

For Teachers: Please read each dialogue to the student as well as the titles of the pieces. Do read the question, but do not read the answers to the question to the student. The answer choices are here for your review. Please have the student read the answer rather than merely saying the number. After each question, please wait for the student to answer the question before continuing.

Part 2 – Passages



LP1E 12-2

In this part, you will hear six passages, (A) through (F). Each passage will be followed by two questions, No. 13 through No. 24. For each question, you will have 10 seconds to choose the best answer and mark your answer on your answer sheet. The passage and the questions will be given only once. Now, let's begin.

(A) Getting the Message

Will e-mail soon be a thing of the past? Sheryl Sandberg, Chief Operating Officer of a major social-networking site, recently told a conference audience that she thinks it will. Sandberg was referring to the fact that more teenagers are now communicating with each other through social-networking sites rather than by sending e-mails. Research by the Pew Internet and American Life

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No. 13 What does the research by the Pew Internet and American Life Project suggest?

No. 13

- 1 The number of social-networking sites has dropped.*
- 2 Only a minority of teenagers regularly contact friends by e-mail.***
- 3 Predicting online behavior is difficult.*
- 4 Only a few social-networking sites have become popular.*

No. 14 What do critics of Sheryl Sandberg say about e-mail?

No. 14

- 1 It is still important for business communications.***
- 2 It is used less by teenagers than Sandberg claims.*
- 3 It prevents teenagers from learning to write formally.*
- 4 Its impact on businesses was smaller than expected.*

(B) The Rise of Bedbugs

People have traditionally associated bedbugs with poor hygiene. In recent years, however, these pests have been turning up in high-class retail stores and hotels. The tiny bloodsucking insects travel easily on clothing and luggage, and hide in mattresses and carpets. Almost impossible to spot, they emerge at night and leave painful, itchy bites on the skin. Bedbugs can deal businesses a double blow. For one, killing the bugs can cost thousands of dollars. Worse still, they are a public-relations nightmare, threatening the reputations of famous stores and hotels.

Many factors have contributed to the increased occurrence of bedbugs. Warmer weather, more international travel, and resistance to pesticides are blamed. What is more, the pesticides that do remain effective are hazardous to humans and have long been banned. The rise of bedbugs, however, has stimulated pest-control companies to start looking for new ways of dealing with them.

Questions:

No. 15 What do we learn about bedbugs?

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- 1 *Businesses have ignored the problem.*
- 2 *Many pest-control companies have closed down.*
- 3 *New methods of fighting bedbugs are not effective.*
- 4 *Pesticides that kill bedbugs cannot be used.*

(C) Dumpster Pools

When most people hear the word “dumpster,” they think of large, metal containers full of trash. In New York City, however, a company called Macro Sea is turning dumpsters into swimming pools. The idea for these dumpster pools is part of a wider trend towards recycling unwanted materials and making use of abandoned spaces. The dumpsters are cleaned, lined with plastic, and fitted with water filters to create cheap, movable swimming pools. New York City officials recently made several of the pools available for public use at the annual Summer Streets festival.

Unlike most companies, which protect their inventions, Macro Sea encourages people to copy its ideas. The company's founder, David Belt, says he hopes to inspire people to become more aware of their surroundings. He feels it is important to create attractive community centers that improve the lives of local residents.

Questions:

No. 17 What led to the invention of dumpster pools?

No. 17

1 The growing number of festivals in New York.

2 The rising cost of regular pools.

3 Pressure from local companies.

4 A trend towards reusing materials and space..

No. 18 What is unusual about Macro Sea?

No. 18

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bringing in \$55 billion in 2010. Much of this was used on medical care, with people paying thousands of dollars to ease their pets' health problems. Pet owners are increasingly willing to pay for expensive technologies, such as stem-cell treatments to repair painful joints. Veterinarians at the Manhattan-based Animal Medical Center say owners feel such treatments are worthwhile because they allow their pets to lead happier lives. Critics feel that spending so much on caring for animals is questionable, especially since 17 percent of the U.S. population lacks basic healthcare. However, researchers point out that treatments developed for pets are also being used to treat humans. A surgical technique developed to repair damaged muscles in dogs, for example, is not being used to treat the injuries of pro football players.

Questions:

No. 19 Why does spending on pet care remain high?

No. 19

1 The U.S. economy has started to recover.

- 2 *Pets are suffering from more diseases.*
- 3 ***Pet owners value their pets' quality of life.***
- 4 *Veterinarians have reduced the fees they charge.*

No. 20 What has been on result of developing new treatments for pets?

No. 20

- 1 *Less research is being done on human healthcare.*
- 2 *The cost of health insurance for pets has increased.*
- 3 *Surgery for pets has become less common.*
- 4 ***New discoveries are being used to help humans.***

(E) Weed Invades Kenya

The plant known as Santa Maria feverfew has become one of the world's most damaging invasive species of weed. It can quickly take over fields and grasslands because it produces chemicals that prevent other plants from

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Questions:

No. 21 What is one reason Santa Maria feverfew can spread quickly?

No. 21

- 1 *Animals carry its seeds.*
- 2 *Grasslands have become bigger.*
- 3 ***It stops the growth of other plants.***
- 4 *It is very efficient at taking up nutrients.*

No. 22 What problem has Santa Maria feverfew caused in Kenya?

No. 22

- 1 *There is less demand overseas for Kenyan crops.*
- 2 *Fewer people are visiting nature reserves.*
- 3 *People have become sick from eating it.*
- 4 ***Agricultural production has dropped in some places.***

(F) Staying Healthy in China

Health experts agree that eating lots of vegetables is a good way to stay healthy. A recent survey carried out in China, however, produced some unexpected results. The survey, conducted by researchers from the University of California, seemed to show a link between these healthy foods and obesity. Chinese teenagers who said they frequently ate vegetables and rarely ate fast food were more likely than others to be overweight.

Cultural factors may explain the surprising results. For example, oil is often used when cooking vegetables in China, so eating them is likely to be fattening. The researchers admitted they failed to take such factors into account when designing the survey. But the research was not totally wasted. While it failed to increase understanding of the causes of obesity, it did show that methods of collecting data should be adjusted depending on where research is being conducted.

Questions:

No. 22. What did the University of California researchers find?

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No. 24

- 1 *Some oils are more fattening than others.*
- 2 *Dietary patterns cannot be measured accurately.*
- 3 ***Understanding local circumstances is important.***
- 4 *Obesity probably has one main cause.*