

1. 阅读理解

Visit the Newseum During "Museum Day"!

Museum Day is an annual celebration of boundless curiosity hosted by Smithsonian magazine. Participating museums and cultural institutions across the country provide free entry to anyone presenting a Museum Day ticket. The Museum Day ticket provides free admission for two people.

Here is some information about a popular museum — the Newseum.

EVENT DETAILS

Registration: free tickets will be available for the public to download on December 15 via the link : <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/museumday/museum-day-2018/>.

Advanced registration is requested so that the museum sites know how many people to expect. If you don't register beforehand you may still be admitted the day of the event, but no guarantee for admission. All are welcome to attend including children and groups.

Meeting Point #1: From 7:45 – 8:00 some volunteers will be in the Starbucks at 325 7th St NW before walking 2 blocks to the Newseum.

Meeting Point #2: Outside the Newseum's Pennsylvania Avenue entrance. The Newseum opens at 9:00 am. However, as this is an extremely popular event we highly recommend arriving as early as possible, by 8:15 if you can, to bypass the masses that will show up later in the day.

Meeting Point #3: Once the museum opens we recommend immediately heading to the 6th floor to avoid the masses since most people start on the 1st floor. On the 6th floor, the Hank Greenspun Terrace, which overlooks Pennsylvania Avenue and the U. S. Capitol, has one of the best views in Washington, DC. After that you can proceed through the museum's exhibits starting on the 6th floor and working our way down. The Newseum is open until 5:00 pm and guests are free to arrive and depart whenever they like.

【1】What can we know about the Museum Day tickets?

- A. They are valid at any museum.
- B. Free tickets are specially for children.
- C. Two persons can share one ticket.
- D. They are cheaper if applied for online.

【2】What are the visitors advised to do?

- A. Take a map of the museum.
- B. Register on the website in advance.
- C. Arrive on time to avoid the crowd.
- D. Follow a guide in the museum.

【3】Where can visitors have a bird's eye view of the U. S. Capitol?

- A. In the Starbucks at 325 7th St.
- B. On the 6th floor of the Hank Greenspun Terrace.
- C. On the 6th floor of the Newseum.
- D. At the Newseum's Pennsylvania Avenue entrance.

2. 阅读理解

As smog forced students to stay home, the online learning industry saw a sharp increase in consumers.

During the air pollution red alert from Dec. 8 to 10 last winter, the Beijing Commission of Education ordered all kindergartens, primary schools and middle schools to suspend classes (停课). But the commission urged that, "Teachers should guide students to make full use of digital materials and conduct online learning at home". According to the China Education and Research Network, the number of new users of 17zuoye.com, an online homework platform, tripled (增至三倍) on Dec. 8 compared to the previous day.

Online courses companies also adopted special measures to meet students' demand for Internet learning during the red alert period. For example, New Oriental offered free online English classes for three days for school students as well as online question answering services.

Recent years have seen the popularity of online courses increase sharply in China. Massive Online Open Courses (MOOC), for example, originated in the United States but have become widespread in China since 2013. Some Chinese universities, including Tsinghua University and Peking University, have started their own MOOC platforms. "MOOCs have enlarged the time and space of teaching, fired up learners' interest, helped more people benefit from high quality educational resources and accelerated reform in many aspects of teaching," an official at the Ministry of Education told China Daily.

【1】What were the teachers required to do during the red alert period?

- A. Start MOOC platform.
- B. Reform their way of teaching.
- C. Guide students to learn via the Internet.
- D. Work at home answering phones.

【2】Who offered free online courses during the red alert?

- A. New Oriental. B. The Ministry of Education.
- C. Tsinghua University. D. Peking University.

【3】The underlined words "fired up" in the last paragraph can be replaced by.

- A. displayed B. inspired
- C. explained D. destroyed

【4】What may be the best title for the text?

- A. Teach Online Courses
- B. Stay Home, Get Online to Learn
- C. Take Measures, Stop Air Pollution
- D. Speed up Education Reform

3. 阅读理解

Everything about nuclear energy seems terrifically big: the cost, construction and decommissioning—and the fears of something going badly wrong.

The future, however may well be much smaller. Dozens of companies are working on a new generation of reactors that, they promise, can deliver nuclear power at lower cost and reduced risk.

These small-scale plants will on average generate between 50MW and 300MW of power compared with the 1,000MW-plus from a conventional reactor. They will draw on modular manufacturing techniques that will reduce construction risk, which has plagued larger-scale projects. Supporters believe these advanced modular reactors (AMRs)—most of which will not be commercial until the 2030s—are critical if atomic power is to compete against the rapidly falling costs of solar and wind.