

1. 阅读理解

When I was 17, I read a magazine article about a museum called the McNay, once the home of a watercolorist named Marian McNay. She had requested the community to turn it into a museum upon her death. On a sunny Saturday, Sally and I drove over to the museum. She asked, "Do you have the address?" "No, but I'll recognize it, there was a picture in the magazine."

"Oh, stop. There it is!"

The museum was free. We entered, excited. A group of people sitting in the hall stopped talking and stared at us.

"May I help you?" a man asked. "No," I said. "We're fine." Tour guides got on my nerves. What if they talked a long time about a painting you weren't that interested in?

Sally had gone upstairs. The people in the hall seemed very nosy (爱窥探的), keeping their eyes on me with curiosity. What was their problem? I saw some nice sculptures in one room. Suddenly I sensed a man standing behind me. "Where do you think you are?" he asked. I turned sharply. "The McNay Art Museum!" He smiled, shaking his head. "Sorry, the McNay is on New Braunfels Street." "What's this place?" I asked, still confused. "Well, it's our home." My heart jolted (震颤). I raced to the staircase and called out, "Sally! Come down immediately!"

"There's some really good stuff (艺术作品) up there." She stepped down, looking confused. I pushed her toward the front door, waving at the family, saying, "Sorry, please forgive us, you have a really nice place." Outside, when I told Sally what happened, she covered her mouth, laughing. She couldn't believe how long they let us look around without saying anything.

The real McNay was splendid, but we felt nervous the whole time we were there. Van Gogh, Picasso. This time, we stayed together, in case anything else unusual happened.

Thirty years later, a woman approached me in a public place. "Excuse me, did you ever enter a residence, long ago, thinking it was the McNay Museum?"

"Yes. But how do you know? We never told anyone."

"That was my home. I was a teenager sitting in the hall. Before you came over, I never realized what a beautiful place I lived in. I never felt lucky before. You thought it was a museum. My feelings about my home changed after that. I've always wanted to thank you."

【1】What do we know about Marian McNay?

- A. She was a journalist. B. She was a painter.
C. She was a museum director. D. She was a community leader.

【2】Why did the author refuse the help from the man in the house?

- A. She disliked people who were nosy.
B. She felt nervous when talking to strangers.
C. She mistook him for a tour guide.
D. She knew more about art than the man.

【3】How did the author feel about being stared at by the people in the hall?

- A. Puzzled. B. Concerned.
C. Frightened. D. Delighted.

【4】What could we learn from the last paragraph?

- A. People should have good taste to enjoy life.
B. People should spend more time with their family.
C. People tend to be blind to the beauty around them.
D. People tend to educate teenagers at a museum.

2. 阅读理解

Several years ago, Waze Mobile co-founder Ehud Shabtai received a special gift from his girlfriend: a GPS device. The expensive gift was supposed to be helpful. But straight out of the box, it was already out of date.

Shabtai, a coding enthusiast, had an immediate action to reinvent it. Shabtai's idea is to build an app. With monthly 80 million active users globally and nearly 400,000 superusers who function much like Wikipedia volunteer editors (editing maps rather than words), Waze Mobile caught people's eyes as a revolutionary approach to navigation (导航). Waze's value mainly lies in its high rate of user involvement. Unlike traditional navigation apps that simply show directions, Waze asks its users to report accidents and other road conditions in real time, so other users can avoid the traffic by using another route.

The goal behind Waze's approach is a great one: not just avoid the traffic jam, but end it altogether. Waze is finding new ways to put its loyal and active user base to use to make that dream a reality, including a plan to make carpooling (拼车) cool.

To be sure, traffic jams are troubling people all over the world. Waze has been quietly ahead of the game for some time. In 2013, when Waze was just a small digital-mapping business with limited resources, it had something other competitors didn't: richer GPS guidance thanks to its stream of live traffic reports from users. These users were the basis of Shabtai's plan to improve his GPS device constantly: the app could be perpetually updated by users, anywhere and anytime.

Waze Carpool is going straight to the heart of traffic jams, trying to get more drivers off the road and into carpooling. The app has already connected tens of thousands of drivers willing to share information, and that trend could be the answer to a traffic-free future.

【1】What did Shabtai do when he found his girlfriend's gift out of date?

- A. He improved it. B. He took it apart.
C. He put it away. D. He used it away.

【2】What makes Waze Mobile different from traditional navigation apps?

- A. It has the most users. B. It can show directions.
C. Most users help edit its words. D. It reports road conditions in real time.

【3】What does the underline word "perpetually" in Paragraph 4 probably mean?

- A. Slowly. B. Carefully.
C. Greatly. D. Continually.

【4】What is mainly talked about in the text?

- A. The rise of Waze Carpool. B. An advanced navigation app.
C. The development of GPS. D. The challenge Waze Mobile faces.

3. 阅读理解

The idea of being able to walk on water has long interested humans greatly. Sadly, biological facts prevent us ever accomplishing such a thing without artificial aid---we simply weigh too much, and all our mass pushes down through our relatively small feet, resulting in a lot of pressure that makes us sink.

However, several types of animals can walk on water. One of the most interesting is the common basilisk *Basiliscus basiliscus*, a lizard (蜥蜴) native to Central and South