The World (April 1st-30th, 2024)

1. ***The Wall Street Journal* (9th April 2024 A3)**

1)Text Completion

Crowds cheered, some people cried, and \_\_\_\_\_ clouds partly obscured the view in some areas, spectators in the direct path of Monday’s total solar eclipse still got to experience the midday sky grow dark. For some, it was likely \_\_\_ once-in-a-lifetime event. In the U.S., it began just before 12:30 p.m. local time near Dallas, and \_\_\_\_\_ (end) in north-eastern Maine around 4:40 p.m. local time, according to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

The last time Shelley Robbins, 52, of Garland, Texas, experienced an eclipse was on her birthday, \_\_\_ Aug. 21, 2017. There was a \_\_\_\_\_\_ (part) eclipse in her location that day, and Robbins had come to the Dallas Zoo \_\_\_\_\_\_ (see) the hippos. “It was just pure silence \_\_\_ a moment as we looked up at the sky,” Robbins said. “It was just amazing.”

When she realized Dallas would be in the direct path of this year’s eclipse, she looked at her husband and said they had to go to the zoo to relive the moment. When the zoo was plunged into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (dark) at the peak of the eclipse, Jesse Everett, 29, was in the middle of the crowd in front of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (elephant). Many feared the cloudy weather would obscure their view, but the skies cleared in the few minutes of totality. The crowd cheered. One young girl started to cry and clung \_\_\_ her mother’s waist.

2)Translation

雾中景色朦胧。

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

这条消息立即使他们深感沮丧。

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1. ***Reader’s Digest New Zealand* (April-May 2024 Page 20)**
2. Text Completion

**Hearing Aids May Help People Live Longer**

Hearing aids can help reduce mortality risk, according to a study in The Lancet Healthy Longevity journal. One reason is \_\_\_\_\_ hearing aids can help to prevent or slow the progression of dementia.

The researchers said there \_\_\_\_\_ nearly a 25 percent difference in mortality risk between regular hearing aid users and never-users. The scientists followed 1863 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (participate) for ten years to determine their mortality status.

Hearing loss is a common and under treated health condition in older adults that has been associated with cognitive decline, dementia and poor physical health.

The scientists did not examine why there was a difference in mortality risk. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the increased longevity may \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (explain) by the possibility that those who wear hearing aids are more likely \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (avoid) social isolation and maintain a higher level of activity.

**Women and Clogged Arteries**

Thanks in part to oestrogen’s protective effects, women \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ get atherosclerosis tend to get it later \_\_\_\_\_ men: between ages 64 and 68 (for men, it’s 52 to 56). But once a woman does have clogged arteries, concluded a study \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (publish) in European Heart Journal - Cardiovascular Imaging, she may need stronger treatments to avoid a heart attack.

Women’s arteries tend to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (slight) smaller than men’s, and that could explain why the same amount of plaque is a greater threat to their blood flow. That’s worth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (consider) when a patient and her doctor are choosing a treatment plan, along with other factors such as age, severity of the atherosclerosis and other cardiovascular risks such as high cholesterol.

2)Translation

她的部分认知能力受到了损害。

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

树叶堵塞了下水道。

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1. ***The Times* (April 13 2024 P50)**

1)Text Completion

Gold prices topped $2,400 yesterday and were \_\_\_\_\_ track for a fourth straight weekly gain, despite hopes straight of cuts in interest rates.

The price of gold has been on a largely uninterrupted rise since midFebruary, when it \_\_\_\_\_\_ (cost) about $2,000 an ounce, although it is not clear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has driven the increase.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (expect) of interest rate cuts in America, the key upward driver of gold prices, have eased after inflation there was higher than expected. High interest rates typically weigh on gold, making it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (attract) compared with investing in US Treasury bonds.

To further confuse matters, the rally has been driven by buyers who have not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (tradition) made material purchases, while the usual buyers through exchange-traded funds have remained net sellers. At the start of the week, exchange-traded fund holdings stood at \_\_\_ four-year low.

Analysts at UBS suggested this week that, given it had been difficult \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (pinpoint) a single source of buying, the rise could simply be broadly based, spurred by a tense global political landscape. There is also a possibility \_\_\_\_\_ the rise could be driven by a leveraged play, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ linked more to activity in the options market than the physical market. .

2)Translation

他们已经一连工作了16个小时。\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

那封信激励我行动起来。

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1. ***The Times* (April 12 2024 P18)**

1)Text Completion

People should turn their gardens into a “crucial lifeline” for birds, the RSPB has urged, as its citizen science survey found that a mild winter has boosted one of Europe’s smallest bird species. More than 600,000 people took part in the Big Garden Birdwatch, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (count) the species they saw over a weekend in January. The biggest year-on-year rise among the top 20 species was the long-tailed tit, which is about the size of a 50p coin and is vulnerable to cold. Numbers were up 39 per cent owing to the UK having one of the ten \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (warm) winters on record. The list \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (top) for the 21st year by the house sparrow, with an average of four \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (record) in each garden. However, the species has become \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (increase) scarce and its numbers are down 60 per cent since 1979. After sparrows, the most-spotted species were blue tits, starlings, wood pigeons and blackbirds.

One reason house sparrows have fared badly is \_\_\_\_ they are a “specialist species” that require cavities in homes for their nests. Starlings, which feed on cranefly larvae that are not always available, are struggling too. Blue tits, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have increased 24 per cent since the survey started 45 years ago. They are a “generalist”, able \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (exploit) any type of habitat, and have benefited \_\_\_\_\_ people putting up bird boxes. Wood pigeons, which were recorded in four in five gardens, have enjoyed \_\_\_ “crazy increase” as they have expanded beyond their forest homes. Since 1979, their numbers are up 1,058 per cent.

2)Translation

该党上次竞选情况很糟糕。\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

有些鸟在树洞里筑巢。

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1. ***USA Today* (April 16, 2024 P1A&5A)**

1)Text Completion

HELSINKI − Juuso Raukola uses the sauna in his home every single day. So \_\_\_ his wife and children. Raukola’s parents do the same with their sauna, in their house, his friends and work colleagues in theirs. When Raukola and his two brothers met up last month in Finland’s capital \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (catch) up on the things brothers catch up on when they have not seen each other in a while, they did so in a quiet and unchanging place made of fragrant hard wood, warmed to 175 degrees and \_\_\_\_\_ easy access for a dip in the Baltic’s icy waters. “Sometimes Finnish people say saunas are like churches. I think that’s a really strong word. Maybe too strong,” said Raukola, 35, \_\_ mechanical engineer, as he or one of his brothers periodically stood up to pour water on hot wood pellets that created a burst of steam that raised the heat and humidity levels in Helsinki’s Kulttuurisauna. “What I think they are trying to say is saunas are where Finnish people go to calm \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; to reset their minds to the ‘zero point’; to process \_\_\_\_\_ has happened to them in the daytime and to think about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (solve).”

Finland has a lot of saunas: an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (estimate) 3 million for its population of 5 million, according to government figures. The Nordic country also \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (routine) scores high in global surveys, indexes and reports that compare countries on various quality of life and good-governance metrics. Last month, Finland \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (crown) the happiest country in the world for the seventh year in a row by the United Nations’ World Happiness Report.

2)Translation

我们早饭前去游一会儿泳吧。\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

该研究包括市场指标。

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1. **CNN News 04/05/2024**

1)Text Completion

A total solar eclipse like this one will not be \_\_\_\_\_\_ from the United States again until 2044, so 20 years from now. That’s why we’re seeing so many people scrambling to try to find the best weather and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to see this on Monday. There are a few other things that make this eclipse really unique and the first is the length of time for totality. That’s the moment when the moon completely \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the sun and that’s when day will literally turn to night, so dark that the stars come out, nocturnal animals come out. That is how dark it gets and so that moment of totality for this eclipse is much longer than it was in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ eclipses. At the longest point it’ll be about four minutes and 30 seconds, so that’s a good amount of time to really get to soak in the power of nature in our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Another really unique thing about this eclipse is the fact that it just happens to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a period of peak activity on the surface of the sun, so during that moment of totality things like solar flares or coronal mass ejections are much more likely than in previous eclipses and could just make for some really cool viewing.

But of course with any eclipse, but this one \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the weather is always a factor and unfortunately it’s not looking like it’s going to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in large parts of the United States along this path of totality. Texas and Arkansas, really the weather not looking great there, but places like southern Missouri and Indianapolis and upstate New York and New England, the weather’s looking pretty good there. So as always before an eclipse, the eclipse \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the diehards are trying to find that best weather viewing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so that they can see this eclipse because again, if you don’t see this one it’s going to be 20 years before you get to see something like this if you live in the United States.

2)Translation

大多数蝙蝠和猫头鹰都是夜行动物。

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

机器突然喷出一把硬币。

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