SELECTION **70 ITEMS**

Read the information.

TICA BOXER WINS LATIN AMERICAN TITLE

Hanna Gabriel, 25-year-old boxer, has a short career in boxing, but she was athletic long before she entered the ring. "I did everything: hurdles, relays, 400 meters, 800 meters, jumps", she says. And she got first places in the national games competing with the country's top athletes.

Unfortunately, sponsorship isn't easy for amateur sports programs even more so for women's sports. At 16, Gabriel missed a chance to participate in the Pan American Games in Miami because there was no money for it.

After graduation, she went to the United States, worked there and learned English. Then, she returned to Costa Rica. After she came back, her father suggested that she should work out at the boxing gym at the National Gymnasium on the west side of San José's La Sabana Park to get back into sports. At first, it was hard. "But I'm a warrior. I don't like easy stuff", she says. Boxing is a complex sport. It requires conditioning, discipline, consistency and most of all, respect.

Gabriel's biggest achievement is that she won the title of Latin American Women's Champion after defeating Mexican Nayeli Vásquez in a match in November 2008.

Adapted from The Tico Times, 2009

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, according to the previous information.

1) According to the reading, Hanna Gabriel _____.

A) won national boxing tournaments since she was a teenager
B) became an athlete when she was very young
C) entered the boxing ring when she was 25
D) became a boxer before she was 16

2) Amateur women's sports programs need _____.

A) boxers in Miami
B) sponsors in Costa Rica
C) winners in competitions
D) different kinds of tournaments

3) According to Hanna, boxing is a complex sport; it requires _____.

A) lack of respect
B) a little discipline
C) simple consistency
D) to be in good shape

4) Gabriel's biggest success was the _____.

A) Pan American Games
B) Sabana Park tournaments
C) Latin American Women's Championship
D) National Gymnasium Women's Tournament

Read the text.

LA RUTA DE LOS CONQUISTADORES

"La Ruta" is considered as the most difficult mountain bike race on the planet and the most important race in Costa Rica. Also, the expedition starts on the Pacific Coast and finishes on the Caribbean. This annual event and competition leads brave competitors (racers) to cross several rain forests, majestic volcanoes, spectacular mountains and crystal water rivers.

For the first 12 races, only local guys conquered the challenge. In 2005 and 2006 foreigners finished with the Costa Rican domination. So, local racers are now more focused on getting back the victory. In 2009, "La Ruta" was opened to competitors who wanted to take on the challenge. The secret was to prepare the legs and the mind to overcome (deal with) four days of competition.

This competition has gained a huge success. On February 2, 2009, the company that organized this mountain bike event in Costa Rica (Exploraciones Verde y Azul S.A.), won an important management award thanks to the successful discipline put on the event's direction over the past years. The 2009's "International Arch of Europe" prize was presented to La Ruta's organizers on February 23, at the 35th Convention of the Business Initiative Directions, in Frankfurt, Germany.

Adapted from http://www.adventurerace.com

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, according to the previous information.

5) "La Ruta" is the most important mountain bike race in Costa Rica because _____.

A) all the racers are national
B) all the racers are foreigners
C) it is an easy and unsuccessful event
D) it is a challenging and international competition

6) To be successful in this race, competitors should be _____.

A) not brave and slow
B) weak and unhealthy
C) not disciplined and lazy
D) physically and mentally well-prepared

7) The biggest achievement of the race's organizers is that they _____.

A) participated in the 35th edition of the race
B) conquered the race in Frankfurt
C) organized "La Ruta" in Europe
D) won an important award

Read the text.

1 GOLD MUSEUM

Beneath San José's Plaza de la Cultura, the National Bank's Gold Museum displays the largest collection of pre-Columbian gold jewelry in Central America and the second largest collection in the Americas. Many of the 1,600 gold pieces are in the forms of frogs and eagles, two animals perceived by the region's indigenous cultures to have great spiritual significance. The brilliant pieces were crafted by the Diquis master goldsmiths, who once inhabited the southwestern part of the country.

2 JADE MUSEUM

San José's Jade Museum has extensive exhibits of pre-Columbian jade, gold and ceramics. Modern art is also displayed in the outer gallery. Almost all the items exhibited in this museum, the world's largest collection of American jade, were produced from 300 BC to AD 700, before the local Indians learned to work with gold. In the spectacular Jade room, pieces are illuminated from behind so you can appreciate the jade's translucency. A series of drawings explains how this extremely hard stone was cut using string saws with quartz and sand abrasive.

Adapted from the Internet

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, based on the previous information.

8) The indigenous people of Diquis thought _____.

A) of crafting their pieces of gold with jade
B) they were masters at working with gold
C) some animals had a spiritual significance
D) to display their pieces of gold in the future

9) The Jade Museum displays _____.

A) gold and jade pieces only
B) only pre-Columbian jade pieces
C) pre-Columbian jade, gold and ceramics
D) the second largest jade collection in America

10) According to the text, _____ elaborated the gold pieces of the Gold Museum.

A) native Costa Ricans from all over
B) Central American aborigines
C) indigenous people of Diquis
D) local Indians of America

11) The Jade Museum has the _____.

A) biggest American jade collection in the world
B) biggest gallery of modern art in the country
C) largest gold collection in Costa Rica
D) second collection in the Americas

12) In the Jade Museum, a sequence of pictures shows _____.

A) the elaboration of the ceramics
B) how natives crafted the jade
C) the way local Indians lived
D) the jade's translucency

Read the information. Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence.

13)

Usually during March and April, Acosta is really dry.

A "**synonym**" for the underlined word is "_____."

A) beautiful
B) humid
C) nice
D) arid

14)

This year classes started on February 10th.

An "**antonym**" for the underlined word is "_____."

A) inaugurated
B) initiated
C) began
D) ended

Read the words in the box. Choose the appropriate alternative to complete the sentence.

15)

two	through	right	no
man	taught	men	there
toe	be	know	thought

From the previous list of words **two homophones** are _____.

A) "be" and "toe"
B) "know" and "no"
C) "man" and "men"
D) "men" and "there"

Read the information. Choose the appropriate alternative to complete the sentence.

16)

You can see many interesting buildings in San José. Then, you can stay in a five-star hotel; also have an excellent view of the city.

Two linking words in the text are _____.

A) "can" and "in"
B) "the" and "an"
C) "then" and "of"
D) "then" and "also"

Read the information. Choose the appropriate alternative to complete the sentence.

17)

> **Finally, if you really want to become a home garden ecologist, collect the water from your showers and sinks for watering. Of course, you'll also need to switch over to biodegradable soaps to keep the gray water safe for plants.**
>
> **Adapted from the Tico Times, 2009**

The linking word "**Finally**" in the paragraph is showing _____.

A) chronological sequence
B) physical relationship
C) similarity
D) addition

Read the information. Choose the appropriate alternative to complete the sentence.

> **The word unlawful means illegal.**

18) The root of the word "**unlawful**" is "_____."

A) un
B) ful
C) law
D) unlaw

Read the information.

May 1st is traditionally an opportunity for workers to express their grievances. Some people believe that it began in Australia in 1856 with a series of annual strikes. A more likely origin took place thirty years later in 1886, when the American Federation of Labor called for nationwide strikes and demonstrations for an eight-hour day. On May 1st, the police opened fire on a crowd of demonstrators in the city of Milwaukee. Nine policemen were killed. Two days later, the police killed six demonstrators at a factory in Chicago, where eight of their own men were subsequently killed in the protests that followed. In July 1889, as part of centenary celebrations of the French Revolution, an international labor congress meeting in Paris called for an international day of demonstrations in support of the eight-hour day on May 1st, 1890. And on that date the world celebrated its first global labor holiday.

Adapted from The Book of Days

Select the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, from the previous text.

19) The word **"grievances"** in the text means _____.

A) an expression to greet somebody
B) the management of land for cattle
C) causes for complaining or protesting
D) a strong feeling of sorrow caused by the death

20) The tradition of May 1st _____, according to some people.

A) began thirty years ago
B) was originated in Australia with several strikes
C) started when the Chicago police killed six demonstrators
D) took place as part of the centenary celebrations of the French Revolution

21) The call from the American Federation of Labor was to _____.

A) defend an eight-hour day
B) face the police at a factory in Chicago
C) support the idea of the global labor holiday
D) demonstrate the crowd's happiness for labor day

Read the text.

EATING HABITS

Most Americans still eat at home, according to Harry Balzer, a vice president at The NPD Group. The marketing information group has been studying our eating habits since 1980. Also, he said, "That's changed over the past three or four years. Frozen and pre-prepared foods have become more popular, and people are not ordering out as much." Lola O'Rourke, a spokeswoman for the American Dietetic Association, said that grocery stores are offering more foods that are both good for people and easy to fix.

"The number of meals we eat over these last 20 years really has not changed significantly, but the weight people reported to me has," Balzer said. "So, I have to conclude that the average meal is getting larger." Barbara Rolls, a professor, said that portions served at home and typical recipes in cookbooks are all bigger now than in the 70's. She has studied the effects of portion size and found that "if you give people more food they eat more. If you are going to be obese, you are also going to end up with more health-care costs," Rolls said.

Don't eat so fast: "I think it's really important for people to slow down when they eat, even if they don't have a lot of time," O'Rourke said, "Slow down, and that will help them eat less."

Adapted from www.cnn.com

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, according to the previous information.

22) According to diet experts, one fact that leads American people to consume more food is that _____.

A) they don't like healthy food
B) their recipes are bigger now
C) they know how to cook healthy food at home
D) they don't know how to fix convenience food

23) Frozen and pre-prepared food has become famous because Americans _____.

A) order more fast food
B) changed eating habits
C) avoid cooking at home at all
D) fix more difficult meals easily at home

24) According to Mr. Balzer's conclusion on eating habits, Americans _____.

A) eat more quantities of food than many years ago
B) eat less portions of food than in the 70's
C) weigh less than 20 years ago
D) are thinner than in the 70's

25) According to Barbara, when large portions of food are served to people they _____.

A) can't eat larger portions
B) have positive effects on weight
C) consume larger portions of food
D) don't cook healthy recipes from cookbooks

26) If people lead to obesity, they will _____.

A) become healthier
B) have fewer health-care costs
C) have their weight at a healthy level
D) have trouble with health-care costs

27) In order to avoid unhealthy habits, Mrs. O'Rourke recommends that people must _____.

A) review what they eat every twenty minutes
B) gobble up food every twenty minutes
C) eat quickly with an empty stomach
D) eat food slowly

Read the text.

WHAT IS RENEWABLE ENERGY?

Renewable energy utilizes natural resources such as sunlight, wind, tides and geothermal heat, which are naturally replenished (refilled) to produce energy. Renewable energy technologies range from solar power, wind power, and hydroelectricity to biomass and biofuels for transportation. About 13 percent of primary energy comes from renewal with most of this coming from traditional biomass like wood-burning. Hydropower is the next largest source, providing 2-3%, and modern technologies like geothermal, wind, solar, and marine energy together produce less than 1% of the total world energy demand. Wind power has a worldwide installed capacity of 74,223 MW and is widely used in several European countries and the USA. The manufacturing output of the photovoltaic industry reached more than 2,000 MW per year in 2008, and PV power plants are particularly popular in Germany. Solar thermal power stations operate in the USA and Spain, and the largest of these is the 354 MW SEGS power plant in The Mojave Desert. The world's largest geothermal power installation is The Geysers in California, with a rated capacity of 750 MW. Brazil has one of the largest renewable energy programs in the world involving the production of ethanol fuel from sugar cane. Ethanol now provides 18 percent of the country's automotive fuel. Ethanol fuel is also widely available in the USA.

Adapted from the Internet

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, based on the previous information.

28) One of the biggest renewable programs worldwide is in _____.

A) United States
B) Europe
C) Brazil
D) Spain

29) In Brazil, people get ethanol from _____.

A) geothermal stations
B) solar stations
C) sugar cane
D) geysers

30) Ethanol is also used all around _____.

A) the United States
B) Germany
C) Europe
D) Spain

31) The second biggest source of renewable energy comes from _____.

A) ethanol
B) sunlight
C) hydropower
D) marine resources

32) The biggest worldwide solar thermal power station operates in _____.

A) Spain
B) Brazil
C) The Mojave Desert
D) The Geysers in California

DGEC

Read the text.

LAS RUINAS DE UJARRÁS

The small village of Ujarrás was abandoned after it was virtually destroyed by a flood in 1833. But the ruins of this church from the 17th century draw a constant flow of tourists. The church was built in Ujarrás when an Indian found a wooden box in a river, which he brought to Ujarrás. The Indian opened the box and found a statue of the Virgen inside it. The statue, known as La Virgen de la Candelaria, was moved to the town of Paraíso along with the rest of Ujarrás' residents.

Most organized tours are arranged by Orosi hotels. They are set in a well–kept park surrounded by coffee plantations. To get to Las Ruinas de Ujarrás, get on a bus in Paraíso from the northeast corner of the soccer field (every 30 minutes). The buses go to La Represa de Cachí. From there, it's 1 km walking to Las Ruinas. Ask the driver to point the right direction and if there is a bus that can pick you up from the drop-off indicate at Cachí to return to Orosi. Las Ruinas are open daily and the entrance is free.

Adapted from Let's go

Choose the appropriate alternative to answer each question, from the previous text.

33) What happened to the village of Ujarrás? It was _____.

A) moved to La Candelaria
B) attacked by an Indian
C) destroyed by a flood
D) renamed Paraíso

Read the information.

ISLAND PARADISES

Whether it is on a small boat, a yacht or a sailboat, landing at one of the islands in this beautiful part of the Costa Rican Pacific coast makes you feel like a discoverer.

True natural treasures, some islands of the Gulf of Nicoya have beaches which are practically private and others are places to observe sea birds.

If you travel south of Puntarenas, you will find Guayabo and Negritos; to the Northwest we have Pájaros, a nesting site for different species of sea birds. South from the port of Puntarenas, you find San Lucas. It represents a chance to travel back in time by visiting the ruins of what once was one of the best known prisons in Costa Rica. A story of violence was written there between 1873 and 1991. There is no lodging here. Gitana, near San Lucas, has several cabins for 6 people each with a kitchen and private bathroom for $10 per person a day. For more information, call 2612-9944.

Northwest of Puntarenas you find several other islands: Caballo, Venado, Bejuco and Chira. Of these, only Chira has the basic infrastructure for its 2000 inhabitants. It has a couple of small grocery stores, a restaurant and a bar.

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, based on the previous reading.

37) According to the information, _____.

A) Pájaros and Negritos are private beaches
B) all the islands of the Gulf of Nicoya have beaches
C) the only way to travel to the Pacific islands is by a small boat
D) the islands Guayabo and Negritos are located south of Puntarenas

38) A place chosen by different bird species for laying their eggs and sheltering is _____.

A) Gitana
B) Pájaros
C) Guayabo
D) San Lucas

39) According to the reading, _____.

A) Caballo, Venado and Bejuco have grocery stores, restaurants and bars
B) Gitana is part of the ruins of the best-known prison in Costa Rica
C) a considerable number of people live on Chira
D) visitors can lodge in San Lucas

DGEC

Read the text.

When someone visits Costa Rica, he/she can learn about the flora and fauna of its particular area. Costa Rica has many biological reserves and national parks. Its government protects nature in those areas. There are hundreds of species of birds, mammals and reptiles. In addition, visitors can observe the beautiful vegetation.
Ecotourism also means contributing to preserving nature by neither throwing trash in parks, nor feeding wild animals, nor collecting sample plants or rocks. Finally, people can also contribute by doing volunteer work or donating money to organizations such as NEOTROPICA or APREFLOFAS.

Adapted from The Tico Times

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, according to the previous text.

40) Costa Rica _____.

A) includes programs to grow more vegetation
B) is a poor place to develop ecotourism
C) has particular areas to protect its flora and fauna
D) has all its territory protected for the development of ecotourism

41) Protected areas _____.

A) are home only to Costa Rican flora
B) are preserved just by the government
C) have many visitors collecting samples of plants
D) preserve nature with the help of some organizations

42) Ecotourism contributes to _____.

A) feeding wild animals in parks
B) preserving nature as much as possible
C) throwing trash in parks and reserves
D) collecting sample plants in reserved areas

Read the text.

DENGUE FEVER (BREAKBONE FEVER)

Dengue fever is a viral infection found throughout Central America. In Costa Rica, outbreaks involving thousands of people occur every year. Dengue is transmitted by the Aedes Aegypti mosquitoes, which bite preferably during the daytime and are usually found close to human habitats, often indoors. They breed (grow) primarily in artificial water containers such as jars, barrels, cans, cisterns, metal drums, plastic containers and discarded tires. As a result, dengue is especially common in densely populated, urban environments.

Dengue usually causes flu-like symptoms including fever, muscle aches, joint pains, headaches, nausea and vomiting, often followed by a rash. The bodyaches may be quite uncomfortable, but most cases resolve in a few days. Severe cases usually occur in children under age 15 who are experiencing their second dengue infection.

There is no treatment for dengue fever except to take analgesics such as acetaminophen or paracetamol (Tylenol) and drink plenty of fluids. Severe cases may require hospitalization for intravenous fluids and supportive care. There is no vaccine. The cornerstone of prevention is insect protective measures.

Adapted from the Internet

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, based on the previous information.

43) The Aedes Aegypti mosquito mainly reproduces _____.

A) in natural environments
B) inside the human houses
C) in artificial water containers
D) far away from densely populated human areas

44) According to the text, dengue causes _____.

A) the patients' death
B) lightly effects to the body
C) strong damages to people
D) very similar symptoms to flu

45) In strong cases, the patient needs to _____.

A) be hospitalized
B) drink only water
C) take plenty of pills
D) rest and stay at home

46) In the case of presenting some dengue symptoms, it is important to _____.

A) go to the hospital immediately
B) use insect protection
C) drink lots of liquids
D) be calm and wait

47) The Aedes Aegypti mosquito bites _____.

A) only early in the morning
B) usually during the day
C) only at night
D) at any time

48) People can prevent dengue by _____.

A) visiting the doctor
B) just taking acetaminophen
C) using insect protective rules
D) drinking just water in plastic containers

Read the text.

Nobel Laurels for Costa Rica

Since dissolving its army in 1949, Costa Rica has enjoyed peace and political stability earning the nickname "The Switzerland of Central America", a title that it has held with pride. It has not, however, remained unaffected by civil conflict in nearby nations. As many as 500,000 refugees have poured across the border since the late 1970's.

The 1980's were a hard period for Costa Rica. In 1987, however, the president at that time, Óscar Arias Sánchez, earned the Nobel Peace Prize, when he achieved a consensus among all Central American leaders with the Peace Plan known as the "Plan de Paz." Mr. Arias negotiated a sustained cease–fire agreement for a unified Central American Parliament. In 1988, he increased his commitment to democracy when he created the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Rights.

Costa Rica is one of the most prosperous countries in Central America today. It enjoys political stability, and its well-educated population maintains a strongly democratic spirit and displays an admirable level of collective sensitivity to issues surrounding ecological preservation, democratic development and commercial vitality.

Adapted from Let's go

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, based on the previous text.

49) According to the text, refugees have been coming to Costa Rica since the _____.

A) 1980's
B) 1970's
C) early 1940's
D) latest 1980's

50) The creation of the Arias Foundation helped to increase the country's democracy because it _____.

A) is in charge of the area's Parliaments
B) is oriented toward the defense of Human Rights
C) works to improve the economic comfort of Central Americans
D) directs objectives to help neighboring populations to cross our borders

51) Costa Rica has been _____.

A) affected by civil conflicts nearby countries
B) committed to democracy only for its citizens
C) worried just about ecological preservation
D) a prosperous country just for Costa Ricans

Read the text.
Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, according to the information.

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: All Personnel
From: Mr. Davis
Subject: Waste of office supplies

I'm very concerned about the waste of office supplies. Since last year we have been using too many paper clips, too much paper, too many rubber bands, too much ink, too much computer paper, too many envelopes, and too many pens and pencils.

The company budget for the office supplies is not enough to cover your demand which has increased a lot since last year.

Beginning immediately, I request you use fewer paper clips, less paper, fewer rubber bands, less ink, less computer paper, fewer envelopes, and fewer pens and pencils. In order to try to solve this problem, each one of you will receive an amount of office supplies every semester.
Thank you very much for your cooperation.

52) Mr. Davis is complaining about the _____.

A) budget of the company
B) misuse of office supplies
C) good use of pens and pencils
D) change of the office administrator

53) Mr. Davis says that the _____.

A) employees must write a memorandum including office supplies
B) company doesn't have the resources to get more supplies
C) office supplies don't have to be used by the personnel
D) personnel is using just the necessary supplies

54) The memorandum _____ here.

A) doesn't include a solution to the problem
B) has important information only for Mr. Davis
C) doesn't mention the items that have been misused
D) is used to communicate to the personnel the company decisions

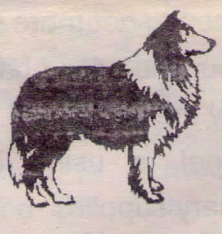
Read the text.

Jory earns his living as a dog trainer, a skill he picked up in the late 70's, while serving in the army. In Israel, however, after ending active military service in 1980, he worked as a professional fashion photographer for 15 years. During this time, he trained dogs as a hobby.

In a recent interview, after a two-hour training session with 10 dogs and their owners in a pleasant park in Pavas, the 44-year-old trainer from Israel talks about this land of "friendly people, good vibration and, certainly, nature...a calm place."

In Costa Rica, Jory soon discovered that his skill in fashion photography was not appreciated. Therefore, he preferred his other profession–dog trainer.

There's no age, sex, size or breed discrimination in the group that assembles for education, exercise and fun.



Adapted from The Tico Times

Select the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, according to the previous reading.

55) Jory's skill _____.

A) deals with dog fashion
B) ends in a pleasant park
C) began during his military service
D) is about friendly Costa Ricans and nature

56) Nowadays, Jory _____.

A) is a dog trainer
B) is a photographer of dogs
C) works as a soldier in the Israeli army
D) earns his living as a professional fashion photographer

57) In his job, Jory _____.

A) trains a group of fifteen dogs
B) has trained dogs for 44 years
C) puts his students into different groups
D) teaches some exercises to the dogs' owners, too

58) When Jory came to Costa Rica, he _____.

A) was a Hebrew student
B) had skills in fashion photography
C) worked as an employer in Pavas
D) worked with a group of friendly people

Read the text.

MICHAEL JACKSON

He was born in the United States on August 1958. When he was a young boy, he showed great talent as a singer and as a dancer. He sang and danced with four of his brothers. The group sold more than ten thousand records and had millions of fans. Later, at thirteen, he separated from his brothers and made his first album alone. Many of the songs on this album became hits. Several years later, he performed with his family again on TV and on tour, but he preferred to perform alone. He won many awards, and his fans bought millions of his hit records and tapes. In music videos, he was as famous for his dancing as for his singing.

Adapted from Famous Tips Magazines

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, from the reading above.

59) At the beginning of his career, Jackson _____.

- A) belonged to a singing group of brothers
- B) used to dance alone on TV shows
- C) showed unartistic skills
- D) preferred to sing alone

60) The Jackson group _____.

- A) won many awards
- B) was very unpopular
- C) sold a lot of records
- D) began its career in 1958

Read the text.

Ticos' Customs

Ticos are very family–oriented. Kids live with their parents through their school years and generally don't leave home before marriage. Close extended families are common and contribute to fairly cohesive (sticking together easily or well) communities, particularly in rural areas. Ticos are known for their relaxing and helpful temperaments, as well as their willingness to lend a hand, or even a home, in times of need. The phrase "quedar bien", which means "staying in good terms" is one of the essential tenets (one of the principles on which a belief is based) of Costa Rican lifestyle values. Costa Ricans will often say "yes" when they mean "no" in order to avoid conflict.

In general, Ticos are very affectionate and are often very expressive. It isn't unusual to see couples walking and holding hands. It isn't bad manners for couples to hug or kiss on the street.

Thankfulness is an admirable quality in house guests and hospitality should be received with articulated gratitude.

Machismo has left a mark on Costa Rican gender relations, though some women still appreciate chivalrous legacies. Out of tradition, men have gentlemanly manners and courteous, often assuming a protective role. It is considered a good manner for men to open doors and help carry bags.

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, from the previous text.

61) Extended families have _____ especially in rural areas.

A) weak beliefs
B) strong values
C) stereotype protective women
D) willingness to leave their communities

62) To visitors, Ticos are _____.

A) funny and suspicious
B) hospitable and helpful
C) indifferent and difficult
D) unfriendly and without gratitude

63) One of the main values that Costa Ricans have is _____ people.

A) avoiding
B) staying in bad terms with
C) saying "no" all the time to
D) having good relationships with

64) The action of carrying bags to help others is considered _____.

A) a bad manner
B) a good manner
C) a common rural practice
D) an essential tenet in Costa Rica

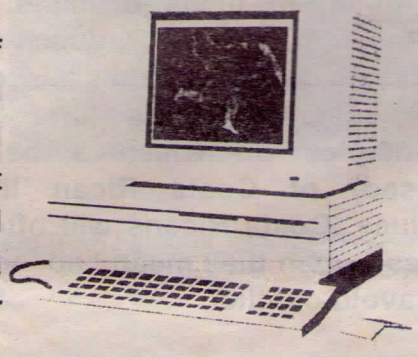
Read the text.

THE COMPUTER PLAYS CUPID

Recently, computers have helped people look for a partner. All over the world, computer-assisted dating has become a very good business. Some people think that using marriage agencies is easy and convenient.

For a modest fee, people can use the services of a marriage agency. They give their personal data, alone with their likes and dislikes.

The agency enters the information into a computer program that produces a list of people who might be a good match. If you want to spend more money, the agency will make a video in which you talk about yourself and the kind of person you would like to meet. The video is put on a computer and candidates can choose their partners from a computer screen.



Adapted from The Tico Times

Select the appropriate alternative to answer each question, from the previous text.

65) What is a very good business using technology nowadays? To _____.

A) get married through a TV agency
B) give information about couple services
C) help people find partners through computers
D) agree with people who have different interests to produce a video

66) What does a computer need to match people?

A) Input about computer programs
B) Personal data including preferences
C) Facts about money, people and agencies
D) Information related to videos and computer screens

67) What is the main service of a marriage agency? To _____.

A) make a video of cupid agencies
B) just organize your personal data
C) get information just about your likes
D) make a list of possible candidates for you

Read the text.

THE INTERNET AND THE ELDERLY

Electronic mail is proving to be a boon (benefit) to institutionalized elderly. "Nursing home residents, even frail (physically weak or delicate) ones, take to computers quickly and can revitalize their lives through e-mail messages and the Internet," say experts to The New York Times. "People who master the technology gain a confidence that spreads into other aspects of their lives, and many take pride in helping teach the skills to their fellow residents." Not only does e-mail put the elderly in touch with distant family members, health-care providers, and old friends but it also does much to overcome the helplessness, boredom, and loneliness that descend on those confined to nursing homes and wheelchairs as a result of illness and advanced age. Moral is boosted (an increase in something), and depression drops as well. Some elderly people even participate in on-line educational programs, enabling them to pass on their accumulated knowledge and wisdom to future generations. However, some changes need to be made. These include keyboards that are easier to use and a more convenient way to increase the print size.

Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence, from the previous text.

68) Nursing home residents _____.

A) do not suffer from depression
B) have problems using computers
C) are very good at using computers
D) need to be isolated from their old friends

69) With the Internet, the elderly can _____.

A) get in touch with their relatives
B) become older more rapidly
C) close the nursing homes
D) fix the computers

70) To improve electronic mail for the elderly, the _____.

A) elderly should practice just with old computers
B) computers should have some changes
C) elderly should have only old friends
D) e-mails should be boring