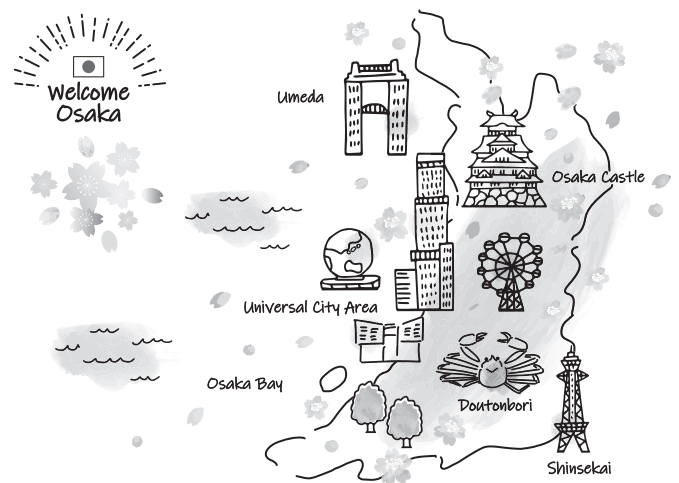


Osaka Welcomes the World: Expo 2025 Events

From April 13 to October 13, 2025, Osaka, Japan, will host the World Expo. The theme of this event is “Designing Future Society for Our Lives.” This Expo is expected to welcome about 28 million visitors and have participants from 150 countries and 25 international organizations. Located on Yumeshima, an artificial island in Osaka, the venue is designed with a strong focus on being eco-friendly. It will use clean energy and environmentally friendly materials and feature the world’s largest wooden circular walkway.

The World Expo began in 1851 with the Great Exhibition in London. At first, it was mainly a place to show the achievements of the Industrial Revolution. Over time, it grew into a major international event that brings together technology, culture, and innovation. The Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) manages the event, and a World Expo is held every five years. The host country is chosen by a vote among BIE member nations.

Each World Expo has been known for



something special. For example, the 1889 Paris Expo introduced the Eiffel Tower. The 1970 Osaka Expo showcased Japan’s first maglev train demonstration. The 2010 Shanghai Expo attracted more than 70 million visitors, making it the largest Expo in history.

The World Expo is not only about new technology but also about global cooperation and cultural exchange. As the opening of Expo 2025 in Osaka approaches, people around the world are paying attention to this international event. It will be an opportunity to explore future lifestyles and innovative ideas together.

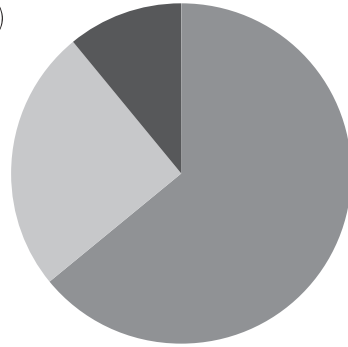
Reading Comprehension

- () 1. How does the author begin the passage? (**structure**)
- (A) By giving a definition. (B) By providing statistics.
(C) By comparing two events. (D) By mentioning an event.
- () 2. Which of the following is most likely the purpose of the passage? (**purpose**)
- (A) To argue that World Expos should focus more on technology.
(B) To compare different World Expos and their economic impact.
(C) To introduce the 2025 Osaka Expo and its key features in detail.
(D) To discuss the role of World Expos in promoting global cooperation.
- () 3. According to the passage, which of the following is an opinion, but **NOT** a fact? (**opinion or fact**)
- (A) The BIE manages and arranges the World Expo to be held every five years.
(B) The author believes the 2025 Osaka Expo will attract about 28 million visitors.
(C) The theme of the 2025 Osaka Expo is “Designing Future Society for Our Lives.”
(D) The early World Expo mainly showed achievements of the Industrial Revolution.
- () 4. Which of the following diagrams best shows the organization of the third paragraph?

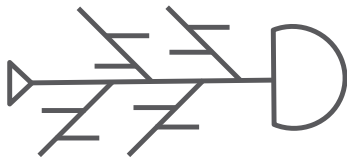
(A)



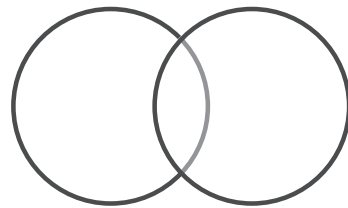
(B)



(C)



(D)



Vocabulary and Phrases

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. participant <i>n.</i> 參與者 | 4. circular <i>adj.</i> 圓形的，環形的 | 7. maglev train <i>n.</i> 磁浮列車 |
| 2. artificial <i>adj.</i> 人造的，人工的 | 5. Industrial Revolution <i>n.</i> 工業革命 | 8. demonstration <i>n.</i> 示範，展示 |
| 3. venue <i>n.</i> 場地，會場 | 6. innovation; innovative <i>n.; adj.</i> 創新；創新的 | 9. cooperation <i>n.</i> 合作 |

Strong Thunderstorm Brings Ice to Taipei

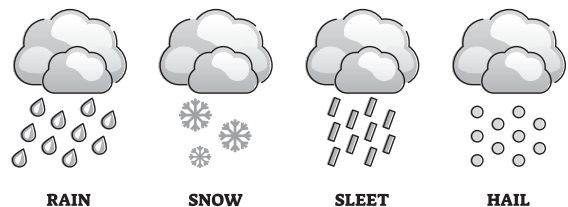
Early in the morning of March 4, loud thunder suddenly echoed over Taipei and New Taipei City. Heavy rain and hail followed, surprising many people who were woken up by the sudden weather change. The hailstorm was strong, hitting rooftops, cars, and roads for a short period of time. Some hailstones were big enough to make loud noises when they 1 hard surfaces. Some locals recorded videos of the hail falling and shared them online, making this rare weather event widely discussed.

Hail forms inside strong storm clouds. When warm, moist air rises quickly and reaches the cold upper parts of the atmosphere, water droplets freeze and turn into small ice balls 2 hailstones. These hailstones move up and down in the cloud as they collect more water and freeze again. 3 they become too heavy, they fall to the ground as hail. Hailstorms happen most often in spring and summer,

4 during strong afternoon thunderstorms or cold fronts. In Taiwan, hail is more common in the western regions and mountain areas, where weather conditions make it easier for hail to form. Some hailstones can be small like peas, while others can grow as big as golf balls and cause damage.

If hail starts falling, it is best to stay indoors. People outside should quickly find shelter in a strong building. Hail can also damage crops and buildings, so farmers and local officials need to take protective measures to 5.

This sudden thunderstorm and hailstorm remind us that weather can change quickly. It is important to check weather forecasts and stay prepared to avoid possible dangers.



Cloze

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| () 1. (A) faked | (B) bound | (C) struck | (D) wandered |
| () 2. (A) calling | (B) called | (C) that called | (D) which calls |
| () 3. (A) Once | (B) Whether | (C) Unless | (D) Though |
| () 4. (A) indeed | (B) besides | (C) especially | (D) therefore |
| () 5. (A) cut costs | (B) take action | (C) increase risks | (D) reduce losses |

Vocabulary and Phrases

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. thunderstorm <i>n.</i> 雷雨，雷暴 | 4. hailstorm <i>n.</i> 一場猛烈的冰雹，雹暴 | 7. droplet <i>n.</i> 水滴 |
| 2. echo <i>v.</i> 迴盪 | 5. hailstone <i>n.</i> (一塊) 冰雹，雹塊 | 8. shelter <i>n.</i> 遮蔽；避難 |
| 3. hail <i>n.</i> (下) 冰雹 (的現象) | 6. atmosphere <i>n.</i> 大氣層 | 9. forecast <i>n.</i> 預報 |

譯

大阪歡迎世界：2025 年世界博覽會活動

2025 年 4 月 13 日至 10 月 13 日，日本大阪將舉辦世界博覽會。本次活動的主題是「創造閃耀生命光輝的未來社會」。本屆世博預計將接待約 2,800 萬名遊客，並將有來自 150 個國家和 25 個國際組織的參與。場館位於大阪的人工島「夢洲」，其設計極為注重環保。它將使用清潔能源和環保材料，並有世界最大的木製環形廊道。

世界博覽會始於 1851 年在倫敦舉辦的萬國博覽會。起初，它主要是展示工業革命成果的地方。隨著時間的推移，它逐漸發展成為匯聚科技、文化和創新的國際盛會。國際展覽局 (BIE) 負責管理此活動，世博會每五年舉辦一次。主辦國由國際展覽局會員國投票選出。

每屆世博都有其獨特之處。例如，1889 年巴黎世博推出了艾菲爾鐵塔。1970 年大阪世博則是日本首次展示磁浮列車。2010 年上海世博吸引了超過 7,000 萬名參觀者，成為歷史上規模最大的世界博覽會。

世博不僅是新科技的盛會，也是全球合作與文化交流的盛會。隨著 2025 年大阪世博的臨近，世界各地的人們都在關注這場國際盛事。這將是一個共同探索未來生活方式與創新理念的機會。

譯

大雷雨為臺北帶來冰雹

3 月 4 日凌晨，臺北市和新北市突然響起雷聲。隨後就緊接著落下了大雨和冰雹，讓許多被突如其來的天氣變化驚醒的人感到驚訝。這場冰雹來勢洶洶，在短時間內敲擊屋頂、車輛和道路。有些冰雹大到在撞擊堅硬表面時發出很大的聲響。一些當地人拍了下冰雹的影片並分享至網路上，使這場罕見的天氣現象引起廣泛討論。

冰雹在強烈的雷暴雲中形成。當溫暖潮濕的空氣快速上升並到達大氣層寒冷的上部時，水滴凝結變成稱為冰雹的小冰球。這些冰雹在雲層內上下移動、集結更多水分並再次凝結。一旦它們變得太重時，就會掉落到地面形成冰雹。冰雹最常發生在春季和夏季，尤其是在有強烈的午後雷陣雨或冷鋒期間。在臺灣，冰雹較常見於西部地區和山區，這些地區的天氣條件較容易形成冰雹。有些冰雹可能小如豌豆，而有些則可能大如高爾夫球並造成損害。

如果下起了冰雹，最好待在室內。在室外的人應趕快尋找堅固的建築物避難。冰雹也可能損害農作物和建築物，因此農民和地方官員需要採取防護措施以減少損失。

突如其來的雷雨和冰雹提醒我們天氣變化可能很快。查看天氣預報並做好準備，以避免可能的危險，是非常重要的。

閱讀測驗解答：1. **D** 2. **C** 3. **B** 4. **A**

綜合測驗解答：1. **C** 2. **B** 3. **A** 4. **C** 5. **D**

Acknowledgments

“Osaka Welcomes the World: Expo 2025 Events” by Catherine Ruth Harrington

“Strong Thunderstorm Brings Ice to Taipei” by Catherine Ruth Harrington

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