

G R A M M A R

Read the two short texts and decide which ONE word best fits each gap (1-10). Write your answers in the space provided below the texts. Spelling counts!

Incredible European Cities That Tourists Overlook**Genoa, Italy**

Most visitors arriving in Genoa tend to leave straight away **1** ... Portofino and the Ligurian Riviera. Big mistake – the city has one of the **2** ... preserved medieval old towns in Europe, a Renaissance “new” town (Via Garibaldi is one long pedestrianised street of hulking renaissance palaces, many of **3** ... are open to the public **4** ... museums, shops and restaurants) and even Belle Époque architecture. Add to **5** ... the historic street food shops and local artisans, and you have an overlooked Italian dream.

Bucharest, Romania

Slathered **6** ... Communist-era architecture and with much of the old town destroyed, **7** ... is not much left to prop up Bucharest’s **8** ... trumpeted reputation as the Paris of Eastern Europe. But it is **9** ... a fascinating place to absorb modern history – from the sites of the 1989 revolution to the “People’s House” parliament building. By day, it has a thriving art scene; by night, it’s all **10** ... great bars and underground techno raves.

- 1..... 5..... 9.....
 2..... 6..... 10.....
 3..... 7.....
 4..... 8.....

Complete the passage by filling in the gaps with the proper verb form or verb tense. Write your answers in the spaces below the article. Spelling counts!

Valencia, Spain

It **11** (**long / overshadow**) by Barcelona and Madrid, but Spain’s third city is an astonishing combination of architecture and food. Paella **12** (**be**) “born” here (head out to the rice fields where you **13** (**find**) snail paella **14** (**serve**)), but it’s the modernist architecture that’s the real draw – everything from the new high-speed train station to the Central Market is a work of art, with the highlight **15** (**be**) Santiago Calatrava’s architectural complex, the City of Arts and Sciences.

- 11..... 13..... 15.....
 12..... 14.....

Total Points: /15 pts

V O C A B U L A R Y

Complete gaps 1-10 in the following passage with the best answer (A- D). Circle your answers.

A woman has risked her life hanging off a 1,004 ft tower in Dubai to have pictures of herself taken with a mobile phone. More brainless than brave, but the image marks another **1 ...** in the unstoppable rise of the selfie culture.

Parents routinely complain that children experience life through their phones, spending hours **2 ...** images, creating a totally fake view of the world. But are adults any better?

Go out for a meal, and you'll see other diners photographing dishes and posting the images online before they even eat. There's even an **3 ...** craze in the "toilet selfie" – every time I go to a posh dinner, I'm followed by other women keen for a group snap in the **4 ...**.

Pop stars complain that now they perform to a sea of phones, with not a face in **5 ...**. And at the opening of the wonderful David Hockney exhibition at Tate Britain the other week, quite a number of visitors had **6 ...** up to pose for selfies in front of the most **7 ...** works, blocking out most of the art. Some were even providing commentaries for their followers!

A third of us **8 ...** to taking selfies at funerals, and David Cameron posed with Barack Obama during Nelson Mandela's memorial service.

Remember punk? That movement brilliantly acted as a generation-divider. Anyone could cut up a T-shirt, hack their hair and wear a black bin bag to upset their parents. Punk eventually **9 ...** out, but it served a purpose. The same will happen with selfies: one day they'll be **10 ...** passé, and we'll move on to something else. In the meantime, there are more important things to get upset about.

- | | | | | |
|----|-------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1 | A benchmark | B drawback | C milestone | D bypass |
| 2 | A doctoring | B nursing | C dissecting | D remedying |
| 3 | A unmet | B untrustworthy | C unlikely | D unconvincing |
| 4 | A cubicle | B chamber | C cubbyhole | D cranny |
| 5 | A vision | B blight | C view | D sight |
| 6 | A clothed | B wrapped | C dressed | D buttoned |
| 7 | A iconic | B ground-breaking | C critical | D momentous |
| 8 | A assent | B admit | C acknowledge | D adapt |
| 9 | A guzzled | B muzzled | C fizzled | D nuzzled |
| 10 | A envisaged | B esteemed | C conceived | D deemed |

Total Points: / 10pts

READING COMPREHENSION

Read the article about a lion living in the American city of Los Angeles. There is a task for you to do on the next page.

Los Angeles is one of two megacities in the world that have a population of big cats. In the other, Mumbai, leopards live in Sanjay Gandhi National Park and occasionally eat the humans **1 ...** . Though there have been instances of mountain lions targeting people in California—between 1986 and 2014, there were three fatal attacks—it has never happened in Los Angeles County.

“They’re called ghost cats for a reason—they’re very elusive,” Jeff Sikich, a carnivore biologist with the National Park Service, who manages the field work for the mountain-lion study, told me. “We’ve seen with our data **2 ...** .” But, he said, “in this urban, fragmented landscape, they see us almost every day.”

In Los Angeles, a place **3 ...** , the lions are a symbol of stubborn, resilient wildness. Powerful enough to jump fifteen feet in the air from a standstill, they provide a bracing reminder of humans’ place in the food chain. Back-yard wildlife cameras have become popular, which, along with grainy security-camera footage, create a kind of lion TMZ.

The lions would probably still be living in obscurity had it not been for P-22, a strong, lean cat with a white muzzle and a pelt the colour of orange-blossom honey, whose unlikely story has made him a celebrity. P-22 was born in the Santa Monicas about seven years ago; scientists believe that as an adolescent he headed east, away from the scratch marks, growls, and scent trails of intimidating older males. In February, 2012, Miguel Ordeñana, a biologist who was studying the flow of animals in and out of the park, noticed a mountain lion among the images **4 ...** . It was like seeing Big Foot. “It’s almost a mythical animal—people send in photos, and they’re usually house cats or coyotes,” he told me. “This image really proved that Griffith Park is more connected than we thought, and valuable not only to the wildlife that live in the park but to wildlife that live in neighbouring parks.” Several weeks later, Sikich captured P-22 and fitted him with a GPS collar **5 ...** .

The park, which was given to the city in 1896 by an eccentric entrepreneur named Griffith J. Griffith, is five times the size of Central Park, and contains the Hollywood Sign, the Observatory, and the L.A. Zoo. A few years before donating the land, Griffith led a hunting party to go after two mountain lions suspected of killing pigs there. These days, P-22 is welcomed as an honoured guest of the park, even as millions of people visit each year, including joggers, cyclists, and goat-sized children **6 ...** . In the fall, Los Angeles celebrated the first official P-22 Day: more than two thousand people attended, among them scores of elementary-school children, in craft-paper ranger vests, **7 ...** who has become part of the curriculum in many public schools. Mary Button, a representative of Friends of Griffith Park, said, “We’re thrilled to have P-22 here in his home.”

The park is eight square miles, but for P-22 it’s a Hong Kong microflat—the smallest known home range for an adult male mountain lion. If he wants to breed, he will have to face death on the freeways again, or hope for a mate as daring as he was. A lion alone, P-22 is living out the classic science-fiction narrative of the protagonist who wakes up to discover that he is the last of his kind. By day, **8 ...** , P-22 hides in plain view, resting in the dense brush down in the shady draws. After dark, he stalks the park and its environs, haunting the deer that graze in Forest Lawn Cemetery and ambling around the Hollywood Sign on Mt. Lee.

Griffith Park is adjacent to the residential neighbourhoods of Beachwood Canyon and Los Feliz, and P-22 regularly visits both. One morning, at Jason and Paula Archinaco’s house—a six-thousand-square-foot structure built into a hillside across the street from the park—two contractors for A.D.T. home security

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came tearing out of a crawl space where they'd been working, frantic with fear. They had seen a mountain lion, and needed to take the rest of the day off. Jason called the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the media. By the time Paula got home from a meeting down the hill, the street was clogged with news vans, **9 ...** . For the next twelve hours, she worked the door like a bouncer at a hot night club; for every two reporters who came out, two more could come in.

To the Archinacos, who have three domestic cats, a no-shoes policy, and a Buddha garden, P-22's brief residence under their house felt like a visitation from a spirit animal. Paula said, "He had these big amber eyes. He looked sad, like, 'Why did I get caught?'" Fish and Wildlife tried to dislodge him by pelting him with beanbags, **10 ...** . Finally, when the crews went home, P-22 sneaked out unobserved and went back into Griffith Park.

Seven phrases have been removed from the text. For items 1-10, decide which phrase below (A-M) goes into which gap. There are three extra phrases.

Write the letter of the correct phrase into the corresponding gaps below.

- A and a helicopter hovered overhead
- B vaguely supervised on its playgrounds and its trails
- C that they do a great job at avoiding us
- D when the trails are overrun with humans
- E who set out in search of their own hunting grounds
- F so that he could monitor his movements and study his diet
- G who make their homes around its edge
- H when humans and their domestic animals move into wildlife's habitat
- I long mocked as hostile to nature
- J who read letters of appreciation to an animal
- K recorded by his wildlife camera
- L that vending machines kill more people than mountain lions do
- M but he wouldn't budge

Gap 1 - _____

Gap 6 - _____

Gap 2 - _____

Gap 7 - _____

Gap 3 - _____

Gap 8 - _____

Gap 4 - _____

Gap 9 - _____

Gap 5 - _____

Gap 10 - _____

Total points: / 10pts

L I S T E N I N G C O M P R E H E N S I O N

You will hear some information about a chili farmer and the plants he grows. For items 1 to 5, fill in the gaps with the information you hear in the form of one word. Write your answers in the space provided. You will hear the text only once.

1. It would be easy to recognize the Carolina Reaper on sight due to its appearance.
2. Those who go to the gym consume chili products before exercising to increase their level of
3. The fewer the chili pepper plant has, the hotter its fruits are.
4. The physical reactions that one experiences after eating an extremely hot chili pepper are signs of the body's attempt todown.
5. The Carolina Reaper is claimed to have a tinge, which Gerald Fowler is unable to detect.

Total points..... /5pts

Autor: Xenia Liashuk, PhD.

Recenzent: PaedDr. Anna Brisudová

Korektor: Joshua M. Ruggiero

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