

New York allows online lockdown weddings

GAP FILL

From: <https://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/2020/04/23/new-york-allows-online-lockdown-weddings/>

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has decided that people can still get married in New York (1) **despite** the city being under lockdown. Governor Cuomo has (2) **signed** a special executive order permitting people to get married online. All wedding ceremonies had been halted (3) **due** to the COVID-19 pandemic, but special measures have been introduced to allow (4) **couples** to tie the knot. The procedure for weddings under lockdown now entails applying for a marriage (5) **license** online and having clerks conducting the ceremony (6) **virtually**. Mr Cuomo said the new online weddings would be legally binding. A city (7) **official** said: "The executive order will temporarily suspend a provision of (8) **law** that requires in-person visits."

license
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due
virtually

The new executive order means couples can get (9) **wed** via video conferencing. This was previously not recognised as a (10) **legal** way of getting married. Mr Cuomo joked to reporters that: "There is now no (11) **excuse** when the question comes up for marriage. You can do it by Zoom." Mr Cuomo did not say (12) **whether** Zoom was the only teleconferencing platform that people could use on their happy day. The platform does allow (13) **guests** to attend online. Stay-at-home measures have been extended in New York until at (14) **least** the 15th of May. It could be months after that before social distancing (15) **measures** are lifted. This means gatherings for events such as weddings may continue to be (16) **held** online.

excuse
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An aquarium in Japan is asking people to help a (1) group *sand*
of eels that are getting lonely. The Sumida Aquarium in Tokyo has *lonely*
(2) several tanks of garden eels. The (3) creatures are *several*
usually very cautious and go into their holes in the *group*
(4) sand when someone passes. However, the Sumida *them*
Aquarium eels are used to seeing visitors and stay *above*
(5) above their holes so people can see them. The *above*
aquarium has closed because of the coronavirus emergency and *tablets*
staff are worried the eels are getting (6) lonely. A staff *creatures*
member said the eels are forgetting what humans look like. She
wants people to make video calls to the eels. The staff put special
(7) tablets in front of the eel tanks so people could make
video calls to (8) them.

The (9) lack of visitors to the aquarium means the eels *aquarium*
have become very shy. This could make them (10) stressed *humans*
when visitors start returning after the aquarium reopens. The *lack*
coronavirus emergency has also made it difficult for staff to *so*
(11) check on the eels' health because they are now *check*
staying in their holes in the sand. The (12) aquarium tweeted: *festival*
"They aren't seeing humans so they are forgetting about *stressed*
us....Here is an (13) urgent request - Could you show *urgent*
your face to our garden eels from your home?" The aquarium
wants to remind the eels that "(14) humans are friendly". It
has organised a three-day event called a "face-showing
(15) festival". The public is being asked to make video calls
but can only use Apple devices to do (16) so.



“Mosquitoes”

Reading Comprehension – Informational Passages

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer questions about the passage below.



Slap! Swat! How do those **annoying** mosquitoes find you? Is it your wonderful personality or is it something else which attracts them? And why are you so rarely able to swat them before they fly off to another feast?

There are about 3,500 species of mosquitoes in the world. Not all of them are in your back yard, although sometimes it seems that the summer evening air is filled with them. There are about 200 species of mosquitoes in the United States — about 80 species have been identified in Florida, which is an **ideal** breeding area.

The word “mosquito” means “little fly” in Portuguese. Mosquitoes are members of the scientific order *Diptera*, the “True Flies.” Like other “True Flies,” they have wings. But they are different from some True Flies; their wings have scales. These tiny scales help **eliminate** the effects of friction. This helps the mosquitoes skim quickly and efficiently through the air, making them almost impossible to swat. The familiar high-pitched, annoying buzz of the mosquito comes from the sound of its wings beating 600 times per second!

If you want to control the spread of these pesky insects, it is important to know how they live and breed. As you will see, much of their life is spent in water, so getting rid of standing water plays a large role in controlling mosquitoes. There are four stages in the lifetime of a mosquito: egg, larva, pupa, and adult.

Mosquito eggs need water to hatch. Different species of mosquitoes prefer different places to lay their eggs. Some prefer to lay their eggs in standing water, such as water in old tires or buckets. Others like to lay their eggs in areas with a lot of **organic** material, like leaves and grass, so they lay their eggs in marshes and swamps. Some prefer fresh water; some like saltwater.

Mosquito larvae are called “wigglers” because they move with jerking movements of their bodies. They spend most of their time under the surface of the water, feeding on leaves and grass. They must have air to stay alive, so they wiggle to the **surface**. The larvae shed their skin four times as they grow and progress to the third stage, which is the pupa.

Mosquito pupae also need air to stay alive. They continue to feed on grasses and leaves under the surface of the water, but they must come up for air. After several days in the pupa stage, the pupae mature into adult mosquitoes.

Adult mosquitoes emerge after several days of growth. Some mosquitoes reach **maturity** in as few as 5 days, but most require 10–14 days before they reach maturity. **Variations** in maturity time is due to differences in species and differences in the temperature of the environment.

Adult mosquitoes mate within a few days of their emergence as adults. They eat fruit, nectar, and any other sources of sugar they can find. Female mosquitoes need blood in order for their eggs to develop. After the female has her meal of blood, she rests for two or three days before she lays her eggs. The cycle of eating and laying eggs continues for one or two weeks, which is the lifetime of a mosquito.

Now you know that it is the female mosquitoes which bite you. But how do they find you — their meal of blood?

Mosquitoes seek out warmth and movement — both properties of human beings and other animals. They also seek carbon dioxide, which is exhaled by humans and other animals. So while it is not exactly your wonderful personality which attracts them, the social activities of conversation and laughter — which involve movement and the exhalation of carbon dioxide — are what attract these annoying little insects!



Questions:

1) Why do mosquitoes' wings have scales?

- A. The scales reduce the effects of friction.
- B. The scales make the mosquitoes fly more efficiently.
- C. The scales help the mosquitoes float in water.
- D. **Both A and B are correct.**
- E. Both A and C are correct.

2) Why do mosquitoes bite you?

- A. They need blood to live.
- B. **Their eggs need blood to develop.**
- C. They need blood to become mature.
- D. Both A and C are correct.
- E. Both B and C are correct.

3) Where do mosquitoes lay their eggs?

- A. In standing water.
- B. In moist soil.
- C. In fresh water.
- D. In salt water.
- F. Both C and D are correct.
- E. **All of the above are correct.**

4) At what point are mosquitoes called wigglers?

- A. **When they are larvae**
- B. When they are pupae
- C. When they are adults
- D. When they lay eggs
- E. Both A and B are correct

5) How do mosquitoes find you?

- A. They are attracted to carbon dioxide.
- B. They are attracted to movement.
- C. They are attracted to warmth.
- D. Both A and C are correct.
- E. **All of the above are correct.**

Vocabulary:

1) If something is **annoying** it is...

- A. quick.
- B. evasive.
- C. **bothersome.**
- D. careless.
- E. impenetrable.

2) What is the best synonym for **ideal** ?

- A. sweet
- B. nice
- C. **perfect**
- D. identical
- E. interesting

3) If you **eliminate** something, you...

- A. make it smaller.
- B. **get rid of it.**
- C. add to it.
- D. design it.
- E. Both A and B are correct.

4) What are **organic** materials?

- A. **Natural materials**
- B. Man-made materials
- C. Factory-made products
- D. Both B and C are correct
- E. None of the above

5) What is the **surface** of the water?

- A. The deep part of the water
- B. The bottom of the water
- C. **The top of the water**
- D. Both A and B are correct
- E. None of the above

6) **Maturity** means...

- A. babyhood.
- B. childhood.
- C. **adulthood.**
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above

7) A **variation** is a(n)...

- A. difference.
- B. inconsistency.
- C. agreement.
- D. **Both A and B are correct.**
- E. Both B and C are correct.

48. It's no use _____ to learn a language just by studying a dictionary.
A) to try B) try **C) trying** D) in trying
49. _____ with a foreign family can be a good way to learn a language.
A) Live **B) Living** C) Lived D) Life
50. She turned off the tape recorder _____ pushing the stop button.
A) by B) with C) in D) be
51. Low-income families have a hard time _____.
A) they buy enough meat B) to buy enough meat
C) buying enough meat D) for buying meat.
52. He said that he _____ the film the day before.
A) would see B) has seen **C) had seen** D) saw
53. After Mohammed Ali _____ an Olympic gold medal, he became a professional boxer.
A) has won **B) had won** C) won D) was winning
54. A: It's too bad she's never worked in a real estate office.
B: She _____ worked in one, but it was just a summer job.
A) has B) is C) was D) did
55. A: I'm sorry that Sam hasn't learned to drive yet.
B: He _____ learned, but he doesn't like to drive.
A) does B) have C) had **D) has**
56. If we don't hurry, the wedding _____ before our arrival.
A) took place B) **will have taken place**
C) takes place D) should have taken place
57. In three years time, I _____ my studies.
A) **will have finished** B) finish
C) will finish D) am finishing
58. They never _____ the packages that they _____.
A) had received / had ordered B) received / ordered
C) received / had ordered D) received / has ordered
59. The secretary _____ the office after she _____ the letters.
A) **left / had typed** B) had left / had typed
C) left / typed D) had left / typed
60. For the past three days she _____ in a bad mood.
A) were B) have been C) was **D) has been**
61. One of the most effective ways of getting ahead in life _____.
A) you work hard and regularly
B) is to be a trustworthy person
C) know how to solve problems quickly
D) having invested in personal relationships
62. He _____ of Einstein before I gave him a book on relativity.
A) did not hear B) **had not heard**
C) would not hear D) would not have heard
63. Although he _____ the windows, they are still dirty.
A) has cleaned B) cleaned C) will clean D) had cleaned
64. Have you heard the _____ weather forecast?
A) yesterday B) **three-week** C) today's D) two weeks
65. Carl has a _____ vacation every year.
A) two-week B) two week C) two weeks D) of two weeks
66. Had they gone to the island a day earlier, they _____ the storm.
A) will have avoided B) would avoid
C) would have avoided D) had avoided
67. They _____ a better project if they had worked harder.
A) might have B) had had
C) have D) **might have had**
68. I would have come, _____ I been invited.
A) should B) when C) if **D) had**
69. _____ he studied more carefully, he could have improved his grade.
A) However B) Might **C) Had** D) Should have
70. _____ you need my help tomorrow, please call me.
A) Should B) Had C) Might D) Would
71. Have you been _____ today?
A) to outside B) from **C) outside** D) of outside
72. Many people with spinal cord injuries can, with the help of computer implants, _____.
A) recovering some of their mobility
B) they can recover some of their mobility
C) recover some of their mobility
D) who are recovering some of their mobility
73. She sang _____ and was admired by everybody.
A) as beautiful as a bird B) beautifying
C) beautifully D) beautiful like a bird
74. _____ require years of hard work to develop a successful software.
A) It will B) That will C) Will it D) The company
75. _____ possible that scientists will someday release the energy stored in water.
A) That is B) To be **C) It is** D) That it is
76. He ate a huge supper. He _____ very hungry.
A) must be B) can't be
C) **must have been** D) can't have been
77. I feel a draught. The windows _____ open.
A) must be B) were
C) must have been D) had to be
78. There wasn't any milk this morning. The milkman _____ to leave it.
A) must forget B) **must have forgotten**
C) can't forget D) can't have forgotten
79. According to some historians, if the United States had not used the atom bomb, the Japanese _____ half of the world.
A) had conquered B) would conquer
C) **would have conquered** D) had had conquered
80. Alice _____ have been told about the problem because she was on vacation and could not be reached.
A) shouldn't B) **couldn't** C) needn't D) must
81. Could the package _____ to the wrong address?
A) being sent B) to be sent **C) have been** sent D) will be sent
82. You are broke now because you spent all your money foolishly. You _____ your money foolishly.
A) must spend B) **shouldn't have spent**
C) must have spent D) mustn't have spent
83. Architects also design theaters, _____ is the Sydney Opera House.
A) examples of which B) example which
C) an example of which D) of which
84. English is quite difficult because of all the exceptions _____ have to be learned.
A) which B) what C) they D) those
85. We were impressed by the traditional architecture of Japan, _____ is in this picture.
A) it B) examples of which
C) an example of which D) that
86. Hydrogen peroxide _____ as a bleaching agent because it effectively whitens a variety of fibers and surfaces.
A) which is used B) housewives are using
C) used **D) is used**
87. The Bengal tiger, _____ can be seen in the local zoo, is an extremely interesting animal.
A) of B) **examples of which**
C) where D) of which
88. Niemeyer designed many buildings in Brazil, _____ are in Brasilia.
A) an example of which B) **examples of which**
C) examples which D) of which
89. Many of the items _____ were given to the employees.
A) sell B) sale C) sold to **D) not sold**
90. Even though Mohammed Ali has now lost his title, people _____ always remember him as a champion.
A) would B) did **C) will** D) shall
91. There is only one kind of species of snake _____ poisonous in Turkey.
A) it is B) **that is** C) is D) being
92. _____ I prefer Bangkok, my friend would rather live in Tokyo.
A) Which B) But **C) While** D) For example
93. Not only _____ come late, you also haven't brought my book.
A) are you B) you haven't C) you did **D) have you**
94. Neither my friend _____ I like playing soccer.
A) or B) and C) but **D) nor**
95. It is said that Chinese is perhaps the world's _____ language to master.
A) harder B) **hardest** C) hard D) too hard
96. Learning a second language is not the same _____ learning a first language.
A) as B) like C) that D) which
97. Fewer babies are born with birth defects _____ advances in prenatal care during this decade.
A) **because** of B) than C) since D) as to
98. The play was _____ one that I saw in London last year.
A) it B) similar from
C) **similar to** D) different between
99. Working provides people with personal satisfaction _____ wealth.
A) apart from B) **as well** as C) beside D) next to
100. A: Why don't you send your resume if you want the job?
B: I _____ send it, but it got lost in the mail.
A) did B) do C) can D) will

Second Conditional Exercise

Second Conditionals - put the verb into the correct tense:

1. If I **were** _____ (be) you, I **would get** _____ (get) a new job.
2. If he **were** _____ (be) younger, he **would travel** _____ (travel) more.
3. If we **weren't** _____ (not / be) friends, I **would be** _____ (be) angry with you.
4. If I **had** _____ (have) enough money, I **would buy** _____ (buy) a big house.
5. If she **weren't** _____ (not / be) always so late, she **would be** _____ (be) promoted.
6. If we **won** _____ (win) the lottery, we **would travel** _____ (travel) the world.
7. If you **had** _____ (have) a better job, we **would be** _____ (be) able to buy a new car.
8. If I **spoke** _____ (speak) perfect English, I **would have** _____ (have) a good job.
9. If we **lived** _____ (live) in Mexico, I **would speak** _____ (speak) Spanish.
10. If she **passed** _____ (pass) the exam, she **would be** _____ (be) able to enter university.

11. She would be (be) happier if she had (have) more friends.
12. We would buy (buy) a house if we decided (decide) to stay here.
13. They would have (have) more money if they didn't buy (not / buy) so many clothes
14. We would come (come) to dinner if we had (have) time.
15. She would call (call) him if she knew (know) his number.
16. They would go (go) to Spain on holiday if they liked (like) hot weather.
17. She would pass (pass) the exam if she studied (study) more.
18. I would marry (marry) someone famous if I were (be) a movie star.
19. We never would be (be) late again if we bought (buy) a new car.
20. You would lose (lose) weight if you ate (eat) less.

topic: **PHRASAL VERBS using "To take" 1** | level: **Intermediate/Advanced**

Choose the correct preposition to complete each of the following sentences:

1. The plane took _____ (= *departed*) at 7:00 AM.
a) on **b) off** c) in
2. They took _____ (= *saw*) a play while they were in New York.
a) on b) away **c) in**
3. He took _____ (= *started*) smoking after his accident.
a) on **b) up** c) away
4. They will have to take _____ (= *compete against*) another opponent.
a) **on** b) up c) after
5. He really takes _____ his father. = He is really similar to his father.
a) **after** b) on c) up
6. I'll take it _____ with the boss. = I will speak to the boss about it.
a) about b) on **c) up**
7. I have to take _____. (= *leave*)
a) off b) over c) on
8. After Bill was fired, John took _____ (= *assumed*) his position.
a) over b) out c) up
9. I'll take you _____ on your offer. = I'll accept your offer.
a) out **b) up** c) over
10. We took _____ (= *adopted, brought home*) several kittens while we were living in Mexico.
a) on b) away **c) in**

topic **PHRASAL VERBS** to get 1

or each sentence, choose which phrasal verb fits best.

1. The river's current is very strong. It will be hard to _____ .
a **get across** b get in c get around
2. You really need a car in this city to _____ .
a get by b **get around** c get on
3. She had a hard time after the break-up, but then she decided to _____ with her life.
a get along b get in c **get on**
4. My girlfriend's mother and I don't _____ at all.
a **get along** b get on c get in
5. It's _____ . Don't worry. You'll _____ this.
a get along b get on c **get through**
6. The museum? You should _____ at the third stop.
a get through b **get off** c get on
7. As soon as he _____ the horse, _____ knew that he had never been on one before.
a **got on** b got around c got in
8. _____ my old couch and need to buy a new one.
a got rid b **got rid of** c got off
9. I'm really tired because _____ at 5 AM this morning.
a got around b **got up** c got on
10. Friends can help you to _____ a difficult time in your life.
a get around b get by c **get through**



“Yellowstone”

Reading Comprehension – Informational Passages ⁽⁵⁾

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer questions about the passage below.

Yellowstone National Park is in the U.S. states of Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana. It became the first National Park in 1872. There are geysers and hot springs at Yellowstone. There are also many animals at Yellowstone. There are elk, bison, sheep, grizzly bears, black bears, moose, coyotes, and more.

More than 3 million people visit Yellowstone National Park each year. During the winter, visitors can ski or go snowmobiling there. There are also snow coaches that give tours. Visitors can see **steam** (vapor water) come from the geysers. During other seasons, visitors can go boating or fishing. People can ride horses there. There are nature trails and tours. Most visitors want to see Old Faithful, a very **predictable** geyser at Yellowstone. Visitors can check a schedule to see the exact time that Old Faithful is going to erupt. There are many other geysers and boiling springs in the area. Great Fountain Geyser erupts every 11 hours. Excelsior Geyser produces 4,000 gallons of **boiling** water each minute! Boiling water is 100 degrees Celsius, or 212 degrees Fahrenheit – that’s very hot! People also like to see the Grand Prismatic Spring. It is the largest hot spring in the park. It has many beautiful colors. The beautiful colors are caused by **bacteria** in the water. These are forms of life that have only one cell. Different bacteria live in different water **temperatures**. Visiting Yellowstone National Park can be a week-long vacation or more. It is beautiful, and there are activities for everyone.

Questions:

1) What is Yellowstone?

- A. A park
- B. A geyser
- C. A mountain
- D. A hot spring

2) Old Faithful is a...

- A. river.
- B. trail.
- C. passage.
- D. geyser.

3) Great Fountain Geyser erupts every 11...

- A. minutes.
- B. hours.
- C. days.
- D. months.

4) The largest hot spring in the park is...

- A. Excelsior
- B. Old Faithful
- C. Great Fountain
- D. Grand Prismatic

5) What causes colors in the springs?

- A. sunlight
- B. bacteria
- C. eruptions
- D. temperatures



Vocabulary:

1) **Steam** is...

- A. snow.
- B. running water.
- C. freezing water.
- D. water in vapor form.



2) Something **predictable** is something...

- A. people enjoy.
- B. people talk about.
- C. people know in advance.
- D. people pay for in advance.

3) **Boiling** water is...

- A. 0 degrees C. or 32 degrees F.
- B. 100 degrees C. or 212 degrees F.
- C. very hot.
- D. Both B and C are correct.

4) What are **bacteria**?

- A. Forms of life with one cell
- B. Multi-celled organisms
- C. Sunshine
- D. Various types of water.

5) Different **temperatures** are different...

- A. levels of heat and cold.
- B. amounts of water.
- C. levels of rainfall.
- D. colors of water.