

Test 2

Reading

1 Read the text and choose the correct answer.

TOURIST DIES IN BUNGEE JUMP

Another fatal accident in Switzerland has renewed concern about the safety procedures of adventure holiday companies. Adventure World, a Swiss company that is under investigation following the death of 21 canyoneers in a flash flood in Interlaken last year, has suspended all operations after the death of a bungee-jumper during one of the trips in the Lauterbrunnen Valley last month.

A 22-year-old American, Mathew Coleman, died after leaping from the Schilthorn cable car, one of the highest fixed-point bungee jumps in the world. He had been offered a choice of jumps — 100 m or 180 m — and chose the shorter. However, the rope for the 180 m jump was attached by mistake, and he crashed into the car park below.

Adventure World posted a notice on its website (www.adventureworld.ch) that contained a single-page apology and a short announcement to state that the company has "stopped all activities".

Adventure sports holidays are increasingly popular, and with such a wide range of activities on offer, regulation is difficult. The Royal Geographical Society has a code of conduct for companies that arrange youth expeditions abroad but this does not extend to general tour operations. "Companies in this country are licensed and routinely inspected, so people booking a complete activity package can feel confident about their standards."

But what about holidaymakers who buy a whitewater rafting or canyoning trip on the spur of the moment once they have arrived at their resort? "All we can recommend," says the specialist operator Tall Stories, "is that they ask for proof of indemnity insurance and about the qualifications and experience of their guides. In fact, just keep asking questions until they're satisfied.

"If the company doesn't seem interested in providing such information, that's a good indication of the sort of operation it is."

Sunday Times, 4 June 2000

1 Adventure World has:

- a) stopped its activities.
- b) continued its activities.
- c) stopped its work for a period of time.
- d) started its work.

2 Adventure World came under investigation after:

- a) Mathew Coleman's death.
- b) it had placed the information on its website.
- c) an accusation about Tall Stories.
- d) the death of 21 canyoneers.

3 Mathew Coleman died because the rope he was given was:

- a) too short.
- b) torn during the jump.
- c) too long.
- d) attached to the wrong place.

4 The announcement that Adventure World posted on its website was:

- a) to advertise the work of the company.
- b) to apologise for the accident and inform the public about the decision to stop their activities.
- c) to inform everybody about the accident.
- d) to announce that the company had been closed.

5 Management of adventure sports holidays is difficult because:

- a) they are popular.
- b) they provide a lot of possibly dangerous activities.
- c) the code of conduct is out of date.
- d) the regulations are too complicated.

6 People going on adventure sports holidays should trust companies if:

- a) they are licensed.
- b) they are well equipped.
- c) they have high standards.
- d) they provide a complete activity package.

7 Those who decide on the spot to have adventure holidays should:

- a) not go whitewater rafting.
- b) be satisfied with asking questions.
- c) be qualified and experienced.
- d) make careful enquiries about insurance and guides.

8 If a company doesn't give all the necessary information about its work:

- a) it is not trustworthy.
- b) it's a good sign.
- c) it is not interested in operating safely.
- d) it means that it cares about the clients' safety.

2 Match the titles to the parts of the text. Two of the titles are extra.

TIGERS: GOING ...GOING ... GONE?

1 Just a hundred years ago, more than 100,000 tigers prowled the dark, still forests of India and the Far East. From dusk to dawn, they searched for prey.

But now it is tigers that are hunted. Fewer than 5,000 of the cats may be left in the wild. Tigers are disappearing faster than any other large mammal besides the rhino. In the early 1900s, there were eight different species of tigers. Today — three species.

2 Why are so many tigers disappearing? Poachers — illegal hunters — are killing them for money. In areas where tigers live, many people are very poor. For one tiger, a village poacher can earn as much as \$300 — more than a year's wages. By the time it is smuggled out of a country, a tiger skin alone can be resold for \$15,000. A tiger isn't killed just for its skin. Every part of it is for sale — even the blood. The tiger parts are mostly used for medicines. That's because many people in Asia believe the tiger has incredible healing powers.

3 Scientists have proven that tiger parts do not have any medical value. Many people believe the animal parts have a spiritual benefit. By eating tiger bones, they think they can absorb some of the animal's energy and power. The Global Tiger Campaign is working with many traditional healers in Asia. They want adults there to stop buying medicines that include tiger parts.

4 "I understand why people value these animals' parts," says Dr Rabinowitz, a director of the Global Tiger Campaign. "When you see a tiger in the wild, it's more than just huge and powerful. It makes you feel humble. You're no longer the most powerful being in the jungle."

Weighing in at 500 pounds, a tiger is about nine feet long, including a three-foot-long tail. It can bring down an animal that weighs a ton. And its powerful jaws and dagger-like teeth are able to break a back with one quick snap.

5 Tigers usually prey on guar — an ox-like beast. But they'll also eat grass, pigs, rats, monkeys, birds, lizards, leopards, other tigers and even the occasional person!

Dr Rabinowitz found out firsthand how quietly a tiger can stalk a human. "I was tracking a tiger and it was getting late," he recalls. "I turned around and there was the tiger! This unbelievably powerful animal was stalking me all the time I thought I was stalking him!" Lucky for Dr Rabinowitz, the tiger was just curious, not hungry.

- 6 For all the tigers' powers, they are still easy prey. Many cats have died from eating poison that villagers sprinkle on animals the tigers have killed and left briefly. Others have fallen victim to guns.

Even with armed guards patrolling the wildlife parks, it has been difficult to protect the cats. Poachers at one nature reserve in India killed as many as 40 tigers in just four months. As fewer and fewer tigers are left to kill, they fetch higher and higher prices.

"Because the animal parts have become so valuable," explains Dr Rabinowitz, "it's worth it for the poacher to take the risk of hunting inside a protected area — even if it means shooting a forest guard. There's a war going on in the forest."

- 7 But the battle to save the tigers has to go beyond the forest borders. "The key is to change attitudes about using tigers for medicines," says Dr Rabinowitz. "That way, the demand for tiger parts will stop."

In the meantime, countries are getting together to come up with solutions to save the tiger, such as tougher punishments for poaching and smuggling. Last March, 122 nations met to discuss how to protect these endangered animals. Help must come soon. In the last year alone, half the Siberian tiger population has disappeared. More Siberian tigers now live in zoos than in the wild.

Can the great cats be saved? "Yes," Dr Rabinowitz responds. "As long as there are people who care about tigers, there's hope."

Elizabeth Vitton

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| a) Why they are killed | f) Tigers at the zoo |
| b) The king of the jungle | g) How we can save them |
| c) They are vulnerable | h) Who stalks who? |
| d) Tiger facing extinction | i) New tiger reserves |
| e) Proven medical value? | |

Use of English

- 3 Fill in the gaps with one of the four options below.

Theatre executive Jenny Harris has learnt never to (1) _____ on trains to get her to an airport on time after (2) _____ and wrong information led her to (3) _____ a plane in Edinburgh.

Ms Harris said she (4) _____ a day when she should have been at an important rehearsal after she was twice given misleading information by railway (5) _____, which led her to board the wrong train and then wait for another one that did not exist.

"When I complained, the guard told me never rely to on the train service to get you to an airport," said Ms Harris, (6) _____ of education and training at London's Royal National Theatre. "I asked him if he was being sarcastic — but he said that he was just being (7) _____."

Ms Harris missed the best part of the (8) _____ for her new show at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival after she was forced to (9) _____ her plane ticket for one departing the following day.

Ms Harris had followed rail information (10) _____ and caught a train to Luton Airport from London Bridge station. "I watched the board and got on the train indicated. After it left Waterloo, I realised I was on the (11) _____ train." Ms Harris caught a train back to London Bridge. The board said it was the Bedford train — but at the very (12) _____ minute, the board changed to indicate that the train was bound for Charing Cross."

Ms Harris then realised she would miss the plane and had to change her ticket booking — at an (13) _____ cost of £50.

Ms Harris has written to Thameslink asking for a full (14) _____ and compensation for the additional cost incurred. "This does not (15) _____ stress, wear and tear and the fact that valuable time was wasted."

The Independent, 2 September 1999

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|----|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | A. rest | B. rely | C. respond | D. support |
| 2 | A. delays | B. postpones | C. stops | D. detentions |
| 3 | A. long | B. slip | C. miss | D. pass |
| 4 | A. spent | B. wasted | C. missed | D. dropped |
| 5 | A. trains | B. stiff | C. stuff | D. staff |
| 6 | A. student | B. head | C. chief | D. chef |
| 7 | A. realism | B. realist | C. real | D. realistic |
| 8 | A. rehearsal | B. revision | C. repetition | D. reviewing |
| 9 | A. buy | B. sell | C. change | D. choose |
| 10 | A. advise | B. advice | C. advices | D. advises |
| 11 | A. wrong | B. untrue | C. mistaken | D. false |
| 12 | A. late | B. latest | C. lost | D. last |
| 13 | A. upper | B. super | C. extra | D. larger |
| 14 | A. fare | B. refund | C. refund | D. refine |
| 15 | A. switch on | B. contain | C. conclude | D. include |

4 Read the text below and look carefully at each line. Some of the lines are correct, and the others have a word which should not be there. Put a tick (✓) if the line is correct or write down the odd word out.

- 1 Five hundred of years ago they didn't speak English in North America. _____
- 2 The American Indians had their own languages. So did the Eskimos and _____
- 3 Aleuts in the Canada. The English arrived and set up their colonies. _____
- 4 And then other people came from all over the world, bringing many of different languages _____
- 5 and cultures. The USA has the most biggest mixture of all, it is often called a "melting pot" _____
- 6 of cultures. In 1619 a small ship has arrived in Virginia, with twenty slaves from Africa. _____
- 7 For over than two hundred years, the Americans imported, bought and sold African slaves. _____
- 8 Today there are over 29 million black Americans who living in the USA. In 1884 the _____
- 9 population of the United States was still very small. Millions of immigrants came to America _____
- 10 when gold was discovered in California, and a new law, the Homestead Act, gave free land to farmers. _____

5 Using the word given complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given.

Example:

She really didn't want to offend him so she kept quiet.

She was anxious _____ him so she kept quiet. (avoid)

She was anxious to avoid offending him so she kept quiet.

- 1 Pools are not available in the circus for the bears to cool off.
The circus _____ the bears with pools to cool off. (provide)
- 2 If urgent action is not taken, the orangutang could be extinct within twenty years.
_____, the orangutang could be extinct within twenty years. (unless)
- 3 The recent increase in fishing in the Caspian region is the result of the collapse of the Soviet Union and competition between fishermen.
The collapse of the Soviet Union and competition between fishermen in the Caspian region _____ the recent increase in fishing. (resulted in)
- 4 It's a pity that local authorities do not take better care of environmental protection in the region.
_____ better care of environmental protection of the region. (if only)
- 5 Group Tiger Trust hopes to educate the Indian people that it is dangerous to kill tigers.
Group Tiger Trust hopes to educate the Indian people about _____. (killing tigers)
- 6 An expert from the Indian Wildlife Trust says that the number of elephants being killed has been growing.
An expert from the Indian Wildlife Trust says that there has been _____ number of elephants being killed. (increase)
- 7 Thousands of Milan residents went without their cars on Sunday in an experiment to reduce atmospheric pollution levels.
Thousands of Milan residents went without their cars on Sunday in an experiment _____ atmospheric pollution levels. (aimed at)
- 8 Over forty people were hospitalised after eating poisoned fish from the river.
Over forty people were hospitalised after _____ poisoned fish from the river. (eat)
- 9 Climate scientists now agree that our climate is probably changing for the worse.
Climate scientists now agree that our climate _____ for the worse. (likely)
- 10 It is reported that office workers in Bangkok are at risk because air conditioning units draw in polluted air from the streets and concentrate it.
Office workers in Bangkok _____ at risk because air conditioning units draw in polluted air from the streets and concentrate it. (said)