**Read the following ten short texts. For questions 1-10 choose the best answer A–D.**

**New Banksy Graffiti**

A new piece of graffiti by Banksy has appeared on the wall of a small shop in London. The artwork shows a little Asian boy on his knees at a sewing machine making the UK flags for the Queen’s celebrations. The child is barefoot with a sports cap turned backwards on his head, and his little fingers are carefully moving the flag through the sewing machine. Residents noticed the controversial artwork in the morning on the shop which sells similar flags. Now locals are taking photos of the artwork which could be worth thousands of pounds. It will also probably raise house prices in the area like in areas where Banksy’s art has appeared before.

(www.dailymail.co.uk, upraveno)

1 What does the article say about the new graffiti?

A) It pictures the Queen with a little Asian boy.

B) It shows a controversial portrait of the Queen.

C) It could make houses in the area more expensive.

D) It was first noticed by a boy working in a small shop.

**Elephants in Russia**

When one circus carriage suddenly caught fire during an international tour in the Novosibirsk region, Russia, two elephants were taken out of the burning carriage into the bitter cold. In temperatures of – 40°C, the animals soon suffered frostbite1 to their ears. The circus keepers decided to warm the elephants up with two glasses of vodka mixed with warm water. It helped, and the elephants started “roaring happily as if they were in the jungle”, one keeper said. Like with humans, alcohol can make animals feel warmer, but it lowers the body temperature, scientists warn. However, the Novosibirsk zoo director said that the elephants were not harmed or intoxicated and that with the alcohol they escaped certain death.

(www.bbc.co.uk, upraveno)

1frostbite: omrzliny

2 What happened to the elephants?

A) They were intoxicated in the zoo.

B) They got life-saving care from the circus keepers.

C) They got burnt in a fire in the Novosibirsk region.

D) They were taken into the zoo because of drunken circus keepers.

**It Happened in Baghdad...**

In November of 2004, a group of American soldiers entered an empty house in Baghdad. They were ready to attack the source of the noise coming from around the corner. What they found, however, wasn’t a dangerous enemy but a puppy. Although it is against the law, the soldiers adopted the dog, named him Lava and decided to take him with them to the USA – an almost impossible task! Dogs need vaccinations to cross borders, but the American military vets wouldn’t even look at civilian dogs, and Iraqi vets weren’t willing to help either. Many attempts to get Lava out failed, but the soldiers never gave up and Lava finally found a new home in California.

(www.everythingwolf.com, upraveno)

3 What is the main idea of the article?

A) American soldiers were attacked in Iraq.

B) American soldiers saved a puppy in Iraq.

C) American military vets got a dog out of Iraq.

D) American military vets helped a civilian dog in Iraq.

**A Naked1 Sleepwalker**

At 2 a.m. Rebekah Armstrong was woken by a noise coming from the garden. When she

realised her husband Tim was not in bed, she went downstairs to see what was happening.

Rebekah saw that Tim was cutting the grass wearing nothing! She immediately understood

he was sleepwalking! She was afraid to wake him up because she knew it could be

dangerous to disturb someone who is sleepwalking. She just turned the lawnmower2 off,

went back to bed and let her husband get on with it. Tim later got back into bed and put

his pyjamas on. He didn’t believe Rebekah when she told him what he’d been doing.

(www.oddee.com, upraveno)

1 naked: nahý

2 lawnmower: sekačka na trávu

4 What did Rebekah do when she realised her husband was sleepwalking naked?

A) She woke him up.

B) She took him back to bed.

C) She switched offthe machine.

D) She helped him put on his pyjamas.

**A Robbery Story**

In 2007, a man broke into Suzie Fronterotta’s home in London and stole £1,000 and

several pieces of jewellery. To the owner’s surprise, she received a package containing

the stolen objects three years later. The parcel also included a note with his apology and

an explanation saying that ever since he robbed Suzie’s house, he had had bad luck,

including the death of his wife. So this bad guy, who didn’t write his name, decided to

change for the better. He also said he would pay back the £1,000 when he earned enough

money. Suzie therefore asked the police not to arrest the man if they ever found him.

(www.oddee.com, upraveno)

5 What was not in the parcel that Suzie got from the robber?

A) money

B) jewellery

C) an apology

D) an anonymous note

**Free Jackie**

Jackie, a 22-year-old orang-utan, has been put on a three-month quarantine1 in a wildlife park in Malaysia before she can be released back into the wild. Jackie, who is very close to humans, was discovered by villagers when she was only two years old. From that time on, they looked after the orang-utan and spoilt her on large amounts of food which she loved. Finally Jackie had over double the body weight of a normal female orang-utan. Although the park keepers do not want to stress Jackie too much, they’ve decided to put her on a strict healthy diet. Without reducing her weight, she cannot be returned to the wild.

(www.digitalspy.co.uk, upraveno)

1quarantine: karanténa

6 What did the villagers do about Jackie?

A) They gave her too much food.

B) They found her two years ago.

C) They looked after her for 22 years.

D) They stressed her too much with the healthy diet.

**Origins of the ice cream sundae**1

In 1881 Ed Berners, a shop owner, started to sell a new ice cream dessert, later known as an “ice cream sundae”. It happened when a customer asked Berners to serve him a dish of ice cream topped with syrup normally used for sodas. Berners liked the customer’s wonderful idea and added the dessert to his daily menu, charging only five cents. George Giffy, the owner of the shop next door, felt he had to serve the same dish as Berners at the same price. However, Giffy decided to only serve this ice-cream dessert on Sundays. The name of the day soon became a part of the name of the dish – “the ice cream Sunday”. When Giffy realised that he was making good money from the “ice cream Sunday”, he changed the name to the “ice cream sundae” and served it every day.

(www.inventors.about.com, upraveno)

1ice cream sundae: zmrzlinový pohár

7 What does the text say about the ice cream dessert?

A) Ice cream topped with syrup was first served with soda.

B) Ice cream topped with syrup was originally Berners’s idea.

C) Giffy’s ice cream dessert was more expensive than Berners’s.

D) Giffy’s ice cream dessert was served only on Sundays at first.

Last month, a luxury car was stolen in Helsinki. Several days later, the police found it empty and damaged. At first they couldn’t identify the thief, but when they inspected the car, they discovered a tiny witness in it – a mosquito. The insect was sent for testing, which showed that the blood it had drunk belonged to Jussi Aho, a professional car thief. This week, Aho was questioned at the police station, but he insists he didn’t steal the car. He says he hitchhiked and got a lift from the man driving the car. So the court must now decide if the blood sample is enough to put Aho in prison.

(www.telegraph.co.uk,upraveno)

8 What would the best title for this article be?

A) Mosquitoes Damaged Car

B) Thief Found Drunk in Damaged Car

C) Professional Car Thief Sent to Prison

D) Insect Helps with Police Investigation

**A Flat or a Hotel Room**

Some Hong Kong hotels are selling their hotel rooms to be used as homes. Last week hundreds of people living in Hong Kong waited for a long time to buy a room at the Horizon Hotel situated close to the city centre. Although it is not clear whether the buyers can legally live in the rooms, they still want to, because it is one of the ways of coping with1 housing prices, which are among the highest in the world. The most luxurious hotel rooms in Hong Kong are still cheaper than flats of the same quality. The Horizon Hotel was able to sell all 360 of its rooms in two days – a sign there is a demand for housing at a price the citizens can afford.

(www.bbc.co.uk, upraveno)

1to cope with: vypořádat se s, vyrovnat se s

9 Why do people in Hong Kong want to live in a hotel?

A) Because hotels are more luxurious than flats.

B) Because they want to live in the centre of the city.

C) Because flats are more expensive than hotel rooms.

D) Because they would have to wait a long time for a new flat.

**Long-lost Van Gogh**

On Monday, the Van Gogh Museum in the Netherlands began to show a painting by Van

Gogh. “Sunset at Montmajour”, an oil landscape, was presented by the museum’s director

as a “unique experience that has never happened in the museum’s history”. The long-lost

work had been lying for years in the attic of the house of Norwegian collector Erik

Johannessen. His grandfather bought it at an auction in 1908 but later started to believe

the painting wasn’t a real Van Gogh so he hid it in his attic. Last year Erik asked art expert

Dr. Michael Ronfort for an opinion, and the expert authenticated1 the painting as Van Gogh’s. The shocked collector has allowed the museum to exhibit this precious discovery

from the attic for a year; then the painting will be returned to Norway.

(www.bbc.co.uk, upraveno)

1to authenticate: prokázat pravost

10 How did the painting get to the exhibition in the museum?

A) A collector lent it to the museum.

B) The museum bought it at an auction.

C) An art expert found it in the museum attic.

D) The museum’s director gave it to the museum as a present.

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