) look | B) looked | C) are looking | D) have looked |
| 3. A) that | B) what | C) who | D) where |
| 4. A) didn't | B) don't | C) do | D) did |
| 5. A) a | B) an | C) the | D) <i>no article</i> |
| 6. A) makes | B) make | C) made | D) making |
| 7. A) could | B) should | C) must | D) might |
| 8. A) had slept | B) have slept | C) has slept | D) was slept |
| 9. A) say | B) said | C) says | D) saying |
| 10. A) in | B) at | C) on | D) by |
| 11. A) will get | B) get | C) got | D) have got |
| 12. A) anyone | B) everyone | C) no one | D) someone |
| 13. A) too | B) enough | C) very | D) so |
| 14. A) to | B) for | C) by | D) on |
| 15. A) seem | B) seems | C) seemed | D) seeming |
| 16. A) moves | B) moving | C) moved | D) move |
| 17. A) bit | B) lot | C) piece | D) slightly |
| 18. A) arrive | B) arrives | C) arrived | D) arriving |
| 19. A) more | B) most | C) less | D) least |
| 20. A) have | B) has | C) had | D) having |
| 21. A) don't | B) hasn't | C) hadn't | D) didn't |
| 22. A) the | B) a | C) an | D) at |
| 23. A) for | B) to | C) at | D) on |
| 24. A) might | B) must | C) should | D) would |
| 25. A) which | B) that | C) whose | D) who |
| 26. A) shouts | B) shouted | C) shout | D) shouting |
| 27. A) was | B) were | C) is | D) are |
| 28. A) think | B) thinks | C) thought | D) thinking |
| 29. A) could | B) should | C) would | D) will |
| 30. A) is | B) are | C) was | D) were |

0.5 point/correct answer

Total: _____ / 15 pts

V O C A B U L A R Y

Read part of the text entitled *More than 200 Years after He Toured Florida, America's First Great Environmentalist is Inspiring Locals to Reconnect with Nature* and complete the sentences with the correct form of the words written in brackets.

Pushing his kayak out into the St. Johns River on a nearly (1) _____ (CLOUD) day in northern Florida, a (2) _____ (RETIRE) environmental engineer named Dean Campbell leads a tour to Mount Royal, an ancient cemetery. We get off next to a long wooden dock and walk through a (3) _____ (NEIGHBOUR) of towering palm trees until we come to a hill marked with a (4) _____ (HISTORY) sign for "The Mount Royal Site."

Standing along the St. Johns and looking at Mount Royal, we are following in the footsteps of William Bartram, the American naturalist and writer, who visited this spot several times in the 18th century. In 1773, Bartram left his home in Pennsylvania and began a four-year journey that would eventually lead to publishing *Travels*. This book of poetry is part travelogue and part (5) _____ (SCIENCE) catalogue. In his (6) _____ (INTRODUCE), Bartram celebrates the landscapes, plants, animals, and people he met.

The St. Johns served as the main route for Bartram's travels in Florida. He recorded his (7) _____ (IMPRESS) of the area's alligators and water springs. His book soon brought wide attention to many (8) _____ (NATURE) wonders in the South and turned Florida's nature into a focus of (9) _____ (NATION) scientific interest. Bartram's route has attracted curious scholars and artists ever since.

Nowadays, people like Campbell are helping others become more interested in Bartram's writing, art, and contributions to natural history. With climate change and population (10) _____ (GROW) putting what's left of Florida's nature at risk, Bartram's dream of a future where nature is protected has never been more urgent.

(Adapted from Bense, K.: *More than 200 Years after He Toured Florida, America's First Great Environmentalist is Inspiring Locals to Reconnect with Nature*. In: *Smithsonian Magazine*, January/February, 2024. [online]. Retrieved from: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/americas-first-great-environmentalist-florida-william-bartram-180983452/>)

1 point/correct answer

Total: _____ / 10 pts

READING COMPREHENSION**How a War over Eggs Marked the Early History of San Francisco**

Egg dishes are a taste of home. **(1)** ____ An egg reminds many of us of learning to cook, since making eggs is perfect for teaching a kid. Even if one dislikes a simple scramble, the egg is a key ingredient in many comfort foods, including pancakes and birthday cake.

The Egg War began in 1848 with the Gold Rush. San Francisco started the year with only a thousand people, but over the next twelve months the population rose to twenty-five thousand. The city experienced a shortage of women and food, particularly protein. Increasing the sizes of farms to provide for the local population turned out to be harder than it seemed. Nobody could get large groups of chickens to survive there. **(2)** ____ And without eggs, there could be no cakes, scrambled eggs, pancakes, puddings, or muffins.

(3) ____ In the countryside, a single chicken egg could cost \$3, while in the city that same egg sold for the still extremely high price of \$1. Even without accounting for inflation, \$12 to \$36 per dozen eggs is very expensive. With inflation, the price was about \$427 to \$1,282 per dozen. If someone could bring good fresh eggs to San Francisco Bay, he would make his fortune.

Many say the first people to get rich were “Doc” Robinson and his brother-in-law Orrin Dorman.

(4) ____ So, Doc and Orrin took a boat and sailed to the Farallones, about fifty kilometres outside of San Francisco Bay.

As a location, the Farallones are the sort of place a third-grade boy would make up to amaze and gross out his classmates. Although to call them “islands” is a bit much—they are rough and sharp rocks of various sizes that stick up above the water. **(5)** ____

Doc and Orrin landed on the largest rock formation, which is smaller than half a square kilometre. There, they came face to face with the most impressive fact of life on the island—its birds. Doc and Orrin climbed up those wet, dirty cliffs and filled their boat with eggs. On the difficult journey home through rough seas, they lost almost half the eggs. But when they arrived in San Francisco, their eggs sold for a small fortune of \$3,000 (something like \$100K in 2020 money). Doc Robinson used his share of the profits to build a pharmacy and the Drama Museum, a theatre where he entertained locals with his impressions of New Englanders. He became a pillar of the theatre community. But the trip had terrified him and Orrin so much that nothing could persuade them to return. Word of their profits, though, spread quickly. The egg rush had begun.

(Adapted from Stark, L.: How a War over Eggs Marked the Early History of San Francisco. In: *Literary Hub*, March 29, 2023. [online]. Retrieved from: <https://lithub.com/how-a-war-over-eggs-marked-the-early-history-of-san-francisco/>)

READING COMPREHENSION – continued

A. Read part of the article *How a War Over Eggs Marked the Early History of San Francisco*. Decide which of the sentences (A) – (H) best fits into each of the numbered gaps (1) – (5) in the article. Write the correct letter in the blank chart provided below. There are three extra sentences.

- a) As gold poured into the city, the prices for fresh eggs skyrocketed.
- b) In a growing city, eggs were as important as gold for some.
- c) Doc, a pharmacist from Maine, thought the Farallon Islands, home to hundreds of thousands of seabirds, might provide enough eggs to pay for a new pharmacy.
- d) Even though it was risky, the chance to make money from eggs tempted many.
- e) Without chickens, of course, there could be no eggs.
- f) Those rocks are famous for shipwrecks.
- g) The price of eggs became a symbol of the city's fast economic changes.
- h) We want them the way our fathers or mothers or grandparents made them.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.

B. For questions 1 – 5, choose the correct answer according to the text. Circle the correct answer.

- 1. Egg dishes make many of us think of...
 - a. new recipes we want to try.
 - b. how our families used to make them.
 - c. the first time we cooked by ourselves.
 - d. buying eggs from the supermarket.
- 2. The rapid population growth in San Francisco was due to...
 - a. the construction of new farms.
 - b. a decrease in egg prices.
 - c. the opening of Doc Robinson's pharmacy.
 - d. the Gold Rush.
- 3. Farms couldn't meet the local demand because...
 - a. there was no interest in farming.
 - b. the soil was too poor.
 - c. they couldn't keep many chickens alive.
 - d. it was too cold for crops.
- 4. The description of the Farallones suggests they are...
 - a. not ideal for habitation.
 - b. easily accessible.
 - c. full of valuable minerals.
 - d. a popular tourist destination.
- 5. Doc Robinson and Orrin Dorman made their fortune by...
 - a. mining for gold.
 - b. selling fresh eggs in San Francisco.
 - c. building the first pharmacy.
 - d. acting in the theatre.

1 point/correct answer

Total: _____ / 10 pts

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

You will listen to an article entitled *Three Tips on How to Study Effectively*. Pay close attention and for each statement decide whether it is true (T), false (F), or not stated in the article (NS). Circle the correct answer for each statement. You can score up to five points in this exercise.

1. **T / F / NS** During the 2006 study, doctors learned to stitch muscles.
2. **T / F / NS** The study in 2006 was carried out at a university hospital.
3. **T / F / NS** Both groups in the study used different study materials.
4. **T / F / NS** One of the study groups performed better in surgeries after using a different study technique.
5. **T / F / NS** Memories of new information are first stored in the brain's neocortex.
6. **T / F / NS** Scientists fully understand how information is transferred to long-term memory.
7. **T / F / NS** Rereading textbooks and highlighting notes are more effective than testing yourself.
8. **T / F / NS** Making mistakes while studying can improve long-term learning.
9. **T / F / NS** The second study technique, interleaving, involves focusing on one subject at a time.
10. **T / F / NS** The best time to study is early in the morning.

0.5 point/correct answer**Total: _____ / 5 pts**

Autorka: Mgr. Zuzana Sucháňová, PhD.

Recenzentka: PaedDr. Anna Brisudová

Korektor: Joshua M. Ruggiero

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – celoštátne kolo 2023/2024

Vydal: NIVAM – Národný inštitút vzdelávania a mládeže, Bratislava 2024