

1.

Yesterday, a salesman from a telecom company called me to sell his phone plans. I was at work and I usually didn't like to spend time on those conversations. I gave him a pretext, saying I couldn't talk yet and advised him to call me back one hour later, at 6 pm.

Surprisingly, he did. So we talked for 15 minutes. He explained to me his different phone plans, which he said were better than my present one. While listening to him, sometimes I was lost in my thoughts. I gave several "mhmhm" as a sign of agreement and to tell him that I was still there. Although I felt a bit impatient as he had a bit of difficulty in correctly talking in French, I stayed calm and polite until the end of the conversation.

At the end of the conversation, he said to me, "Thank you Olivier. You are the first person with whom I talked for a long time. Usually, people shout at us, say unkind words or treat us as thieves. Today, I hadn't had a conversation without an offense. I know you had a long day at work and you could have relaxed in front of your TV. Instead, you listened to me. I am touched and I sincerely thank you."

I thanked him for telling me those words. I realized how much he could have been the subject of verbal violence, all through his working days. I also know that those people getting impatient could have been me. Yet, he was only doing his job. Although he may interrupt our life using the phone, he is still a human like me and is worthy of good treatment. It made me think a lot.

【1】What does the underlined word "pretext" in the first paragraph mean?

A.Solution B.Excuse. C.Point. D.Apology

【2】What did the author do when the salesman called him the second time?

A.He gave full attention to what he said
B.He talked excitedly with him about phone plans
C.He waited politely for him to finish speaking
D.He advised the salesman to improve his French

【3】What does the author tell us through the last paragraph?

A.Salesmen should be treated kindly.
B.There's no excuse for rude behavior.
C.Verbal violence is common in daily life.
D.We should spare more time for salesmen.

2.

In April 2015, UK journalist Rebecca Atkinson, along with other parents of children with disabilities started the campaign(活动) Toy Likeme to solve the lack of various toys for children with disabilities. They created a Facebook page where everyone was able to post ideas and pictures about what toys for children with disabilities should look like.

Even though the campaign attracted a lot of attention, these parents couldn't rest until their ideas actually became real. Luckily, only 2 weeks after the campaign started, the people who started the campaign got in touch with a company in the UK that designs toys through 3D printing, and the company agreed to create a new series of dolls. That's when the first toys with disabilities were produced.

There are around 150 million children with disabilities, and even though the toy industry is worth over \$2.9 billion, it has completely failed to create toys that are fitter for them. Until recently, that is. Thanks to this campaign that has taken the Internet by storm, many toy companies have answered this calling and have made toys specifically for children with disabilities.

Soon enough, the Toylikeme campaign on Facebook and Twitter finally reached the big companies like Lego, and now there is an entire series of toys with disabilities that have been sold worldwide.

Even after all the success this campaign has had, Toy Likeme gets on with its task. The organization has followers in over 45 countries and has received to continuously influence the global toy industry and hopefully make kids with disabilities all around the world feel accepted and appreciated.

【1】What can we learn about Toylikeme?

A.It makes disabled kids have more confidence
B.It gives away toys to children with disabilities
C.It makes disabled kids have various toys to play with
D.It gives families with disabled kids encouragement

【2】What does Paragraph 3 mainly show?

A.There's a growing need for helping disabled kids
B.Many toy companies are responding to the calling
C.There's a growing need for more toy companies
D.Children are fond of playing with various toys

【3】What can be inferred about Toy Likeme in the last paragraph?

A.It will continue its journey.
B.It has gained support of parents.
C.It has been popular with disabled kids.
D.It will care for other needs of disabled kids.

3.

Plastic remains one of the most-used materials for making many of the things we use in our everyday lives. Things made of plastic can be very strong and last a long time. They also do well in extreme heat and cold. Plastic is also much lighter than metal and can be easily formed into different shapes. This makes the material perfect for the uses across many different industries

But the widespread use of plastics is causing major problems for the environment. Plastic materials are causing serious damage to the world's oceans.

Plastics can take hundreds of years to break down on their own. Very few kinds are highly recyclable. This is because of the way plastics are formed. Even when recycling is possible, the process is costly and can use a lot of energy.

But a team of researchers working at the U.S. Department of Energy say they have created a kind of plastic that could lead to products that are 100 percent recyclable.

The researchers say the new material is a plastic polymer(聚合物)called polydiketoenamine, or PDK. The team reports that the material can be broken down in parts at the molecular(分子的) level. It can then be built up again to form plastics of different shapes, colors and more. The researchers say this process can be repeated over and over again -without the plastic material losing any performance or quality.

"Most plastics were never made to be recycled," lead researcher Peter Christensen said. "But we have discovered a new way to make plastics that takes recycling into consideration from a molecular point of view. Then we would be able to remove plastics from the oceans. It's going to be a really exciting time."