**Amerikamura**

**AK**

*Your classmate has brought in an email from his cousin Mandy to show the class. Read the email and answer the questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided. For multiple choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken the circle next to the corresponding letter.*

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|  | **From:** | Mandy <mandy\_chan@gmail.com> |
|  | **To:** | Chris <chris\_ll@hotmail.com> |
|  | **Date:** | 19-11-20\_ \_ |
|  | **Subject:** | Amerikamura |
| 5  10  15  20  25  30  35 | *Konnichiwa*, Chris!  How are things in Hong Kong? Is the weather still cool and overcast? Since arriving in Osaka, the weather has been clear and fair, with loads of sunshine — ideal for going sightseeing, visiting theme parks and going on city tours.  I’m having a wonderful time in Osaka! Right now, I’m sitting in a small cafe in Sankaku Koen (‘Triangle Park’) in Amerikamura (‘American Village’). Are you looking at the photo attached to this email? Uncle Sam — a famous cartoon character representing the US Government — is pointing at you from a poster on a wall. In the old days, his pointing meant, ‘I want you to join the army!’ But now, in Amerikamura, it means, ‘I want you to be keen on American culture!’  Uncle Sam’s pointing is working because Amerikamura is overflowing with American culture — from McDonald’s to clothing shops selling grunge and hip hop fashions to cinemas showing the latest Hollywood blockbusters. Taylor Swift and Katy Perry play loudly in the shops — a crazy mixture of American pop. The American flag is hanging everywhere, and there’s even a big model of the Statue of Liberty rising above Triangle Park.  American culture is very trendy among youths in Osaka — the same way Japanese culture is very fashionable among young people in Hong Kong. This morning, I met a Japanese girl in a shop selling ‘Jinglish’ T-shirts — shirts with a blend of Japanese and English sayings on them. She told me that Amerikamura is where kids go to find the American Dream.  As I’m writing this email, I’m also eating a huge American-style hamburger with a side\* of French fries — except the hamburger is made from octopus! As you know, trying local cuisine isn’t usually my favourite thing to do, but my guidebook makes octopus burgers sound delicious ... | |

*Please turn over.*

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| 40 | Anyway, my battery is getting low, so I should sign off. Let’s go out for hamburgers — made from beef, not octopus ☹ — when I get back. I can’t wait to tell you more about Amerikamura and Osaka, and show you all the cool photos I’ve taken with my new digital camera.  *Sayonara!*  Mandy |

\*The word ‘side’ is an American term that means ‘a small amount of food that you order in addition to your main meal when dining in a restaurant’.

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| **1** | What is the email about? |
|  | exploring / visiting Amerikamura |

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| **2** | What do you think ‘*Konnichiwa*’ (line 5) means? |
|  | Hello / Hi / Good day |

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| **3** | What three holiday activities has Mandy done in Osaka? |
|  | going sightseeing, visiting theme parks and going on city tours |

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| **4** | Which of the following is **NOT** true about Mandy? |
| ○  ○  ●  ○ | 1. She is able to translate ‘Sankaku Koen’. 2. She is enjoying her holiday. 3. She is visiting her Uncle Sam in Osaka. 4. She is writing the email in a cafe. |

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| **5** | Look at how the pronouns below are used and briefly explain what they refer to in lines 12–22. | | | |
|  |  | **Pronoun** | **Line** | **Reference** |
|  | **a)** | you | line 18 | Chris |
|  | **b)** | it | line 21 | Uncle Sam’s pointing |
|  | **c)** | I | line 22 | Uncle Sam |

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| **6** | According to lines 23–29, \_\_\_\_\_ in Amerikamura. |
| ●  ○  ○  ○ | 1. American-style clothing is popular 2. it is hard to find an American flag 3. Taylor Swift and Katy Perry often perform 4. there is a big statue of Uncle Sam |

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| **7** | Who are Taylor Swift and Katy Perry? |
|  | American pop stars / singers |

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| **8** | What restaurant is mentioned in lines 23–29? |
|  | McDonald’s |

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| **9** | According to lines 30–34, Hong Kong youth \_\_\_\_\_. |
| ●  ○  ○  ○ | 1. also have a keen interest in a foreign culture 2. are very different from young people in Osaka 3. know more about America than Osaka youth do 4. share Osaka youth’s fondness for American culture |

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| **10** | What two words does ‘Jinglish’ (line 32) come from? |
|  | Japanese and English |

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| **11** | Which of the following pictures best shows the main ingredient in the dish that Mandy is eating? | | | |
| ○  ●  ○  ○ | **1**  © ivnas - Fotolia.com | **2**  © barbulat - Fotolia.com | **3**  © unorobus - Fotolia.com | **4**    © Morphart - Fotolia.com |
| 1. 1 2. 2 3. 3 4. 4 | | | |

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| **12** | According to lines 35–38, why does Mandy decide to try the food? |
| ○  ○  ○  ● | 1. It is a popular dish in Hong Kong. 2. It is an extremely healthy meal. 3. It is described as delicious in the menu. 4. It is recommended by her guidebook. |

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| **13** | What does Mandy think of the food that she is eating? |
|  | She doesn’t like it. |

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| **14** | Why does Mandy have to stop writing the email? |
|  | because the battery on her laptop computer / smartphone / tablet is getting low |

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| **15** | Would you like to visit Amerikamura? Why or why not? |
|  | (Student’s own answers) |
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**Glossary**

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| **Word / Phrase** | **Pronunciation** | **Meaning\*** |
| **ideal** *adj* (line 9) | /ˌaɪˈdɪəl/ | the best or most suitable that something could be |
| **attached** *v* (line 16) | /əˈtætʃd/ | fastened or connected to something; ‘attached’ is the past participle of ‘attach’ |
| **cartoon** *n* (line 17) | /kɑːˈtuːn/ | a funny or entertaining drawing |
| **pointing** *v* (line 18) | /ˈpɔɪntɪŋ/ | aiming a finger in a particular direction; ‘pointing’ is the present participle of ‘point’ |
| **culture** *n* (line 22) | /ˈkʌltʃə/ | the beliefs, way of life, art, customs, etc. shared by people in a particular society |
| **grunge** *n* (line 26) | /ɡrʌndʒ/ | a style of music with loud electric guitars that began in the US in the 1990s |
| **hip hop** *n phr* (line 26) | /ˈhɪp hɒp/ | a kind of popular dance music with a regular, heavy beat and spoken words |
| **blend** *n* (line 32) | /blend/ | a mixture of different people, things, etc. |
| **American Dream** *n phr* (lines 34) | /əmerəkən ˈdriːm/ | the idea that the US is a place where everyone has the chance of becoming rich and successful |
| **sign off** *phr v* (line 39) | /saɪn ɒf/ | to write your final message at the end of an informal letter, email, etc. |

\*A word or phrase can have various meanings. Each meaning listed here is for the use of the word or phrase in the specified text.