



Student's name _____ code _____

READING TEST 11th FORM VARIANT 3

PART 1

You are going to read part of an article about an unusual orchestra. For questions (1-8), choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text. Transfer answers to the answer sheet (the form on a separate page).

1. What was the primary motivation behind Favio Chavez's work in Cateura?

- A. To create a profitable music school
- B. To help improve the community's social conditions
- C. To develop innovative musical instruments
- D. To become a famous documentary subject

2. How did the Recycled Orchestra initially address the lack of musical instruments?

- A. By purchasing expensive new instruments
- B. By importing instruments from other countries
- C. By creating instruments from recycled materials
- D. By relying solely on donated instruments

3. What transformative impact did the Recycled Orchestra have on the community?

- A. It completely eliminated poverty in the area
- B. It provided a new perspective on education and potential
- C. It replaced the garbage sorting industry
- D. It attracted international investors to the region

4. What does Chavez's quote "we shouldn't throw people away either" primarily suggest?

- A. The importance of recycling
- B. The value of human potential
- C. The need for better waste management

D. The challenges of poverty

5. How did the Recycled Orchestra gain international recognition?

- A. Through traditional music marketing
- B. By winning classical music competitions
- C. Via a viral documentary video
- D. Through government sponsorship

6. What characteristic of the recycled instruments makes them more challenging to play?

- A. Their unusual appearance
- B. Their reaction to temperature changes
- C. Their complex construction
- D. Their lack of professional craftsmanship

7. What personal transformation does Maria de Jesus Rios demonstrate?

- A. Becoming a wealthy musician
- B. Leaving her community
- C. Pursuing music education professionally
- D. Rejecting her community's lifestyle

8. Maria de Jesus Rios attributes her personal growth to her experiences with music.

- A. False
- B. Not mentioned
- C. True
- D. Not sure

"The world sends us garbage. We send back music."

The Recycled Orchestra from Paraguay transforms lives around the world

- A. Learning a musical instrument is a common rite of passage for many kids. Their parents hope that along the way they will pick up other valuable qualities: discipline, dexterity, resilience and better concentration. The irony is that instruments and music lessons are so expensive that these benefits are offered almost exclusively to those well-off children who are already on track for success. If someone found a way to bring music into the lives of youngsters with fewer advantages, well, that would be life changing.
- B. Favio Chavez did just that. In 2006, the environmental consultant went to work at Cateura, a poor community of around 40,000 people living and working on Paraguay's largest rubbish dump. Tons of rubbish arrived daily from the capital, Asunción. Both adults and children, who were frequently taken out of school to work, made a living sorting the garbage for recycling. The area suffered from serious social problems – unsafe housing, illiteracy, pollution and drugs.
- C. Chavez started to look around for additional ways he could help the community and started offering free music lessons, using donated instruments. It soon became apparent that there weren't enough of these to meet demand. So, Chavez teamed up with local rubbish picker and carpenter Nicolas "Cola" Gomez to see if they could make their own.
- D. The instruments they came up with were ingenious, if not elegant. An old oil drum became the body of a cello, a fork the tailpiece of a violin. A metal drainpipe, coins, cans and bottle caps made up a saxophone. Even old X-ray film found a use as a drumhead, held in place with plenty of tape. These recycled instruments are harder to play, partly because the materials they use react to changes in temperature. But they work, and they make up a full orchestra. In an area where a new violin would cost more than a house, this is truly remarkable.
- E. The Recycled Orchestra, as it is known, carried on for several years, with Chavez and Cola putting in thousands of hours as volunteers, in collaboration with Luis Szarán, a Paraguayan musician, conductor and composer. Then, the project caught the attention of a team of filmmakers led by producer Alejandra Amarilla. She recognised that the Recycled Orchestra had all the ingredients for an inspirational story and created a short video to post online to raise money to finance a full-length documentary. The video went viral and in 2015, the award-winning documentary *Landfill Harmonic* was released. As a direct result, the Recycled Orchestra were invited to perform with international stars including Metallica, Coldplay and Stevie Wonder. They have also performed around the world, playing a classical repertoire alongside folk music, and John Lennon and Frank Sinatra hits. More recently the group has staged performances near rubbish dumps to call attention to environmental problems.
- F. All of this success has meant that more money is available for the project. Chavez has finally been able to draw a small wage for his work, and funds have been directed to improving homes in the local area. However, the greatest benefit to the community, Chavez says, is the new respect families show for their children and their education. The Recycled Orchestra has provided a template for similar projects in other countries including Mexico, Spain and Burundi. Chavez remarked, "It's often said that we shouldn't throw away trash so easily. Well, we shouldn't throw people away either."
- G. The effect on the young musicians has been transformational. Eighteen-year-old Maria de Jesus Rios is typical. She says, "Music is the love of my life. Music has taught me so many things. It taught me to be a more disciplined person." Rios is already teaching violin to young people in her neighbourhood, and she wants to train as a professional music teacher. She has many happy memories of playing with the orchestra, but the opportunity to travel and see the ocean for the first time while touring in Brazil was unforgettable.

sources: bbc.co.uk, theguardian.com, npr.org