

## VARIANT 1

... **1** Read the text and mark (✓) the following statements «True» or «False».

My name's Philip and I'm going to tell you a few things about my job. I'm an American tour guide and I spend most of my time taking groups of American tourists around Europe; England and Italy mostly, but sometimes France and Germany, too.

Before starting, I'd done a two-week European trip as a tourist, then I worked in a travel agency in Chicago, and also worked for a holiday company in Turkey.

However, I still had to go through a complicated procedure before getting this job. First, you must fill in the application form and answer all sorts of questions. Next, you have a formal interview and then you have to stand up in front of a group of people and give a talk. They want to see how you can perform in a real situation, because it's no good being shy or too timid.

There's a lot of competition for these jobs because they give you a chance to travel and meet lots of new people. But to be a good travel guide, you've got to have a genuine interest not only in the travel, but also in the people. The tours can be rather long, and you're with the same fifty people all the time. You're never really off duty because you're responsible for making sure all the arrangements go well and for keeping everyone happy.

		True	False
<b>1</b>	The most popular countries for Americans to visit are England and Italy.		
<b>2</b>	Philip's experience before his current job was travelling to Turkey with a tour group.		
<b>3</b>	The speaker had no travel experience before getting his job.		
<b>4</b>	The speaker thinks the company made getting the job much too easy for him.		
<b>5</b>	You cannot be a successful travel guide if you are timid and shy.		
<b>6</b>	Getting a job with Philip's firm is a three-step process.		
<b>7</b>	The speaker says the most important quality for a travel guide is to be interested in the people you travel with.		
<b>8</b>	It is difficult to get a job as an American tour guide because many young people want a job that lets them travel.		
<b>9</b>	Philip says that one difficulty of his job is that when working he has too much time off.		
<b>10</b>	A tour guide can be responsible for up to fifty people at a time.		

••• **2** Complete the sentences with the correct words from the box.

researchers      difference      have      found      could  
 are      what      running      after      repeatedly

In the Chinese zodiac, rats (1) ..... considered witty, imaginative and curious. Now scientists (2) ..... discovered another attribute.

They have (3) ..... that rats can be helpful. The (4) ..... placed a free-roaming rat in an arena with a caged rat. In a few days, the free rat realized it (5) ..... push the door open and release the caged rat.

After figuring this out, it did so (6) ....., day after day.

They then did (7) ..... we refer to as a celebration. The trapped rat was (8) ..... around the arena, and the free rat ran (9) ..... the trapped rat.

There was also a (10) ..... in the behaviour of male rats and female rats.

••• **3** Comment on the following issues.

Transportation is very important in the modern world, especially in big cities. Describe:

- the advantages and disadvantages of modern means of transportation;
- what new means of transportation you would suggest for a big city.

## VARIANT 2

... **1** Read the text and mark (✓) the following statements «True» or «False».

### Caring for a Pet Hamster

You and your parents agree that you are ready for a pet. A dog is too big for a small flat. Mom is allergic to cats. So a hamster is the best choice. What will it take to keep your new pet safe and happy?

Choose a hamster from a pet shop that is clean and where the staff seems to know about the animals. If you want to tame and handle your hamster, you'd better choose a younger pet.

Before you get your hamster, you should prepare its new home. Here are the items your hamster must have: a cage, bedding made of wood shavings, nesting material, an exercise wheel, a water bottle, a food dish and food.

Almost all of your hamster's life will be spent in the cage. So, buy the largest cage you can afford.

Make sure that your hamster has fresh water at all times. A general hamster mix from the pet shop will make up most of your pet's diet. You can also give it carrots, raisins, cheese, dog biscuits and acorns as treats. In general, do not feed your hamster sweets or prepared foods. With daily food and water, regular attention and a weekly cage cleaning, your hamster should be a happy addition to your household for several years.

		True	False
<b>1</b>	The article says it is important for parents to agree that you are old enough to have a pet.		
<b>2</b>	Dogs make good pets when you live in a small flat.		
<b>3</b>	When choosing a pet shop, choose one with a knowledgeable staff who can give you information about the pets.		
<b>4</b>	It is better to buy a fully-grown animal than a young one.		
<b>5</b>	A hamster's cage must be big enough to allow your hamster to move around.		
<b>6</b>	A hamster sleeps in wood shavings.		
<b>7</b>	The article says that it is very important to make sure your hamster has water.		
<b>8</b>	A hamster will consider chips and crackers a good treat.		
<b>9</b>	You should clean your hamster's cage every year.		
<b>10</b>	The article recommends that you bring your hamster home for a visit to be sure it will be happy in your flat.		

••• **2** Complete the text with the correct words from the table.

There was once a poor man, who lived in a house next to a wealthy merchant (1) ..... sold oil and honey. As the merchant was a kind neighbour, he one day sent a (2) ..... of oil to the poor man. The poor man was (3) ....., and put it carefully away on the top shelf.

One evening, (4) ..... he was looking at it, he said half aloud, «I wonder how (5) ..... oil there is in that bottle. There is a large quantity. If I should sell it, I could buy five sheep. Every year I should have (6) ....., and before long I should own a flock. Then I should sell some of the sheep, and be (7) ..... enough to marry a wife. Perhaps we might have a son. And (8) ..... a fine boy he would be! So tall, strong and (9) .....! But if he should disobey me,» and he raised the staff which he held in his hand, «I should punish him thus!»

And he swung the staff over his head and brought it heavily to the ground, knocking, as he did so, the bottle (10) ..... the shelf so that the oil ran over him from head to foot.

	A	B	C	D
1	who	whom	where	whether
2	box	carton	bar	bottle
3	sad	sorry	delighted	angry
4	also	ever	but	as
5	so	much	many	few
6	lambs	cubs	puppies	kids
7	rich	clever	poor	lazy
8	what	which	that	those
9	naughty	rude	obedient	greedy
10	behind	without	into	off

••• **3** Comment on the following issues.

Describe yourself.

- Include information about your family, interests, strengths and weaknesses.
- Give a brief description of your personal qualities and specify what traits of character you would like to develop in yourself.

## VARIANT 3

... **1** Read the text and mark (✓) the following statements «True» or «False».

### Puppies for Sale

Once a small boy was attracted by a sign above the door of the store that read «Puppies For Sale».

«How much are you going to sell the puppies for?» the boy asked the store-owner.

«Anywhere from \$30 to \$50.»

«I have \$2.37,» he said. «Can I please look at them?»

The store-owner smiled and whistled and out of the kennel came Lady followed by five tiny balls of fur.

One puppy was lagging considerably behind. The store owner explained that it was ill and it would always limp.

The little boy became excited. «That is the puppy that I want to buy.»

«If you really want him, I'll just give him to you.»

The little boy got quite upset. He said, «I don't want you to give him to me. I'll pay the full price. I'll give you \$2.37 now, and 50 cents a month until I have him paid for.»

The store owner argued, «But this little dog is never going to be able to run and jump and play with you like the other puppies.»

To his surprise, the little boy reached down and revealed a badly twisted, crippled left leg supported by a big metal brace. He looked up at the store owner and softly replied, «Well, I don't run so well myself, and the little puppy will need someone who understands!»

		True	False
1	A small boy wanted to buy a hamster.		
2	The money the boy had was not enough to buy a puppy.		
3	Lady was the mother of the puppies.		
4	The puppies were small and puffy.		
5	One puppy couldn't hear well.		
6	The little boy wanted the puppy that limped.		
7	The store owner presented the puppy to the boy.		
8	The boy insisted on paying the full price for the puppy.		
9	The boy needed a puppy to run and jump and play with him.		
10	The boy had a damaged leg so he believed he could become a good friend to the puppy.		