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English ab initio – Standard level – Paper 2 – Reading comprehension
Anglais ab initio – Niveau moyen – Épreuve 2 – Compréhension écrite
Inglés ab initio – Nivel Medio – Prueba 2 – Comprensión de lectura

9 May 2024 / 9 mai 2024 / 9 de mayo de 2024

Zone A afternoon	Zone B afternoon	Zone C afternoon
Zone A après-midi	Zone B après-midi	Zone C après-midi
Zona A tarde	Zona B tarde	Zona C tarde

1 h

Text booklet – Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this booklet until instructed to do so.
- This booklet accompanies paper 2 reading comprehension.

Livret de textes – Instructions destinées aux candidats

- N'ouvrez pas ce livret avant d'y être autorisé(e).
- Ce livret accompagne la partie de l'épreuve 2 portant sur la compréhension écrite.

Cuadernillo de textos – Instrucciones para los alumnos

- No abra este cuadernillo hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Este cuadernillo acompaña a la parte de comprensión de lectura de la prueba 2.

Text A

This year’s best inventions

Here we are with our list of the year’s best inventions. To choose the best new inventions of the year, we look at all types—technology, beauty, environment, health care, food, home and entertainment. We look for inventions that solve problems and make our daily life less complicated.

5

Air Remote Charger: [– 7 –]

Do you find it difficult to charge your mobile phones using cables? Well, not anymore! This is the first ever device with air charge technology. Just place the Air Remote Charger anywhere in your home and charge your phones easily without plugging them in. This wireless charger can charge multiple phones at the same time.

10

Smart Tire: [– 8 –]

Flat bicycle tires are a problem. But now this company has invented a bicycle tire that never goes flat. Smart Tires are made of an eco-friendly material using rubber and titanium. They are airless, so the tires will always keep their shape and will never go flat. They also last forever, which means you spend less money in the long term.

15

Hero Backpack: [– 9 –]

Do you sometimes misplace your backpack? Then get yourself a new Hero Backpack. This has a built-in location tracking system that allows you to find your bag with the help of your phone. Your phone uses the “Find My” app to find your backpack. Additionally, each bag is made from 26 recycled plastic bottles making it an environmentally friendly choice.

20



Text B

Removed for copyright reasons

Text C

Learning to read at 104!

For almost a century, Kuttியമ്മ's daily routine was much the same. Getting up early at home in the village of Thiruvanchoor in Kerala, the 104-year-old began her day's work of cooking and cleaning, and feeding the cows and chickens.

Non-essential
image removed

- 5 But now, every morning, there's something new to get up for. She eagerly waits for the paper boy to deliver the local newspaper to her home.

For two hours, she reads the news and gets to know what's happening in the world. But it is only in recent months that she could achieve her dream to do this. In April last year, Kuttിയമ്മ finally began to learn to read.

- 10 "I was always curious about news around the world," she said. "Many times I regretted I could not read the newspaper. I depended on the younger generations at home to read out newspapers to me."

- 15 It was Kuttിയമ്മ's neighbour Rehana John, a 34-year-old literacy teacher, who persuaded her to start to learn to read. Rehana noticed Kuttിയമ്മ's curiosity about her grandchildren's schoolwork and gave her some books. Previously, Rehana's oldest student had been 85.

"Except for some vision and hearing problems, Kuttിയമ്മ was a perfect and sometimes naughty student. She made me feel my teaching work was a good thing," said Rehana. "She always has her textbook, notebooks and pens ready before I reach her home."

- 20 Rehana said, "She is like my mother now. We share a very close friendship." Rehana said Kuttിയമ്മ still asks for lessons every day and, at the same time, refuses to let any other family members take over the household chores or the cooking. "Her courage and commitment are exceptional," she said.

After months of evening classes, Kuttിയമ്മ took the Kerala state primary literacy exam last month, the oldest woman to do so. She achieved 89% in literacy and 100% in mathematics.

- 25 Kuttിയമ്മ now wants to take the fourth standard examination, which students normally pass at the age of nine. This time the subjects are Malayalam, English, environment and mathematics. "I don't think English is too difficult," said Kuttിയമ്മ. "I will try to achieve 100% marks in all papers."
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References/Références/Referencias:

Text A: Supatman, n.d. *On the hand of a women with icon a light bulb And there is a gear icon on it. Bright light bulb is idea innovation creativity inspiration brainstorming and imagination. Technology education intellectual symbol future invention strategy energy light brain. – stock photo.* [image online] Available at: <https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/detail/photo/on-the-hand-of-a-women-with-icon-a-light-bulb-and-royalty-free-image/1426612500?adppopup=true> [Accessed 12 October 2023].

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