

1.

Best musicals and shows in London's West End

Thriller-Live

See Thriller-Live, a musical in memory of Michael Jackson and the Jacksons. The show joined London's West End after three UK tours and popularity across Europe. Celebrate the career of the King of Pop during non-stop hits at this top London theatre show.

Prices from £32.72

The Phantom of the Opera

Andrew Lloyd Webber's famous musical, The Phantom of the Opera, tells the tale of a shadowy character who attempts to make Christina the leading lady of the Paris Opera. With a fantastic plot and breathtaking scene, this long-running show is one of the must-see musicals in London.

Prices: from £30.75

The Book of Mormon

This comedy musical follows the plight of a pair of teenage Mormon missionaries sent to convert a village in a dangerous part of Uganda. The brainchild of South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone, The Book of Mormon has won nine Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

Prices: from £24.60

Matilda The Musical

Be wowed by the Royal Shakespeare Company's multi-award-winning production of Matilda The Musical. Roald Dahl's celebrated story bursts into life in this West End musical by Dennis Kelly and Tim Minchin. Children and adults alike will be delighted by the little girl with an extraordinary imagination.

Prices: from £24.00

【1】What is The Phantom of the Opera special for?

- A. Its attractive story. B. Its beautiful songs.
C. Its excellent costumes. D. Its experienced actors.

【2】Both kids and adults are most likely to enjoy ____.

- A. Thriller-Live B. Matilda The Musical
C. The Book of Mormon D. The Phantom of the Opera

【3】What does the text mainly aim to do?

- A. Evaluate musicals. B. Criticize musicals.
C. Analyze musicals. D. Advertise musicals.

2.

Do you have a younger brother? Does he always get in trouble? Well, there might be some science behind that.

According to a report from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, second-borns are more likely than first-borns to behave badly, which could be why you from time to time consider your younger brother or sister sprites.

Researchers, who explored data from tens of thousands of sibling(兄弟姐妹) pairs from Denmark and Florida, found second-borns are 20% to 40% more likely to have behavioral problems. If you're the second-born child you may want to have a little chat with your parents. The reason why second-born siblings may be worse behaved than first-born is that parents tend to pay less attention to them.

"Second-born children tend to have less attention from the mother than their older siblings because first-born children experience their mother's maternity leave(产假). First-borns enjoy the rewards of not only their own time with Mum following their birth, but the time Mum takes off with younger siblings, too," the authors explain.

It's not just about the parents, however. Speaking to NRP, co-author Joseph Doyle said, "The first-born has role models, who are adults. And the second, later-born children have role models who are slightly unreasonable 2-year-olds, you know, their older siblings. The difference of parental investments and the sibling influences probably contribute to these differences we see in the labor market and what we find in behaviors against regulations, even against laws. It's just very difficult to separate those two things because they happen at the same time"

The results, the authors argue, have an important effect on social policy.

【1】What does the underlined word "sprites" in Paragraph 2 probably mean?

- A. Losers
B. Troublemakers
C. Close companions
D. Parents' pets

【2】According to the report, what influences the second-born children's behavior?

- A. Challenges of their elder siblings
B. The amount of attention they receive from parents
C. More family problems they are faced with
D. Fewer chances of talking with others

【3】Joseph Doyle holds the opinion that the older siblings ____.

- A. have the same role models as their younger ones
B. are not to blame for their younger siblings' failure
C. are partly responsible for their younger siblings' problems
D. affect the parental investment and the labor market participation

【4】Which of the following can be the best title for the text?

- A. Parents Prefer First-Born Kids
B. How Parents Improve Family Relationships
C. Social Policy Guides Family Education
D. Why the Second-Born Tend to be Misbehaved

3.

National Treasure has Chinese audiences fired up. But don't confuse it with the Hollywood action film of the same name, in which the hidden history of the United States going back around 250 years is discovered. In the Chinese show producers are lucky—China has a much longer history, and their plan to introduce relics is welcomed by the Palace Museum in the Forbidden City, and eight key province-level museums.