

**Read the extract below then answer the questions that follow.**

**Little Women By Louisa May Alcott (an excerpt)**

'Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents,' grumbled Jo, lying on the rug.

'It's so dreadful to be poor!' sighed Meg, looking down at her old dress.

'I don't think it's fair for some girls to have plenty of pretty things, and other girls nothing at all,' added little Amy, with an injured sniff.

'We've got Father and Mother, and each other,' said Beth contentedly from her corner.

The four young faces on which the firelight shone brightened at the cheerful words, but darkened again as Jo said sadly, 'We haven't got Father, and shall not have him for a long time.' She didn't say 'perhaps never,' but each silently added it, thinking of Father far away, where the fighting was.

Nobody spoke for a minute; then Meg said in an altered tone, 'You know the reason Mother proposed not having any presents this Christmas was because it is going to be a hard winter for everyone; and she thinks we ought not to spend money for pleasure, when our men are suffering so much in the army. We can't do much, but we can make our little sacrifices, and ought to do it gladly. But I am afraid I don't.' And Meg shook her head, as she thought regretfully of all the pretty things she wanted.

'But I don't think the little we should spend would do any good. We've each got a dollar, and the army wouldn't be much helped by our giving that. I agree not to expect anything from Mother or you, but I do want to buy UNDINE AND SINTRAM for myself. I've wanted it so long,' said Jo, who was a bookworm.

'I planned to spend mine on new music,' said Beth, with a little sigh, which no one heard but the hearth brush and kettle holder.

'I shall get a nice box of Faber's drawing pencils. I really need them,' said Amy decidedly.

'Mother didn't say anything about our money, and she won't wish us to give up everything.

Let's each buy what we want, and have a little fun. I'm sure we work hard enough to earn it,' cried Jo, examining the heels of her shoes in a gentlemanly manner.

'I know I do—teaching those tiresome children nearly all day, when I'm longing to enjoy myself at home,' began Meg, in the complaining tone again.

'You don't have half such a hard time as I do,' said Jo. 'How would you like to be shut up for hours with a nervous, fussy old lady, who keeps you trotting, is never satisfied, and worries you till you're ready to fly out the window or cry?'

Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.

1 Why are the kids sad when talking about their father?

- A. He may forget that it is already Christmas
- B. He is too busy with his work
- C. They have never met him before
- D. Their father may not be safe in the war

2 What is Beth doing during the conversation?

- A. Beth is writing down her plans to spend her money
- B. Beth is doing chores
- C. Beth is counting the money she received
- D. Beth is helping her mother

3 The followings are kids' interests, EXCEPT

- A. Education
- B. Reading
- C. Hospitality
- D. Drawing

4 What does Amy feel in paragraph 3?

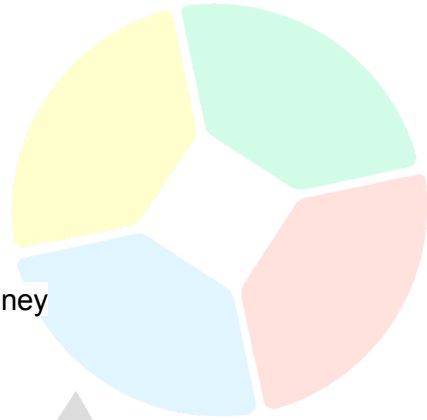
- A. Confused
- B. Angry
- C. Anxious
- D. Envious

5 In the seventh paragraph, the writer suggests that Jo is feeling

- A. Sad that she may not get the book she wants
- B. Worried about the soldiers' condition in the winter
- C. Guilty of using her money to buy a book
- D. Worried if her mother will let her buy a book

6 From this line 'Mother didn't say anything about our money, and she won't wish us to give up everything,' we know that the mother is

- A. Soft-hearted
- B. Strict
- C. Patient
- D. Rich



Read the poem below then answer the questions that follow.

## A Worm in My Pocket

One rainy day on my way home from school,  
I found a big worm and thought it was cool.

I picked up the worm with my bare hand,  
held it up high, thinking how grand!

The worm was so cute and wiggled a lot.  
I put him in my pocket to show Mom what I'd caught.

What will she say when I show her my find?  
Will she let me keep it? I hope she won't mind.

Mom was in the kitchen when I showed her what I'd found.  
She screamed, "No, way! Put it back in the ground!"

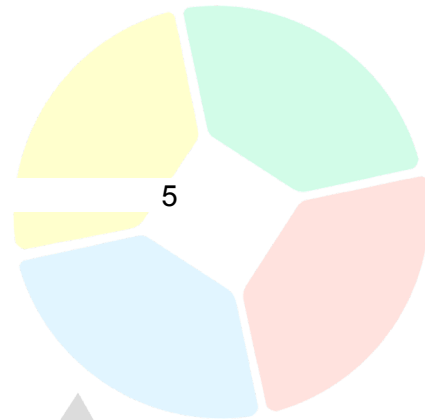
Now I'm so angry; she always says, "No."  
If she won't let me keep it, then I will just go!

So me and my worm packed a sandwich or two,  
ran out the door, and down the street we both flew.

We walked to the park and sat on a bench.  
I pulled out my worm and noticed a stench.

He looked kind of floppy but wiggled a bit.  
I thought, "Oh my Gosh, my worm is not fit!"

I laid him in the dirt and let him go free.  
I guess that my pocket was not the best place to be.



Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.

7 What poetic technique is used in Line 13?

- A. Hyperbole
- B. Personification
- C. Anaphora
- D. Simile

8 What does the writer do after finding the worm?

- A. He asks for his mother's permission to keep the worm
- B. He hides the worm from his mother
- C. He makes sure that the worm will not hurt him later
- D. He gives the worm to his friend

9 Line 12 is best described as

- A. Separating
- B. Insisting
- C. Abandoning
- D. Lamenting

10 What is the first thing which makes the writer think that there is something wrong with the worm?

- A. The worm is actively wiggling.
- B. The worm is lying stiff.
- C. The worm stinks.
- D. The worm does not move at all.

11 What rhyme is formed throughout the verses?

- A. Imperfect rhyme
- B. Perfect rhyme
- C. Slant rhyme
- D. Eye rhyme

*Read the article below then answer the questions.*

There are sentences that have been removed from the article. Choose the correct letter below that contains the sentence that best fits in the paragraph. Take note that there is an extra sentence which you do not need to use.

### **The Art of Time Management: Unlocking Productivity and Balance**

Time is a finite resource, yet its management is often a challenge for many individuals. **12**..... By understanding the importance of prioritisation, setting goals, and employing effective strategies, individuals can unlock their full potential and strike a harmonious balance between work, leisure, and personal growth.

Time management is the practice of consciously allocating and organising one's time to maximise productivity and achieve desired outcomes. **13**..... By embracing time management principles, individuals gain control over their schedules, reduce stress levels, and create opportunities for personal growth and fulfilment.



Central to effective time management is the ability to prioritise tasks and set meaningful goals. By identifying and categorising tasks based on their urgency and importance, individuals can allocate their time accordingly. **14**..... Furthermore, setting clear goals provides a sense of direction and motivation, guiding individuals towards meaningful achievements and fostering a sense of accomplishment.

In today's digital age, distractions abound, making it essential to develop strategies to manage them effectively. **15**..... Employing techniques such as time blocking, turning off notifications, and creating a dedicated workspace helps individuals stay focused and minimise interruptions. By consciously eliminating or managing distractions, individuals can optimise their concentration and dedicate uninterrupted time to important tasks.

**16**..... Creating a structured schedule, utilising to-do lists, and breaking tasks into smaller, manageable chunks enhances productivity and prevents overwhelm. Additionally, employing tools such as digital calendars or project management apps can aid in visualising and tracking progress. By adopting these organisational strategies, individuals can optimise their workflow, avoid missed deadlines, and maintain a sense of control over their time.

Recognizing personal limitations and learning to delegate tasks is a key aspect of effective time management. Delegating tasks to trusted individuals or seeking support when needed frees up time for higher-priority responsibilities. Additionally, learning to say no to non-essential commitments or tasks that do not align with one's goals is crucial. **17**.....

**Choose the letter of the correct sentence that best fits the missing lines in each paragraph.**

- A.** Distractions such as social media, email notifications, and unrelated tasks can significantly hinder productivity.
- B.** It involves setting clear goals, prioritising tasks, and making efficient use of available time.
- C.** By setting boundaries and prioritising one's own needs, individuals can maintain a healthy work-life balance and avoid overextending themselves.
- D.** Prioritisation ensures that vital tasks are completed first, reducing the risk of procrastination and increasing overall efficiency.
- E.** Time management should be learned by lazy people so that a proper schedule can keep their duties and responsibilities on track.
- F.** Successful time management relies on effective planning and organisation.
- G.** The ability to effectively manage time is crucial for achieving personal and professional success.

**Read the extracts below then answer the questions that follow.**

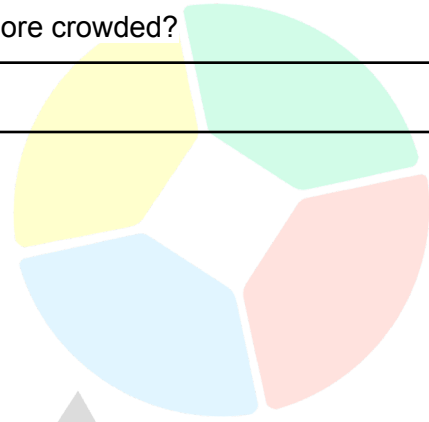
<b>A</b>	In addition to the Cloud Forest's normal highlights, there is an exhibition of Steve's blown glasswork. The Cloud Forest is home to three of the five interior exhibits.	<b>C</b>	It is well-known for its 115-foot waterfall. The sight confronts you as soon as you step in, as do the hundreds of visitors gathered at the bottom for a snapshot. After a reasonably peaceful morning, we
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	<p>There is a vast variety of plants as well as a good display of stalagmites. Sculptures are sculpted across the dome. Very great presentation; allow at least 90 minutes to see it all. Free WiFi is available everywhere. Currently, you must reserve time slots in advance. The flora is vibrant, and there are several waterfalls. Excellent air conditioning and an elevator to the ceiling.</p>		<p>found the rest of our day to be incredibly busy. I made the mistake of wearing a maxi dress to the gardens, and people kept standing on it.</p> <p>In the cloud forest, you go down a path that twists around a plant-covered peak. The crowds were streamlined as a result, but there were no instances where it became too overpowering. Despite the hot and humid temperature outside, the conservatory felt refreshing to roam about in.</p>
<b>B</b>	<p>We opted to spend a Saturday at the Cloud Forest in the thick of the heat and the Corona Virus scare. First and foremost, bring a genuine shirt, or a light sweater or jacket, as the temperature is significantly cooler than outdoors. When it comes to global warming and other issues, it's a bit too focused on school excursions, but it's nicely done and, of course, necessary. However, the entire high-priced process of creating an artificial cloud forest is fascinating to witness. It's well worth it, and it's a terrific way to beat the heat. Normally, I would expect this to be pretty packed, but due to the virus panic, it was little attended. I believe it is safe to state that children aged 4 and up will like it much. Not recommended for individuals who are seriously terrified of heights.</p>	<b>D</b>	<p>My trip to the Cloud Forest was fantastic. I went early to avoid the crowds, and while I did beat it, the light at 10:00 a.m. made it difficult to snap excellent shots within the dome, particularly of the waterfall. Nonetheless, wandering around all of the many floors and seeing so many different small corners and nooks was exhilarating. It's wonderful there, so take your time and enjoy the mist on your face. It's well worth the price, plus you can combine entry with other attractions to save a little money overall.</p> <p>Once you're inside, you can't truly retrace your steps or go backwards. If you enjoy photography, this means you only have one chance to obtain a decent image of the cascade at the beginning.</p>

Which extract mentions...:

<b>18</b>	how to enjoy the facilities of the forest with less budget?
<b>19</b>	the forest was not as crowded as the writer thought?
<b>20</b>	giving a suggestion to avoid the coldness of the forest?
<b>21</b>	there were a lot of people coming to take photos?

<b>22</b>	a good place for study tours?
<b>23</b>	making a mistake in choosing their outfit?
<b>24</b>	enjoying a quiet atmosphere before the forest got more crowded?
<b>25</b>	a forest that showcases some glassworks?



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