



ENGLISCH

SERIE

1

LESEVERSTEHEN

KANDIDATIN
KANDIDAT

Nummer der Kandidatin / des Kandidaten

Name

Vorname

Datum der Prüfung

BEWERTUNG

Fachbereiche

Erreichte Punkte / Maximum

Task A

/ 12

Task B

/ 8

Task C

/ 5

Total

/ 25

EXPERTEN



Erlaubte Hilfsmittel: Wörterbuch in Papierform

Prüfungsdauer: ⌚ 30 Minuten

A (12 POINTS)

Read the following text and the instructions on the opposite page.

Where the elderly take care of each other



In an elementary school turned nursing home, Keichi Tasaka jokes with a group of cheerful old women. At 70, he could be mistaken for a resident, but Tasaka isn't thinking of retiring anytime soon. Instead, the former tofu-maker is pursuing a second career as a caregiver to the elderly in Tokyo's Cross Hearts nursing home.

"I've always had an interest in care-giving and pensioners don't receive much in Japan so I'm really thankful that this opportunity existed here for me," Tasaka says. "I'm old too, so I actually feel like I'm hanging out with the residents here rather than caring for them."

With its fast-declining birth rate and growing number of old people, Japan is considered a "super-aged" nation, where more than 20% of the population is over 65. By 2020, there will be 13 such countries in the world. In addition, Japan is suffering from a growing labour shortage that hit the care-giving and industrial sectors the hardest. Also, the Japanese economy has been slowing down over the past few years. To cope with these problems, the Japanese government has encouraged more seniors and stay-at-home mothers to re-enter the workforce.

In many ways, Tasaka is a pioneer for this concept. For the past five years, he's been transporting day-care residents to and from their homes, helping feed them and providing companionship. He has moved into one of Cross Hearts' neighbouring apartment complexes recently and is just one of a few dozen employees over 65 who work alongside both younger Japanese and foreign staff.

The facility – which has a waiting list of several hundred – sets their official retirement age at 70, but lets people who want to work do so until 80. The common retirement age in Japan is between 60 and 65, but doctors recently proposed raising it to 75. In 2013, the government passed a law requiring companies to raise the mandatory retirement age to 65. However, Japanese companies are not forced to do so until 2025.

Currently, many companies re-hire senior workers at lower salaries once they pass retirement age. But a decline in wages discourages older employees to continue working. This, however, isn't true in Keichi Tasaka's case because he sees other benefits in his work than only financial aspects. "Growing old is the first step in losing something, whether that be your sibling, your parent, or your role in society. As an elderly carer, I really understand how our residents are feeling. It's also great for me to have a place to go. This keeps me going."

For Tasaka, the possibilities appear endless. He says with a grin: "I want to study for a care-giving license and take on a managerial role later. I don't feel limited by my age in any way."

Tick the best answer – A, B or C.

1. **Keichi Tasaka ...**
A is a resident of Tokyo's Cross Heart nursing home.
B used to work in the food sector.
C works at an elementary school.

2. **According to Keichi Tasaka ...**
A pensions are low in Japan.
B he prefers keeping old people company over caring for them.
C being around old people makes him feel old, too.

3. **Currently, Japan ...**
A is one of 13 "super-aged" nations.
B has trouble filling positions in more than one sector.
C is encouraging mothers to stay at home.

4. **At Cross Hearts nursery home, Keichi Tasaka ...**
A has had an apartment for the past five years.
B works with a dozen other employees over 65.
C has co-workers of different ages and nationalities.

5. **Cross Hearts nursery home ...**
A has hundreds of residents.
B only accepts residents over 70 years of age.
C allows people to work far longer than other Japanese companies.

6. **Keichi Tasaka ...**
A is still trying to understand old people's feelings.
B sees his age as a benefit for his work.
C would like to do the same job for much longer.

B (8 POINTS)

Read the article below. Choose the best expression (A, B or C) to fill each gap. For each answer, put the correct letter on the line on the right.

The flat-pack home that builds itself in under ten minutes

Building a house is a lifelong dream for some. And thanks to new flat-pack homes, it is one that can be achieved – in less than ten minutes.

Created **1** the UK firm Ten Fold Engineering, the “uBox” measures about 60 square metres once unfolded. The portable building can assemble itself automatically, without the need for foundations or heavy machinery. Each unit costs a minimum of £100,000.

There are several variations. Each portable home uses a patented mechanical system **2** enables different parts of the structure to move while the building unfolds. Like shipping containers, the houses can be stacked on top of one another for storage or transport.

The ready-to-use homes have been designed to offer flexibility to homeowners, said British architect David Martyn, who **3** Ten Fold Engineering seven years ago. “In our new world, we need agility because things change all the time.”

“The question was: ‘Can you actually create a structure that is big enough to be useful, to work in, and to carry the things you **4** ?’” Martyn said. “We tried to develop something that could be transported by trucks, that could unload easily, and that could be done in minutes.”

Although initially designed as homes, the structures can be used as offices, shops, restaurants or exhibition rooms. “This flexibility is crucial”, said Martyn. “You could have the unit up on a mountain in the winter and on the beach in the summer. I know that sounds **5** just a rich person’s thing, but it isn’t. Even school classrooms could be moved around to where they are needed. That’s more economical.”

The idea has proven popular in the retail, housing, events, mining and energy sectors, according to Martyn. “Depending **6** the individual’s requirements, the units can be either made-to-order or mass-manufactured,” he said. He added that the “uBox” product is in its very first stages and, therefore, the company does not reveal how many units it **7** so far.

Despite the potential benefits of portable homes, Ten Fold does not consider **8** to be in conflict with traditional architecture companies. “Our technology should be seen as complementary and supportive to the traditional building industry. The ‘uBox’ is just another tool to help us all do some things better.”

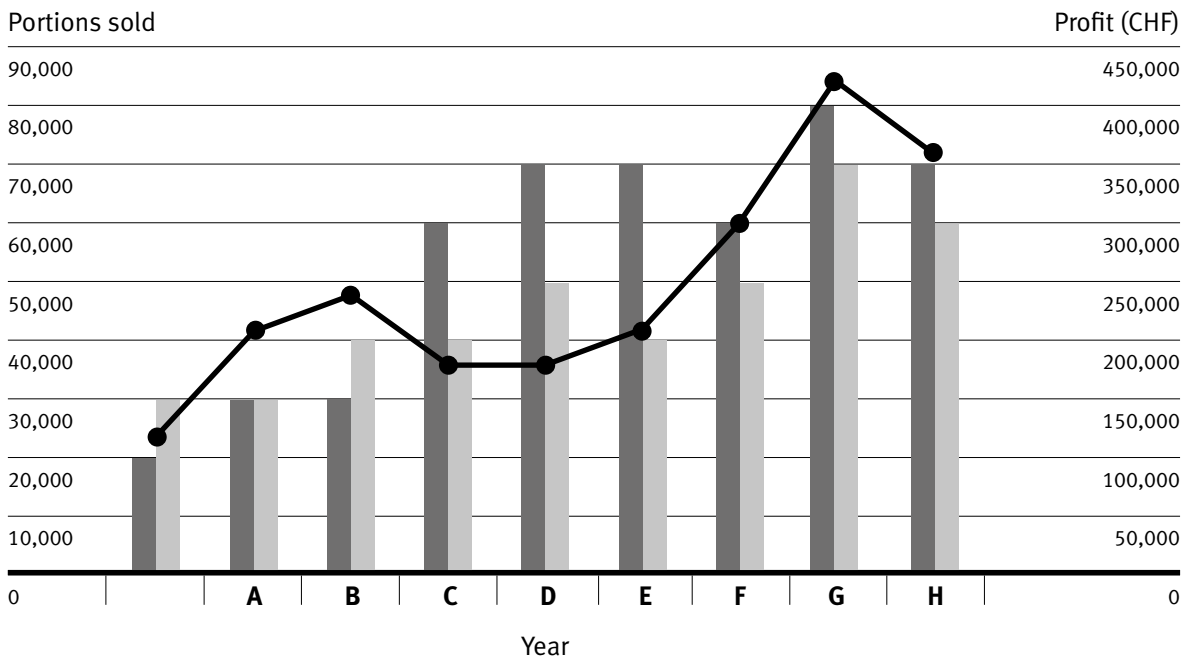
Put your letter here ↓

| | | | | |
|----------|----------|--------------|-------------|-------|
| 1 | A by | B of | C through | ..... |
| 2 | A who | B that | C it | ..... |
| 3 | A found | B finds | C founded | ..... |
| 4 | A needed | B need | C needs | ..... |
| 5 | A good | B how | C like | ..... |
| 6 | A of | B on | C from | ..... |
| 7 | A sold | B sells | C has sold | ..... |
| 8 | A itself | B themselves | C ourselves | ..... |

C (5 POINTS)

Look at the chart below. It shows a company's sales of Italian ice cream in two cities, Zurich and Lucerne, as well as its profits over a period of eight years. Which year does each statement (1–5) below describe? Match them with the correct graph (A–H). Do not use any letter more than once.

■ Zurich ■ Lucerne ● Profit



Put the letter here ↓

| | | |
|---|---|-------|
| 1 | Profits kept rising this year, and sales in Lucerne increased as well, while less ice cream was sold in Zurich than the year before. | ..... |
| 2 | In Lucerne, the sales equalled the previous year's figures, while sales in Zurich went up considerably. However, profits experienced a downturn. | ..... |
| 3 | Sales of ice cream in Lucerne remained steady whereas the Zurich branch sold more ice cream than the year before. This good result is seen in stronger profits. | ..... |
| 4 | After an excellent year, sales in both branches fell, as did profit levels. | ..... |
| 5 | The Zurich branch kept selling ice cream as successfully as the year before, which led to better profits despite lower sales at the Lucerne shop. | ..... |

