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PROPUESTA A

HOLLYWOOD GEARS UP FOR OSCARS

Hollywood is gearing up for the 84th annual Academy Awards. The prestigious film honors, also known as Oscars, acknowledge the best in movie making, and golden statuettes will go to actors and actresses and others behind the camera. The top contenders are facing off in a very competitive year.

Meryl Streep is considered one of the favourites for the Oscar for best actress for her role as former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in *The Iron Lady*. Viola Davis is another favourite for the best actress Oscar for her role in *The Help* as an African-American maid in the American South in the 1960s. The film explores themes of race and class. George Clooney is up for two Oscars, for co-writing the adapted screenplay for the political film *The Ides of March* and for his starring role in *The Descendants*, a family drama set in Hawaii.

There is intense competition at the Oscars, and always some surprises but George Clooney told reporters earlier this month that he's just honored just to be included as a nominee. "It's nice because it comes from people that you work with a lot from every category. It's really nice. It's fun", Clooney said.

Oscar winners are determined by a vote of nearly 6,000 members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, a professional organization of key people in the movie industry. The envelopes revealing the results will be opened Sunday at a gala presentation in Hollywood.

Adapted from www.woanews.com/english/news

QUESTIONS

I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)

Add TRUE or FALSE and **copy the evidence** from the text to support your answer.

NO marks are given for only true or false.

1. Only actors and actress can be nominated for an Academy award.
2. This year is particularly difficult to get an Oscar.
3. For Clooney, Oscar nomination is a privilege.
4. The Oscars are voted by more than 6,000 members of the Academy.

II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS):

A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)

Find words or phrases in the text that mean the same as these given.

1. preparing.
2. candidates.
3. topics.
4. relevant.



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B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT)

1. How is the “-s” pronounced in “gears”, /s/, /z/ or /ɪz/? (0.25)
2. Write a word from the text that includes the same sound as “nominee” /i:/. (0.25)
3. Write a word from the text that includes the same sound as “fun” /ʌ/. (0.25)
4. Write a word from the text that includes the same diphthong sound as “Prime” /aɪ/. (0.25)

III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0.5 for each correct answer)

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:

1. My father started smoking twenty years ago.
My father has
2. I am sure he is rich. He owns a Ferrari.
He... ..
3. In San Francisco I stayed in three hotels. They were terribly expensive.
In San Francisco I stayed.....
4. “Are they planning to travel abroad?”, he asked.
He asked
5. His parents are unemployed. So, they can’t buy a new car.
If
6. Write the correct question for the underlined words.
.....?
Her daughter spent 100 € on clothes yesterday.

IV. COMPOSITION. (3 POINTS)

Write a composition of between 100 and 125 words on the following topic:

Write about your favourite film



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PROPUESTA B

THE BRITISH PUB

Pubs are important in the social life of many British people. The word pub is short for public house, but the full name is rarely used. Pubs serve a range of alcoholic drinks, and also low-alcohol and soft drinks. Some pubs are also called inns. These were originally hotels and some still offer accommodation.

Most pubs have a choice of bars (rooms to drink in). Drinks are sold from a counter in each room, also called a bar. Under Britain's licensing laws, alcohol can only be sold to people over 18. Children under 14 are not allowed in pubs unless there is a family room, that is, a room without a bar.

People often choose a bar near where they live as their local and go there several times a week. At lunchtime, people may go to a pub with colleagues from work, and in the evening they go with friends. Younger people sometimes go on a pub crawl, visiting several pubs in the same evening.

Pubs have their own character and atmosphere. Some attract young people by playing loud music or inviting live bands to perform. Others have televisions in the bar and show sport games, football, above all. Some pub managers organize teams to play darts. Theme pubs are decorated in a particular style. The most popular is the Irish pub, which sells Irish beers and plays Irish music. Most pubs are open only at lunchtime and in the evening, closing at 11:00 p.m.

Adapted from *Oxford Guide to British and American Culture*

QUESTIONS

I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)

Add TRUE or FALSE and **copy the evidence** from the text to support your answer.

NO marks are given for only true or false.

1. People sometimes use the full name *public house* instead of *pub*.
2. Children under 14 are never allowed in British pubs.
3. British people usually go to their local pub.
4. All pubs close at 11:00 p.m.

II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS):

A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)

Find words or phrases in the text that mean the same as these given.

1. the majority of.
2. regulations.
3. workmates.
4. personality.

B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT)

1. How is the "-s" pronounced in "drinks", /s/, /z/ or /ɪz/.? (0.25)
2. Write a word from the text that includes the same sound as "British" /ʃ/. (0.25)
3. Write a word from the text that includes the same sound as "pub" /ʌ/. (0.25)
4. Write a word from the text that includes the same sound as "evening" /ŋ/. (0.25)



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III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0.5 for each correct answer)

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:

1. Smoking is not allowed in restaurants nowadays.
People
2. The inspector arrested the thief yesterday night.
The thief
3. "Shall we go to the movies?" He suggested.
He suggested
4. I read a novel last summer. It was very interesting.
I read a novel
5. I am not rich. That is why I don't have a Porsche.
If
6. Write the correct question for the underlined words.
.....?
John prefers travelling by train.

IV. COMPOSITION. (3 POINTS)

Write a composition of between 100 and 125 words on the following topic:

Do you go to pubs at the weekends? If not, what do you usually do?