

SELECTION

70 ITEMS

Read the text.

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN GAMES

The Central American Games arrived in Costa Rica in a literal blaze of glory with fireworks at the National Stadium. After that event, the games continued on Monday featuring competitions in 26 different individual and team sports. Later that day with the individual sports, Costa Rica claimed its first gold at the hands of 17-year-old judo fighter Julián Sancho. He told the press that it was something that he would remember forever. Also Costa Rican Violeta Mitinian, a synchronized swimmer, won several gold medals. She won her third free-style swimming on Wednesday night. Then, the outstanding speed skater Susan Piedra pulled out (doing something hard to get in) with an amazing first place. She finished at the last second in the 15,000-meter qualification round.

With team sports, Costa Rica came out strong in soccer with the women's team taking down Belize in a whopping 14-0 win Wednesday night. The men's indoor soccer team also won their first game, beating El Salvador 4-0. Both the men's and women's handball teams won their respective tournaments, which concluded Friday night.

Costa Rican teams struggled to avoid elimination in tournaments. The women's softball team was eliminated in the first round, losing against Honduras, Panama and Nicaragua. The men's ping pong doubles team also lost against Nicaragua.

Adapted from The Tico Times

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

- 1) During the Central American Games, there were \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) only international competitors
  - B) just well-known swimmers and skaters
  - C) different individual and team sports competitions
  - D) twenty-six male competitors playing against female participants

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- 2) Free-style swimming and speed skating are examples of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) water sports
  - B) unknown sports in the country
  - C) team sports played in the competition
  - D) individual sports practiced at the Central American Games event
- 3) The Costa Rican men's indoor soccer team won against \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) Honduras losing 2-0
  - B) Belize in a whopping 14-0
  - C) El Salvador beating them at 4-0
  - D) Nicaragua on Wednesday night
- 4) With the men's ping pong double team, Costa Rica \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) lost the game against Nicaragua
  - B) won the first round against Honduras
  - C) won the softball game against Panama
  - D) ended up being eliminated by Honduras
- 5) During the tournaments in handball, \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) both men and women played together
  - B) the international teams were the winners
  - C) Costa Rican competitors lost their games
  - D) men and women's teams won in their respective category
- 6) The 15,000-meter qualification round was in \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) judo fighting
  - B) speed skating
  - C) softball and ping pong
  - D) synchronized swimming

DGEC

Read the text.

### NATIONAL SOUND

Based on their own merits, many musicians have assured their place in the history of national music. A medley (potpourri), composed of some well-known musicians in the country, was showed during the 4<sup>th</sup> "Academia de Compositores y Autores Musicales de Costa Rica" (ACAM) Awards. The event, organized by Álvaro Esquivel, was held in the National Auditorium at the Children's Museum. This event focused on the masterpieces of Costa Rican music.

The ceremony started at 7:00 p.m. with the performance of the winners in 14 categories along with the presentation of various musicians. On stage, people saw singer and composer Humberto Vargas and musical arranger of orchestra music Walter Flores. Both were winners at the famous "Festival Viña del Mar" in Chile. They were followed by four rock artists such as Bernal Villegas (former member of Suite Doble), Patricio "Pato" Barraza (former member of Inconsciente Colectivo), Jorge "Mechas" Zumbado (former Kadeho singer) and Luis Montalberth Smith lead vocalist of Gandhi. Also, there were other musicians like Ricardo Padilla, Ulysses Grant and the Tico Jazz Band. It was a wonderful event.



Adapted and translated from La Nación

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

- 7) The text mentions the names of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) talented producers
  - B) different national events
  - C) the categories of ACAM
  - D) some Costa Rican musicians

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- 8) The event's organizer was \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) ACAM
  - B) "Pato" Barraza
  - C) Álvaro Esquivel
  - D) "Mechas" Zumbado
- 9) Two winners from "Viña del Mar Festival" were \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) Gandhi and Kadeho
  - B) Walter Flores and Humberto Vargas
  - C) Álvaro Esquivel and Luis Montalberth
  - D) "Pato" Barraza and "Mechas" Zumbado
- 10) The musicians performed \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) after the event
  - B) before 7:00 p.m.
  - C) during the awards
  - D) before the ceremony
- 11) During the 4<sup>th</sup> ACAM Awards, \_\_\_\_\_ participated.
- A) some famous musicians .
  - B) Álvaro Esquivel and his group
  - C) four artists from "Festival Viña del Mar"
  - D) Suite Doble and Inconsciente Colectivo

Read the sentences in the boxes. Choose the appropriate alternative to complete each sentence.

- 12) That's true, but he's a good swimmer.

The word true in the previous sentence is an antonym of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) tired
- B) easy
- C) false
- D) good

- 13) Karl is a fashionable and elegant person.

The words fashionable and elegant are \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) antonyms
- B) synonyms
- C) homonyms
- D) linking words

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

14)

Last Sunday, I went to a beach in Limón with my family; likewise, my girlfriend's family went to a beach in Puntarenas.

A linking word in the previous sentence is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) last
- B) went
- C) family
- D) likewise

15)

Next Monday is my day off, thus I will visit my parents in Guayabo, Turrialba.

A linking word in the previous sentence is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) day
- B) thus
- C) next
- D) Monday

16) The root of the word government is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) go
- B) ment
- C) gover
- D) govern

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Read the text.

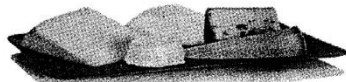
### TYPES OF CHEESE

#### HARD CHEESE

- **Gouda:** This crunchy, deep caramel colored cheese is prepared with cow's milk. This creamy rich cheese melts smoothly on one's tongue. It is a perfect balance of salty and sweet flavors and goes well with several wine varieties. About 60% of Gouda cheese is made in Holland.
- **Asiago:** This cheese is a product of the region of Vicenza and Trento. It is prepared with cow's milk, and it has a fruity, sharp taste. Asiago comes in two varieties: one which is lightly pressed and prepared with whole milk while the other is prepared with skimmed milk. Most people grate this cheese and use it as a condiment.
- **Sbrinz:** This hard cheese variety is known as the "Father of Hard Cheeses". It is prepared with whole milk, which makes the cheese smoother, nuttier and flavorful. Sbrinz cheese goes well with champagne.

#### SOFT CHEESE

- **Boursault:** This rich, soft, white creamy cheese is prepared with cow's milk. It is cylindrical in shape. This cheese is best eaten at room temperature. It also has a smooth buttery taste.
- **Manouri:** This popular Greek cheese comes in different shapes and sizes, and it is prepared with either sheep's or goat's milk. This cheese bears an appearance similar to Feta, but it is creamier and less salty. Manouri cheese lacks an outer rind and is often eaten for breakfast drizzled with honey.
- **Chaource:** Made in France, this cheese has a soft creamy texture and a slight smell of mushrooms. Chaource is fit to be eaten at any stage of maturation. This cheese goes well with champagne.



Adapted from <http://www.buzzle.com>

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

17) Chaource has \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) a fruity flavor
- B) a buttery taste
- C) a caramel texture
- D) the slight smell of mushrooms

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- 18) A type of cheese that is made from goat's milk is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) a French cheese
  - B) a popular Greek cheese
  - C) a fruity, sharp taste cheese
  - D) the "Father of Hard Cheeses"
- 19) A characteristic of Gouda is that it can be \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) eaten at room temperature
  - B) consumed with champagne
  - C) grated and used as a condiment
  - D) easily consumed with several wine varieties
- 20) Asiago is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) from Holland
  - B) made in France
  - C) used as a condiment
  - D) prepared with goat's milk
- 21) Boursault is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) similar to Gouda
  - B) prepared with caramel
  - C) prepared from cow's milk
  - D) a type of light cheesecake
- 22) Sbrinz has \_\_\_\_\_ than other cheeses.
- A) a creamier taste
  - B) more caramel flavor
  - C) a more sophisticated color
  - D) smoother, nuttier and flavorful characteristics



Read the text.

### HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES

In 2013, Easter Holy Week ran from March 22 to March 31. While many vacationers went to the beach and other destinations to enjoy the Easter Holy Week holiday, some of them just stayed home. The tradition of Holy Week is not only for religious ceremony, but also beach destinations are favorite places among Ticos.

This year, all local governments were entitled to decide whether to apply a dry law or not during the holiday. It was up to each municipality or district council to prohibit the sale of strong drinks (containing alcohol) from midnight Wednesday until midnight Saturday.

In order to keep vacationers safe during Holy Week, the national police director said that 4,000 police officers would be tasked with ensuring safety for vacationers and for people who stayed home. The police would set up watchtowers in high-traffic areas, such as central parks, in each province, as well as at the most popular beaches along the Pacific and the Caribbean.

Police also would establish roadside checkpoints in coordination with the traffic officers and the Red Cross. Officers would be sent to support security checkpoints at borders with Panama and Nicaragua, to prevent the illegal entry of foreigners.

Adapted from The Tico Times

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

- 23) Lately, the tradition of Easter Holy Week is for most \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) cops to arrest people
  - B) vacationers to stay home
  - C) people to go to official celebrations with the police
  - D) vacationers going to the beaches and religious ceremonies

- 24) The municipalities could decide to apply the dry law. It means that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) soft drinks during Holy Week are on sale
  - B) soft drink sales are up for each municipality
  - C) the sale of alcohol is free on Wednesday and Saturday midnight
  - D) strong drinks can be completely prohibited by the local government
- 25) The police director would set up watchtowers in high-traffic areas to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) protect vacationers everywhere
  - B) ensure that people stay at home
  - C) watch the people in the official ceremonies
  - D) ensure that people go to the beach in the Pacific
- 26) The police officers \_\_\_\_\_ during Holy Week.
- A) just prevent accidents
  - B) watch foreigner's exit the country
  - C) enforce the applications of dry law
  - D) prevent illegal border crossing of foreigners

Read the text.

### WARMING CAUSING FROG EXTINCTIONS

A team of experts released a study providing substantial evidence that global warming causes a fatal skin disease that threatens amphibians and has already extinguished two frog species in Costa Rica. The study also explained that in addition global warming produces cooler daytime temperatures and warmer nocturnal temperatures. These changes contribute to the formation of a type of fungus (a covering or layer of mold) known as Chytrid, whose optimal growth is between 17-25 degrees Celsius according to a statement from the conservation group NatureServe. The results of the research were led by scientist J. Alan Pounds, a naturalized Costa Rican from the United States who works at the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve in the community of the same name. However, The New York Times reported that other experts doubt the conclusiveness of the study. For instance, Cynthia Carey, an amphibian disease expert from the University of Colorado, said that this study does not "offer anything beyond circumstantial evidence". "It is difficult to prove cause and effect on the ground where multiple factors interact in complex ways," she told the U.S. daily. However, Mr. Pounds has issued a call for immediate action to stop global warming. He told NatureServe, "Global warming is causing the destruction of amphibians and will cause losses of biodiversity if people do not do something soon."



Adapted from The Tico Times

Choose the appropriate alternative to answer each question based on the previous text.

- 27) What is the global warming problem described in the text?  
It is the elimination of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) two amphibians in Colorado
  - B) two frog species in Costa Rica
  - C) the fungus of two frogs in Costa Rica
  - D) the skin of all kinds of animals in New York

- 28) What contributes to the increase of the fungus that affects frogs in Costa Rica?  
The \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) cloud forest
  - B) changes in the temperature
  - C) conservation group NatureServe
  - D) studies conducted by Mr. Pounds
- 29) According to Mr. Pounds, what has caused the variation in climate?
- A) Global warming
  - B) The conservation of the cloud forest
  - C) The benefits of global warming in Costa Rica
  - D) Research which affects amphibians in Costa Rica
- 30) What does Ms. Carey think about Mr. Pounds' study?  
She thinks that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) cooler days affect frogs in Costa Rica
  - B) Chytrid exists because of NatureServe
  - C) warmer temperatures benefit amphibians at night
  - D) it shows circumstantial evidence about global warming
- 31) How could people destroy biodiversity?  
By \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) facing the environmental problem in a week
  - B) controlling things that help to increase global warming
  - C) taking immediate action against threatened amphibians
  - D) leaving uncontrolled factors that increase global warming



Read the text.

### CAHUITA NATIONAL PARK

Lying on Costa Rica's beautiful Caribbean coast and facing the Atlantic Ocean, Cahuita National Park is one of the most amazing national parks in the country. Created in 1970 to protect Costa Rica's biggest coral reef, this national park is located in the province of Limón, 42 km south of Puerto Limón. People can reach it by car or bus.

Cahuita National Park protects over 22,400 hectares of ocean and marine life. The main attraction of the park is not so much its land, but rather its underwater world, which is home to a fantastic array of marine life and the largest coral reef in Costa Rica. Tourists from all over the world visit this national park because of the fantastic snorkeling and underwater diving opportunities, as well as because of the park's white sand palm trees lined along the beach and crystal clear blue water which are ideal for swimming. Fishing is not allowed, neither driving within the park.

Cahuita National Park is the habitat of several ecological zones, including a swamp forest, a rainforest, littoral woodlands and costal flora. Home to huge variety of marine life, some common underwater inhabitants include sea urchins (small animals with many thorns in their bodies), angel queen fish, blue parrot fish, green turtles, eels (long fish that resemble a snake), barracudas, sea cucumbers, shrimp, lobsters, sponges, manta rays, remoras, three species of sharks and Carey turtles. Although the Cahuita coral reef was badly damaged during an earthquake in 1991, it still includes over 35 species of coral including brain, elkhorn and fan coral, and it is a must to see them in the area. Another popular attraction of this park is an 18<sup>th</sup> century shipwreck that lies at the mouth of the River Perezoso. Also this national park is great as it provides plenty of camping opportunities, with many resorts, hotels and accommodations nearby as well.

Adapted from <http://www.govisitcostarica.com>

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


- 32) The purpose of creating Cahuita National Park was to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) keep the beaches clean
  - B) observe the bird species
  - C) preserve the mammals in the area
  - D) protect the biggest coral reef of the country

DGEC



- 33) Some of the underwater species found in Cahuita National Park are \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) land turtles
  - B) herons and parrots
  - C) eels and barracudas
  - D) sea urchins and perezosos
- 34) In Cahuita, tourists can practice \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) swimming and fishing
  - B) swimming and driving
  - C) fishing and snorkeling
  - D) underwater diving and snorkeling
- 35) An advantage for tourists in Cahuita is that \_\_\_\_\_ in the area.
- A) lodging is scarce
  - B) lodging is far away from
  - C) accommodations are abundant
  - D) accommodations are not available
- 36) A consequence of the earthquake in 1991 was that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) birds flew away from the park
  - B) the coral reef was greatly damaged
  - C) all the mammals went into extinction
  - D) many resorts and hotels were destroyed

Read the ads.

COSTA RICAN ONE DAY TOURS			
<b>TORTUGA ISLAND CRUISES</b>  <b>Includes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• English-speaking tour guide</li> <li>• Cruise ride to the island</li> <li>• Lunch</li> <li>• Live music</li> <li>• Breakfast</li> </ul> <b>Fares:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult: \$ 115.00</li> <li>• Children: \$ 75.00</li> </ul> <b>Departing from San José</b>	<b>SARAPIQUÍ RIVER AND CANOPY ADVENTURE</b>  <b>Includes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Entrance fee</li> <li>• English-speaking tour guide</li> <li>• Lunch</li> <li>• Boat ride along the river</li> <li>• Canopy</li> </ul> <b>Fares:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult: \$ 95.00</li> <li>• Children: \$ 47.50</li> </ul> <b>Departing from San José</b>	<b>BUTTERFLY FARM LA GUÁCIMA</b>   <b>Includes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• English-speaking tour guide</li> <li>• Brochures with the species information</li> </ul> <b>Fares:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult: \$ 42.00</li> <li>• Children: \$ 26.00</li> </ul> <b>Departing from San José</b>	<b>POÁS VOLCANO, DOKA, GRECIA AND SARCHÍ</b>  <b>Includes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• English-speaking tour guide</li> <li>• Lunch</li> <li>• Entrance fee</li> <li>• Forest hike</li> </ul> <b>Fares:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult: \$ 73.00</li> <li>• Children: \$ 54.75</li> </ul> <b>Departing from San José</b>

Adapted from <https://reserve.graylinecostarica.com//>

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

37) The Butterfly Farm in La Guácima \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) offers live music
- B) has the cheapest fare
- C) is the most expensive tour of all
- D) does not include an English-speaking tour guide

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38) A facility included for tourists in all tours is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) food
- B) entrance fee
- C) transportation
- D) informative brochures

39) With the Sarapiquí tour, visitors can \_\_\_\_\_ activities.

- A) enjoy canopying and boat ride
- B) benefit from a cruise and canopy
- C) go canopying and hiking in the forest
- D) go hiking in the forest and go on boat ride

40) To arrive at any of the tourist destinations, tourists have to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) leave from Doka
- B) depart from Grecia
- C) depart from San José
- D) take the bus in Sarapiquí

41) The Sarapiquí River and the Tortuga Island \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) provide hiking in the forest
- B) make entrance fees available
- C) distribute brochures with information
- D) offer cruise and boat rides respectively

Read the text.

### MEDICAL OPTIONS FOR RETIREES IN COSTA RICA

One of the main reasons retirees choose Costa Rica is for the country's health care system. Many of them believe they simply cannot afford health care premiums in the United States, and they are looking to Costa Rica as an alternative place to live. Others think their government's medical program care is just too expensive. Whatever the case, Costa Rica offers good medical options at affordable prices.

Costa Ricans are proud of their nation's achievements in the field of health care. Their affordable, state-run health care system —Caja Costarricense de Seguro Social or Caja, as it is more commonly referred to— reaches all levels of society by offering the same medical treatment to the poor as to those with more resources. More than 90% of the population is covered by the Social Security System. There is either a public clinic or a hospital in almost every area of the country, making medical care accessible to everyone including foreigners. In fact, there are over 800 EBAIS clinics in Costa Rica. EBAIS (Equipos Básicos de Atención Integral en Salud) provide both primary and preventative health care for all individuals in a community. As a result, most Costa Ricans are healthy people.

The infant mortality rate of less than 11 in 100,000 live births is lower than that in the United States. This figure is similar to many industrialized countries in the world. Today in Costa Rica, an 80-year-old man has a life expectancy of at least four more years. This puts Costa Rica in first place in the world for life expectancy above this age. Iceland and Japan follow with 77. Costa Rican women at 80 are expected to live longer than men of the same age, 95, slightly behind the women of Japan and France. The life expectancy is 76.3 years for men and 79.8 years for women.

Adapted from [insidecostarica.com](http://insidecostarica.com)

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

42) Most Costa Ricans are healthy due to the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) resources paid by foreigners
- B) achievements in many fields
- C) participation in the communities
- D) preventive and primary health care

DGEC

43) The infant mortality rate in Costa Rica is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) the lowest in the world
- B) the same as in the United States
- C) lower than in some other countries
- D) higher than in any industrialized country

44) Life expectancy in Costa Rica is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) very low for adults
- B) not high for women
- C) the same as in France
- D) higher compared to the rest of the world



Read the text.

**DOCTORS: FLU SEASON IS HERE**



It's flu season again, and vaccines are available through the Social Security System —Caja or C.C.S.S.— pharmacies, clinics and private clinics around the country. Certain viruses become more predominant during Costa Rica's rainy season, including bronchitis, the flu and the mosquito-borne illness dengue. No dengue epidemics have been reported recently although several outbreaks affected Costa Rica's Atlantic coastal region in 2011. However, the Social Security System warns that cases of respiratory illnesses are increasing in the country. National Children's Hospital Dr. José Hurtado warns against one frequent misconception that the flu and the common cold are the same disease. While some symptoms, such as phlegm (the thick yellowish substance that is produced in the throat when people have a cough) and a harsh cough are similar, the flu hits much stronger. Headaches pound and muscles are sore, while a fever shoots to above 39 degrees. It's important to remain hydrated.

Adapted from <http://www.ticotimes.net>

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

- 45) As Dr. Hurtado says, \_\_\_\_\_ is a symptom of both the common cold and the flu.
- A) phlegm
  - B) a very high fever
  - C) an aching muscle
  - D) a pounding headache

DGEC

46) To avoid catching the flu, clinics and pharmacies \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) have vaccines available
- B) promote urgent analysis
- C) warn against new outbreaks
- D) recommend cheap prescriptions

47) Dengue was reported as \_\_\_\_\_ in 2011.

- A) a serious national epidemic
- B) an unidentified health problem
- C) one of the main causes of death
- D) an illness that affected the area of the Atlantic

Read the text.

#### AT THE TOP IN LATIN AMERICA



Costa Rica has replaced Chile as the country with the highest level of "democratic development" in Latin America, according to the 2012 Latin American Democratic Development Index by the Argentinean consulting company Polilat and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. In general terms, there is a year-by-year improvement of 7.15% in the region. For the first time, Costa Rica tops the list as Venezuela comes in last.

Costa Rica, Chile, and Uruguay are in the "high democratic development" category. According to analysts, the democratic improvements in the continent are the result of increased economic prosperity and the government programs aimed at reducing poverty. However, increased economic development has not resulted in a reduction of inequality; on the contrary, in some countries that have seen economic growth, inequality seems to have worsened. The report studies "democratic development" through the analysis of various indicators such as political rights, civil freedom, political efficiency, as well as social and economic development.

Adapted from [www.insidecostarica.com](http://www.insidecostarica.com)

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

48) Based on research, Costa Rica \_\_\_\_\_ within Latin America.

- A) is economically prosperous
- B) has high levels of inequality
- C) has high democratic development
- D) is among the less developed countries

49) Economic growth has \_\_\_\_\_ in some Latin American societies.

- A) helped reduce inequality gaps
- B) helped reduce poverty by 7.15%
- C) worsened the levels of inequality
- D) led to some important political changes

DGEC


50) According to the study, Latin America has \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) improved in terms of political rights
- B) showed progress in reducing inequality
- C) five countries with a low democratic development
- D) three countries with a high democratic development

**DGEC**

Read the text.

**GETTING THE PROMOTION YOU DESERVE**



People can't get ahead if they don't know where they're going. Having clear hopes and plans makes it easier for them to achieve their dreams. Keep both short and long-terms goals in a small notebook, and check them often. Don't be afraid of adding more or changing them. Also, working hard gets people noticed. Sometimes, it seems as if managers only notice problems.

However, they hear of positive accomplishments, as well. But it's important to stand out. Don't just do what's required, do more, even without being asked. Managers love to see employees doing more, going that extra mile. It shows they're ready for more responsibility. It sounds crazy, doesn't it? After all, these achievers probably got a new full-time job because they wanted the money. However, they'll do better if they concentrate on their career, not their paycheck. Learn new skills, take on new responsibilities, climb the career ladder, and the money will take care of itself. Besides, today's managers want to hire and keep employees who are good at working in teams. People who are pleasant, flexible, and easy to get along with become a popular team member. Achievers may contribute their ideas, but must let other people know that they value listening to them and take them into consideration.

Adapted from Open Mind 3

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

- 51) Today's employers are seeking for \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) part-time employees
  - B) very qualified employees
  - C) workers able to work in teams
  - D) full-time workers with flexible schedules

DGEC



52) At a new job, a worker **should not** \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) change his or her long-term goals
- B) take on new responsibilities at work
- C) perform different tasks at the workplace
- D) focus on the salary but on better performance

53) At a job, it is important for employees to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) concentrate on their salary
- B) be afraid of others' opinions
- C) take on other people's responsibilities
- D) achieve both short and long-terms goals

54) Employees should \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) avoid job responsibilities
- B) keep just long-term goals
- C) contribute their own ideas in the workplace
- D) not get along with the rest of their co-workers

Read the text.

### HP HAS MOVED COSTA RICAN JOBS TO INDIA



Technology giant Hewlett Packard (HP) announced the restructuring of its Global Service Center in Costa Rica, which involves the transfer of most of its operations to HP facilities in Bangalore, India. The news will affect 400 employees, said the Human Resources manager, who added that 80 percent of the jobs will be moved to India "due to a restructuring plan announced by the new CEO Meg Whitman in May of last year." The process must be completed by the end of October, and most of the

employees will have the opportunity to opt for one of the 300 new positions the firm will open in the other 19 units HP runs from Costa Rica. Currently, the company is in the process of hiring 150 workers, mainly technicians and engineers, for the new Global Engineering Services unit they opened four months ago.

The Global Service Center, located in the province of Heredia, will continue providing Spanish and Portuguese technical service to external HP customers. According to HP coordinators, this is the only change in local operations planned for this year. HP is the largest PC (personal computer) manufacturer in the world and in Costa Rica. HP remains as the largest employer in the free zone sector with some 6,500 jobs.

Adapted from <http://www.ticotimes.net>

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

- 55) Some HP jobs will be moved because of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) the plant closing
  - B) huge competition
  - C) the new positions
  - D) a reorganization plan

DGEC

- 56) Hewlett Packard deals with \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) database administration
  - B) foreign language teaching
  - C) personal computer production
  - D) 500 employees from Costa Rica
- 57) Some HP workers will \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) receive training in India
  - B) be transferred to Heredia
  - C) leave the company in Bangalore
  - D) be offered positions in other units
- 58) Hewlett Packard will \_\_\_\_\_ in India.
- A) hire 150 workers
  - B) refuse national workers
  - C) need multilingual employees
  - D) operate by the end of October
- 59) According to the text, \_\_\_\_\_ in Heredia.
- A) HP opened 80 new services
  - B) 400 operators will be affected
  - C) HP operated with only Indian workers
  - D) HP changes could hire 19 employees

Read the text.

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE AWARDS HONOR NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Microbiologist Carlos Santamaría and biochemist Pablo Sobrado were awarded the Clodomiro Picado Twilight National Science and Technology Awards.

Santamaría studies the genetics of different types of leukemia (blood cancer) and was previously acknowledged in Spain for a doctoral thesis, in which he discovered which genes were more aggressive in acute myeloid leukemia, the most common type of blood cancer in adults and the second-most common in children. Santamaría is head of the Molecular Biology Laboratory at the National Children's Hospital in San José. He received a National Science Award for developing the best types of individual treatments for patients.

Pablo Sobrado, a biochemist and biologist, received the National Technology Award for his work on finding drug cures for tropical diseases such as tuberculosis, leishmaniasis, chagas' disease and lung infections from a fungus called aspergillus. Sobrado leads a lab at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg in the United States.

Adapted from the <http://www.ticotimes.net>

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

60) Pablo Sobrado's award was due to his \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) discovery of leishmaniasis disease
- B) invention of a vaccine for leukemia
- C) publications about the origin of diseases
- D) research on cures against tropical diseases

61) Carlos Santamaría and Pablo Sobrado \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) are both microbiologists in the country
- B) are working at a national technological institution
- C) were awarded for the same scientific achievements
- D) were given Costa Rica's science and technology awards

DGEC

- 62) Carlos Santamaría is the person in charge of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) a lab at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg
  - B) the biology laboratory at a national hospital in Spain
  - C) the Molecular Biology Laboratory at the National Children's Hospital
  - D) the Clodomiro Picado Twight National Science and Technology Awards



Read the text.

### KEEPING GRANDMA AT HOME

There is a saying that out of adversity an opportunity takes place. Just as an aging population is facing economic problems, it is also creating business opportunities for innovators. Clever businesses are designing products to meet the needs of the new, older demographics. For example, grandma is 90, a little fragile but still mentally sharp, and she may not want to lose her independence by moving in with her grandchildren or to a nursing home. So, commercial ventures are offering ways to help her stay in her own home for as long as possible. The GrandCare System, for example, uses strategically placed sensors to record motion in key spots in the older person's home. Then children can check the information from the system on their personal computer at any time, night and day, to ensure grandma is well and moving around the house.

Other innovative technologies to hit the market over recent years include remote-controlled lighting and floor sensors as well as equipment that integrate webcams and video conferencing systems with the Internet. Technologies are currently being developed to track whether seniors take their medicine and to help them cook. There is even a system of movement sensors being developed where the results are entered into a computer program that maps behavior patterns. The goal is to enable the elderly to live safely and independently at home for longer.



Adapted from Think in English

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

63) The GrandCare System is working on \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) technologies for supplying nursing homes
- B) developing technologies for helping seniors
- C) strategies to make seniors economically active
- D) studying new medicines for the aging populations

DGEC

- 64) The GrandCare System allows seniors to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) do daily activities normally
  - B) be mentally active and healthy
  - C) record their movements around the house
  - D) communicate with their relatives through webcams
- 65) Innovative businessmen are \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) making money from the older population
  - B) decreasing sales because of the aging people
  - C) worried about the increasing elderly population
  - D) concerned about the economic problems caused by elderly people
- 66) Currently, technologies help seniors \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) stay at their homes longer
  - B) move slowly outside home
  - C) live better at nursing homes
  - D) live for a shorter period of time

Read the text.

#### HEADPHONES STOP NOISE

Think of them as a mute button for the world around you. These headphones stop noise with the flick of a switch when people need to avoid the sound of an engine of an airplane, the noise of the city, the disturbance in an office or the sound of neighborhood yard work. People enjoy delicate musical programs in places where they couldn't before. And when people are not listening to music, they can use them to quietly enjoy a little peace reducing noise with Bose technology.

David Carnoy reported on CNET that the original noise-reducing headphones "set the gold standard". And according to respected columnist Rich Warren, the newest headphones "improve on perfection". "They electronically identify and reduce noise while fully preserving the music, movie, dialogue or tranquility that people desire." As Jonathan Takiff reported in the Philadelphia Daily News, "Even in the noisiest environment, using these phones creates a calming quiet zone for easy listening."

Enjoy music with the best sound quality headphones. After trying QuietComfort® 2 headphones, audio critic Wayne Thompson reports that "Bose engineers have made major improvements," and that the sound is so clear. CNET said "All sorts of music –classical, rock, and jazz– sounded refined and natural."



Adapted from the Internet

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

- 67) The first characteristic about the headphones is that they \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) avoid noise from outdoors
  - B) can't be used on airplanes
  - C) can't be used to listen to music
  - D) have a unique button to report the news

DGEC

68) According to columnist Rich Warren, the headphones \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) set the gold standard
- B) were originally reported on CNET
- C) reduced noise while preserving the music
- D) created a calming quiet zone for easy listening

69) Critic Thompson says that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) the sound is clear but it can be improved
- B) not all kinds of music sound great and natural
- C) Bose engineers have improved the quality of sound
- D) Bose engineers have to make major improvements in sound

Read the information in the box. Choose the appropriate alternative to complete the sentence below.

70)

kiss	white	right	eat
win	won	kite	
two	ate	them	eight

Two **homophones** from the previous box are \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) eat and two
- B) kiss and kite
- C) ate and eight
- D) right and white