

## Option A

## TEENAGE FLASH MOB ROBBERIES ON THE RISE

1 The same technologies that for years have brought together the mostly benign and goofy 'flash mobs,' in which groups suddenly break into dance at a mall or wander around like zombies at train stations, is being used to plan and execute bold robberies.

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Called 'flash robs,' these crimes are being organized by young teenagers through various social media outlets, most notably Twitter. Police say the suspects select a time and place and enter the store in droves taking what they want and leaving before security or police can catch them.

Some of the most brazen robberies take place in the light of day and on
10 busy streets despite all the security cameras and the watchful eyes of workers.
'Young people are risk takers; they do things in groups far more than adults do. A medium like Twitter plays into the characteristics of a young person's behaviour,' Scott Decker said

The pack mentality allows the thieves to strike fast, so fast that the store 15 clerks don't have time to react.

Technology hasn't just made it easy to plan and organize; it's allowed the thieves to off-load their goods. A recent survey done by a leading retail industry group shows that technology has led to a peak in organized crime, mostly as thieves find it easier to sell what has been stolen online.

## QUESTIONS

[1] Following the instructions, Answer questions A, B, C (3 POINTS AS A WHOLE).
A. Answer the following question using your own words ( 10 to 20 words) (1 point).

According to the text, what are 'flash mobs'?
B. Are the following statements true or false? Indicate the line(s) in the text supporting your choice ( 1.5 points as a whole: 0.5 each).
B1. Flash robs are organized through social networks.
B2. The Internet makes it easy to sell the stolen loot.
B3. Flash robs always take place in the light of day.
C. Choose a, b or c in each statement below. Only one choice is correct ( 0.5 points)

Shop assistants don't react on time because...
a) thieves act very quickly.
b) they are afraid.
c) they don't have the technology to stop them.
[2] COMPLETE TASKS a, b, c, d ACCORDING TO THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN (2 POINTS AS A WHOLE: 0.5 EACH).
a) Write a question for which the underlined words are the answer: The pack mentality allows the thieves to strike fast.
b) Put into the passive: Police say the suspects select a time and place and enter the store in droves.
c) Combine into one sentence containing a relative clause: Young people are risk takers. They do things in groups far more than adults do
d) Complete: Had we done a flash mob...
[3] Vocabulary (1 POINT as a Whole: 0.2 EaCh).

- Find one word in the text for each of the following meanings:
a) to give away or sell something
b) something manufactured or produced for sale
- Find synonyms in the text for each of the words below:
c) unexpectedly
d) shameless
e) vigilant
[4] Write about the following topic using between 90-120 words (4 points).
Have you ever done, seen or heard of a flash mob? If not, would you like to participate in one?



## Option B

## CAFFEINE AND ALCOHOL POTENT MIX FOR YOUNG

1 Mixing alcohol and caffeine is hardly a new concept, but a series of cases involving students and others who were taken to hospitals after drinking beverages that combine the two in a single large can has alarmed college and health officials around the country. The drinks are dangerous,
5 doctors say, because the caffeine masks the effects of the alcohol, keeping consumers from realizing just how intoxicated they are.

A brand called Four Loko, a fruit-flavored malt beverage that has an alcohol content of 12 percent and as much caffeine as a cup of coffee, has been particularly criticized after students who drank it this fall at
10 Ramapo College in New Jersey ended up in emergency rooms, some with high levels of alcohol poisoning.
'This is one of the most dangerous new alcohol mixtures I have ever seen,' said an emergency room doctor at Lancaster General Hospital, who said he had treated more than a dozen teenagers and adults over the
15 last three months who had been brought there after drinking Four Loko. 'It's a recipe for disaster because your body's natural defense is to get sleepy and not want to drink, but in this case you're tricking the body with the caffeine.'

## Questions

[1] FOLLOWING THE instructions, ANSWER QUestions A, B, C (3 POINTS AS A WHOLE)
A. Answer the following question using your own words ( 10 to 20 words) (1 point).

Why are the drinks with caffeine and alcohol unsafe?
B. Are the following statements true or false? Indicate the line(s) in the text supporting your choice ( 1.5 points as a whole: 0.5 each).
B1. These drinks make it easy for drinkers to tell how drunk they are.
B2. Drinking one of these beverages could be like drinking two cups of coffee.
B3. The high caffeine levels make it difficult for drinkers to realize they are tired.
C. Choose $a, b$ or $\boldsymbol{c}$ in each question below. Only one choice is correct ( 0.5 points)

This new alcohol mixture is...
a) very healthy.
b) a line of alcoholic energy drinks.
c) a tea-flavored malt drink.
[2] COMPLETE TASKS a, b, c, d ACCORDING TO THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN (2 POINTS AS A WHOLE: 0.5 EACH).
a) Write a question for which the underlined words are the answer: Nine students have been hospitalized after mixing excessive amounts of Four Loko.
b) Transform into reported speech: 'Caffeine will be removed from the drink recipe, though the creators believe it is safe.' Begin with: Four Loko creators said that ...
c) Combine into one sentence containing a relative clause: Four Loko has already been banned in several states. This beverage made young drinkers extremely ill.
d) Complete: If she had drunk a lot of beer, ...
[3] Vocabulary (1 POINT as a WhOLE: 0.2 EaCh).

## - Find one word in the text for each of the following meanings:

a) a marketable name
b) a list of ingredients and directions for making something

- Find synonyms in the text for each of the words below:
c) hides
d) especially
e) somnolent
[4] Write about the following topic using between 90-120 words (4 POINTS).

Do you think teenagers should be banned from drinking energy drinks? Why?

