

'Maldives resort offers \$30K all-you-can-stay-holiday-'

GAP FILL

We all love and have (1) enjoyed an all-you-can-eat buffet, but how many of us have had an "all-you-can-stay" holiday? It (2) sounds too good to be true, but a hotel company in the Maldives is offering guests a once-in-a- (3) lifetime vacation. The luxury Anantara Veli resort has a special package that includes unlimited use of its (4) property for the whole of 2021. Customers will get the use of a two-person bungalow that is (5) perched above the crystal-clear blue waters of the Indian Ocean. The resort is also throwing in airport transfers, 365 breakfasts, (6) discounts on spa treatments, cooking lessons on Maldivian (7) cuisine, and scuba diving. However, all this comes at a (8) hefty cost of \$30,000.

The Maldives is a tiny (9) archipelago nation in the Indian Ocean, about 700km from the southern tip of India. It has developed into a luxurious, high-end (10) destination. It is famed for its pristine beaches, palm trees and five-star hospitality. The quality of its (11) marine life has put it on the bucket list of adventure-seeking scuba divers. Many of its resorts are on private islands and (12) atolls, making it a perfect choice for holidaymakers who seek (13) seclusion and privacy in paradise. The Maldives is highly (14) dependent on international tourism and has (15) struggled during the coronavirus pandemic. A tourism spokesperson said the \$30,000 (16) package is good value and cheaper than staying in an average hotel for a year.

sounds
perched
hefty
enjoyed
property
cuisine
lifetime
discounts

seclusion
struggled
destination
dependent
marine
archipelago
package
atolls

"Scientists develop COVID-19 vaccine"

GAP FILL

In a year that has (1) largely been full of bad and (2) tragic news because of COVID-19, there is finally some good news. Scientists have announced a (3) breakthrough in the fight against the virus. The scientists are from the U.S. (4) drug company Pfizer and the German pharmaceutical company BioNTech. Their researchers say they have (5) developed a vaccine that has a 90 per cent success rate in protecting against COVID-19. The researchers also say the vaccine does not cause serious side (6) effects. Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the USA's National Institute of Allergy and (7) Infectious Diseases, said the vaccine was positive news. He said: "The results are really quite good, I mean (8) extraordinary

Health (9) experts say it will be months before the vaccine is widely available for people to take. It needs to be (10) stored at temperatures of -80° Celsius. However, Pfizer CEO Dr. Albert Bourla was (11) upbeat about his company's achievement. He said: "Today is a great day for science and humanity....We are reaching this critical (12) milestone in our vaccine development program at a time when the world needs it most." He added: "Infection (13) rates are setting new records, hospitals are nearing over-capacity and economies are (14) struggling to reopen. With today's news, we are a significant step (15) closer to providing people around the world with a much-needed breakthrough to help bring an end to this global health (16) crisis."

breakthrough

developed

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Name _____
 Date _____

• Reading Comprehension Assessment

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

The Game Show Audition

Entering the TV studio, Rory looked around for the first time at people as smart as she was. And for the first time in her life, she questioned whether she was intelligent enough.

Rory always had a **knack** for **trivia**. Whenever she watched TV trivia shows, she always played along, talking to the contestants on the TV. “How could you not know that Polk was the president during the Mexican-American War?” or “Everyone knows Genesis is the first book of Torah.” Thus, when she saw the ad for Triviastastic Explosion, she was intrigued.

The ad had been forwarded to her email by one of her friends. It read: “Do you know seemingly everything about useless information? Do you, for example, know the names of every vice president? Or the winners of every Academy Award for Best Picture? Or the names of all the moons of Jupiter? If you do, write back to us about why you deserve to be on Triviastastic Explosion, TV’s newest game show, with cash prizes in the hundreds of thousands!”

Rory responded instantly, and the show’s producers called her in for an audition a week later. Now, here she was, waiting in line to do mock games with other potential trivia experts. She stood around nervously.

The producers told her to use her “big TV voice” and to smile for the camera. They paired her off with another contestant, a middle-aged science teacher named Chuy. Then the producers asked them questions in rapid-fire succession. She and Chuy used electronic buzzers to chime in when they knew the answers.

Rory missed the first three questions, each of which was about science (she would later remark about how unfair it was, given her background). However, after that, she got into a rhythm. She answered fourteen straight questions correctly (they were about films, authors, history, and current events—all subjects she knew well). She and Chuy split the remaining questions, and in the end, she had won the mock game.

“Great job, both of you,” one of the producers told them. “Rory, you were the first contestant to know what the FAA acronym stood for, and Chuy, you seem to know your science.” Everyone exchanged pleasant goodbyes on their way out of the studio, and Rory drove home anxiously.

A week later, she received a call. She was invited to be an actual contestant on the show. Finally, she would have the chance to show off how smart she was to the world. She only hoped she didn’t get as nervous on the actual show as she did at the audition!



1) Which of the following best describes **trivia**, as it is used in the passage?

- A. **useless information**
- B. complicated questions
- C. uncertain opinions
- D. self-doubt

2) According to the passage, Rory was nervous at the audition because

- A. she had never auditioned for a game show before
- B. **she was surrounded by other trivia experts**
- C. she missed most of the questions asked
- D. she was paired with a science teacher

COLLOCATIONS: GIVE, TAKE, MAKE, GET, DO, HAVE

KEY

1. **keep** calm
2. **take/have** a seat
3. **make** a noise
4. **do** harm
5. **give/make** a speech
6. **keep/have** in mind
7. **keep** quiet
8. **make** the bed
9. **take** notes
10. **get/have/give** permission
11. **do** business
12. **make/have** trouble
13. **give/do** a lecture
14. **have** no doubt
15. **get/have** a degree
16. **make/have/get/give/take** money
17. **do** sb. a favour
18. **keep/make** a promise
19. **have/take** a shower
20. **take** your time
21. **do/get/have** a job
22. **do/give** homework
23. **keep/have** a secret
24. **get** divorced
25. **make/take** a decision
26. **take/have** responsibility
27. **give** sb. a chance
28. **do** an exercise
29. **have/make/get** breakfast
30. **take** an exam
31. **get** lost
32. **keep/get** in touch
33. **make** a mistake
34. **take** a rest
35. **make** progress
36. **get/have/take** a chance
37. **keep/have** a diary
38. **give** sb. a lift
39. **take/get** a break
40. **have/get/make** dinner
41. **have** a chat with
42. **take** sb. place
43. **keep/get** away from
44. **take** a picture
45. **get** rid of

QUESTIONS

KEY

1. This is **my** laptop.
Whose laptop is this?
2. I usually have **lasagne** for dinner.
What do you usually have for dinner?
3. My sister lives **in the house over there**.
Where does your sister live?
4. I am leaving early **because my son is ill**.
Why are you leaving so early?
5. My dad likes the **blue** jacket best.
Which jacket does your dad like best.
6. The street festival takes place **on the first Friday in August**.
When does the street festival take place?
7. I use **a lot** of salt in my cooking.
How much salt do you use in your cooking?
8. The new hotel is located **near the seaside**.
Where is the new hotel (located)?
9. **My sister** usually helps me with my homework.
Who usually helps me with my homework?
10. They are very worried **because they failed the test**.
Why are they worried?
11. **Physics** is Mary's favourite subject.
What is Mary's favourite subject?
12. My best friend is **a year older than I am**.
How old is your best friend?
13. The new apartment costs **\$ 300 a month**.
How much does the new apartment cost?
14. **Pete's** car always makes such a terrible noise.
Whose car always makes such a terrible noise.
15. I take **the** underground to work.
What do you take to work?

SYNONYMS

KEY

A	ability
B	ban
C	capture
D	rude
E	detach
F	dubious
G	encourage
H	certain
I	enough
J	demolish
K	combine
L	difficult
M	complex
N	show
O	comprehend
P	defy
Q	evil
R	extravagant
S	depart
T	conflict

C	secure, seize
M	complicated
F	doubtful, questionable
A	skill, talent
L	hard, challenging
H	positive, sure
Q	bad, wrong, wicket
R	luxurious
B	forbid
T	fight, battle
N	display
O	understand
S	leave, exit
G	promote, urge
K	unite, join
J	destroy, wreck
D	impolite
E	separate, unfasten
P	resist, challenge
I	sufficient, ample