BRITAIN’S MARKETS

Markets are very popular in Britain. They sell a wide range of goods. Most markets are held in the open air, in town squares or market places. Goods for sale are piled up on market stalls, that is, tables that are sheltered from bad weather by awnings (i.e., sheets of cloth or plastic laid to form a roof). Most markets are held only on market day, the same day each week, and sometimes on Saturdays, and the stalls are put up for each occasion. In small towns market day is often the busiest day of the week.

Permission to hold street markets in many market towns was given hundred years ago. Many towns still have a market cross, indicating where the market was originally held. Today, street markets sell flowers, fruits and vegetables, fish and meats, clothes and household goods. Local charities may have stalls selling cakes, jam and other goods. Prices are fixed by the sellers or stallholders, and most accept only cash.

Some small towns have a covered or indoor market. These markets are usually open every day except Sunday. Sunday markets are located at sites out of town, sell a wider range of goods and attract many people. Markets that sell cheap and second-hand goods, including clothes, jewellery, books, pots and pans, are called flea markets.

There is nothing like spending an afternoon in one of the many British markets. You will certainly find something you want. They are ideal places to find unusual gifts and souvenirs and a paradise for collectors of specialist records and books.

Source: Oxford Guide to British and American Culture

QUESTIONS
I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)
Add TRUE or FALSE and copy the evidence from the text to support your answer.
NO marks are given for only true or false.

1. In markets, people can buy many different types of things.
2. Most markets are held on different days of the week.
3. In most markets people can pay by credit card.
4. Sunday markets are set up in the centre of the town.
II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS):

A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)
Find words or phrases in the text that mean the same as these given.
1. articles of commerce.
2. initially.
3. low-priced.
4. perfect.

B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)
1. How is the “-s” pronounced in “goods”, /s/, /z/ or /lz/? (0.25)
2. How is the “sh” pronounced in “sheets” /tʃ/ or /ʃ/? (0.25)
3. Write a word from the text that includes the same diphthong sound as “sometimes” /aɪ/. (0.25)
4. How is the “-ed” pronounced in “fixed”, /t/, /d/ or /ɪd/? (0.25)

III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)
Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:
1. People think that my father is a genius.
   My father……………………………………………………………………………………………
2. “Go to the headmaster office now”, Mr. Smith told her.
   Mr. Smith told her …………………………………………………………………………………..
3. John was so rude that he had no friends.
   John was ……………………………………………………………………………………………
4. He is looking for a book. It is under the desk.
   The book ……………………………………………………………………………………………
5. You don’t have to get up early on Saturdays.
   You …………………………………………………………………………………………………
6. Write the correct question for the underlined words.
   …………………………………………………………………………………………………….?
   Your boyfriend is coming tomorrow.

IV. COMPOSITION. (3 POINTS)
Write a composition of between 100 and 125 words on the following topic:

Advantages and disadvantages of living in a village or small town
ARE MOBILE PHONES TAKING OVER OUR LIVES?

Next time you’re in a public place, count how many people are using their phones. I can tell you now that it is more than half, whether you’re on public transport, in a café or simply walking down the street.

I’m not saying that I am not an example of this, but it always amazes me how people can spend so much time on their phones without actually talking to anyone in particular. With the constant upgrade of technology we can now do practically anything on a device which can fit in the palm of our hands. But has it gone too far?

Recently, my smart phone broke and had to be sent off to the warehouse for repair for a week or so. In the meantime I had to use a really old, basic phone just to keep me in touch with my family and friends. All I could do on this phone was send text messages, make calls and play one game. And I loved it. I loved being free from the Internet, and I really didn’t mind not having constant updates about what my friends were doing or what the latest celebrity story was. It was quite refreshing and it allowed me to spend more time taking in my surroundings – I could enjoy my time in London more, for example, and I could watch the people around me and really see what was going on.

However, I knew that as soon as I got my smart phone back I would never use the basic phone again. Perhaps I should just forget I ever got my smart phone back, but I knew I would be one of those people, once again, and wasting my time playing games or checking social network sites.

Adapted from learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org

QUESTIONS

I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)
Add TRUE or FALSE and copy the evidence from the text to support your answer.
NO marks are given for only true or false.

1. Most people use their phones in public places.
2. People spend much time talking to friends or relatives.
3. The writer hated not being connected to the Internet.
4. Although he gets his smart phone, he’ll continue using his basic phone.
II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS):

A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)
Find words or phrases in the text that mean the same as these given.
1. surprises.
2. improvement
3. while.
4. another time.

B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)
1. How is the “-s” pronounced in “phones”, /s/, /z/ or /ɪz/? (0.25)
2. Write a word from the text that includes the same diphthong sound as “place” /eɪ/. (0.25)
3. Write a word from the text that includes the same vowel sound as “street” /iː/. (0.25)
4. How is the “n” pronounced in “refreshing”, /n/ or /ŋ/? (0.25)

III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)
Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:
1. She hasn’t got enough money so she can’t buy a nice apartment.
   If she .......................................................... ..........................................................

2. They last travelled by plane four months ago.
   They have not .......................................................... ..........................................................

3. In spite of working hard, I didn’t feel tired.
   Although .......................................................... ..........................................................

4. We have been given the results.
   Doctors .......................................................... ..........................................................

5. John is more popular than his brother.
   John’s brother .......................................................... ..........................................................

6. If I were you, I would stay at home.
   You’d .......................................................... ..........................................................

IV. COMPOSITION. (3 POINTS)
Write a composition of between 100 and 125 words on the following topic:

The influence of new technologies in our lives