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The first question to ask about fiction is: Why bother to read it? With life as short as it is, with so many pressing demands on our time, with books of information, instruction and discussion waiting to be read, why should we spend precious time on works of fiction? The eternal answers to this question are two: enjoyment and understanding. Since the invention of language, men have taken pleasure in following and participating in the imaginary adventures and imaginary experiences of imaginary people. Whatever serves to make life less tedious, to make the hours pass more quickly and pleasantly, surely needs nothing else to recommend it. Enjoyment is the first aim and justification of reading fiction.

1.) One point emphasized in the passage is that -

- A) life, since it is short, shouldn't be wasted in trivial reading
- B) informative books, as opposed to fiction, are what one should read
- C) non-fictional books are the only ones worth reading
- D) the reading of fiction provides people with a great deal of enjoyment
- E) through fiction our knowledge of other people is distorted

2.) According to the passage, fiction has, from very early times, ----.

- A) always been regarded as superior to other kinds of writing
- B) usually been limited to the description of human adventures
- C) been regarded as harmful to the development of man
- D) been a reliable source for the instruction of man
- E) had a great appeal for man

3.) In the passage, books ----.

- A) that deal with imaginary situations are considered to be a waste of time
- B) that give us information are regarded as the best kind
- C) are divided into two main kinds: fictional and non-fictional
- D) that deal with human experiences are classed as books of instruction
- E) are regarded merely as a means to make time pass enjoyably

Space camps are a response to the rapidly expanding discovery of space and to the fascination with the unknown which is such a deeply ingrained aspect of human nature. The birth of the space camp project, designed to educate young people about space, goes back to the year 1982. With the support of NASA, the camps aim to teach young people about the latest space technology and sciences in an entertaining atmosphere. They are America's most popular educational centres. Dr Werner von Braun, the scientist celebrated as the father of the Saturn V rocket, which carried the first manned flight to the moon, was the first person to put forward the idea of space camps.

4.) We understand from the passage that the main reason why space camps are set up is to --

- A) help improve NASA's injured public image
- B) promote the scientific activities undertaken by NASA
- C) encourage young people to consider making a career for themselves in space sciences
- D) spread among young people Dr Werner von Braun's theories concerning space
- E) give youngsters an opportunity to enjoy learning about space and related scientific activities

5.) As it is pointed out in the passage ----.

- A) man's knowledge of space grew immensely with the landing on the moon
- B) space camps were set up as soon as space exploration began
- C) the exploration of space has revealed nearly all the secrets of the universe
- D) man has always felt attracted to the unfamiliar and the unexplored, such as space
- E) the Saturn V rocket has been used for various purposes in the exploration of space

6.) As it is pointed out in the passage, the person who first suggested the establishment of space camps ----.

- A) was also responsible for sending the first astronauts to the moon
- B) had himself always been fascinated by space
- C) was actually little known until the first moonlanding
- D) had been working for NASA since the early 1980s
- E) had always stressed that the education of young people should have a practical approach

Roses are the oldest source of perfume. Ancient documents mention rose oil, which is the strongest form of this scent, and in The Iliad Homer relates how Aphrodite rubbed Hector's dead body with rose oil. What was meant by rose oil in these texts was not what we mean by this term today, since we learn from Hippocrates that it was obtained by stirring rose petals into hot olive oil. The method of extracting essential oil of roses was not discovered until much later. The most delightful story told of the discovery of the essential oil relates to the Emperor Jihangir (1569-1627) who is said to have had distilled rose water poured into channels in the extensive garden of his palace so that the air was filled with this beautiful scent.

7.) We learn from the passage that rose oil ----.

- A) as we know it today is the same as that mentioned in early texts
- B) was, according to Hippocrates, made by mixing rose petals into hot olive oil
- C) cannot be extracted with the use of olive oil
- D) is now unimportant in the perfume industry
- E) only became popular in the time of the Emperor Jihangir

8.) It's clear from the passage that the Emperor Jihangir ----.

- A) followed the method of Hippocrates in the making of rose oil
- B) helped to develop the process of distilling rose water
- C) extended his garden so that more roses could be grown
- D) learned about rose oil from his readings of Homer
- E) liked the luxury of filling his garden with rose scent

9.) It is clear from the passage that the use of rose oil ----.

- A) began with the Emperor Jihangir
- B) was first introduced by Aphrodite
- C) was originally reserved for the dead
- D) goes back to mythological times and stories of gods and goddesses
- E) was restricted to the wealthy and the powerful

Laughter's social role is definitely important. Today's children may be heading for a whole lot of social ills because their play and leisure time is so isolated and they lose out on lots of chances for laughter. When children stare at computer screens, rather than laughing with each other, they get so involved that they forget to laugh at all; this is contrary to what's natural for them. Natural social behaviour in children is playful behaviour, and in such situations laughter indicates that make-believe aggression is just fun, not serious. This is an important way in which children form positive emotional ties, gain new social skills and generally start to move from childhood to adulthood. Parents need to be very careful to ensure that their children play in groups and laugh more.

10.) The passage emphasizes the point that ----.

- A) children need to take part in group activities
- B) children seem to have grown more aggressive since the computer entered their lives
- C) the computer helps speed up a child's emotional development
- D) computer games have a beneficial effect on social behaviour
- E) laughter does not often have a social role

11.) As we learn from the passage, one of the drawbacks of computers for children is that ----.

- A) there is almost no difference between leisure time and school time
- B) children get no pleasure out of their computers
- C) a great deal of time is wasted
- D) computers tend to make children isolated and less sociable
- E) they make the activities of children and adults too much alike

12.) According to the passage, children need to laugh ----.

- A) otherwise they will become ill-balanced adults and isolate themselves from others
- B) especially when they are not involved in group activities
- C) and computer games can provide the opportunity
- D) and usually manage to do so even when they are being really aggressive
- E) because this helps them to form relationships with others and grow up emotionally

On the third day of the new year newspapers began to report that strange things were starting to happen in the heavens, and everyone grew excited. "A Planetary Collision", one London paper headed the news, and proclaimed that a strange new planet would probably collide with Neptune. The leader writers of various other newspapers enlarged upon the topic. As a result, in most of the capitals of the world, on January 3rd, there was an expectation, however vague, of some approaching phenomenon in the sky; and as the night followed the sunset round the globe, thousands of people turned their eyes skyward to see, contrary to what they had expected, nothing more exciting than the old familiar stars just as they had always been.

13.) As it is clear from the passage, all that anyone saw on the night of January 3rd was ----.

- A) the familiar stars shining with extraordinary brightness
- B) the collision of Neptune with a new planet
- C) the usual night sky
- D) an unknown planet passing close to Neptune
- E) what they interpreted as the birth of a new planet

14.) We understand from the passage that there was a great deal of excitement everywhere ----.

- A) because an unknown planet had been detected from various parts of the world
- B) as soon as the new planet approached Neptune
- C) even before the planetary collision took place
- D) when newspapers announced that a collision of two planets was to be expected
- E) as many phenomena had been observed in the skies on January 3rd

15.) One can conclude from the passage that the whole affair of planets colliding ----.

- A) aroused little interest among the people in the world
- B) was based on scientific facts and observations
- C) was all imaginary, and made up by the newspapers
- D) was apparently only of interest to the newspapers
- E) was the reason why so many people panicked

Hector Hugh Munro was born in Burma, the son of a police inspector-general. His mother died when he was two, and he was sent home to Scotland to live with relatives. His formal education ended with grammar school, but his father tutored him on extensive travels. In 1893, his father got him a post with the Burma police, but his delicate health forced his return to Britain. There he took up a career in writing, and it was while doing political sketches for The Westminster Gazette that he adopted the penname of Saki. After serving for a time as a foreign correspondent for The Morning Post, he returned to London to devote himself to the writing of stories and novels. When World War I began, he enlisted as an ordinary soldier in the army and was unfortunately killed in action in 1916.

16.) We understand from the passage that Munro's father ----.

- A) contributed a great deal to his son's education
- B) did not want his son to work in Burma
- C) was one of the founders of the Burmese police force
- D) was a great traveller himself and encouraged his son to follow his example
- E) tried to persuade his son not to join the army in World War I

17.) It is pointed out in the passage that Munro -- --.

- A) commanded a unit of troops in World War I
- B) adapted himself well to the climatic conditions of Burma
- C) disappointed his father with his decision to return to England
- D) was not only a journalist but also a writer of fiction
- E) chose the name "Saki" because it was an easy name for his readers to remember

18.) According to the passage, Munro, before he became a writer, ----.

- A) worked as a journalist to cover events of World War I
- B) spent all his time in Scotland with relatives
- C) travelled very little, but read extensively
- D) enjoyed exceptionally good health
- E) served, for some time as a policeman

Eveline sat at the window watching the evening invade the avenue. Her head was leaned against the window curtains. She was tired. She had consented to go away, to leave her home. Was that wise? She tried to weigh each side of the question. In her home anyway she had shelter and food; she had those whom she had known all her life about her. Of course she had to work hard, both in the house and at business. What would they say of her in the shop when they found out that she had run away with a man? They would say she was a fool, perhaps; and her place would be filled up by an advertisement.

19.) We understand from the passage that Eveline ----.

- A) was wondering whether she had made the right decision in deciding to run away with her boyfriend
- B) was waiting excitedly by the window for her boyfriend
- C) had already given up her job at the shop
- D) was looking forward to making a complete break with her past even though she had had a very happy childhood
- E) had known her boyfriend all her life

20. It is clear from the passage that for Eveline, staying at home ----.

- A) was now quite out of the question
- B) would be a nightmare
- C) would give her neither security nor love
- D) had absolutely no attractions at all
- E) had certain advantages and certain disadvantages

21.) One thing that Eveline was concerned about if she went away was ----.

- A) whether or not her boyfriend would be good to her
- B) whether her place in the shop would be taken
- C) what the gossip about her would be
- D) where she would be able to find a job
- E) how hard she would have to work to make a living

Producing food costs the earth dearly. First of all, to grow food, we clear land which always incurs losses of native ecosystems and wildlife. Then we plant crops or graze animals on the land. The soil loses nutrients as each crop is taken from it, so fertilizer is applied. Some fertilizer runs off, polluting the waterways. Some plowed soil runs off, which clouds the waterways and interferes with the growth of aquatic plants and animals. To protect crops against weeds and pests, we apply herbicides and pesticides. These chemicals also pollute the water and, wherever the wind carries them, the air. Most herbicides and pesticides kill not only weeds and pests, but also native insects, and animals that eat those plants and insects.

22.)The main point made in the passage is that - ----.

- A) we damage land in various ways in our efforts to grow crops for food
- B) it is possible to grow plenty of food without using any fertilizers
- C) the pollution caused by herbicides and pesticides can easily be overcome
- D) aquatic plants and animals are the ones that suffer most from the use of chemicals
- E) ecosystems worldwide are being seriously threatened with extinction

23.)The author points out in the passage that the chemicals we use to grow food ----.

- A) do not as a general rule pollute either the water or the air
- B) ultimately cause serious soil loss
- C) are the same type of chemicals as herbicides and pesticides
- D) also support the wildlife in the region
- E) are both beneficial and harmful

24.)It is pointed out in the passage that fertilizers are used ----.

- A) only when the crops are overgrown by weeds
- B) since they help to restore ecosystems
- C) because they have almost no ill effect upon the environment
- D) to replace the nutrients that crops have taken out of the soil
- E) to protect crops from pests

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- 20. E
- 21. C
- 22. A
- 23. E
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