

# Mini-texts

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*Read through each text and decide which of the four alternatives agrees best with the meaning of the text. Mark your choice by writing one of the letters A, B, C or D in the boxes below.*

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## 1 Legal Dispute

After five years, legal bills of £110,000 and a lot of acrimony, a row between millionaire neighbours over ownership of a bramble patch worth a few hundred pounds has been settled in court. Even the judge delivering his decision yesterday confessed that it was difficult to understand why two men with extensive estates should get involved in such a dispute “considering the nature of the land involved”.

We understand from the text that the two millionaires have been arguing about

- A an area of farmland
- B a small piece of land
- C a large house
- D paying court fees

## 2 Air Safety

The average airline passenger travelling in the United States is nearly 10 kilograms heavier than eight years ago, a survey by the US aviation watchdog has found. The findings prompted the US Federal Aviation Administration to order all US-based airlines to add extra kilograms for each traveller to passenger weight standards, plus an extra kilogram for heavier luggage.

It seems evident that in the US ...

- A certain weight standards have now been raised
- B air passengers are heavier than in other countries
- C travellers and luggage must now be weighed
- D airports might be more overcrowded

## Answers

1  2

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### 3 Old People

When you are old, you can get away with incompetence to an astonishing degree. If you make a mess of things, the only reproach will be one muttered out of your earshot.

It is suggested that old people...

- A often don't hear very well
- B are less exposed to criticism
- C think youngsters are not clever enough
- D are usually despised by the young

### 4 Not to be Sniffed at

In spring, most people are filled with joy at the knowledge that the summer months stretch before us, but some face the prospect of endless suffering due to hay fever. A new study offers hope in the form of a herbal extract which seems to be as effective as the drugs containing antihistamines, but does not have any sedative effects.

The study claims that

- A most people suffer from allergies in spring
- B the extract is an excellent cure for sleeplessness
- C a plant substance might solve a medical problem
- D the common treatments for allergies have little effect

### 5 Miró's Art

Miró approached painting with a bard's sensibility. His tableaux consisted of simple symbols and shapes on earthy backgrounds. "The Gendarme," for instance, depicts an abstract policeman with a thin moustache and scarlet mitt on a tea-colored canvas, his white horse rearing up next to him. Miró sought to return painting to prehistoric cave art. The result was a spare graphism that he dubbed "painting-poems."

We understand that Miró's paintings

- A bear a close resemblance to reality
- B have few connections with older art forms
- C do not show people in a realistic way
- D portray military officers and their symbols

### Answers

3  4  5

### Points

5