

1.

Planning a visit to the UK? Here we help with ways to cut your costs.

AVOID BIG EVENTS Big sporting events, concerts and exhibitions can increase the cost of accommodation and make it harder to find a room. A standard double room at the Thistle Brighton the final Friday of the Brighton Comedy Festival (19 Oct.) cost £ 169.15 at Booking.com. A week later, the same room cost £ 118.15.

If you can be flexible and want to know dates to avoid -or you're looking for a big event to pass your time—check out sites such as Whatsonwhen. com, which allow you to search for events in the UK by city, date and category.

STAY AWAY FROM THE STATION If traveling to your destination by train, you may want to find a good base close to the station, but you could end up paying more for the sake of convenience at the start of your holiday.

Don't be too choosy about the part of town you stay in. Booking two months in advance, the cheapest room at Travelodge's Central Euston hotel in London for Saturday 22 September was £ 95.95. A room just a tube journey away at its Covent Garden hotel was £ 75.75. And at Farringdon, a double room cost just £ 62.95.

LOOK AFTER YOURSELF Really central hotels in cities such as London, Edinburgh and Cardiff can cost a fortune, especially at weekends and during big events. As an alternative consider checking into a self-catering flat with its own kitchen. Often these flats are hidden away on the top floors of city centre buildings. A great example is the historic O'Neill Flat on Edinburgh's Royal Mile, available for £ 420 for five days in late September, with room for four adults.

【1】At Whatsonwhen.com, you can _____.

- A. find a room close to the station
- B. find a room which costs less
- C. know how to kill time
- D. know when and where there will be events

【2】“Farringdon” in Paragraph 5 is most probably _____.

- A. an ideal holiday destination
- B. the name of a railway station
- C. a hotel away from the train station
- D. the tube line to Covent Garden

【3】The passage shows that the O'Neill Flat _____.

- A. lies on the ground floor
- B. provides cooking facilities for tourists
- C. is located in central London
- D. costs over £100 on average per day in late September

2.

Nisha Pradhan is worried. The recent college graduate just turns 21 and plans to live on her own. But she's afraid she won't be able to stay safe. That's because she isn't able to smell.

Back home, her family do her smelling for her. She's moved in with them for now, but she's looking for a place of her own. “Now that I'm searching for ways or place to live as an independent person, I find that the sense of smell is important to how we live our lives,” Pradhan says.

She says when she was a child she liked to eat and ate a lot. But there came a point where she lost interest in food.

“One of the first things that people notice whenever they have a smell problem is that food doesn't taste right any more,” says Beverly Cowart, a researcher. That's because eating and smell go hand in hand. How food tastes often rely on what we smell. “When you lose your sense of smell, your whole sense of food flavors changed and reduced,” Cowart says. “You can still taste the basic tastes. What you're missing are the small distinctions.”

“When I go out to eat I have often found that food is very tasteless to me. I never feel full,” she says. “I think a lot of us today like to pretend to be food lovers and we all like to talk about ‘Oh, I think this could use a little bit more flavor,’ or ‘I think this has a hint of meat,’ I can't really participate in those conversations,” she says.

Pradhan thinks her smell loss also may have affected her memory. Pradhan may be on to something, according to biologist Paul Moore. “When smell signals come in, you feel about them first. And then you think about it and then the memory is laid down. So without the feel part, the thinking about its part doesn't come And that means no new smell memory gets created.”

【1】What is true about Pradhan?

- A. She has had no sense of smell since she was born.
- B. She suffers from loss of appetite through lack of smell sense.
- C. She has something wrong with her stomach.
- D. She is looking for a roommate to share the cost.

【2】What can we infer from what Beverly Cowart said?

- A. People with a smell problem have no food tastes.
- B. Different food tastes the same for people of smell loss.
- C. Lack of smell sense makes eating a dull experience.
- D. People feel hungry easily for lack of smell sense.

【3】When eating out, Pradhan _____.

- A. feels left out sometimes
- B. often has a good appetite
- C. pretends to have good smell sense
- D. has a sense of being full quickly

【4】What does the underlined sentence mean?

- A. Pradhan may be right.
- B. Pradhan may be foolish.
- C. Pradhan may be crazy.
- D. Pradhan may be forgettable.

3.

As a little girl growing up in the early 1960s in a suburb of Pittsburgh, it was not always easy to find role models, But I was lucky. In my childhood, I knew smart, strong women who had accomplished much, one of whom invented the world's first computer compiler (编译器).

Recently, though, I learned about a role model who was right under my nose—my own mother.

Growing up, I knew she had worked as a secretary before I was born. I knew that she had joined the WAVES—the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service branch of the U.S. Naval Reserve (海军预备队)—during World War II. And I knew she'd worked in an office that was involved with codes (编码). But when she talked about it—rare, because she had been sworn to secrecy—she described her duties as ordinary, routine. I never questioned it. After all, the woman I knew was a reserved suburban mom.