Vicuña, a small town in the north of Chile, is a great place for watching the stars. Although the town is near the ocean, the cold, moist air from the coast does not bring clouds. Instead, dry winds blowing from the desert keep the clouds away at night. In
Line fact, the sky is so clear in Vicuña that it is possible to see many stars that can be seen
5 only with advanced instruments in other parts of the world.

In Vicuña, distant star systems such as the Magellanic Clouds are visible without the help of a telescope. This is why the town was chosen as the home of a number of sky observatories. One of them, the Mamalluca, is quite different from the typical observatories used by astronomers and other scientists. This observatory was designed
10 for tourists who like to look at the stars. Throughout the year, Vicuña's hotels accommodate thousands of tourists who come from all over the world to see the night sky as they have only seen it in books. The cloudless sky is clearly a moneymaker for the town, which plans to erect even more observatories. It was recently decided that the construction of additional observatories will continue for another few years.

15 At one point, however, the town faced a serious problem. As the town grew, more streetlights were added, making it more and more difficult to see the stars at night. The town saved the night sky by investing in a new system of lamps that lit up the streets without ruining the view of the sky.

coast 海岸
advanced 高度な
visible 見える
observatories 天台
astronomers 天文学者
accommodate 入れる 置

erect 直立ごたつ・たてる
construction 工事
investing 投資

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21. Which title best summarizes the main idea of the passage?

    (A) Hotels for the Stars
    (B) A Town Looks to the Stars
    (C) Pictures of a Cloudless Sky
    (D) Astronomers Discover New Stars

22. What makes the skies over Vicuña especially clear at night?

    (A) Moist air from the ocean
    (B) Dry winds from the desert
    (C) Cold air from the mountains
    (D) Warm winds along the coast

23. What does the author say about the Magellanic Clouds?

    (A) They can be seen only during the day.
    (B) They cannot be seen in all parts of the world.
    (C) They can be seen in Vicuña without a telescope.
    (D) They are not as far away as scientists once believed.

24. In line 11, the word accommodate is closest in meaning to _____ .

    (A) give advice to
    (B) pay attention to
    (C) take money from
    (D) provide rooms for

25. In line 13, the word erect is closest in meaning to _____ .

    (A) visit
    (B) close
    (C) build
    (D) watch

26. Why did Vicuña spend money on a new streetlight system?

    (A) The old lights made it hard to see the stars at night.
    (B) The old system needed frequent repairs.
    (C) There were not enough streetlights near the new hotels.
    (D) Money for new lights became available as tourism increased.

5. Why does the author write the passage?

(A) To give an example of a shark movie

(B) To talk about the biggest shark of all time

(C) To inform readers about the great white shark

(D) To imply that people don't know about the great white shark

6. Based on the passage, what is probably true about a great white's teeth?

(A) They are sharper than any other animal's.

(B) They are bigger than the megalodon's teeth.

(C) They are smaller than the megalodon's teeth.

(D) There are more of them than in the megalodon's mouth.

7. Why does the author mention "early scientists"?

(A) To ask why people are interested in sharks and megalodons

(B) To show that they believed in ancient dragons and giant snakes

(C) To prove that the great white was the biggest animal in the sea

(D) To show that people in the past did not know about megalodons

8. Why does the author mention that "nearly 90 percent of the ocean remains unexplored"?

(A) To show why no one has found a big megalodon yet

(B) To imply that humans need to explore the depths of the ocean soon

(C) To explain why some people claim megalodons possibly exist

(D) To convince readers that the ocean is large enough for many sharks