

【英検®2級+】長文読解 1/10 〈後期〉

Name: _____ / Date: _____ Score: ____/8 ⌚ 6 min

A

From:

Laura Bennett <l.bennett@westfieldlibrary.com>

To:

Mark Evans <m.evans@westfieldlibrary.com>

Date: October 22

Subject: Used-book event**

Hi Mark,

Thank you for offering to help with our used-book event next Friday. We have received considerably more book donations than anticipated, so we have decided to extend the event until Saturday afternoon. The purpose is not only to sell inexpensive books but also to encourage residents to reuse items rather than discard them.

Most of the donated books have already been sorted into categories. However, we still need to prepare signs so that visitors can locate each section easily. We also plan to create a small area where children can sit and read. Several local families have expressed interest in the event, so we expect this area to be particularly popular.

Could you print the signs on Thursday and arrange some chairs in the children's area? Please also check whether we have enough large boxes. Any books remaining after the event will be donated to a local organization rather than thrown away.

Best wishes,

Laura Bennett

Westfield Library

[語注]

① considerably[副]かなり、大幅に ② donation[名]寄付、寄贈品 ③ anticipate[動]～を予想する、予期する ④ extend[動]～を延長する ⑤ encourage[動]～を促す、励ます ⑥ discard[動]～を捨てる、処分する ⑦ sort[動]～を分類する ⑧ category[名]分類、カテゴリー ⑨ locate[動]～の場所を見つける ⑩ remaining[形]残っている

(1) Why will the used-book event continue until Saturday afternoon?

1. The library wants local children to have more time to read.
2. More books were donated than the organizers had expected.
3. A local organization asked the library to extend the event.
4. The library was unable to prepare the building by Friday.

(2) Why will the library prepare a special area for children?

1. Several families have shown interest in attending the event.
2. The library wants children to sort donated books into categories.
3. Most of the books being sold were originally written for children.
4. Parents have requested a place where children can donate old books.

(3) What does Laura ask Mark to do?

1. Contact a local organization about collecting the remaining books.
2. Decide which donated books should be sold during the event.
3. Prepare signs, arrange chairs, and check the supply of boxes.
4. Encourage more families to donate books before Thursday.

B

The Growing Value of Urban Trees

Trees have long been planted in cities to make streets and parks more attractive. Recently, however, researchers and city planners have begun to recognize that urban trees provide benefits that go far beyond appearance. As cities become warmer and more densely populated, trees are increasingly regarded as an important part of urban infrastructure.

One significant advantage is their ability to moderate heat. Buildings and roads absorb considerable amounts of sunlight and release the heat slowly, making urban areas warmer than surrounding regions. Trees provide shade and release moisture into the air, which can reduce temperatures nearby. This benefit has become particularly valuable as periods of extreme heat have grown more frequent in many regions.

Urban trees can provide other benefits as well. Their roots absorb rainwater, reducing the amount that immediately enters drainage systems during heavy storms. Trees can also improve the quality of public spaces by making streets more comfortable for pedestrians. Some cities therefore prioritize planting trees in neighborhoods where residents have limited access to parks or other green spaces.

Nevertheless, planting trees alone is insufficient. Young trees require regular care, and some species cannot survive in polluted or extremely dry environments. Their roots may also damage sidewalks if inappropriate species are planted in narrow spaces. For this reason, successful programs must consider where trees are planted, which species are selected, and how they will be maintained over time.

[語注]

- ① urban[形]都市の、都会の ② recognize[動]～を認識する、認める ③ infrastructure[名]社会基盤、インフラ ④ moderate[動]～を和らげる ⑤ absorb[動]～を吸収する ⑥ considerable[形]かなりの、相当な ⑦ release[動]～を放出する ⑧ moisture[名]水分、湿気 ⑨ prioritize[動]～を優先する ⑩ maintain[動]～を維持する、管理する

(4) Why are urban trees receiving greater attention?

1. They can provide practical benefits in addition to improving appearance.
2. They allow cities to construct more buildings in limited spaces.
3. They require less maintenance than other forms of infrastructure.
4. They have made surrounding rural regions significantly warmer.

(5) How can trees help reduce urban temperatures?

1. They prevent buildings from absorbing any sunlight.
2. They provide shade and release moisture into the air.
3. They move warm air from cities into surrounding regions.
4. They reduce the amount of sunlight reaching the entire city.

(6) Why do some cities prioritize certain neighborhoods when planting trees?

1. Those neighborhoods usually receive more rainfall than other areas.
2. Residents there are more willing to maintain trees themselves.
3. People there may have fewer opportunities to access green spaces.
4. Trees grow more rapidly in densely populated neighborhoods.

(7) What is one possible problem with urban trees?

1. Their roots may damage sidewalks when unsuitable species are planted.
2. Young trees generally absorb too much rainwater during storms.
3. Trees cannot survive in any area affected by air pollution.
4. Their shade may prevent pedestrians from using city streets.

(8) Which of the following is true?

1. Any species of tree can provide the same benefits in every urban environment.
2. Planting trees is more important than maintaining them after they are planted.
3. Urban trees are mainly valuable because they make cities look more attractive.
4. Effective tree programs require careful planning as well as continued maintenance.