

Unit

1

Red Letter Days



Listening Comprehension



Section A

Directions: *There are 5 recorded statements or questions in this section. When you hear a statement or question, you should decide on the correct answer from the 4 choices marked A, B, C and D.*

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. A. That's fine. | B. It doesn't matter. |
| C. No problem. | D. I don't think so. |
| 2. A. 15 December. | B. Yes, New Year's Day. |
| C. No, Christmas Day. | D. Today is Friday. |
| 3. A. Reading, or something else. | B. Why not? |
| C. I am not ready. | D. That is wonderful. |
| 4. A. I hope you enjoy it. | B. Maybe later. |
| C. Stay here. | D. Nothing much. |
| 5. A. I'd love to. Thank you. | B. I am sorry to hear that. |
| C. Enjoy your holiday. | D. That's interesting. |

Section B

Directions: *There are 2 recorded conversations in this section. After each conversation, there are some recorded questions. When you hear a question, you should decide on the correct answer from the 4 choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Conversation 1

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 6. A. Before New Year's Day. | B. On New Year's Eve. |
| C. On the afternoon of New Year's Day. | D. On the morning of New Year's Day. |
| 7. A. Watch a basketball game. | B. Have a basketball game. |
| C. Watch a football game. | D. Have a football game. |

Conversation 2

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 8. A. Morgan's. | B. Catherine's. |
| C. Morgan's daughter's. | D. Catherine's daughter's. |
| 9. A. 27 June. | B. 23 June. |
| C. 27 July. | D. 23 July. |
| 10. A. At 403 Bridge Lane. | B. At Saint Mary's Cathedral. |
| C. At Bridge Lake Cathedral. | D. At 413 Bridge Lake. |

Section C

Directions: *In this section, there is a recorded short passage with some words or phrases missing. You are required to put down the missing words or phrases according to what you hear.*

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen! First of all, let me thank John for inviting us to such a great Christmas party. We 11. _____ enjoyed the delicious food and excellent wine. The music was perfect, too. So if I were a better dancer, I would have enjoyed the party twice 12. _____. I enjoyed meeting and 13. _____ to you, and sharing the time together. I hope we'll be able to keep in touch and make 14. _____ another great one together.

Thank you again for the 15. _____ party. We have had a great time.

Section D

Directions: *In this section, you will hear a recorded passage. After that you will hear 5 questions. When you hear a question, you should complete the answer to it with a word or a short phrase in no more than 3 words.*

16. When do Chinese people eat moon cakes?

Chinese people eat moon cakes at the time of the _____.

17. According to the story, what was put into moon cakes at first?

The _____ for the attack against enemies were put into cakes.

18. What was the result of the attack at last?

At last the Chinese _____.

19. What are moon cakes filled with nowadays?

Moon cakes nowadays are filled with food such as _____ and eggs.

20. On which day do Chinese people come together with their families and friends, and enjoy the beautiful moon?

On the _____ day of the eighth month of each Chinese lunar year.



Part II Vocabulary and Structure



Section A

Directions: There are 10 incomplete sentences here. You are required to complete each one by choosing the appropriate answer from the 4 choices marked A, B, C and D.

- Whoever wins the election is going to have a(n) _____ job getting the poor economy back on its feet.
A. good B. tough C. easy D. light
- Should I dress _____ or dress _____ on the first date?
—It depends.
A. in; out B. on; at C. up; down D. over; about
- These plants must be stored in the light at above _____ temperature.
A. freeze B. frozen C. froze D. freezing
- If you describe certain food items as _____, you approve of them because you think they are good for your health.
A. wholesome B. wholesale C. wholehearted D. wholeness
- You may go fishing if your work _____.
A. is done B. will be done C. has done D. have done
- I won't come to the birthday party unless Mary _____, too.
—You mean if Mary comes, you'll come?
A. will invite B. invites C. is invited D. invited
- Eating chocolate can make you happy. But you can't have _____ of a good thing.
A. so many B. so much C. too many D. too much
- The sooner we start, the sooner we'll _____.
A. get it over with B. get it off with C. get it on with D. get it in with
- It's time to do your homework, Jerry.
—Yes, Mum. I'll turn off the TV as soon as the programme _____.
A. end B. ends C. will be end D. will end
- He was _____ college by his parents. His dream was to play soccer professionally.
A. pushed down B. pushed aside C. pushed back D. pushed into



Section B

Directions: *There are 5 incomplete statements here. You should fill in each blank with the proper form of the word given in the brackets.*

11. His victory in last year's election (celebrate) _____ with singing and dancing.
12. I was proceeding along the high street in a(n) (north) _____ direction.
13. People also like listening to ghost stories and watching (scare) _____ movies.
14. This is actually a very (entertain) _____ book putting over serious health messages.
15. B. F. Skinner, a(n) (behaviour) _____, sees humans as beings whose behaviour is almost completely shaped by their surroundings.



Part III Reading Comprehension



Task 1

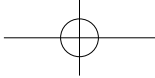
Directions: *After reading the following passage, you will find 5 statements about different people, numbered 1 to 5. Please match each person with a festival in the passage and write down the corresponding letters from A to F in the brackets.*

A. Wharfedale Festival of Performing Arts (West Yorkshire, the United Kingdom)

Young people are invited to compete in this art festival with classes covering speech, guitar, dance, poetry and short story writing, and so on. The previous year's winners are invited back to perform again at a special concert. With a long and well-known history behind the festival, this well-attended competition is a kind of forerunner of popular television talent contests such as Pop Idol.

B. Sydney Writers' Festival (Sydney, Australia)

Held at Sydney's Walsh Bay, the annual Sydney Writers' Festival is the biggest literary event of its kind in Australia and one of the biggest book fairs in the world. Attracting a mix of authors, poets, editors, publishers and book lovers, this is a great event at which people can look through thousands of titles while enjoying workshops, book reading and seminars.



C. Flipside Festival

(Singapore)

As part of the Singapore Arts Festival Outreach Programme, Flipside aims to reach a much wider audience with three weeks of lively, fun street performances. Flipside promises to bring out the adventurous side of you with a combination of physical theatre and mind games as well as free outdoor performances such as music performances from local singers.

D. Hay Festival

(Hay-on-Wye, the United Kingdom)

The little market town, Hay, has a population of 1,500 and no fewer than 39 bookshops. It bills itself as the world's first and most distinguished town of books, and therefore is a perfect place for a literary festival. The festival is a celebration of great writing. There are events including film screenings and musical concerts, and the bookshops remain open throughout.

E. Bergen International Festival

(Bergen, Norway)

Founded in 1953, the Bergen International Festival presents an impressive cast of outstanding international artists in the fields of music, ballet, opera and other performing arts. More than 120 events take place in late May to early June, which is a time of beautiful spring weather. The main festival venue is the Grieg Hall which is an old trolley bus with seating for just 33 people, the smallest and most unusual venue for an international festival.

F. Nuits Sonores

(Lyon, France)

Held each May, this relatively new festival brings together some of the biggest club DJs from around the world. The focus is on electronic dance music, but it also embraces all musical forms ranging from hip-hop to jazz. For those that want to see daylight hours after a hard night clubbing, there is a wide variety of cultural events during the day ranging from special festival food programmes to films.

What festivals would you like to recommend to the people below?

- () 1. Martin, a famous writer, likes to find as many opportunities as possible to attend literary events around the world. Martin hopes to make friends with editors and book lovers.
- () 2. Kelly is crazy about music, especially electronic dance music. She would like to go to a festival where she can enjoy different musical forms. She also has a strong interest in films.



- () 3. As an outgoing girl, Victoria is very fond of the performing arts. She hopes to take part in some performing art festivals to challenge and improve herself, and as a way to prepare for future television talent contests.
- () 4. Simon is in search of a long running festival in Northern Europe where he can appreciate great international performing arts, especially ballet and opera.
- () 5. Chris is a university student who majors in music. He'd like to watch some local street music performances. He is also very interested in physical theatre and mind games.

Task 2

Directions: After reading the following passage, you will find 5 questions or unfinished statements, numbered 6 to 10. For each question or statement there are 4 choices marked A, B, C and D. You should make the correct choice.

Naturally, American schoolchildren love holidays. And they get a lot of them each year. Besides having national holidays such as Thanksgiving Day and Presidents' Day off school, students get longer breaks in the spring and during the summer holidays. In fact, kids in the US only go to school for about 180 days a year. For students, this is nothing to complain about. However, parents think these long holidays have both advantages and disadvantages.

On the one hand, school holidays allow families to spend time together. Many American parents take time off work during June, July or August to travel with their children on vacations either in the US or in a foreign country. On the other hand, schoolchildren get much more time off school than parents get vacation time. This means that parents with young children may have to pay more for babysitting or daycare costs. On top of this, the long summer holidays mean that students sometimes get bored.

Besides going on trips with their parents, American students enjoy taking part in different kinds of activities during the holidays. For example, some kids enjoy summer camps and outdoor adventure holidays. Such trips are great for adventurous students. They also have a lot to offer students who aren't usually interested in traditional PE activities. You can do courses in survival skills, for example. Students learn how to make a camp in the forest, and about which wild food they can eat. They also learn how to find their way back to the centre.

Students who are not that into summer camps or outdoor adventure may enroll on courses in computer game design, film-making and photography during the holidays. Finally, the traditional



school trip to foreign countries is always popular. Students can practise their foreign language skills and experience everyday life in a different culture.

6. How long are kids in the US at school every year?
 - A. About 180 days.
 - B. About 280 days.
 - C. About 200 days.
 - D. About 300 days.
7. Many American parents can travel with their children _____.
 - A. for most of the year
 - B. for half an year
 - C. during several months
 - D. for one month
8. What does the underlined word “They” refer to in Paragraph 3?
 - A. Some kids.
 - B. Different traditional PE activities.
 - C. Parents.
 - D. Summer camps and outdoor adventure.
9. Which of the following statements is true?
 - A. Both parents and students think long school holidays are perfect.
 - B. Parents can take care of their young children during the entire holiday.
 - C. Students enjoy taking part in different kinds of activities during holidays.
 - D. Students don’t like to go on trips to foreign countries during holidays.
10. What would be the best title for the passage?
 - A. School Trips in the US
 - B. School Holidays in the US
 - C. School Activities in the US
 - D. Outdoor Adventure in the US

Task 3

Directions: Read the following introduction to the Valentine’s Day. You are required to complete the information by filling in the blanks, numbered 11 to 15 in no more than 3 words.

Valentine’s Day is named after Saint Valentine, an early Christmas churchman who reportedly helped young lovers. Valentine was killed for his Christian beliefs on February 14 more than 1,700 years ago, but the festival that bears his name goes back even further than that.

More than 2,000 years ago, the ancient Romans celebrated a holiday for lovers. As part of the celebration, girls wrote their names on pieces of paper and put them in a large container. Boys reached into the container and pulled one out. The girl whose name was written on the paper became his lover or sweetheart for a year.

Nowadays, lovers still put their names on pieces of paper and they also send each other



Valentine's Day cards with loving messages written inside. Sometimes they also send gifts, like flowers or chocolate candies. Americans usually send these gifts and cards through the mail system. But some use another way to send this message. They have it printed in a newspaper. The cost is usually a few dollars. Some of the messages are simple and short like "Jane, I love you very much". Others say more. This one, for example, "Dan, Roses are red. Violets are blue. I hope you love me as much as I love you. Forever. May."

Most of the newspapers that print such messages are local, but *USA Today* is sold throughout the United States, and in 90 other countries as well. This means someone can send a Valentine message to a lover in a far-away city or town almost anywhere in the world. These messages cost 80 dollars and more. An employee of *USA Today* says readers can have a small heart or rose printed along with their messages this year. Will this kind of Valentine's Day message reach the one you love? Well, just make sure he or she reads the newspaper.

Valentine's Day

Named after: 11. _____, an early Christmas churchman

More than 2,000 years ago, 12. _____ celebrated a holiday for lovers.

Girls wrote their names on pieces of paper and put them in 13. _____.

Americans nowadays usually send these gifts and cards through 14. _____.

A Valentine message will be sent to a lover in a far-away city or town almost anywhere in the world at the cost of 15. _____ and more.

Task 4

Directions: *The following is a list of expressions about the American and Chinese traditional festivals. After reading it, you are required to find the items equivalent to those given in Chinese in the table below. Then you should put the corresponding letters in the brackets.*

A—Valentine's Day

B—April Fool's Day

C—Easter

D—Lantern Festival

E—Halloween

F—Thanksgiving Day

G—Independence Day

H—All Souls' Day

I—Labour Day

J—Jesus Good Friday

K—Dragon Boat Festival

L—Tomb-sweeping Day

M—Memorial Day

N—Saint Patrick's Day

O—Double-ninth Day

P—New Year's Day

Q—Mother's Day



Examples: (A) 情人节 (O) 重阳节

- | | |
|----------------------|---------|
| 16. () 复活节 | () 感恩节 |
| 17. () (美国) 阵亡将士纪念日 | () 劳动节 |
| 18. () 端午节 | () 万圣节 |
| 19. () 万圣节 | () 清明节 |
| 20. () 元宵节 | |

Task 5

Directions: *The following passage is about a special festival. After reading it, you should give brief answers to the 5 questions, numbered 21 to 25. You should write your answers in no more than 3 words.*

Every year, the French town of Menton hosts an event called the Lemon Festival. The Lemon Festival usually takes place between mid-February and March. During the festival, around 145 tons of oranges and lemons are sent into the town. Over 300 workers work together to make giant sculptures (雕塑) out of fruit.

Menton became the first producer of lemons in 1929. Menton lemons are loved by the world's best cooks. In the late 19th century, a town parade was held to encourage Menton's winter tourism. Kings, princes and artists filled the great and comfortable hotels or bought their own fantastic houses in the town. Because of its great success, the streets were beautifully planted with orange and lemon trees in the years followed. In order to develop tourism, the Lemon Festival was officially born in 1934.

Sleepy Menton becomes a world of colour during the festival time. People find it very exciting and full of fun. The festival is enjoyed for three whole weeks and features a daily lemon and orange exhibition, town parades on Sundays and fireworks on Thursday nights.

Every year the Lemon Festival has a special theme. The theme for 2015 is "Tribulations of a Lemon in China". Over 140 tonnes of lemons and oranges are used to build huge citrus constructions. Some of the events are free, but you need to buy tickets to see the parades.

21. When is the Lemon Festival held every year?

It is held between _____.

22. Why was the Lemon Festival officially born?

The Lemon Festival was born to _____ in Menton.

23. What did Menton become in 1929?

It became _____ of lemons.

24. What activities can visitors enjoy during the Lemon Festival?

You can enjoy the lemon and orange exhibition, town parades and _____.

25. What's the theme of the Lemon Festival for 2015?

The theme is "Tribulations of a _____".

Part IV Translation

Section A

Directions: *There are 4 sentences numbered 1 to 4 in this section. Each of the sentence is followed by 3 choices of suggested translation marked A, B and C. You are required to make the best choice.*

1. He appeared on the stage and was warmly applauded by the audience.

- A. 他在台上出现，被观众热烈欢迎了。
- B. 他出现在台上，观众给予热烈掌声。
- C. 他在台上出现，被观众热烈鼓掌了。

2. The resolution has been unanimously adopted.

- A. 决议已经被接受了。
- B. 决议已经被无异议地接受了。
- C. 决议被一致通过了。



3. You are not allowed to take so much luggage.

- A. 我们不会让你带这么多行李。
- B. 不会允许你带这么多行李。
- C. 你不会允许随身携带这么多行李。

4. The case was being investigated.

- A. 案件现在正在被调查。
- B. 案件已经被调查了。
- C. 案件当时正在调查中。

Section B

Directions: *Please write your translation of the paragraph in the corresponding space.*

5. This day was American President Ronald Reagan's idea. President Reagan decided that ice cream was wholesome and delicious and that it should have its own special celebration day. In the end, he decided that one day wasn't enough—so he made the whole of July National Ice Cream Month!



Part V

Writing



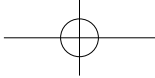
Task 1

Directions: *The followings are some greeting sentences and some special days. Please match them correctly.*

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. May you two always be in love! May your happiness increase with time. | a. Wedding Day |
| 2. Happy Mother's Day! To the world's No. 1 mum! | b. New Year's Day |
| 3. Just to say I still love you after all these years. | c. Christmas Day |
| 4. Wishing you all the blessings of a beautiful Christmas season. | d. Mother's Day |
| 5. Wishing you and yours a happy new year. | e. Valentine's Day |

Task 2

Directions: *Write a Christmas card to your best friend.*



Part VI Speaking

Directions: *Work in groups. Make conversations based on the situations given below.*

Situation 1

A young couple are discussing whose parents they shall have dinner with on the eve of the Spring Festival—an occasion for family reunions in China. The wife wants to be with her parents because one of them is sick, while the husband does not agree because they had dinner with her parents last year. Finally they decide to invite both parents to a restaurant near them and visit them on the Spring Festival Day.

Words and Expressions for Reference

- I haven't seen my dad for ages.
- I haven't seen my dad for a long time.
- My mum has been sick.
- My mum has been ill.
- Don't exaggerate.
- Honestly, your mum's not too bad.
- Why not just have both our parents here for the Spring Festival?
- Why don't we just invite both our parents here for the Spring Festival?
- Don't go over the top.
- He/She never thought I was good enough for you.
- She didn't think I was a good match for you.
- Seriously, Mum's not so bad.
- We might as well ask both our parents to come for the Spring Festival.
- Good idea.
- Sounds a good idea.
- That certainly makes sense.

Situation 2

Nowadays more and more Chinese young people want to celebrate the Western holidays, such as Saint Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Christmas Day, etc. They don't care so much about traditional Chinese festivals. You and your friends are talking about this phenomenon and don't agree with each other on some of the reasons.

Words and Expressions for Reference

- That's right!
- That's true.
- It certainly is!
- True enough.
- You can say that again!
- You said it!
- Exactly my thoughts.
- That goes for me too.
- I'd go along with you there.
- I'm with you there.
- I agree with you altogether.
- I couldn't agree more.
- You're telling me.
- I'm all for that.
- That makes two of us.
- That's my feeling too.
- That sounds very sensible to me.
- That's just what I was thinking.
- I take your point completely.
- I don't think anyone would dispute with that.
- I think I entirely agree with your view.
- I think I'd accept your view on that.
- I'm afraid I have a different opinion.
- That's not the way I see it.
- I'm not sure I can agree.
- Really? But I think...
- I'm afraid I disagree with...
- Actually/In fact, I think...
- I can't say that I share your view of...
- I may be wrong, but...
- I can't agree with...
- Well, I don't think...

Part VII Fun Time

The 50th Wedding Anniversary

A couple went out for a dinner, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. On the way home, the wife noticed the tears in her husband's eyes, and asked if he felt moved by the 50 years of good times they had stayed together. He replied, "No, I'm thinking of the time before we got married. 50 years ago, your father threatened me with a gun, and said if I didn't marry you, he would put me in jail for 50 years."