

READING COMPREHENSION TEST

Hello! I'm Alexandre. I'm 17 and I was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. That's where I lived until I was five years old and then the whole world family moved to Victoria because of my father's work. He's an engineer and he was transferred to Victoria to work at a steel plant.

My mother is Director of Studies at a private English School and – sure enough – I'm a student there. Although English classes are not compulsory in Brazilian schools, I know I'm going to need English in my future career so I'm already doing what I can to prepare.

During the week I'm a high school freshman at the Colegio Nacional. I like it because it's very easy to make friends there. Although I'm not very involved in my studies, I must admit that physics is my favourite subject.

I'm busy with my classes all week so my only leisure time is on Sundays. Here in Victoria we have hot weather nearly all year round, so water sports are always popular. Usually I meet with friends and we go scuba-diving. It's great fun to swim close to the reefs and to observe sea creatures in their natural habitat. Occasionally you see a really big fish swimming by, but this doesn't happen very often. Anyway, if you are scuba-diving you can't harpoon the fish – that's something you can do when you're skin-diving (without any underwater breathing equipment). It's part of a law which is designed to protect sea life. It makes underwater fishing a fairer competition.

Brazilians go surfing, windsurfing, skin-diving, scuba-diving, water-skiing or sailing. Naturally, we all go to school but there's always some free time for us to practice our favourite sport before going home to study or do our homework.

Brazil has always been a racial melting-pot and this characteristic is reflected in the many different kinds of music you can hear around the country, but during the summer vacation – which takes place between January and February – we're all tuned to samba and to Carnival. Then, through the rest of the year we devote ourselves to international pop music just like other teenagers around the world.

What I like best about Brazil is the friendliness you find here wherever you go. What I don't like here are all the special problems we've been facing, in spite of all the help and good intentions of many important people both inside and outside Brazil.

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Circle the most appropriate answer:

1. Alexandre's family moved to Victoria because
 - a) his mother worked at a school there
 - b) his father was looking for a job
 - c) his father was an engineer
 - d) his father's company set him to work there
2. Alexandre is studying English because
 - a) his mother is Director of Studies
 - b) he wants to make it his future career
 - c) he has to study English at school
 - d) he feels certain English is important for his future
3. Alexandre says he likes his school because
 - a) he needn't be involved in his studies at all
 - b) he can have a lot of friends there
 - c) he finds physic rather interesting
 - d) he has a lot of leisure time
4. Alexandre likes scuba-diving because
 - a) water sports are very popular
 - b) he can enjoy watching underwater world directly
 - c) the weather is naturally hot all year round
 - d) he always sees a really big fish swimming by
5. There is a law that forbids
 - a) underwater fishing
 - b) catching fish with a harpoon
 - c) competition in underwater fishing
 - d) scuba-divers to catch fish with a harpoon
6. Young Brazilians
 - a) do not play water sports much
 - b) enjoy water sports but do not have much free time
 - c) have enough free time to play water sports
 - d) do nothing else but playing water sports
7. Brazilians
 - a) listen to all sort of music
 - b) listen to particular sort of music
 - c) do not listen to music much
 - d) are all tuned to samba
8. What Alexandre likes best about Brazil is the fact that
 - a) you can meet kind and friendly people everywhere
 - b) the country has been facing a lot of social problems
 - c) there are many important people in Brazil
 - d) many people have good intentions

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY TEST

A Choose the correct option:

1. I like sports but I don't like the _____ we do at school.
a) those
b) which
c) ones
d) that
2. Let me give you _____ advice.
a) an
b) many
c) a lot
d) a piece of
3. The robbery took _____ in Leeds.
a) part
b) action
c) steps
d) place
4. Help _____ some cakes.
a) yourselves with
b) yourselves to
c) yourselves for
d) yourself at
5. I don't like computers.
a) Neither likes Sara.
b) Neither Sara likes.
c) Neither does Sara.
d) Neither Sara does.
6. _____ London _____ Manchester are very big.
a) And... and
b) Both... and
c) Like... so
d) As... so
7. I have to go shopping, _____ I hate.
a) that
b) what
c) whom
d) which
8. I look forward to _____ you.
a) to seeing
b) seeing
c) to see
d) see
9. Let's go for a walk, _____?
a) shall we
b) will we
c) won't we
d) shan't we
10. He can always find something to do. He's never _____.
a) bore
b) bored
c) boring
d) boredom

B Fill in the blanks with a/an, the or “/”:

Angela wants to be _____ (1) doctor. She likes working with _____ (2) people. She is going to _____ (3) medical school next year. She likes _____ (4) idea of working in _____ (5) profession.

C Fill in the blanks with the suitable form of the given words:

STAR INFORMATION TRY LOOK LIFE

Last year two reporters _____ (1) to find some new _____ (2) about certain Hollywood _____ (3) private _____ (4) by _____ (5) in their rubbish bins.

D Insert the correct form/tense of the verb. Each verb is to be used only once:

DO TRY DESTROY BE SHOOT
LOSE SAY FIRE ORDER HIT

One night a month ago Ted Newberry, 82, _____ (1) a burglar who (together with another man) _____ (2) to break into his allotment shed. Mr. Newberry had been sleeping in the shed to try to stop vandals _____ (3) his allotment. That night he heard a loud banging on the door and a voice _____ (4) “If the old man _____ (5) in here, we _____ (6) him.” Mr. Newberry _____ (7) through a hole in the door. Mark Revill, 28, _____ (8) in the arm by 50 shotgun pellets. As a result of the incident, Mr Revill _____ (9) (partially) the use of one arm. Mr Newberry _____ (10) by the judge to pay 4,000 pounds damages to Mr. Revill. The judge ruled that Mr. Newberry had acted out of all proportion to the threat.

KEY

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1d, 2d, 3b, 4b, 5d, 6c, 7a, 8a

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A

1c, 2d, 3d, 4b, 5c, 6b, 7d, 8b, 9a, 10b

B

1 a 2 / 3 / 4 the 5 the

C

1. tried 2. information 3. stars' 4. lives 5. looking

D

1. shot 2. was trying 3. destroying 4. saying 5. is
6. 'll do/will do 7. fired 8. was hit 9. has partially lost 10. was ordered