

1.

The next time you look up at the sky and see a cloud that looks like Mickey Mouse or your favorite fruit, look again. It may not be a cloud, but a Flogo—a logo that flies. It's a new form of advertising in the sky that's never been used before. It's a different way to market your products, logos, and events.

These funny logos are made with soap bubbles (肥皂泡) mixed with a little helium gas (氦气), which makes them lighter than air and float in the sky. Special machines are used to make these new funny Flogos. The machine, which can be rented for \$ 2,500 a day, can make a Flogo every 15-25 seconds.

Flogos can fly much higher or lower if needed. They can last from a few minutes to an hour anywhere in the sky, depending on the weather conditions. Though they can fly up to 20,000 feet, they usually float around at 300-500 feet. Flogos are only white now, but people hope to have more colorful Flogos in the near future.

Flogos are Green, 100% environmentally safe, because the soap used to make the Flogo comes from plants and leaves. So this fun way of advertising is healthy and good for the environment.

21. Flogos are mainly used to \_\_\_\_.

- A. advertise in the sky                      B. make funny bubbles  
C. improve weather conditions              D. see colorful clouds

22. Why are Flogos healthy and good for the environment?

- A. Because they can float high and last for a long time in the sky.  
B. Because there is a little helium gas mixed with soap bubbles.  
C. Because the machines used to make them are special and expensive.  
D. Because the soap used to make them comes from plants and leaves.

23. From the passage, we can infer that Flogos \_\_\_\_.

- A. can fly for hours in the sky all day  
B. can have different colors at present  
C. may be influenced by the weather  
D. may be the cheapest way of advertising

24. Which of the following can be the best title of the passage?

- A. Machines -- Used for Flogos!                      B. Flogos -- Logos that fly!  
C. Advertising -- Made of Fruits!                      D. Clouds -- Like Mickey Mouse!

2.

I went shopping for a dress to wear to my daughter's high school graduation half a year ago. To my horror, I could only fit into a size 20.

Being overweight most of my adult life, I always had very little self-confidence. Wearing a dress I didn't like to such an important event was enough to make me look for help. Thankfully, a friend of mine was attending Weight Watchers meetings, and I noticed her great progress. Her success inspired me to give it a try. I joined Weight Watchers, attended their meetings and started following their Weight-Loss System.

I focused on the plan with determination and never missed a weekly meeting! I discovered that I enjoyed the benefits of having the help and support of others. I also read the weekly online e-newsletter and was inspired by the stories, recipes and information offered there. I also read magazines produced by Weight Watchers, which have great tips and new ideas in each issue.

It's hard for me to even remember the person I was before my amazing change. I didn't walk anywhere and couldn't wash my car or walk my dog. Today I do these simple tasks without even thinking about them. But the change didn't happen overnight. I had to exercise with patience and perseverance (坚持). I decided to take it one day at a time and stick with it forever.

The "new me" is more self-confident and healthier. I love how I feel now. I have more energy and feel like I'm 25 again. So why not give Weight Watchers a try if you have the same overweight problems?

25. The underlined word "inspired" in the second paragraph can be replaced by \_\_\_\_.

- A. excited                      B. moved                      C. encouraged                      D. forced

26. We can learn from the passage that the writer \_\_\_\_.

- A. often went shopping before she lost weight  
B. was overweight when she was a child  
C. ever wanted to give up losing weight.  
D. now is more confident than before.