

1.

Singapore is a city full of fun and adventure through the modernization and natural wonders. Come to see and explore the popular landmarks(地标) of Singapore and know the interesting facts and stories behind them.

Esplanade

One of the famous public parks in Singapore, Esplanade is a performing art center where different kinds of performances and shows are held every day. Built in 1970, the Esplanade hub(中心) is famous for shopping, dining and entertainment.

Merlion Park

Merlion of Singapore has two elements(元素) and each element represents a different meaning. The downside fish sculpture(雕塑) symbolizes(象征) the fishing villages of Singapore's past while the lion head is a Singapura, which means "lion city" in Sanskrit. The water comes out of the mouth of Lion and falls down in Singapore River. Chijmes

Now, it is famous for its shops and entertainments; once Chijmes was a Catholic Convent School in the 1800s. This famous compound(大院) is home to several buildings of their unique architectures. The compound got a new name of Chijmes in 1990 for its amazing sound of tower bells. Now, Chijmes has been turned into a perfect nightlife entertainment place for tourists.

Singapore Flyer

Standing at a breathtaking height of 165 meters, Singapore Flyer is Asia's largest observation wheel, which was launched in 2008. The beautiful panoramic(全景的) views of Marina Bay and the city can be observed from its top height.

The Cenotaph

Built in the year of 1922, The Cenotaph is a war memorial(纪念碑) telling the stories of the 124 British soldiers who fought and died in World War II. The Cenotaph is standing in the Esplanade Park with a proud inscription(碑文) at its base which reads "They died so that we might live".

【1】Which of the following has the longest history?

- A. Esplanade. B. Chijmes  
C. Singapore Flyer. D. The Cenotaph

【2】What can we do in Esplanade?

- A. See panoramic views of Singapore. B. Observe all kinds of sea creatures.  
C. Eat out with friends and family. D. Visit old and unique architectures.

【3】What do we know about Merlion of Singapore?

- A. It is a fish sculpture with a lion head.  
B. It is an old fishing village of Singapore.  
C. It is Asia's largest observation wheel.  
D. It is an amusement park on Singapore River

【4】Who will The Cenotaph probably appeal to?

- A. Music lovers. B. Sports fans.  
C. Painting lovers. D. History lovers.

2.

At just 11 years old, Vince Weishaus runs his own hair salon(发廊) in his parents' basement in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, doing different hairstyles for free.

For Vince, his love of hair started at a very young age. "He has an older sister who had dolls and he would just, at 2 or 3, be playing with the dolls' hair," recalled Emily Weishaus, Vince's mother.

Not long afterward, he also fell in love with braiding(编辫子). "He watched me do a braid, and then he undid the braid and redid it without me ever showing him how to do it," his mother said. He found his true passion as a hairstylist when he started cutting his grandmother's hair before he was 5. "At the very beginning, I feel like that's what gave him the confidence to be who he is," she added.

Vince's hairstyling dream became a reality when his parents presented him with a special surprise on his ninth birthday: his very own salon in their basement. His neighbor had a salon in her home, but she decided to pass on her supplies to Vince when she moved.

Family members and friends have stopped by for appointments—all free of charge—at Vincent Charles Salon. The kid's services range from coloring, to braiding the for proms(舞会), family parties, talent shows and more. He has dyed his own hair different colors, from rose gold to purple. He even colors his friends' hair tips before they head off to camp.

Vince loves learning different practices and tricks of the trade from other hair mentors, such as his own stylist, Chelsea, who teaches him many styling skills.

The sky is the limit for Vince—his eventual goal is to become a world-famous hair colorist one day. His advice to anyone who wants to pursue their own dreams: "Do what they love and be themselves."

【1】What inspired Vince's interest in hairstyling when he was very young?

- A. Reading fashion magazines. B. Playing with dolls.  
C. Seeing cartoon movies. D. Visiting a hair salon.

【2】What is his mother's attitude towards Vince's passion as a hairstylist?

- A. Opposing. B. Indifferent.  
C. Supportive. D. Concerned.

【3】What does the underlined word "mentors" in the passage mean?

- A. Students. B. Employees.  
C. Traders. D. Instructors.

【4】What can we infer about Vince from the last paragraph?

- A. He is ambitious. B. He is humorous.  
C. He is intelligent. D. He is generous.

3.

When I was five or six years old, I remember watching TV and seeing other children suffer in other parts of the world. I would say to myself, "When I grow up, when I can get rich, I will save kids all over the world."

At 17, I started my career here in America, and by the age of 18, I started my first charity organization. I went on to team up with other organizations in the following years, and met, helped, and even lost some of the most beautiful souls, from six-year-old Jasmina Anema who passed away in 2010 from leukemia(白血病)—her story inspired thousands to volunteer as donors, to 2012 when my grandmother lost her battle with cancer, which is the very reason and the driving force behind the Clara