CLA B1 MOCK TEST (REDUCED VERSION)

Reading Comprehension

Read the text below. For each question choose the best answer.

"The best age to start learning the violin is between three and six," says Margaret Porter, a violinist and music teacher. "It's the time when you are leaning about the world." Margaret, who lives in London, prefers to take pupils at three and four, although she has made lots of exceptions for keen five year olds. When she started teaching the violin in 1972, her first class consisted of her children's five-year –old school friends.

Margaret's pupils have group lessons. Each group has about a dozen pupils and each lesson lasts about an hour, once a fortnight. In addition, each pupil has one individual lesson a week with her. Parents also have to attend the lessons. It is important that the parents take an active interest in the lessons.

From the earliest lessons pupils learn to play by ear. They do not even try to read music until they have been playing for several years, and for a long time there is a big difference between their playing and reading of music. Margaret says that her method is not supposed to produce great violinists, and always suggests that pupils who perform particularly well should leave and study the violin using more traditional methods.

1) What is the writer trying to do in the text ?

 a) explain why Margaret likes teaching the violin

 b) describe a different way of learning the violin

 c) give advice on how to find a music teacher

2) Why should someone read the text ?

a) to discover how Margaret learnt the violin
b) to learn why it is important to read music
c) to find out about Margaret's teaching method

3) What opinion does Margaret have about her best pupils ?

 a) They ought to find another teacher.
b) They will become great violinists using her method.
c) They could try harder.

4) Margaret's first pupils were
a) her children's friends.
b) three and four year olds.
c) her own friends.