

Ngày thi: 05/4/2024

Thời gian làm bài: 180 phút, không kể thời gian phát đề

Part 1.

1 How did the man get to work?

F: It's nine thirty! You're late, John. Did you miss the train again this morning?

M: I decided to drive for a change because the weather is so bad. When I got to the main road, a taxi had crashed into a school bus and blocked the whole road. All the school kids were standing in the rain waiting for the school to send another school bus. Anyway, the police closed the road and sent all the traffic on a different route that was longer and took me an extra twenty minutes.

2 What will the girl buy?

F: Good afternoon. Do you have any fresh strawberries today?

M: I'm very sorry, we have sold out this morning. We had some big, juicy ones. I will have some more tomorrow morning. I've got some lovely raspberries fresh from the farm today if you like and some very sweet cherries.

F: I'm not sure my parents are keen on raspberries; they are too sour. So, I'll take some apples, bananas and some of those cherries please. No wait a minute, my dad told me to get pears, not apples.

3 What will the weather be like tomorrow night?

F: Now kids I have an announcement. Tonight, as the sun goes down, the temperature will drop a lot and there will be some strong winds. Tomorrow's forecast is not much better. We expect a very foggy morning which will slowly clear as the sun comes up. But still, during the day it will be cold, with strong winds. This will change again tomorrow night as we expect heavy rain. If this is the case, we might not be able to go on our scheduled school trip as we were supposed to be outdoors.

4 What will Ben do on Saturday afternoon?

F: Hi Ben, do you want to go ice-skating Saturday morning?

M: I'd love to, but I promised my mum I'd help her cut the grass and pick up the leaves.

F: Well, how about in the evening?

M: I'm going to the cinema to see the new horror film with Tracy from school. I could go with you after lunch, though; the film doesn't start till 7 pm so I will have plenty of time.

F: That's great. See you at about two o'clock.

5 What animal will they buy?

F: Do you think grandma would like a parrot? I think it would be perfect as it's easy to look after and cheap to feed.

M: She really needs something that will be more of a friend for her. Something that will sit on her lap while she watches TV.

F: How about a dog?

M: That would be good ... or maybe a cat.

F: I think she prefers dogs. But she likes cats too and they don't need to be taken for a walk every day.

M: Hmm – and in the winter she can't go out so often.

F: So that's decided then.

Part 2.

Interviewer: Today I'm talking to Mara Henshaw who started a school book club. Mara, what first gave you the idea?

Mara: Well, my mum goes to one every month but I never really thought it was something for people my age. Then one day I saw an article about one on a teen website. What those kids did sounded really cool and I thought we could do that in my year (6). So I went to talk to our English teacher and she said go for it.

Interviewer: So does the club have meetings?

Mara: Basically we take it in turns to suggest a book. Everyone agrees to read it (7). Then we have a meeting to talk about it. At first our teacher came to show us how to organise things but now she leaves it to us. The meetings are fun because there aren't worksheets or anything. You just say what you think.

Interviewer: So what books are best to read?

Mara: Well, it's got to be a novel you can buy or borrow easily. Sometimes people choose one they've already read and enjoyed. Other people choose new books that none of us has even heard of before. That works better if you ask me (8). It can spoil your favourite book if nobody else likes it. Although we're never rude about people's choices.

Interviewer: What if someone really doesn't like the choice of book?

Mara: Well, you have to try it because if some people like it more than others you get a good discussion going (9). And you can be wrong. Like I didn't fancy one book because the cover looked childish but it was actually brilliant. Our only rule is that you have to keep reading till the end. Even if you hate the way it starts.

Interviewer: Do you have a favourite book club activity?

Mara: Well, if a book's been made into a movie we watch that and discuss how they're different. That's fun. Even better is going online and asking the writer questions on social media. You learn so much (10). Some club members like planning a sequel. Imagining what happens next to the characters and stuff. I'm not so keen on that.

Interviewer: What advice do you have for anyone thinking of starting a club like yours?

Mara: Well, everyone needs to bring drinks and snacks because that's an important part of the meetings. And getting new people to join is good because then you're always hearing different ideas and suggestions. Some clubs go for one sort of story like fantasy or whatever but a variety is more interesting.

Part 3.

Hi, my name is Josh and my presentation is about the day I went quad biking.

So, first what is quad biking? Well, basically a quad bike's got an engine, so it's like a motorbike, only it's got four wheels. But the fantastic thing about the quad bike is that it has really **wide tyres**. That means you can drive it across almost any type of ground, places where a car couldn't go.

The quad biking session I went on was a 15th birthday present from my parents. It lasted about an hour and a half. It started off with a safety talk where the guy shows you how to work the controls, like the brakes and stuff. That takes **30 minutes**. Then, you get about 45 minutes to drive around a track across the countryside. The track's brilliant, with lots of hills and plenty of mud. It goes through a forest at one point, which some people find scary, but I thought it was great. You even get to drive across a **small river**. That was a bit frightening actually, but I managed it in the end.

The day I went, it wasn't sunny. My dad was disappointed, because he wanted to film everything. But actually, I like the fact that it was **foggy**. It all added to the fun. One guy I met said he'd been when it was snowing once. That must be brilliant.

So, if you're interested in quad biking, the track's on a farm that's just outside the city. It's on the road you take to get to the **airport**, so you've probably passed it without realising. If anyone's interested in booking a session, I'll give you the website address of the farm. It's www.witlocks.com. That's WHITLOCKS.com. I'd say go for it. You'll have a great time.

Part 4.

Interviewer: Today I am talking to Sam Wilson who collects figurines which are small plastic models of film characters. Have you always collected things Sam?

Sam: Well, my grandfather collected postage stamps. When I was young he showed them to me and explained where they'd all come from. I never really followed what he was saying about them but I always really enjoyed those moments (16). I could feel the pleasure he got from just owning them.

Interviewer: So why did you start collecting film figurines?

Sam: I was really into drawing as a kid. I even had extra lessons after school. Then my uncle gave me a Star Wars figure for my birthday one year because I loved the films. Looking at it I realised how much work must go into creating a thing like that. And once I'd got one I just wanted more (17). That's what happens to collectors.

Interviewer: So what do you enjoy most about collecting Sam?

Sam: I know people who see the whole collecting thing as a challenge. They love trying to find a particular figurine. Especially if it's rare. It's the search that excites them. For me it's more having them lined up in my room seeing how fantastic they all look together (18). I'm not interested in how much they're worth.

Interviewer: How do you decide which figurines to collect?

Sam: I'm not worried about having every single one in a series like some people do with Star Wars figurines. I just go for the ones that interest me. I don't like simple ones. I want to look at them and see lots of detailed work in the design. And I don't care what other people have got. It's not a competition to see who's got the best ones.

Interviewer: Do you prefer new figurines or used ones?

Sam: Good question. I prefer things that somebody's played with and loved. Then I can make up that story in my minds too (19). If figurines are still in their original boxes they're worth more of course. Some collectors keep their figurines in perfect condition because they hope somebody will buy them one day. I intend to keep mine.

Interviewer: What's your favourite one?

Sam: Well it's actually one of a clown. I came across him in a charity shop so I paid very little. And nobody else thinks much of him (20). But the way his arms and legs move is amazing. My friends worry that I'm going to break it. And it's really so brilliantly designed that it will last forever no matter how it's handled.