

1.

Essay Competition

The aim of this contest is to encourage great student writers and to give them a leg-up in their studies.

Prizes

One Grand Prize winner will receive: \$1,000 in cash; the essay published in our magazine's May 2021 issue; an interview with our magazine's author.

Ten First Place winners will receive: \$500 in cash; their names and essay titles listed in our magazine's May 2021 issue.

Fifty Honorable Mention Winners will receive: a \$50 gift card to our online shop.

Requirements

\* The length of the essay should be between 500-700 words.

\* Write an essay on the topic of: How Food Affects Our Mood.

\* Please write about three reasons for believing in your thesis (论点) statement in the form of body paragraphs and back up your reasons with practical evidence from respected sources.

\* Do not write about yourself and don't explain why you deserve to win the prizes.

Deadlines

Early-Bird Deadline: May 4, 2020-Free for the entry.

Deadline: June 5, 2020-\$5 for the entry.

Extended Deadline: July 22, 2020-\$10 for the entry.

【1】What will the First Place winners be rewarded with?

A. Getting their essays published in the magazine.

B. Having their essay titles listed in the magazine.

C. Receiving a gift card to the particular online shop.

D. Gaining an opportunity to meet the magazine's author.

【2】Which of the following meets the requirements?

A. Writing an essay of more than 800 words.

B. Submitting an essay about food nutrition.

C. Expressing your strong desire to get the award.

D. Supporting your reasons with credible evidence.

【3】When can you submit your essay for free?

A. April 30, 2020. B. May 20, 2020. C. June 10, 2020. D. July 25, 2020.

2.

I was lucky on the first night of the trip, because I had an empty seat next to me. But I found out this wasn't the best solution for sleeping. I woke up early and kept a journal.

I was excited to see Chicago. I had never been there before and didn't really know what to expect. I was also looking forward to finding somewhere to take a shower. I wouldn't recommend trying to shave (刮胡子) on the train. Even holding a toothbrush by your face could be dangerous with the constant movement of the train, let alone a razor (剃刀).

We had one last stop before Chicago, and I remembered hopping (跳跃) on the platform for a few minutes. It was cold! I was on my way to Cali, and figured I wouldn't need too many warm clothes. Brilliant. I had one hoodie (连帽上衣) and was wearing it for most of the trip. We got on the train and soon things changed from the scenery along the Great Lakes, into a more urban area. On the train, you aren't presented with "Welcome to..." signs for different cities and towns. You get to see parts of them that aren't cleaned up and beautified for your view. You get to go to the areas that aren't so pretty, and that's another reason why I loved the experience. We rolled past alleys, streets, and soon enough, a lot of other trains. Chicago seems to be quite busy. The amount of tracks and signals was amazing. The sun was rising when we rolled into Union Station's platform. The entire platform is inside a big "garage" for the trains. I grabbed my luggage and made my way inside the station. The architecture of Union Station was really amazing.

【1】Why did the author think he was lucky?

A. Because he woke up early.

B. Because he kept a journal.

C. Because he had enough room to sleep.

D. Because he found the best solution for sleeping.

【2】What can we know from Paragraph 2?

A. The author wanted to have a swim.

B. The author knew what he would see.

C. Holding a toothbrush by your face is exciting.

D. Shaving on the train is dangerous.

【3】Why did the author hop on the platform for a few minutes?

A. He wanted to do some exercise. B. He wanted to see inside the train.

C. He wanted to warm himself up. D. He wanted to see the signs clearly.

【4】When did the author reach the Union Station?

A. In the morning. B. At noon.

C. In the evening. D. At night.

3.

The terraced rapeseed (油菜) flower hills of Jiangling, Wuyuan is well-known as one of the four "seas of flowers" in China, attracting thousands of plant-loving tourists to come and appreciate and photograph the vast and endless rapeseed flower fields.

"Rapeseed flowers are the messenger of spring," said Bin Zhan, manager of Jiangxi Wuyuan Tourism, "Jiangling is the best place for a relaxing spring trip to enjoy the most visually impressive views of golden seas of rapeseed blossoms covering layered terrace fields".

The rapeseed blossom in the terraced fields of Jiangling, located 45 kilometres to the northeast of Wuyuan County, Jiangxi Province, reached full bloom in the second week of March.

This year, Wuyuan restores ancient farming traditions and practices to give visitors an idea of the history, culture and folk customs of the county by adding