

LISTENING

You will listen to an interview with Shannon Grace, a journalist. As you listen, choose the correct answer. You will hear the interview twice with a fifteen-second interval. Now, you have one minute to read the questions before listening. (5 pts. each; 30 pts.)

1. Which is **NOT TRUE** about Shannon's journalism career?
 - a. She was a member of a press club at university.
 - b. She got a job at *Newsday* with the help of a friend.
 - c. She spent some of her career in New York City.
 - d. She worked in *Newsweek* and then in the *New York Herald Tribune*.

2. Shannon thinks she was lucky because _____.
 - a. other journalists were not very good
 - b. she didn't have difficulty finding new jobs
 - c. she never had a job with poor working conditions
 - d. journalism is not a risky business

3. After receiving a Jefferson Fellowship, Shannon _____.
 - a. travelled to Southeast Asia
 - b. started an education centre
 - c. had to quit her job as a reporter
 - d. started teaching at a university

4. What does Shannon say about formal journalism education?
 - a. It is not a good idea to attend a journalism school.
 - b. Most of the reporters don't have formal education.
 - c. You shouldn't take journalism courses after university.
 - d. You don't need to learn journalism by writing a college paper.

5. Shannon thinks that working for a prestigious organization _____.
 - a. is not necessary
 - b. does not require concentration
 - c. means being successful
 - d. is a very easy job

6. The interview is about _____.
 - a. Shannon's plans for her future career
 - b. difficulties journalists have
 - c. Shannon's ideas about journalism
 - d. difficulties Shannon had as a student

READING

Read the text and choose the correct answer. (5 pts. each; 30 pts.)

1 Today, stories are an important part of our societies and culture. Movies, books, music, news media, religions, architecture, and paintings all have their own stories. Storytelling affects our lives in many ways because it has a big influence on our values, dreams, beliefs and so on. But how did it all begin?

2 The history of storytelling is very old. Traditionally, people have passed down stories from generation to generation, but nobody knows when they actually told the first story. Did it happen in a dark cave? Did a hunter tell the first story? Well, we may never know. But many experts believe that people started to tell stories to find an excuse for failure. Ancient people also used stories to calm the fears of family members. As different families came together and formed groups, the storytellers began to reach a position of power. Their stories reflected their values and knowledge, so people found these stories interesting and began to listen to them. The priests, the judges, and the rulers were the first people who used this art effectively to be stronger and to get what they want.

3 Before man learned to write, he had to rely on his memory to learn something new. For this reason, he had to be a good listener. Because of the importance of storytelling, people always respected a good storyteller. He could easily find audiences ready to learn every exciting bit of information in his stories. People shared these stories with others in faraway lands when they traveled, so the stories traveled with them. And when **they** returned home, they brought exciting new tales of exotic places with them.

4 The oldest surviving story in human history is the epic of Gilgamesh, which tells the story of a famous Sumerian king. You can find the earliest written record of storytelling on the Westcar Papyrus of the Egyptians. The writings on the papyrus showed that the sons of Cheops, the pyramid builder, entertained their father with stories. A British traveler brought the papyrus from Egypt to England and the Berlin Museum bought it several years later.

5 The history of storytelling shows that ancient stories came in a wide variety of forms including myths, legends, fairy tales, and fables. People used some of these stories to explain important but often confusing events and disasters in nature during those early times. For example, people tried to explain fire, storms, thunder, and floods with the help of these early stories. It was also common for people to believe in the stories of gods. These stories motivated people to do good things. In fact, most historians and psychologists believe that storytelling is one of the few things that still have a great power to unite people.

1. Which is **NOT TRUE** about storytelling according to paragraph 2?
 - a. People began to tell stories a very long time ago.
 - b. Experts believe hunters told the first story in history.
 - c. Stories helped people to overcome certain feelings.
 - d. People from different social status told stories.

2. Ancient rulers and priests _____.
 - a. tried to help people with fears
 - b. knew when people told the first story
 - c. liked listening to interesting stories
 - d. used storytelling to become powerful

3. What does “**they**” refer to in paragraph 3?
 - a. lands
 - b. stories
 - c. people
 - d. places

4. The epic of Gilgamesh _____.
 - a. explains how people built the pyramids
 - b. was brought to England by an Egyptian
 - c. is the earliest written record of storytelling
 - d. is older than the Westcar Papyrus

5. According to paragraph 5, most psychologists think that stories _____.
 - a. can be quite confusing for people
 - b. do not help people to display good behaviours
 - c. should not be about natural disasters
 - d. are powerful factors to bring people together

6. The **MAIN** goal of the reading is to _____.
 - a. present the history of storytelling
 - b. compare different kinds of stories
 - c. explain why some stories are better
 - d. describe the characteristics of a story

WRITING

Choose one of the topics below and write a well-organized paragraph of 150-180 words on the topic. (40 pts.)

- Describe your dream job.

OR

- Describe your favourite hero from a movie.