

Part 1

You are going to read a magazine article about the Nobel Prize for literature. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text. Write the answers on the separate answer sheet.

The Nobel Prize for Literature

In his last will and testament, the Swedish inventor and philanthropist Alfred Nobel donated a vast amount of his fortune to fund five yearly prizes awarded to individuals or institutions who distinguished themselves in the fields of physics, chemistry, medicine, literature and international peace. The Nobel Prize for literature, which is awarded by the Swedish Academy in Stockholm, has become the most prestigious literary award in the world today.

The winner of the Nobel Prize for literature is usually announced on a Thursday morning in October, although it has been known to be as late as November on the occasions when the Nobel committee have had trouble reaching an agreement. Which Thursday the announcement will be made on is kept a closely guarded secret until forty-eight hours before, and then the information is released to the press.

The Nobel committee consists of eighteen members of the Swedish Academy in Stockholm, who have the challenging task of examining the three hundred or so nominations that are received every year. This process is also carried out behind closed doors.

A writer's formal nomination must be sent to the Academy no later than the first of February of the year in question. Then, a sub-committee made up of five members of the Academy reviews the nominations and quite quickly reduces the list to fifteen names. By the end of May this list has been further shortened to six finalists. This short list is then presented to the whole committee on 31st May, just before the Academy begins its summer holiday.

During the summer break the members of the committee have time to read the material of the short-listed writers carefully. On returning to the Academy in mid September, each member presents a written summary they have prepared, giving their reasons for the final choice they made. These choices are discussed and then an official voting takes place.

The voting is held in an elegant eighteenth century room at the Academy. After the members of the committee have written their choices on a piece of paper, the secretary counts them. Then, he leaves the room exactly at 1.00 pm and walks through the grand hall to his own office where the press are waiting. He officially reveals the name of the winner to the world.

Like every other important award, there is a certain amount of controversy surrounding it. This has been true since the first award, which went to Sully Prudhomme. Outside France this was not a popular choice as most writers felt that it should have gone to Leo Tolstoy.

However, despite this controversy, the world of literature waits impatiently every autumn to learn who the winner of this extraordinary literary prize will be for that year.

Adapted from *Reading comprehension*, E.Moutsou-S.Parker, 1999

1. According to Nobel's will, his money should
 - A) fund prizes awarded to five outstanding scientists.
 - B) fund prizes granted for excellence in five areas of human activity.
 - C) be given to five distinguished philanthropists.
 - D) be spent by the Swedish Academy in Stockholm.

2. The nomination for the Nobel Prize for literature are reviewed by
 - A) all the members of the Swedish Academy.
 - B) an eighteen-member committee.
 - C) a fifteen-member committee.
 - D) a five-member committee.

3. What happens in May each year?
 - A) The six finalists for the Nobel Prize are chosen.
 - B) The Nobel committee presents the short list to the public.
 - C) The Nobel committee begins its summer break.
 - D) A sub-committee is formed.

4. What do the members of the committee do during the summer?
 - A) They have discussions with the writers.
 - B) They prepare a short list.
 - C) They study the finalists' work and prepare a summary of their choice.
 - D) They read all the books written by the finalists.

5. Who is the first to know the winner's name after the voting?
 - A) The press
 - B) The secretary of the committee
 - C) The Academy members
 - D) The writer

6. Why did the first award of the Nobel Prize for literature cause controversy?
 - A) French people did not agree with the choice made.
 - B) Proudhomme was not a very good writer.
 - C) Tolstoy felt that he should have received the prize.
 - D) Many thought that Tolstoy deserved the prize more than Proudhomme.

Part 2

You are going to read a magazine article about a famous rock concert. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from sentences A-G the one which fits each gap (7-12). There is one extra sentence. Write the answers on the separate answer sheet.

The Greatest Rock Concert in History

In the early 1980s, Ethiopia struggled with civil war and famine. This, however, was not very well covered by the media until a BBC film crew submitted some heartbreaking footage of scenes that they had filmed, which showed the people's misery and deprivation. **7.** Viewers were absolutely horrified.

Bob Geldof, an Irish musician, was deeply moved by what he saw and felt that the international community had an obligation to do something to change this situation. So, he decided to take action.

Using his influence, he put together a project to raise money for famine relief in the region. With the help of a close friend and fellow musician, Geldof wrote a song titled '*Do they know it's Christmas?*'. On Sunday November 25, 1984 a line-up full of British recording artists recorded the song. That is how the idea of Band Aid came about.

It was not at all surprising that the record shot to the top of the British charts within a few days of being released. **8.** Geldof spent a lot of time organising the distribution of the money from the sales of the record. However, after a visit to Ethiopia, where he got an even clearer picture of the situation, he realised that the money raised was just a drop in the ocean. It would take a lot more to save the twenty-two million people in Ethiopia and the Sudan from starving to death. **9.**

The idea was to organise two concerts at the same time, one in Britain and the other one in the United States. The concerts would be broadcast worldwide and the television networks would pay for this privilege. **10.**

Geldof chose Saturday, July 13, 1985 to stage the concerts. The British concert was to be staged at Wembley Stadium, while the artists in the United States would perform at the JFK Stadium in Philadelphia. **11.** The concerts were a huge success and were watched by over one billion people worldwide.

At the end of concert, some of the greatest rock stars in the world lifted an exhausted Geldof onto their shoulders. **12.** It was a moment which went down in music history.

All in all, the Band Aid project raised an unbelievable one hundred and forty million dollars. Geldof also received an honorary knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II.

Adapted from *Reading comprehension*, E.Moutsou-S.Parker, 1999

- A.** It eventually sold more than eight million copies all over the world.
- B.** The people of Ethiopia were very grateful to Bob Geldof for all his help and named a hospital after him.
- C.** Like a telethon broadcast, there would be breaks between the performances in order to make appeals for money to help the famine victims.
- D.** Everyone involved in it gave their services free of charge, including the British Government, who agreed not to collect the tax on the record.
- E.** At that moment, the whole stadium started singing '*Do they know it's Christmas?*'.
- F.** That is when he came up with the idea of taking his project worldwide.
- G.** This report appeared on the evening news in October 1984.

Part 3

Read the article below and find the words and phrases that mean the same as the words and expressions in 13-22. Write the answers on the separate answer sheet.

FAST-FOOD CHAINS FACE OBESITY LAWSUIT

If Steve Jackson dreamed of winning fame, he probably didn't think it would be due to his obesity. But, since the 120kg worker filed a lawsuit against McDonald's, Wendy's, Kentucky Fried Chicken and Burger King last month- seeking damages for selling him food that made him obese- Jackson's 15 minutes of fame are proving as painful as the two heart attacks he has already had. "Does anyone really believe that Mr Jackson was too dumb to know that eating saturated fat was less healthy than having, for example, a fruit dish or a chef salad" said John Dasbach, who is the executive director of the Libertarian party.

Jackson says that he was in the dark about the nutritional content of the fast food he had been eating up to five times a week from the 50s onwards. Incredibly, he didn't stop eating burgers and salty fries after he had his first heart attack in 1996. He is now a diabetic with high blood pressure.

In his lawsuit - the first of its kind in the United States - he claims that deceptive advertising misled him about the nutritional value of the food, until a doctor pointed it out. "These people in advertisements don't tell you what is in the food", he says.

"Now I am obese. The fast-food industry has ruined my life. They said 100% beef. I thought that meant it was good for you".

Attacks on Jackson's character and perceived IQ became a sport in the US media. Jackson wasn't stupid, columnists and radio presenters joked, just out to make money by failing to take responsibility for his diet. More than 75 million Americans eat fast food every day. But who, the journalists asked, doesn't know that too much will make you overweight?

"Mr Jackson honestly didn't know what the dangers were when he started eating fast food in the 50s", says his lawyer Samuel Hirsch. "The fast-food chains made no effort then, and little today, to inform consumers about the dangerously high fat, cholesterol or salt content of their food". Hirsch says that his client, who has now gone into hiding, is not trying to make money but to get the chains to inform customers that their food is guilty of expanding their waistlines.

However, not everyone in the US thinks Jackson's case is a joke. The Physicians Committee for responsible medicine applauded the lawsuit.

The committee's research coordinator, Brie Mc Grivey, says that whether Jackson wins or loses, the exaggeration surrounding the case has been good for doctors, spotlighting America's obesity epidemic and the role that fast food plays in it.

The Guardian Weekly 12.09 2002, page 21, taken from the culture section in www.onestopenglish.com

13. because of

14. the state of being overweight

15. stupid

16. did not know

17. unbelievably

18. gave him a wrong impression

19. did not try hard enough

20. making something bigger/wider

21. the fact of making something seem larger or more important

22. directing public attention to