

**JUST THE TREATMENT TO GET RID OF QUACK DOCTORS**

1. The tribal castes in Kundamunda village are impressed by powerful medicine. Their particular panacea is injections, which, though expensive, must be mighty powerful, and therefore worth the expense. You can get an injection of just about anything: paracetamol for a cold, chloroquine for malaria – even vitamins, which of course are essential for more or less any disease.

2. In this village in Orissa, in eastern India, the women told me about the man who had come around the villages with a wonderful new treatment from the United States called x-rays. He said he was a private doctor from the nearby town of Sambalpur, and these x-rays were a cure for most things. All they had to do was to sit in front of his machine for a few moments. In a week or two the disease would disappear.

3. So the village marshaled all of the desperate cases who were shut away from hope and the light of the day: consumptives, children with polio, people with enlarged spleens or sickle cells anaemia. They scraped together their 100 rupees (\$2), or extended supplicant hands to the local *zamidar* (landlord) for a loan. One by one the man sat them in front of his box from the US, opened the door and gave them a flash of red light. Then they hobbled off home to wait for better days, in awe of the wonders of modern technology.

4. I knew the corollary of this story. This traveling snake-oil salesman was happened upon by a man working for an NGO who saw the impostor for what he was. The x-ray box, he said, was an old refrigerator in which the fridge light, powered by a battery had been painted red.

5. This type of medicine is peddled by the private doctors or quacks who are to be found in most of the larger villages in this part of India. They are usually educated people who have acquired some lay knowledge. Perhaps they have worked as drug dispensers' assistants or have read a book on health. They then move to a village, set themselves up as private doctors, and prey on the poor and illiterate. Not all are as opportunistic as the x-ray man, but they are all exploiters.

6. Visiting these villages while working with an NGO called Action Health/Skillshare International, I soon realised that poverty was not the sole cause of poor health. Exploitation by charlatans played a part, as did certain

traditional beliefs. Whooping cough, for example, is treated by hanging a catfish over the fire. Pregnant women eat less food so that their baby will be small and can be delivered easily. In an area with no obstetric service there is logic in this, but babies get the worst start in life.

7. Our aim was to train one woman from each village to become a health worker, so that she could give education, advice and simple treatment to the members of the community.

8. We gathered 20 such women for the first training session. The translator was the first to inform me of the problem. There was a difficulty with the cook, he said. As the man was from the Sohara tribe, the women from the Kisan and Munal tribes could not accept food from him. The Ghond tribe would only accept food from a Ghond cook. Women from the Chosa caste would only accept a cook from their caste and above. No one would accept food from, or touch anyone from the scheduled caste, which includes the Dalits, or "untouchables", and the Chamar caste, leatherworkers who, by the nature of their bovine trade, are deemed more untouchable than the untouchables. Our naïve arrangements, it seemed, had opened a social can of worms.

9. However, help was at hand. As if by magic, a Brahman priest popped out of the jungle. He offered to cook, and because of his holy nature, was acceptable to all.

10. These social divisions are deep-seated but not indelible. With engagement, patience and plenty of laughter, they slowly fade. Over the months the women have got to know each other, to laugh with abandon, and to touch. We have even introduced the hokey-cokey as a warm-up activity, to get them going after lunch. They take their messages of sisterhood home with them, and slowly their communities may follow suit.

11. As for the quacks, they slink around on the margins of the crowd when we hold village meetings. Dressed in town clothes and wraparound shades, they stand out from the throng of tribal dress and ochre bodies. We hope our health workers will gradually erode the fabric of their deception. One day the people will wake up, and the quacks will have to slink away with their dirty syringes and date-expired bottles of vitamins.

## Olvasott szöveg értése 1

Match the following statements (a – j) with the paragraphs (1-11). Write the numbers of the matching paragraphs in the boxes. Some paragraphs may be required more than once or not at all.

Copy your answers onto the answer sheet.

- a) A panacea from the West
- b) Being poor is not the only explanation
- c) Compromise is always possible
- d) How one might become a charlatan
- e) It's easy to recognize private doctors
- f) Ray of hope for changing deeply rooted beliefs
- g) Seeing through the trick
- h) The objective of the author's organization
- i) Villagers in Orissa prefer an exorbitant treatment for almost any illness
- j) What a "modern" snake-oil salesman charges


## Olvasott szöveg értése 2

Read the article and answer the questions in English. Only include information from the text. Give short answers, write full sentences only if necessary.

Copy your answers on the answer sheet.

### SALE OF THE CENTURY

In a bid to raise cash and save endangered monuments, Italy is putting its cultural heritage on the auction block.

By Barbie Nadeau

It's a developer's dream: 20,000 square meters of premium property in the heart of Rome. Simply convert the Colosseum into a colossal shopping mall. (Need parking? Raze the ruinous Roman Forum nearby.) And why stop at the capital? A spectacular theme park and resort could go up on the island of Elba. Hundreds of kilometres of pristine Mediterranean beaches could house retirement communities or tourist heavens. Imagine the possibilities...

The Colosseum may never go on the auction block, but a government plan to raise cash has alarmed preservationists. Strapped for euros and fending off critics who say it doesn't adequately care for the country's cultural treasures, the Italian government is considering a novel solution: sell them off.

Of course, officially, it sounds better than that. Ministers speak of "privatization", the policy of transferring state-owned money-losing assets to entrepreneurs who presumably can manage them more efficiently and turn a profit. Properties that can't be sold entirely, the thinking goes, could be leased out to corporations that will handle concessions and maintenance.

Not surprisingly, the very idea has touched off a tempest of protest. The first big drive comes next week, when Italy's leading environmental group, Legambiente, launches its big campaign, "Italy is not for sale," with nationwide marches. The group has cleverly spoofed bills of sale. The Colosseum is advertised as having a "renovated, independent entrance with lots of light." The Greek temples in Sicily tout "sea views and private beaches".

Selling off some high-maintenance property would solve a lot of problems for Italy. The country has more UNESCO World Heritage sites than any other, save Spain. But a study released in November accused Italians of blatant neglect. Pollution in city centers like Naples, Rome and Florence tops the list of offenses. "Cementification" threatens to bury

Pompeii in new construction. And then there are the famous floods of Venice. Italian governments have long been stingy with funding for cultural preservation – it's no surprise, given the country's €16.6 billion deficit and €1.33 billion public debt. But meanwhile, Italy owns about €2 trillion worth of property, and it doesn't take a Donald Trump to put the two together. Indeed, the driving force for the cash-raising scheme comes from Italy's richest man: tycoon-turned Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi. In May 2001, he made a campaign promise to renovate Italy's problem areas at a cost of more than €126 billion over 10 years – and now the bill is coming due.

The government first hinted at the plan to sell public property for profit this summer, but the president of the republic, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, was opposed. At his urging, the government nixed any outright sales of major national monuments. Italy also instituted laws forbidding the destruction, movement or sale of lesser monuments to foreign governments. And any sale of larger, more prominent sites will be managed and overseen by the Culture Ministry.

Nobody really expects the Colosseum in Rome or the Uffizi galleries in Florence to be sold. Mostly up for grabs are islands, beaches, small monuments and 3,000 museums that are either a financial black hole for the government or are in desperate need of renovation and restoration. And the most likely scenario for the exploitation of large-scale sites like the Leaning Tower of Pisa or the ruins of Pompei is the government's offering a license to sell entrance tickets or granting contracts for restaurant and sanitary services. This has unions up in arms, as private firms would likely hire their own workers, putting many contract and part-time government workers out of jobs. In reality, more than 100 state-run museums, libraries and restaurants in Italy are already run by third-party management.

## Olvasott szöveg értése 2

The Vatican galleries, which are private, use such a plan. So the vendors charge €7 for a Coke and put a price on toilet paper – the sites are kept cleaner and are better maintained.

The big fear is that foreign corporations will come in and take over. Berlusconi, when announcing the plan, tried to calm fears: “The government does not intend to sell artistic sites that constitute the inalienable cultural heritage of this nation,” he said. But Giulia Maria Crespi, who

heads the Italian Environmentalist Federation fears the worst. “If a person buys a beach he does it to make a profit,” she says. “Soon the place will become a Disneyland full of noise and concrete.” No one is laughing at the idea that a huge international conglomerate might come in and run such Italian jewels as the amphitheater in Verona or the ancient towers in Bologna. But if Italy cannot adequately take care of its heritage and these cities and sites fall into further disarray, who owns them won’t really matter.

### Questions:

1. What is the objective behind the scheme? (1)
2. Why is Italy a developer’s dream? (1)
3. How do the environmentalists protest against the government’s scheme? (1)
4. How do we know that the author appreciates the humour in the mock advertisements? (1)
5. Which country tops the list of World Heritage Sites? (1)
6. Mention 2 examples of the Italians failing to pay attention to their cultural values. (a,b) (1)
7. Give two expressions from the text indicating that the Italian Government is in desperate straits. (a,b) (1)
8. Explain **briefly** how historic sites of great importance will most probably be exploited. (1)
9. What different forms of ownership are mentioned in the article besides state ownership? (a,b) (1)
10. What is the preservationists’ biggest fear? (1)

### Olvasott szöveg értése 3

Fill each of the numbered blanks in the following passage with a suitable word. Use only one word for each space (contracted forms are also accepted). Copy your answer on the answer sheet.

There is an example (0).

#### READY, STEADY, EAT

The more cooking there is on (0) television, the less people cook.

According to a regular (1) \_\_\_\_\_ carried out by Taylor Nelson Sofres, a leading market research firm, the amount of time that people spend preparing food has dropped sharply over the past two decades, from one hour a day to an average of 20 minutes. Which, given the proliferation of TV programmes, books, and newspaper supplements on cooking, seems (2) \_\_\_\_\_.

What is to blame? The usual suspect is shortage of (3) \_\_\_\_\_, though presumably people could be cooking their own Tagliatelle with Chicken instead of watching Nigella Lawson, the most celebrated of chefs, knock up her own. Still, some combination of busy-ness and family disintegration has (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to the growth of the ready-meal market, which is probably the immediate culprit.

Ready-meals first (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in Britain in the early 1980s and the market is still (6) \_\_\_\_\_ fast: Geest, a British food supplier, estimates that the market was worth £ 1.1 billion (\$ 1.6 billion) in 2001, up 16% on 2000. Along with the ready-meal business growth, product quality and variety improve, so (7) \_\_\_\_\_ people eat them on a regular basis.

Predictably, this gastronomic decline is culturally (8) \_\_\_\_\_. According to a recent Reuters study, ready-meals and other “meal solutions” are most popular in America, Britain and Sweden, (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of the prevalence of single-person households and working women in those countries. They are slightly (10) \_\_\_\_\_ popular in France, Germany and the Netherlands. The Spanish and Italians barely acknowledge their existence.

## Íráskészség 1-2

In this part of the test you have to complete two tasks. In both tasks

- create a coherent text in which the ideas are logically connected to each other;
- include and elaborate each of the four points given;
- use appropriate language;
- write complete sentences;
- avoid using abbreviations and slang expressions.

Write your texts on the blue answer sheet.

### Part 1:

You have entered an essay writing competition on the internet with the title “Hosting the Olympic Games would bring the country fame and prosperity”. Write a **250-300-word essay** on the topic in which you should present opposing points of view along with your justifications, examples or reasons, using advanced vocabulary.

Include your thoughts about the following points:

- preparations – investments – foreign investors;
- infrastructure;
- creation of workplaces;
- moral benefits.

### Part 2:

The company you work for received a letter of complaint from a customer because the goods (s)he ordered were delivered late. Your task is to write a **120-140-word e-mail** to the customer in which you

- apologise for the lateness of the shipment;
- give and explain two reasons for the lateness;
- offer some solution to the problem.