

1 Answer questions (1) ~ (5).

(1) Choose the phrase that best represents the purpose of the following passage.

Iceland isn't as cold as Antarctica\*, and lakes and ponds where mosquitoes could breed are plentiful. Despite this, Iceland is the only country in the world to be completely mosquito-free. Strangely, neighboring countries like Norway, Denmark, Scotland, and Greenland have mosquitoes in abundance.

Some scientists hypothesize\* that Iceland's oceanic\* climate helps control mosquitoes. In other cold places, when mosquitoes lay eggs in winter, the larvae\* emerge only after spring has broken. Iceland has cool summers and cool winters, as well as multiple freeze-thaw\* cycles each year. This can create conditions that may be too unstable for the survival of mosquitoes.

Another theory is that the chemical composition of the water and ground keeps the bugs at bay\*. Scientists guess that mosquitoes could be carried to Iceland on airplanes and learn to adapt to the climate there, but thus far\*, the country has been saved from this annoying pest\*.

注) \*Antarctica: the continent at the South Pole

\*hypothesize: suggest an explanation for the cause of some effect

\*oceanic: influenced by the ocean

\*larvae: young insects before they develop legs or wings

\*thaw: melt

\*keeps the bugs at bay: prevents the bugs from becoming a problem

\*thus far: until now

\*pest: insect or animal that causes damage or harm

- a. To compare the climates of Iceland and Antarctica
- b. To describe how mosquitoes can be eliminated
- c. To discuss theories on the absence of mosquitoes in Iceland
- d. To explain reasons why there are many mosquitoes in Iceland

(2) Choose the phrase that best represents the purpose of the following passage.

Somehow people got the idea that the presence of bugs in your garden is a bad thing. Sure, some of them eat holes in your zucchinis\* and infest\* your dahlias\*, but spraying pesticides\* to keep your garden bug-free is far from the answer.

Most insects aren't pests\*. Of the 1million-ish\* insect species we know of, only around 1 percent of them are classified as pests. Insects pollinate\* our gardens, break down waste in the soil and sometimes eat the insects we want to discourage hanging out in our vegetable and flower beds.

They can also protect our crops, and gardeners and farmers have been benefiting from the help of insects for millennia\*. For instance, when the scale insect\* called the Australian cottony-cushion scale began to ravage\* citrus groves in California during the 19th century, the citrus industry introduced the Vedalia lady beetle\*, a natural predator of the pest.

注) \*zucchinis: a kind of long, green vegetable related to cucumbers

\*infest: appear in large numbers and cause damage

\*dahlias: a kind of flower with bright, colorful petals

\*pesticides: chemicals that kill or harm unwanted insects

\*pests: insects or animals that cause damage or harm

\*1million-ish: about one million

\*pollinate: carry pollen from one flower to another

\*millennia: thousands of years

\*scale insect: a kind of insect that has a hard shell and can cause damage to plants

\*ravage: cause serious damage to

\*Vedalia lady beetle: a kind of insect

a. To describe different types of garden pests

b. To explain advantages of insects in gardens

c. To highlight the negative impact of insects on gardens

d. To promote the use of pesticides in gardens

(3) Choose the phrase that best represents the purpose of the following passage.

Recycling is good for the environment. It can also benefit a community in surprising ways. Mateo Lange\*, 15, knows this well. On weekends, you'll find him sorting through glass and plastic bottles and aluminum cans in his hometown of Indian River, Michigan, where he leads a community recycling program.

Mateo launched the program in 2020. He was 11 and in the sixth grade, playing baseball with the Northern Michigan Cyclones\*. The team was new and needed money to travel to tournaments. Mateo pitched a plan.

"There were cans and bottles always thrown around the road," he tells TIME for Kids\*. In Michigan, these can be collected and redeemed\* for cash. With his dad's help, Mateo started a bottle and can drive. It raised \$7,500. "We built up so much money in the span of just a few weeks," he says. "So I said, 'Why don't we keep this going as long as we can?'"

注) \*Mateo Lange: the name of an American youth

\*Northern Michigan Cyclones: the name of a youth baseball team

\*TIME for Kids: the name of a news magazine for children

\*redeemed: exchanged

- a. To explain how a community recycling program was started by a teenager
- b. To explain how glass, plastic and aluminum can be separated and sorted
- c. To explain how Mateo Lange became a baseball player
- d. To explain problems with Michigan's system for exchanging trash for cash

(4) Choose the sentence that best represents the main idea of the following passage.

A snow leopard broke into a sheep pen\* in China and ate so much that he could not make the jump back over the fence to escape. He eventually gave up and lay down for a little post-dinner snooze\*. Herdsmen\* later captured the big cat.

Snow leopards are extremely rare, even more so than giant pandas, and are one of the highly-protected animals in China. They are listed on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species.

People found the leopard just under 1.5 meters in length and weighing around 100 kilograms, but they can get much bigger than that. Once officers managed to get him moving again, they released him back into the wild.

注) \*pen: a fenced area to keep animals

\*snooze: a short sleep

\*Herdsmen: people who look after sheep, cows and other farm animals

- a. A snow leopard got stuck in a sheep pen but was later released.
- b. A snow leopard was caught but later escaped over a fence.
- c. Snow leopards are common and often eat sheep.
- d. Snow leopards rarely grow more than 1.5 meters in length.

(5) Which of the four sentences below makes the best summary for this paragraph?

Micro-apartments are places that are very small, have very few amenities\*, very little space, and not many of the home comforts that you'd associate with living in a bigger apartment and certainly in a house.

However, they're becoming increasingly popular in the Japanese capital, particularly among younger people who're just starting in the workplace and can't afford rents for ordinary places, or who may be moving into Tokyo from out of town and want a cheap place to stay.

Each micro-apartment measures just nine square meters, which is under half the size of a typical studio apartment in Tokyo. The benefits are that there is zero deposit and no 'key money', a nonrefundable gift to the landlord. Monthly rents range from 380 to 610 dollars, depending on where in Tokyo you are.

注) \*amenities: things that make a place more comfortable or convenient

- a. Micro-apartments are gaining popularity among young people because they are relatively inexpensive.
- b. Micro-apartments are luxurious and are most suited to people who want comfort and amenities.
- c. Micro-apartments are mainly occupied by older individuals who want a quiet living environment away from the noise of the city.
- d. Micro-apartments are unpopular due to their high cost and lack of space, especially among young people.

[出典]

- (1) "Why Are There Few Or No Mosquitoes In Some Places?" , Sneha Khedkar, May 20, 2024, ScienceABC, <https://www.scienceabc.com/nature/why-are-there-few-or-no-mosquitoes-in-some-places.html>
- (2) "Put Down the Pesticides! Beneficial Insects Into Your Garden" , Jesslyn Shields, May 9, 2023, howstuffworks, <https://home.howstuffworks.com/beneficial-garden-insects.htm>
- (3) "Green Teen" , Jaime Joyce, April 19, 2024, TIME for KiDS, <https://www.timeforkids.com/g56/service-stars-green-teen-g5/?rl=en-870>
- (4) "Leopard eats too much - level 3" , May 31, 2023, News in Levels, <https://www.newsinlevels.com/products/leopard-eats-too-much-level-3/>
- (5) "Tokyo micro-apartments – level 3" , April 18, 2024, News in Levels, <https://www.newsinlevels.com/products/tokyo-micro-apartments-level-3/>, ※一部改

2 Read the following article and answer questions (1) ~ (5).

[1] A Japanese town began mounting a large mesh barrier at a popular viewing spot for Mount Fuji on Tuesday, in an attempt to deter\* photo-taking by an ever-growing number of tourists. Locals in Fujikawaguchiko, Yamanashi Prefecture, say they are fed up with unending\* streams of mostly foreign visitors littering, trespassing\* and breaking traffic rules in their hunt for a photo of Japan's most famous sight to share on social media. Workers began attaching black netting measuring 2.5 by 20 meters to metal poles on Tuesday morning along a pavement\* opposite a convenience store, an AFP reporter at the scene said.

[2] Before, visitors would cram\* the pavement to shoot the snow-capped mountain, which soars majestically into the sky from behind the shop, making for a photogenic\* juxtaposition\*. Local officials and residents have said the town welcomes tourists, but complain that those who cross the street non-stop, ignore red lights, park illegally and smoke outside of designated areas have proven a nuisance\*. "It's regrettable we have to do this, because of some tourists who can't respect rules," a town official said in April, saying that traffic signs and warnings from security guards had failed to improve the situation. The measure is also meant to help a nearby dental clinic where tourists sometimes park without permission and have even been seen climbing on the roof to take pictures. Construction of the barrier itself was initially delayed due to problems getting the right materials delivered, giving people a few more days to chase the perfect photo.

[3] Record numbers of overseas tourists are coming to Japan, where monthly visitors exceeded 3 million for the first time in March and then again in April. But as in other tourist hotspots, such as Venice — which recently launched a trial of entry fees for day visitors — the influx\* has not been universally welcomed.

[4] In Japan's ancient capital of Kyoto, locals have complained of tourists harassing\* the city's famed geisha. And hikers using the most popular route to climb Mount Fuji this summer will be charged ¥2,000 (\$13) each, with entries capped at 4,000 to ease congestion\*. A new online booking system for the mountain's Yoshida trail opened on Monday to guarantee hikers entry through a new gate, although 1,000 slots a day will be kept open for day-of entries. Mount Fuji is covered in snow most of the year, but during the July-September hiking season more than 220,000 visitors trudge\* up its steep, rocky slopes. Many climb through the night to see the sunrise, and some attempt to reach the 3,776-meter summit without breaks and become sick or injured as a result.

[5] Regional officials have raised safety and environmental concerns linked to overcrowding on the active volcano, a symbol of Japan and a once-peaceful pilgrimage\* site. Residents near other popular photo spots in the region, including the so-called Fuji Dream Bridge, have also reportedly complained about overtourism in recent weeks. One tour operator which offers day trips from Tokyo to the Mount Fuji area said they are taking visitors to another Lawson store nearby where a similar view can be seen, but there are fewer nearby residents.

[出典]

“Weary of overtourism, Japan town blocks one popular view of Mount Fuji”, Caroline Gardin, May 21, 2024, the japantimes, <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/05/21/japan/society/mount-fuji-overtourism/>

注)

- \*deter: make someone less likely to do something
- \*unending: seeming to continue forever
- \*trespassing: entering without permission
- \*pavement: walkway
- \*cram: force people or things into a small space
- \*photogenic: likely to look good in a photograph
- \*juxtaposition: being close together in an interesting way
- \*nuisance: a person, thing, or situation that causes problems
- \*influx: the arrival of a lot of people or things at the same time
- \*harassing: annoying or upsetting someone over a period of time
- \*congestion: the state of being full or blocked, especially with traffic
- \*trudge: hike
- \*pilgrimage: a journey to a place that has religious importance

1. In which paragraph does the author relate overtourism in Japan to overtourism in another country?
  - a. Paragraph 2
  - b. Paragraph 3
  - c. Paragraph 4
  - d. Paragraph 5
  
2. Which paragraph explains what will be used to block the view of Mount Fuji?
  - a. Paragraph 1
  - b. Paragraph 2
  - c. Paragraph 3
  - d. Paragraph 4
  
3. In which paragraph does the author explain what one particular company is doing to help with the overtourism problem?
  - a. Paragraph 2
  - b. Paragraph 3
  - c. Paragraph 4
  - d. Paragraph 5
  
4. According to the article, what is one problem that overtourism is causing for a nearby dentist?
  - a. Tourists are taking pictures of customers.
  - b. Tourists are using their online booking system.
  - c. Tourists are using their parking spots.
  - d. Tourists are using their services.
  
5. What is the main idea of this article?
  - a. To better understand how tourism is helping the Japanese economy
  - b. To compare tourism in Japan with that in other countries
  - c. To explain how Japan is fighting overtourism
  - d. To offer suggestions on how to increase the number of tourists in Japan

3 次の英文の要旨を、句読点も含め 100 字以内の日本語でまとめ、解答欄に書きなさい。

著作権の関係で問題文は掲載できません。

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[出典]

“The Buy Nothing movement” , BRITISH COUNCIL,

<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/reading/b2-reading/buy-nothing-movement>, ※一部改

注)

\*bombard: attack repeatedly

\*disposable: designed to be used once and then throw away

\*wardrobe: clothes

\*landfill sites: places where trash is buried in the ground

\*consumerism: 消費至上主義

\*overconsumption: excessive consumption

\*Black Friday: 11 月の感謝祭の翌日に行われる大規模セール

\*Cyber Monday: 11 月から 12 月頃に開催されるネット上の大規模セール

\*petrol: gasoline

\*anti-consumerist: people who are against consumerism

- 4 Read the passage, and explain the main point in your own words. Write your answer in English within 30 words.

Although all readers are constructing meaning and employing strategies as they read, the decisions they make and the opinions they form vary from reader to reader. A few months ago I sat in a room full of my colleagues where we discussed our favorite and least favorite books. I heard one staff developer explain why she hated the book *Life of Pi*\*. In the middle of her explanation of why she disliked the book, another colleague literally gasped\*: She could not understand how someone could hate that book. She passionately described why *Life of Pi* was one of the most important books she had read. During the two drastically different explanations, both readers gave personal reasons why they did or did not connect to the book. While it was evident that both readers constructed meaning of the text and followed a process of using strategies, they both ultimately had deeply personal experiences with the book — one positive and one negative.

There are always facts in books. *Winnie the Pooh*\* is a bear, and he has a friend named *Piglet*\*. Most readers would not dispute these statements. But how I think and react to the facts as a reader is quite different. What I think about Pooh and Piglet's relationship, if I agree with the characters' decisions, and how I bring my own knowledge of friendship to bear on my opinions of them is quite different. There is no correct reaction to characters and no one interpretation of Pooh and Piglet's relationship. Readers are unique individuals and, therefore, their interpretations and opinions of a text will be unique and varied.

[出典]

Jennifer Serravallo and Gravity Goldberg. *Conferring with Readers: Supporting Each Student's Growth and Independence*. Heinemann, 2007, P4~P5.

注)

\**Life of Pi*: ヤン・マーテルの小説『パイの物語』

\*gasped: breathed in quickly with an open mouth because of pain or surprise

\**Winnie the Pooh*: A.A. ミルンの児童小説『クマのプーさん』

\**Piglet*: クマのプーさんの親友の子豚の名前

5 Describe the picture below in English within 50 words.



[出典]

“Group of People Sitting on White Mat on Grass Field” , Helena Lopes, pexels,

<https://www.pexels.com/photo/group-of-people-sitting-on-white-mat-on-grass-field-745045/>

6 Answer the following question in English. Write your answer within 50 words.

What makes you different from other people?