

I. Read the following section and choose the most suitable answer for each question. (10%)

A luthier is someone who makes guitars. Like the violins in the day of Stradivari, guitars today are being made to meet the personal needs of guitarists, particularly the great players.

Unlike an electric guitar which is solid, the acoustic guitar is hollow. Its sound depends on the way the vibrating strings cause the sound board, the top of the instrument, to resonate with them. The luthier uses spruce wood, which is both strong and porous, so the sound can vibrate and pass through to the inside of the instrument where it bounces off the sides and back, then comes out again through the round opening in the center of the guitar.

Danny Ferrington is a luthier who makes guitars for some of the big name stars today. He is an unpretentious young man from the back country of Louisiana. He fell in love with the guitar when he was twelve years old and went to Nashville where he apprenticed for a guitar maker for the bluegrass singers. Then he went to Los Angeles where he has made guitars for Johnny Cash, Eric Clapton, Jackson Brown, and Linda Ronstadt. His guitars are asymmetrical and of varied shapes which he finds gives them a clearer sound for recording. The innovative shapes make it possible to create instruments as works of art, lovingly designed and crafted by the artist for another artist.

1. Apparently, Danny makes good guitars because
 - a. the author admires him
 - b. he was trained in Nashville
 - c. great artists buy them
 - d. he loves his work
2. In the writer's opinion, guitar making is—
 - a. easy if you use the right materials
 - b. an art that takes talent
 - c. a new industry
 - d. an expensive hobby
3. Which of these is the best title for the passage?
 - a. "Sound and Motion"
 - b. "How to Make a Guitar"
 - c. "Danny Ferrington, the Luthier"
 - d. "The Great Luthier"

(背面仍有題目,請繼續作答)

4. Spruce is a good wood for making guitars because it
 - a. produces good sound
 - b. is a natural substance
 - c. can withstand vibrations
 - d. does not vibrate
5. Great acoustic guitars do not have to be
 - a. symmetrical
 - b. metal
 - c. porous
 - d. wood

II. Find the incorrect word or phrase (A, B, C or D). (10%)

1. As it got closer_(A) to Chinese Lunar New Year, the employees wondered_(B) if the CEO was go to_(C) hand out the annual bonus_(D) this year.
2. When_(A) Christopher Columbus first set foot in America, many travelers_(B) had hoped to have found_(C) a shortcut_(D) to India.
3. The council_(A) reported its_(B) recommendation that the public_(C) transport system were_(D) more accessible.
4. The airline announced_(A) that the flight had been_(B) cancelled due to_(C) a deficient_(D) part in the aircraft engine.
5. The_(A) opera house in Sydney is_(B) an example of outstanding_(C) artist_(D) achievement.

III. Translation. (10%)

1. 國家最高上訴法院在週四支持一項裁決，允許瑞士南部一女士依丈夫父母對夫妻私人生活過度且不當之干擾為由離婚。(5%)
2. Three Kenyans died trying to retrieve a mobile phone that slipped down an open-pit latrine while its owner answered a call of nature, a newspaper reported on Friday. (5%)

IV. Writing. (20%)

Steven and Nina have two children, ages two and five. Nina, an attorney, is currently not working but has been offered an attractive full-time job. Steven believes Nina should not work until both children are in school. Should Nina take the job? Compose your response (about 150 words).