

VARIANT I

Part 1 — Reading and English in Use

SECTION 1

- Read the texts 1—6. What does each text say? Choose the correct letter A, B or C. Mark your answers on your answer sheet.

1 An exhibition of the painting school «Kids of Tomorrow» opened yesterday. New incredible works of young artists are on display. The school senior staff expresses gratitude to all those who have managed to help with the organisation and to the visitors who donate for the school development. The entrance to the exhibition is free. The opening hours are 11 a.m.—6 p.m. (Monday—Saturday).

What will you fail to do?

- A. To visit the exhibition on Saturday afternoon.
- B. To help with sponsoring the school.
- C. To buy a ticket to the exhibition.

2 The family and friends of George M. Bright invite you to attend a celebration in honour of his graduation from Harvard University. Saturday, June, 13th, 8 p.m. The Bright home 143, Franklin Av.

What is the addressee of the letter expected to do?

- A. To graduate from the university.
- B. To join George's graduation ceremony.
- C. To come to the party.

3 Avalanches possible in the area! Climbing without a local instructor strictly forbidden!

What is allowed to do?

- A. To climb when there's no avalanche.
- B. To climb in other areas.
- C. To hire a local instructor for climbing.

4 A new coffee shop opens on Sat., at 8 p.m. at the street market. A taste-off, a contest for all coffee experts, a barista show and even more. Don't miss!

What can't you do at the event?

- A. Taste coffee.
- B. See a performance.
- C. Hold a competition.

- 5 **Would you like to visit a world of awesome cars? What about touching them? Trying your driving skills? BMW Welt in Munich is open for public every day. The entrance is free. Taking photos is allowed. To know more about the corporation attend an excursion to the BMW Museum held Tue—Sun, 10 a.m.—6 p.m. The price depends.**

What can't you do?

- A. Take photos at the museum.
- B. Finger the cars.
- C. Enjoy a guided tour on Monday.

- 6 **Welcome to our new website! As you may see it's just been freshened and now the navigation is easier and the information is more accessible. A number of pages are still in progress, but keep on visiting the site as they are becoming available. You don't need to register again unless you have troubles with your previous password. Hope you'll enjoy the new layout and we'll be glad to receive your comments.**

What has changed about the website?

- A. Its content and navigation.
- B. The password and the registration.
- C. The number of pages.

SECTION 2

- Read the text below and decide if the statements 7—12 are True or False.

Indian Dice Game

Four women, two pairs of partners, played this game. The players were seated upon the ground, partners side by side and their opponents opposite. Between them was placed a large, flat tray made of basketry material and having slightly upturned edges. The tray was called «tiwon». Twelve counting sticks were used to keep score. The dice, called «hoo'utch», were usually made from the nuts of the native black walnut tree. To make the dice, the nuts were split in half, the kernel removed, and the hollow filled with dark pitch. Into the pitch they pressed small bits of white shell. In this way the dice were numbered from one to eight depending on the number of shell bits. The shells had two sides, a round side formed by the outside of the shell and a flat side formed by the pitch.

The dice were gathered in both hands and thrown upon a mat. Four combinations were used for scoring:

- 1) If three flat sides remained up, it counted as one point.
- 2) If two flat sides remained up, it counted as one point.
- 3) All flat sides up or all flat sides down counted as five points.
- 4) If only one flat side remained up, that team lost a point and the dice were given to another team.

The counting sticks were awarded and when all were given out, the team with the most sticks won.

- 7. The game was played by two partners.
- 8. The sides of the tray which was used for the game weren't completely flat.

9. The score was held with the help of a dozen sticks.
10. Nuts were used instead of dice.
11. The scoring depended on a combination of the dice thrown onto a mat.
12. The victory was given to the team which had more sticks than their rivals.

SECTION 3

- Read the text below and choose the correct letter A, B or C for each space 13—20. Mark your answers on your answer sheet.

Exploration of (13) sorts is rooted in the notion of taking risks. Risk underlies any (14) into the unknown, whether it is a ship captain's voyage into uncharted seas, a scientist's research on dangerous diseases, or an entrepreneur's investment in a new venture. But what exactly pushed Christopher Columbus to embark on a voyage (15) the Atlantic, or Edward Jenner to test his (16) for an early smallpox vaccine on a child, or Henry Ford to bet that automobiles could replace horses?

Some of the motivations for taking risks are obvious — financial reward, fame, political gain, saving lives. Many people willingly expose themselves to varying degrees of risk in their pursuit of such goals. But as the danger increases, the (17) of people willing to go forward shrinks, until the only ones (18) remain are the extreme risk-takers, those willing to endanger their reputation, fortune, and life. This is the (19) of risk: what makes some humans willing to jeopardise so much and continue to do (20) even in the face of dire consequences?

*(From «The Mystery of Risk»,
National Geographic, Peter Gwin, June 2013)*

	A	B	C
13	every	all	most
14	walk	road	journey
15	in	across	through
16	theory	concept	idea
17	number	circle	group
18	which	when	who
19	mystery	task	danger
20	as	if	so

Part 2 — Writing

You have just finished school. What are your plans for the near future? Write an e-mail of 50—80 words in which you tell your friend:

- what occupation you would like to choose and why;
- where you would like to study;
- what you do to get prepared for your entrance exams.

Write your e-mail on your answer sheet.

VARIANT II

Part 1 — Reading and English in Use

SECTION 1

- Read the texts 1—6. What does each text say? Choose the correct letter A, B or C. Mark your answers on your answer sheet.

1

Warning! Private road. No trespassing!

What is forbidden to do?

- A. To cross the road in this place.
- B. To enter the area.
- C. To drive private cars.

2

You are invited!
To An Open House & Ribbon Cutting
for the new law practice of Mary Crawford, S. J. D.
at «Waddell and Reed»

Which information about the event is missing?

- A. The purpose of the event.
- B. The place where it's going to take place.
- C. The date of the event.

3

Attention! There could be traffic jams on the roads in the city centre tomorrow. Be sure you don't hurry or better choose another way of getting to the place. If possible, use the underground or walk.

What is the problem going to be?

- A. Those who work in the city centre will be late for work.
- B. Drivers could get stuck in a jam in the centre of the city.
- C. The underground will be overcrowded.

4

To all the staff!
A two-hour meeting will be held next Friday.
Time: March, 10th at 9 a.m.
Place: Teachers' Room.
Topic: End of Year ceremony on May, 31st.
Please, be punctual and ready for the discussion.
All the propositions will be taken into account.

The teachers won't probably be free...

- A. Next Friday at noon.
- B. At 10 a.m. on May, 31st.
- C. At 10 a.m. on March, 10th.

5

Tuesday, April, 25th.
Mid-term exams in two weeks!
Soccer practice rescheduled. Will be next Friday, 5 p.m.
Today's lunch menu: main course — burgers, fries,
fish; dessert — fresh fruit and chocolate cookies.

Where can these texts be seen?

- A. On a noticeboard of a college.
- B. In a local newspaper.
- C. In somebody's blog.

6

For sale! Five retriever puppies of deep black colour and a grey one. Very clever and extremely cute. All the necessary vaccination done.

What is common for all the puppies?

- A. The breed and the mental endowments.
- B. The colour and the fact of being vaccinated.
- C. The breed and the colour.

SECTION 2

••• Read the text below and decide if the statements 7—12 are True or False.

History of Central Park

New York's Central Park is the first urban landscaped park in the United States. The idea originated in the early 1850s. The purpose was to change the European view that the Americans lacked a civic duty and didn't like culture. New York City's high society wanted to enjoy a landscape, among which the wealthy could parade in their carriages and socialise.

After years of debate, the park's construction began in 1857, based on the winner of a park design contest. The city bought 840 acres of an area in the centre of Manhattan. After that, about 1,600 people, schools, three churches were evicted. Thousands of Irish, German and New England-area labourers worked there.

In 1858, when the park was opened, people were ice-skating in the park. In the 1860s the park was the place of the wealthy. The first playground was installed there in 1926, it was a great success and by the 1940s Central Park was home to more than twenty playgrounds.

In the 1960s and 1970s the park's keeping was bad; despite its growing use for concerts and rallies, clean-up, and planting. During the early 1980s there was an attempt to involve New Yorkers in helping their park. Today, the park hosts millions of visitors yearly.

(from an article written by Sarah Waxman)

- 7. The purpose of building Central Park was to give New York City's high society a place to show off their carriages and socialise with their friends.
- 8. Central Park was built on vacant lands in the centre of Manhattan.
- 9. In the middle of the nineteenth century Central Park was used mostly by the wealthy.
- 10. The final phase of the park's construction was delayed by budget constraints.