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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

5 November 2024 / 5 novembre 2024 / 5 de noviembre 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

American Teens Talk! An interview with Hannah, 18

- 1** So Hannah, what have you been doing this week?
- 2** Well, Sunday I went to church. I called my friend Shelby first. I was going to go by myself, but she said her parents had left for church without her, so we went together. After church, we went to the store and got food and ate outside in the park, and that was really beautiful. I went to school all week. At the weekend I went to work at the retirement community. I did this on both days, as usual.
- 3** Maybe you should explain what a retirement community is.
- 4** OK. It's like a big neighborhood for people over 70 years old. It costs a lot of money to live there, but it's a nice place to stay, and it has an assisted living section for people who need nurses' medical care. It's really fun, but it's hard work too. I work in the dining room. I really enjoy working with elderly people. Some of them are my friends. Not all the time, but sometimes you can tell you make them happy just by being there.
- 5** What else have you been doing?
- 6** I started athletics last week. The track season started two months ago, but one girl got hurt, so the coach asked if I would run. Everyone else was in shape, so I was running and inside going "Uh ow!". And then I went to my second job to waitress at a Japanese restaurant. It was really busy, I also have to clean and clear the tables. A friend met me and we walked to her house for a birthday party after work. We ate way too much ice cream and stayed up way too late. I had to get up early the next morning and go to school to help with gardening for community service.
- 7** At my school, a certain number of hours of community service are required each year, so I choose things I like. I had a really good time, as much fun as you can have weeding and mowing and potting flowers. I hurt my back because I had to go between the cracks of the bricks in the sidewalk and clean out moss. It was kind of hard. I went home, took a nap, and then I went to work again at the Japanese place.



Text B

Food celebration

Join us at our local food celebration!

Dear members of the local government,

We are excited to invite you to a special event—our Community Gardening Group’s Food Celebration!

- 5 Our Community Gardening Group has been active since last year. We work in the garden behind the community centre, and we aim to teach people in our community about the fun of growing their own food.



- 10 We help people learn how to grow fruit and vegetables. This summer we grew potatoes, beans, and tomatoes. We also teach people about eating and cooking more healthily.

We help protect the environment because the food we grow does not travel far from our garden to our plates. This means there is less transport pollution because vehicles such as large lorries are not used.

- 15 This project is for people of all ages and abilities. It can help people to make new friends, build confidence and it teaches team-building skills.

At this event you will see the results of our work and taste the food we grow in delicious home-made dishes. Your support means a lot to us, and we hope you can find some time to join us at the celebration.

Event details:

- 20
- Date: 10th September
 - Time: 10:00am
 - Venue: Community centre

Please wear suitable clothes and comfortable shoes for both indoor and outdoor activities.

This event is accessible to everyone of all ages. There is good wheelchair access.

- 25 Please tell us how many local government members will attend.

We look forward to seeing you at our local food celebration!

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Kind regards,

- 30
- Rehana Zafar
Project Leader
Community Gardening Group
Community Centre
Email: RZafar@one2seven.org
Telephone: 0800 287 346

Text C

Valentine's Day in America

- 1** Americans of all ages love to send and receive communication from loved ones on Valentine's Day. Valentines are often heart-shaped, or have drawings of hearts or Cupid*, the symbols of love, on them. In some schools, children bring or make valentines for their classmates and put them in a large, decorated box, similar to a mailbox. On February 14, the teacher opens the box and distributes the valentines to each student. After the students read their valentines, they have a small party with refreshments. Handmade valentines, often created by cutting hearts out of colored paper and decorating them with lace, ribbon, or other material, show that a lot of thought was put into making them personal.



- 2** People often write a short rhyme inside a homemade valentine, such as:
- 3** *Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Sugar is sweet,
And so are you!*
- 4** For people of all ages, newspapers throughout the country have a Valentine's Day offer. Anyone can send in a message destined for a would-be sweetheart, a good friend, a son or daughter, a parent, an acquaintance, or even a spouse of fifty years. For a small fee, the message is printed in a special section of the newspaper on February 14. Even if no one writes one for you, these messages are entertaining and heart-warming to read. They often include pet names such as "sugar lump", "teddy bear", "sweetie pie", or "honey". People sometimes abbreviate words such as writing "4-ever" for "forever".

* Cupid: a boy with wings symbolizing love

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