

1. 阅读理解

With all the attention Thanksgiving and Christmas get from travellers, it's easy to overlook Halloween as a destination holiday. While a few cities provide a ghostly atmosphere all year round, annual festivals, theme park pop-up events and other haunted happenings elsewhere have helped make the holiday a travel mini-season all its own.

New Orleans

Home to year-round cemetery walks, New Orleans is among the cities that naturally harmonize with Halloween. Worth noting every October is the family-friendly Halloween parade, happening this year on Oct. 21, with floats devoted to themes like werewolves and vampires. Float riders throw locally made candies to the crowd. New Orleans hosts plenty of after-event-parties, but the procession itself draws all ages in costume.

Whitby, England

This picturesque town on England's Yorkshire coast is considered to be the home of Dracula, though in a different way. Bram Stoker spent just a month in Whitby, but those four weeks in July and August 1890 were important in the creation of his most famous book, "Dracula", which was published in 1897. Whitby celebrated the 125th anniversary of Stoker's visit in 2015, but this year you can see the skeletal remains of Whitby Abbey illuminated throughout the final week of October.

Salem, Massachusetts

Home to the infamous witch trials of the early 1690s, it should come as no surprise that this town is a hotbed for Halloween activity. One way Salem builds on its spectral past is with the nearly month-long festival of the Dead. Events starting from mid-October this year include psychic readings, mourning-themed tea and on Halloween night, a witches gathering.

Orlando, Florida

The home of Disney World and Universal Studios goes all-out with huge Halloween events. Universal this year will hold its 27th Halloween Horror Night on Oct. 30, a seasonal pop-up featuring haunted houses and "scareactors" employed to frighten visitors. Plus, there are many other activities like trick-or-treating, Disney character encounters, a Halloween ball and fireworks.

【1】Which of the following is most recommended for a family going together?

- A. New Orleans. B. Whitby, England.
C. Salem, Massachusetts. D. Orlando, Florida.

【2】Where do Halloween activities last the longest this year?

- A. New Orleans. B. Whitby, England.
C. Salem, Massachusetts. D. Orlando, Florida.

【3】What can you do in Orlando, Florida?

- A. Have mourning-themed tea. B. Enjoy dancing.
C. Watch Disney movies. D. See skeletal remains.

2. 阅读理解

A cloudless Southern California sky looms over the Pro Park Course for the Pro Skate Park Series. Here to compete are some of the top female skaters in the world. The women skaters range in age from early adolescence to early 30s, but in a sport that embraces youth, there is one who stands out. At 8 years old, Sky Brown, would be the youngest skater, male or female, ever to compete at this series.

She is known to some — a minor star of the viral age. When her first video was posted to YouTube, Sky initially gained a little internet fame as a premature and level-headed 4-year-old — highly intelligent, well-spoken beyond her years, hugely talented, and yet grounded. Four years later, it was announced that she would be competing at Huntington Beach. Still, the question remains: Is she truly ready, or will this be another case where reality comes crashing down hard on all the hype?

And then, it turns out to be anything but. Sky goes out and presents one surprise after another. Commentators Neal Hendrix and Chris Pastras are left in awe, "Half of the pros can't do." The only thing that makes the prodigy look like a kid is her size. In every other regard, she holds her own with skaters 10 and 20 years her senior. Before the competition at Huntington, Sky was a curiosity. After, she is a competitor.

Sky's first memory of a skateboard is seeing her father, Stuart, doing a few tricks in front of the family home. "It always looked really fun," says Sky. "I just kept begging to try it." Sky progressed quickly, although she never had a formal coach. Somehow she just had the knack. Every movement, every shift in weight, every push and pull of body on board, she absorbed. Then, she did it herself.

"You get so close to making it," she says of her process, "and think you're about to land it, and then it takes you 100 more times. I'm always saying to my parents, 'Just one last try.'" If anyone was pushing, striving to get better, it was Sky herself, learning new tricks the same way everyone else does — by trying, failing, falling, and getting back up again.

【1】What does the author intend to do in Paragraph 2?

- A. To show Sky's early experience.
B. To show Sky's talents from varied aspects.
C. To show the public's doubt about Sky's competence.
D. To show the public's recognition of Sky's performances.

【2】What do we know about Sky?

- A. She equals the senior skaters in the competition.
B. She looks like a professional skater in terms of her figure.
C. She participates in a competition inappropriate for the young.
D. She has already become a household name before the competition.

【3】What is the main reason for Sky's achievements?

- A. Her parents push her too hard.
B. She practices hard and never quits.
C. Her coach is very strict with her.
D. Her father exerts a strong influence on her.

【4】What is the best title for the text?

- A. A Rocky Road Leads to Internet Fame
B. A Strong Competitor Stands out from Crowd
C. An 8-year-old Skater Amazes the World
D. A Wonder Shows at the Pro Skate Park Series

3. 阅读理解