

PROVA DE INGLÈS

READ THE FOLLOWING TEXTS AND CHOOSE THE OPTION THAT BEST COMPLETES EACH QUESTION, ACCORDING TO THEM.

TEXT 1**Goldfish as first pets**

The common goldfish is the most popular pet in the world. It also makes an ideal first pet because it is so undemanding, hardy, colorful and gentle. Goldfish introduce their owners to the responsibilities of caring for a living creature. They are also educational since this is a pet that lives in a totally different world to our own. People can relate to their goldfish, too; often 'Goldie' becomes one of the family and can live to see a future generation of that family because with proper care the fish will live for 30 years.

Every goldfish is an individual with its own characteristics. It can recognize its owner and will rise to be handled. It is also the one pet that can be safely left when you go on holiday. It makes no noise, no mess, no smell and with a few simple rules will brighten any home as a living ornament.

Goldfish are carp, one of the Cyprinid family, which includes many coldwater fishes. A cousin to goldfish are the larger and colorful koi, but these fish should be kept in ponds. Goldfish have originated from pond fish, too, kept as pets by fish farmers over 1000 years ago in China. To this day, the finest examples of goldfish are imported from China.

Manufacturers of aquariums, fish foods, accessories and remedies often offer a free back-up service to help aquarists with any problems. Fishkeeping is fun and can be exciting, especially if you join the clubs and associations. Tanks are decorative and can light any dark corner of a room. It is also therapeutic; gazing into their silent world actually slows your heart rate, so calming nerves. But it is also a responsibility – a goldfish is for life.

From: *Certificate in English Language Skills Handbook*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001.

QUESTION 21

The goldfish is an ideal first pet because it

- a) can change its color fast.
- b) is very hard to be found.
- c) is easy to be taken care of.
- d) can be nicer than any other pet.

QUESTION 22

One of the advantages of having a goldfish at home is that it can

- a) relate to other goldfish in an aquarium.
- b) be responsible for its owner's family.
- c) live longer than everyone in the family.
- d) teach you about a different kind of world.

QUESTION 23

In "They are also educational..." (paragraph 01) the word **They** refers to

- a) families
- b) owners
- c) people
- d) goldfish

QUESTION 24

In "They are also educational since this is a pet..." (paragraph 01) the word **since** conveys an idea of

- a) time
- b) reason
- c) place
- d) manner

QUESTION 25

In "...which includes many coldwater fishes" (paragraph 03) the word **which** refers to the

- a) coldwater fishes
- b) goldfish's cousins
- c) Cyprinid family
- d) colorful koi

QUESTION 26

The koi

- a) is considered a pond fish
- b) should live in an aquarium
- c) is created only in farms
- d) may be smaller than goldfish

QUESTION 27

The expression "**To this day**" (paragraph 03) conveys an idea of

- a) time
- b) place
- c) manner
- d) purpose

QUESTION 28

Aquarists with any problems

- a) will have to spend a lot of money with remedies.
- b) can get advice from aquarium manufacturers.
- c) must join associations and clubs .
- d) should buy new accessories and food.

QUESTION 29

In "and can light any dark corner" (paragraph 04) the word **can** conveys an idea of

- a) permission
- b) possibility
- c) obligation
- d) necessity

QUESTION 30

Fish keeping is therapeutic because

- a) watching an aquarium can be very relaxing.
- b) their silent world is full of light.
- c) your heart rate accelerates quickly.
- d) tanks must be very decorative.

TEXT 2**THE MILLENIUM SEED BANK PROJECT**

One of the largest conservation projects ever undertaken aims to safeguard over 24,000 plant species world-wide against extinction and to secure the future of the UK's native flowering plants. A new building to house seed vaults was opened in the summer of 2000 in Sussex. It included an exhibition and provided a world resource for seed conservation, research and education.

Within fifty years, one quarter of the world's plants could be condemned to extinction. If this happens, thousands of animals will disappear as well. But most importantly, the human cost will be huge. As well as providing food crops, plants are the source of a lot of medicines, and form the principal supply of fuel and building materials in many parts of the world. They also protect the soil and help to regulate the climate. However, plants are often lost before we know anything about their potential benefits for society.

We always want to see plants and their habitats conserved in the wild. Sadly, pressures on the environment are so great that it is not always possible to do this. Because we cannot always guarantee the safety of a plant in its natural environment, banking seeds provides an effective form of insurance. Seed banks are a very efficient and cost-effective means of conserving plant species because seeds occupy very little space and require little attention.

We can store many thousands of seed for each species in a seed bank. Each seed represents a potential new plant. They could be used in the future to help restore damaged or destroyed environments. Life's strength is in its diversity, so the greater variety of seeds we store for each species, the more we can guarantee that species' safe future.

From: *Certificate in English Language Skills Handbook*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001.

QUESTION 31

The main goal of this project is to

- a) construct new buildings and houses.
- b) save plants threatened with extinction.
- c) create exhibitions all over the world.
- d) invest on education and research.

QUESTION 32

The project intends to protect plant species

- a) particularly from Sussex.
- b) from the United Kingdom only.
- c) from all over the world.
- d) mainly from specific places.

QUESTION 33

In "If this happens..." (paragraph 02) the word **this** refers to the extinction of

- a) many plant species.
- b) the human being.
- c) thousands of animals.
- d) all food crops.

QUESTION 34

In “As well as providing...” (paragraph 02) the expression **As well as** conveys an idea of

- a) conclusion
- b) addition
- c) reason
- d) contrast

QUESTION 35

The disappearance of one quarter of the world’s plants will cause

- a) regulation of the climate.
- b) the extinction of all animals.
- c) an increase in medical research.
- d) great problems for human-beings.

QUESTION 36

Sometimes plants are lost

- a) with benefits to society.
- b) before they are studied.
- c) when they protect the soil.
- d) if they are used as fuel.

QUESTION 37

Pressures on the environment are so great that it is not always possible to

- a) guarantee the safety of all human-beings.
- b) protect every species of animals.
- c) conserve plants and their habitats in the wild.
- d) create banking seeds all over the world.

QUESTION 38

Seed banks are very effective because they are

- a) spacious
- b) economical
- c) costly
- d) demanding

QUESTION 39

In the future, seed banks may be used to

- a) reconstruct destroyed environments.
- b) invent new species of plants.
- c) create new types of environments.
- d) store potential species of plants.

QUESTION 40

A great diversity of seeds should be stored to

- a) develop new research projects.
- b) guarantee the creation of new kinds of plants.
- c) ensure many species will have a safe future.
- d) maintain potential new seed banks.