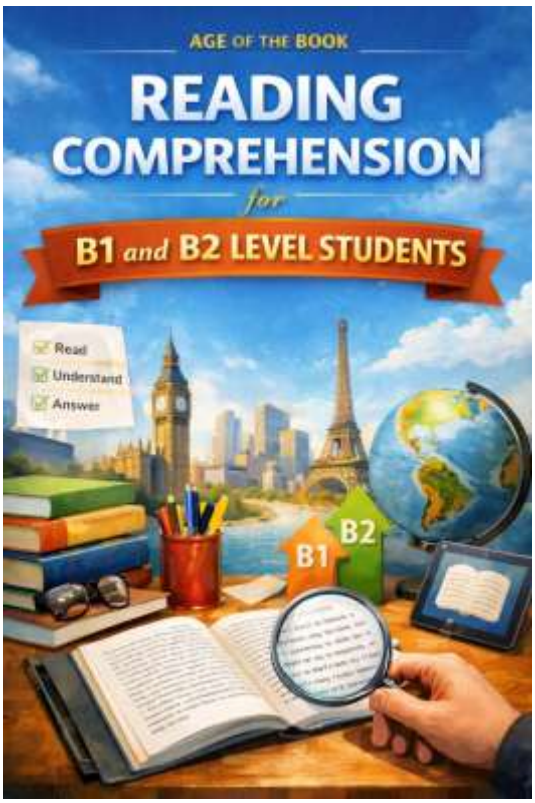
O’ZBEKISTON RESPEBLIKASI OLIY TA’LIM,

FAN VA INNOVATSIYALAR VAZIRLIGI

Farg’ona davlat universiteti akademim litseyi

Ingliz Tili Fanidan
Reading (o’qish) ko’nikmasini oshirish bo’yicha

Uslubiy Ko’rsatmasi



Saydumarova Dilobar

Fergana 2025

Mazkur uslubiy ko'rsatma ingliz tilida Reading (o'qish) ko'nikmasi va so'z boyligini shakllantirmoqchi bo'lgan har qanday soha mutaxassislari, akademik litsey hamda o'rta maxsus maktablarining ingliz tili fani o'qituvchilari va o'quvchilari uchun mo'ljallangan. Ingliz tilida o'qish matnlari savollarining barcha turlarini samarali ishlab chiqishni o'rgatadi. Shu bilan birga ushbu uslubiy ko'rsatma o'qish ko'nikmasi uchun zarur bo'lgan so'z boyligi jihatdan yaxshilashga zarur bo'ladidan foydali so'z birikmalari va idiomalar hamda o'qish uslubi strategiyalarni o'z ichiga oladi.

Ushbu uslubiy ko'rsatma Farg'ona davlat universiteti akademik litseyining 2025-yil 3 sonli pedagogik kengashida tasdiqlangan.

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CANNES FILM FESTIVAL



This is a free B2 upper-intermediate level English reading lesson about the Cannes Film Festival. It includes the reading and reading comprehension exercises in 3 different formats, together with the answer keys and explanations.

1. True/False questions
2. Multiple choice questions
3. Short answer questions

Each year, the city of Cannes becomes a hub for the film industry. Filmmakers, actors, and critics gather here to celebrate the art of cinema. The Cannes Film Festival is renowned for its exclusivity and prestige. It was first held in 1946 and has since grown to become one of the world's most renowned film festivals. During the festival, the Promenade de la Croisette buzzes with activity as stars walk the red carpet.

For twelve days in May, the festival showcases films of all genres. The films are divided into different categories, such as feature films and documentaries. A selection committee chooses the films that will be shown. They look for excellence and innovation to represent the best in the industry. The most anticipated event is the awarding of the Palme d'Or. This award is given to the director of the best feature film of the competition. Winning the Palme d'Or can bring a filmmaker global recognition.

But the festival is not just about the glitz and glam. It also focuses on issues within the industry. Panels and workshops run alongside the screenings. They address topics like diversity and the role of women in film. These discussions can influence the future of filmmaking. The festival also includes a market where deals are made. Producers, distributors, and financiers come together to buy and sell films. This market is crucial for the business side of cinema.

To attend the festival, one must be invited or have professional reasons to be there. The public can enjoy some screenings, but many events are closed to them. The festival's strict access adds to its allure among cinephiles. Film lovers from around the world dream of walking up the famous steps. Indeed, the festival is as much about the movies as it is about the experience. It remains a week where legends are made, and film history is written.

True / False / Not Given

1. The city of Cannes is transformed into a central location for the movie industry annually.
2. The Cannes Film Festival started in the late 1900s.
3. Only feature films are judged and awarded at the Cannes Film Festival.
4. A group of experts picks movies to display at the festival based on their originality and quality.
5. Winning the Palme d'Or ensures that a filmmaker will attain widespread fame.
6. The festival also functions as a platform to discuss problems and changes needed in the movie industry.
7. Every movie shown at the festival is available for sale in the market section.
8. Being a movie enthusiast is a sufficient reason to be granted access to all Cannes festival events.
9. The Cannes Film Festival is just as famous for its events as for the films that are shown.
10. The Cannes Film Festival occurs over a period of nearly two weeks.

Multiple Choice

1) Why is the Cannes Film Festival considered exclusive and prestigious?

   a) Because it allows everyone to attend.
   b) Because it features films from a single genre.
   c) Because it is held every week.
   d) Because it has a long history and is known globally.

2) Which event do filmmakers most look forward to at the Cannes Film Festival?

   a) The opening of the market.
   b) The awarding of the Palme d'Or.
   c) The public screenings.
   d) The announcement of the selection committee.

3) What is the role of the selection committee at the Cannes Film Festival?

   a) To schedule the screenings during the festival.
   b) To give out the awards to the winners.
   c) To choose the films that will be shown.
   d) To organize the gala events on the red carpet.

4) Why is winning the Palme d'Or significant for a filmmaker?

a) It assures the financial success of the film.
b) It guarantees a role in future films.
c) It brings global recognition to the filmmaker.
d) It grants access to exclusive industry events.

5) Apart from showcasing films, what other function does the Cannes Film Festival serve?

a) It is a platform for international politics.
b) It provides a marketplace for film deals.
c) It hosts sporting events.
d) It offers holiday packages to tourists.

6) What types of discussions take place at the Cannes Film Festival alongside screenings?

a) Conversations about the best hotels in Cannes.
b) Discussions on issues like diversity and women in film.
c) Debates on culinary arts.
d) Dialogues regarding the best fashion on the red carpet.

7) How do the discussions at the Cannes Film Festival potentially impact the film industry?

a) They settle financial disputes between companies.
b) They influence the future of filmmaking.
c) They determine which films will be selected for the next year.
d) They change the location of the festival.

8) What makes the Cannes Film Festival alluring to film lovers globally?

a) The chance to win cash prizes.
b) The opportunity to purchase film memorabilia.
c) The dream of walking up the famous steps.
d) The availability of public events all year round.

9) Who primarily attends the Cannes Film Festival?

a) Anyone who can purchase a ticket.
b) Only film actors and directors.

c) Individuals with invitations or professional reasons.

d) residents of Cannes.

10) How does the festival impact the legacy of films and filmmakers?

a) It confirms their retirement plans.

b) It diminishes their public image.

c) It reduces their chances of collaboration.

d) It is a week where legends are made, and film history is written.

Short Answer Questions

1. What makes the Cannes Film Festival stand out in the film industry?
2. When was the first Cannes Film Festival held?
3. What is the significance of winning the Palme d'Or?
4. What criteria does the selection committee use to choose films for the festival?
5. What types of discussions take place during the festival?
6. Who can attend the festival?
7. What aspect of the Cannes Film Festival contributes to its appeal among film enthusiasts?
8. What role does the market at the festival play for cinema?

Answers

True / False Answers

1. **Answer:** True

Explanation: The phrase 'becomes a hub for' signifies being transformed into a central location.
Answer location: "Each year, the city of Cannes becomes a hub for the film industry."

2. **Answer:** False

Explanation: The statement is false because 1946 is considered the mid-20th century, not the late 1900s.
Answer location: "It was first held in 1946."

3. **Answer:** False

Explanation: Since films are divided into categories, including documentaries, it's not only feature films that are judged.
Answer location: "The films are divided into different categories, such as feature films and documentaries."

4. **Answer:** True

Explanation: 'Excellence and innovation' can be interpreted as originality and quality.
Answer location: "A selection committee chooses the films that will be shown. They look for excellence and innovation…"

5. **Answer:** True

Explanation: Global recognition equates to widespread fame.
Answer location: "Winning the Palme d'Or can bring a filmmaker global recognition."

6. **Answer:** True

Explanation: Discussing problems and changes needed is the focus of issues within the industry.
Answer location: "It also focuses on issues within the industry. Panels and workshops run alongside the screenings."

7. **Answer:** Not given

Explanation: The text does not specify whether every movie shown is available for sale.
Answer location: "N/A."

8. **Answer:** False

Explanation: Being a movie enthusiast does not automatically provide access to all events, as invitations or professional reasons are required.
Answer location: "To attend the festival, one must be invited or have professional reasons to be there."

9. **Answer:** True

Explanation: The text states that the festival is about both the movies and the experience, indicating fame for its events.
Answer location: "Indeed, the festival is as much about the movies as it is about the experience."

9. **Answer:** True

Explanation: Twelve days is close to two weeks, hence the statement is true.
Answer location: "For twelve days in May, the festival showcases films…"

Multiple Choice Answers

1. **Answer:** D

Explanation: The phrase 'renowned for its exclusivity and prestige' indicates that the festival is exclusive and prestigious due to its recognition and not because it occurs weekly, focuses on one genre, or is open to everyone.
Answer location: "The Cannes Film Festival is renowned for its exclusivity and prestige."

2. **Answer:** B

Explanation: The text specifies that 'the most anticipated event is the awarding of the Palme d'Or', which is given to the director of the best feature film.
Answer location: "The most anticipated event is the awarding of the Palme d'Or."

3. **Answer:** C

Explanation: According to the text, it's the selection committee's job to 'choose the films that will be shown', not to schedule screenings, hand out awards, or organize gala events.
Answer location: "A selection committee chooses the films that will be shown."

4. **Answer:** C

Explanation: The text indicates that 'Winning the Palme d'Or can bring a filmmaker global recognition', suggesting the importance of the award in establishing a filmmaker's reputation on the world stage, rather than guaranteeing financial success, securing future roles, or granting access to events.
Answer location: "Winning the Palme d'Or can bring a filmmaker global recognition."

5. **Answer:** B

Explanation: The text explains that 'the festival also includes a market where deals are made', signifying its role as a business hub for the film industry, not a platform for politics, sports, or tourism.
Answer location: "The festival also includes a market where deals are made."

6. **Answer:** B

Explanation: The text indicates that 'panels and workshops' run alongside the screenings and specifically 'address topics like diversity and the role of women in film', not hospitality, culinary arts, or fashion.
Answer location: "They address topics like diversity and the role of women in film."

7. **Answer:** B

Explanation: The statement ‘These discussions can influence the future of filmmaking’ from the text implies that the conversations can have an impact on the direction of filmmaking, not on financial disputes, future selections, or the festival’s location.

Answer location: “These discussions can influence the future of filmmaking.”

8. **Answer:** C

Explanation: The allure mentioned in the text refers to ‘film lovers from around the world dream of walking up the famous steps’, not winning money, buying memorabilia, or attending year-round public events.

Answer location: “Film lovers from around the world dream of walking up the famous steps.”

9. **Answer:** C

Explanation: The text specifies ‘To attend the festival, one must be invited or have professional reasons to be there’, indicating it’s not open to all ticket buyers, exclusively to actors and directors, or restricted to residents.

Answer location: “To attend the festival, one must be invited or have professional reasons to be there.”

10. **Answer:** D

Explanation: The text concludes that the festival is significant because ‘it remains a week where legends are made, and film history is written’, emphasizing its lasting impact on the legacies of films and filmmakers, rather than confirming retirements, harming reputations, or reducing collaboration opportunities.

Answer location: “It remains a week where legends are made, and film history is written.”

Short Answer Answers

1. **Answer:** Its exclusivity and prestige.

Explanation: The phrase ‘renowned for its exclusivity and prestige’ indicates the festival’s distinctive features.

Answer location: “The Cannes Film Festival is renowned for its exclusivity and prestige.”

2. **Answer:** 1946.

Explanation: The text provides the year the first Cannes Film Festival was held.

Answer location: “It was first held in 1946.”

3. **Answer:** It can bring a filmmaker global recognition.

Explanation: The text explains that receiving the Palme d’Or is desirable because it can lead to worldwide recognition for the filmmaker.

Answer location: “Winning the Palme d’Or can bring a filmmaker global recognition.”

4. **Answer:** Excellence and innovation.

Explanation: The text states the committee selects films based on ‘excellence and innovation’ to represent the industry’s best.

Answer location: “They look for excellence and innovation to represent the best in the industry.”

5. **Answer:** Diversity and the role of women in film.

Explanation: The text lists ‘diversity and the role of women in film’ as topics of discussion at panels and workshops.

Answer location: “They address topics like diversity and the role of women in film.”

6. **Answer:** Invited individuals or those with professional reasons.

Explanation: The text explains that attendees need to either be invited or have professional reasons for attending.

Answer location: “To attend the festival, one must be invited or have professional reasons to be there.”

7. **Answer:** The strict access.

Explanation: The text indicates that the strict access to the festival adds to its attractiveness to movie lovers.

Answer location: “The festival’s strict access adds to its allure among cinephiles.”

8. **Answer:** It is crucial for the business side of cinema.

Explanation: The text describes the market at the festival as essential for the business aspects, such as buying and selling films.

Answer location: “This market is crucial for the business side of cinema.”

9. **Answer:** Industry issues.

Explanation: The text specifies that in addition to honoring movies, the festival also pays attention to industry issues.

Answer location: “But the festival is not just about the glitz and glam. It also focuses on issues within the industry.”

10. **Answer:** Twelve days.

Explanation: The text tells us that the festival lasts for twelve days.

Answer location: “For twelve days in May, the festival showcases films of all genres.”

FAMILY GATHERING



This is a free B2 upper-intermediate level English reading lesson about Family Gathering. It includes the reading and reading comprehension exercises in 4 different formats together with the answer keys and explanations.

1. True/False questions
2. Multiple choice questions
3. Short answer questions
4. Multiple-choice cloze exercise

Once a year, when the summer breeze starts to playfully toss the leaves, our family comes together at our grandparents' countryside home. It's a charming old house with enough space to accommodate the extended family, and it holds countless memories of our collective childhood. The garden is always blooming with flowers, making it the perfect backdrop for our reunion. My grandparents, both in their late seventies, are the heart of the family. They await our arrival with the same excitement every time.

As we pull into the gravel driveway, aunts, uncles, and cousins emerge to greet us. Uncle George, a cheerful man with a booming laugh, is recently divorced but always the life of the party. His two kids, teenagers now, race over to challenge us to a game of soccer. Aunt Maria, George's sister, is a warm and caring teacher. She and her husband Mark, a kind-hearted lawyer, have three young children who instantly start a game of hide and seek around the garden. My mother's sister, Aunt Sophia, arrives with her husband and their adopted son; they enjoy discussing their travels and adventures with all of us.

Inside the house, a variety of aromas waft through the air as Grandma and Grandpa put the finishing touches on a feast. Our parents help by setting the elegant dining table, perfect for the occasion. Laughter and chit-chat fill the rooms, intertwining with the clinking of

glasses and silverware. Stories from the past are shared, and future plans are discussed, bridging distances and renewing our bond.

As the sun sets, the younger cousins gather around a bonfire, sharing spooky stories and roasting marshmallows. The older relatives settle on the porch, sipping their tea and reminiscing about days gone by. The divisions of age melt away as playful jests and wisdom are exchanged effortlessly. Our in-laws, once outsiders, are now entwined in the fabric of our family narrative, contributing their own tales and laughter to our shared history.

Night falls, and the stars begin to twinkle above, mirroring the sparkles of joy in our eyes. A guitar is brought out, and soon, everyone is singing along to old and new tunes alike. The music unites us, a harmonious thread linking generations. As the night grows deep, weary but hearts full, we say our goodbyes. Our grandparents stand at the doorway, waving until our cars disappear from view. Their shadows linger, a testament to the warmth and unity they bring to us all.

It’s events like these that remind us of the importance of family. Regardless of our different paths in life, we come together to celebrate the love we share. The memories we create during these gatherings will last us until the next summer, when once again, we return to the embrace of family.

Reading Comprehension Exercises

True / False / Not Given

1. Uncle George’s sister is a primary school teacher.
2. Grandma and Grandpa are eagerly waiting for family members to arrive each year.
3. During the reunion, children engage in various outdoor games in the garden.
4. The family reunion takes place in a new and modern building owned by the grandparents.
5. Uncle George has become more reserved since his divorce.
6. After dinner, the family spends time sharing frightening tales by a bonfire.
7. At the family gathering, music played on the guitar is exclusively from past generations.

8. The family's collective childhood memories are tied to the grandparents' urban apartment.

9. The family regularly holds gatherings throughout the year.

10. Aunt Sophia has brought her biological son to the family reunion.

Multiple Choice

1. What does the garden symbolize in the family's reunion?

A) An area for sports activities
B) The continuous growth of the family relationship
C) A place for the children to sleep
D) The grandparents' love for gardening

2. Why might the guitar playing be considered an essential part of the family gathering?

A) It is a signal for everyone to go home
B) Only the children are allowed to play it
C) It helps in keeping the bugs away
D) It serves as a unifying activity for the family

3. Why are Aunt Maria and her husband Mark described positively?

A) They are very wealthy
B) They discipline the children at the reunion
C) They bring exotic animals to the gatherings
D) They contribute to the family-friendly atmosphere

4. Why do the stars at night evoke a special feeling among the family members?

A) They indicate it is time to leave
B) They add to the magic of the family moments
C) They are considered good luck
D) They provide light for the gathering

5. In the context of the family reunion, what does the 'fabric of our family narrative' imply?

A) A collection of different clothes from the family
B) A quilt made by the grandparents
C) In-laws becoming an integral part of the family saga
D) Decorations put up for the reunion

6. How do the grandparents demonstrate their affection towards the family members each year?

A) They present a musical performance
B) By eagerly awaiting the family's arrival
C) They send gifts to all family members before the reunion
D) They charge rent for the stay

7. What role does Uncle George play at the family gatherings?

A) He is the one who organizes the entire event
B) He is known for being quiet and reserved
C) He uplifts the spirit of the party
D) He mainly focuses on cooking the meals

8. What does the act of the younger cousins sharing spooky stories signify?

A) It is part of a competition to scare each other
B) It is a ritual to summon supernatural beings
C) They are practicing for a play about ghosts
D) It is a form of bonding and creating shared experiences

9. How are distances 'bridged' during the family reunions?

A) By traveling from far places to meet
B) Through phone calls to those who couldn't make it
C) By sharing stories and discussing future plans
D) By literally building bridges in the grandparents' garden

10. Why is the setting at the grandparents' house ideal for the family reunion?

A) Because it has a lot of rooms for games
B) It's an ancient building that needs to be visited regularly
C) Because it provides sufficient space and holds family memories
D) It's the only place available for such events

Short Answer

1. What activity do the younger cousins engage in as the sun sets?

2. Why do the grandparents wave until the cars disappear from view?

3. What makes the family's gathering spot perfect?

4. How does Uncle George's personality influence the family reunion?
5. What is Aunt Maria's occupation?
6. How does the text describe the dining table setup?
7. What role do the grandparents play in the family according to the text?
8. Why are the in-laws now considered part of the family narrative?

Multiple Choice Cloze

Once a year, when the summer breeze starts to playfully toss the leaves, our family comes together at our grandparents' countryside home. It's a ___1___ old house with enough space to accommodate the extended family, and it holds ___2___ memories of our collective childhood. The garden is always blooming with flowers, making it the perfect ___3___ for our reunion. My grandparents, both in their late seventies, are the heart of the family. They ___4___ our arrival with the same excitement every time.

As we pull into the gravel driveway, aunts, uncles, and cousins ___5___ to greet us. Uncle George, a cheerful man with a booming laugh, is recently divorced but always the ___6___ of the party. His two kids, teenagers now, race over to challenge us to a game of soccer. Aunt Maria, George's sister, is a warm and caring teacher. She and her husband Mark, a kind-hearted lawyer, have three young children who instantly start a game of hide and ___7___ around the garden. My mother's sister, Aunt Sophia, arrives with her husband and their adopted son; they enjoy discussing their travels and adventures with all of us.

Inside the house, a variety of aromas waft through the air as Grandma and Grandpa put the finishing touches on a ___8___. Our parents help by setting the elegant dining table, perfect for the occasion. Laughter and chit-chat fill the rooms, intertwining with the clinking of glasses and silverware. Stories from the past are shared, and future plans are discussed, ___9___ distances and renewing our bond.

As the sun sets, the younger cousins gather around a bonfire, sharing spooky stories and roasting marshmallows. The older relatives settle on the porch, sipping their tea and reminiscing about days gone by. The ___10___ of age melt away as playful jests and wisdom are exchanged effortlessly. Our in-laws, once outsiders, are now entwined in the fabric of our family narrative, contributing their own tales and laughter to our shared history.

1. A. ancient B. charming C. weird D. dark
2. A. forgettable B. recent C. countless D. few
3. A. spot B. backdrop C. place D. location
4. A. foresee B. delay C. await D. postpone
5. A. conceal B. emerge C. hesitate D. scatter
6. A. trouble B. nuisance C. life D. burden
7. A. play B. seek C. chase D. look
8. A. feast B. snack C. menu D. diet
9. A. works B. burying C. bridging D. crossing
10. A. divisions B. unions C. encounters D. bridges

Exercise Answers

True / False / Not Given Answers

1. **Not Given.** Explanation: The text mentions Aunt Maria is a teacher, but does not specify that she is a primary school teacher.

("N/A")

2. **True.** Explanation: The text indicates that the grandparents look forward to their family's arrival with consistent excitement.

("They await our arrival with the same excitement every time.")

3. **True.** Explanation: The text confirms that children and teenagers play games such as soccer and hide and seek in the garden.

("His two kids, teenagers now, race over to challenge us to a game of soccer… children who instantly start a game of hide and seek around the garden.")

4. **False.** Explanation: The text clearly states that the reunion is held in a charming old house, not a new modern one.

("It's a charming old house with enough space to accommodate the extended family")

5. **False.** Explanation: The text describes Uncle George as cheerful and the life of the party, even after his recent divorce.

("Uncle George, a cheerful man with a booming laugh, is recently divorced but always the life of the party.")

6. **True.** Explanation: The text indicates that spooky stories are told by the younger cousins around a bonfire.

("The younger cousins gather around a bonfire, sharing spooky stories and roasting marshmallows.")

7. **False.** Explanation: The text specifies that the family sings to both old and new tunes, not just old ones.

("A guitar is brought out, and soon, everyone is singing along to old and new tunes alike.")

8. **False.** Explanation: The text associates the childhood memories with the old house in the countryside, not an urban apartment.

("It's a charming old house with enough space to accommodate the extended family, and it holds countless memories of our collective childhood.")

9. **Not Given.** Explanation: The text suggests a yearly gathering but does not mention the frequency of gatherings throughout the year.
("N/A")
10. **False.** Explanation: The text explicitly states that Aunt Sophia's son is adopted, not biological. ("Aunt Sophia, arrives with her husband and their adopted son")

Multiple Choice Answers

1. **B.** Explanation: The speaker felt excited because they adore visiting their grandparents which the text directly states. ("I felt excited. My sister and brother shared my enthusiasm. We all adore visiting our grandparents' spacious house, which also boasts a lovely garden.")
2. **D.** Explanation: The text says that the sister was chatting with the grandmother and picked up knitting. ("Meanwhile, my sister spent her time chatting with our grandmother and picked up knitting.")

3. **C.** Explanation: The text indicates the exceptional taste of the cake was what made it special. ("Its taste was exceptional, and we enjoyed eating it together.")

4. **C.** Explanation: The text explicitly mentions that the father helped the grandfather with garden work. ("My father assisted our grandfather with some garden work.")

5. **D.** Explanation: The day ended with a group photograph according to the text. ("Our day concluded with a group photograph.")

6. **C.** Explanation: The text clearly states that the grandfather expressed his joy at seeing his family united. ("Our grandfather expressed his joy at seeing his children and their families united.")

7. **D** Explanation: The mother and aunt were laughing because they had a lively discussion about the cousin, as mentioned in the text. ("My mother and aunt had a lively discussion about my cousin. Their laughter filled the air.")

8. **C.** Explanation: The text indicates that the adults' conversation was about their jobs and vacation plans. ("The adults conversed about their jobs and vacation plans.")

9. **C.** Explanation: The family enjoyed eating the large cake together as suggested by the text. ("Its taste was exceptional, and we enjoyed eating it together.")

10. **D.** Explanation: The speaker expresses positive feelings about future get-togethers by saying they eagerly anticipate them. ("I eagerly anticipate our next family get-together.")

Short Answer Answers

1. **Sharing spooky stories and roasting marshmallows.** Explanation: The part of the text specifies the activities the younger cousins do as the sun sets. ("As the sun sets, the younger cousins gather around a bonfire, sharing spooky stories and roasting marshmallows.")

2. **It shows the warmth and unity they bring to the family.** Explanation: The text implies that their gesture of waving until the cars disappear is a sign of the love and unity they promote within the family.("Their shadows linger, a testament to the warmth and unity they bring to us all.")

3. **The garden is always blooming with flowers, making it the perfect backdrop.** Explanation: The blooming garden is mentioned as the element that makes the reunion backdrop perfect. (“The garden is always blooming with flowers, making it the perfect backdrop for our reunion.”)

4. **He’s the life of the party which suggests he contributes to a cheerful atmosphere.** Explanation: The text describes Uncle George as cheerful and the life of the party, implying he adds fun and liveliness to the reunion. (“Uncle George, a cheerful man with a booming laugh, is recently divorced but always the life of the party.”)

5. **Teacher.** Explanation: Aunt Maria is directly described as a teacher in the text. (“Aunt Maria, George’s sister, is a warm and caring teacher.”)

6. **Elegant and perfect for the occasion.** Explanation: The dining table is described as ‘elegant’ and ‘perfect for the occasion’, indicating its setup. (“Our parents help by setting the elegant dining table, perfect for the occasion.”)

7. **The heart of the family.**Explanation: The grandparents are explicitly referred to as ‘the heart of the family’, indicating their central role. (“My grandparents, both in their late seventies, are the heart of the family.”)

8. **They contribute their own tales and laughter to the shared history.** Explanation: According to the text, the in-laws have become integrated into the family by sharing their stories and laughter. (“Our in-laws, once outsiders, are now entwined in the fabric of our family narrative, contributing their own tales and laughter to our shared history.”)

9. **They last until the next summer reunion.** Explanation: The text indicates that the memories from the gatherings sustain the family until they meet again the following summer. (“The memories we create during these gatherings will last us until the next summer, when once again, we return to the embrace of family.”)

10. **It unites everyone, linking generations with music.** Explanation: The text suggests that playing the guitar and singing together serves as a unifying activity for the family across different generations. (“A guitar is brought out, and soon, everyone is singing along to old and new tunes alike. The music unites us, a harmonious thread linking generations.”)

Multiple Choice Cloze Answers

1. **B.** Explanation: ‘charming’ suggests attractiveness with a touch of old-fashioned quality, fitting the context.

2. **C.** Explanation: ‘countless’ emphasizes the large number of memories, which is coherent with the context.

3. **B.** Explanation: ‘backdrop’ means the setting or background, fitting for a garden during a reunion.

4. **C.** Explanation: ‘await’ means to wait for, which is the correct action that the grandparents are doing.

5. **B.** Explanation: ’emerge’ means to come out into view, appropriate for greeting someone’s arrival.

6. **C.** Explanation: ‘life of the party’ is an idiomatic expression meaning the most lively and entertaining person at a social gathering.

7. **B.** Explanation: ‘hide and seek’ is the name of a well-known children’s game, making it the only logical choice.

8. **A.** Explanation: ‘feast’ refers to a large meal prepared for celebrations, appropriate for the reunion context.

9. **C.** Explanation: ‘bridging’ means to connect or reduce the distance between things, metaphorically fitting here for family bonds.

10. **A.** Explanation: ‘divisions’ means differences or separations, and in this context it refers to age differences that are set aside.

Future of Technology



This is a free B2 Upper-intermediate level English listening lesson about future of technology, generated using **Cathoven AI tools**. It includes listening exercises in various formats, along with the answer keys and explanations.

1. True/False questions
2. Multiple choice questions
3. Short answer questions

Technological advancements are progressing at an unprecedented pace, potentially reshaping our future in remarkable ways. Artificial intelligence, which has already demonstrated its transformative impact across numerous sectors, is poised to evolve into increasingly sophisticated systems capable of executing intricate operations. Such developments could revolutionize urban infrastructure, leading to the implementation of more efficient resource management systems throughout metropolitan areas.

Another breakthrough technology garnering significant attention is virtual reality, which offers users deeply immersive digital experiences. The educational sector might witness substantial transformation through VR technology, as it could enable students to engage with historical events in previously unimaginable ways. Furthermore, this innovation has the potential to fundamentally alter social interaction patterns, introducing novel methods for maintaining connections across geographical boundaries.

The rise of renewable energy is another important development as we look to the future. Solar and wind power are becoming cheaper and more accessible than ever before. These clean energy sources can help reduce pollution and combat climate change by decreasing reliance on fossil fuels.

Healthcare technology also holds promise for improving lives. With advances in medical research, treatments for various diseases might become more personalized. Innovations like wearable health monitors can help people track their fitness and detect problems early.

While these technologies offer many benefits, they also come with challenges like privacy concerns. It's important to address these issues as we embrace new innovations. Despite potential obstacles, the future of technology looks bright, promising a world of endless opportunities. By carefully considering how we use these advancements, society can create a better tomorrow for everyone.

True / False

1. Artificial intelligence is unlikely to have a major impact on urban infrastructure.
2. Virtual reality may transform the educational sector by offering new ways to engage with historical events.
3. Cheaper fossil fuels are driving the change towards renewable energy.
4. Wearable health monitors can aid individuals in tracking their fitness.
5. Addressing privacy concerns is unnecessary as we advance technologically.

Short Answer Questions

1. How is artificial intelligence expected to transform urban infrastructure?
2. What impact might virtual reality have on the educational sector?
3. How can renewable energy sources contribute to environmental sustainability?
4. What advancements in healthcare technology are mentioned?
5. What is a significant concern associated with technological advancements?

True / False Answers

1. Answer: False. Explanation: The text specifically states that AI developments could revolutionize urban infrastructure, indicating a significant impact.

Answer location: “Such developments could revolutionize urban infrastructure, leading to the implementation of more efficient resource management systems throughout metropolitan areas.”

2. Answer: True. Explanation: The text suggests that VR technology could change the educational sector by allowing new interactions with historical events.

Answer location: “The educational sector might witness substantial transformation through VR technology, as it could enable students to engage with historical events in previously unimaginable ways.”

3. Answer: False. Explanation: The text states that it is the reduced cost and accessibility of solar and wind power, not fossil fuels, driving the shift to renewables.

Answer location: “Solar and wind power are becoming cheaper and more accessible than ever before. These clean energy sources can help reduce pollution and combat climate change by decreasing reliance on fossil fuels.”

4. Answer: True. Explanation: The text mentions that wearable health monitors assist people in monitoring their fitness levels.

Answer location: “Innovations like wearable health monitors can help people track their fitness and detect problems early.”

5. Answer: False. Explanation: The text highlights the importance of addressing privacy concerns as part of dealing with the challenges of new technologies.

Answer location: “While these technologies offer many benefits, they also come with challenges like privacy concerns. It’s important to address these issues as we embrace new innovations.”

Short Answer Answers

1. Answer: Efficient resource management. Explanation: The text suggests that artificial intelligence can enhance the efficiency of resource management systems in cities.

Answer location: “Such developments could revolutionize urban infrastructure, leading to the implementation of more efficient resource management systems throughout metropolitan areas.”

2. Answer: Engagement with historical events. Explanation: VR offers students the possibility to experience history more vividly, transforming educational practices.

Answer location: “The educational sector might witness substantial transformation through VR technology, as it could enable students to engage with historical events in previously unimaginable ways.”

3. Answer: Reduce pollution and combat climate change. Explanation: By lessening the need for fossil fuels, renewable energies lower pollution and contribute to fighting climate change.

Answer location: “These clean energy sources can help reduce pollution and combat climate change by decreasing reliance on fossil fuels.”

4. Answer: Personalized treatments and wearable health monitors. Explanation: The text states that medical treatments could become tailored to individuals and that health monitors aid in preemptively addressing health issues.

Answer location: “With advances in medical research, treatments for various diseases might become more personalized. Innovations like wearable health monitors can help people track their fitness and detect problems early.”

5. Answer: Privacy concerns. Explanation: Technological innovations bring about privacy challenges which need to be addressed according to the text.

Answer location: “While these technologies offer many benefits, they also come with challenges like privacy concerns. It’s important to address these issues as we embrace new innovations.”

Understanding Climate Change



Climate change refers to significant changes in global temperatures and weather patterns over time. While climate fluctuations can be natural, human activity has been a major cause since the industrial age. Greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide trap heat from the sun and warm the planet, which is essential for life. However, the excessive levels of these gases are resulting in a warmer Earth. This phenomenon leads to various problems including extreme weather events, melting ice caps, and rising sea levels.

One of the main contributors to greenhouse gas emissions is the burning of fossil fuels. Using coal, oil, and natural gas for energy and transportation releases vast amounts of carbon dioxide. Deforestation is another contributor, as trees absorb carbon dioxide but are being cut down rapidly. Therefore, reducing emissions is crucial in tackling climate change. This can be done by switching to renewable energy sources, such as wind or solar power, and by improving energy efficiency.

Additionally, individuals can also play a role by changing their daily habits. This could involve using less electricity, recycling waste, or choosing public transport over a personal vehicle. Governments and businesses are also responsible for setting and following guidelines to curb emissions. International cooperation is equally vital for effective action because climate change is a global issue. Agreements like the Paris Agreement aim to unite countries in reducing global warming.

Climate change is already impacting ecosystems and communities worldwide. It’s imperative to address this crisis urgently, as the longer we wait, the more drastic the changes and the harder they will be to reverse. Education on the significance of these climate issues is essential, and although change can be difficult, it’s necessary for future generations. Only through sustained efforts across the globe can we hope to mitigate the effects of climate change and preserve our planet for future prosperity.

True / False / Not Given

1. Human activities have only recently begun influencing climate change.
2. Rising sea levels are a result of the Earth cooling down.
3. Solar power is one alternative to fossil fuels mentioned in the text.
4. Deforestation contributes to climate change because trees release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere when they are cut down.
5. Using public transport instead of personal vehicles can reduce the effects of climate change.
6. The Paris Agreement is a local initiative to improve urban environmental standards.
7. Businesses do not need to follow any guidelines regarding climate change.
8. Climate change currently affects all ecosystems and societies around the world.
9. Education about climate issues is considered unnecessary in the text.
10. The text specifies that certain animal species have become extinct due to climate change.

Multiple Choice

1) What does the text suggest is a necessary condition for life on Earth that is currently contributing to warming?

a) The sun
b) Greenhouse gases
c) Melting ice caps
d) Deforestation

2) Why are deforestation activities a cause for concern in relation to climate change?

a) Trees release carbon dioxide when cut
b) Deforestation leads to more sunlight reaching Earth
c) Trees absorb carbon dioxide and are being cut down
d) Deforestation promotes the use of fossil fuels

3) According to the text, how can individuals directly contribute to tackling climate change?

a) By signing international agreements
b) Through reducing their personal carbon footprint
c) By preventing extreme weather events
d) Through setting emissions regulations

4) Which international response to climate change does the text mention as a way to unite countries?

a) The Industrial Age Initiative
b) The Paris Agreement
c) Climate Change Education Programs
d) The Global Emissions Partnership

5) What is suggested as a consequence of excessive greenhouse gas levels?

a) The enhancement of the Earth's magnetic field
b) The reduction of temperatures worldwide
c) The occurrence of extreme weather events
d) The increase in global communication efforts

6) Why is it urgent to address the climate change crisis, according to the text?

a) To promote international tourism
b) To ensure the abundance of fossil fuels
c) Because its effects are difficult to reverse over time
d) To increase awareness of energy efficiency

7) What role do governments and businesses play in combating climate change?

a) Developing new technologies for space exploration
b) Setting and following guidelines to curb emissions
c) Investing in the industrial sector
d) Expanding urban infrastructure

8) How does using coal, oil, and natural gas impact greenhouse gas emissions?

a) Decreases the number of trees on Earth
b) Enhances the absorption capacity of the oceans
c) Releases vast amounts of carbon dioxide
d) Reduces the overall cost of electricity

9) What does the text propose as a measure to reduce emissions?

a) Introducing more greenhouse gases
b) Switching to renewable energy sources
c) Expanding the use of fossil fuels
d) Increasing the world's population

10) What is the importance of education mentioned in the context of climate issues?

a) Providing entertainment
b) Facilitating economic development
c) Encouraging change for future generations
d) Reducing the cost of renewable energy

Short Answer Questions

1. What is the primary cause of climate change since the industrial age?
2. Why are greenhouse gases essential for life, yet problematic in excessive levels?
3. What severe consequences are mentioned as results of climate change?
4. How can the release of vast amounts of carbon dioxide be attributed to energy and transportation?
5. What is causing trees to no longer absorb carbon dioxide at a rate that is beneficial for the environment?
6. What actions can individuals take to contribute to reducing emissions?
7. Why is international cooperation crucial in tackling climate change?
8. What international agreement is mentioned as an effort to unite countries in reducing global warming?
9. Why is it crucial to address the climate crisis urgently?
10. Why is education on climate issues essential?

True / False / Not Given Answers

1. **Answer:** Falseю **Explanation:** The text states that human activities have been a major cause of climate change since the industrial age, indicating that it is not a recent influence.

Answer location: “While climate fluctuations can be natural, human activity has been a major cause since the industrial age.”

2.**Answer:** False. **Explanation:** The excessive levels of greenhouse gases are resulting in a warmer Earth, not a cooler one. Rising sea levels are associated with the warming, not cooling, of the Earth.

Answer location: “However, the excessive levels of these gases are resulting in a warmer Earth.”

2. **Answer:** True. **Explanation:** The text mentions wind or solar power as alternatives to fossil fuels in the context of switching to renewable energy sources. **Answer location:** “This can be done by switching to renewable energy sources, such as wind or solar power,”

4.**Answer:** False **Explanation:** Trees absorb carbon dioxide, and when they are cut down through deforestation, they are no longer able to absorb it, contributing to climate change. The text does not say that trees release carbon dioxide when cut down. **Answer location:** “Deforestation is another contributor, as trees absorb carbon dioxide but are being cut down rapidly.”

5.**Answer:** True. **Explanation:** The text suggests that choosing public transport over a personal vehicle is a way individuals can play a role in reducing the effects of climate change. **Answer location:** “This could involve using less electricity, recycling waste, or choosing public transport over a personal vehicle.”

6. **Answer:** False. **Explanation:** The Paris Agreement is described as an effort to unite countries in reducing global warming, indicating that it is an international initiative, not just a local one. **Answer location:** “International cooperation is equally vital for effective action because climate change is a global issue. Agreements like the Paris Agreement aim to unite countries in reducing global warming.”

7. **Answer:** False. **Explanation:** The text states that both governments and businesses are responsible for setting and following guidelines, indicating that businesses do need to follow guidelines regarding climate change. **Answer location:** “Governments and businesses are also responsible for setting and following guidelines to curb emissions.”

8. **Answer:** True **Explanation:** The text makes a clear statement that climate change is already impacting ecosystems and communities worldwide. **Answer location:** “Climate change is already impacting ecosystems and communities worldwide.”

9. **Answer:** False. **Explanation:** The text explicitly states that education on the significance of climate issues is essential, contradicting the statement that it is considered unnecessary. **Answer location:** “Education on the significance of these climate issues is essential,”

10. **Answer:** Not given. **Explanation:** The text does not provide any information about the extinction of specific animal species due to climate change. **Answer location:** “N/A.”

Multiple Choice Answers

1. **Answer:** B. **Explanation:** The text states that greenhouse gases, in particular, carbon dioxide, are necessary for warming the planet and sustaining life. **Answer location:** “Greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide trap heat from the sun and warm the planet, which is essential for life.”

2. **Answer:** C. **Explanation:** The text explains that deforestation is a concern because trees, which absorb carbon dioxide, are being cut down thus reducing the natural absorption of this greenhouse gas. **Answer location:** “Deforestation is another contributor, as trees absorb carbon dioxide but are being cut down rapidly.”

3. **Answer:** B. **Explanation:** The text suggests that individuals can contribute by changing daily habits that reduce their personal carbon footprint, like using less electricity or opting for public transport. **Answer location:** “This could involve using less electricity, recycling waste, or choosing public transport over a personal vehicle.”

4. **Answer:** B. **Explanation:** The text specifically mentions the Paris Agreement as an international effort to unite countries in combating climate change. **Answer location:** “Agreements like the Paris Agreement aim to unite countries in reducing global warming.”

5. **Answer:** C. **Explanation:** Excessive levels of greenhouse gases lead to problems such as extreme weather events, as stated in the text. **Answer location:** “This phenomenon leads to various problems including extreme weather events, melting ice caps, and rising sea levels.”

6. **Answer:** C. **Explanation:** The text emphasizes the urgency of addressing climate change because the longer action is delayed, the more severe the effects become and the harder they are to reverse. **Answer location:** “It’s imperative to address this crisis urgently, as the longer we wait, the more drastic the changes and the harder they will be to reverse.”

7. **Answer:** B. **Explanation:** The text highlights that governments and businesses have a responsibility to set and adhere to guidelines that limit emissions. **Answer location:** “Governments and businesses are also responsible for setting and following guidelines to curb emissions.”

8. **Answer:** C

Explanation: The text points out that utilizing fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas for energy and transport results in the release of large amounts of carbon dioxide, thereby increasing greenhouse gas emissions.

Answer location: “Using coal, oil, and natural gas for energy and transportation releases vast amounts of carbon dioxide.”

9. **Answer:** B. **Explanation:** The text recommends switching to renewable energy sources and improving energy efficiency as measures to decrease emissions. **Answer location:** “This can be done by switching to renewable energy sources, such as wind or solar power, and by improving energy efficiency.”

Flight Friends



The bustling atmosphere of the airport was thick with anticipation, as countless passengers eagerly awaited their upcoming flights. Two women, strangers until fate decided to cross their paths, found themselves sharing a bench by the departure gate. Their flight had been delayed, and it seemed they had more to talk about than just the passing time. As they sat and chatted, they discovered both had arrived using different modes of transportation, making their prelude to meeting as varied as their destinations.

The first woman, Anna, had decided to take the train to reach the airport. She explained it was often more reliable than driving, and she wanted to avoid the stress of traffic. Anna found comfort in the rhythmic clatter of the train as it weaved through the city, a peaceful prelude to the chaos of travel. She shared how she had double-checked her passport and visa countless times before leaving, fearing the panic of forgetting something so vital.

On the other hand, Sarah, who had just met Anna, admitted that she had taken a taxi. She reasoned that it allowed her to make use of the time to check her emails one last time before embarking on her journey. Sarah had a fear of missing out on important

messages just before a long flight. She laughed, recounting how she had almost left her boarding pass on the kitchen counter in her rush.

The conversation flowed effortlessly between the two, as if they were long-lost friends rather than brief acquaintances. They discussed their reasons for traveling, the places they dreamed of visiting, and the taste of adventure that seemed to linger in the air. Each story was punctuated by a glance at the departure board, a silent wish for their delayed flight to be called.

The hours passed, and the once strangers found themselves sharing snacks and travel experiences. They compared notes on the best ways to pass time during a flight, debated the most comfortable airport attire, and even shared tips on how to breeze through security. It was a companionship forged by circumstance but enriched by shared laughter and mutual understanding.

As the announcement finally came that their flight was ready to board, Anna and Sarah gathered their carry-on bags and joined the queue. They exchanged contact information, promising to keep in touch and to share pictures of their travels. The delay had given them an unexpected gift – a new friendship born amidst the transient nature of an airport lounge. And as they walked towards the plane, passports and boarding passes in hand, they both felt that the delay was not so much an inconvenience as it was the start of something wonderful.

Reading Comprehension Exercises

True / False / Not Given

1. Anna took a train to the airport because she finds it more relaxing than driving.
2. Sarah took a taxi to the airport to save time so she could check her emails until the last minute.
3. During their conversation, Anna and Sarah talked about their past travel misadventures.
4. While waiting for their flight, Anna and Sarah realized they have similar tastes in travel destinations.
5. Sarah's taxi ride to the airport was stressful due to her nearly forgetting her boarding pass.
6. The two women had prior knowledge of each other before meeting at the airport.
7. They found something to talk about due to the delayed flight.
8. The meeting between Anna and Sarah was set to happen by prior arrangement.
9. The travelers exchanged travel tips while waiting for their delayed flight.
10. Anna and Sarah felt that the time spent waiting for the flight was wasted.

Multiple Choice

1. Why did Anna consider the train more reliable than driving to the airport?
A) To avoid the stress of traffic
B) Because she enjoys the scenic route
C) To save money on transportation costs
D) The train was faster than driving

2. What concern led Sarah to choose a taxi to reach the airport?
A) She was running late and needed the quickest option
B) She wanted to check her emails one last time
C) Taxis were available at a discount
D) She prefers taxi comfort over other modes of transport

3. What unintentional mistake did Sarah nearly make before leaving for the airport?
A) She almost forgot to pack her luggage
B) She nearly left her passport at home
C) She almost left her boarding pass on the kitchen counter
D) She forgot to check her email

4. What best describes the nature of the relationship between Anna and Sarah during their wait?
A) They were mostly silent and kept to themselves
B) They talked about impersonal topics like the weather
C) They seemed to be already familiar with each other
D) They discussed their travels as if they were long-lost friends

5. How did Anna and Sarah pass the time during the flight delay?
A) By finding quiet corners to rest in the airport
B) By sharing snacks and travel experiences
C) By watching movies on their personal devices
D) By browsing the duty-free shops in the airport

6. What did the delay in their flight allow Anna and Sarah to do?
A) Visit the airport lounge
B) Form a new friendship
C) Take a nap
D) Complain to the airport staff

7. What action did Anna and Sarah take as their flight was ready to board?
A) They left the airport to find a hotel
B) They asked for compensation for the delay
C) They went to buy souvenirs
D) They joined the queue with carry-on bags

8. What was the shared sentiment between Anna and Sarah about the flight delay as they boarded the plane?
A) It was an unwelcome inconvenience
B) It was an opportunity to explore the airport
C) It was the beginning of a pleasant journey
D) It was the start of something wonderful

9. Why did Anna ensure she had her passport and visa before leaving for the airport?
A) She needed them to book her train ticket
B) She was afraid of losing them at the airport

C) She feared forgetting these vital documents
D) They were required for her to enter the airport

10. What did Anna and Sarah promise each other as they boarded their plane?
A) To never travel together again
B) To keep in touch and share travel pictures
C) To complain about the delay to the airline
D) To meet again at the airport in the future

Short Answer

1. Why did Anna choose to take the train to the airport?
2. What was one of Sarah's concerns about taking a taxi to the airport?
3. What nearly caused Sarah panic before leaving for the airport?
4. What did Anna repeatedly check before leaving for the airport?
5. What did both women do as they conversed and waited for their delayed flight?
6. How did Anna and Sarah feel about their conversation?
7. What did the two women exchange before boarding their flight?
8. What unexpected gift did the flight delay give to Anna and Sarah?
9. How did the women view the delay in their flight by the end of their wait?
10. What did Anna and Sarah promise to do after their travels?

Multiple Choice Cloze

The bustling atmosphere of the airport was thick with ___1___, as countless passengers eagerly awaited their upcoming flights. Two women, strangers until fate decided to cross their paths, found themselves sharing a bench by the departure gate. Their flight had been delayed, and it seemed they had more to talk about than just the passing time. As they sat and chatted, they discovered both had arrived using different ___2___ of transportation, making their prelude to meeting as varied as their destinations.

The first woman, Anna, had decided to take the ___3___ to reach the airport. She explained it was often more ___4___ than driving, and she wanted to avoid the stress of traffic. Anna found comfort in the rhythmic clatter of the train as it ___5___ through the city, a peaceful prelude to the chaos of travel. She shared how she had double-checked her passport and visa countless times before leaving, fearing the ___6___ of forgetting something so vital.

On the other hand, Sarah, who had just met Anna, admitted that she had taken a taxi. She reasoned that it allowed her to make use of the time to check her ___7___ one last time before embarking on her journey. Sarah had a fear of missing out on important messages just before a long flight. She laughed, recounting how she had almost left her boarding pass on the kitchen counter in her rush.

The conversation flowed ___8___ between the two, as if they were long-lost friends rather than brief acquaintances. They discussed their reasons for traveling, the places they dreamed of visiting, and the taste of ___9___ that seemed to linger in the air. Each story was punctuated by a glance at the departure board, a silent wish for their delayed flight to be called.

The hours passed, and the once strangers found themselves sharing snacks and travel experiences. They compared notes on the best ways to pass time during a flight, debated the most comfortable airport ___10___, and even shared tips on how to breeze through security. It was a companionship forged by circumstance but enriched by shared laughter and mutual understanding.

As the announcement finally came that their flight was ready to board, Anna and Sarah gathered their carry-on bags and joined the queue. They exchanged contact information, promising to keep in touch and to share pictures of their travels. The delay had given them an unexpected gift – a new friendship born amidst the transient nature of an airport lounge. And as they walked towards the plane, passports and boarding passes in hand, they both felt that the delay was not so much an inconvenience as it was the start of something wonderful.

1) A. anticipation B. noise C. music D. crowds

2) A. forms B. ways C. means D. modes

3) A. car B. train C. bus D. bike

4) A. expensive B. reliable C. quick D. rare

5) A. rushed B. dragged C. pushed D. weaved

6) A. panic B. joy C. happiness D. excitement

7) A. emails B. tickets C. messages D. social media

8) A. erratically B. painfully C. effortlessly D. quietly

9) A. adventure B. fear C. food D. sleep

10) A. attire B. tickets C. planes D. seats

Exercise Answers

True / False / Not Given Answers

1. **True.** Explanation: The text explicitly states Anna chose the train over driving to avoid stress, implying she finds it more relaxing. (“The first woman, Anna, had decided to take the train to reach the airport. She explained it was often more reliable than driving, and she wanted to avoid the stress of traffic.”)

2. **True.** Explanation: It is true according to the text that Sarah’s reason for taking a taxi was to make use of the time before her journey to check emails. (“Sarah, who had just met Anna, admitted that she had taken a taxi. She reasoned that it allowed her to make use of the time to check her emails one last time before embarking on her journey.”)

3. **Not Given.** Explanation: The text does not specify whether they talked about past travel misadventures. (“N/A”)

4. **Not Given.** Explanation: There is no information in the text about whether their tastes in travel destinations were similar. (“N/A”)

5. **True.** Explanation: According to the text, Sarah did have a moment of stress as she almost forgot her boarding pass. (“She laughed, recounting how she had almost left her boarding pass on the kitchen counter in her rush.”)

6. **False.** Explanation: The text says the women were strangers before meeting at the airport, so they didn’t know each other before. (“Two women, strangers until fate decided to cross their paths, found themselves sharing a bench by the departure gate.”)

7. **True.** Explanation: The text implies that the delay contributed to their finding common topics of conversation. (“Their flight had been delayed, and it seemed they had more to talk about than just the passing time.”)

8. **False.** Explanation: The text suggests that their meeting was not planned, but rather a result of chance. (“Two women, strangers until fate decided to cross their paths…”)

9. **True.** Explanation: The passage confirms they exchanged tips about traveling. (“They compared notes on the best ways to pass time during a flight, […] shared tips on how to breeze through security.”)

10. **False.** Explanation: The text states that the delay resulted in a positive outcome, a new friendship, not wasted time. (“The delay had given them an unexpected gift – a new friendship.”)

Multiple Choice Answers

1. **A.** Explanation: The text explicitly mentions that Anna found the train more reliable and wanted to avoid traffic stress, thus making this the correct choice. (“She explained it was often more reliable than driving, and she wanted to avoid the stress of traffic.”)

2. **B.** Explanation: The text indicates that Sarah chose a taxi to have time to check her emails, making the other choices incorrect. (“She reasoned that it allowed her to make use of the time to check her emails one last time before embarking on her journey.”)

3. **C.** Explanation: The passage mentions Sarah almost leaving her boarding pass behind, not making any of the other mistakes listed. (“She laughed, recounting how she had almost left her boarding pass on the kitchen counter in her rush.”)

4. **D.** Explanation: The text describes their conversation as if they were long-lost friends, therefore the other choices do not accurately describe their interaction. (“The conversation flowed effortlessly between the two, as if they were long-lost friends rather than brief acquaintances.”)

5. **B.** Explanation: Only the action of sharing snacks and travel experiences is mentioned in the text as a way they passed the time. (“The hours passed, and the once strangers found themselves sharing snacks and travel experiences.”)

6. **B.** Explanation: The text indicates that the delay resulted in them forming a new friendship, with no mention of the other activities. (“The delay had given them an unexpected gift – a new friendship born amidst the transient nature of an airport lounge.”)

7. **D.** Explanation: The text clearly states they joined the queue with their carry-on bags, and none of the other choices are mentioned. (“Anna and Sarah gathered their carry-on bags and joined the queue.”)

8. **D.** Explanation: The text conveys their feeling that the delay was the start of something wonderful, which none of the other choices reflect. (“They both felt that the delay was not so much an inconvenience as it was the start of something wonderful.”)

9. **C.** Explanation: Anna double-checked her documents to avoid forgetting them, as per the text. The other choices present situations not mentioned in the passage. (“She had double-checked her passport and visa countless times before leaving, fearing the panic of forgetting something so vital.”)

10. **B.** Explanation: Only their promise to keep in touch and share pictures is stated in the text, not the other promises. (“They exchanged contact information, promising to keep in touch and to share pictures of their travels.”)

Short Answer Answers

1. **It was often more reliable than driving and she wanted to avoid the stress of traffic.** Explanation: Anna provides her reasons for taking the train, highlighting reliability and avoiding traffic stress. (“Anna, had decided to take the train to reach the airport. She explained it was often more reliable than driving, and she wanted to avoid the stress of traffic.”)

2. **The fear of missing out on important messages.** Explanation: Sarah’s concern while taking a taxi was to check her emails to avoid missing out on important messages. (“Sarah, who had just met Anna, admitted that she had taken a taxi. She reasoned that it allowed her to make use of the time to check her emails one last time before embarking on her journey.”)

3. **Almost leaving her boarding pass on the kitchen counter.** Explanation: In a rush, Sarah nearly forgot her boarding pass at home, which could have caused her panic. (“She laughed, recounting how she had almost left her boarding pass on the kitchen counter in her rush.”)

4. **Her passport and visa.** Explanation: Anna double-checked her passport and visa many times to avoid the panic of forgetting them. (“She shared how she had double-checked her passport and visa countless times before leaving.”)

5. **They shared snacks and travel experiences.** Explanation: The text mentions that while waiting, both women shared snacks and experiences. (“The hours passed, and the once strangers found themselves sharing snacks and travel experiences.”)

6. **As if they were long-lost friends.** Explanation: The text suggests that their conversation was natural and easy, reminiscent of a conversation between friends. (“The conversation flowed effortlessly between the two, as if they were long-lost friends rather than brief acquaintances.”)

7. **Contact information.** Explanation: Before boarding, they exchanged information to stay in contact. (“They exchanged contact information, promising to keep in touch and to share pictures of their travels.”)

8. **A new friendship.** Explanation: The text indicates that the flight delay resulted in the two women forming a new friendship. (“The delay had given them an unexpected gift – a new friendship.”)

9. **As the start of something wonderful.** Explanation: Towards the end, they perceived the delay not as an inconvenience but as the beginning of a positive experience. (“And as they walked towards the plane, passports and boarding passes in hand, they both felt that the delay was not so much an inconvenience as it was the start of something wonderful.”)

10. **To share pictures of their travels.** Explanation: The promise made between Anna and Sarah included sharing travel photos after their journey. (“They exchanged contact information, promising to keep in touch and to share pictures of their travels.”)

Multiple Choice Cloze Answers

1. **A.** Explanation: Anticipation fits the context of passengers waiting for their flights and feeling excited.

2. **D.** Explanation: ‘modes of transportation’ is a common collocation.

3. **B.** Explanation: The train was the transport chosen by Anna.

4. **B.** Explanation: Reliable is correct; it indicates dependability which Anna prefers.

5. **D.** Explanation: ‘weaved’ is correct as it suggests moving in and out of places along the path.

6. **A.** Explanation: Panic is correct; it describes the fear of forgetting something important.

7. **A.** Explanation: Emails is the correct answer; it’s what Sarah wanted to check one last time before her flight.

8. **C.** Explanation: Effortlessly is correct; it means the conversation was easy and natural.

9. **A.** Explanation: Adventure is correct; it’s associated with travel and the feelings they’re discussing.

10. **A.** Explanation: Attire is correct; it refers to clothing, which would be discussed in relation to comfort.