

SÈRIE 2

Part 1: Reading Comprehension

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only ONE answer is correct.

[0.5 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.16 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

1. **According to the text, the health of the planet depends on...**
 - a) people eating better quality food.
 - b) people eating more slowly.
 - c) people consuming less than at present.**
 - d) people consuming less meat.

2. **"Degrowth" is...**
 - a) a new way to study economics.
 - b) a new way to create artificial needs.
 - c) a new attitude concerning population growth.
 - d) a new attitude concerning consumerism.**

3. **Our economic model is based on....**
 - a) surviving strategies.
 - b) permanent growth.**
 - c) a few moral questions.
 - d) the equal distribution of resources.

4. **According to the text, the resources of the planet...**
 - a) might not be enough in the near future.**
 - b) are enough for 80% of its population.
 - c) are in the hands of 80% of its population.
 - d) might not be in good condition very soon.

5. **Santiago Vilanova believes that...**
 - a) an international symposium should be organised in Barcelona every year.
 - b) well-being cannot be considered a sustainable objective for humanity.
 - c) the accumulation of wealth has to be excluded from political programmes.
 - d) the well-being of people is not necessarily related to having more resources.**

6. **People in "Degrowth" organisations think...**
 - a) that progress is linked to growth.
 - b) that progress is slower than growth.
 - c) that progress does not depend only on growth.**
 - d) that progress is faster than growth.

7. **"Degrowth" supporters are...**
 - a) always in favour of utopian ideals.
 - b) usually good at practical things.
 - c) always in favour of consumer goods.
 - d) usually against working many hours.**

8. **According to Carlos Taibo, more Americans say that they are...**
 - a) less happy now despite being richer.**
 - b) happier now than in the past decades.
 - c) unhappy since the end of the Second World War.
 - d) happy because of their growing income.

Listening comprehension.**A JOURNALIST IN THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE**

In the following interview you are going to hear some new words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

Pulitzer Prize: premi periodístic molt important; premio periodístico muy importante

slaughterhouse: escorxador; matadero

obituary: esquela

numbness: insensibilitat; insensibilidad

stand up: fer front; hacer frente

outlook: perspectiva

cannery: fàbrica de conserves; fábrica de conservas

Ready?

Now read the questions on the following page. Read them carefully before listening to the interview.

Charlie LeDuff, 34, is a reporter for the New York Times. He started his journalism career at age 29, after earning a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in journalism from the University of California. Part Native American, LeDuff was one of several reporters who worked at the New York Times series that was awarded a Pulitzer Prize in April 2001. He spent one month working at a pork slaughterhouse in North Carolina.

JournalismJobs.com interviewed LeDuff in March 2001

[Now listen to the interview.]

JournalismJobs.com: Mr LeDuff, where did you get your start as a journalist?

Charlie LeDuff: The *New York Times* was my first newspaper job. I was an intern for three months at the Alaska Fisherman's Journal. That was my first publication-type job. But the first thing I ever wrote that got published? Well, my Russian friend in the Northeast got killed with alcohol. I just sort of wrote an obituary for the high school paper. And I wrote that and I think I wrote it pretty well. I felt good and I felt like, hey I'm smart enough. I can do this. That's how I got started.

JournalismJobs.com: You've had a number of occupations before you became a reporter, right?

Charlie LeDuff: Oh yes, I worked as a school teacher and carpenter in Michigan and at a cannery in Alaska. I also worked as a baker in Denmark and as a bartender in Michigan, New York and Australia. As you can see, quite varied and all over the world.

JournalismJobs.com: Why did you decide to go into journalism?

Charlie LeDuff: I was with some friends in New York and we were talking about what we were going to do and some guy mentioned he was going to journalism school and I thought that would be cool. And it turned out that my parents were proud of my decision, although they didn't think I could earn a lot of money doing it.

JournalismJobs.com: Let's turn to your article now. Why did you pick this slaughterhouse in North Carolina to write your story?

Charlie LeDuff: The editor wanted me to look somewhere in the southern United States. It's the biggest slaughterhouse in the world. I got to this town and there were a lot of Natives there and that was good. A lot of Lumbee Indians.

JournalismJobs.com: When you went to the slaughterhouse to fill out an application to work, were you scared or thinking 'what did I get myself into'?

Charlie LeDuff: What was I thinking? I was excited. I wanted the job. I didn't know what was going on in there. *The Times* was going to let me actually work. ... I thought... 'I'm going to get into people's lives. And I get to write about something important. I hope it's interesting', that was what I was thinking. I'm interested in who does the work.

JournalismJobs.com: What surprised you most about working at the plant?

Charlie LeDuff: Well, what surprised me the most was how mechanically people worked. People living by the hour, living three hours for the next 15-minute break and then three hours for the next 15-minute break. That's how you live your life. The degree of numbness surprised me. The fact that there were so many Mexicans in the place surprised me. I didn't know there were so many.

JournalismJobs.com: What sort of feedback have you received about the documentaries?

Charlie LeDuff: All kinds. Some people said "Thanks for doing that. Gee I didn't know." They were surprised and interested. Other people didn't like them at all. I guess it was hard for them to accept the way things are in America. One thing is clear, though, it left nobody indifferent.

JournalismJobs.com: Some say the New York Times race series could win a Pulitzer. Do you think it's worthy of a Pulitzer?

Charlie LeDuff: I couldn't care less. If it does, that's great. You know, this business is funny. It's important to some people, so I hope we do. That would be nice. Is it important to me? Nah!

JournalismJobs.com: How does being part Native American affect your work as a journalist?

Charlie LeDuff: Either you are or you aren't. I've got white blood, yes, but am I Indian, yeah. How does it affect my work? Well, who I am affects my work. How I approach people. How I approach elders. Being honest. Trying to stand up if someone isn't happy with you, you know, face to face. I went down there for another reason. I was attracted to it because it was Indian country. I'm looking to write about Native people, but it's hard when you're in New York. It gives me an outlook. It's me, the person and the way I'm raised. It just affects me because that's the way that I am.

JournalismJobs.com: Thank for your time, Charlie and congratulations on your work!

QUESTIONS

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

Look at number 0 as an example.

[0.25 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.08 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

1. Charlie wrote his first article in...
 - a) the *New York Times*.
 - b) the *Alaska Fisherman's Journal*.
 - c) the local paper.
 - d) **the high school paper.**

2. Why did Charlie decide to become a journalist?
 - a) Because some friends convinced him.
 - b) **Because he thought it would be cool.**
 - b) To make his parents proud.
 - c) Because of the good salary.

3. Charlie LeDuff picked that North Carolina slaughterhouse for his history because...
 - a) **it's the biggest in the world.**
 - b) it's in North Carolina.
 - c) his editor told him to pick it.
 - d) of the different races that worked there.

4. When he applied for the job at the slaughterhouse, Charlie was...
 - a) both scared and excited.
 - b) **excited to write about something important.**
 - c) excited because he was working for *The Times*.
 - d) interested in the kind of work done there.

5. What surprised Charlie most about his work in the slaughterhouse was that...
 - a) the workers had a 15-minute break every hour.
 - b) all the workers worked as mechanics.
 - c) **the workers were so numb and that there were so many Mexicans.**
 - d) there were not many Mexican workers.

6. When Charlie wrote his articles, the feedback he got was ...
 - a) positive.
 - b) negative.
 - c) **both positive and negative.**
 - d) non-existent.

7. Winning the Pulitzer Prize...
 - a) is important to Charlie.
 - b) **is not important to Charlie, but it is to other people.**
 - c) would be funny, according to Charlie.
 - d) is not important to anyone.

8. Charlie thinks that being part Native American...
 - a) **affects his work as a journalist because it is part of who he is.**
 - b) does not affect his work as a journalist.
 - c) makes him more honest.
 - d) affects his work as a journalist only when he lives in New York.