BMS Entry Exam

English

2019

(45 minutes)

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No Auxiliary (dictionaries, electronic devices) are allowed!

Good Luck!!
Part 1: Text Comprehension

Exercise 1:

Read the article about a balloon festival. Are the sentences ‘Right’ or ‘Wrong’? If there is not enough information to answer ‘Right’ or ‘Wrong’, choose ‘Doesn’t say’.

**The Albuquerque Balloon Festival**

Every autumn, the sky above the desert city of Albuquerque in the south-western United States turns into a mass of bright colours. This is the Albuquerque Balloon Festival, an annual nine-day event.

The pilots are in radio contact with each other and all of them light up the burners of their balloons at the same time. These are known as the “balloon glows” and are an opportunity to take fantastic photographs. However, you must arrive just after the night has fallen or before 5.30 am to see these “glows” as the balloons rise into the dark sky.

During the day, you can walk around the balloons and chat to the pilots as they prepare for take-off. The balloons come in all sizes and colours, some in the shapes of animals or cartoon characters – and, of course, well-known products such as varieties of soft drinks and fast food.

In the afternoon, why not take to the sky yourself by arranging a balloon flight over the desert with one of the many companies offering balloon rides? Another possibility is to take the cable car from the desert floor to the top of the nearby mountains, the longest such ride anywhere, and enjoy a bird’s-eye view of the festival. There are plenty of other attractions for visitors of all ages, including balloon races and firework displays on the opening evening and the last three evenings of the festival.

Buy your tickets in advance (they are available online) and save yourself a long wait to get into the festival site. Wear several layers of thin clothing. At night and in the early morning it can be quite cool, but during the day sunglasses and suncream are essential.

1. The Albuquerque Balloon Festival lasts over a week.
   - [ ] Right
   - [ ] Wrong
   - [ ] Doesn’t say

2. The pilots use hand signals to communicate with each other.
   - [ ] Right
   - [ ] Wrong
   - [ ] Doesn’t say

3. Members of the public are forbidden to enter the balloon take-off area.
   - [ ] Right
   - [ ] Wrong
   - [ ] Doesn’t say

4. You can take a balloon ride to the top of the nearby mountains.
   - [ ] Right
   - [ ] Wrong
   - [ ] Doesn’t say

5. On your balloon ride you can see the plants and animals of the desert.
   - [ ] Right
   - [ ] Wrong
   - [ ] Doesn’t say

6. You can watch a firework show every evening of the festival.
   - [ ] Right
   - [ ] Wrong
   - [ ] Doesn’t say

7. Visitors should be prepared for a range of temperatures.
   - [ ] Right
   - [ ] Wrong
   - [ ] Doesn’t say

_____ / 7 points
Exercise 2:

Read the text and questions below. For each question, circle the correct letter A, B, C or D.

Rock Band

Two years ago, our 14-year old son, Ben, asked us for a set of drums for his birthday. At first, we were very much against the idea because of the noise. “It’s better than watching television or playing computer games in my free time”, Ben argued, “and it’ll keep me out of trouble.” In the end we gave in. “All right”, we said, “but you must consider the rest of the family and the neighbours when you play.”

That was just the beginning. Because drums are not the easiest instruments to transport, the other members of Ben’s band started appearing at our home with their guitars and other electrical equipment. And so, for several hours a week, the house shakes to the noise of their instruments and their teenage singing.

At least Ben’s hobby has been good for our health: whenever the band starts practising, my husband and I go out for a long walk. And I must admit that, although their music may sound a little strange, they are a friendly and polite group of young men. I cannot judge their musical skill – after all I didn’t expect my parents’ generation to like the same music as I did when I was a teenager – but they do play regularly in local pubs for young people.

Our main worry is that they won’t spend enough time on their school work because of their musical activities, though this hasn’t happened yet. I am always stressing to Ben how important his studies are. But one thing is certain – Ben was right: it has kept him out of trouble and he is never bored.

1. What is the writer trying to do in this text?
   A complain about her son’s friends.
   B give advice to teenagers
   C describe her son’s hobby
   D compare herself with her parents

2. Why did the writer give Ben the present he wanted?
   A She wanted to reward him for working hard.
   B He already had too many computer games.
   C She knew he would use it sensibly.
   D He persuaded her it would be a good idea.

3. Why does the band always practice at Ben’s house?
   A It is difficult for Ben to move his drums.
   B The neighbours don’t mind the noise.
   C Ben’s parents enjoy listeninn to them.
   D They can leave their equipment there.
4. What does the writer say about the band members?

A  Their influence on her son worries her.
B  Their taste in music is different from hers.
C  They avoid any contact with her.
D  They play their instruments well.

5. What might the writer say to her son?

A  Your teacher has just phoned. He wants to know why you weren’t at school today.
B  When are you going to stop playing at clubs?
C  If you don’t know what to do, there’s a good programme on the television in a few minutes.
D  Are you sure you have finished your homework? It’s more important than band practice.

_____ / 5 points
Part 2: English in Use

Exercise 1

Choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) to complete each sentence.

1. Water ___ at zero degrees Celsius.
   A. is freezing       B. freezes       C. is freezed     D. does freezing

2. We ___ football last week.
   A. didn’t play      B. play          C. didn’t playing  D. playing

3. We ___ this car for three years now.
   A. have            B. are having    C. had           D. have had

4. Would you like ___ tea?
   A. some            B. many          C. little         D. a few

5. In London ___ over 100 cinemas.
   A. are there       B. have there    C. it have        D. there are

6. “I was in Scotland last month.” “How ___ it?”
   A. did you like     B. you did liked  C. you did like   D. did you liked

7. A lot of tourists go to Loch Ness because of ___ myth about a monster.
   A. her             B. its            C. it’s           D. here

8. Some students have not done ___ homework yet.
   A. they            B. they’re        C. theirs         D. their

_____ / 8 points
Exercise 2

Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space: A, B, C, or D.

Tom Cruise

Tom Cruise is one of the (1) ___________ successful actors in cinema history. However, his life hasn’t always been easy for (2) ___________. As a young boy, Tom was shy and had (3) ___________ finding friends, although he really enjoyed (4) ___________ part in school plays.

(5) ___________ he had finished High School, Tom went to New York to look for work. He found employment as a porter, and at the same time he (6) ___________ drama classes. In 1980, the film director Franco Zeffirelli (7) ___________ Tom his first role in a film. Ten years later, he had become so (8) ___________ that he was one of the highest (9) ___________ actors in Hollywood, (10) ___________ millions of dollars for each film.

Today, Tom (11) ___________ appears in films and is as (12) ___________ as ever with his millions of fans from all over the world.

1. A most  B more  C best  D better

2. A his  B her  C them  D him

3. A worry  B problem  C fear  D difficulties

4. A making  B holding  C taking  D finding

5. A While  B During  C After  D Until

6. A prepared  B waited  C attended  D happened

7. A suggested  B offered  C tried  D advised

8. A expensive  B lazy  C successful  D old

9. A seen  B paid  C interviewed  D photographed

10. A paying  B earning  C winning  D reaching

11. A yet  B ever  C already  D still

12. A popular  B favourite  C preferred  D approved

_____ / 12 points
Part 3: Writing

Write a short story (60-80 words) which begins with the sentence below.

As the man left the train, Dorothee saw that his phone was still on the seat...

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WRITING EVALUATION

CRITERIA:                                  POINTS:
Logical organization; communicative quality   _____/6
Grammar structures; spelling                 _____/6
Vocabulary; fluency                          _____/6

TOTAL WRITING POINTS                       _____/18