

Read the text below and answer the questions from **01 to 10**.
Only one option is correct.

Venezuela: no food, no water, no medicine, no lights

1 **Inside Venezuela**

2
3 The lights are back on, for the moment. Much of the country was without power for five days. The
4 country is still violent, there are food shortages, the public health system is in a state of collapse. Blackouts
5 made things worse everywhere.

6 The blackout was the latest crisis as the economy of Venezuela continues to fail. Millions have fled the
7 nation. The opposition said the election of President Nicolás Maduro was not legal. Juan Guaidó swore himself
8 in as the new president. Fifty countries agree that Guaidó is the president.

9 The blackout came from a big plant that sends out most of the nation's power. Government officials
10 said it is the result of sabotage and cyber-attacks. They blamed the United States and the local opposition for
11 the blackout. Things in the country are getting worse.

12 **Outside Venezuela**

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15 The United States is the chief enemy of Maduro. Russia and China are his main allies. The U.S. is
16 using sanctions to defeat the government. It is cutting off payments to the country for the oil it exports to the
17 U.S. Russia is trying to make up the difference. The U.S. placed a sanction on the Russian bank that is helping
18 Maduro.

19 Maduro cut diplomatic ties with the United States in January. The U.S. said it would keep its diplomats
20 in the country to help the opposition to Maduro. Now The United States is withdrawing all diplomatic personnel
21 from its embassy in Venezuela. It says it is doing so because of conditions in the country. The move is a
22 setback for the Trump administration.

23 **Looking Ahead**

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26 The U.S. does not appear to have the next steps planned. One idea is that Maduro might detain Guaidó.
27 His arrest could set off demonstrations that overturn the government. Another idea is that the military will
28 desert Maduro.

29 American officials say the struggle in Venezuela is about global communist influence. They
30 have accused Cuba and Russia of propping up Mr. Maduro. U.S. Secretary of State Pompeo spoke. He
31 blamed Cuba and Russia for the Venezuelan blackouts and other social and economic problems.

32 In an acid manner, Pompeo said, "When there is no electricity, thank the marvels of modern Cuban-led
33 engineering. When there's no water, thank the excellent hydrologists from Cuba. When there's no food, thank
34 the Cuban communist overlords."

35 All of this does not change the miseries of the Venezuelan people. If misery can make for a political
36 change, Maduro may soon be gone.

Adapted from: **Venezuela: No Food, No Water, No Medicine, No Lights**. Available on: <<https://www.thetimesinplainenglish.com/venezuela-no-food-no-water-no-medicine-no-lights/>>. Accessed on: April 4th, 2019.

- 1) According to the text, mark the alternative that is true.
- a) The United States of America is responsible for the blackout that is a consequence of the sanctions placed by the US.
 - b) The blackout is one of the sanctions placed by the US.
 - c) Venezuelan government considers the US responsible for the blackout.
 - d) The blackout happened because the election of president Maduro was not legal.

2) Read the statements and choose the correct alternative.

- I. The U.S. is removing its diplomats from Venezuela.
- II. Russia and China removed its diplomats from Venezuela.
- III. China is one of the main partners of Venezuelan government.

- a) Only I is correct.
- b) Only I and II are correct.
- c) Only I and III are correct.
- d) Only II and III are correct.

3) According to the text, the imprisonment of Gaidó

- a) may induce demonstrations that impair the government.
- b) may induce the military desertion.
- c) may cause a global communist invasion.
- d) may cause blackouts and other social and economic problems.

4) The sentence "Millions have fled the nation.", line 05 means

- a) millions of people have moved to Venezuela.
- b) millions of people have participated in demonstrations against Maduro.
- c) millions of people have built Venezuela.
- d) millions of people have left Venezuela.

5) Read the statements and write T (true) or F (false).

- I. () U.S. Secretary of State considered Cuba and Russia responsible for the blackouts in Venezuela.
- II. () Pompeo accused Russia and Cuba for social and economic problems in Venezuela.
- III. () Venezuelan government officials considered the blackouts a result of sabotage and cyber-attacks.

Mark the alternative that presents the correct order.

- a) T - F - T
- b) T - T - T
- c) T - F - F
- d) F - T - T

6) The word *himself* (line 06) refers to

- a) Maduro.
- b) Guaidó.
- c) Pompeo.
- d) 50 countries.

7) In the sentence "If misery can make for a political change, Maduro may soon be gone.", lines 35 and 36, the word *may* can be replaced, without changing the meaning, by the word

- a) will.
- b) would.
- c) might.
- d) should.

- 8) In the sentence "It says it is doing so because of conditions in the country.", lines 20 and 21, the underlined word (it) refers to
- a) diplomatic personnel. (line 20)
 - b) Maduro. (line 19)
 - c) Venezuela. (line 20)
 - d) the United States. (lines 19 and 20)
- 9) The opposite of **ahead** (line 24) is
- a) next.
 - b) back.
 - c) forward.
 - d) down.
- 10) In the sentence "When there is no electricity, thank the marvels of modern Cuban-led engineering.", lines 32 and 33, it is possible to replace **When there is no electricity**, without changing the meaning, by
- a) When there is not any electricity.
 - b) When there is any electricity.
 - c) When there is not some electricity.
 - d) When there is some electricity.

Read the text below and answer the questions from 11 to 14.
There is only one correct alternative.

Are countries trying to end US dollar's power?

- 1 Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has suggested that the U.S. dollar could be losing its status as
2 the world's most important currency. Mr. Lavrov said that because the U.S. has imposed economic sanctions
3 on countries like Iran, Turkey and Russia, these countries could start conducting international business in their
4 own national currencies instead of the dollar. In addition, countries that have had trade tariffs imposed on them
5 by the U.S. could also do trade in their own currencies. This could include the global economic superpower
6 China ditching the dollar. China is already setting up trade deals in its own currency. Experts say the U.S.
7 dollar could lose its position as the international reserve currency.
- 8 The U.S. dollar replaced the British pound as the international reserve currency in the 1920s. Since
9 then, most international trade has taken place using the dollar. Today, when China buys oil from Iran, it pays
10 in U.S. dollars. This means more U.S. dollars flow out of the U.S. than flow in. The effect of this is the U.S.
11 has a currency deficit as its dollars are in the bank accounts of other countries. Mr Lavrov said: "I'm confident
12 that the grave abuse of the role of the U.S. dollar as a global reserve currency will result over time in the
13 weakening and demise of its role." China's currency the yuan is emerging as an alternative trading currency.
14 Africa's most populous nation Nigeria has already started trading using the yuan

Adapted from: **Are countries trying to end US dollar's power?** Available on: <<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180819-the-dollar.html>>. Accessed on April 4th, 2019.

- 11) Mark the correct alternative according to the text.
- a) Russia's Foreign Minister believes that the US dollar lost its status as the world's most important currency.
 - b) According to Mr. Lavrov, countries like Iran, Turkey and Russia might start doing international trade in their own national currency instead of using US dollar.
 - c) The British pound has been the second most important currency since the 1920s.
 - d) Experts say the U.S. dollar won't lose its role because of the huge reserves of the U.S..
- 12) In the sentence "This could include the global economic superpower China ditching the dollar.", lines 6 and 7, the word **ditching** has the same meaning as
- a) adopting.
 - b) using.
 - c) discarding.
 - d) keeping.
- 13) In the sentence "This means more U.S. dollars flow out of the U.S. than flow in.", (lines 12 and 13), the underlined expressions have opposite meanings (out x in). Mark the alternative which does **not** present expressions with opposite meanings.
- a) get on the bus x get off the bus
 - b) get in the car x get out of the car
 - c) climb up the mountain x climb down the mountain
 - d) give away the papers x give out the papers
- 14) The pronoun **them** (line 06) refers to
- a) the U.S. (line 06).
 - b) trade tariffs (line 05).
 - c) countries (line 05).
 - d) currencies (line 06).

Read the text and answer the questions from **14 to 18**.
Only one option is correct.

IMF chief, Christine Lagarde, warns of slower growth for most countries worldwide

- 1 The head of the International Monetary Fund has warned that the majority of countries around the world can
- 2 expect slower growth in 2019 as the global economy loses momentum.
- 3 Christine Lagarde said rising trade tensions, concerns over Brexit and tougher financial conditions as central
- 4 banks raised interest rates had "increasingly unsettled" the world economy over recent months.
- 5 In a speech in Washington on Tuesday before the IMF's spring meeting, Lagarde indicated that the global
- 6 lender of last resort was likely to downgrade its forecast for world growth in 2019 and 2020.

Adapted from: **IMF chief warns of slower growth for most countries worldwide**. Available on: <<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2019/apr/02/imf-chief-warns-of-slower-growth-for-most-countries-christine-lagarde>>. Accessed on April 4th, 2019.

- 15) Choose the alternative that is **not** true according to the text.
- a) Most of countries will have a lower growth rate in 2019.
 - b) Worries about Brexit are damaging the world economy.
 - c) The increase of the interest rates is also responsible for the instability of the world economy.
 - d) The central banks are increasingly interested in finding a solution for the Brexit situation.
- 16) Without changing the meaning, the word **momentum** (line 03) can be substituted by these words, except for
- a) impetus.
 - b) energy.
 - c) force.
 - d) time.
- 17) Mark the alternative in which the underlined word doesn't have the same function as **slower** (line 02).
- a) The world economy will face **harder** times in 2019.
 - b) Low international trade can be considered a **barrier** to the growth of world economy.
 - c) A **lower** economic growth in 2019 confirms the need of deep changes in the world economy.
 - d) Innovation is one of the main factors for a **greater** development of the world economy.
- 18) **On** is the preposition used with days of the week. See **on Tuesday** (line 07). Mark the option that presents the correct preposition choice.
The workshops for the stakeholders are going to be
- a) on July.
 - b) in July.
 - c) in July 20.
 - d) at July 20.
- 19) Mark the correct alternative to fill in the blanks correctly.
- _____ integration _____ national economies into a global economic system has been one of _____ most important developments of the last century.
- a) A – of – the
 - b) The – on – the
 - c) A – in – the
 - d) The – of – the
- 20) Mark the correct alternative to fill in the blanks correctly.
- Bitcoin is an _____ type of payment system. It is a type of _____ or digital money. You can use it to do business outside mainstream financial services. Bitcoin is basically _____ cash.
- a) digital – internet – alternative
 - b) alternative – bank – internet
 - c) digital – internet – bank
 - d) alternative – internet – digital

