

1. 阅读理解

Cities all over the world celebrate Christmas in unique and memorable ways. The following international destinations are just a few of the countless choices to consider.

Quebec city

Quebec city has long drawn admirers to its historic district the famed city wall, strange cobblestone lanes (鹅卵石小路) and handsome stone houses. This area transforms into a scenic Christmas village each December. The 403-year-old capital of Quebec province takes pride in the outdoors at Christmas time, when stone buildings shine with lights. Consider cross-country ski on the Plains of Abraham, or skate at the place D' Youville square.

Edinburgh

Edinburgh, a magic city full of staircases and hills as well as Georgian and neo-Classical buildings, is famous for its mixture of the modern and the old. This is evident in winter, when Scotland's capital puts on a six-week festival lasting until Jan. 6 that goes way beyond Christmas markets. You can ride roller coasters, climb a wall of ice and attend a vivid Christmas themed show by the cabaret troupe (剧团) La Clique.

Zurich

If buying gifts is on your travel schedule, Zurich is an impressive shopping center, particularly around the holidays, from multiple Christmas markets and the luxury (奢侈品) dress shops of Bahnhofstrasse Street, to the independent designers and antique shops in the merging industrial zones. Another annual lighting spectacle (壮观场面), Lichterschwimmen, on Dec. 21, includes hundreds of tiny lanterns that are sent floating down the River Limmat.

Sydney

A lack of snow does not dampen the Christmas spirit in Sydney. One great and free way to feel the holiday is to take this Dec. 21 walking tour of George Street, which promises "the most sharable window displays and coloured lights." One advantage over other destinations: warm, sandy beaches that lie just minutes from downtown, where the natural beauty of Australia's most popular city will be waiting.

【1】What can you do in Quebec city during Christmas?

- A. Ride roller coasters.
- B. Take part in a walking tour.
- C. Enjoy cross-country ski.
- D. Watch a Christmas-themed show.

【2】Where should you go if you want to enjoy a Christmas without snow?

- A. Quebec city. B. Edinburgh.
- C. Zurich. D. Sydney.

【3】Where is this text most likely from?

- A. A guidebook. B. A diary.
- C. A novel. D. A research paper.

2. 阅读理解

One of the most important things that has happened to me occurred long before I was aware of it. As the story goes, I was three days old and Mom was singing "The Name Game" song to me: "Christine Bo-Bean-Banana-Fanna-Fo-Feen." By day four, I was given a new name—Christine-Bo-Bean, or just Bo-Bee to my mother. Now, I am Bo to her and close friends.

Why is this nickname (昵称) so important to me? I once read a book with a passage about True Names which explains that when a person's true name is spoken, she has a distinct aura (光环) around her. Although I have been Bo to my mother all my life, I recently discovered that my true name is not on my birth certificate; it's the name that is as unique and memorable as I am.

People usually know me as Christine. They still see me as a quiet, bookish child. They don't know who I am now. My most recent hopes, fears, goals, dreams and opinions escape their notice; it is easier to think of me as I was. In their minds, they have a box labeled "Christine" in which I fit neatly, and as Christine, I was content with the perfect packaging.

Those who call me Bo or Bo-Bee really know me. They remember who I was and realize I have changed. Bo is a tight squeeze in the old "Christine" boxes. The Bo I am is ever-changing, ever-growing and ever-learning.

When I was Christine, I was quiet, and easily scared. I feared groups, meeting new people and sharing my opinions. I was more comfortable with a book than my best friend. As Christine, I thought everyone was better than I was.

As Bo, I still love my books, but I want to discuss them. As Bo, my dream is to live where I can experience new things and meet new people. I dream about being alone on a stage lit by a single spotlight; I have that confidence now. I am equal to those I once saw as better than me.

A name shouldn't make such a difference, but sometimes, when a person finds his or her True Name, they develop a new shine visible to friends, family and especially themselves.

I can't always be Bo. Sometimes exposing myself is still scary and I feel too nervous; I want to hide in those old boxes. Mostly, however, I am ready for the world. So, just call me Bo.

【1】When was the author given a nickname?

- A. When she was three years old.
- B. On the fourth day after she was born.
- C. Seven days after she was born.
- D. When she received the old "Christine" box.

【2】What do the people know about the author as Christine?

- A. They think the author is active and crazy.
- B. They care about the author's most recent feelings.
- C. They don't realize the author has changed.
- D. They don't know the author has changed her name.

【3】What kind of person was the author in the past?

- A. She showed no interest in reading.
- B. She took pleasure in finding new things.
- C. She loved reading and sharing books with friends.
- D. She lacked confidence and preferred to be alone.

【4】What can be a suitable title for the text?

- A. Bo—the True Name
- B. A Unique Name