**9th Grade**

**Listening Comprehension**

There are certain people who always like to take their vacation in the same place. They return from the vacation and ask themselves, “When can I go back there again?” There are other people who like to go to many places. They like to do many different things on their vacations. When they return from their vacation, they ask themselves, “Where can I go next?”

My parents are perfect examples of the first kind of people. They always like to go to the lake in the mountains where they went on their honeymoon. They bought a vacation cabin there several years after they were married. They have gone there two or three times a year for over twenty-five years. My parents have made friends with the people who also own cabins there. They enjoy getting together with them. Both of my parents enjoy sailing and swimming and my father likes to go fishing. My parents enjoy variety, but they say they can get variety by going to their cabin at different times of the year. They particularly like to go there in the autumn when the leaves are beautiful.

I am an example of a person who likes to go to different places for her vacation. When I was a child, I went to my parents’ cabin, but when I got older, I wanted to travel to many different places. I spent a lot of time and money learning how to ski, so I wanted to travel to places where I could ski, such as Switzerland. I was interested in visiting historic places, so I went to Angkor Wat in Cambodia even though it was difficult to get there. I would like to go to Egypt because I want to see the pyramids and to Rome to see the Coliseum.

Although I enjoy going to familiar places, I find that going to strange places is more exciting. The world is so huge and exciting that I don’t want to go to the same place twice. Still, I understand my parents’ point of view. They believe that you can never get to know a place too well.

**Task 1**

**Listen to the text about people's vacation preferences. Mark the sentences below as TRUE or FALSE based on the text.**

1. The text mainly tells about going to different places.
2. The parents like to spend their holidays in the same city.
3. They have got married recently.
4. The usual holiday destination of the author’s parents is the cabin in the mountains.
5. The parents have gone to their cabin two or three times a year for more than twenty-five years.
6. Both parents are into sailing.
7. The author of the text is a man.
8. The author of the text is an experienced traveller.
9. According to the author, the world is a small place to live in.
10. The author’s parents think that you can never get to know a place too well.

**Task 2**

**Listen to the text about people's vacation preferences. Choose the correct option (A, B, C, or D) that best completes the sentences, according to the text.**

1. **It may be inferred from the text that the parents always spend their vacations**
2. in different places
3. in many places
4. in the same places
5. in popular places
6. **One can make a conclusion that the parents are**
7. successful people
8. friendly people
9. quiet people
10. happy people
11. **The dream of the author is**
12. to visit Cambodia and Italy
13. to visit Egypt and Italy
14. to visit Italy and Switzerland
15. to visit Switzerland and Cambodia
16. **The pyramids in Egypt were visited**
17. by the family
18. by no one
19. by the parents
20. by the author
21. **The author of the passage**
22. doesn’t give the parents’ opinion
23. doesn’t like the parents’ opinion
24. rejects the parents’ opinion
25. accepts the parents’ opinion

**9th Grade**

**Reading Comprehension**

**Text 1**

**Read the text below. Match the choices (A-H) to the paragraphs (1-5). There are three extra choices you don’t need to use.**

**MY DREAM JOB**

Last year many young people were asked about their dreams for future. Here are some of their answers.

**1 Joanna Kobalcyk, Poland**

My dream is being a model. I want to be like Kendall Jenner, who has appeared on the covers of all the major fashion magazines. I want to be famous, and to take the world by storm, because I think that the world is exciting and fabulous.

**2 Matej Lajnik, Slovenia**

My dream job is to become the President of Slovenia. I would make schools a better place for pupils, put more money into hospitals and the police. But to be the President, you have to work hard and study hard, and I don’t like studying and working hard!

**3 Christophe Bretez, Belgium**

I would like to be a pilot in the army. I like adventure and I know when you are a pilot, you are as free as a bird. I know that it is dangerous, but hey, if you do not take any risks in life, then you haven’t lived at all.

**4 Carlos Garcia, Spain**

I want to be a bartender, like Tom Cruise in Cocktail, and work on Bikini Island in the Pacific. There are many golden sand beaches with blue skies and transparent Pacific waters. Beautiful, suntanned bodies are everywhere, and the relaxing sound of crashing waves and refreshing sea smell is just perfect to escape the “rat-race” which is our society.

**5 Inga Johanssen, Norway**

I imagine myself sitting in the office for just two hours a day, and at that time I play games. My dream job is doing nothing. But what about the money? In my dream I have a lot of money because my pay is very good. But the real world isn’t as good as my dreams – you must study and work, study and work. Every day the same song.

**This person…**

| A doesn’t want a quiet life | E has big ambitions but no diligence |
| --- | --- |
| B likes feeling safe | F likes to sing songs |
| C wants only a high salary | G wants to become a celebrity |
| D wants to become an actor | H prefers calm places |

**Reading Comprehension**

**Text 2**

**Read the text below. Choose the correct option (A, B, C, or D) that best completes the sentences, according to the text.**

Marie Curie was born in 1867. She is one of the greatest scientists ever to have lived. She was a pioneer in the field of radioactivity and discovered the chemical elements radium and polonium. Curie is the only person ever to win two Nobel prizes in two different sciences. Other achievements include being the first female professor at the University of Paris.

Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland. Her father was a Math and Physics teacher and was a big influence on Marie’s early education. From an early age Marie was an exceptional student with an amazing memory. She often went without food and sleep to study. Her brilliant mind led her to Paris to study and to conduct her research.

She met her future husband Pierre Curie at the university. He considered Marie to be a genius and instantly wanted to work with her. They got married and spent most of their time together in their laboratory studying radioactive materials. Their research led to the discovery of radium, for which they were honoured with the Nobel Prize in 1903.

Pierre was killed in 1906 and Marie was devastated and extremely lonely. She threw herself even deeper into her work and won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1911. She spent the 1920s raising funds for more research into radium. In 1934 she died from the condition caused by the decades of exposure to radiation. Before that nobody knew how deadly radium could be.

| 1. **The best title for the text is**   A The Discoveries in Physics  B Marie’s Family Life  C Marie Curie: the Great Scientist  D Marie Curie: the Early Years | 1. **Marie and her husband**   A worked at different institutions  B met at an early age  С received a prestigious international award  D died at the same time |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Marie Curie**   A was very good at Maths  B was the first to study the radioactivity  C studied radioactivity from an early age  D was the first female professor at the University of Warsaw | 1. **Until Marie Curie died in 1934**   A no one knew how dangerous exposure to the radioactivity could be  B nobody knew what radiation was  C no one knew anything about radioactivity  D radium hasn’t been discovered |
| 1. **Curie won**   A the Nobel Prize in Maths and Physics  B two Nobel Prizes in Chemistry  C two Nobel prizes in different sciences  D no Nobel Prizes |  |

**Reading Comprehension**

**Text 3**

**For each question, choose the correct option a), b) or c).**

| **11.** |  | 1. There are no spaces available in the yoga class. 2. You can only go to the yoga class if you pay now. 3. You are invited to attend a free online yoga class. |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **12.** | **From: Celeste**  **To: Jonah**  Hi Jonah  I’ve been looking at that sailing course next  month. The website says all equipment will be provided. Are you still interested? I want to book it today, so let me know.  Celeste | Celeste wants to know if Jonah   1. will go sailing with her. 2. is happy to pay for sailing equipment. 3. can lend her what she needs to go sailing. |
| **13.** |  | 1. The theatre company is offering customers a free drink. 2. Customers can get medical help from the theatre’s bar staff. 3. You can borrow a blanket to keep you warm in the outdoor seats. |
| **14.** |  | 1. Work that is more than one day late will not be accepted. 2. You should meet with your teacher if your work is late. 3. You can deliver work here at any time after three o’clock. |
| **15.** |  | 1. Only people who work or study at the university can use this entrance. 2. If you have a parcel for someone at the university, you can use this entrance. 3. Nobody should use this entrance except delivery drivers. |