

B

**MID-TERM TEST**  
**READING**  
**6th form**  
**Variante 2**

**Task 1**

Read the texts and match the headings (A-G) to the paragraphs (1-6). There is an extra heading you do not need.

- A. The long voyage is over
- B. Cold nights
- C. Dinner time
- D. Saying goodbye
- E. Got hungry
- F. Nowhere to play
- G. Awful weather

1. A long time ago, some men and women, boys and girls, two dogs and a cat sailed on a ship across the sea. They left their old country because they could not pray the way they wanted. The people were called Pilgrims. The ship was called the 'Mayflower'.
2. The 'Mayflower' was as big as two trucks. But it was not big enough. The Pilgrims and sailors crowded together to sleep. They crowded together to eat. The children had no room to run around. They had no toys. They had to leave most things behind.
3. The Pilgrim children hated the food on the ship. But they had to eat it. There was nothing else. Nothing but the same old salted beef or fish. Nothing but the hard, dry biscuits. A little bite of cheese. A little bite of butter. After a while, the food turned bad. There was not enough water for drinking or washing.
4. The children couldn't sleep in warm, cozy beds. They slept on the hard, cold floor of the ship. They slept in the same clothes they wore every day. Their clothes got torn and dirty and smelly. Day by day, things got worse.
5. Storms came. The wind blew hard. The waves tossed the ship about. The rain soaked the ship. The rain poured on the Pilgrims. They were cold and wet. Many of the Pilgrims got sick. Would this terrible voyage ever end? They prayed for the day they would see land.
6. They had sailed away in warm September. Now it was cold November. They had been on the 'Mayflower' for two months and three days. The next day they saw land.

**Task 2**

Read the text and choose the correct answer.

For the Vikings, the greatest achievement for any man was to do something great in their lifetime so that people remembered them after their death. To achieve this, some Vikings sailed the seas in search of treasure and new lands. One of the most famous Vikings is Eric Thorvaldson. He achieved fame as Erik the Red, the man who discovered Greenland.

Erik the Red lived between 950-1005 AD. He got his name from his bright red hair and beard, and his hot, fiery personality. For the first part of his life, Erik lived happily in Iceland. His adventures started in 981, when he had a fight with his neighbours and killed two men. Local people were very mad. They told Erik to leave the country for 3 years. Erik and his family had no choice. They left Iceland and sailed off into the huge Atlantic ocean.

Erik sailed west from Iceland to look for a new island to live on. However, he sailed so far that he discovered something amazing. A new country! Erik spent two years exploring the new country. The land was mostly covered in ice, but he found a few green areas and decided to found a colony there. To begin his colony, Erik needed help. So, in 985, he returned to Iceland to tell people about his "wonderful" new land.

Erik called his new land Greenland to make people think it was a nicer place to live than Iceland. Many people were interested in the new country. When Erik sailed back to Greenland in 986, 25 ships with 500 men and women and many animals went with him. The Vikings started two colonies in Greenland. To survive, they farmed sheep and cows, hunted polar bears and whales, and traded whale bones and bear skins. Thanks to their farming and hunting skills the colonies grew and grew. By the year 1000, about 3,000 people lived in Greenland. For the next 500 years, Vikings lived in Greenland. Then, the Vikings left, and no one really understands why. But Erik the Red is still famous as the man who discovered and named Greenland!

1. Viking men wanted
  - A to sail to Greenland.
  - B to write lots of history books.
  - C to find lots of ships.
  - D to be famous after they died.
2. Eric left Iceland because
  - A people didn't like his personality.
  - B his family wanted to leave.
  - C he killed some people.
  - D he wanted an adventure.
3. Eric discovered
  - A new islands to the west of Iceland.
  - B a new country he could live in.
  - C a wonderful new tribe of people.
  - D a green area in the west of Iceland.
4. Eric went back to Iceland
  - A to meet some interesting people.
  - B to ask people to move to Greenland.
  - C to buy animals.
  - D to begin a colony there.
5. The colonies were successful because
  - A the Vikings were great hunters and farmers.
  - B they could grow a lot of food.
  - C the villagers farmed wild animals.
  - D 3000 people moved to Greenland.
6. It is a mystery why the Vikings
  - A moved out of Greenland.
  - B had such big colonies.
  - C made Erik the Red famous.
  - D named the country 'Greenland'.

**Task 3**

Read the text. Mark the statements as true (T) or false (F).

Do you know that New York has a nickname? It's 'The Big Apple'. New York is one of the largest cities in the world and the largest US city but it is not the capital of the country. People say New York is a special city. And it really is.

The city is associated with the Statue of Liberty, Broadway and Manhattan. The city can be beautiful and ugly, friendly and cruel, but it's never boring. It is one of the most exciting cities in the world. Its history began in 1624, when the first settlers from Europe established their colony there.

1. New York has more than one name.
2. New York was founded in the 16th century.
3. New York is the capital city of the United States of America.
4. New York is a city of contrasts.
5. New York is bigger than any other American city.