

SELECTION

55 ITEMS

Read the conversation.

**SITUATION:** Raymond and Frank are talking about sports in Costa Rica.

**Raymond:** Have you ever practiced any extreme sports, Frank?

**Frank:** Yes, I have. The first time was in Monteverde. I went canopy.

**Raymond:** I'd like to practice whitewater rafting.

**Frank:** Last month, I went with some American friends, and they liked it very much.

**Raymond:** In fact, extreme sports are becoming popular among tourists from all over the world. They also come here to practice surfing, bungee jumping and windsurfing.

**Frank:** You're right. And do you practice any traditional sports?

**Raymond:** Yes, I do. I play soccer on the weekends. What about you?

**Frank:** I am on the university basketball team.

**Raymond:** That traditional sport isn't very common in Costa Rica.

**Frank:** Not really, soccer is still the king.

**Raymond:** Yes, everybody loves it.



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

1) Frank first experienced \_\_\_\_\_ as an extreme sport.

- A) surfing
- B) canopying
- C) bungee jumping
- D) whitewater rafting

- 2) In Costa Rica, extreme sports are gaining popularity among \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) the locals
  - B) university students
  - C) American tourists exclusively
  - D) tourists from around the world
- 3) Based on the conversation, two traditional sports are \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) soccer and basketball
  - B) windsurfing and surfing
  - C) whitewater rafting and soccer
  - D) basketball and bungee jumping
- 4) In Costa Rica, basketball is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) less popular than soccer
  - B) more popular than soccer
  - C) a very popular extreme sport
  - D) the most important traditional sport

Read the text.

### WATER SPORTS IN COSTA RICA

Costa Rica has a variety of water sports. Some of them are practiced especially during the summer when the weather is warm. For example, people can practice whitewater rafting on wild and scenic rivers. Also, surfing is popular in the country. People can enjoy the tropical waters and rivers located throughout the Pacific or Caribbean sides.

Besides, windsurfing is popular. In fact, champions have called Costa Rica's Lake Arenal, one of the world's top wind surfing spots. Also, people can go fishing along the Pacific Coast, from the Gulf of Papagayo to Golfito. And undoubtedly, Costa Rica has an incredible variety of underwater species to view for those who want to go scuba diving or snorkeling.



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

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

- 5) Where is whitewater rafting practiced?
- A) On wild rivers
  - B) At Lake Arenal
  - C) Along the coasts
  - D) In the Gulf of Papagayo

6) What sport do people practice to see marine species?

- A) Fishing
- B) Windsurfing
- C) Scuba diving
- D) Whitewater rafting

7) What sport can people practice on Lake Arenal?

- A) Surfing
- B) Fishing
- C) Windsurfing
- D) Scuba diving

8) Why are some sports practiced during the summer? Because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) sea life is abundant
- B) the weather is warm
- C) Costa Rica has long coasts
- D) there are fewer marine species

Read the text.

### A POP ICON



Britney Spears is an American singer. She first appeared on television in 1992 as a contestant at a Star Search competition in the United States. The next step was her appearance on Disney Channel's television series "The All New Mickey Mouse Club" between 1993 and 1994. Then, she released her debut album called "Baby One More Time" in 1999. The album had an outstanding success and debuted as number one worldwide. Her second success came in 2000 with her album called "Oops!... I Did It Again", which established her as a pop icon, touring the United States and Europe. After this, she assumed creative control of her next studio album, "In the Zone" which was released in 2003. Again, this album was very popular. Four years later, she came back with her studio album named "Blackout". It was closely followed by her album called "Circus" which was released one year later. Unquestionably, she is a very outstanding artist and she is still very active.

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

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

- 9) Britney first appeared on television \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) on the Disney Channel
  - B) as a professional singer
  - C) after releasing her first album
  - D) as a contestant on an American TV show

10) In 2000, Britney Spears \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) released her last album
- B) released her first album
- C) toured Europe and the United States
- D) appeared on television for the first time

11) After the album "Blackout", Britney Spears \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) toured the United States
- B) recorded some TV shows
- C) took a break in her career
- D) released her album called "Circus"

12) Britney's first album was called \_\_\_\_\_.

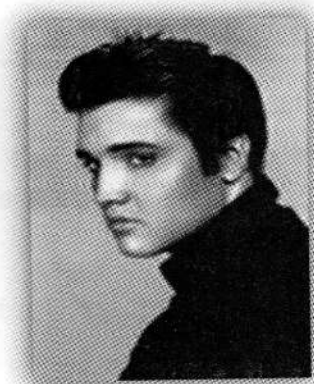
- A) "Circus"
- B) "Blackout"
- C) "I Did It Again"
- D) "Baby One More Time"

Read the text.

**ELVIS PRESLEY**

Elvis Presley was born in the USA in 1935 and died in 1977. He was a famous rock-and-roll singer and musician. It was the fifties, and a super rock star was on the rise. Elvis played strong and heavy rock and roll, and his music was hard. Rock concerts were becoming important. He sang and played for the crowds. When he danced, his movements made girls scream. Elvis became a very rich artist. He died, but his music is still present all over the world.

Adapted from Think in English



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

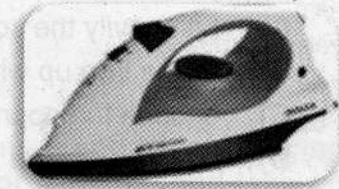
- 13) Elvis' career began \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) in 1935
  - B) in 1977
  - C) in the 50s
  - D) before the 50s
- 14) According to the text, Elvis' music was \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) soft
  - B) slow
  - C) rough
  - D) boring
- 15) Elvis became \_\_\_\_\_ musician.
- A) a poor
  - B) an ignored
  - C) an irrelevant
  - D) a well-known
- 16) Nowadays, Elvis' music is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) hated by everybody
  - B) present only in the USA
  - C) heard only by rich rockers
  - D) still present in many countries

Read the information.

### USING A STEAM IRON

Operating a steam iron is not difficult or as risky as other appliances, just follow these instructions:

- First, fill the iron with water up to the mark on the water window.
- Second, plug the cord into a standard electrical outlet.
- Then, move the temperature selector to a desired setting on the steam dial.
- After that, preheat the iron before using it from one to two minutes. If steam does not start coming out when the steam button is up, gently hit the soleplate.
- Finally, start ironing.



Adapted from Have Fun 3

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

- 17) Using a steam iron is \_\_\_\_\_ task.
- A) a risky
  - B) an easy
  - C) a difficult
  - D) a complicating



18) It is necessary to \_\_\_\_\_ before choosing the proper temperature.

- A) start ironing
- B) plug in the cord
- C) preheat the iron
- D) hit softly the soleplate

19) The third step is to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) hit heavily the soleplate
- B) fill the iron up with water
- C) choose the appropriate temperature
- D) let the iron heat up for at least one minute

20) In case steam **doesn't** appear, it is advisable to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) preheat the iron
- B) disconnect the iron
- C) hit softly the soleplate
- D) hit roughly the soleplate

21) After selecting the desired temperature, the next step is to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) preheat the iron
- B) plug in the cord
- C) hit roughly the soleplate
- D) fill the iron up with water

Read the conversation.

**SITUATION:** Clara is asking some questions to her friend Doris about her new hand mixer.

**Clara:** You have a hand mixer, right?

**Doris:** Yes, I do. It is really useful.

**Clara:** Can you show me how to use my new hand mixer?

**Doris:** Sure. First, never put it in water because you can injure yourself or damage the appliance.

**Clara:** This is really important to know.

**Doris:** Unplug it from the outlet if you aren't using it and before placing or taking off any parts. Also, turn it off for cleaning and take off the beaters before cleaning them.

**Clara:** Great! Thank you so much.

**Doris:** You're welcome.



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

22) It is recommended **not** to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) take off the beaters
- B) clean the hand mixer
- C) put the hand mixer in water
- D) unplug the machine from an outlet

23) When cleaning the hand mixer, it is advisable to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) plug it in
- B) turn it on
- C) turn it off
- D) put it in water

Read the text.

### PUBLIC BUS SERVICE

Costa Rica's efficient bus system provides the most inexpensive and popular method of travel around the country. Recently, several transportation companies have acquired more modern, air conditioned buses to use on long trips. However, most of the bus services in downtown San José rely on older and more conventional buses. For the most accurate bus information, tourists can visit the "Instituto Costarricense de Turismo" (ICT) office, where detailed bus schedules and maps are available.

In San José, all buses depart either from terminals or from sidewalks. Depending on the destination and time of travel, it is recommended to buy the tickets in advance. The most popular destinations have hourly departures. The newer, more modern buses have storage space along with compartments overhead, but older buses provide little, if any, storage space for belongings. Generally, the bus system is quite organized and runs close to schedule.



Adapted from the Internet

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

24) Travelling around Costa Rica by bus is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) cheap
- B) unpopular
- C) expensive
- D) uncomfortable

25) Tourists can visit the ICT office to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) buy bus tickets
- B) take different bus routes
- C) get information about bus schedules
- D) look for storage space for their belongings

26) In San José, people can take different bus routes \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) from the ICT office
- B) at bus stations only
- C) from a central bus station
- D) either at terminals or on sidewalks

27) In downtown San José, most of the buses are \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) pricey and modern
- B) old and conventional
- C) comfortable and cheap
- D) modern and inexpensive

28) Costa Rica's public transport system is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) unreliable
- B) expensive
- C) competent
- D) disorganized

Read the text.

### A WAY TO KNOW COSTA RICA

Travelling by car is really cheap. In fact, most tourists who visit Costa Rica prefer renting a car rather than travelling by bus. Exploring the country by car allows them total freedom. Also, they can cover a lot of places without the timely interruption of buses, and they can stop anywhere they want. The exception is downtown San José where driving could be a disaster. Besides that, highways join major towns in the *Meseta Central* where roads are well marked. So, all popular destinations around the country can be reached by car. Outside of the *Meseta*, however, roads generally are deteriorated.

Adapted from Costa Rica Handbook

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

- 29) What do most tourists prefer to do in Costa Rica?
- A) Driving on deteriorated roads.
  - B) Renting a car to explore the country.
  - C) Visiting places in the country by bus.
  - D) Reaching popular places just in the *Meseta Central*.
- 30) What is an advantage of travelling by car?
- A) It's pricey.
  - B) It's cheap.
  - C) Tourists can't rent it.
  - D) People can't go anywhere.
- 31) What are the roads outside of the *Meseta Central* like? They \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) have highways
  - B) have many lines
  - C) are in bad condition
  - D) are in excellent condition

Read the text.

### INTERNET SHOPPING

Amazon was one of the first websites to sell products on the Internet. Jeff Bezos started the company. He thought, "the World Wide Web is growing twenty times a year, and it's going to continue growing. People are going to shop online". For example, at the website, people can search for books about any subject, order them by credit card, and get them in the mail in two days within the USA. Within a few years, the company had 10 million customers and 18 million items such as books, CDs, toys, electronics, DVDs, home improvement products, software and video games. Today, people can buy almost everything at a virtual shopping mall, that is, a group of stores from all over the world on the same webpage. So, it functions like a group of stores all in one place.



Adapted from Interaction Access

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

- 32) Jeff Bezos began \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) the World Wide Web
  - B) the website called Amazon
  - C) offering online products in stores
  - D) manufacturing home improvement products

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33) Mr. Bezos introduced the concept of \_\_\_\_\_ online.

- A) getting money
- B) selling products
- C) using credit cards
- D) buying credit cards

34) At Amazon, customers can \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) order different items
- B) create sites to shop online
- C) ask how a video game works
- D) get information about credit cards

35) A virtual shopping mall is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) a store that doesn't ask for a credit card
- B) a store with items from all over the world
- C) the function of the stores all over the world
- D) many stores located on the same webpage

Read the text.

### TECHNOLOGY SERVING DISABLED PEOPLE

Most of the time people can express their ideas by talking or writing in the traditional way, but not everybody can do that, and this is the case of people with disabilities.

Nowadays, all these people can count on SICLA which is a computer system that includes a dictionary with symbols where a user can design a special meaning for each symbol. The user needs the guide of a "tutor" to learn how to use it. A user also needs a PC, Windows Operative System (WOS) and the Internet. It doesn't use a common keyboard because SICLA has an integrated component with a similar human voice. It also includes a virtual keyboard. When the user utilizes this virtual keyboard, the message appears on the screen and the component translates the message of the symbols into any language.



Adapted from [www.mouse.cl](http://www.mouse.cl)

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

- 36) SICLA is a new technology exclusively designed for \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) people to use on the Internet
  - B) people who communicate only with a common keyboard
  - C) disabled people to communicate with the use of a computer
  - D) all kinds of people to add an integrated component to their computer



37) To operate SICLA, users need to have \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) a common keyboard
- B) just a virtual keyboard
- C) WOS, the Internet and a PC
- D) just the Internet, Windows and a mouse

38) The use of the voice component is to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) count the keyboards
- B) work as a personal tutor
- C) do the functions of a mouse
- D) do the functions of a keyboard

39) The virtual keyboard allows the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) message to appear on the screen
- B) user to utilize different screen sizes
- C) tutor to write the symbols in the computer dictionary
- D) user to design a special number for each symbol of the dictionary

Read the text.

### COSTA RICA'S BIODIVERSITY

The tropical zone of the Americas, called the Neotropic ecozone where Costa Rica is located, contains a great diversity of species and ecosystems, as well as a broad range of interactions, compared to other tropical regions of the world. Obviously, this diversity is also much greater than that of temperate and cold regions.

With a land area of only 51.100 km<sup>2</sup> and 589.000 km<sup>2</sup> of territorial waters, Costa Rica is considered to be one of the 20 countries with the greatest biodiversity in the world. The more than 500.000 species that are found in this small country represent nearly 4% of the total species estimated worldwide. The institution in charge of administering Costa Rica's biodiversity is the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE).



*Adapted from the Internet.*

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

- 40) MINAE is in charge of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) studying Costa Rica's nature
  - B) managing Costa Rica's biodiversity
  - C) preserving just Costa Rican territorial waters
  - D) protecting the Neotropic ecozone of the Americas

41) The Neotropic ecozone is characterized for having \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) temperate and cold weather
- B) large extensions of territorial water
- C) a few number of animals and plants
- D) a large diversity of species and ecosystems

42) Based on the text, Costa Rica has \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) a high number of species
- B) temperate and cold regions
- C) around 4% of the total species in the Americas
- D) as many species as those found in cold regions

43) The Neotropic ecozone is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) located in cold regions
- B) located in 20 countries around the world
- C) considered to be a region with a few species
- D) more diverse than other tropical zones in the world

Read the text.

### TURTLE PROJECT IN COSTA RICA

Volunteers will work and be highly involved in the protection of turtles along the Costa Rican Pacific and Caribbean coasts. Opportunities are available working with the *Baula* and Olive Ridley turtles. The *Baula* turtle is the largest marine turtle in the world, and the Olive Ridley is the smallest of its species. Both populations are in sharp decline due to the over-harvesting of eggs, beach development, fishing, pollution and poaching. The work involves close contact with the turtles, and it is done under the supervision of a biologist. However, volunteers are not required to have a background in biology. Volunteers will be required to work at night when turtles lay their eggs and also be available to work during the day. Activities include beach patrolling, clearing the beach of obstacles, preparing nests, handling eggs, releasing baby turtles, and counting eggs.



Adapted from the Internet.

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

- 44) Volunteers will help preserve \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) only the *Baula* turtle
  - B) the beaches of the country
  - C) two different kinds of turtles
  - D) the Costa Rican Caribbean coast

45) The marine turtle population is declining due to the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) lack of supervision of biologists
- B) correct management of beaches
- C) different turtle protection programs
- D) over-harvesting of eggs and poaching

46) Volunteers **don't** need to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) work at night
- B) patrol the beaches
- C) work directly with the turtles
- D) have knowledge about biology

47) The Olive Ridley turtle is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) abundant along the Pacific
- B) smaller than the *Baula* turtle
- C) already extinct in the country
- D) the biggest marine turtle in the world

Read the text.

### PESTICIDES

Pesticides that are applied to farm fields, roadsides and homeowners' lawns run off into local streams and rivers or drain down into groundwater, contaminating the fresh water where fish swim and the water that humans drink. It's tempting to think that this is mostly a farming problem, but on small fields, homeowners apply even more chemicals to their lawns than farmers do to their fields. Yet, farming is still the biggest contributor to this problem. For example, in the Midwestern United States, a region that is highly dependent on groundwater, water utilities spend \$400 million each year to treat water for just one chemical, the pesticide Atrazine.



Adapted from the Internet

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

- 48) The pesticides used in agriculture \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) pollute only the farm fields
  - B) end up in rivers and streams
  - C) are harmless to the environment
  - D) are a minor problem in the United States

49) It is believed that pesticides are \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) harmless to nature
- B) mainly a farming problem
- C) the main source of pollution
- D) mistreated in the United States

50) People mainly depend on \_\_\_\_\_ in the Midwestern United States.

- A) rivers
- B) streams
- C) groundwater
- D) farming fields

51) Atrazine is a kind of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) pollutant
- B) local stream
- C) farming technique
- D) technique to purify water

Read the text.

### SOMETHING TO WORRY ABOUT

The United Nations (UN) has recently said that carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions of greenhouse gases sent in the atmosphere have recorded high levels. Based on a study led by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), carbon dioxide levels between 2012 and 2013 marked the largest yearly increase since reliable global records began 30 years ago. In a statement accompanying the report, WMO chief Michel Jarraud warned that “past, present and future carbon dioxide emissions will have a cumulative impact on global warming and ocean acidification”. Many scientists believe that increased greenhouse gases are responsible for global warming. Mr. Jarraud has said there is no doubt that global temperatures are rising.



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

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

- 52) Who was in charge of the study?
- A) Michel Jarraud
  - B) The United Nations
  - C) A group of scientists from the UN
  - D) The World Meteorological Organization



53) What did the study reveal?

- A) The future effects of global warming.
- B) Recent studies have been unreliable.
- C) CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reached record levels.
- D) The increased level of acidification in oceans.

54) What is Mr. Jarraud sure about?

- A) Temperatures will keep on rising.
- B) CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are easy to control.
- C) Recent global warming studies are unreliable.
- D) There is no link between CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and global warming.

55) What do numerous scientists believe?

- A) CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are harmless.
- B) Global warming is under control.
- C) Global temperatures are decreasing.
- D) Greenhouse gases cause global warming.