

Part I. Reading Comprehension (20%): Choose the most appropriate answer to each item according to what is stated and/or implied in the passage.

Bullfighting is a sport understood by very few people outside Spain and Latin American countries. Western tourists may spend hundreds of dollars on a tour of Spain that ends in a journey to the bullfighting arena and may take dozens of pictures to show that they've traveled to the arena. Most leave after taking their pictures and still leave with the notion that bullfighting is a cruel sport.

And— make no mistake about it— bullfighting is cruel. Ordinarily, the bull that is let into the arena must die. But the sport is equally cruel for the bullfighters themselves, many of whom are injured or killed each year. The matador, the bullfighter who actually makes the kill, is facing an animal specially bred to be mean, fast, and strong. The bull has almost as good a chance of winning as the matador, if not a better chance entirely.

As such, the sport of bullfighting compares favorably with sports, such as boxing or automobile racing. In boxing, two well-trained fighters punch and stalk each other, looking for that one moment when a punch will knock the opponent unconscious. To win, a boxer must hurt his opponent; doctors are always present to ensure that no lasting damage occurs, but boxers have died from injuries received in the ring. And to be the victim of a simple, uncomplicated knockout punch is not without its dangers. Everyone is familiar with the stereotyped image of the punchy ex-fighter who simply got hit too many times.

Automobile racing is equally dangerous and may provide a better comparison for bullfighting. Probably very few people travel to an automobile race to witness a fiery crash. But a race driven at a slow, safe speed would be a bore; there would be no point in racing that way. The point of automobile racing is to drive as fast as possible, as close as possible to dangerous speeds, but always to be in control of the machine. And control is equally as important in bullfighting.

Actually, the English translation *bullfighting* is unfortunate. The Spanish means something more like “arranging” or “managing” the bull. The matador shows his own courage by working as close as possible to the bull's horns. He must also allow the bull to show his courage by allowing the bull chance after chance to kill the matador.

Rather than consider the elaborate ritual a sport, we might better consider bullfighting as a test of courage for the matador. Ancient athletes on the island of Crete tested their courage by facing a charging bull and leaping over the deadly horns. The Portuguese are modern specialists in this art. For over two thousand years men have faced raging bulls to test their courage. During the long history of bullfighting, men have used lances, swords, axes, even specially trained bulldogs to fight bulls. In

Spain, bullfighting was introduced by El Cid, the nation's liberator, who lanced bulls from horseback.

In the eighteenth century, fighting the bull on foot became the accepted technique, and the cape became a means of moving the bull. The modern, rigid code of bullfighting, or toreo, came into being about 150 years ago. The toreo is very carefully governed; any fakery, any showing-off is immediately noted by the very knowledgeable fans. The bull and the matador must face each other with nothing between them except the bull's fighting instinct and the matador's knowledge of bulls. Every matador works his way up through novice ranks painstakingly until he qualifies to work in big arenas in the large cities, sometimes earning \$20,000 in an afternoon.

If the bull fights well, the matador may ask the arena president for a pardon of the bull's life. If granted, the pardon allows the bull to charge from the arena to a long, happy life on a breeding ranch, where bulls are bred and raised. Few realized that the bull has this possibility of winning, too. A fighting bull, in fact, has a much better chance of survival than a deer being stalked by a hunter. Now there is violence for you—and violence with no test of courage whatsoever.

1. The purpose of this passage is to _____.
 - a. compare automobile racing and bullfighting
 - b. discuss the training of matadors
 - c. show that bullfighting is not the cruel sport many people believe it to be
 - d. discuss the development of bullfighting in the eighteenth century
2. Matadors must be _____.
 - a. brave
 - b. knowledgeable
 - c. well-trained
 - d. all of the above
3. According to this passage, which of the following statements is NOT true?
 - a. Bullfighting is equally cruel for bullfighter and bull.
 - b. People in Spain and Latin America do not understand bullfighting.
 - c. Automobile racing is just as dangerous as bullfighting.
 - d. Fighting the bull on foot became the accepted technique in the eighteenth century.
4. We can conclude from this passage that _____.
 - a. boxing is as cruel a sport as is bullfighting
 - b. most boxers end up with brain damage
 - c. boxing is less cruel than bullfighting because no one ever dies
 - d. boxing and bullfighting aren't similar

5. According to this passage, which of the following statements is true?
- a. Matadors are never hurt because of rigid safety precautions.
 - b. Bulls never survive in the arena.
 - c. Bullfighting is very much a ritual in Spain and Latin America.
 - d. Matadors are cheered for showing-off in the arena.
6. The passage suggests that _____.
- a. bullfighting is banned in the author's country
 - b. bullfighting is not a very old art
 - c. many Americans refuse to see how cruel some favorite sports are
 - d. matadors never make very much money
7. According to this passage, the word *bred* means _____.
- a. killed
 - b. purchased
 - c. feared
 - d. developed
8. As used in this passage, the word *liberator* means _____.
- a. person who set them free
 - b. person who enslaved them
 - c. person who guided them
 - d. person who tortured them
9. According to this passage, the word *rigid* means _____.
- a. benign
 - b. inflexible
 - c. inhuman
 - d. flat
10. According to this passage, the word *stalked* means _____.
- a. fed
 - b. scared
 - c. tracked
 - d. surprised

Part II. Introductory Writing (30%): The introductory paragraph is missing from the passage. Write an introductory paragraph (100-200 words) for this passage.

The naming of a child is a momentous decision for any family. So how do we end up with the names we have? Some parents seem to choose based simply on personal preference. In other families, grandparents or professional name-makers come up with a child's name. And in some cases, the time of a child's birth influences how the child's name is determined. How did our parents decide which method to use? In the end, it seems to depend on the culture we were born in.

In many European cultures, names are typically chosen by parents and may be based on relatives or ancestors within a particular family. For example, in Italy, children are traditionally named after their grandparents. In families with several children, the parents generally use the father's parents' names first and then the mother's parents' names. Similarly, some people in Eastern Europe name their children after relatives who have died. This practice is seen as a means to protect the child from the Angel of Death.

Traditionally in some Asian countries, however, parents do not choose the name of a child. Instead, the child's grandfather or a fortune-teller chooses the name. And in contrast to the tradition of naming children after relatives, the child's name is chosen to influence the child's character. For example, names may be based on a connection to certain elements in nature, like fire, water, earth, wood, or metal. Or the name might include a written character meaning beauty, strength, or kindness.

In certain Africa cultures, when a child is born plays a large part in determining the child's name. In Ghana, the day a child is born determines the child's name in Akan culture. But each day has different names for boys and girls. For instance, a boy born on Friday is named Kofi, whereas a girl born on the same day is named Afua. Both Kofi and Afua are names meaning "wanderer" or "explorer," so children with these names are seen as travelers.

No matter where the name comes from, a child's name is the first gift in life. Whether it is chosen according to preference or dictated by tradition, the name reflects something about a child's culture. For that reason, all names should be treasured and respected.

Part III. Essay Writing (50%): Write a 3-5-paragraph essay (250-400 words) on the topic "Living Without Cellphones."