

TOEFL JUNIOR READING TEST 1

Read the passage and answer the questions. For each question, choose the answer which you think fits best according to the text.

Jenny found her old bicycle at the back of the garage. It was a lot smaller than she remembered. When she sat on it and put her feet on the pedals, her knees nearly touched her chin. She put it back sadly and went inside the house. Her dad was working on his computer in the study.

‘Dad, can I get a new bicycle?’ asked Jenny.

‘Sure,’ said Jenny’s dad. ‘Cycling is good for you. You can get one for your birthday.’

‘But my birthday isn’t for months!’ cried Jenny. ‘Everyone at school has a bike. They all go to the park after school together. I want to go too!’

‘Well, I’m sorry, but I can’t afford a bicycle now,’ said dad. ‘Why don’t you work and earn some money? You can save up for a bicycle yourself.’

Jenny was thoughtful.

‘I’m very busy now,’ dad went on. ‘I don’t have time to cut the grass. If you do that, I’ll give you five dollars.’

‘Okay,’ said Jenny. She went to the garage and got the lawnmower. She hadn’t used it before. It was quite heavy and difficult to push, but soon the grass was cut. She was putting the lawnmower away when her neighbor, Mrs. Watkins, looked over the wall.

‘You did a good job there! Can you mow my lawn too?’ said Mrs Watkins. ‘I’ll give you ten dollars!’

‘Sure!’ said Jenny. ‘I’ll come right away!’

That night Jenny went on the computer. She wrote ‘Gardening and Housework – Ten dollars an hour. Call Jenny at 23 Roseville Lane.’ She decorated the page with pictures of cleaning and gardening equipment. She printed it fifty times. Then she posted the pages through all the doors on her street.

That week, Jenny was very busy! Lots of people had jobs to do, but they didn’t have time to do them. So they called Jenny. Every day, Jenny rushed home from school. She did her homework quickly, and then she went out to work.

At the end of the week, she had \$65! She told her father.

‘That’s enough for a second hand bicycle,’ he said.

‘Yes, but if I work for one more week, I might have enough money for a new bike,’ said Jenny. ‘In two more weeks, I could buy a really good bicycle! I think that’s what I’ll do. I want to have the best bicycle in the class, because I earned it!’

Jenny’s dad hugged her. ‘I think you learned something important. We appreciate things a lot more when we earn them. When we get something without earning it, we do not realize its true value.’

1. What was the problem with Jenny's old bicycle?

- A. It was broken.
- B. It was too small.
- C. It was too dirty.
- D. Jenny didn't like it.

2. Why didn't Jenny's dad buy her a bicycle?

- A. He didn't think it was a good idea.
- B. He was too busy.
- C. He had just bought Jenny a birthday present.
- D. He didn't have enough money.

3. Where did Jenny's dad ask Jenny to work?

- A. in the garden.
- B. in the study.
- C. in the bathroom.
- D. in the garage.

4. How much money did Jenny earn on the first day?

- A. \$15
- B. \$10
- C. \$5
- D. \$65

5. How did Jenny tell her neighbors about her new business? Correct! Correct

- A. she delivered messages by hand.
- B. she mailed letters to them.
- C. she sent them an email.
- D. she talked to all her neighbors.

6. *How did Jenny feel at the end of the story?*

- A. pleased because she had learnt a useful lesson.
- B. grateful to her father for his advice.
- C. disappointed because she couldn't afford a new bicycle.
- D. optimistic about making more money.

KEY ANSWER

1. B

2. B

3. D

4. B

5. D

6. A

TOEFL JUNIOR READING TEST 2

Read the passage and answer the questions. For each question, choose the answer which you think fits best according to the text.

Most city parks are places where you can escape from big, ugly structures of metal and stone. The Manhattan High Line is different. Raised 25 feet above the ground, this massive metal structure once supported a rail line. The line opened in 1934 to bring trains directly into factories and warehouses. It was hardly used after the 1960s, and much of it was torn down. However, one stretch remained in a region of Manhattan called Chelsea. Chelsea was becoming more and more upmarket as restaurants, art galleries and apartments were built, but the ugly railway structure remained as a dead weight. Everyone knew that at some time, it would have to be removed.

But the High Line was not destroyed. In fact, now the old rail line serves as one of the most peaceful places in the city. It holds an elevated park, with carefully tended gardens, a promenade and great views of the city. The idea to convert the rail line into a park came from Joshua David and Robert Hammond. In 1999, they attended a community meeting to decide the fate of the High Line. David and Hammond were the only people at the meeting interested in saving the historical structure. Later on, when they asked railway officials to take them up to look at the High Line, they saw a mile and a half of wild flowers growing in the middle of the city, and they realised that the High Line had potential to become a park. There was growing interest in improving urban centers, and so the project quickly gathered momentum and funds for construction were easily obtained.

The first section of the High Line opened in 2009 and immediately became popular with tourists and locals alike. Each part of the park has a different atmosphere. Some areas are like balconies with wonderful city views. Where the rail line goes between buildings, trees are densely planted. Other sections have wide lawns and walkways planted with wild flowers. Only the final section remains the way it has been for the last fifty years – a railway line overgrown with weeds.

1. What is the passage about?

- A. The closure of a train line.
- B. Improving city transport.
- C. An unlikely place for a park.
- D. Restoring a historical monument.

2. Which of the following is NOT true about the High Line?

- A. It is situated above ground level.
- B. Trains still use the line.
- C. Only part of the line remains.
- D. It is now a popular park.

3. A dead weight (paragraph 1) is...

- A. something with potential to be better.
- B. something useless which slows progress.
- C. something with historical interest.
- D. something which is a danger to people.

4. According to the passage, why did David and Hammond originally want to save the High Line?

- A. They thought it had historical value.
- B. They thought it would make a good park.
- C. They wanted to reopen the train line.
- D. They were interested in improving the city.

5. Why were people easily persuaded by David and Hammond's idea?

- A. They wanted to see the wild flowers too.
- B. They realised the High Line was historically important.
- C. They wanted to make cities nicer places.
- D. They knew that funds were available.

6. The last paragraph emphasizes that the park is....

- A. varied in its design.
- B. popular with tourists.
- C. similar to how it used to be.
- D. like natural countryside.

KEY ANSWER

- 1. C
- 2. B
- 3. B
- 4. A
- 5. C
- 6. A