

1.

National Space Center, Leicester

An interactive museum of super-size space experiences: from a giant planet Earth you can touch to the UK's biggest domed planetarium (穹顶天文台) and a 42-meter rocket tower. You can't miss the latter as you drive into Leicester—the structure looks like it's wrapped in giant inflatable pillows. Inside, it houses Blue Streak and Thor Able rockets. Take in the full scale of them by riding a glass-sided lift up to the viewing platform. Elsewhere, there are six galleries with plenty of buttons to press and screens to touch. It's all under cover so it's a good place to visit on a rainy day!

What about lunch?

The Boosters Cafe serves reasonably priced hot and cold snacks and drinks (hot dog from £4.95, plus jacket potatoes, soups, sandwiches and salads) at the foot of the center's two rockets. The cafe offers vegetarian and vegan options too.

Getting there

There is a regular bus service (No.54 with a stop two minutes' walk from the center, as well as a park and ride service from Birstall. East Midlands Trains and Cross-Country Trains operate services to Leicester station, from which the center is a 25-minute bus ride. If driving, it's just off the A6, north of the city center. Parking is £3 for the day.

Value for money

It's not cheap—adult: £15, 5 to 16-year-olds: £12, but once you've paid you can revisit as many times as you want in a year, and admission is free for kids under five.

Opening hours

10 am—4 pm Monday to Friday, 10 am—5 pm weekends and school holidays.

【1】Which of the following CANNOT be found when you visit the National Space Center?

A. A big inflatable pillow. B. A domed planetarium.

C. The Boosters Cafe. D. A high rocket tower.

【2】Which of the following statements is TRUE according to the article?

A. Visitors can arrive at the entrance to the center by only taking the No.54 bus.

B. It takes visitors 25 minutes to get to the center from Leicester station by riding a bike.

C. Snacks and drinks are served at reasonable prices.

D. Although the parking fee is reasonable, there are limited parking lots.

【3】If a couple want to take their daughter a primary school student, and 15-year-old son to the space center, how much will they spend on the tickets?

A. £45. B. £57. C. £42. D. £54

2.

The decision on Tuesday by Japan and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to postpone the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games until next summer because of the novel coronavirus pandemic must have been a hard one to make.

Although the Games have been canceled—three times in all, in 1916, 1940 and 1944—due to the two world wars in the modern Olympics' history of more than 120 years, never before have any Games been postponed to a different year.

Nonetheless, the decision is the right one. If it is not brought under control, the harm done to human society by the pandemic could be more serious and far-reaching than even the two world wars. Given the number of countries affected and social and economic shock waves that have been caused by the rapid spread of the virus, postponing the Games is the only right and sensible choice to make.

After all, nothing is more important than people's lives. Postponing the Games not only safeguards the health of athletes, audiences and everyone involved in the Games, but also reduces potential transmission of the virus from one place to another. Even looking at it from only a sporting level, the pandemic has already caused huge disruptions to athletes' training and the qualification process.

It is undoubtedly a big blow for Japan, which has prepared meticulously for the largest sports event in the world, including renovating and upgrading its infrastructure and sports venues, such as rebuilding Tokyo's Olympic Stadium at cost of \$1.45 billion. Japan will suffer huge loss at least in the short term.

The international community owes a big “thank you” to Japan for all it has done for the Games despite the postponement. That's why the Games will still be called the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 despite taking place in 2021. The Olympic flame will also remain stored and displayed in Japan.

More importantly, all members in the Olympic family, guided by the Olympic spirit of respect and understanding are morally bound to stand behind Japan to go through this most difficult moment in the Games' history.

【1】What does the word “it” in Paragraph 3 refer to?

A. The decision. B. The Games. C. The pandemic. D. The war.

【2】What does the underlined word “meticulously” in Paragraph 5 probably mean?

A. Wisely. B. Recently. C. Easily. D. Precisely.

【3】We know from the passage _____.

A. the Games should be put off in times of war and disaster

B. the Games will still be called Tokyo 2020 Games for its sacrifice

C. postponing the Games will have a bad influence on the athletes

D. the Olympic family will have to make up for the loss of Japan

【4】What can we learn from the last paragraph?

A. The whole world will support Japan. B. Japan will keep the Olympic flame burning.

C. Postponing the Games will bring the world hope. D. Tokyo will become the symbol of the Games.

3.

It is food news guaranteed to put a smile on your face. Scientists have found that eating dark chocolate appears to lower the risk of depression by a quarter. While 7.6 percent of the 13,000 people surveyed reported depressive symptoms, just 1.5 percent of the chocolate eaters did.

The study by University College London (UCL), the University of Calgary and Alberta Health Services Canada, also found that the people who consumed the most of any chocolate were also 57 percent less likely to report depressive symptoms. Lead author Dr. Sarah Jackson said, “This study provides some evidence that consumption of chocolate, particularly dark chocolate, may be associated with reduced odds of clinically relevant depressive symptoms.”

The study is the first to examine the association with depression according to the type of chocolate consumed. The team assessed data from 13,626 adults from the US National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. A range of other factors including height, weight, marital status, ethnicity, education, household income, physical activity, smoking and chronic health problems were also taken into account to ensure the study only measured chocolate's effect on depressive symptoms.

After adjusting for these factors, it was found that individuals who reported eating any dark chocolate in two 24-hour periods had 70 percent lower odds of reporting