Participant Number: _____

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 31. ročník, krajské kolo 2020/2021, kategória 2C1 – úlohy

G R A M M A R

Read the following text and fill in each gap with the proper verb tense or verb form. Write your answers in the spaces below the article, being sure to preserve the correct word order within the segment in bold. Spelling counts!

Until the late eighteenth century, when sugar production **1 … (start, become)** mechanized, most people consumed very little of what nutritionists call "free" or "added" sugars—sweeteners other than, say, the lactose naturally present in milk and the fructose naturally present in fruit. In 1800, an average American would have lived and died never **2 … (encounter)** a single manufactured candy, let alone the array of sugar-sweetened yogurts, snacks, sauces, dressings, cereals, and drinks that now line supermarket shelves. Today, that average American **3 … (ingest)** more than nineteen teaspoons of added sugar every day. Not only **4 … (come, most of that never)** into contact with our taste buds; our sweet receptors are also less effective than those for other tastes. Our tongues can detect bitterness at concentrations as low as a few parts per million, but, for a glass of water to taste sweet, we have to add nearly a teaspoon of sugar.

That makes sense for what the system was designed for. Humans evolved in an environment **5 …(fill)** with substances that might make us sick or even kill us, and are therefore highly sensitized to unpleasant tastes that may signal danger. But the sweetest thing that early hominids would have been likely to come across **6 … (be)** fruit or, occasionally, honey. So although we are now surrounded by cheap, plentiful sources of sweetness, our sugar receptors **7 … (tune, still)** to the level of a ripe banana. It **8 … (be better)** if our sweet receptors **9 … (get)** more sensitive so we **10 … (eat)** less sugar, but that does not seem to be possible in the near future.

1…… 5…… 9……

2…… 6…… 10……

3…… 7……

Continue reading the text and decide which ONE word best fits each gap (11-15). Write your answers in the space provided below the text. Spelling counts!

11 … has taken only a few decades **12 …** obesity rates to triple in America. In 1960, when national surveys began, fewer **13 …** fourteen per cent of adults were obese; today, that figure is forty per cent. Sugar is not entirely **14 …** blame for this increase—annual per-capita consumption of cheese, for example, has increased eightfold **15 …** the past century, and physical activity has undoubtedly declined. Still, as early as the nineteen-twenties, this mismatch between our saturated sugarscape and our insensitive sweet receptors led doctors and diet gurus to recommend low-calorie sugar replacements.

11…… 13…….. 15……..

12…… 14……

Total Points: ...../15 pts

Participant Number: _____

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 31. ročník, krajské kolo 2020/2021, kategória 2C1 – úlohy

V O C A B U L A R Y

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

The impressive landscapes on Earth can take a person's breath away. But for Reuben Wu, that wasn't enough. Wu—a photographer, visual artist, and music producer—felt that the planet's **1 …** mountains, glaciers, and beaches were missing something. Specifically, unnatural lighting.

The idea was born from a mistake. One night near Death Valley, California, Wu set a camera to make a time-lapse series in the dark. A pickup truck drove by and **2 …** the scene with its harsh headlights.

At first, says Wu, "I was really annoyed. But when I looked at the images, I was fascinated. Here was **3 …** lighting in a natural environment."

The juxtaposition launched his desire to try adding light to other scenes where it didn't belong: on lakes, in canyons, on tall rock **4 …** in the desert. He flew drones carrying lights in front of cameras, taking long exposures—as long as 30 seconds. Then he layered the images into composites and, in some images, **5 …** the final version to remove the drone but leave the light it had **6 …** .

What emerged were **7 …** , otherworldly landscapes, each a visual puzzle daring the observer to figure out how such a scene had come to be.

Wu photographs mostly in the United States, where he lives. But in the spirit of exploration, he says, any landscape on Earth is a **8 …** for such a portrait—any scene, anywhere, that can be **9 …** in a way it doesn't usually appear.

Wu intends for the series to **10 …** : Is it nature? Is it art? Disorientation, he says, opens the mind to other ways of seeing.

1	A majored	B magnifying	C majestic	D magistrate
2	A brushed off	B washed out	C wiped up	D cleaned out
3	A artificial	B artisan	C artful	D articulate
4	A piles	B pillars	C piers	D pilings
5	A retouched	B replenished	C repaired	D reshaped
6	A sent	B tossed	C bestowed	D cast
7	A indifferent	B incongruous	C incomplete	D indulgent
8	A candidate	B applicant	C claimant	D nominee
9	A captivated	B grabbed	C captured	D grasped
10	A daunt	B beckon	C confound	D afflict

Total Points: ...../10pts

Participant Number: _____

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 31. ročník, krajské kolo 2020/2021, kategória 2C1 – úlohy

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

You will listen to a report about recent research of the acoustic properties of Stonehenge. For questions 1 to 5, circle one correct answer according to the information you hear. You will hear the text only once.

1. The Stonehenge replica used in the recent research by Trevor Cox was smaller than the monument itself because _____.

A. the research team did not have enough original building blocks

B. there was limited space in the room where the research was conducted

C. a smaller model was likely to generate more precise research results

D. extra space was used to reproduce the landscape around the monument

2. The model, nicknamed Stonehenge Lego, consisted of 157 stones, of which _____.

A. seventeen stones created the outer circle of the monument

B. twenty-seven stones were used to recreate the rest of the stones

C. sixty-three stones were copied from real stones that have remained

D. one hundred thirty stones were of silcrete rock from southern England

3. The average prolongation of sound that was measured in Stonehenge Lego _____.

A. slightly exceeded reverberation time in a living room

B. was comparable to reverberation time in a large cathedral

C. was higher for human voices than for musical instruments

D. was different in the gaps between stones than inside the circle

4. Earlier research into the acoustic properties of Stonehenge _____.

A. was focused on the examination of echo effects

B. took into consideration the influence of wind on Stonehenge acoustics

C. was conducted by a member of the same research team

D. included field studies and measurements at a Stonehenge replica

5. The present study demonstrates that the sounds produced at Stonehenge _____.

A. echoed in the open landscape and were heard from a distance

B. were related to certain ceremonies and activities yet to be discovered

C. were unlikely to spread beyond the monument or mix with external sounds

D. increased in volume when certain noises were coming from the outside

Total points:..... /5pts

Participant Number: _____

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 31. ročník, krajské kolo 2020/2021, kategória 2C1 – úlohy

R E A D I N G C O M P R E H E N S I O N

Read the following article. Complete gaps 1-10 with a suitable phrase (A-M) from the list on the following page. Three phrases will remain unmatched.

Most of us happily get by on a single cartoonish idea about ostriches: They're the big birds that bury their heads in the sand in times of crisis, supposedly thinking that if they can't see danger, danger can't see them. Think about it. Ostriches have long, bony legs, a torso **1 …** , and a neck like a periscope, topped by a wedge-shaped head with eyes bigger than an elephant's, at a height of up to nine feet. It is an unlikely design for head-burying.

Ostriches do in fact often hold their heads low to the ground—not under it—to feed on plants or to tend their nests. But their necks are light and flexible, with 17 cervical vertebrae to our seven, and easily move up and down, side to side, and front to back. And their giant eyes help them keep close watch on the world around them. They have reason to stay alert. For starters, they're basically oversize chickens in habitats populated by hungry lions, leopards, hyenas, African wild dogs, and cheetahs. And while adult ostriches are too formidable to be easy prey—their kick can break bones, and the larger of their two claws can disembowel an adversary— **2 …**, with a top escape speed of more than 40 miles an hour.

What also keeps them alert is the peril facing their offspring. Ostriches make their nests—just clearings on the ground—in the open, **3 …** by any blundering elephant, never mind hungry predators. Success requires improbable luck. The largest bird on Earth, and one of the most conspicuous, must keep its nest undetected for more than two months, from laying the first eggs to hatching. Failure is routine, and that is the driving force behind its ingeniously communal nesting behaviour.

One of the most striking things to me about ostriches, apart from their size, is the sense that they are in motion even when standing still. This is especially true of the female, because her tawny coloration **4 …** . The male's black-and white plumage can seem more constrained, like a tuxedo. In both sexes, the feathers are unusually long and full, especially on the wings and tail. They also lack the tiny hooks, or barbicels, that cinch feathers together in most other birds. This is what gives them such a captivating tendency to drift and billow in the breeze. It's functional: The ostrich can loosen the feathers **5 …** or draw them close to conserve it. That flounciness is also the quality that has caused human fashion to repeatedly fall in and out of love with ostrich feathers.

The area around the town of Oudtshoorn in the Little Karoo region of South Africa has been the centre of the world ostrich trade for more than 150 years. Beginning in the 1860s, when the feather trade was already pushing ostriches to extinction in some areas, farmers here helped pioneer captive breeding. The communal nature of ostriches **6 …** . Their inability to fly or jump also helped. Fields (or "camps") enclosed by chest-high wire fences now contain thousands of ostriches in seeming harmony, sometimes spread out like feathered chess pieces, sometimes seated in clusters.

The golden age for the ostrich trade and Oudtshoorn began in about 1870, driven by demand for ostrich feathers on the hats of fashionable women. "Feather mansions" from that era still grace Oudtshoorn's streets with towers, gables, and wraparound porches. **7 …** that in 1912, the most valuable cargo carried by the Titanic wasn't diamonds or gold but 12 cases of ostrich plumes valued at $2.3 million in today's money. That all ended, though, in 1914, when war and open-roofed motorcars made big, plumy hats suddenly unfashionable.

One morning at De Hoop Nature Reserve on the southern tip of Africa, I watch a male ostrich and a female feeding. They are watching me too, **8 …** , and, as if on signal, nine ostrich chicks come out of

hiding. They're plump little creatures a week or two old, dodo-like, with tawny, mottled necks and short, bristling down on their bodies. They feed, and their parents follow close behind, also feeding.

Soon after, a murderous trio of baboons approaches across a field. The male ostrich glowers, then runs forward, pushing them away. The baboons come back again and again, but each time the male blocks their path. Then an entire troop of baboons wanders out onto the clearing. The chicks huddle together nervously **9 …** . Prudently, the baboons pass by, looking elsewhere, as if an ostrich sandwich is the last thing on their minds.

The baboons have no sooner moved off than it begins to rain, a lashing, sideways, coastal sort of cloudburst. The male and female immediately sit down and lift their wings as the chicks come racing in for cover. So many of them nose in under the dad's left wing that they look like piglets on a sow. Then the wings come down and they vanish, **10 …** . When the downpour finally stops, one of the chicks pops up its head through the wing feathers and looks around, literally wearing its parent as a raincoat. It's pretty much the opposite of burying its head in the sand. The weather being acceptable, it slips out, still dry and warm, into the world again. Maybe you wouldn't call that intelligence, but it suggests a certain genius for survival. And I walk away thinking we should all be such good parents.

A as the two adult ostriches stand glaring at the intruders

B makes the fluttering of feathers more visible

C they jealously guard their territory

D they're much better at fleeing than fighting

E the ostrich trade has always been such an unpredictable business

F may have made these birds more amenable to life in captivity

G but after a while they relax

H held aloft like a great floating raft of flesh and feathers

I to help dissipate body heat

J is so sharp that they can spot trouble almost two miles away

K where their eggs can be smashed to bits

L entirely sheltered from the chilling rain

M it's a measure of just how prosperous the trade was

Total points:...../10pts

Autorka: PhDr. Xenia Liashuk, PhD.
Recenzentka: PaedDr. Anna Brisudová
Korektor: Joshua M. Ruggiero
Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – krajské kolo 2020/2021
Vydal: IUVENTA – Slovenský inštitút mládeže, Bratislava 2021