

1. 阅读理解

Why is pink or purple a color for girls and blue or brown for boys?

The answer depends largely on cultural values as well as personal experiences. To the Egyptians, green was a color that represented the hope and joy of spring, while for Muslims, it means heaven. Red is a symbol of good luck in many cultures. In China, children are given money in a red envelope to bring good fortune in the New Year. For many nations, blue is a symbol of protection and religious beliefs. Greek people often wear a blue necklace hoping to protect themselves against evils.

People's choice of colors is also influenced by their bodies' reactions toward them. Green is said to be the most restful color. It has the ability to reduce pain and relax people both mentally and physically. People who work in green environment have been found to have fewer stomach aches.

Red can cause a person's blood pressure to rise and increase people's appetites. Many decorators will include different shades of red in the restaurant. Similarly, many commercial websites will have a red "Buy Now" button because red is a color that easily catches a person's eye.

Blue is another calming color. Unlike red, blue can cause people to lose appetite. So if you want to eat less, some suggest that eating from blue plates can help.

The next time you are deciding on what to wear or what color to decorate your room, think about the color carefully.

【1】Muslims regard green as a symbol of heaven mainly because of their .

- A. cultural values
- B. commercial purposes
- C. personal experiences
- D. physical reactions to the color

【2】Why will many commercial websites have a red "Buy Now" button?

- A. To relax people physically.
- B. To increase people's appetites.
- C. To encourage people to make a purchase.
- D. To cause a person's blood pressure to rise.

【3】Which of the following would be the most proper title for the text?

- A. Colors and Human Beings
- B. The Cultural Meaning of Color
- C. Colors and Personal Experiences
- D. The Meaning and Function of Color

2.

Are you looking for some new and exciting places to take your kids to? Try some of these places.

★Visit art museums. They offer a variety of activities to excite your kids' interest. Many offer workshops for making hand-made pieces, traveling exhibits, book signings by children's favorite writer, and even musical performances and other arts.

★Head to a natural history museum. This is where kids can discover the past from dinosaur (恐龙) models to rock collections and pictures of stars in the sky. Also, ask what kind of workshops and educational programs are prepared for kids and any special events that are coming up.

★Go to a Youtheater. Look for one in your area offering plays for child and family visitors.

Pre-show play shops are conducted by area artists and educators where kids can discover the secret about performing arts. Puppet (木偶) making and stage make-up are just a couple of the special offerings you might find.

★Try hands-on science. Visit one of the many hands-on science museums around the country.

These science play-lands are great fun for kids and grown-ups alike. They'll keep your child mentally and physically active the whole day through while pushing buttons, experimenting, and building. When everyone is tired, enjoy a fun family science show, commonly found in these museums.

【1】If a child is interested in the universe, he probably will visit ____.

- A. a Youtheater B. an art museum
- C. a hands-on science museum D. a natural history museum

【2】What does "hands-on science" mean in the last paragraph?

- A. Science games designed by kids. B. Learning science by doing things.
- C. A show of kids' science work. D. Reading science books.

【3】Where does this text probably come from?

- A. A museum guide. B. A tourist map.
- C. A science textbook. D. A news report.

3.

A typical lion tamer (驯兽师) in people's mind is an entertainer holding a whip (鞭) and a chair. The whip gets all of the attention, but it's mostly for show. In reality, it's the chair that does the important work. When a lion tamer holds a chair in front of the lion's face, the lion tries to focus on all four legs of the chair at the same time. With its focus divided, the lion becomes confused and is unsure about what to do next. When faced with so many options, the lion chooses to freeze and wait instead of attacking the man holding the chair.

How often do you find yourself in the same position as the lion? How often do you have something you want to achieve (e.g. lose weight, start a business, travel more)—only to end up confused by all of the options in front of you and never make progress?

This upsets me to no end because while all the experts are busy debating about which option is best, the people who want to improve their lives are left confused by all of the conflicting information. The end result is that we feel like we can't focus or that we're focused on the wrong things, and so we take less action, make less progress, and stay the same when we could be improving.

It doesn't have to be that way. Anytime you find the world waving a chair in your face, remember this: all you need to do is focus on one thing. You just need to get started. Starting before you feel ready is one of the habits of successful people. If you have somewhere you want to go, something you want to accomplish, someone you want to become...take immediate action. If you're clear about where you want to go, the rest of the world will either help you get there or get out of the way.

【1】Why does the lion tamer use a chair?

- A. To get ready for a fight. B. To show off his skills.
- C. To trick the lion. D. To entertain the audience.

【2】In what way are people similar to a lion facing a chair?

- A. They hold on to the wrong things. B. They feel puzzled over choices.
- C. They find it hard to make changes. D. They have to do something for show.