Leisure and Entertainment—Sports and Music

Reading Comprehension

Read the following passages carefully and answer the questions.

Reading Passage 1

4.3 Golf

Golf is a very special game in which players must use a kind of stick to hit a ball into a hole located on the field. The game of golf began in Scotland in the early 1400s. The golf ball was a small stone and the hole into which the ball fell was a rabbit hole. Over the past six centuries, the game has changed in some ways and is now widespread. It is not just for the Scots anymore. It has become a popular pastime in countries far from Scotland, such as Japan, which is well-known for its passion for golf. In an island country where land is very expensive, Westerners are surprised to see such

10 immense golf courses in places where rice fields used to be.

Golf may be popular in Asia and the West, but it certainly is not an easy game to play. While some people **dedicate** much time and effort to the game, practicing every day and trying their **utmost** to **sharpen** their skills, others **toil** away in vain, not able to improve their play beyond that of a **novice**. Because of this **zeal** that so many golfers have for their game, people who do not play golf call them fanatics. In a game that demands a lot of skill and patience, that sort of passion may be an **asset**. But then again, nobody should take any game too seriously.

Sometimes golf can be **tedious**, and as a beginner you are sure to make many **blunders**. But if you **persevere** and get good enough, maybe you can **stun** your friends and achieve the **ultimate** goal of every golfer—a hole in one!

Golf can also be very expensive, although it does not have to be. Many places have a golf course owned by the city. There, a person can play for a small amount of money. The equipment, such as golf bags, clubs, balls, and shoes can also cost as little or as much as you wish.





asset: [ˈæsɛt] n 資産	stun: [stʌn] ν 使目瞪口呆		
blunder: ['blʌndə'] n 錯誤	tedious: ['tidɪəs] adj 單調沉悶的		
dedicate: ['dɛdəˌket] v 奉獻給	toil: [toɪl] v 辛苦工作		
immense: [ɪ'mɛns] adj 龐大的	ultimate: ['ʌltəmɪt] adj 最終的		
novice: ['navɪs] n 新手	utmost: ['At,most] n 最大能力		
pastime: ['pæs,taɪm] n 消遣	widespread: ['waɪd'sprɛd] adj 流行的、普遍的		
persevere: [ˌpɜˈsəˈvɪr] v 堅持	zeal: [zil] n 熱忱		
sharpen: [ˈʃɑrpən] v 磨練			

Reading Comprehension	Choose the correct answers.

Inference

- 1. What is one big difference between how golf was first played and how it is played now?
 - (A) The field that is played on now has a hole in it.
 - (B) The field that is played on used to be made of rocks.
 - (C) There used to be something living in the hole.
 - (D) The games used to be played in Japan only.

Supporting Idea

- 2. Why is it surprising that people play golf in Japan?
 - (A) Land in Japan is very expensive.
 - (B) People in Japan do not have much money.
 - (C) There are not many rabbits in Japan.
 - (D) Most Japanese have never been to Scotland.

CLOZE Passage

Put the letters for the correct words in the blanks.

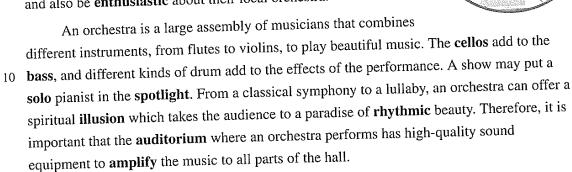
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Some private high schools now offer golf as an option when students choose which
school club to take part in. This allows them to take up this1 as part of their course
load. Most students are just when they sign up for golf. However, they may become
fanatics for the sport after spending some time playing it. Indeed, the parents of many of
these students already spend a(n) 3 amount of time, money, and effort playing the
game on the weekends. Many students dream of becoming the next Tiger Woods, getting the
ball in the hole from a long way out. But they have to4 and keep practicing if they
hope to improve their skills. Of course that costs a fortune to do in Taiwan. You have to work
hard and5 your skills for years to become like the players seen on TV. Therefore, if
you are thinking of taking up golf, ask yourself if you have the passion to take you that far.

2	2	1	5	
ovices (B) stime (F)			(D) immer (H) blunde	

Reading Passage 2

14.1 Orchestras

Performances given by orchestras are very popular entertainment for people in cities from Tokyo to Toronto. Some people have the **perception** that the music produced by orchestras must **conform** to a style suitable only for the privileged of society. However, orchestras perform many **categories** of music and appeal to all sorts of people. It is not at all unusual for people to be MTV fans and also be **enthusiastic** about their local orchestra.



The modern orchestras that we know today did not exist until a few hundred years ago. Starting in the 17th century, **violinists** and **choir** singers became regular members of musical groups, allowing orchestras to slowly grow in **diversity** and size.

Sadly, there are only a few cities in the world that have truly great orchestras.

Fortunately, modern technology makes it possible for people anywhere in the world to enjoy the work of these talented musicians through high-quality audio CDs. People can also watch these orchestras perform on DVDs.



lite f.	enthusiastic: [ɪn _ι θuzı'æstɪk] adj 熱情的
amplify: [ˈæmpləˌfaɪ] v 擴大	
auditorium: [,ɔdə`torɪəm] n 表演廳	illusion: [ɪˈluʒən] n 幻覺
bass: [bes] n 低音	perception: [pəsˈsɛpʃən] n 看法
category: [`kætəˌgorɪ] n 類別	rhythmic: ['rɪðmɪk] adj 有節奏的
cello: ['tʃɛlo] n 大提琴	solo: ['solo] adj 獨奏的、獨唱的
choir: [kwaɪr] n 合唱隊	spotlight: ['spot,laɪt] n 聚光燈
conform: [kənˈfərm] ν 符合、遵守	violinist: [ˌvaɪəˈlɪnɪst] n 小提琴家
diversity: [daı'vɜ·sətɪ] n 多様性	

Re	eading Comprehension Choose the correct answers.	
Mai	n Idea	
1.	What is the main idea of the passage? (A) What orchestras are and how they began. (B) How to learn to play an instrument. (C) How to appreciate an orchestra's music. (D) Famous orchestras in the world.	
Infe	rence	
2.	From this passage, why might a person buy a CD or DVD to listen to an orchestra? (A) They do not have the money to buy tickets for the show. (B) They do not live in a city that has a very good orchestra. (C) They prefer listening to music from the comfort of their home. (D) They want to share the performance with their family.	
Tr	ue or False If the underlined words are used correctly, write T. If they are not, write	F.
1.	The speakers will <u>amplify</u> the sound so that everyone can hear your voice.	
2.	He sings <u>bass</u> , so he can really hit the high notes.	
3.	A <u>cello</u> is the smallest kind of violin there is.	
4.	I know it looks like he can fly, but it is just an <u>illusion</u> .	
5.	Jamie sings solo with five other people.	
6.	He likes to be in the <u>spotlight</u> so that people will not notice his presence.	
7.	Brian was very enthusiastic about the idea of us working together.	
8.	What is important is not the truth, but people's <u>perception</u> of the truth.	w
9.	The <u>rhythmic</u> sound of the music made everyone feel relaxed.	
10.	Jan loved playing the piano and dreamed of becoming a professional violinist.	
11.	He is a good musician, but needs to better <u>conform</u> to the style of our orchestra.	
12.	The students all have to wear the same uniform, creating a feeling of diversity.	
13.	The group's choir are some of the best piano players in the world.	