

READING

Task 1

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (1–5). There are three choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

JOB DESCRIPTIONS

1 _____

If you join this international organization, you will be playing a central role connecting and communicating with teams and their senior management worldwide. The main purpose of this role will be to support the development of these teams and drive collaboration across the network, to provide regular and clear communication, and support multiple business development across borders and service lines.

2 _____

Working for a busy organization based in Central London, you will be dealing with all aspects of billing and accounting. Duties will include invoicing clients, expenses and timesheets for senior team, fee analysis, preparing commercial pack, and credit control.

3 _____

You are invited to join the company specializing in the design and manufacture of special purpose process handling equipment that has a variety of applications, particularly in agriculture. In this role, you will be responsible for preparing layout drawings as well as some designs in 3D. You will work closely with the team responsible for ensuring incorporation of machine designs.

4 _____

We are currently recruiting experienced candidates for on going assignments based in the Beckenham and Croydon area. You will be working at a number of various sites from hospitals, schools, colleges, offices and other contract catering sites. Your duties will include: tidying up bathrooms, bedrooms, kitchens and associated areas, vacuuming hardwood floors and carpets, washing baseboards, walls, and ceilings.

5 _____

You are offered a vacancy at the famous Star Hotel in Southampton. Be confident in providing 300 + covers per day for hot buffet breakfast and 100 + covers for dinner service in the Conservatory Restaurant. Work at consistently high standards preparing quality dishes. You will be responsible together with the rest of the members of the brigade, for maintaining high standards of cleanliness in the kitchen.

- A Qualified Housekeeper
- B Global Project Manager
- C Landscape Designer
- D Mechanical Engineer
- E Culinary Team Worker
- F Professional House Cleaner
- G Social Security Worker
- H Finance Assistant

Task 2

Read the text below. For questions (6–10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

FALSE ALARM

Story by Nisha Coker

We left the city and moved into an 1896 farmhouse, and after just a few weeks, we thought ourselves real country folk. After all, we mended fences and tended chickens, and our boys ran barefoot and played ball in the front yard. Even our dog, Sadie, wagged her stubby boxer tail joyfully each time I let her outside to run. Life felt easy, breezy and carefree.

The wiring and plumbing had been updated, but we still wanted to add our own touches to the house. One particular night, my husband changed the light fixture over our kitchen sink. I'd just started calling Sadie in for the night when Kevin hollered for me to check out his work. I stood in the doorway, admiring how pretty the Tiffany glass looked when lit up. My husband started gathering his tools. "Not too bad, huh?" he said, grinning. Then he joked, "And I didn't even burn the house down." Just then a strong smell blew across the room. Our eldest son came into the kitchen and wrinkled his nose. "Ick! What's burning?" My husband and I exchanged a petrified look, then stared at the new light fixture. Kevin started back up the ladder while I gathered the boys. It seemed like the smell was everywhere and nowhere, growing strong, then fading away.

"It's not here. Maybe a wire came loose somewhere else." Kevin folded the ladder and headed to the foyer, with its rusty chandelier. I sent the boys in with him while I sniffed around for smoke. I tried to be calm, but I kept picturing our dream house in flames. I grabbed the steel box with our birth certificates and other important records. Our photos were close enough to the door to snatch on the way out. The boys' shoes were lined up by the front door. The boys! Of course, Kevin had them. The dog! Hadn't I been calling her before? "Sadie?" I yelled. "Sadie! Sadie girl!" Nothing.

I ran to the family room to check her favourite spot. There on the couch, a big round beige-colored ball was yelping and shaking. I approached and said softly, "Sadie?" She raised her head. Her face was swollen and her eyes were slits. Then it hit me: the burning, almost-electrical smell of fresh skunk spray. While washing Sadie, we shared a good laugh. After all, our house was safe, we were safe, and we'd learned an important lesson in rural living: Get to know your neighbours, understand them and show them respect. Especially those little stinkers!

- 6 The Coker family _____.
- A regretted buying such an old house
 - B kept their chickens in the front yard
 - C quickly got used to living out of town
 - D forbade the sons to go out without footwear
- 7 Which of the following had been repaired recently?
- A electrical cables
 - B house chandeliers
 - C the kitchen sink
 - D the Tiffany glass
- 8 What happened when the family felt the strong smell?
- A Mr. Coker started looking for the source of the smell.
 - B Mrs. Coker took the elder boys out of the farmhouse.
 - C Mrs. Coker collected some photographs and clothing.
 - D Mr. Coker and the boys walked about in search of Sadie.
- 9 Which of the following is TRUE about Sadie?
- A She was hiding in the yard.
 - B She was suffering from pain.
 - C She was playing with a ball.
 - D She was lying in the armchair.
- 10 What is the main conclusion the Cokers made after the skunk incident?
- A They should visit their neighbours more often.
 - B They should respect their neighbours' property.
 - C They should learn more about their new environment.
 - D They should be more careful to keep the family safe.

Task 3

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (11–16). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

MOST UNUSUAL US LAWS

11 Alabama

Bear wrestling, considered an entertaining hobby to some, has been criticized as inhumane and was banned in Alabama. It is also illegal to wear a mask or a fake moustache in public. On top of this, it is considered an offense to open an umbrella on a street, for fear of spooking horses.

12 Maine

In Maine, you can't bike or roller-skate on sidewalks, according to the Code of Ordinance. Trek to another town to enjoy that childhood pastime, or face a (wallet-busting) \$10 fine. Besides, it is against the law to stroll down the street playing the violin.

13 Illinois

A number of states across the U.S. still have "blue laws," or laws that were created in the 18th and 19th centuries to enforce religious standards. In Illinois in particular, you can't buy a car on Sunday. To top it off, horse racing is not allowed on Sunday either, unless the local municipality allows it. In Chicago it is illegal to take a French poodle to the opera.

14 Louisiana

In Louisiana you can land in jail for up to a year for making a false promise or up to ten years for stealing an alligator. You cannot order goods and get them brought to someone without the person knowing. If you harass or annoy a friend, that person can return the items to you — at your expense! Not to mention, there's a \$500 fine or six months in jail attached to that.

15 California

In California film producers must have permission from a pediatrician before filming a child under the age of one month. Women can't drive while wearing a housecoat. It is illegal to set a mousetrap without a hunting license. In San Jose and Sunnyvale it is illegal for grocery stores to provide plastic bags.

16 Colorado

Colorado laws prohibit the use of rain barrels or any methods to catch rain for use. They claim the rain has already been legally allocated to the state and individual may not capture and use water to which he/she does not have a right. It is also unlawful to lend your vacuum cleaner to your next-door neighbour or to own a dog over three months of age, unless you obtained a license.

Which of the state laws punishes for _____?

- A going to a horse race on a weekday
- B cycling on pedestrian paths
- C exploiting a wild animal for fun
- D taking a pet to the theatre
- E skateboarding without a license
- F going back on your word
- G using a car in a dressing gown
- H accumulating atmospheric moisture for use

Task 4

Read the text below. Choose from (A–H) the one which best fits each space (17–22). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

THE VOYNICH MANUSCRIPT

In the Yale University library, there's this mysterious document. And nobody can decode the writing, (17) _____. The material on which the manuscript was written was determined to be of 15th Century origin. Naturally, we conclude (18) _____.

But not so fast, buddy. The manuscript, named after the book dealer (19) _____, has continued to stump Cryptologists to this day. With the advent of the Internet, (20) _____ in an attempt to “crack the code” once and for all.

The major question is: where did the document come from? Are we able to trace its ownership and/or existence to one or more historical people? Not all (21) _____ are convinced that the document is authentic. Some believe (22) _____. But nobody could make up an entire language and system of writing not known to man, right?

- A as it's written by an anonymous author
- B who found this “undecipherable text” in 1912
- C that the document was created at that time
- D professionals and amateurs exchange scores of information
- E who set eyes on the Voynich Manuscript
- F as it's no writing system known to humans
- G linguists manage to create documents in unknown languages
- H that Voynich himself had knowledge enough to create it

USE OF ENGLISH

Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (23–32) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

THE WORLD'S SMALLEST HORSE

She may be small, a mere 17 inches and weighing only 60 pounds, but she is all horse. Born as a dwarf to a miniature horse, Thumbelina is (23) _____ the world's smallest horse.

She may never aspire to be a champion show-jumper — she is so tiny she would (24) _____ it hard to jump over a bucket. But these things (25) _____ little to Thumbelina.

The real-life *My Little Pony* was born on an American farm to a couple who (26) _____ in breeding miniature horses. Normally these horses weight about 250lb and (27) _____ to a height of 34 inches when they are (28) _____ grown. But from the day she was born it was clear that tiny Thumbelina would never grow to that size. Her amazing size has been (29) _____ as dwarfism. She likes to (30) _____ with the cocker spaniels rather than the other horses on their 150-acre farm. “When she was born, she was so small we thought she wasn't going to make it. She (31) _____ very ill. We feared the worse. “Because her legs are proportionally smaller than her body and her head, she has to (32) _____ orthopaedic fittings to straighten them out a lot of the time.” She lives on a cup of grain and a handful of hay, served twice a day.

23	A	formally	B	officially	C	properly	D	correctly
24	A	find	B	suppose	C	think	D	expect
25	A	mean	B	express	C	count	D	represent
26	A	operate	B	exercise	C	specialize	D	work
27	A	rise	B	develop	C	increase	D	enlarge
28	A	highly	B	exactly	C	precisely	D	fully
29	A	analysed	B	explained	C	decided	D	pointed
30	A	hang on	B	hang out	C	hang off	D	hang up
31	A	pretended	B	regarded	C	resembled	D	looked
32	A	carry	B	put	C	wear	D	dress

Task 6

Read the texts below. For questions (33–42) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

ILLUMINA

The autumn term at Winchester College comes to a close with a tradition (33) _____ as “Illumina”. When pupils (34) _____ their lessons at quarter to five in the afternoon, they’re met with the sight of scores of candles (35) _____ the wall enclosing the school playing fields. The festivities are a chance (36) _____ parents, staff and pupils to celebrate the end of term. When the tradition first started, old candle stubs accumulated throughout the year (37) _____, but they’re now bought especially to keep the tradition alive.

33	A	known	B	knowing	C	is known	D	to be known
34	A	finished	B	will finish	C	finish	D	would finish
35	A	illuminate	B	illuminative	C	illumination	D	illuminating
36	A	for	B	with	C	among	D	between
37	A	has been used	B	were used	C	had been used	D	was used

THANKSGIVING

Americans celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday (38) _____ the fourth Thursday of November. Most families follow traditions (39) _____ on the first Thanksgiving, but many have their own traditions that they follow each year.

One of the best things about Thanksgiving is (40) _____ time with family. Many people live far from family members and travel long distances by car, train, or plane to be with their loved (41) _____. Thanksgiving is (42) _____ travel day of the year!

38	A	on	B	in	C	at	D	since
39	A	began	B	had begun	C	begun	D	were begun
40	A	spending	B	spend	C	spent	D	spends
41	A	one	B	ones	C	one’s	D	ones’
42	A	busy	B	a busier	C	busiest	D	the busiest