

Read the text. For each question (1-5), choose the correct answer.

Netflix the day away

While the meaning of the phrase *Netflix the day away* is relatively easy to work out, the popular choice is somehow more difficult to explain. Why Netflix and not Amazon, for example? Netflix is indeed a video-streaming giant but then again, it is not the only one in the game. There are several possible reasons to explain why Netflix is by far the most popular provider internationally.

Netflix was founded in 1997 but it wasn't until 2007 that it started offering streaming TV shows and films online. For the first five years or so, Netflix offered its subscribers a choice of series and movies produced by famous TV companies and film studios. Since 2013, though, Netflix has been offering original programmes and viewers have been able to watch entire series or at least entire seasons of TV series at once. The company has been investing billions of dollars in order to make quality programmes and, despite strong competition, Netflix is still able to reign supreme in the business.

The "You may also like" section is another reason why viewers are so fond of using Netflix. What this means is that Netflix keeps track of the type of programmes that a viewer takes pleasure in watching and provides a list of similar shows that the same viewer is very likely to find appealing. In the same way that a shop assistant knows exactly what clothing item to recommend based on your history as a shopper there and on their intuition which comes as a result of their "getting you", Netflix gets you, too, and their predictive analysis is second to none. The main reason to explain its popularity could therefore be that it really understands what its viewers like and what they do not.

While it is true that Netflix does not come for free, the amount a user has to pay monthly is roughly similar to what cable companies charge and it is what it offers that makes it more popular amongst users, young users in particular. Studies recently carried out reveal that viewers are happy that they do not have to watch advertisements in the middle of a movie or an episode of their favourite series. They also pointed out that what they truly like is the fact that they can begin watching a Netflix programme in the evening on their smart TV, then pause it and watch the remaining part on their smart phones on their way to work.

On the other hand, there are still people who are willing to pay for both cable and Netflix since the latter mainly provides entertainment and some documentaries. It is the former that one needs in order to watch news reports and live sport games and competitions. This is something that Netflix has yet to cover. This aspect can be easily overlooked by those people who find Netflix one of the "coolest" things around and start conversations based on a series which is available exclusively on Netflix. There is always that one person who feels a bit left out because they do not have Netflix yet. A problem they might be willing to "solve" since they also wish to join the "cool" club.

It would be therefore fair to conclude that it is actually the convenience and ease of use that make Netflix so popular and not necessarily the content itself. What is certain is that rough numbers do reveal that Netflix will continue to grow in popularity, which makes the future of television in general very difficult to predict. In the meantime, let us just Netflix the day away...

1. Netflix is

- A) the sole video-streaming platform in the business today.
- B) a video-streaming platform whose popularity is impossible to explain.
- C) a video-streaming platform whose popularity exceeds that of all other platforms in the business.

2. In the years prior to 2013, Netflix users were able to

- A) enjoy television programmes which were not produced by Netflix.
- B) enjoy a variety of original Netflix programmes.
- C) binge-watch entire series or seasons.

3. Why does the writer compare the “You may also like” section to a shopping experience?

- A) To explain why the list of TV programmes you may like provided by Netflix is very likely to be accurate.
- B) To explain why coming up with a list of TV programmes a user may like, based on their ‘watched programmes’ is almost impossible.
- C) To highlight the flaws of the video-streaming platform.

4. Access to Netflix

- A) is always free of charge.
- B) requires paying a monthly fee.
- C) costs more than what the average cable provider charges.

5. One of the shortcomings of Netflix that the text mentions is that

- A) it fails to broadcast live sport events.
- B) it covers too many sport events.
- C) the news it usually covers is devoid of accuracy.

Read the first sentence. For the second sentence, choose the best answer for each gap (6-10) so that the meaning stays the same.

6. Wendy regrets not speaking to her mother about the matter.

Wendy wishes to her mother about it.

- A) she would have spoken
- B) she had spoken
- C) she should speak

7. I have used Netflix only once before.

This is I have ever used Netflix.

- A) only the second time
- B) the first time
- C) my very first time

8. No one has ever broken into my car.

I have into.

- A) to have my car broken
- B) never had my car broken
- C) just got my car broken

9. Excuse me, could I borrow your pen?

Excuse me, your pen?

- A) would you mind if I borrowed
- B) would you mind if I lent
- C) would you mind if I borrow

For questions 21-30, read and choose the correct answer.

21. Thanks to the hard work of our staff, the magazine more than 300, 000 copies this month.

- A) sell B) is selling C) has sold D) has been sold E) was sold

22. If you crumple up your shirt, what will happen to it?

- A) It will be clean the next day. B) It will be hanging in your closet.
C) It will have a rip in it. D) It will be wrinkled. E) It won't need ironing.

23. In 1991, Barbara Cartland, the well-known writer of many romantic novels, was awarded the title.....
Commander of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elisabeth II.

- A) Lady B) Mistress C) Woman D) Dame E) Dowager

24. This was the best conference room that I could find such short notice.

- A) at B) for C) in D) by E) to

25. Match the halves of the proverbs.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Actions | a. is in the eye of the beholder. |
| 2. A picture | b. don't make a right. |
| 3. Beggars | c. is an island. |
| 4. Beauty | d. can't be choosers. |
| 5. No man | e. is worth a thousand words. |
| 6. Two wrongs | f. speak louder than words. |

- A) 1b/ 2e/ 3a/ 4d/ 5c/ 6f B) 1a/ 2c/ 3d/ 4f/ 5e/ 6b C) 1f/ 2e/ 3d/ 4a/ 5c/ 6b
D) 1c/ 2e/ 3d/ 4b/ 5f/ 6a E) 1f/ 2e/ 3d/ 4c/ 5a/ 6b

26. What chemical element is diamond made of?

- A) selenium B) lead C) carbon D) cobalt E) neon

27. I couldn't up with the noise in the city, so we moved to the countryside.

- A) let B) put C) live D) set E) take

28. The plane we flew in was really old.

- A) that B) who C) in which D) where E) whose

29. The British Isles consist of main islands and over six thousand smaller ones.

- A) two B) three C) four D) five E) six

30. Christopher has a very active imagination, not to mention anability to guess what people are thinking.

- A) uncanny B) careless C) sparkling D) luxury E) glowing