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雅思英语 阅读练习

4 篇 · 16 题 · 含解析

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The Return of the Wolf • 阅读

雅思阅读 · LingoSheets

When wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park in 1995, few expected the effects to reach beyond the animals themselves. Wolves hunt elk, and elk had spent decades browsing young trees along rivers without fear. Once wolves returned, elk changed their behaviour: they avoided open valleys and moved more often, allowing willow and aspen to grow again. Beavers returned to the streams, birds nested in the new trees, and even the shape of rivers changed as vegetation stabilized the banks. Scientists call this a trophic cascade—a change at the top of the food chain that spreads downward through the ecosystem. The story has become famous, but it is also contested. Some researchers argue that the recovery of trees was caused by several factors, including drought cycles and changes in hunting policy, and that the wolf's role has been exaggerated. The debate matters because it shapes how we manage landscapes. If a single predator can restore an entire ecosystem, reintroducing it looks like an efficient solution. If the truth is more complex, then conservation must address many pressures at once.

Questions

1. 1. What changed after wolves returned?

- A. Elk changed their behaviour B. Elk disappeared C. Trees stopped growing D. Rivers dried up

2. 2. What is a trophic cascade?

- A. A change at the top of the food chain that spreads downward B. A drought cycle C. A hunting policy D. A type of tree

3. 3. What do some researchers argue?

- A. The wolf's role has been exaggerated B. Wolves caused drought C. Elk were never hunted D. Trees cannot recover

4. 4. Why does the debate matter?

- A. It shapes how landscapes are managed B. It decides park ticket prices C. It proves wolves are dangerous D. It ends all hunting

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答案与解析

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2. **2. A** — a change at the top of the food chain that spreads downward.
3. **3. A** — the wolf's role has been exaggerated.
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The History of Tea • 阅读

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Tea is the most widely consumed drink in the world after water, yet its history is surprisingly political. According to legend, the emperor Shen Nong discovered it when leaves blew into his boiling water. Whatever the truth, tea was cultivated in China for centuries before it reached Europe in the seventeenth century. It arrived as an expensive luxury, and its popularity grew so quickly that it reshaped global trade. To pay for tea, Britain exported opium to China, a trade that led to war and to the colonization of Hong Kong. In India, the British established plantations to break the Chinese monopoly, and tea became a cheap everyday drink for workers. The Industrial Revolution gave it another boost: factories needed sober, alert workers, and tea mixed with sugar and milk provided cheap calories. Today, tea is grown in more than thirty countries, and the rituals around it—from Japanese tea ceremony to British afternoon tea—remain a link between daily life and history.

Questions

1. 1. When did tea reach Europe?

- A. In the seventeenth century B. In the tenth century C. In the nineteenth century D. Before China

2. 2. How did Britain pay for tea?

- A. By exporting opium to China B. With gold only C. By selling tea back D. With cotton

3. 3. Why did the British establish plantations in India?

- A. To break the Chinese monopoly B. To grow coffee C. To end tea drinking D. To reduce sugar use

4. 4. What is the main idea?

- A. Tea links trade, politics and daily life B. Tea is only a luxury C. Legend is always true D. Tea caused the Industrial Revolution

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Trees in the City • 阅读

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Trees in cities are often valued for their beauty, but their practical benefits are increasingly measurable. A mature tree can cool the air around it by several degrees, reducing the need for air conditioning in nearby buildings. Leaves trap dust and absorb pollutants, improving air quality on busy streets. Roots help rainwater soak into the ground, easing pressure on drains during heavy storms. Studies have also linked street trees to lower stress, safer driving and higher property values. Yet urban trees are under pressure. They face pollution, compacted soil, drought and construction damage, and many die within decades of planting. City planners are responding with new techniques: larger planting pits, underground cells that give roots space, and species chosen for resilience rather than appearance. The challenge is long-term: a tree planted today may not deliver its full benefits for twenty years, while budgets and governments change much faster. Protecting urban trees therefore requires institutions that think beyond a single election cycle.

Questions

1. 1. Which is a benefit of urban trees?

A. Cooling the air B. Increasing pollution C. Blocking drains D. Raising temperatures

2. 2. What pressure do urban trees face?

A. Pollution and compacted soil B. Too much space C. Too little sunlight only D. No construction

3. 3. What are planners doing?

A. Using larger planting pits and underground cells B. Cutting all trees C. Planting only flowers D. Removing roots

4. 4. What is the main idea?

A. Protecting trees requires long-term institutions B. Trees are only decorative C. Trees grow in one year D. Budgets never change

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The Second-Hand Economy • 阅读

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Second-hand markets were once associated with poverty. Today they are mainstream. Online platforms allow people to sell clothes, furniture and electronics to strangers, and the market for used goods has grown rapidly. Economists offer several explanations. First, digital platforms reduce the cost of finding a buyer and verifying quality. Second, consumers have become more comfortable with renting and reselling rather than owning. Third, environmental concerns have made reuse respectable. The benefits are clear: fewer new products are manufactured, and households can recover part of what they spend. But there are risks. Sellers may misrepresent condition, buyers may have little protection, and platforms can become dominated by professional traders rather than occasional sellers. Some critics argue that resale merely encourages people to buy more, because they know they can sell later. The evidence is mixed. What seems certain is that ownership is becoming more flexible, and that the line between new and used is blurring.

Questions

1. 1. What is the current status of second-hand markets?

- A. They are mainstream B. They are illegal C. They are shrinking D. They are only for the poor

2. 2. What is one explanation for growth?

- A. Platforms reduce the cost of finding a buyer B. Prices of new goods rose C. Fewer people own phones D. Reuse became illegal

3. 3. What is a risk?

- A. Sellers may misrepresent condition B. Buyers have too much protection C. Platforms ban all traders D. Products are always new

4. 4. What is the main idea?

- A. Ownership is becoming more flexible B. Second-hand markets are dying C. Reuse harms the environment D. Only professionals sell online

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答案与解析

1. **1. A** — Today they are mainstream.
2. **2. A** — digital platforms reduce the cost of finding a buyer.
3. **3. A** — Sellers may misrepresent condition.
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