

1 Extra Exam Practice

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

THE CHINESE DISCOVERY OF NORTH AMERICA?

- I "In fourteen hundred and ninety-two, Columbus sailed the ocean blue." Schoolchildren in the United States learn this rhyme because Christopher Columbus was the first non-native inhabitant (since the Vikings) to reach the American continent. Or was he? Amateur historian Gavin Menzies suggests that in fact the Chinese arrived there first in 1421. Other historians, however, aren't convinced by Menzies' theories.
- II Menzies bases his theory on two maps which may date from the 15th century. One, called the Harris map, depicts an imaginary country of Chinese legends; interestingly, it is located exactly where North America is situated, and displays certain identifiable geographic features, including the Grand Canyon. The other map, supposedly published in 1418, also depicts North America in detail, and according to Menzies, may have helped the Chinese to locate the continent. But historian Geoff Wade is convinced this map is a modern fake; among other problems, the Chinese didn't know in 1418 that the Earth was round, as this map indicates.
- III Menzies also cites as proof the discovery of ancient Chinese artifacts and drawings in North and South America. But critics claim that a Chinese conquest would have left more dramatic remains than just a few coins and beads. They also ask why there are no signs of 15th-century American life in China, such as the tomatoes or maize brought home by Europeans from the New World.
- IV Finally, Menzies claims that many North and South American Indian legends describe encounters between native inhabitants and Chinese. But critics ask why there are no accounts of early American life in Chinese culture, as would surely be expected. The 1421 theorists explain this by saying that when Manchu invaders defeated the Ming Dynasty which ruled China in 1421, they destroyed all the documents they found, including those mentioning the Americas.
- V So, 1421 or 1492? Chinese or European? The evidence for Menzies' theory doesn't yet seem to threaten the established idea that Europeans discovered America. But there are enough unresolved issues to make you wonder!

1. Choose the correct answer.

1. Schoolchildren in the USA ...
- know a rhyme about the date of Columbus' voyage
 - learn that Columbus came to North America before the Vikings
 - are tested on Menzies' theory
2. The 1418 map ...
- reveals more details of North America than the Harris map
 - conveys the idea that the Earth is round
 - was given to the Chinese when they reached North America
3. 1421 theorists ...
- didn't expect the Chinese to bring back reports about the Americas
 - believe that the Ming Dynasty erased written accounts of the Americas
 - say that Manchu invaders destroyed all documents about the Americas

2. Answer the question according to the information in the text.

What makes Geoff Wade think that the 1418 map isn't genuine?

3. Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning.

1. Gavin Menzies thinks the Chinese arrived in America in 1421. Gavin Menzies is an amateur historian.
Gavin Menzies,
2. They ask why there is no sign of American life in China.
They ask, "
3. The evidence for Menzies' theory doesn't yet seem to threaten the established idea about the discovery of America.
The established idea about the discovery of America

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- certain about (paragraph II)
- pictures (paragraph III)
- stories (paragraph IV)
- think (paragraph V)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words. Choose one option.

- In your opinion, should museums return all items to the countries where they were originally found?
- What country would you like to visit? Why?

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

HERE BE DRAGONS

“Here be dragons.” These words, accompanied by drawings of frightening imaginary beasts, are found on some medieval maps. They signified that the area was unexplored, and possibly dangerous. But are all dragons really frightening? Are they purely imaginary creatures or are they based on something real?

Dragon legends exist in many different cultures worldwide. Although their appearance varies slightly, most dragons resemble reptiles with their large, scaly bodies. But Eastern dragons differ from Western ones in function and appearance, possibly because dragons often assume the qualities of local animals.

Chinese and Asian dragons are usually depicted as kind and well-meaning. They were often associated with kings or gods, or positive qualities such as longevity or wisdom. But because they also represent natural forces, especially water, Chinese dragons may actually be based on Chinese alligators. This idea is reasonable because Chinese dragons are often portrayed without wings or showing any legs.

Most European dragons, however, are shown as evil, magical, fire-breathing creatures that must be killed by a hero in order for him to rescue a princess or break a dark spell. Some experts suggest that these dragons are based on a lizard called the Komodo dragon. It’s over three metres long and has got a poisonous bite. Others believe that these dragons were inspired by prehistoric creatures like the pterosaur – a featherless flying reptile. However, because Europeans didn’t know much about these prehistoric creatures until 1910, they probably didn’t influence European dragon tradition.

Because dragons are a universal phenomenon, some experts think they must have a shared common basis. One theory is that dragons were really comets. Viewed from Earth, comets appear to have wings and long tails, and, like dragons, were often thought to bring good or bad luck. Other scientists deny a common origin, and believe that dragon legends grew up independently in different locations, possibly reflecting a human fear of dangerous animals or certain animal characteristics such as claws and teeth.

Whatever their origin, dragons still exist today in stories worldwide. Even the warning “Here be dragons” is still used; this is how computer programmers warn others not to interfere with especially sensitive sections of code.

1. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

1. Dragons have often got the same characteristics as local animals.
2. Chinese dragons are traditionally associated with water.
3. European dragons are thought to be based on heroic creatures.
4. Some experts believe that dragons came to Earth on comets.

2. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text. Use your own words as far as possible.

1. In medieval times, the words “Here be dragons” were sometimes used.
2. In all traditions, dragons’ bodies
3. Today, computer programmers

3. Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning.

1. Chinese dragons are usually depicted as kind. They were often associated with kings.
Chinese dragons
2. Dragons were often thought to bring good or bad luck.
It was often

4. Choose the best meaning for each word.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. wisdom (line 8) | 3. rescue (line 12) |
| a. intelligence | a. marry |
| b. wealth | b. save |
| c. happiness | c. surprise |
| 2. evil (line 11) | 4. fear (line 20) |
| a. stupid | a. horror |
| b. funny | b. love |
| c. very bad | c. attraction |

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words. Choose one option.

Young children shouldn’t be exposed to stories or films featuring frightening imaginary creatures. Do you agree? Why or why not?

Why do you think legends are passed down from generation to generation?



3 Extra Exam Practice

Name _____

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

WANTED: ELVES

- I Teenagers who are about to leave school often consider many job opportunities. However, few are likely to think of a career as an elf, which is now possible in Finland's Arctic Circle.
- II Finland claims that Santa Claus lives in its northern region of Lapland, near the North Pole, where tourists have gone to visit him for the past two decades. These visitors are met at the airport by professional "elves", who also accompany them while they participate in various activities, including reindeer safaris, canoeing and hunting.
- III These elves do more than pack up gifts bought at the Christmas market and answer Santa's hundreds of thousands of letters. They must be familiar with health and safety procedures, in addition to information about the local environment and Santa Claus stories. Elves must speak English, and possibly other languages, as more tourists arrive from France, Spain, Japan and Russia. Many work 14-hour days at Christmastime, and keeping children amused and occupied all day in freezing weather can be tough.
- IV Until recently, most elves were seasonal workers who received two weeks' training. However, since April 2008, residents of all ages in the town of Rovaniemi have been able to gain a diploma after studying for a year at the new Elf Academy. This will help to guarantee standards in the tourist industry, vitally important in this part of Finland, where the unemployment rate may reach double the national average. By building on the Santa legend, about half a million tourists now visit this area each year, providing work for local residents.
- V It's true that not everyone dreams of a career that may involve wearing a green or red costume, baking gingerbread biscuits or receiving a name like "Christmas Star". But for Finns who live in an isolated area with sub-zero temperatures and where opportunities are few, these jobs are as welcome as presents on Christmas morning.

1. Choose the correct answer.

1. Jobs done by professional elves include ...
 - a. delivering Santa's gifts to tourists in Lapland hotels
 - b. working in the Christmas market near Santa's house
 - c. writing thousands of letters for Santa Claus
2. A new Elf Academy ...
 - a. was opened by Santa Claus in April 2008
 - b. offers two weeks' training to seasonal workers
 - c. is located in a Lapland town called Rovaniemi
3. Getting a job as an elf ...
 - a. involves receiving many presents
 - b. may be the best alternative for local residents
 - c. requires residents to change their name

2. Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning.

1. The visitors are met at the airport by professional "elves".
Professional "elves" _____
2. They must be familiar with health and safety procedures, in addition to information about the local environment.
They must be familiar with health and safety procedures, as _____

3. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- 1. Tourists to Lapland can choose to go hunting and canoeing.

- 2. Elves must know how to speak Spanish.

- 3. Elves generally work long hours during the Christmas tourist season.

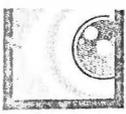
4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

1. busy (paragraph III) _____
2. difficult (paragraph III) _____
3. instruction (paragraph IV) _____
4. extremely (paragraph IV) _____

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words. Choose one option.

1. Describe an unusual job that you've heard of.
2. Would you like to work as an elf? Why or why not?





Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

IS LOVE SPELLED D-N-A?

I People are attracted to others for many reasons; one person may like another's values, appearance or ... immune system? It's not an obvious factor, but one US dating agency believes it can match members according to their DNA.

II Scientificmatch.com uses three criteria to match members. To determine core values, clients must prioritise options; for example, they are asked what type of holiday they prefer. They must then answer questions about the person they are looking for, including age and appearance. Although the agency claims to have superior ways of processing this information, its methods are not so different from those of other similar dating agencies.

III A unique feature of Scientificmatch.com lies in the third component, the chemical matching. The agency asks clients to send in a DNA sample taken from inside the cheek. This is then analysed for MHC (histocompatibility) markers, which form part of the immune system. Members are matched with others who have got different, rather than similar, markers. This, the agency claims, allows the pairing of partners who will have a better relationship.

IV According to some experiments, parents increase the chances of having healthier children by passing on to them as many different MHC markers as possible. Animals instinctively select partners who have got opposite MHC markers, because this will increase the number of different markers their offspring could inherit. And indeed, Scientificmatch.com claims its chemical matching will help create couples who are able to produce healthier children.

V However, many doctors are sceptical of claims made by Scientificmatch.com. Although they acknowledge the validity of the experiments, they say that too many other factors are involved in these processes, and that it's impossible to use DNA science in this way.

VI Nevertheless, clients seem willing to pay out \$1,995 for a one-year subscription to Scientificmatch.com. At this price, they can at least be assured that other members they meet are unlikely to be poor, even if there's no chemistry between them!

1. Choose the correct answer.

- The computer input obtained by the agency ...
 - uses information from similar agencies
 - is said to be processed in a superior way
 - is different from data gathered by other agencies
- Many doctors believe that ...
 - using DNA is a good way to meet people
 - the results of experiments into DNA matching aren't valid
 - people choose partners for reasons beyond MHC markers

2. Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning.

- Scientificmatch.com believes that it can match members according to their DNA.
Scientificmatch.com believes that its _____
- Scientificmatch.com uses three criteria to match members.
Three criteria _____
- The agency is new. The agency charges \$1,995 for a one-year subscription.
The agency _____

3. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- Prospective clients ask each other what kind of holiday they prefer.

- The agency matches people who have got MHC markers similar to their own.

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- evident (paragraph I) _____
- main, essential (paragraph II) _____
- special (paragraph III) _____
- children (paragraph IV) _____

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words. Choose one option.

- Do you think that matching DNA is a good way to find a partner? Why or why not?
- A friend is moving to a new area and is worried about meeting people. Write a letter giving him / her some advice on how to make new friends.



Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

MOBILE PHONES: GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS

- I Ever since mobile phones became popular in the 1990s, scientists have been trying to determine their effects on users. Much has been written about the possible connection between the radiation emitted by mobile phones and cancer. However, there have also been studies to investigate other aspects of mobile-phone use.
- II In one 2007 study, 300 people were observed for almost 30 months. One third used mobile phones frequently, another third used them intermittently and the final third didn't use them at all. Using a device that measures brain activity, researchers found that the frequent users exhibited a slowing down of brain activity, although this rate was still within normal limits.
- III However, this study also presented a more optimistic finding. In tests measuring neuropsychological functions such as memory, attention, personality and executive function (which controls thought and behaviour), frequent mobile-phone users were actually found to focus their attention better. This could be because they have learned to focus on their phone call while tuning out other distractions such as background noise.
- IV But before phone users increase their chatting time in the hope that this will improve their concentration, they should check the results of other recent studies. In 2005, researchers in the USA observed groups of young people who talked on a mobile phone while "driving" in a simulator. They found that their reaction time when braking was the same as that of motorists aged 65 to 74 who were not talking on the phone, making them more likely to have an accident. In an earlier study in 2003, the same researchers found that drivers using mobile phones were even less capable than drivers who were drunk.
- V These US studies show that mobile phones should never, ever be used while driving. But because mobile phones are relatively new, and there are no long-term studies concerning cognitive effects, researchers are very cautious when presenting other findings. While we wait for more definitive answers, it seems that the wisest policy would be to use your mobile phone in moderation.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- In a study in 2007 ...
 - 300 scientists researched the effect of mobile phones
 - it was shown that mobile-phone use prevented normal brain activity
 - three groups were assigned different patterns of mobile-phone use
- Frequent mobile-phone users ...
 - may be better at focusing than others
 - were in general more optimistic than other groups
 - were the main focus of the scientists' attention

2. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text. Use your own words as far as possible.

- In a 2005 study in the US, it was found that young people _____
- The US studies show that you mustn't _____

3. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- Scientists have proved that mobile phones cause brain cancer.
.....

- Some neuropsychological functions of frequent mobile-phone users may be better than those of others.
.....

- The writer thinks mobile phones shouldn't be used excessively until more is known.
.....

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- decrease (paragraph II) _____
- result (paragraph III) _____
- hurry (paragraph IV) _____
- careful (paragraph V) _____

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words. Choose one option.

- Should the use of mobile phones while driving be completely banned? Explain why or why not.
- The advantages and disadvantages of mobile-phone use in our society.



Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

ANYONE FOR A GAME OF CARDS?

I Even if they aren't players, most people the world over are familiar with a standard deck, or pack, of 52 playing cards. But playing cards are not all the same, and they've evolved in different ways, and with different purposes over a long period of time.

II Playing cards were probably invented by the tenth century in China, perhaps because the Chinese had already invented the paper from which the cards were made. It is thought that they eventually reached Europe via the Islamic Empire, where suit symbols of swords and cups were added to the original designs of sticks and coins. Further changes in suits were made locally, many of which still exist today; for example, the traditional Spanish deck retains some of the older symbols of coins, cups and swords, whereas the German suits include hearts, leaves and bells. The spades, hearts, clubs and diamonds of the standard deck now used in Britain and the United States, and internationally for poker and bridge, came from the original French suits.

III But while the front, or "face", of the cards changed, the backs remained blank. This allowed people to use them for many other purposes, including invitations and love letters. In Belgium, a baby abandoned at an orphanage was sometimes accompanied by a playing card displaying a name and message. If the card was torn, the infant's mother planned to come back with her half and claim her child; but if it was complete, she had no intention of returning. Playing cards also became an early type of paper money when the French governor of Canada used them to pay his war debts in 1685. Eventually, the backs of the cards were decorated for beauty, entertainment or advertising.

IV Today, playing cards are used not only for games, but also, for example, to perform magic tricks. But when we reflect on cards and their changing role over the centuries, perhaps we should realise that the real "magic" is in the cards themselves.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- Playing cards today ...
 - are probably known to most people in the world
 - have become standardised over a long period of time
 - have evolved differently but for the same reasons
- Playing cards have been used ...
 - as a way of tracing the fathers of orphaned babies
 - as a form of paper money by a Canadian governor
 - to advertise beauty products or entertainment events

2. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- Playing cards came to China before they were known in Europe.

- In the past, people often used playing cards as invitations.

- Playing cards aren't used to perform magic tricks.

3. Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning.

- The Chinese had already invented paper.
Paper _____
- She had no intention of returning.
She did not _____

4. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text. Use your own words as far as possible.

- The first playing cards used suit symbols of _____
- The original French suits now appear on _____
- In the past, the only decoration on playing cards _____

5. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- over a period of time (paragraph II) _____
- first of a kind (paragraph II) _____
- empty (paragraph III) _____

6. Write a composition of about 100-150 words. Choose one option.

- It has been said that playing games is a good preparation for life. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- Do you agree that children's exposure to video games should be limited? Explain the reasons for your answer.



Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

THE REALLY TERRIBLE ORCHESTRA

I Children are often taught to play a musical instrument. While a large number of them quit when they grow older, there are those who continue playing. A few become professional musicians; others may join an amateur group for fun. But most will never get the chance to play in public.

II To give enthusiastic but untalented players the chance to perform together, the Really Terrible Orchestra (RTO) was formed in 1995. Members, many of whom were successful professionals in fields such as banking, medicine, literature and law, took music lessons, rehearsed carefully and hired a professional conductor. However, despite taking all these measures, their lack of talent didn't go unnoticed. Some players simply omitted the musical notes they had difficulty playing. One cellist not only had a hearing problem but couldn't remember which string was which. Although he pencilled in the names on his instrument, he still rarely got them right. Sometimes members even discovered that they were playing different pieces of music, by different composers, simultaneously!

III To its own surprise, the RTO has become a hit. There have been successful concerts in Edinburgh, London and elsewhere. Orchestra members admit that the free wine offered before the concert may help the audience's appreciation, but this doesn't account for the sales of the RTO's CDs. In addition, a real composer has written an original work for them, and their conductor, Richard Neville Towle, has been knighted by the Queen.

IV Why is the orchestra so popular? Experts have got several theories, including the fact that people often seem to enjoy the embarrassment of others. But perhaps it's simply because the RTO proves that the joy of creation, not the standard of the performance, is what really counts. This should encourage every amateur performer everywhere to continue, no matter what the results. If success follows, it's just an added bonus.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- Many adults who play instruments ...
 - give music lessons to children
 - become professional musicians
 - rarely have the opportunity to play in public
- The RTO's music ...
 - has increased the sale of wine
 - has been recorded and sold successfully on CDs
 - consists only of specially written original pieces

2. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- Members of the RTO were generally successful in their professional lives.

- One orchestra member had difficulty hearing.

- The RTO always expected to be successful.

- The RTO's success embarrasses many of the experts.

3. Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning.

- The founders said, "We are forming an orchestra for these players."
 The founders said that _____

- However, despite taking these measures, their lack of talent didn't go unnoticed.
 Even though they _____

- Richard Neville Towle has been knighted by the Queen.
 The Queen _____

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- opportunity (paragraph I) _____
- excited (paragraph II) _____
- practised (paragraph II) _____
- success (paragraph III) _____
- extra (paragraph IV) _____

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words. Choose one option.

- Should excellence of performance be a criterion for performing in public? Why or why not?
- Write a letter to a friend describing a performance you have recently attended or seen on television.



Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

BLOWING HOT AND COLD

- I We all know that changes in the weather can influence our physical health, or alter outdoor events, such as causing the cancellation of a football match. But changes in the weather have also had a dramatic influence on world history.
- II Often, a historic event occurs when the population becomes restless as a result of food shortages caused by changes in the weather. For example, the cooling of the world's temperature by only half a degree around 476 AD caused crops to fail in northern areas of present-day Europe. The barbarians living there moved south to find food, eventually reaching the Roman Empire, and causing its collapse. Similarly, food in France, already in short supply due to a lack of rain, became even scarcer when crops were destroyed by a hailstorm in 1788. This sparked riots among the frustrated population, resulting in the French Revolution the following year.
- III However, other weather phenomena have altered history. A thick fog enabled George Washington's troops to retreat unseen by the British in 1776, allowing them the opportunity to regroup and gain a decisive military victory for the United States in 1781. And Russia has been saved three times by the severity of its winter, first from Charles XII of Sweden in 1706, then from Napoleon in 1812 and most recently from Hitler in 1941.
- IV Social and cultural history is also affected by the weather. Hot weather can increase violence, probably by altering serotonin levels in the brain, and high outdoor temperatures have been blamed for causing summer riots in some US cities in the 1960s. In contrast, cold weather may also have an effect. Unusually cold temperatures in Europe between 1520 and 1770 slowed the growth of trees, causing the wood to become abnormally dense. Violins crafted from this wood produce particularly fine sounds.
- V In 1965, Bob Dylan famously sang, "You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows". Perhaps not, but maybe you do need a weatherman, or weathergirl, to understand history.

1. Choose the correct answer.

1. Crop failure ...
 - a. causes people to become tired of events
 - b. probably occurred in the city of Rome in 476 AD
 - c. may be triggered by small temperature changes
2. The French Revolution ...
 - a. followed rioting by the hungry population
 - b. occurred the year before a sudden hailstorm
 - c. caused food to become more scarce than before
3. High outdoor temperatures ...
 - a. can be violently affected by serotonin levels in the brain
 - b. sometimes cause people to become violent if they are blamed
 - c. have led to summer riots in the USA in the 1960s

2. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

1. Using dense wood makes violins sound particularly good.

2. Bob Dylan thought that you needed a weatherman to understand history.

3. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text. Use your own words as far as possible.

1. The severe Russian winters _____

2. In Europe between the 16th and 18th centuries, trees _____

4. Answer the question according to the information in the text.

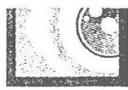
In what way did the weather affect George Washington's troops in the 18th century?

5. Find words or expressions in the text that mean the opposite of:

1. calm (paragraph II) _____
2. succeed (paragraph II) _____
3. loss (paragraph III) _____
4. reduction (paragraph IV) _____

6. Write a composition of about 100-150 words. Choose one option.

1. Researchers say the temperature of the world is increasing due to global warming. What could be the result for our cultural, social or political life?
2. Explain how the weather affected an event in your personal life or an event that you've heard about.



Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

INTRODUCING THE NANO

- I Until recently, many people in India couldn't afford a car. Entire families including young children and even babies would ride around on two-wheeled scooters. This was obviously dangerous, inefficient and unpleasant in extreme heat, cold or rain.
- II Ratan Tata, chairman of India's Tata Motors, decided to do something to improve the situation. He promised to create a car that middle-class Indians could afford. It took approximately four years, and some help from investors from other countries, but he kept his promise. In January 2008, he introduced the Tata Nano, a small car that costs only about 100,000 Indian rupees (€1,600).
- III The basic version of the Nano is pretty ... well, basic. Only three metres long and about one and a half metres wide, the car seats five if they are willing to sit practically on top of each other. However, it contains all the necessary features: brakes, a four-speed manual transmission, a steering wheel, seatbelts and one windscreen wiper. It has also got four doors, four windows, locks and a very small boot. For those who want features this model lacks – such as air-bags, air-conditioning, radio and passenger-side mirror – there are deluxe versions available, for an extra cost.
- IV By providing safe, affordable transport, Tata hopes the car will help millions of Indians to connect better across their vast sub-continent. But not everyone is so pleased with this new creation. Although the car is said to be fuel efficient and will meet both local and European emission standards, environmentalists claim that millions of new cars will increase dangerous carbon emissions substantially. Experts also worry that India's infrastructure will not be able to support a large number of new cars, creating terrible traffic jams and long commutes.
- V The Nano will at first be sold only in India, but there are plans to make it available soon in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia. It may eventually even reach Europe, although probably in a modified and more expensive form. But who knows? It may not be long before your new car costs the same as your TV.

1. Choose the correct answer.

1. In India, riding on two-wheeled scooters ...
 - a. was a form of transport that families could afford
 - b. costs more money than owning a car
 - c. was only problematic in bad weather
2. The basic version of the Nano ...
 - a. measures about three metres in width
 - b. is too small for five people to fit in
 - c. has got no luxuries
3. The sale of the Nano ...
 - a. will begin in India
 - b. will start in many developing countries
 - c. may eventually be cheaper in Europe

2. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

1. Ratan Tata is the Indian name of the Tata Motors company.

2. The Tata Nano can be bought for the Indian equivalent of €1,600.

3. The new car will help Indians from different countries to connect.

3. Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning.

1. Ratan Tata promised, "I will create a car that middle-class Indians can afford."
Ratan Tata promised that _____
2. Not everyone is pleased with this creation.
This creation _____

4. Answer the question according to the information in the text.

What problems could result from the introduction of the Nano in India?

5. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

1. be able to pay for something (paragraph I) _____
2. make something better (paragraph II) _____
3. not to have something that is needed (paragraph III) _____
4. not expensive (paragraph IV) _____

6. Write a composition of about 100-150 words. Choose one option.

1. Should cities ban private vehicles from city centre areas during peak traffic hours? Explain why or why not.
2. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of owning a car.

Creating the World We Want

Imagine a place where there is no sound of traffic. Imagine a place where all you can hear are birds singing, children playing and bicycle bells ringing. Residents of Vauban, a suburb of the German town Freiburg, live in such a place. This environmentally-friendly neighbourhood is practically car-free.

It is permitted for residents to own cars in Vauban, but those who do must park them in large garages at the edge of the town. A space in one of these garages is expensive, costing around €20,000. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that 70 per cent of residents live without a car.

So how do people get by without a car? The town has been planned in a way that enables people to live comfortably without having to use a car. There are shops, restaurants, banks and schools in different areas of Vauban. As a result, residents are able to get to most places on foot. For shopping trips or for transporting young children, many people have got carts that they pull behind bicycles.

The Vauban experiment has been seen as a possible model for a future way of living in an age of climate change. Experts around the world believe that gas emissions from cars play a significant role in global warming. As a result, there is a growing trend in Europe and the United States to attempt to reduce private car use. In Copenhagen, for example, the city maintains bicycles for public use.

While Vauban may well be a sign of things to come, it has still not been imitated on a large scale around the world. Yet if Vauban residents are indeed intent on changing the world and not just the small suburb where they live, they will first have to find a way to convince people that it is possible to live without cars. That may not be such an easy task.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- In Vauban ...
 - no-one owns a car
 - there is nowhere to park
 - there are very few cars
- The residents of Vauban ...
 - live at the edge of town
 - walk a lot
 - don't do a lot of shopping

2. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text. Use your own words as far as possible.

- People are able to manage without a car in Vauban because .
- In Vauban, people prefer to live without a car because .

3. Decide if the following sentences are true or false. Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- People use their bicycles when they go shopping.
- Governments around the world would like to reduce people's dependence on cars.
- The writer believes that the Vauban experiment has changed the world.

4. Choose the best meaning for each word or phrase.

- hardly (paragraph 2)
 - very
 - almost not
 - completely
- get by (paragraph 3)
 - travel
 - shop
 - cope
- maintains (paragraph 4)
 - keeps
 - prohibits
 - destroys
- task (paragraph 5)
 - trip
 - job
 - day

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An opinion essay:** Would you like to live in a town that is car-free? Why or why not?
- A for and against essay:** The advantages and disadvantages of owning a car.

2 Exam Practice

Nature Deficit Disorder

In the past many kids would get home from school, get on their bikes and disappear into parks and woods until it got dark. Today, however, this is not the case. Most children prefer to spend their free time indoors in front of a television or a computer screen. Recently, parents and educators have become increasingly concerned that children's lack of contact with nature is having detrimental effects on their overall health.

Richard Louv, author of the bestseller *Last Child in the Woods*, has argued that children suffer physically and mentally from lack of contact with nature. He believes that dozens of problems ranging from depression to attention deficit disorder can be triggered by alienation from nature, a condition that he has called "Nature Deficit Disorder". He is convinced that contact with the outside world can reduce stress, increase a person's attention span and stimulate creativity and cognitive development.

Louv claims that nature deficit disorder has been caused by a number of factors. Firstly, computers, video games and television have given children more and more reasons to stay inside. In addition, many parks and nature reserves have "do not walk off the trail" signs. This means that children have less access to the "natural" outdoors.

Yet, according to Louv, the leading cause of nature deficit disorder may in fact be parents' attitudes. He suggests that parents today are so afraid of allowing their children to explore freely outside that they are keeping their kids indoors in order to protect them from danger.

While there is no absolute scientific proof to support Louv's claims, most parents know from experience that the easiest way to calm an irritable child is to go outside. If parents simply encourage the kind of outdoor play that they remember from their own youth, it will be a good thing.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- In the past, children
 - disappeared a lot
 - rode their bikes in the dark
 - spent a lot of time outdoors
- Richard Louv claims that
 - children have a lot of contact with nature
 - it is important to have contact with nature
 - children who have contact with nature are stressed

2. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text. Use your own words as far as possible.

- Children who do not have contact with nature are more likely to
- Children suffer from nature deficit disorder because

3. Decide if the following sentences are true or false. Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- According to Louv, children who have contact with nature can concentrate better than those who don't.
- Parents are unable to protect their children from nature deficit disorder.
- Louv's claims have been scientifically proved.
- The writer supports Louv's claims.

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- harmful (paragraph 1)
- many (paragraph 2)
- caused (paragraph 2)
- main (paragraph 4)
- childhood (paragraph 5)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An opinion essay:** Do you think that spending time outside helps people your age? Why or why not?
- A description:** Describe a place in your neighbourhood where you enjoy spending time outdoors.

Are Some Foods Truly Irresistible?

Have you ever wondered why you can't resist a chocolate chip biscuit? Dr David Kessler, a pediatrician and former head of the US Food and Drug Administration, may have found the answer. In his new book *The End of Overeating*, Kessler suggests that the reason we are not able to resist certain foods is not just because we don't have enough willpower.

According to Kessler, food manufacturers have created tasty combinations of fat, sugar and salt that many people cannot stop eating even when they are full. He claims that food scientists are deliberately devising snacks, cereals and ready meals which act on the reward centres of the brain.

Kessler believes that there is a point at which we get the greatest pleasure from sugar, fats and salt. This he terms the "bliss point". Food that triggers this bliss point is not only tastier, but also stimulates people's appetites instead of suppressing them. As a result, food makers work hard to reach this precise point.

The End of Overeating draws attention to the strategies used by the food industry to ensure that our food truly is "irresistible". It suggests that if we become more educated about the forces that influence our eating behaviour, we may be able to alter our perceptions of what types of food are desirable. In addition, the book strives to give us practical suggestions on how to curb overeating and on how to regain control of our eating habits.

The End of Overeating places much of the blame for obesity on the fact that food in the Western world is carefully designed to make us want to eat more of it. Yet there can be no doubt that ultimately it is up to the individual to maintain a healthy weight. At the end of the day, only we can determine what goes into our mouths, or, more importantly, what does not.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- According to Dr Kessler, we find certain foods irresistible because ...
 - we are weak
 - we have no willpower
 - the foods are addictive
- The writer of the article believes that ...
 - obese people are not responsible for their condition
 - it is possible to control the tendency to overeat
 - it is impossible to resist certain foods

2. Decide if the following sentences are true or false. Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- Once our bliss point has been reached, we are no longer hungry.
- According to Dr Kessler, it is impossible to change our eating habits.

3. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text. Use your own words as far as possible.

- We find food tastiest when .
- Food makers work hard to reach the bliss point because .
- We can alter our perception of food by .

4. Choose the best meaning for each word.

- willpower (paragraph 1)
 - time
 - self-control
 - confidence
- tasty (paragraph 2)
 - healthy
 - delicious
 - terrible
- deliberately (paragraph 2)
 - quietly
 - quickly
 - intentionally
- curb (paragraph 4)
 - control
 - convince
 - enjoy

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An opinion essay:** The food industry should not be allowed to make food more addictive intentionally. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- A description:** Describe your favourite food. Why do you enjoy eating it?

4 Exam Practice

Texting Our Way to Good Health

Mobile phones and text messaging are frequently held responsible for the fact that young people lead inactive lives. This inactivity in its turn has been linked to the rising levels of child obesity all over the world. Yet, a number of recent studies have proposed various ways that text messaging could in fact be utilised to fight child obesity.

It has long been accepted that self-monitoring calorie intake and body weight is very important for successful, long-term weight loss. Yet in most cases, people who are trying to lose weight find it difficult to continue to observe and record their own eating behaviour over time.

A recent study conducted at the University of North Carolina in the USA has shown that texting may be an effective tool to help children monitor their eating habits. Researchers found that teen participants in the study who reported their eating and physical activity using text messages were more likely to continue monitoring their eating and exercise behaviour than those using a traditional diary. This may be because when participants in the study sent a text message, they immediately received an automated feedback message based on what they had reported.

Researchers at the University of Southern California in the USA are currently conducting a study in which each teen participant is hooked up to a "mobile body-area network" that includes a heart-rate monitor, a GPS satellite navigation unit, and a blood glucose meter. Each sensor is linked to a smartphone that sends the data to the university's computers, which process the information they receive. If the data suggests that a teenager has been sitting around too much, a stream of text messages are then sent, either urging them to do some exercise or putting them in touch with other participants for group activities.

It's still unclear whether or not text messaging is indeed the solution to fighting the rise in teen obesity. However, it is clear that something must be done to combat this alarming trend. If we want to fight obesity in the population as a whole, it is essential that we first begin by attacking the problem amongst children and teens. After all, they are our future.

1. Decide if the following sentences are true or false. Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- The way in which teenagers monitor their eating behaviour may be important.
- Both of the studies mentioned in the article have been completed.
- The writer of the article believes that texting is the best way to fight the rise in child obesity.
- The writer of the article thinks that it is also important to deal with obesity amongst adults.

2. Rewrite the following sentences without changing their original meaning.

- Researchers are conducting a study in which each teen participant is hooked up to a mobile body-area network.
Researchers are conducting a study by .
- It is clear that something must be done to combat this alarming trend.
It is clear that we .

3. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text. Use your own words as far as possible.

- Self-monitoring helps people to .
- Both of the studies described in the article investigated .

4. Choose the best meaning for each word.

- linked (paragraph 1)
a. suggested b. connected c. added
- monitoring (paragraph 3)
a. changing b. improving c. checking
- alarming (paragraph 5)
a. exciting b. frightening c. interesting

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An opinion essay:** Some people believe that mobile phones should be banned from schools. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- An opinion essay:** Do you think that text messaging could help you follow a healthy lifestyle? Why or why not?

Buying Adventures

From camel treks in Algeria to jeep tours of Afghanistan, an increasing number of travellers are now opting for adventure holidays which offer them thrilling and challenging experiences that they will never forget.

Traditionally, adventure holidays were primarily taken by young individual travellers who travelled on a low budget. Yet today, people of all ages are seeking out new and exciting ways to take a break from the routine of normal life. As a result, many tour operators offer specially designed tours that are dedicated to taking participants to remote and dangerous parts of the world. Many of these tours are extremely expensive. A trip to the Patagonia Wilderness in South America can cost around \$11,000 while those wishing to reach the summit of Mt. Everest are required to pay over \$25,000.

Adventure travellers are looking for a challenge and get satisfaction from taking risks and accomplishing something that many others will never achieve. They tend to go to places where very few people have ever considered going. When a country decides to welcome in travellers, it's the adventure travellers that are the first to arrive.

Adventure travellers often return from their trip feeling that they have undergone a life-changing experience. Many claim that the fact that they have successfully coped with such a challenging situation makes them more confident in their own ability to deal with any difficulty they may encounter in everyday life.

Yet not everyone agrees that adventure travel is a good thing. Environmental activists are increasingly concerned that the human desire to explore unfamiliar territory may in fact be very harmful to the environment. They suggest that carbon emissions resulting from a human presence in isolated areas like Antarctica may cause irreversible damage to the natural surroundings. However, despite these objections, humans continue to desire adventures. As more and more possibilities open up, including commercial space travel just around the corner, it would seem that adventure travel is here to stay.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- Adventure travellers today
 - are young
 - do not have a lot of money
 - often travel in groups
- Adventure travellers who return from their travels
 - are self-confident
 - find it difficult to return to everyday life
 - are unable to cope with challenging situations
- The writer believes that adventure travel
 - will become less popular
 - will not change
 - will continue to develop

2. Answer the questions.

- What attracts people to adventure travel?
- Why do environmentalists object to adventure travel?

3. Rewrite the following sentences without changing their original meaning.

- Those wishing to reach the summit of Mt. Everest are required to pay over \$25,000.
If you wish to reach the summit of Mt. Everest,
- Carbon emissions may cause damage to the natural surroundings.
The natural surroundings may

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean the opposite of:

- boring (paragraph 1)
- nearby (paragraph 2)
- very easy (paragraph 4)
- good for you (paragraph 5)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- A description:** Describe your ideal holiday.
- An opinion essay:** Would you like to go on an adventure holiday? Why or why not?

6 Exam Practice

The Death of Handwriting?

Today people are generally hammering away on a computer keyboard, texting on a mobile phone or twittering on a Blackberry. They are no longer writing by hand. So is penmanship simply an outdated and inefficient mode of communication or is there value in trying to preserve it?

At one time, writing clearly and quickly was essential to everything from public documents to personal letters. However today in the age of the e-mail and the text message, most people rarely need to write more than a shopping list or a short note.

Although handwritten communication is less widespread than it once was, many people continue to believe that the art of penmanship must be protected. They suggest we must continue to learn handwriting skills if we wish to be able to read all types of handwriting and thus maintain a direct connection with the past. For them, it is difficult to conceive of the possibility that a person might one day find his grandmother's diary and be unable to read it.

In addition, people note that a person's handwriting is distinctive and can be as personal as his voice or laugh. By preserving hand-written communication, they claim, we are also maintaining our connection with the unique qualities of individuals.

Interestingly, the development of the telephone, the computer and the text message have not completely removed the need to write by hand as many feared. In fact, it seems highly unlikely that handwritten communication will ever disappear completely since there is always the possibility of not having a computer available at a particular moment or that there will be a power failure and we will have to write down important information on a piece of paper. Even in today's technological world, the handwritten word is very much alive and well and it looks set to stay that way for a very long time to come.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- Handwritten communication ...
 - is less important than it used to be
 - has disappeared
 - is now used on a larger scale
- People who learn handwriting skills ...
 - will lose their connection with the past
 - will be able to read handwritten documents
 - will find it difficult to use computers
- Type-written communication is ...
 - less widespread than handwritten communication
 - unique
 - impersonal

2. Rewrite the following sentences without changing their original meaning.

- Handwritten communication is less widespread than it once was.
Handwritten communication is not ...
- The development of the telephone, the computer and the text message have not completely removed the need to write by hand.
The need to write by hand ...

3. Answer the questions.

- Why has handwritten communication become less widespread than it used to be?
- According to the writer, why is it unlikely that the handwritten word will ever disappear completely?

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- old-fashioned (paragraph 1)
- imagine (paragraph 3)
- keep (paragraph 3)
- unique (paragraph 4)
- improbable (paragraph 5)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- A narrative:** Imagine that you have just come across your grandmother's diary. Write a diary entry in which your grandmother describes something that happened to her on a particular day.
- An opinion essay:** "Computers have made the world a better place." Do you agree? Why or why not?

Reading 20 MARKS

Slow food

A When you walk along the main streets of any big city in the world, your eyes are assaulted by bright neon signs for shops and restaurants. In some places these businesses are locally owned, but increasingly the signs advertise globally-recognized fast food outlets: the 'golden arches' of McDonald's stretch from Kansas to Kazakhstan.

B There are many advantages to living in a global, 24-hour society. But although many of us enjoy the convenience of buying what we want when we want it, and the competition between outlets means that prices for the most popular products remain low, there is now a backlash against this trend. Slow Food is a growing movement of people who are unhappy about the globalization of our diet.

C The idea of 'slow food' was invented in Italy in 1986 when a group of food producers decided to promote healthy, local foods instead of tasteless international brands. The main aim of the Slow Food movement is to challenge the popularity of poor-quality fast food. Slow Food advises people to take time to prepare meals and to enjoy eating them too. It is also about retaining local foods and traditions. Imagine finding Kentucky Fried Chicken but no tapas in Spain; or visiting Italy only to find that spaghetti is no longer on the menu. Instead of buying a double cheeseburger and a cola, Slow Food asks you to eat at home, or in a traditional bar or restaurant, to enjoy a local dish prepared using high-quality ingredients. Slow Food isn't necessarily the cheapest option – but it's probably the tastiest way to eat.

1 Read the text. Are the sentences *True* or *False*? Give evidence for your answers. (8 marks)

- 1 Increasingly, businesses around the world are locally owned.
- 2 Fast food is cheap partly because companies compete with each other.
- 3 The Slow Food movement wants people to spend longer cooking.
- 4 Slow Food should only be eaten quietly at home.

STEPS TO READING SUCCESS

True or False sentences

- 1 Read the text first.
- 2 Read the True or False sentences carefully.
- 3 Do not assume that you already know the answer.
- 4 Find the key words from the True or False sentence in the text.
- 5 Check the sentence again when you think you have the answer.
- 6 Give evidence from the text.

2 Answer the questions in your own words. (4 marks)

- 1 What is good about living in a 24-hour society?
- 2 Is Slow Food a relatively expensive way of eating? Why? / Why not?

3 Find synonyms in the text for the following words. (4 marks)

- 1 attacked *paragraph A*
- 2 tendency *paragraph B*
- 3 to question *paragraph C*
- 4 keeping *paragraph C*

4 Complete the sentences with information from the text. Use your own words as much as you can. (4 marks)

- 1 The principle behind 'slow food' is
- 2 When cooking, the Slow Food movement says

Writing 20 MARKS

5 Choose one of the essay tasks. Write 80–120 words.

- 1 Describe your favourite place to have a coffee with friends.
- 2 Describe the advantages and disadvantages of having a globalized food industry.

Reading 20 MARKS

The power of the sea

A One day, the sea could wipe out most of the east coast of the USA and the north-west coast of Africa, and cause extensive damage to the western coasts of Spain, Portugal and the British Isles. All of this may happen the next time Cumbre Vieja erupts.

B Cumbre Vieja is the most active volcano in the Canaries. At any time from a year to two-thousand years in the future, the volcano will erupt and one side of the volcano will fall into the sea. This will generate a series of huge waves, called tsunamis, which will race across the Atlantic at speeds approaching 800 kilometres an hour.

C An hour after the eruption, mega-tsunamis 50 to 100 metres high and 600 kilometres wide would hit the north-west coast of Africa. The eastern half of La Palma would shield northern Europe from the worst tsunamis.

After three to six hours, smaller waves would arrive on the shores of Portugal, mainland Spain and the UK. About nine hours after the eruption, a dozen giant 25-metre-high waves would crash over the eastern coasts of North and South America and rush up to 30 kilometres inland, destroying houses, skyscrapers and bridges in their path. New York, Boston and Miami could disappear.

D Although Cumbre Vieja will erupt one day, we shouldn't panic. If world governments start funding essential seismic monitoring within the volcano, scientists will be able to accurately predict the timing and effects of the next eruption. Then people in the affected areas will have time to evacuate if necessary and this natural disaster won't become a human disaster as well.

1 Read the text and answer the questions in your own words. (4 marks)

- 1 Which area of Europe would be the least affected by the tsunamis? Why?
- 2 What must world governments do to protect us?

STEPS TO READING SUCCESS

Answer in your own words

- 1 Underline the key words in the question.
- 2 Scan the text to find the information.
- 3 Think of different ways of expressing the same idea as the text.
- 4 Write complete sentences. Do not copy whole phrases from the text.

2 Are the sentences True or False? Give evidence for your answers. (4 marks)

- 1 Waves travelling at 600 kilometres an hour would arrive on the north-west coast of Africa.
- 2 Scientists know exactly when Cumbre Vieja will erupt.

3 Find synonyms in the text for the following words. (5 marks)

- 1 destroy *paragraph A*
- 2 go fast *paragraph B*
- 3 protect *paragraph C*
- 4 coasts *paragraph C*
- 5 paying for *paragraph D*

4 Choose the correct option for sentences 1 and 2. Give evidence for your answers. (2 marks)

- 1 If the side of the volcano falls into the sea, the UK will ...
 - A shield the rest of northern Europe.
 - B arrive on the shores of Portugal.
 - C experience smaller waves than north-west Africa.
- 2 If the side of the volcano falls into the sea ...
 - A North America will not be affected.
 - B a lot of buildings will be destroyed.
 - C people will not be able to escape.

5 Summarize the text using your own words. Write 50 words. (5 marks)

Writing 20 MARKS

6 Choose one of the essay tasks. Write 80–120 words.

- 1 'Natural disasters are the greatest threat to humanity today.' Discuss.
- 2 You are a scientist based in La Palma. Write to the Spanish government to explain the importance of monitoring Cumbre Vieja and to ask for assistance.

Reading 20 MARKS

To smack or not to smack?

A In 2004, the British government changed the law on disciplining children. Now, parents are allowed to smack their children as long as they do not cause mental or physical damage or leave a mark. Critics say that the UK had its chance to ban smacking but failed to take it.

B Teachers in British state schools have been banned from smacking children since 1998, but parents were allowed to use 'reasonable' physical punishment until 2004. The problem was how to define 'reasonable'. Most loving parents only use discipline to help the child to learn and develop correctly. However, there have been cases of excessive punishment, which is why campaigners are demanding a stricter law to protect the rights of children.

C Children's rights supporters say that it is wrong to use violence to show children that they have been bad. They say that if you use violence, the child in turn becomes violent, and that children must be brought up in a loving environment.

D Many parents respond by saying that it is difficult to devise appropriate alternatives to corporal punishment. It may be worse for a parent to shout at or humiliate a child than to smack them. Anti-smackers answer that parents need to make the punishment fit the crime. For example, if a girl bullies another girl in the street, then they should forbid her to play in the street for two days.

E Opinions remain very divided. Some think that smacking children is as unacceptable as hitting your neighbour. Others argue that a smack doesn't really do a child any harm – it is a natural way to tell a child that certain behaviour is wrong.

1 Read the text and choose the correct option for sentences 1–3. Give evidence for your answers. (3 marks)

- 1 The British government has banned ...
 - A disciplining children.
 - B all smacking.
 - C harmful smacking.
- 2 Children's rights supporters think that ...
 - A children who are smacked will be aggressive.
 - B parents must be stricter.
 - C the law must help people to learn and develop.
- 3 Some parents say that ...
 - A smacking is always better than shouting.
 - B they must smack bullies.
 - C it is hard to think of different punishments.

STEPS TO READING SUCCESS

Multiple-choice questions

- 1 Read the text first.
- 2 Read all the options very carefully.
- 3 Compare the relevant section of the text in detail before you eliminate incorrect answers.
- 4 Do not worry if more than one option is true. Only select the answer that is correct according to the text.

2 Answer the questions in your own words. (4 marks)

- 1 What was the problem with the system that allowed 'reasonable' punishment?
- 2 What type of punishment is an alternative to corporal punishment?

3 Find synonyms in the text for the following words. (5 marks)

- 1 prohibit *paragraph A*
- 2 national *paragraph B*
- 3 invent *paragraph D*
- 4 physical *paragraph D*
- 5 uses strength to hurt or frighten *paragraph D*

4 Complete the sentences with information from the text. Use your own words. (4 marks)

- 1 Under the 2004 law, parents
- 2 Since 1998, it has been illegal

5 Summarize the text using your own words. Write 50 words. (4 marks)

Writing 20 MARKS

6 Choose one of the essay tasks. Write 80–120 words.

- 1 Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of banning corporal punishment in schools.
- 2 'Corporal punishment has no place for adults or children in a civilized society.' Discuss.

Reading 20 MARKS

Who stole my job?

A Tabloid newspapers often carry sensationalized stories about the UK being invaded by immigrants. But is the UK really being taken over by greedy foreigners?

B Since the Romans came two thousand years ago, the British Isles have seen influxes of people from all over the world. The Romans, Vikings, and Normans were followed more recently by thousands of people from the Caribbean, Asia and Africa, contributing to the exciting cultural mix that is modern Britain.

C Most immigrants hold valid visas and work permits, but not everyone is so lucky. Every year, millions of people have to leave their country because it is too dangerous for them to stay there. If they apply for asylum in the UK and their application is successful, they can live and work in the UK.

D Immigrants are often accused of taking jobs from British-born inhabitants. In fact, statistics show that immigrants contribute more money to their host countries than they receive. This stimulates the economy and more jobs are created.

E The UK's population is getting older, and there is a lack of skilled people in many public services. Furthermore, if the UK's population becomes more highly skilled, there will be more jobs that people do not want to do. One study predicts that we need to increase immigration by a fifth to prevent an economic crisis.

F Anyway, how can the British complain about immigrants when so many thousands of Britons choose to live abroad? And what would we be eating if it weren't for the rich cuisine that immigrants have brought to our country? For more than a decade, the most popular food in the UK has been curry – an Indian dish.

1 Read the text and answer the questions in your own words. (4 marks)

- 1 How do immigrants stimulate economic growth?
- 2 Is it fair for British people to complain about immigrants? Why? / Why not?

2 Rewrite the sentences. (8 marks)

- 1 I didn't apply for a visa. I can't go to the USA. If I had
- 2 **Officer:** 'Have you ever held a British passport?' She wanted to know
- 3 Immigrants start many new businesses every month. Many new
- 4 There are fewer refugees than legal immigrants. There aren't as

3 Find synonyms in the text for the following words. (3 marks)

- 1 ask for *paragraph C*
- 2 give *paragraph D*
- 3 cookery *paragraph F*

4 Summarize the text using your own words. Write 50 words. (5 marks)

Writing 20 MARKS

5 Choose one of the essay tasks. Write 80–120 words.

- 1 Write a biography of a person who has had to leave their country.
- 2 Imagine that a friend has gone to live in a foreign country. Write a letter asking about their new life and giving your news from home.

STEPS TO READING SUCCESS

Rewriting sentences

- 1 Think carefully about the grammar of the original sentence.
- 2 Rewrite the sentence using the correct grammar.
- 3 Check that the rewritten sentence has the same meaning as the first sentence.

Reading 20 MARKS

Are mobile phones too good to be true?

A Only ten years ago, if you were meeting your friends, you'd arrange the time and place beforehand. Today, thanks to mobile phones, the place or time can change as the meeting gets nearer. There are now
5 more than 1.5 billion mobile users around the world; mobiles are unstoppable. Or are they? The technology has at least three major flaws, only two of which have obvious solutions.

B Firstly, the use of mobile phones can be
10 dangerous. Even though it is illegal in many countries to use a mobile while driving, many people have died because they were using their phone in the car.

C Secondly, mobile phone masts are everywhere, and there'll be even more, about 32,000 in the UK,
15 when 3G (third generation) mobiles are the norm.

Luckily, these days, there are lots of ingenious ways to hide masts. In the countryside, one of the best ideas is to put the antennas inside tall artificial pine trees. In cities, hundreds of everyday objects such as church
20 towers now conceal antennas.

D Unfortunately, there is a third flaw of mobile phones that won't go away – and it could become a huge problem. Mobile phones and masts emit radiation of a type which could cause cancer. This
25 radiation is all around us – the same variety is also emitted by microwave ovens and cordless digital phones. There is as yet no incontrovertible evidence that mobiles cause cancer, but as time goes on some experts predict that this evidence will be found. And
30 when it is found, it could be the end of the mobile phone phenomenon.

1 Read the text and answer the questions in your own words. (4 marks)

- Which is probably the most serious problem with mobiles? Why?
- What does 'it could be the end of the mobile phenomenon' mean? Why does the author say this?

2 Find synonyms in the text for the following words. (7 marks)

- defects *paragraph A*
- clever *paragraph C*
- hide *paragraph C*
- man-made *paragraph C*
- very big *paragraph D*
- unquestionable *paragraph D*
- proof *paragraph D*

STEPS TO READING SUCCESS

Finding synonyms

- Are you looking for a noun, a verb, an adverb or an adjective?
- Is there a prefix or a suffix? The same prefixes or suffixes (including verb endings) may be repeated in the word you are looking for.
- Identify any possible matches in the paragraph.
- Check: do the words mean exactly the same?

3 Connect the two pairs of sentences using *which*. (4 marks)

- You were talking about a 3G phone. Is that it?
Is that ...
- My mobile is 3G. It can record video clips from the internet.
My mobile, ...

4 Summarize the text using your own words. Write 50 words. (5 marks)

Writing 20 MARKS

5 Choose one of the essay tasks. Write 80–120 words.

- You are the head teacher of a school. You have decided to ban mobile phones at the school. Write a letter explaining your decision to the parents of your students.
- Discuss some of the advantages and disadvantages of mobile phones.

A Hunt for the Ruyi

Touring a city usually means being taken round by a guide in a group or going to the famous sights on your own with the help of a guidebook. However, if you're planning on visiting Rome, there is now a new and entertaining way of seeing it. This new way turns a visit to the *Eternal City* into an exciting game with the use of a mobile phone and a guidebook known as *The Ruyi*, written by Alberto Toso Fei.

The game focuses on a hunt for the Ruyi, a mythical magic sceptre. In Fei's story, Marco Polo, the famous explorer, steals the sceptre from Kublai Khan, the Chinese emperor. To "find" the sceptre, players have to answer questions using clues sent as text messages to their mobile phones. By using the clues, players identify and then visit famous landmarks in the city, such as the Colosseum. They learn about the sights as the search for the Ruyi continues.

The entries in the guidebook that describe the places to visit cannot be understood without the help of a special code. To obtain the code, players have to send a text message to a phone number given in the guidebook. The code helps players make sense of the entry and identify the sight they will visit. When players reach the landmark, they receive another text message containing a question. The answer to this question can be found at the sight. Players text the correct reply and get a new code for the next sight. And so the hunt continues.

The clues can lead to any of 60 landmarks and monuments throughout Rome. The players visit both the famous sights of the city, as well as some lesser known ones that they might not visit on a normal tour of Rome. The game can last from two to nine hours, and may be played alone or in teams.

Of course, the Ruyi is never found. However, this shouldn't bother those who take part in the hunt for the mythical sceptre. The real treasure is experiencing a fun, new way to visit the *Eternal City*.

1. Choose the correct answer.

1. The *Eternal City* refers to
 - a. a new guidebook
 - b. Rome
 - c. an exciting game
2. The code helps players
 - a. read the text message
 - b. use their mobile phones
 - c. understand what's written in the guidebook
3. The game
 - a. may take up to nine hours to play
 - b. is always played in teams
 - c. cannot be played alone
4. According to the author, the true reward is
 - a. finding the Ruyi
 - b. enjoying a new way of touring Rome
 - c. visiting a landmark

2. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

1. fun (paragraph 1)
2. receive (paragraph 3)
3. find the answer (paragraph 3)
4. participate (paragraph 5)

3. Rewrite the sentences without changing their original meaning.

1. A visit to Rome becomes an exciting game through the use of a mobile phone and a guidebook.
A mobile phone and a guidebook
2. Entries in the guidebook cannot be understood without the help of a special code.
The players
3. Players text the correct reply and get a new code to move on to the next site.
Players move on by

4. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

1. A for and against essay: The advantages and disadvantages of going on an organised tour when travelling.
2. A description: Describe a city that you have visited.

2 Exam Practice

Car Clubs

A small two-door car, a family-sized saloon, a van or a petrol-electric hybrid? Most people don't change their car every day. But members of car-sharing schemes can select the car most suitable for their needs for every single journey they make.

Car-sharing schemes, or car clubs as they are known in Britain, now exist in over 600 cities worldwide. Although details vary, most clubs operate in roughly the same way. After their driving record is approved, members join by paying a fee. Then, usually by phone or over the Internet, they may book any car belonging to their scheme, collecting it from, and returning it to, any designated location. Often, the membership card itself unlocks the car. Payment is based on the time reserved and the kilometres driven.

Joining a club offers members many advantages. First, they usually save money, because they don't have to pay for insurance, maintenance or petrol. Second, many members find that their health improves; they often walk or cycle as an alternative to driving on short journeys. Third, parking is easier, as more cities reserve special spaces for car-club vehicles. Finally, there is prestige – clubs provide newer and better models of cars than many members could afford to own.

Car-sharing schemes also benefit society as a whole. One club claims that each of its 28 vehicles replaces the need for between five and eight privately owned cars, reducing carbon emissions by approximately 320 tons annually. Less traffic also lowers urban noise levels and the appearance of local neighbourhoods may improve too, as more gardens and fewer garages appear.

These schemes don't suit everyone. Some people need to know that their own car is waiting for them outside their home. Others who drive long distances for work may find that owning a private car is cheaper. But for drivers who don't mind putting a little thought into planning their journeys in order to help themselves and the environment, car clubs are an ideal solution.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- Members of car-sharing schemes ...
 - can select a suitable vehicle for every journey
 - make only single journeys in each car
 - don't get to choose the car
- Car-club members ...
 - must always pick up and return the car to the same place
 - are often able to reserve their car without entering an office
 - use a personal identification number to unlock the car door
- People who join car clubs ...
 - generally find it less expensive than owning a private car
 - usually get a discount on their car repairs and insurance
 - can often borrow bicycles as well as cars

2. Answer the question.

How do car clubs help the environment?

.....

.....

3. Rewrite the sentences without changing their original meaning.

- Car clubs provide new and better models of cars.
New and better models of cars
- Others find that owning a private car is cheaper.
Others find that it

4. Find words in the text that mean:

- more or less (paragraph 2)
- gives (paragraph 3)
- help (paragraph 4)
- less expensive (paragraph 5)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An opinion essay: What is your ideal means of transport? Give reasons.
- A for and against essay: The advantages and disadvantages of owning a car.

The Changing Face of Friendship

Making friends used to be a matter of going out and meeting people. Nowadays, thanks to Facebook, you can meet new people without having to leave the comfort of your computer chair.

Facebook was launched in 2004 by Mark Zuckerberg, a student at Harvard University who has since been described as "the youngest billionaire on Earth".

Membership was initially restricted to Harvard students. The site became an overnight success and was eventually opened up to the general public. Today, anyone over the age of 13 with a valid e-mail address can join Facebook. It's free to users, but makes a profit from online advertising.

When people sign up for Facebook, they create a personal profile and can choose to join one or more networks, for example, their school or workplace. Users can gain access to their friends' profiles and connect with them. Facebook users may also discover that they are only two or three clicks away from re-establishing contact with friends from the past.

Many kinds of friendships are maintained through Facebook, but some which are out of the ordinary may be formed as well. For example, you can make "friends" with people you have communicated with through e-mail but have never met in person. All you have to do is find their profiles on Facebook and ask them to be your "friends". People collect hundreds of "friends" and thereby give the impression that they are popular.

So, has Facebook changed the notion of what it is to be a friend? Once, you would choose your friends from amongst the people you saw regularly. They were those you had the most in common with and who you could share your feelings with. They were ready to help you and you were always ready to help them in return.

Is Facebook a sign of what will happen to society in the future? Will people give up the challenges of true friendship in favour of computer-generated relationships on sites such as Facebook? Virtual friends, after all, will never disappoint you.

1. Choose the correct answer.

1. In the early days of Facebook, ...
 - a. anyone could join
 - b. only Mark Zuckerberg's friends could register
 - c. only people who studied at Harvard could register
2. A friend on Facebook ...
 - a. is always someone you've met
 - b. may be someone that you've never met
 - c. is always someone that you meet regularly

2. Rewrite the sentences without changing their original meaning.

1. Facebook was launched in 2004 by Mark Zuckerberg. He was a student at Harvard University.
Mark Zuckerberg, who
2. Zuckerberg has been described as "the youngest billionaire on Earth."
People

3. Answer the question.

How is making friends today different from how it was in the past?

.....

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

1. started (paragraph 2)
2. at no cost (paragraph 3)
3. register (paragraph 4)
4. unusual (paragraph 5)
5. idea (paragraph 6)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

1. A for and against essay: The advantages and disadvantages of making friends on Facebook.
2. An opinion essay: Does real friendship mean spending time with people face-to-face? Explain.

4 Exam Practice

Checking Spellcheckers

English spelling is very difficult. This is a problem that faces not only non-native speakers but many native speakers as well.

Why is English spelling so problematic? Many English words are spelt differently from the way that they sound, such as the word “laugh”. There are also many homophones, which are words that sound the same but are spelt differently, for example, “right” and “write”. In addition, there are words which contain silent letters, for instance the letter “k” in the word “know”. For these reasons, the only way to improve your spelling in English is to memorise all the words that are difficult to spell.

Computer spellcheckers should have solved spelling problems. They detect misspelt words and, in certain cases, even correct them automatically. However, spellcheckers are far from perfect. When they cannot automatically correct a word, they give users a list of alternative words to choose from. This is helpful as long as users know which word they are looking for, or if the intended word is on the list. In addition, computer spellcheckers will only spot an error if the word doesn't exist in their word banks. For instance, if you type “Eye did knot go the write weigh”, spellcheckers will not be able to detect any of the mistakes. Although all the words in this sentence are spelt correctly, it makes no sense.

However, technology may now have found a way of solving these problems. A hi-tech company, Ginger Software, has developed a program that doesn't just spot mistyped words, but also uses context and grammatical structure to correct mistakes. Its developers have tried to make its working processes as close to those of natural language as possible. If it's successful, Ginger Software's new program should be able to find the errors in the sentence “Eye did knot go the write weigh”, and correct it to “I did not go the right way”.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- A homophone is a word
 - that is spelt the same as another word
 - that sounds different from another word
 - that sounds the same as another word
- A spellchecker
 - can automatically correct all mistakes
 - will identify spelling mistakes
 - helps you memorise difficult words
- The new program is unique because it
 - detects words used out of context
 - automatically corrects misspelt words
 - memorises words that are difficult to spell

2. Rewrite the sentences without changing their original meaning.

- Computer spellcheckers should have solved the problem.
The problem
- Spellcheckers will only spot an error if the word doesn't exist in their word banks.
Unless the word

3. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- have got (paragraph 2)
- detect (paragraph 3)
- for example (paragraph 3)
- similar (paragraph 4)

4. Answer the question.

Why can't regular spellcheckers always help people to spell correctly?

.....

.....

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An opinion essay:** Do you think it's important to have English spelling tests? Explain why or why not.
- An opinion essay:** What aspect of learning English is the most difficult for you? Explain.

Mickey Mouse Degrees

Students usually go to university to obtain a degree in physics, economics or history. But in Britain, it's now possible to get a university degree in less traditional subjects, including equestrian studies, aromatherapy and the unusual mixture of outdoor adventure with philosophy.

These degrees are known informally as "Mickey Mouse" degrees. Taken from the name of the cartoon character, anything termed "Mickey Mouse" is considered lightweight or amateurish. In Britain, the term also has more negative connotations, and may be used to describe something of inferior quality. But are these degrees, often offered at newly created universities, really inferior to degrees in more conventional subjects from more established universities?

People in favour of these degrees say that society benefits from having a large number of university graduates in any field because studying promotes a love of learning and respect for education. They also claim that these new courses require serious study. For example, surfing studies includes meteorology, biology and business.

In addition to the social benefits, there are also financial ones. University graduates generally earn more, which is good for the economy. Proponents claim that these new degrees are responding to demands from students and employers. Specific training enables graduates to find jobs easily and companies are confident that they will employ people with the essential skills. For example, graduates with golf management degrees can work in the sports and leisure industry.

However, opponents of these degrees claim that training in fields like floristry design or baking technology should be acquired both on the job and at technical schools; universities exist to further knowledge rather than to help people find jobs. They say that politicians want to increase the number of university graduates, and opening these "Mickey Mouse" courses achieves this without maintaining high educational standards. They also argue that if these degrees were abolished, more scholarship money would be available to those studying "real" university subjects.

So, are Mickey Mouse degrees a helpful innovation or a waste of time? Before we make up our minds, perhaps we should remember that many academic subjects which are respected today were criticised when they first appeared – including English literature, when it was first taught at an English university in 1828.

1. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

1. A "Mickey Mouse" degree is perceived as inferior.
.....
.....
2. Mickey Mouse degrees don't give students any specific skills they need for jobs.
.....
.....
3. Opponents of Mickey Mouse degrees think that baking skills shouldn't be studied.
.....
.....

2. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text.

1. Employers are pleased with graduates of Mickey Mouse degrees because
2. Politicians are in favour of Mickey Mouse courses because

3. Answer the question.

Why does the writer mention English literature?

.....
.....

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

1. combination (paragraph 1)
2. not serious (paragraph 2)
3. area of study (paragraph 3)
4. important (paragraph 4)
5. decide (paragraph 6)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

1. An opinion essay: Is a Mickey Mouse degree a waste of time? Explain your answer.
2. An opinion essay: The purpose of studying at university is to get a job. Do you agree or disagree? Explain.

6 Exam Practice

More than Just Clothes

Imagine the following scene: a firefighter runs into a blazing building to save the people trapped inside. Back at the command centre, his vital signs are being monitored and GPS readings indicate his exact positioning in the building. This will soon be a reality because of a new, state-of-the-art uniform that contains hi-tech fabrics which can transmit this vital information.

The European Commission has invested €50 million to develop these smart fabrics and interactive textiles. The technology, which was initially developed in the United States, has been adopted by the EU in order to save the European textile industry, which has been badly affected by competition from Asian markets.

University researchers, hi-tech companies and textile manufacturers are working together throughout the EU to produce models of smart-fabric items. These include a shirt that can check the heart rate of cardiac patients and sports clothes that can monitor an athlete's breathing with the use of microcomputers and solar panels.

One of the main problems at the moment, however, is the limited market for such products. Smart fabrics could be most beneficial in the medical field, where they could save many lives each year. However, it could take up to ten years for each product to become an approved medical device.

A further problem is the cost of these products. How much will a family be able and willing to pay for a baby suit that can detect sudden infant death syndrome? This type of product could potentially prevent a terrible tragedy from occurring, yet how many parents will actually be able to afford it?

Most of the developers' hopes for promoting hi-tech clothing are with the sports industry. The huge amount of advertising by popular sportswear companies and the employment of well-known sports stars to advertise their products means that this industry could easily persuade consumers to accept these expensive new technologies. Developers, therefore, are considering adapting the smart-clothes technology for rescue workers to the world of sport. Who knows? In another few years, your tracksuit might do a lot more than help you enjoy a run in the park.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- Inside the command centre, ...
 - a firefighter is saving people
 - a firefighter is monitoring his vital signs
 - it's possible to know where a firefighter is located in a burning building
- A shirt is being developed that can ...
 - help people who have got heart problems
 - help people run faster
 - monitor breathing

2. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- Smart fabrics were originally developed in the United States.
.....
.....
- The writer questions whether high-tech baby suits will actually save lives.
.....
.....

3. Answer the questions.

- What are the problems of smart-fabric items?
.....
.....
- Why do the developers of smart-fabric items think that the sports industry is the best field in which to promote their products?
.....
.....

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- important (paragraph 1)
- at first (paragraph 2)
- helpful (paragraph 4)
- stop from happening (paragraph 5)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An opinion essay:** Do you think it's fair when famous people are employed to advertise products? Explain why or why not.
- An opinion essay:** Do you believe that monitoring an athlete with smart clothes technology is an invasion of privacy? Explain your answer.

Nature's Way to Feeling Better

Do you feel better after going for a walk in the park or watching a beautiful sunset? If so, you may be unknowingly using your own form of "ecotherapy", an approach designed to improve emotional health by reconnecting people with nature and the environment.

The field of ecopsychology, which first became popular in the United States in the 1990s, argues that humans are an integral part of the world of nature and should not be separated from it. Their emotional health may suffer if they are cut off from nature by urbanisation or other aspects of modern life. In addition, the guilt people feel from the human destruction of nature may cause emotional distress.

From this movement grew ecotherapy, offering strategies to strengthen people's relationship with nature. These range from the sophisticated to the simple. For example, learning to survive alone in the wilderness can build confidence, but even a simple walk outdoors can also be effective. Some therapies involve animals: swimming with dolphins, interacting with your pet or watching a tropical fish tank are all beneficial. Even looking at a picture of an outdoor scene can help, too.

One study in the United Kingdom was designed to measure the mood, self-esteem and enjoyment of 20 people after taking two different walks, one inside a shopping centre and the other outside in a park. The results showed that self-esteem increased significantly after the outdoor walk, while tension and depression decreased. In contrast, many people felt worse after the walk in the shopping centre. One UK mental-health charity is now proposing that ecotherapy be made more readily available for mental-health patients, as it already is in Holland and Norway.

So if you're feeling a bit low, you may not need anti-depressants or costly therapy. First, try riding your bike or walking on the beach. These activities will certainly be good for your physical health, and may boost your morale, too.

1. Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

1. Ecotherapy can benefit people even if they are unaware that they are using it.

.....

2. Ecotherapy strategies always involve outdoor activities.

.....

3. A UK study found that a walk through a shopping centre decreased depression.

.....

2. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text.

1. In Norway and Holland

2. The writer believes that instead of

3. Rewrite the sentences without changing their original meaning.

1. Swimming with dolphins is beneficial.
 It's beneficial

2. Learning to survive alone in the wilderness can build confidence.
 Confidence

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

1. make better (paragraph 1)
2. separated from (paragraph 2)
3. basic (paragraph 3)
4. sad (paragraph 5)
5. expensive (paragraph 5)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

1. **An opinion essay:** Do you think that ecotherapy could help people your age? Why or why not?

2. **An opinion essay:** What's your ideal outdoor activity? Explain why.

Guilt-Free Carbon

More and more people today understand that carbon emissions are a problem for the atmosphere. Many people are genuinely concerned about the environment and would like to reduce the amount of energy consumption they're responsible for, but certain lifestyle changes, such as giving up flying and driving, are simply impractical.

In order to help these people to help the environment, some new companies now enable businesses and individuals to "buy" the right to emit carbon. Essentially, consumers pay these companies to counter-balance their carbon use by investing in projects that benefit the environment. These may include promoting renewable energy sources such as solar power, or planting trees in poor countries to help absorb carbon from the air.

Although the basic principle seems logical, it has been criticised by some environmentalists on philosophical grounds. Each household in the United States is said to be responsible for approximately six tons of harmful gas emissions every year, and some experts believe these people should make the effort to reduce their energy consumption. However, there's practical criticism as well. With little regulation, it's hard to know if the companies are actually doing as they promised. Another concern focuses on the possibility that the same offset may be sold to more than one customer.

The idea of cleaning up "carbon footprints" (i.e., the impact of human activity on the environment in terms of carbon use) is growing in popularity in the Western world. One indication is the number of products and events that now advertise themselves as "carbon-neutral" or "clean" because managers have paid to negate the impact of the gases emitted. Another indication is the plan for a US airport to allow interested passengers to purchase offsets for the environmental damage caused by their flight.

It's still too early to judge if this trend is mainly a way to ease guilt caused by over-using energy, or a realistic way of helping the planet. However, one thing is certain – we should all remember to do as much as we can to clean up our carbon footprints.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- Most people in the developed world ...
 - are unaware that they can reduce production of dangerous gases
 - usually find it easy to make changes such as giving up flying
 - generally want to try to reduce the amount of carbon they emit
- The carbon offset industry ...
 - has been established by a number of businesses and individuals
 - allows consumers to compensate the environment for carbon use
 - essentially benefits energy consumers in developing countries

2. Find words in the text that mean:

- not realistic (paragraph 1)
- dangerous (paragraph 3)
- worry (paragraph 3)
- buy (paragraph 4)
- reduce (paragraph 5)

3. Answer the question.

Why has the carbon offset industry been criticised?

.....

.....

4. Rewrite the sentences without changing their original meaning.

- The idea has been criticised by some environmentalists on philosophical grounds.

Some environmentalists

- Is this a realistic way of helping the planet?

Is this a realistic way to

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An opinion essay:** Should energy consumers be required by law to offset their carbon emission? Give reasons for your answer.
- A formal letter:** Write a letter to your local council in which you complain about environmental problems in your town and what you would like to do about them.

Tough Love

When Jane Hambleton bought a car for her son Steven, 19, she set two rules; no alcohol in the car, and keep the car locked. But soon she placed this advertisement in the local newspaper: "Totally uncool parents who obviously don't love teenage son, selling his car. Only driven for three weeks before snoopy mom who needs to get a life found booze under front seat. \$3,700/offer. Call meanest mom on the planet."

While teenagers may agree that Jane was "mean", many adults approved of this public demonstration of "tough love", a type of discipline where harsh measures are used to help people modify dangerous or unacceptable behaviour. The term was first used by Phyllis and David York in 1979 to describe their uncompromising attitude towards their daughter when her bad behaviour culminated in an arrest for armed robbery. They didn't allow her to return home until she had completed a drug rehabilitation programme and found a job.

From this incident, the Tough Love movement was born. For just a nominal fee, parents are able to tap into a support system and attend meetings, where they are encouraged to "take a stand" (set a long-term goal) and enforce a "bottom line" (behaviour that will eventually lead to the realisation of the stand). Even parents who don't formally join this network often use some of its techniques, as do several programmes dealing with drug abuse and criminal activity. But the method can be abused. Some summer camps in the US claiming to use tough love to discipline troubled teenagers have seen tragic results. Because they often dismiss signs of physical illness as weakness or manipulation, there have been disturbing incidents of neglect.

So, was Jane Hambleton right to sell her son's car? She insists that she was, and that in placing her advertisement, she has instantly raised awareness of two important issues – the drink-driving problems among teens, and the importance of proper parental discipline.

1. Choose the correct answer.

1. Jane Hambleton ...
 - a. left booze in her son's car
 - b. was called the "meanest mom" by teenagers
 - c. disciplined her son by showing tough love
2. Some camps in the United States ...
 - a. have abused tough love in their summer programs
 - b. won't use tough love if teens are physically ill
 - c. dismiss tough love as a form of weakness
3. Jane Hambleton's advertisement ...
 - a. established her right to sell her son's car
 - b. caused people to think about teenage drink-driving
 - c. hasn't raised awareness of parental discipline

2. Answer the question.

How did the Tough Love movement get its name?

.....

.....

3. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text.

1. Today, the use of tough love can be found

.....

2. Some incidents of neglect

.....

4. Find words in the text that mean:

1. nosy (paragraph 1)
2. not kind (paragraph 2)
3. severe (paragraph 2)
4. minimal (paragraph 3)
5. justified (paragraph 4)
6. increased (paragraph 4)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

1. **A for and against essay:** Explain the advantages and disadvantages of tough-love tactics.
2. **An opinion essay:** Do you think Jane Hambleton was justified in placing the advertisement? Explain why or why not.

Think Ecotourism

Tom was really excited – at least for a short time. Last night, his parents came home and announced that the family was going on holiday to an island that is famous for its waves. Immediately, images of a luxurious hotel, with its own private beach, came to Tom’s mind. Sadly for him, this was not to be. Their accommodation was going to be in a “homestay” – living together with a local family. Tom’s parents explained to him that tourism consumes massive amounts of energy and is a huge contributor to the destruction of our planet. For this reason, they will use transport and services that use less energy, thereby reducing environmental damage. They assured him that this was the only way to minimise their carbon footprint (the amount of carbon emissions each of us creates). Tom and his family are going to be ecotourists.

Ecotourism means travelling to isolated areas where tourists can enjoy the scenery, wildlife and local culture, while at the same time improving the lives of the local people and helping conserve the environment. Tourists stay in environmentally-friendly accommodation or live with the locals in a homestay. There, they can choose to unwind and take in the local sites or go out into the fields to help harvest the crops. In this way, both the tourists and the locals exchange something more significant than just money.

Interestingly, ecotourism has now become so popular that it is not uncommon to see luxury ecotourism packages advertised, promising all the luxuries of an expensive holiday with the added benefit of knowing that you are doing your bit to save the planet. So, if you want to travel like Tom and his family, reduce your carbon footprint, and still ensure that you are travelling both comfortably and responsibly, check out the destinations listed on the International Ecotourism Society website. And if that doesn’t work for you, you can always ride your bike to the nearest national park and simply pitch your tent there.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- If you stay in a “homestay”, you always ...
 - relax and take in the local sites
 - work in the fields
 - stay in the home of a local family
- The International Ecotourism Society website has ...
 - a list of environmentally-friendly travel destinations
 - information about Tom and his family
 - luxury holiday packages advertised

2. Decide if the following sentences are T (True) or F (False). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- 1. Our planet is being damaged by the tourist industry.
.....
.....
- 2. Local people benefit from ecotourism.
.....
.....
- 3. Ecotourism means staying in simple accommodation.
.....
.....

3. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- huge (paragraph 1)
- relax (paragraph 2)
- unusual (paragraph 3)
- examine (paragraph 3)

4. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text.

- Tom must have been disappointed when
- Carbon footprints are the result of

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An opinion essay:** What is your ideal holiday? Give reasons.
- A for and against essay:** The advantages and disadvantages of an ecotourism holiday.

2 Exam Practice

Where Have All the Grandparents Gone?

After their second freezing winter in Manchester, retired teacher Colin and his wife Angela made a life-changing decision. They would say goodbye to the UK, their family and friends, and start a new life in the sun. After checking out a few alternatives, a decision was made to move to a small village in the South of France. Colin explains, "Once I'd retired, I found it really expensive being at home all day. My heating bills soared and I felt trapped in the gloomy English climate."

Colin and Angela are two British pensioners, out of more than three million, who have chosen somewhere else in Europe to live, mainly in Spain and the South of France. The rising cost of living and the bad climate in the UK are the main reasons for their leaving. With the emergence of the European Union, all European pensioners could move if they wanted to and still receive their pensions. However, it seems that this is a phenomenon typical of British pensioners. Consequently, estate agents in Spain and France actively target them, selling them the dream of a "life in the sun". There are some towns on the Costa del Sol in Spain where it is hard to find a Spanish speaker, and fish and chip shops and golf courses are everywhere.

British retirees are generally received with enthusiasm since much of the local economy is dependent on the newcomers' money. British pensioners, who are looking for an authentic French village or a livelier town under the Spanish sun, can find one at a bargain price, while still receiving their British pensions. It seems that it is now up to the British travel agents to target the grandchildren – "Holidays in France and Spain at unbelievable prices, with a trip to visit Grandma and Grandpa thrown in, too!"

1. Choose the correct answer.

- Colin and Angela decided to leave the UK because ...
 - Colin wanted to teach in a small village in the South of France
 - life in England was too expensive and cold
 - they were retired
- Three million British pensioners ...
 - live in Spain and the South of France
 - left the UK because of the bad climate
 - live elsewhere in Europe

2. Complete these sentences using the information given in the text.

- All European pensioners have the right to
- As this is a British phenomenon,

3. Find words or expressions in the text that mean the opposite of:

- decreased (paragraph 1)
- bright (paragraph 1)
- disappearance (paragraph 2)

4. Rewrite the sentence without changing its original meaning.

The rising cost of living and the bad climate are the reasons for their leaving.

They left

5. Decide if the following sentences are T (True) or F (False). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- British pensioners receive their pensions while living outside of England.
.....
- Housing in Spain and in the South of France is more affordable than in the UK.
.....
- British travel agents are offering holidays to Spain with a free trip to visit the grandparents.
.....

6. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- A dialogue:** Write a dialogue between Colin and Jack, a recent British retiree who is planning to move to the South of France.
- An interview:** Write an interview between an estate agent and a British pensioner who wants to buy a house in the Costa del Sol.

Sport for Peace and More

The scene was a familiar one – a basketball match. Like in any such event, the tension could be felt in the air. Everyone took a deep breath as Ruba stood ready to shoot. She stood, aimed and effortlessly shot the ball into the hoop. There was an enthusiastic cheer as the crowd expressed their joy. However, this was more than just another match. This was the realisation of a young Iraqi girl's dream – to be just like everyone else and to have the opportunity to play sport.

Sports lessons, tournaments and camps are a part of a child's normal everyday life in the developed world. Whether a child chooses to participate or not, they have endless opportunities. Yet, in much of the developing world, where war is too often the norm, sport is not always part of a child's reality.

Sport for Peace, run by UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), understands that sport can be a method for change in areas of conflict and hardship. They assert on their website that: "Sport is a powerful tool to strengthen social ties and networks, and to promote ideals of peace, fraternity, solidarity, non-violence, tolerance and justice."

In El Salvador, where tensions have long existed with neighbouring Honduras, a Sport for Peace programme was set up to encourage greater participation in physical education and sport, in order to put a stop to violence, drug use and hatred. And in Mozambique, a country where talking about AIDS is taboo, a sports programme was also set up to provide information about HIV and AIDS. The participants were provided with unique sporting opportunities and educational sessions about AIDS prevention and treatment.

With numerous other such projects and organisations using sport to encourage cooperation, friendship and peace, it goes without saying that sport can do more than simply produce a healthy body and mind.

1. Choose the correct answer.

1. The crowd was very enthusiastic because ...
 - a. Ruba was their favourite basketball player
 - b. Ruba was like everyone else
 - c. Ruba's participation was the realisation of a dream
2. Children in the developed world ...
 - a. have many sporting opportunities
 - b. have to go to camp
 - c. don't like to belong to a sports team
3. The Sport for Peace programme in El Salvador ...
 - a. caused a war with Honduras
 - b. sent players to Honduras
 - c. aimed to reduce violence and drug use

2. Decide if the following sentences are T (True) or F (False). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- 1. A sports programme was established in Mozambique to promote AIDS awareness.
.....
.....
- 2. The writer believes that sport doesn't really contribute to promoting peace.
.....
.....

3. Rewrite the sentences without changing their original meaning.

1. A Sport for Peace programme was set up to encourage greater participation in physical education and sport.
Greater participation
2. In Mozambique, talking about AIDS is taboo.
It is

4. Find words in the text that mean:

1. without difficulty (paragraph 1)
2. go on and on (paragraph 2)
3. to make stronger (paragraph 3)
4. established (paragraph 4)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

1. **An opinion essay:** Do you agree that sport can bring about change in everybody's life? Explain the reasons for your answer.
2. **An interview:** Interview Ruba about her experiences playing basketball and her trip to the USA.

4 Exam Practice

Coober Pedy – White Man’s Hole in the Ground

After a gruelling 850 km drive from Adelaide, with virtually nothing to look at but the Australian desert, or the “Outback” as the locals like to call it, you eventually reach Coober Pedy, the opal capital of the world.

Following the discovery of massive quantities of precious opal gemstones by Willie Hutchinson in 1915, fortune seekers from all over the country came to this isolated area in search of the valuable, colourful stones that would make them rich. Armed with little more than a pick and shovel, these early miners began tunnelling underground. Word spread fast, and Coober Pedy, or “White Man’s Hole in the Ground”, as the local Aborigines called it, was founded.

At first glance, the town looks almost deserted, with nothing but a few shacks, the occasional bush and a small number of trees. Scattered over the landscape are tall pipes that operate as ventilation spouts, providing oxygen to the people living and working underground.

With temperatures of over 40 degrees in summer and as low as 6 degrees in winter, the weather conditions can make life above ground unbearable. As a result, the early settlers decided that they would stay underground 24 hours a day, where temperatures remained comfortable all year. Over time, abandoned mines were converted into homes, known as “dugouts”, which is where most of the locals live to this day.

The opal capital of the world is not a pretty place, yet it is well worth a visit. So, if you want to experience life in an underground town, and pick up a few opals while you are there, I strongly recommend a stay in Coober Pedy, in the middle of the Australian nowhere.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- The “Outback” refers to ...
 - Coober Pedy
 - the Australian desert
 - the road from Adelaide to Coober Pedy
- Willie Hutchinson ...
 - was an Aborigine
 - was discovered in 1915
 - uncovered large deposits of opals in the area
- Which of the following is essential to the people of Coober Pedy?
 - trees
 - ventilation spouts
 - shacks

2. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- exhausting (paragraph 1)
- a solitary place (paragraph 2)
- abandoned (paragraph 3)
- severe and physically uncomfortable (paragraph 4)

3. Decide if the following sentences are T (True) or F (False). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- 1. “White Man’s Hole in the Ground” was the name given to the town by Willie Hutchinson.

.....

.....

- 2. The tall pipes are essential for life underground.

.....

.....

4. Answer the question.

Why is the isolated town of Coober Pedy still attractive to visitors?

.....

.....

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- A for and against essay:** The advantages and disadvantages of living underground.
- A description:** Describe a town or city that you have visited.

Presenting the Mockumentary

It was 8 pm on Sunday, 30th October 1938, and millions of Americans were sitting around their wirelesses listening to a radio show, when it appeared to be interrupted by a news broadcast. Listeners were told that “a huge flaming object” had fallen from the sky onto a farm in New Jersey, and aliens from another planet were exiting what appeared to be a spaceship. The nation panicked. The broadcast was so lifelike that it seemed to actually be happening.

In fact, the broadcast was a radio play, adapted from H.G. Wells’ 1898 novel, *The War of the Worlds*. The location had been changed, but the story was still that of a Martian invasion of Earth. Orson Welles, the creator, was accused of purposely causing nationwide panic. However, what he was really aiming to do was to produce a new style of entertainment which would blur the line between reality and fiction. This genre would later become known as the mockumentary.

Mockumentaries appear to be documentaries relating real-life events interspersed with interviews. Initially, the audience may think that what they are witnessing is real, but the often outrageous content ultimately makes it clear that it is, in fact, a fictional representation.

One of the best examples of this genre is the British TV series *The Office*, which portrays the daily running of a paper company in an ordinary English town. At first glance, the manager, David Brent, is seemingly professional, but the viewer soon realises that he’s completely unprofessional, and his staff is unmotivated and ordinary. The scenarios that arise in the workplace are both embarrassing and hilarious.

The genius of this show, and other successful mockumentaries, is the combination of clever scriptwriting along with improvisations by talented actors, and the use of seemingly hidden cameras that record events as they “unfold”. This is achieved through the use of satire, while pushing the traditional boundaries of film making. However, if the audience misses the opening credits, they may mistakenly believe that they are watching the news, which could once again result in panic.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- Wirelesses (line 1) refer to ...
 - computers without wires
 - huge flaming objects
 - radios
- On Sunday, 30th October 1938, many people thought they were listening to ...
 - a mockumentary
 - a news broadcast
 - a weather forecast
- Many people panicked because ...
 - they were convinced aliens had landed
 - aliens were about to land
 - aliens had landed

2. Decide if the following sentences are T (True) or F (False). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- The War of the Worlds* was originally a radio play.
.....
- Mockumentaries appear to be documentaries, but are in fact fictional.
.....
- The Office* is not a good example of a mockumentary.
.....

3. Complete the sentences using the information given in the text.

- An English paper company is
- Unless the audience

4. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- realistic (paragraph 1)
- make unclear (paragraph 2)
- shocking (paragraph 3)
- limits (paragraph 5)

5. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An opinion essay: In your opinion, are mockumentaries a good form of entertainment? Explain why or why not.
- A for and against essay: What are the advantages and disadvantages of watching a mockumentary?

6 Exam Practice

The Chooky Dancers

Ten young Aboriginal men, covered in white facial paint and dressed in traditional clothes, are on stage. The crowd is quiet and respectful as they wait for the men to begin a traditional Aboriginal dance depicting a tale from the "Dreamtime" – the Aboriginal story of creation. A techno version of the theme song from the 1964 film *Zorba the Greek* begins to play, surprising the audience. They go wild, watching the dancers moving to the music. This fusion of Aboriginal and Greek cultures is both innovative and hilarious. Unknown to everyone, this is the start of something big for the Chooky Dancers of Elcho Island, located off the coast of Arnhem Land, in the Northern Territory of Australia.

Dance, used for telling stories about Dreamtime, has always been an important aspect of Aboriginal culture. For Aborigines, Dreamtime was when the world was created by massive creatures that looked like animals, plants and insects. As the creatures roamed the world in search of food and water, they created the mountains, valleys and plains. These mythical creatures then passed on their wisdom to the Aborigines, who protected their heritage and traditional way of life through various ceremonies, songs and dances still practised to this day.

For young people growing up in remote parts of Australia, such as Elcho Island, their heritage is very important. However, they are not cut off from other cultures. Modern technologies, such as the Internet, with its ability to reach the most remote places on the planet, have exposed the Aborigines to other cultures and vice versa. In 2007, the world was introduced to the Chooky Dancers, who uploaded their version of *Zorba the Greek* onto YouTube. Their success was instantaneous – "These boys came from nowhere, and after 12 months they are celebrities themselves," – explained their manager, Frank Djirrimbilpilwuy.

The magic of the Chooky Dancers is their ability to combine traditional Aboriginal dance with music and dance styles from other cultures. They are also very funny to watch. The Chooky Dancers' success has given young Aboriginal teenagers throughout Australia a sense of pride and enthusiasm.

1. Choose the correct answer.

- The audience is going wild because ...
 - they love techno music
 - they love the film *Zorba the Greek*
 - the performance is both unexpected and humorous
- The dancers ...
 - expected to become famous
 - didn't know that they were about to become famous
 - were famous in Greece

2. Decide if the following sentences are T (True) or F (False). Find evidence in the text to justify your answers.

- Aborigines believe that massive creatures created the "Dreamtime".
.....
.....
- Mythical creatures gave their knowledge to the Aborigines.
.....
.....
- People on Elcho Island are not exposed to other cultures.
.....
.....

3. Complete the sentence using the information given in the text.

By uploading their video onto YouTube,

4. Answer the question.

According to the writer, what is the Chooky Dancers' greatest success?

5. Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- combination (paragraph 1)
- funny (paragraph 1)
- travelled (paragraph 2)
- isolated (paragraph 3)

6. Write a composition of about 100-150 words in your notebook. Choose ONE option.

- An informal letter:** Write a letter to a friend describing an unusual performance that you have seen recently.
- An opinion essay:** Do you prefer live performances or listening to music CDs? Explain your answer.

Learn to communicate

To be fluent in several languages is no longer considered a rare talent, but a necessity to succeed and communicate in the world in which we now live. Many people believe that once you are past childhood, learning a new language is too difficult. This is not true.

- Whether you want to learn English, French, Spanish or Polish there are schools and courses geared for your needs and specifically aimed at adult learning. Adult learning is pro-active; you are involved with the language from the beginning and encouraged to talk, whatever your ability. There are a variety of methods available.

- Total immersion involves studying for at least two weeks in the country where the language is spoken. The aim of the immersion is to allow students to live and breathe the new language 24 hours a day. There are also structured classes based on direct audiovisual methods where the emphasis is on letting the language and the culture soak in. Total immersion courses vary in length, but beginners can often achieve a high level of communication skills, even after a short period.

- A foreign language can also be learned in students' native countries at schools which have trained native-language speakers. Another popular method is home-study or self-teaching. Home-study videos, cassettes and books can all greatly improve language skills with highly structured programmes.

Whatever your needs may be, there is a course out there for you. Unlock the key to another country's culture or business - *it's never been easier.*

A Answer the following questions in your own words as far as possible.

- 1 According to the text, learning a foreign language is too difficult for most people when they are adults. Justify your answer with words from the text. (1 mark)
- 2 Explain the meaning of the phrase 'total immersion'. (1 mark)
- 3 Apart from 'total immersion' what other methods of language learning does the text describe? Write 50–70 words. (2 marks)

B Find a word or expression in the text which means the following: (1 mark)

- 1 directed
- 2 permit
- 3 finish successfully
- 4 make better

C Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in capitals. (2 marks)

- 1 What impressed them most was his ... English. FLUENCY
- 2 What's wrong with Peter? He's not very ... today. COMMUNICATION
- 3 I'm afraid he won't be ... to pass the exam. ABILITY
- 4 Mary did not register for the Polish course because it was too ... LENGTH

D Write a 50–70 word summary of the text in your own words. (3 marks)

New technology in the classroom

The classroom is in semidarkness, illuminated only by computer screens.

The screens show symbols, video images and text. The computers speak directly to the pupils through headphones, electronically encouraging, correcting or congratulating them. Patrolling the classroom is a 'facilitator', the new name to describe a teacher.

5 This scene is fictional, but not as futuristic as it might sound — some predict it could be common by 2020. But not everyone feels optimistic about a future in which computers take the place of blackboards.

Traditionally children memorised facts from books and blackboards. Now, critics fear, computers will make the ability to remember and store knowledge redundant because the emphasis will be on the ability to gain access to that knowledge from a database instead.

10 Suspicions about dependency on computer learning are increasing. On the one hand, there are those who argue that the computer revolution will promote a new way of learning which will help Britain compete with its economic rivals. On the other hand, there are those who say that the technology is being misused, and that countries such as Japan have not introduced it into schools because they want their children to understand the basics first so that they can then use the computer as a tool.

A Decide if the statements below are true or false. Justify your answer with words from the text. (2 marks)

- 1 In the early twenty-first century many students may be taught by computers.
- 2 Everybody is happy about the disappearance of blackboards.
- 3 Everybody agrees about the use of computer learning at school.
- 4 Japan is the only country where computers are used in school classrooms.

B Find words in the text that correspond to the meanings below. (2 marks)

- 1 motivating
- 2 expressing pleasure, praise or admiration for something successfully done
- 3 substitute
- 4 not necessary

C What do the underlined words in the text refer to? (1 mark)

them (l.3) / it (l.5) / which (l.6) / its (l.12) / it (l.13)

D Complete the sentences below with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. (2 marks)

- 1 Teachers will eventually stop ... (use) the blackboard.
- 2 Children prefer ... (manipulate) a computer to ... (memorise) text from books.
- 3 Computers might ... (take) the place of blackboards.
- 4 Students will be able ... (get) a lot of information from the Internet.

E Write an alternative title for this text. (1 mark)

F Answer at least one of the following. (2 marks)

- 1 'We depend on computers more and more in our everyday lives.' What are the advantages and disadvantages of computers? (90–100 words)
- 2 Write a summary of the text in your own words. (90 words)

The historic voyage of Christopher Columbus

In 1992, more than thirty countries celebrated the 500th anniversary of the world's most famous transatlantic voyage.

Christopher Columbus is credited with 'discovering' the New World on that historic trip in 1492. In fact, of course, some 20 million native people were already there before he stepped ashore. Many historians also claim that the Vikings saw it first. But it was Columbus who made Europe aware of the existence of the vast American continent and who started the adventure which has never stopped since: the exploration, conquest and settlement of this newfound land.

By rights, it should have been named after him. It didn't happen because a Venetian businessman and promoter, Amerigo Vespucci, falsified the record of his own visit — making it appear that he got there earlier than he actually did — and was more effective in spreading knowledge of the discovery and of its true nature. He succeeded in getting his name attached first to South America and then to the whole continent, though he took no part in the early voyages.

Admirers of Amerigo Vespucci argue that Columbus came upon the New World by accident and that he failed to identify it correctly. It is a much-publicised fact that, when he first sighted land, he expected to find the East Indies, for he had come looking for a shorter route to the riches of China and the Far East. This is why he called the natives 'Indians', an error perpetuated by the generations that followed.

A Decide if the statements below are true or false. Justify your answer with words from the text. (2.5 marks)

- 1 The New World was completely empty before Christopher Columbus arrived.
- 2 According to the text, the exploration, conquest and settlement of America has been going on for centuries.
- 3 According to the text, Amerigo Vespucci was an honest man.
- 4 At first, Columbus didn't realise that he had discovered a new land.
- 5 The main objective of Columbus' voyage was to find a faster way to reach the Far East.

B Find words in the text that correspond to the meanings below. (2.5 marks)

- 1 on to land
- 2 morally/legally
- 3 connected
- 4 saw
- 5 continued

C Rewrite the following sentences so that the meaning is the same. (2 marks)

- 1 In 1992, more than thirty countries celebrated the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America.
The 500th anniversary ...
- 2 He succeeded in getting his name attached to America.
He was ...

D Answer at least one of the following. (3 marks)

- 1 Imagine you are a foreigner visiting Spain for the first time. Describe your first impressions. (100–120 words)
- 2 Write a summary of the text in your own words. (80 words)

Monica Seles returns to the net

She is back and the force is undoubtedly with her. Monica Seles has resumed her career on the international tennis circuit as if she had never been away. Seles dropped out of the game in 1993 when a fan of her rival, Steffi Graf, stabbed her in the back during a tournament in Germany. The wound made by the knife was little more than an inch deep and healed both quickly and well.

5 On April 30, 1993, Gunther Parche, a 39-year-old unemployed lathe operator, stepped into the picture. Seles was resting between games in a match against Graf at the Rothenbaum club in Hamburg. Parche, outraged that Seles should have replaced his 'dream creature' as the leading woman player, drew out a nine-inch knife and plunged it into her back.

10 At first, he merely caused his victim to jump and grab behind her back to find out what had hurt her. It was only later, after receiving treatment, that she became alarmed. A German policewoman told her that the knife was of the type her aunt used to cut sausages, and then someone else walked in carrying her shirt, covered with blood. 'That was when I lost it,' she said.

A Read the text carefully and answer the following questions in your own words.

(2 marks)

- 1 Why did Monica Seles stop playing tennis in 1993?
- 2 At what point did she realise the seriousness of the attack?

B Decide if the statements below are true or false. Justify your answer with words from the text. (1.5 marks)

- 1 Steffi Graf paid someone to stab Monica Seles in the back.
- 2 Monica hadn't realised at first how serious her wound might have been.
- 3 A German policewoman walked in with Monica's blood-covered shirt.

C Find words in the text that correspond to the meanings below. (1 mark)

- 1 an injury to the body made intentionally by a weapon
- 2 only; simply

D Choose the correct ending a), b), c) or d) for the sentences below.

(2 marks)

- 1 The author says that Monica Seles ...
 - a) is not playing at the moment.
 - b) has never been away from tennis.
 - c) is playing again.
 - d) is starting a new career.
- 2 The wound made by the knife was ...
 - a) very deep.
 - b) not very deep.
 - c) difficult to heal.
 - d) bleeding for a long time.
- 3 At the time of the incident, Monica's aggressor ...
 - a) had just found a job.
 - b) did not have a job.
 - c) had been employed by Graf.
 - d) was drunk.
- 4 Monica's first reaction was to jump and ...
 - a) touch her back.
 - b) turn round.
 - c) fall down.
 - d) follow her aggressor.

E Answer at least one of the following. (3.5 marks)

- 1 'Competitive sports should not be taught in school because they promote aggression.' Give your opinion. (80–100 words)
- 2 What is the main idea expressed in the first paragraph of the text above? (20 words)

Coping with addiction

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), founded 60 years ago, is increasingly familiar to the general public as a network where ex-drinkers get together for the 'talk therapy' that helps them to cope with their drink problem.

Show business stars have contributed to this familiarity by breaking their anonymity and referring publicly to the way AA has helped them. Talking on Radio Four recently, the actor Sir Anthony Hopkins confessed that he had been a total mess before recovering his sobriety through AA. Elton John is another one and there are some AA meetings in London known to be startlingly glamorous and packed with celebrities.

There are two outstanding characteristics of Alcoholics Anonymous that really do make it very special in the world today. It is not looking for money from anyone. And it is not, curiously, looking for publicity either. AA refuses funds because it adheres to self-help and the principle of personal service. It does not seek publicity because it prefers to work by attraction rather than promotion. In a world where nearly everyone, including charities, is looking for both money and publicity, AA remains refreshingly aloof.

A Read the text carefully and answer the following questions in your own words.

- 1 Why was Alcoholics Anonymous founded? (1 mark)
- 2 How has Alcoholics Anonymous become popular? (1 mark)

B Are these statements true or false? Justify your answers. (2 marks)

- 1 Anthony Hopkins has never had any drink problems.
- 2 AA is not interested in money or publicity.

C Find a word or phrase in the text similar in meaning to these definitions. (1 mark)

- 1 deal with
- 2 features

D Complete the sentences with the correct ending below. (2 marks)

- 1 In AA ex-drinkers get together to talk about ...
a) their common problem. b) different drinks. c) Sir Anthony Hopkins.
d) the promotion of AA.
- 2 Sir Anthony Hopkins confessed that his life had been a mess before he ...
a) last met AA ex-drinkers in London. b) first sang on Radio Four.
c) met Elton John. d) recovered his sobriety.
- 3 AA is not looking for money because its members ...
a) get money from the government. b) are very rich.
c) help each other altruistically. d) are paid by other associations.
- 4 AA is not interested in attracting drinkers through ...
a) personal service. b) advertising. c) medical advice. d) ex-drinkers' experience.

E Choose one of the following. (3 marks)

- 1 People can become addicted to almost anything: drugs, alcohol, gambling, fast cars, food etc. What do you think makes people become addicts? (100–120 words)
- 2 Summarise the text in your own words as far as possible. (100 words)

The human touch

Humans are not the only animals to take part in war, politics and medical research. So, apparently, do chimpanzees.

'When I first started studying them I thought they were nicer than humans,' says Jane Goodall, the veteran chimpanzee expert. 'But time has revealed that they can be just as awful as we are.'

- 5 During her 30 years of watching chimpanzees, Goodall has witnessed phenomena such as the 'four-year war', in which two rival tribes of chimps strategically killed each other. The conflict was apparently begun by one tribe determined to take revenge on treacherous chimps who had deserted them to join the other tribe.

- 10 In other aspects, Goodall and her colleagues have observed many striking similarities between human and chimp behaviour.

 Clothing: they have learned to use twigs as shoes to protect their feet from thorns.

 Medicine: when they are feeling sick, chimpanzees swallow the leaves of aspilia, a plant that relieves stomach pains and kills internal parasites.

- 15 Religion: Goodall's chimps have been observed performing a ritual dance in front of a high waterfall, apparently displaying the emotions that may have led early humans to religion.

A Read the text carefully and answer the following questions in your own words. (2 marks)

- 1 What made Jane Goodall change her mind about the character of chimpanzees?
- 2 What similarities did Goodall observe between humans and chimpanzees?

B Decide if these sentences are true or false. Justify your answers with words from the text. (2 marks)

- 1 Chimpanzees are thought to behave like humans in some aspects.
- 2 Chimpanzees never make war on each other.
- 3 Chimpanzees protect their feet using thorns.
- 4 When chimpanzees have a stomach ache they take aspirin.

C Find a word or phrase in the text similar in meaning to these definitions. (1.5 marks)

- 1 investigation
- 2 seen by being present
- 3 showing great disloyalty

D Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words provided. (1.5 marks)

- 1 Goodall and her colleagues have observed many striking similarities between human and chimp behaviour.
Many striking similarities ...
- 2 They use twigs as shoes to protect their feet from thorns.
They protect ...
- 3 I thought chimpanzees were nicer than humans.
I thought humans ...

E Choose one of the following. (3 marks)

- 1 Write an account of a real or fictional mystery. (120 words)
- 2 Summarise the text in your own words. (50 words)

Central Park: New York's garden

Central Park is a New Yorker's garden. Most residents in this 'concrete jungle' don't have gardens and perhaps that is one of the reasons there is such a strong feeling of communal ownership. The park is treated and respected by the millions who live in New York and those who visit it simply as a place for having fun.

- 5 It is perhaps the only slice of the Big Apple which is equitably divided. An unemployed actor may well pass round a hat to find Mia Farrow or Dustin Hoffman drop in a contribution. Sharon Stone might jog the same route as a school kid from Harlem, the Mayor could discuss his petunias with the park attendant. Old or young, rich or poor, American or not, Central Park is a working United Nations.

On workdays it personifies the paradoxes and contradictions of New York where anything goes.

- 10 Don't be surprised to nod a polite 'Good morning' to an immaculately dressed businessman cutting across the park on his way to work, while simultaneously steering clear of a wild shorts-clad skateboarder.

Within this constant hive of activity are miles of landscape, which have been intricately planned. Few people realise that the park is a completely man-made venture, planned, designed and engineered with thought and benevolence. It is hard to believe that this 840-acre park was, up to the 1850s, a combination of wasteland and swamp inhabited by squatters and their entourage of pigs, goats and chickens.

15

A Answer this question in your own words as far as possible. (1 mark)

What does the author mean by 'there is such a strong feeling of communal ownership'? (1.2)

B Decide if the sentences below are true or false. Justify your answer with words from the text. (2 marks)

- 1 New Yorkers don't take much care of Central Park.
- 2 All kinds of people walk in Central Park.
- 3 Central Park is a natural park.
- 4 Pigs, goats and chickens live in the park.

C Find a word or phrase in the text similar in meaning to these definitions. (2 marks)

- 1 a city area full of big buildings and with no open spaces
- 2 enjoying themselves
- 3 to bend your head forward and down
- 4 people who live in empty buildings without permission or payment of rent

D Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words provided. (2 marks)

- 1 The park is treated and respected by millions of New Yorkers.
Millions of New Yorkers ...
- 2 The Mayor could discuss his petunias with the park attendant.
The Mayor could talk ...
- 3 Few people realise that the park is a completely man-made venture.
Many people ...
- 4 It is hard to believe that this park was a combination of wasteland and swamp.
It is not ...

E Answer one of the following. (3 marks)

- 1 Parks, public gardens and other green spaces are essential in big cities like New York, London or Madrid. Give your opinion. (80–100 words)
- 2 Write a description of your ideal place to live. (80–100 words)

The new generation of farmyard clones

'I MAKE all my sheep here.' Bill Ritchie gestured towards an annexe of his laboratory where he had used a spark of electricity to vivify two cells that grew into Morag and Megan, the sisters who made front-page headlines earlier this year for being 'man-made'.

5 As the first fruit of a technique that can make millions of identical sheep, these innocent Welsh mountain sheep sparked a major controversy about the rights and wrongs of such research, which is currently being extended to create supersheep and cloned cattle.

Ritchie is one of the leading exponents of an astonishing type of genetic surgery which will allow scientists to manipulate farmyard animals more easily than ever with a variety of benefits: to produce drugs in their milk, to grow faster for meat production, or to become resistant to diseases.

10 The surgery is conducted under the gaze of a microscope that sits in a small room in the Roslin Institute, where research is funded chiefly by central government.

Scientists have been cloning for decades. All it requires is to divide up an early embryo and implant each clump of cells into surrogate mothers to yield a handful of identical animals. Megan and Morag are different. Millions of copies of them can now be made.

A Answer the questions below in your own words. (2 marks)

- 1 Why have Morag and Megan appeared on the front page of newspapers?
- 2 What are the advantages of manipulating farmyard animals?

B Decide if the sentences below are true or false. Justify your answer with words from the text. (2 marks)

- 1 Bill Ritchie makes his sheep in a lab.
- 2 Morag and Megan live in England.
- 3 Laboratory created animals never get ill.
- 4 Megan and Morag will be the models for other sheep.

C Find a word or phrase in the text similar in meaning to these definitions. (1 mark)

- 1 advantages
- 2 argument or disagreement
- 3 illnesses
- 4 exactly the same

D Complete the sentences below with the correct form of the words in capitals. (2 marks)

- 1 Cloning sheep has proved very ... CONTROVERSY
- 2 Farmers all over the world have expressed ... at Richie's techniques. ASTONISH
- 3 The production of good milk, eggs, meat, etc. will be ... for everybody. BENEFIT
- 4 The Roslin Institute is the ... where this research is being carried out. CENTRAL

E Answer one of the following. (3 marks)

- 1 'Man shouldn't interfere with nature.' Give your opinion. (100-120 words)
- 2 Write a summary of the report. (60-80 words)

LA story

'You're gonna walk around LA?' said my American friend. 'Dressed like that?' He was referring to my Englishman-abroad suit, park ranger's hat and little shoulder bag I find so useful for carrying around money, credit cards and other items of interest to thieves. 'I mean, have a nice trip, man,' he said, 'but you're going to be live bait out there.'

5 So it was that when I stepped off the bus in Hollywood Boulevard, I did so with a certain uneasiness. My guidebook had informed me that: 'In LA you are what you drive. A car is a must.' I asked a passer-by if he knew where I could get a bus to Downtown. 'No,' he said and climbed into his car.

10 So it was all true, I thought as I trudged along the sidewalk noticing how threatening things looked. LA, the most unplanned sprawling metropolis on earth (there are 460 square miles of it) really is the ultimate car city.

I crossed Hollywood Boulevard — which is one of LA's smaller streets with just six lanes — and found a bus stop. My sole companion was a tramp, confirming another of my fears: that only the socially marginal take public transport in LA. On the bus, I was the only white person; the only person who was neither a teenager nor 100 years old: and the only person with a small bag of valuables.

15 We drove into Downtown and I got out at the stop nearest my hotel which was actually half-an-hour's walk away. In choosing to stay in Downtown, I had considered two things. On the one hand, it is a hellhole combining soulless financial skyscrapers with ground-level poverty. On the other hand, it is the centre of LA's bus service (used by 5% of travellers).

A Decide if these statements are true or false. Justify your answer with words from the text. (2.5 marks)

- 1 The author's American friend was surprised that he wanted to walk around LA.
- 2 According to the author's guidebook, a car is essential in LA.
- 3 Hollywood Boulevard is a small street.
- 4 Public transport in LA is very popular.
- 5 The bus stop where the writer got out was very near to his hotel.

B Find a word or phrase in the text similar in meaning to these definitions. (2 marks)

- 1 'enjoy your journey'
- 2 someone who walks along the street
- 3 realising
- 4 had taken into account

C Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words provided. (2 marks)

- 1 How threatening Hollywood Boulevard looked!
What ...
- 2 I'm sorry I didn't take the advice of my American friend.
I wish ...

D Answer at least one of the questions below. (3.5 marks)

- 1 Compare the place where you live with another place you have visited. (80–100 words)
- 2 Write a summary of the text. (60–80 words)

Child Picasso takes art world by storm

She is only 10 years old but Alexandra Nechita, who turns out abstract paintings after school, is being hailed as the new Picasso. Art collectors have been paying up to £20,000 for paintings by the young Romanian immigrant. So far, with exhibitions on the West Coast of America and New York, she has sold 250 canvases.

5 Alexandra, who has been painting since she could walk and is completely self-taught, seems unperturbed by the attention her work has attracted. Her main worry is that, in the poor area of Los Angeles where she lives with her parents and baby brother, news of her sudden wealth might make life difficult for her family.

10 Alexandra's parents fled Romania in the mid-1980s. Her father Nikki, 39, is now the manager of a prosthetics company in LA; her mother Viorica, 32, is a clerk. Despite the fact that Alexandra left Romania when she was very young, many of her paintings refer to her Romanian roots, and the Romanian culture she left behind.

15 Her art teacher is concerned about the effect Alexandra's celebrity may have on her. 'I feel sad her talent has turned into something commercial. It is worrying to see a child getting into the world of business.'

Alexandra, however, is determined that neither fame nor fortune will distract her from her life's work. 'In 10 or 20 years' time, I see myself as a full-time artist,' she says. 'But for now what I really like is having my baby brother watching me paint. He scribbles on everything.'

A Read the text carefully and answer the following questions in your own words. (2 marks)

- 1 Why is Alexandra Nechita worried about her sudden wealth?
- 2 What are Alexandra's future plans?

B Decide if the sentences below are true or false. Justify your answers with words from the text. (2 marks)

- 1 Alexandra was born in the USA.
- 2 Alexandra started painting at a very early age.
- 3 The USA is the usual subject of Alexandra's paintings.
- 4 Alexandra's art teacher is very glad about her commercial success.

C Find a word or phrase in the text similar in meaning to these definitions. (1.5 marks)

- 1 someone coming into a country from abroad to make their home there
- 2 a large amount of money and possessions
- 3 working during the whole of the usual working period

D Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words provided. (1.5 marks)

- 1 Alexandra Nechita is being hailed as the new Picasso.
They ...
- 2 Her parents fled Romania in the mid-1980s.
Her parents escaped ...
- 3 'I see myself as a full-time artist,' she says.
She says that ...

E Answer at least one of the questions below. (3 marks)

- 1 What are the advantages and disadvantages of achieving great success at a very young age? (100–120 words)
- 2 Write a formal letter to an art gallery offering your paintings for an exhibition. (80–100 words)



The powers of the mind

Paul McKenna has become, at the age of thirty, the most successful hypnotist in the business. Besides being an entertainer, his self-help hypnosis videos are best-sellers. He also has a healthy consultancy business, advising people on stress control and telling advertisers how to harness the sub-conscious.

Some of those who criticise him say that his show, particularly when he has 100 people on the stage, is too similar to the mass persuasion sessions of evangelical faith-healers for comfort. 'Faith-healers terrify me,' McKenna says, but then concedes, 'In some ways we are not very different — they use a lot of the same techniques that I do, except that I would question the integrity of some of them.'

He explains that there is nothing sinister about the trance state. We all go into it involuntarily when we watch TV or day-dream, even when we are shopping. 'Haven't you seen people in the supermarket standing still with a tin of beans in one hand and a tin of peas in the other, unable to choose and in a total cataleptic state?'

The only supernatural power that he taps into, he claims, is the human imagination. And he never uses tricks, just simple scientific techniques. 'Some people will assume that I have some power over them. But I am always quick to say that I don't, that I only have the ability to elicit from them the power they have in themselves.'

A Read the text carefully and answer the following questions in your own words. (2 marks)

- 1 What does Paul McKenna do?
- 2 How does McKenna relate the trance state to daily life situations?

B Decide if the sentences below are true or false. Justify your answers with words from the text. (2 marks)

- 1 You don't need to go to a hypnosis show to go into a trance state.
- 2 Paul McKenna loves faith-healers' sessions.
- 3 McKenna says there is nothing mysterious about hypnotism.
- 4 McKenna claims to have power over people's minds.

C Find a word or phrase in the text similar in meaning to these definitions. (1.5 marks)

- 1 things that are sold in very large numbers
- 2 honesty; trustworthiness
- 3 clever acts meant to deceive or cheat people

D Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words provided. (1.5 marks)

- 1 Besides being an entertainer, his self-help hypnosis videos are best-sellers.
Not only ...
- 2 McKenna said, 'In some ways we are not very different.'
McKenna said that ...
- 3 He never uses tricks.
Tricks ...

E Answer at least one of the following. (3 marks)

- 1 Describe a real or imaginary hypnosis show. (80–100 words)
- 2 Write a summary of the text. (80 words)

Music feeds the world

For a moment in 1985, Ethiopia became the object of compassion on a scale the world has seldom seen. Images of emaciated children provoked an unprecedented response. The famine almost became fashionable: Live Aid's fund-raising concerts featured Bob Dylan, Mick Jagger and Madonna, and the pop anthem *We Are the World*, sung by a celebrity choir, became a gigantic hit.

5 No-one is singing about it but, a decade later, Ethiopia's chronic food shortages remain the most severe in the world. Although aid has continued and the country has enjoyed relative peace since 1991, its grain and livestock reserves have been depleted. Ethiopians subsist on half the caloric intake of the average American, and experts say another severe drought would require a disaster response larger and more costly than any yet mounted anywhere.

10 It is not hard to identify the two things Ethiopia must do to avoid such a catastrophe: control population growth and increase food production. But at 55 million, the country's population is the second biggest in Africa. It is growing at more than 3 per cent annually and only 4 per cent of women use contraception. Even if contraception gained widespread acceptance in the near future, the numbers would not stop increasing until the middle of next century.

A Read the text and answer these questions in your own words. (2 marks)

- 1 Why was Live Aid started?
- 2 What must countries like Ethiopia do to prevent the death of more people in the future?

B Decide if the sentences below are true or false. Justify your answers with words from the text. (2 marks)

- 1 The money raised by Live Aid solved the famine problem for ever.
- 2 There have been no wars in Ethiopia for over five years.
- 3 Americans consume twice as many calories as Ethiopians.
- 4 The use of contraception is generally accepted in Ethiopia.

C Find a word or phrase in the text similar in meaning to these definitions. (1.5 marks)

- 1 extreme lack of food for a very large number of people
- 2 help
- 3 keep alive on small amounts of food

D Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words provided. (1.5 marks)

- 1 Images of emaciated children provoked an unprecedented response.
An unprecedented ...
- 2 Although aid has continued, Ethiopia's grain and livestock reserves have been depleted.
In spite of ...
- 3 Only 4 per cent of women use contraception.
Contraception ...

E Answer at least one of the following. (3 marks)

- 1 Write a letter to a famous pop star or group asking them if they would help you raise money for a cause. (80–100 words)
- 2 'Pop stars only raise money for charity because they think it is fashionable.'
Discuss. (80–100 words)

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