INTERMEDIATE GROUP
A

Class:_________ Name:________________
Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.

Women in Unusual Jobs

1  Dina Dorset is a disc jockey in a night-club in London. A few years ago, she thought her future was in tennis. “For a while, I trained promising young players on a full-time basis, but one day a neighbor who was a radio producer took me down to his radio station, and I became involved in the music scene,” she says. There are lots of late nights for Dina but unexpectedly the job doesn’t offer her much in the way of a social life. “I don’t have any real contact with the large numbers of people I meet,” she says. She particularly likes the fact that she now only works four hours a day. “The one thing I resent is having to appear cheerful all the time even when I feel down,” she says. She hopes to be able to produce her own records one day, but she has given up her ambition of going to college. “You can’t do everything in life,” she says.

2  Angela Bell is a clown. She paints her face white, wears funny clothes and entertains people. She decided clowning was the job she wanted after seeing a clown show. “I said that was it. It involved no talking, and that suited me down to the ground,” she says. She soon realized that it was considered a job for men. Hence, women only introduced the act, were on the stage for a few minutes and received very little appreciation. “That is changing now,” she says. “Still, from the beginning I decided to call myself Chris on the programs instead of Angela so that the audience doesn’t know if I am a man or a woman.” Angela had to choose between family and work. “I liked my work too much to think of children,” she says, “and I have no regrets.” She says the secret of her being a successful clown is that she is a very happy person, which is what you need to be a good one.

3  Claire Dorn works on a cruise liner, a floating luxury hotel which is her home for eight months of the year. She is the ship’s secretary and has responsibility for all information customers may need while on board, as well as acting as secretary to the captain. “He is very demanding, but I have no complaints about him,” she says. Losing touch with the real world for so long is no problem because the ship’s officers can take advantage of the activities provided for the entertainment of passengers. “I have made many lasting friendships here,” she says, “we get customers of all ages and backgrounds.” Her previous work experience as a Personal Assistant to a manager prepared her for the demands of this job. It was better paid than her present job but she gave it up because she had always liked the idea of working on a ship. “The only drawback is that there are constant time changes when you go round the world, and it makes you feel physically unwell,” she says.

4  Dolly Masons has worked in a chocolate factory for the past twenty years. “I was nearly sixteen when I joined,” she says. “My parents both worked here at the time, so it had become a kind of family tradition. My first job was as an assistant, and I have since climbed the ladder to become customer relations manager.” Her present job involves a number of responsibilities, from performing taste tests for all chocolates to ensure their flavor is the same, to organizing events for retired employees, including parties and excursions to the seaside. “I like to have variety in my job,” she says, “any comments from customers will be forwarded to me to deal with. Of course, I will never meet them personally, but they will all get a written response from me.” She admits that at the moment she is finding it difficult to concentrate on the degree course in marketing she started last year but is confident she will finish it by June.
Mark the best choice.

1. What is surprising about Dina’s present job?
   a. She gave up training young players for it.
   b. Her neighbor offered her work at his radio station.
   c. She doesn’t communicate with people she meets.
   d. She doesn’t have to work late night.

2. Dina enjoys ____.
   a. being cheerful all the time.
   b. dreaming about producing her own records.
   c. thinking about her college days.
   d. working part time.

3. What does ‘that’ refer to in paragraph 2?
   a. no talking.
   b. seeing a clown show.
   c. deciding clowning was the job she wanted.
   d. painting her face white, wearing funny clothes and entertaining people.

4. All of the following are true about clowning EXCEPT ____.
   a. women only announced the performance.
   b. female and male clowns shared the stage equally.
   c. people considered it an occupation for men.
   d. the audience didn’t appreciate what women did.

5. What does ‘which’ refer to in paragraph 2?
   a. being happy
   b. being successful
   c. knowing the secret
   d. having no regrets

6. All of the following are among Claire’s responsibilities EXCEPT ____.
   a. providing the customers with any necessary information.
   b. working as the secretary of the ship.
   c. assisting the captain.
   d. entertaining the passengers.

7. According to Claire, what is a disadvantage of her job?
   a. the captain’s being over-demanding.
   b. being on board 8 months a year.
   c. time changes in different parts of the world.
   d. being paid less.
8. Dolly Masons is responsible for all of the following EXCEPT ____.
   a. testing all chocolates for quality control
   b. making sure that flavor is the same
   c. organizing parties
   d. organizing meetings with the customers

9. Which of the women in the text received promotion?
   a. Dina
   b. Angela
   c. Claire
   d. Dolly

10. Which of the following organize(s) activities for older people?
    a. Angela
    b. Dolly
    c. Claire and Dolly
    d. Angela and Claire
INTERMEDIATE GROUP
ANSWER KEY

Group A
1. c
2. d
3. a
4. b
5. a
6. d
7. c
8. d
9. d
10. b