

Read the text below. For questions 1–5, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

Oprah Winfrey

Oprah Winfrey is one of the most famous black women in the world. She is also one of the richest women in the United States. People say she is one of the world's most powerful women because she has friends like Barrack Obama. But her life was not always like this.

Oprah's parents were separated and her family was very poor. Oprah lived with her grandmother on a farm until she was six. Then she went to live with her mother but she had a difficult time. After that she lived with her father. He was strict but he wanted Oprah to be successful, so she studied hard and she went to university. She also won a beauty competition.

After university, Oprah became a news reporter. Then she was a presenter on a television talk show. This programme was called *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and it became very popular all around the world. Oprah also starred in the film *The Colour Purple* and started her own production company making films and TV shows.

The Oprah Winfrey Show finished in 2011 but Oprah still presents television and radio shows. She is important for many people and they listen to her opinions on health, books and exercise. She has got a lot of money but she is also generous and she gives millions of dollars to educational charities every year.

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| <p>1 Why is Oprah Winfrey one of the most powerful women in the world?</p> <p>A Because she's famous.</p> <p>B Because she has lots of money.</p> <p>C Because she has important friends.</p> | <p>4 What was Oprah's first job when she left university?</p> <p>A film-maker</p> <p>B news reporter</p> <p>C talk show presenter</p> |
| <p>2 Where did Oprah live until she was six years old?</p> <p>A on her grandmother's farm</p> <p>B with her mother</p> <p>C with her father</p> | <p>5 What does Oprah do now?</p> <p>A She presents <i>The Oprah Winfrey Show</i>.</p> <p>B She works in education.</p> <p>C She works in television and radio.</p> |
| <p>3 What did Oprah's father want her to do?</p> <p>A win a beauty competition</p> <p>B be strict</p> <p>C do well in life</p> | |

Read the text below. For questions 6–10, choose the best answer (A, B, C or D).

The Electric Car

There are more than a billion vehicles in the world today and many of them are cars. People say they can't live without their cars but the problem is that most of them use petrol. They're noisy and bad for the environment, so it's not surprising that people are talking about electric cars. They are becoming more popular. Young people in the future may be learning to drive in electric cars.

line 5

Electric cars aren't new. In fact, inventors were designing them more than 100 years ago. They were slow and expensive but by the beginning of the twentieth century they were very popular. This changed with the invention of the Model T Ford in 1908. It was a petrol-powered car which wasn't as expensive as electric cars. People could also travel further and faster. When petrol became cheaper, nobody wanted electric cars.

But in the 1990s people started to worry about the environment and they said that cars were a problem. Car companies used new technologies to develop hybrid cars that used electricity and petrol. They were cheaper to use and they weren't as bad for the environment as petrol cars. The most famous hybrid car is the Toyota Prius. Toyota have sold millions of them and it's driven by celebrities like Leonardo DiCaprio and Natalie Portman.

Nowadays, more and more companies are making electric cars and they're getting better all the time. For example, a company called Tesla makes an electric sports car that goes faster than a lot of petrol cars. Electric cars are here to stay this time and the future will be quieter and cleaner.

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| <p>6 What does the writer say about cars in the first paragraph?</p> <p>A People aren't interested in electric cars.</p> <p>B Petrol cars are very expensive.</p> <p>C Petrol cars aren't good for the environment.</p> <p>D There aren't very many petrol cars.</p> | <p>8 What does <i>them</i> (line 5) refer to?</p> <p>A electric cars</p> <p>B inventors</p> <p>C Model T cars</p> <p>D people</p> |
| <p>7 What was the problem with the first electric cars?</p> <p>A People didn't like them.</p> <p>B They were cheaper than petrol cars.</p> <p>C They appeared more than 100 years ago.</p> <p>D They couldn't go as fast as petrol cars.</p> | <p>9 What's the topic of paragraph 3?</p> <p>A the history of the electric car</p> <p>B a new type of electric car</p> <p>C people who drive electric cars</p> <p>D the future of the electric car</p> |
| | <p>10 How does the writer feel about electric cars?</p> <p>A They have a good future.</p> <p>B Petrol cars are better.</p> <p>C They could be quieter.</p> <p>D People won't buy them.</p> |

Read the text below. For questions 11–15, choose the best answer (A, B, C or D).

Democratic School

line 3

I've just started university and I've been meeting lots of new people from all sorts of backgrounds. Although they're from different countries, they all went to the same type of school as me. Schools with lots of rules, lots of sitting quietly, listening to the lesson, and never-ending tests. However, there was one student who told me he'd gone to a democratic school. I didn't know what he meant, so I asked him to tell me more.

He explained that democratic schools are very different from typical schools where the teachers decide what the rules are. In democratic schools, things like equality and freedom are more important than getting good grades. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own actions. He said that there were student meetings at his school where students decided on the rules. They also decided what to do if someone broke the rules.

This surprised me so I asked him what the lessons were like. He said that students made their own timetables at the beginning of each term. They could choose from a range of traditional subjects like geography, maths and woodwork, and they had to go to classes. However, if they didn't want to participate in the lesson, they could do something else in the classroom, like reading or drawing. They could also prepare for exams in order to go to university and in fact many of the students took those exams.

If I'd gone to a democratic school, I wouldn't have studied anything and I'd have spent all my time playing games. Even now, I need someone to tell me what to do and organise my life for me. But maybe that's the point of democratic schools. Perhaps if young people were allowed to make more decisions themselves, they would be better prepared for life at university and beyond.

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| <p>11 What's the writer doing in the text?
 A Talking about his school experiences.
 B Recommending a school.
 C Discussing a type of school.
 D Telling a funny story about school.</p> <p>12 How are democratic schools different from more typical schools?
 A There aren't any lessons.
 B There aren't any rules.
 C Students are allowed to break rules.
 D Students are given more freedom.</p> <p>13 What does the writer say about classes in the democratic school?
 A Students didn't have to attend them.
 B There weren't any timetables.
 C Students didn't have to take part in the lessons.
 D They had to prepare for exams.</p> | <p>14 What does 'never-ending tests' (line 3) mean?
 A lots of tests
 B very long tests
 C boring tests
 D no tests</p> <p>15 How does the writer feel about democratic schools?
 A Students won't learn anything useful.
 B They might be good for young people.
 C He wishes he'd gone to one.
 D They don't prepare young people for university.</p> |
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Read the text below. For questions 16–20, choose the best answer (A, B, C or D).

According to a recent newspaper article, more and more young people are learning to play an instrument, the most popular being the piano, drums and guitar. Nevertheless, it also said that electric keyboards and guitars are increasing in popularity, suggesting that we'll see a shift away from more traditional instruments towards electronic ones.

In another article, it was reported that archaeologists have found what they believe to be the oldest instrument in the world. It's a primitive flute made from bird bone and mammoth ivory, more than forty thousand years old. There's nothing surprising about the fact that our ancestors could play music, but what's interesting is that they were making instruments so long ago.

line 11

Music's important to people – we know this from the history of musical instruments. Although many of today's instruments have appeared in the last thousand years, some of them originated in ancient civilisations, such as the organ and the trumpet. However, others couldn't be more different from the instruments played by the ancient Greeks and Chinese. They're the electronic instruments which we hear on all today's pop songs. Instruments like the synthesiser have allowed musicians to create endless electronic sounds, while drum machines let them program drums with a perfect beat.

Nowadays, all of this can be done with an app like *Garage Band* on your iPhone. Children all over the world have grown up with technology which allows them to play almost any instrument, create their own songs and release them on the internet. The internet's also created the potential for people to collaborate on online musical projects, so new sounds and ways of making music can be easily shared. The Virtual Choir is one example of this; more than a thousand voices brought together by the internet to create a digital choir.

At the same time though, we must remember that there are many young people without access to either iPhones or pianos. So what happens to them? Well, in the same way as people have been doing for millennia, they make music in any way they can; by whistling, clapping or just hitting a box with their hands. It seems to me that the future of music is not about what instruments we'll be playing but how we'll be using our creativeness and imagination.

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| <p>16 What's happening to musical instruments?</p> <p>A Everyone's buying electric guitars and pianos.</p> <p>B Electronic instruments are getting more popular.</p> <p>C People are learning them at a younger age.</p> <p>D People are no longer buying traditional instruments.</p> | <p>18 What does 'others' (line 11) refer to?</p> <p>A instruments B organs</p> <p>C trumpets D civilisations</p> |
| <p>17 How does the writer feel about the oldest instrument in the world?</p> <p>A There's nothing surprising about it.</p> <p>B It's made from bone and ivory.</p> <p>C He's surprised people could play it.</p> <p>D It's interesting because it's very old.</p> | <p>19 What is the advantage of apps like <i>Garage Band</i>?</p> <p>A You can create a virtual choir.</p> <p>B You can make songs.</p> <p>C Everyone has access to them.</p> <p>D Children have grown up using them.</p> |
| | <p>20 Choose the best title for the article.</p> <p>A The most popular instruments</p> <p>B A brief history of music</p> <p>C Music of the future</p> <p>D Technology in music</p> |