

1.

To get from New York City (NYC) to Chicago, there are several transportation options. Consider the pros and cons of each option to choose the best one for you.

Time	Cost	Best for
Train	20 hours from \$70	seeing scenery
Flight	3 hours from \$48, but varies widely	getting there quickly
Bus	19 hours from \$38	travelers on a budget
Car	12 hours from \$60	stopping for attractions

By train

Traveling by train from NYC to Chicago is a relatively long journey. Trains go from Penn Station in Manhattan to Union Station. The route is serviced by Amtrak, via the Lake Shore Limited or Cardinal to Chicago or by changing trains either in Washington, D. C. or Pittsburgh. You can purchase tickets in advance by Amtrak or in person at Penn Station.

By plane

Flying to Chicago is the fastest and most convenient way to travel there from NYC. The major carriers include JetBlue, Delta, United, and American Airlines, as well as budget carriers including Southwest and Spirit Airlines.

By bus

Bus service from NYC to Chicago is a long journey, too. Greyhound is the only company that services this route and buses depart from Port Authority Bus Terminal in Manhattan and arrive at Union Station. These buses offer Wi-Fi service.

By car

You'll drive through New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, and then along the Michigan and Indiana border until you go around the southern tip of Lake Michigan and back up into Chicago. While this trip is long, the most significant advantage of traveling by car is that there are a few interesting places to stop along the way.

【1】How should you go to Chicago from NYC if you want to save money?

A. By train. B. By plane. C. By bus. D. By car.

【2】At which place can you buy train tickets to Chicago?

A. Union Station. B. Penn Station. C. Delta. D. Greyhound.

【3】What is the advantage of driving to Chicago from NYC?

A. Saving more money.

B. Spending less time.

C. Stopping to enjoy scenery.

D. Staying in NYC for a long time.

2.

I just had a snowstorm that piled up eight inches of snow. It truly was a winter wonderland, and there was white beauty everywhere. Since I didn't have anything to do that day, I really enjoyed it.

But then the second snowstorm arrived that night, piling additional inches of snow on top of the snow banks that were already there. And then on the evening news, the weather cast gave us a notice that still another snowstorm was headed our way. Then I felt despondent. I had things to do and places to go. After days of being snowbound, I felt like I was under house arrest. I was stuck.

A place stuck isn't a fun place to be, whether it's from a snowstorm or from life circumstances such as a bad relationship, bills that seem to tower over our heads, or situations where we see no way out. All of us will feel stuck at one time or another, but it's how we respond that makes the difference.

I had a friend named Hannah. She was stuck in the heartbreaking world of infertility (不孕). She longed for a child more than anything. Instead of accepting defeat, she acted sincerely. Think about Nelson Mandela in a dark prison. It was a seemingly hopeless place, but instead of becoming depressed or bitter, he kept fighting for freedom. Yes, he kept fighting to get the success.

Circumstances cannot define us, but our reactions do. Each of those men and women learned important lessons in their "stuck" situations, and we can as well.

【1】What does the underlined word "despondent" in paragraph 2 mean?

A. Unhappy. B. Unusual. C. Ambitious. D. Energetic.

【2】What does the author intend to do in paragraph 3?

A. Summarize the previous paragraphs.

B. Provide some advice for the readers.

C. Introduce some background information.

D. Form a connecting link of the context.

【3】Why does the author mention Hannah and Nelson Mandela?

A. To introduce two great celebrities.

B. To introduce the way to be famous.

C. To show their different circumstances.

D. To show how to respond to difficult situations.

【4】What's the best title for the text?

A. Don't be defeated by failure

B. Don't be trapped by snow

C. Enjoy the white beauty