

Year 2023

Otsuma Nakano Junior High School

Entrance Exam

December 22, 2022

English

Attention:

1. This test has two reading tasks and one essay writing task.
2. Write your name and your application ID number on the booklet and your answer sheet.
3. The test duration time is 40 minutes.
4. Write your answers on your answer sheet.
5. The full score scale of this test is 60 points.

Application ID. No.		Name in Kanji	
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1-A. Reading

Instructions: Read each passage carefully. Answer each question by choosing the correct letter.

Italy

Do you plan to visit Italy someday? If so, it's a good idea to know about the country and its people. Italy has two very different areas. The business centers and large cities of the North hum with noise. The South, on the other hand, enjoys the sleepy charm of the country. People of the North like the bustle of city life. They enjoy all the things a city has to offer. Those from the South like a slower pace. They like their rural surroundings. One thing all Italians have in common is their zest for life.

The climate of Italy is like that of California. It is sunny and warm all year in the South. Except in the mountains, summers are warm all over the country. Winter brings snow, sleet, cold rain, and fog to the North. Central Italy is mild in winter.

Many Italians are happiest when in groups. Wherever they gather, you are likely to hear fine singing and happy laughter.

A building boom is going on in the cities of Italy. Steel and glass sky-scrapers tower over ancient ruins. Italy throbs with life and color. Talk on the street corners is lively. The background music coming from open windows could be classical or the latest hit tune. Donkeys and street peddlers sometimes add to the color and noise.

The city streets are busy. Here you will see well-dressed people. These people are going to work in new office buildings. The street traffic includes different kinds of cars. You can even spot some motor scooters and bicycles.

Italians also like food. They are good cooks. Each city and region has its own specialties. Bologna, for instance, is known for its sausages. Olive oil, garlic, and tomatoes are used more freely in cooking in the South than in the North. Some Northerners use butter instead of olive oil. You will see rice on their plates instead of pasta.

An Italian dinner begins with appetizers and ends many courses later with a fine desert. In the course of a dinner, you can sample some of Italy's fine cheeses. There are many to choose from. There are also many fine wines, and they are reasonably priced.

You may never visit Italy. Still, it's nice to read about its lively and colorful personality. Maybe someday you will be lucky enough to see part of this wonderful land.

Choose the correct answer to the questions. (Each question is worth 3 points.)

1. The business areas of Italy are found in the
 - a. East.
 - b. North.
 - c. South.

2. Italians who live in the city enjoy
 - a. a faster pace.
 - b. a slower pace
 - c. better food.

3. The climate of Italy is like that of
 - a. California.
 - b. Mississippi.
 - c. New York.

4. The taste preferences of food for Northern and Southern Italy are
 - a. exactly the same.
 - b. quite similar.
 - c. very different.

5. To most Italians, dinner should be
 - a. long and luscious.
 - b. short and sweet.
 - c. simple and serious.

1-B. Reading

Instructions: Read each passage carefully. Answer each question by choosing the correct letter.

America's Garbage Problem

What happens to all the solid waste produced in the United States? Well, some of it is thrown away. It litters streets, roadways, the countryside, and waterways. Some of it is burned in open air. Still some trash is left to sit in the open at garbage dumps. These dumps smell, look bad, and attract rats and insects. Some of the trash is buried. Valuable materials that might have been reused are thus lost. Some of the buried waste can be harmful. It leaks deadly chemicals which poison the land and the water.

Waste is everywhere. Each year we throw away more than 7 million television sets. We junk 7 million old cars and trucks. We use and discard 48 billion cans and 26 billion bottles. We toss out 30 million tons of paper. Waste disposal costs us four and a half billion dollars a year. Something has to be done with all the trash and garbage. Even though we are not sure of the best way to get rid of trash, we must make an effort.

Open garbage dumps are the most common places we put our solid wastes. Therefore, it's a good place to start. These dumps can be made better by turning them into clean landfills. In such a landfill, a layer of soil is applied daily over the waste. This helps to keep pests away and cuts down on the water pollutants that wash off in the rain. A landfill does away with the need to burn the waste, and this prevents wind-blown litter. When filled, the site can be planted with grass, shrubs, and trees and made into a park.

But ordinary sanitary landfills may not stop waste matter from seeping through the soil and ruining water supplies. Dangerous waste matter needs landfills that are sealed in a special way to stop seepage. In the past, harmful waste was burned. It was also dumped into waterways. But then pollution controls went into effect. More of these wastes show up in landfills. The yearly amount of harmful waste is on the rise. Our health is threatened by the unsafe waste from these landfills.

There are good ways to get rid of the most dangerous waste without harming health or the ecology. But costs of such disposal are high. Federal and state governments are working with business firms and citizens to solve these cost and waste problems.

Choose the correct answer to each question. (Each question is worth 3 points.)

1. In general, this passage is about
 - a. dealing with waste that foreign businesses produce and better ways to do it.
 - b. dealing with how the US disposes of garbage and better ways to do it.
 - c. dealing with water contamination in the US linked to petroleum pollution.

2. According to this passage, waste is
 - a. all over.
 - b. isolated to certain regions in the US.
 - c. only buried underground.

3. According to this article, trash disposal costs
 - a. 7 million dollars.
 - b. 26 billion dollars.
 - c. 4.5 billion dollars.

4. Buried waste is harmful because it
 - a. is dumped into rivers.
 - b. contaminates the land and air.
 - c. produces wind-blown litter that is harmful to animals.

5. A clean landfill takes the place of
 - a. a beautiful park.
 - b. an open garbage dump.
 - c. an unpolluted waterway.

2. Writing

The purpose of this essay is to test your ability to write in English.

Instructions: Answer the following question in English (100-150 words):

What is your perspective on the climate of the earth and how it's changing?

Present your ideas clearly and logically, with an introduction, main body, and conclusion, and give at least 2 reasons to support your answer.

You may use the space below to plan your essay.