A2 Reading Test 1

**Read the text and for questions 1 to 8, match each sentence with the person who might say it.**

**Why do people collect?**

**Petra Engels** owns 19,571 erasers, Carol Vaughn has 1,221 bars of soap, and Ralf Shrőder has a collection of 14,502 packets of sugar. Many people love to collect things, but why? Psychologists and collectors have different opinions.

The psychologist **Carl Jung** believed that collecting is part of our ancient human history. Thousands of years ago, humans collected nuts and berries. They kept them carefully and ate them when there was no food. The best collectors survived long cold winters or seasons without rain. Their genes passed to future generations. Nowadays, we still have a collecting instinct.

Historian **Philipp Bloom** has a different opinion. He thinks collectors want to make something that will remain after their death. By bringing many similar items together, the collector gains historical importance. Sometimes their collections become museums or libraries, for example, Henry Huntington, who founded a library in Los Angeles to house his collection of books.

Author **Steve Roach** thinks that people collect things to remember their childhood. Many children collect things, but few have enough money to buy the things they really want, and they lose interest. In later life, they remember their collections fondly. Now, they have enough money and opportunity to find special items, and they start collecting again. This way, they can re-live and enjoy their childhood years.

Art collector, **Werner Muensterberger**, agrees that collecting is linked to childhood. But he believes we collect in order to feel safe and secure. While babies hold blankets or toys to feel safe when their mother isn’t there, adults collect things to stop feeling lonely or anxious.

Autograph collector **Mark Baker** agrees that collecting is emotional, but he doesn’t collect to reduce anxiety. “For me, it’s the excitement,” he says. “I love trying to get a famous person’s autograph. Sometimes I succeed, and sometimes I fail. Also, by collecting autographs, I feel connected to famous people. I don’t just watch them on television. I actually meet them.”

These are just a few reasons for collecting. Do you know any people with collections? Why do they collect?

Початок форми

**11.1111**

**1.People collect things because it makes them feel comfortable.**

a.Mark Baker

b.Carl Jung

c.Werner Muensterberger

d.Philipp Bloom

e.None of the people in the text

f.Steve Roach

**2. I collect because I enjoy trying to achieve something.**

a.Mark Baker

b.Carl Jung

c.Werner Muensterberger

d.Philipp Bloom

e.None of the people in the text

f.Steve Roach

**3. People have always collected because we need to stay alive.**

a.Mark Baker

b.Carl Jung

c.Werner Muensterberger

d.Philipp Bloom

e.None of the people in the text

f.Steve Roach

**4.** **People collect because they want to remember a former hobby.**

a.Mark Baker

b.Carl Jung

c.Werner Muensterberger

d.Philipp Bloom

e.None of the people in the text

f.Steve Roach

**5. People collect because they want to be famous for something important.**

a.Mark Baker

b.Carl Jung

c.Werner Muensterberger

d.Philipp Bloom

e.None of the people in the text

f.Steve Roach

**6. People start collecting again when they can afford to buy special things.**

a.Mark Baker

b.Carl Jung

c.Werner Muensterberger

d.Philipp Bloom

e.None of the people in the text

f.Steve Roach

**7. Collecting gives people something to do during bad weather and cold or wet seasons.**

a.Mark Baker

b.Carl Jung

c.Werner Muensterberger

d.Philipp Bloom

e.None of the people in the text

f.Steve Roach

**8. Collecting links ordinary people to the lives of well-known people.**

a.Mark Baker

b.Carl Jung

c.Werner Muensterberger

d.Philipp Bloom

e.None of the people in the text

f.Steve Roach

A2 Reading Test 2.

**Read the text about Ashrita Furman, the man with the most world records. For questions 1 to 6, choose the correct answer.**

The man with the most world records

Ashrita Furman is a record-breaking record-breaker: He has set more records than anyone else in the world! In the last 40 years, he has established more than 600 records!

As a child, Ashrita loved reading the Guinness Book of World Records. He wanted to be in it too. But he thought people had to be good at sports to be in the book. He wasn’t a good athlete. He felt his dream would never come true.

But later in life, Ashrita learned meditation, and with this, he learned that nothing is impossible. He tested this idea in 1978 by entering a 24-hour bike race in New York. Without any training, Ashrita came third! After that, he started thinking about breaking records again.

First, he tried to break the record for the most jumping jacks. He failed at first, but, remembering that ‘anything is possible’, he trained, meditated and tried again. This time, he did 27,000 jumping jacks in 6 hours 45 minutes and became the new record holder. His achievement appeared in the 1980 Guinness Book of Records.

Today, Ashrita has a long list of records, including: walking the furthest distance with a bike on his chin, cycling the longest distance with a bottle on his head and lighting the most candles on a birthday cake. He says: “I choose ideas which are challenging, fun and childish! I enjoy practising and seeing my progress.”

He says his favourite record was “the longest distance on a pogo stick”. While he was on holiday in Japan, he saw Mount Fuji and thought it was beautiful, so he decided to try to break a record there. He did 11.5 miles. The most difficult record was “the most forward rolls”. In 10 hours, 30 minutes, he did 8,341 of them, travelling 12 miles!

If you want to break a world record too, Ashrita gives this advice. “Choose something you enjoy because you will need to practise. And don’t give up. Your mind will tell you that something is impossible, but it isn’t. If someone else has done something, and you work hard, you can do it too!Початок форми

**11.**

**1. When Ashrita was a child, he...**

a.was good at sports.

b.dreamed of being in the Guinness Book of Records.

c.achieved his first world record.

d.met a record-breaking athlete.

2. When he was a child, he thought that...

a.one day he would achieve his dream.

b.everything is possible.

c.only good athletes could break records.

d.he would become a good athlete one day.

3. When Ashrita did the 24-hour bike race, he learned that...

a.training is important.

b.breaking records is easy.

c.anything is possible.

d.meditation is unnecessary.

4. Which activity did Ashrita do for his first world record?

a.meditating

b.cycling

c.jumping jacks

d.using a pogo stick

**5. Which of these sentences is NOT true about Ashrita?**

a.He failed his first record-breaking attempt.

b.His record-breaking activities are childish.

c.In one record, he carried a bottle on his head while cycling.

d.He doesn’t enjoy training for records.

**6.** **Which sentence might Ashrita say?**

a.“You don’t have to practise much to break records.“

b.“Doing the most forward rolls was easy!”

c.“Do what your mind tells you to do.”

d.“Anyone can break records.”

### A2 Reading Test 3.

##### Read about the benefits of the nuts below. Which nut would you recommend to each of these people? Match each person with a nut, using the list provided at the end of the page. Each nut can only be used once.

#### The benefits of nuts

A. CASHEWS

Gold-medal winning Olympic sprinter Kelly Holmes says she ate a bag of these wonder nuts after every race to help her recover. They’re packed with zinc – brilliant for your immune system.

B. PISTACHIOS

Tony Blair’s favourite, these cut cholesterol and are rich in vitamins B and E – great for glowing skin.

C. BRAZIL NUTS

A study from the University of Illinois suggests brazils might help prevent breast cancer, thanks to their high selenium content. They give you an energy buzz, too.

D. ALMONDS  
These are real heart savers, as they are rich in a form of vitamin E called alphatocopherol, which lowers your risk of cardiac disease.

E. MACADAMIAS  
University of Hawaii found that people who ate high-fat macadamias had the same cholesterol levels as those on a low-fat diet.

F. WALNUTS  
If you are worried about diabetes or cholesterol you should stock up on walnuts. They are full of alpha linoleic acid, which boosts your “good” cholesterol and stops fatty deposits from sticking to arteries.

**1.A woman who feels tired all the time.**

a.cashews

b.pistachios

c.Brazil nuts

d.almonds

e.macadamias

f.walnuts

2. A teenager who has acne problems.

a.cashews

b.pistachios

c.Brazil nuts

d.almonds

e.macadamias

f.walnuts

3. A fat executive who has had a heart attack.

a.cashews

b.pistachios

c.Brazil nuts

d.almonds

e.macadamias

f.walnuts

4. A thin person who has cholesterol problems.

a.cashews

b.pistachios

c.Brazil nuts

d.almonds

e.macadamias

f.walnuts

5. Someone who catches all the viruses around.

a.cashews

b.pistachios

c.Brazil nuts

d.almonds

e.macadamias

f.walnuts

### A2 Reading Test 4.

##### Read the text about Chinese New Year and for questions 1 to 6, choose the correct answer.

#### Chinese New Year https://test-english.com/reading/a2/chinese-new-year/

Кінець форми

Кінець форми