

ΘΕΜΑ 1. ΚΑΤΑΝΟΗΣΗ ΓΡΑΠΤΟΥ ΛΟΓΟΥ

Read the text and choose the correct option (A, B or C) for items 1-10.

Leonardo Da Vinci was one of the most creative minds of the Italian Renaissance, hugely influential as an artist and sculptor but also immensely talented as an engineer and inventor. He was born on 15 April 1452 near the Tuscan town of Vinci. He was apprenticed to the sculptor and painter Andrea del Verrocchio in Florence and in 1478 became an independent master. In 1483, he moved to Milan to work for the ruling Sforza family as a sculptor, painter and architect. There, he produced the famous 'Madonna on the Rocks' and 'The Last Supper' that has been described as one of the greatest spiritual paintings. Unfortunately, over the time the quality of the original painting has **deteriorated**.



During his time in Florence, Da Vinci painted several portraits, but the only one that survives is the famous 'Mona Lisa' (1503-1506). 'Mona Lisa' is one of the world's most famous and intriguing pictures. It is the portrait of the wife of a Florentine noble. For several days she came to Leonardo and sat for her portrait to be painted. However, she refused to smile; Leonardo even tried hiring musicians but to no avail. One day just for a fleeting second, she gave a faint smile and Leonardo was able to capture it. Her smile encapsulates a tremendous mysteriousness, which is both fascinating and intriguing. Da Vinci's place as a pioneering scientist is beyond dispute. Yet, his true genius was not as a scientist or an artist, but as a combination of the two: an 'artist-engineer'. His painting was scientific, based on a deep understanding of the workings of the human body and the physics of light and shade. His science was expressed through art and his drawings and diagrams show what he meant and how he understood the world to work.

(Words: 300)

- The main aim of the text is to
 - advertise Leonardo Da Vinci's paintings.
 - present Leonardo Da Vinci's artistic career.
 - report the results of art studies on Da Vinci's paintings.
- This text could most probably be part of
 - a literary book.
 - an encyclopedia entry.
 - a tourist brochure.
- A possible heading for the first paragraph of this text could be
 - Da Vinci's early career.
 - Da Vinci's birthplace.
 - Da Vinci's friends.
- The text suggests that Leonardo Da Vinci
 - became famous after his death.
 - had various abilities and skills.
 - is mostly famous for his portraits.
- Leonardo Da Vinci
 - imitated his teacher.
 - was self-taught.
 - was an autonomous artist.
- In the text, the underlined word '**deteriorated**' means
 - improved.
 - got worse.
 - increased.
- 'Mona Lisa'
 - was painted in less than an hour.
 - portrays an aristocratic lady.
 - is based on an imaginary female figure.
- 'Mona Lisa' managed to smile for a second
 - with the help of her husband.
 - after listening to a joke.
 - after great effort.
- The mysteriousness in Mona Lisa's smile is seen as
 - negative.
 - unattractive.
 - interesting.
- Leonardo Da Vinci is regarded as an 'artist-engineer' because
 - his work combines art with science.
 - he was a better engineer than an artist.
 - he dreamed of becoming an engineer one day.

ΘΕΜΑ 2^ο. ΛΕΞΙΚΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΙΚΗ

Match each underlined word /phrase in the sentences below (11-20) with a word from the box that has a similar meaning (A-J). Use each word only once.

A.	talented	B.	original	C.	tremendous	D.	independent	E.	creative
F.	pioneering	G.	famous	H.	fascinating	I.	faint	J.	deep

11.	After 1918, our city became the capital of an <u>autonomous</u> country.
12.	The idea was originally presented four centuries ago but it was so <u>ahead of its time</u> that the tradition-bound leaders of those days found it difficult to accept.
13.	The War Theatre is visited daily by thousands of people from all over the world because of its fantastic selection of Van Gogh's <u>authentic</u> paintings.
14.	The pilot looked confident, but I detected a <u>slight</u> tremor in his hands.
15.	The recruitment of <u>skilled</u> writers is critical for ensuring the success of the new publishing company.
16.	The city offers a(n) <u>interesting</u> combination of sporting and cultural events.
17.	The programme claims to discuss very <u>serious</u> and profound philosophical issues.
18.	She is under <u>extreme</u> pressure at work; I think she will quit sooner or later.
19.	Scotland is <u>well-known</u> for its spectacular countryside full of lakes and old castles.
20.	The company was known for hiring <u>inventive</u> people who could dream up new products.