

Documento

Reading I

Passage 1: A mishap

Danny and his wife, Mary, attended a party in which they met the same people they had met

two weeks ago. He didn't want to go but Mary convinced him. In the middle of the party. He

bumped into Mrs. Medina, he apologized to her again for what had happened at the previous

party. She didn't react badly, she calmed him down by saying that it had been only a mishap: as

a matter of fact, she remembered it as funny moment.

That terrible day. Mrs Medina tripped over the waiter that caused some plates fall onto a

minister. It was Danny's fault since he pushed her accidentally while dancing.

Mary smiled calmly at the good attitude Mrs. Medina. Danny smiled in relief as well. The three

ended up talking all night long, exchanging anecdotes about formal parties.

1. According to the text _____.

- a) Danny met Mrs. while telling stories
- b) Mrs. Medina met Danny a couple of weeks ago.
- c) Mrs. Medina met Danny a couple of years ago.
- d) Danny met Mrs. Medina while dancing

2. According to the text, which of the following statement is true _____.

- a) It was an unlucky incident when they met.
- b) She has always wanted to meet him.
- c) He has interest in telling some anecdotes afterwards

d) A mishap usually happens among friends

3. What can you understand from the text?

a) Danny tells stories which are enjoyed by clients

b) Danny did not push the waiter

c) The waiter was indifferent to anecdotes

d) It is relevant to know how people dance

El texto menciona que se conocieron dos semanas atrás

El texto menciona un incidente entre la Sra. Medina y

Danny

Danny empujó accidentalmente a la Sra. Medina

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4. In the text expression bump into means

a) Put up with

b) Meet by chance

c) Come across by

d) Fall in love

Passage 2

Have you ever had a hard time deciding whether to choose a plane or a train to travel from one

place to another? I hope my experience can help you the next time you are faced with this dilemma

The last time I had to travel from Venice to Rome, finding the right schedule to depart was not

an issue since several possibilities were available at Romini train station. I was even able to plan

an itinerary with a stop in Pisa with just the right amount of time to catch some interesting sights. Leaving Venice by train was remarkable. Watching the canals slowly disappear and become green fields in the Italian. Tuscany was simply mesmerizing Why watching a movie or a

show when you can be sitting first row to the Italian scenery's, just imagine! Enjoy long enough

before the train comes to its first stop. Descend in Pisa for a quick visit to its famous leaning

tower. Snap a couple of pictures and be ready for the next leg of your trip. Once again, entertain

your sight with the scenery and it gets dark outside delve into that book you have been trying

to finish. I promise that the train's rhythmic mumbles will help you concentrate while you are

reading.

Would you be even able to do half of what I just narrated while travelling on a plane? . Definitely

not. You will surely have time to read through a good number of pages of a book. Nevertheless,

feasting your eyes on nature is quite tough when you are thousands of meters above the ground.

What about making a quick stop with the chance to visit famous landmarks? That would be even

harder.

So, next time you are about to decide between a plane or a train, why not give the train a chance? You will not regret it.

5. What is false about Romini train station?

- a) The tickets bought there offered the possibility to visit a city on the way.
- b) There were many schedule options.
- c) It's not in Rome
- d) It's not in Venice

Encontrarse casualmente

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6. The blogger expects his experience will _____.

- a) Persuade the readers to use the train instead of the airplane
- b) Help people make an easier decision when travelling from Venice to Rome
- c) Show people how dull airplane trips can be.
- d) Offer the readers the opportunity to make a better decision on what means of transport to use on their trips.

Passage 3: Psychology study

Recent studies in the field of developmental psychology have shown that the use of different

media technologies has a great impact on our cognitive skills. For instance, playing video games

can increase the speed at which people can change their focus among different images on a

screen. On the other hand, other studies demonstrated that changing our focus so fast results

in what scientists call "automatic thinking".

An experiment carried out in a German university allowed one part of the students to use their

laptops and surf the web while listening to a lecture, the other part of the students did not use

their laptops at all. Results showed that those who surfed the web performed poorly on a test

they did to examine how much information of the lecture they remembered. In addition,

previous experiments uncovered that the more types of information students are exposed to,

the less they will remember what they see. Some experts have concluded that our increasing

use of technologies has weakened our higher - order cognitive processes, such as critical thinking, creativity, mindfulness, abstract vocabulary, reflection, and imagination. In other words, our cognition is becoming dull other researchers confirm this affirmation.

It has been found that people who browse the web spend less than ten seconds on each website

they visit. Even students or professionals doing academic work who research online are prone

to rapidly shift from one document to another without even reading more than two pages. These

mental shifts are taking a big toll on us. We must know, though, that not all distractors are

harmful. If we focus too intensively on a difficult problem, we might get stuck in a mental rut.

Nevertheless, if we take a break for some time, we often return to the task with a fresher perspective and more creativity.

It has been proved that such breaks help us make better decisions. Therefore, we need to shift

our attention away from mental challenges from time to time. However, the ceaseless

distractedness that the Internet encourages is very different from the kind of temporary, crucial

breaks our minds need to refresh our thinking What we are putting at stake through the

continuous use of the Net is our capacity to engage in these quiet and reflective moments that

uphold our attentive modes of contemplation and introspection.

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7. What is paragraph 1 about?

a) It focuses on problems caused by the use of media technologies.

- b) It highlights different results obtained from research
- c) It does not produce consistent outcomes in connection with computer use
- d) It involves the results of work done by well-know poeple

Passage 4: Holidays policy

Many companies are reluctant to give vacations to their employees. They usually allow workers

some days but once the allotment is reached, there are no more days for anyone. Nevertheless,

there is one company that has an alternative approach. Netflix Inc., the streaming video service

that has 222 million subscribers, holds a completely different vacation policy. Employees can

take as much time off as they need, whenever they need to take it. Therefore, their policy is to

have no policy.

In 2004, the Netflix holidays policy was the traditional one, it allotted people some days a year.

However, many employees noticed that what they were doing in their vacation time was

responding to emails, solving work - related situations at home at night, and taking care of

household chores. Netflix was not tracking the number of hours people were logging each day,

so, why should it track down the number of holidays employees were taking each year?

Employees wondered.

Currently, Netflix's roughly 11, 300 employees can take vacations whenever they want and for

as long as they need on the condition that their managers know their location and their work is

done. This flexible approach has not caused any harm to the company. On the contrary, Netflix's

success continues on the rise.

The concept of freedom and responsibility go together well, opposite to common belief.

Moreover, Netflix's holiday policy uncovers the limits of relying on time in managing the modern

workforce. For example, at present, one good idea can mean orders of magnitude more

essential than several mediocre ones. There's a thin line of difference between the time you

spend and the results you produce. Results are what matter.

Finally, The Netflix strategy shows that a structure of rules that trusts employees and has good

faith in them actually encourages that behavior. On the contrary, if we design rules that assume

bad faith and do not trust the staff, that is exactly the kind of staff there will be, an unreliable

one. All in all, we have a lot to learn from Netflix's management of holidays.

8. According to the paragraph, ...

- a) Netflix's employees ought to have their work done before their vacations.
- b) Netflix's success is due to the vacation policy in 2004
- c) Netflix's employees must not inform where they are on vacation.
- d) Netflix's vacation policy has been detrimental to the company

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9. What's the main idea in paragraph 1?

- a) The Oddity of Netflix's vacation policy
- b) The difficulty of Netflix's vacation policy
- c) The popularity of Netflix's vacation policy
- d) The importance of Netflix's vacation policy

10. Employees at Netflix remarked that the company's previous vacation policy _____.

- a) Did not make sense in their context

b) Was just suitable just for some employee

c) Allotted them free time

d) Was not the traditional one

11. In the author's opinion, Netflix's flexible policy attends to the modern issue of _____.

a) People's beliefs about time management

b) Outcomes being more fundamental than methods

c) Good ideas take more time than bad one.

d) Employee having more responsibility now.

Passage 6: A bad purchase

Dear Mr. Martinez, President of Electric's Department Store.

I'd like to bring your attention the events of the past few months concerning a computer which

i purchased on March 20th from your appliance department. The computer was delivered and

installed three days later, but since that time it has failed to work.

Before using the computer, I read the instruction book carefully and followed the instructions

to the letter. I usually have a head for these things, but for some reason the computer didn't

work. I re-read the directions, but the computer remains idle.

I called and spoke to a technician, who gave me step-by-step instructions on how to turn on the

computer. But the computer still wouldn't work. So, the technician gave me some advice. I had

two options: either to have to computer repaired or exchange it for a new one. Thus, even

though the computer is Brand new, I've decides to buy another new one.

I called your store, and I wrote a letter to the department manager explaining the problem, but

my letter and calls appear to have been ignored. So, now I demand a refund and hope you solve

the inconvenience as soon as possible.

Sincerely

Mr. Carlton

12. The computer Mr. Carlton bought was _____.

- a) An expensive one and didn't work well
- b) Installed on the 23rd
- c) A new one and worked perfectly
- d) Delivered on the 20th

13. The computer might have been installed by _____.

- a) The truck driver
- b) Mr. Carlton
- c) A sound technician
- d) The people who delivered it

14. In spite of having read the instructions a couple of times _____.

- a) Mr. Carlton could make the computer work
- b) The computer worked well
- c) The computer program, which Mr. Carlton uses for his reports, didn't work.
- d) Mr. Carlton couldn't make the computer work

15. The technician Mr. Carlton called _____.

- a) Didn't explain the instructions step by step.
- b) Didn't give any advice
- c) Was rude at giving the instructions

d) Was kind enough to explain the instructions

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16. Given the fact that Mr. Carton's complaints were ignored _____.

- a) He wants another technician's opinion
- b) He's demanding his money back
- c) He's going to sue the department store
- d) He wants the store to give him a new computer

Passage 7: Unsinkable Ship

Naval architects never claim that a ship is unsinkable, but the sinking of the passenger-and-car

ferry Estonia in the Baltic surely should never have happened. It was well designed and carefully

maintained. It carried the proper number of lifeboats. It had been thoroughly inspected the day

of its fatal voyage. Yet hours later, the Estonia rolled over and sank in a cold, stormy night. It

went down so quickly that most of those on board, caught in their dark, loading cabins, had no

chance to save themselves: Of those who managed to scramble overboard, only 139 survived.

The rest died of hypothermia before the rescuers could pluck them from the cold sea. The final

death toll amounted to 912 souls.

However, there were an unpleasant number of questions about why the Estonia sank and why

so many survivors were men in the prime of life, while most of the dead were women, children

and the elderly.

17. One can infer from the reading that...

- a) The lifesaving equipment did not work well and lifeboats could not be lowered.
- b) Design faults and incompetent crew contributed to the sinking of the Estonia ferry.
- c) 139 people managed to leave the vessel but died in freezing water.
- d) Most victims were trapped inside the boat as they were in their cabins.

18. It is clear from the passage that the survivors of the accident...

- a) Helped one to another to overcome the tragedy that had affected them all.
- b) Were mostly young men, but woman children and the elderly stood little chance.
- c) Helped to save hundreds of lives.
- d) Are still suffering from severe post-traumatic stress disorder.

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19. According to the passage, when the Estonia sank...

- a) There were only 139 passengers on board
- b) Few of the passengers were asleep
- c) There were enough lifeboats for the number of people on board
- d) Faster reaction by the crew could have increased the Estonia's chances of survival.

20. Was the ship safe to depart because _____.

- a) t had to all the equipment and constantly maintained
- b) there were few survivors
- c) naval architects said the ship is unsinkable
- d) the weather was nice