

1 Circle the correct answer (a–c).

- 1 That point of view makes _____ to me.
a meaning b understand c sense
- 2 The aim here is to concentrate _____ the positive points of this move.
a for b with c on
- 3 It's important to _____ attention to the real issues.
a write b draw c take
- 4 The main _____ that older people bring to society is their experience.
a benefit b problem c reason
- 5 I've got one final point to make, and it _____ community spirit.
a about b regards c subject of

2 Circle the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 One of the **conundrums** / **burdens** / **benefits** of studying abroad is that you can learn another language more quickly.
- 2 We had a **lifeless** / **dismal** / **shrivelled** holiday. The hotel was dirty and it rained every day.
- 3 The judge didn't see the **grasp** / **sense** / **relevance** of the evidence to the trial.
- 4 The country was lucky to have a **thriving** / **worthwhile** / **renovated** economy.
- 5 Mobile phones quickly become **innovative** / **outdated** / **stifling**, as new models are always being made.
- 6 I felt a **pointless** / **remote** / **profound** sense of sadness when I heard about the accident.
- 7 Hans Christian Andersen wrote **timeless** / **ruthless** / **never-ending** stories for children that are still popular today.
- 8 Chris forgot to water the flowers, so now they're dry and **lifeless** / **shrivelled** / **haggard**.

3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 1 There is a genetic link to _____ (bald).
- 2 Independent shops are _____ (danger) by large supermarkets.
- 3 Sharks are hunted because their fins are _____ (value).
- 4 The beach was only _____ (access) at certain times of day.
- 5 Her _____ (obese) was caused by a medical problem.

- 6 You're a brilliant cook. This cake is baked to _____ (perfect)!
- 7 Knowledge can _____ (power) people to decide for themselves.
- 8 It is _____ (sense) to avoid a big meal before going to the gym.
- 9 Access is provided for visitors with a _____ (disabled).
- 10 The professor _____ (large) the image for the students.
- 11 Animals show _____ (aggressive) when they feel under threat.
- 12 The north coast of Africa is _____ (vision) from Tarifa in Spain.

4 Complete the sentences with the words below.

- 1 I _____ on my coat and ran out of the house.
a threw **b** switched **c** added
- 2 He found it hard to _____ over the news that he had failed the exam.
a get **b** throw **c** switch
- 3 The group promised to _____ on campaigning until the government changed its plans.
a cheer **b** cling **c** keep
- 4 Shops often _____ out of popular toys at Christmas.
a wear **b** opt **c** run
- 5 I _____ your point, but I disagree that voting should be compulsory.
a meet **b** have **c** take
- 6 Jan _____ her papers out across the floor and tried to organize her work.
a reached **b** spread **c** spilled
- 7 The library _____ out their old, damaged books.
a cleared **b** opted **c** dropped
- 8 Attitudes towards marriage have _____ on in the last fifty years.
a thrown **b** moved **c** pointed

5 Complete the sentences with the words below.

neglected commitment inevitably breathtaking short-sighted compassion
self-interest tolerance

- 1 The news that the airline had lost the passengers' baggage _____ caused anger.
- 2 Some pets are _____ and left to go hungry.
- 3 They had a _____ journey through the mountains.

- 4 My doctor won an award for his _____ to helping his patients.
- 5 We should show _____ for those who are suffering.
- 6 The company director was only motivated by _____ and not the needs of the business.
- 7 Anita is so _____ that she can't see anything without glasses.
- 8 Neighbourhoods are safer when different communities have _____ for one another.

6 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 This time next week you _____ (come) home.
- 2 Brendan _____ (use) to be blind until he had surgery.
- 3 We regret _____ (inform) you that tickets for the festival have sold out.
- 4 By this time tomorrow she _____ (finish) her report.
- 5 The cleaner was shocked because she _____ (never / see) such a dirty house before.
- 6 We _____ (support) this charity for over ten years.
- 7 He remembered _____ (get) lost in a supermarket when he was a child.
- 8 Look at the sky! There _____ (be) a storm any minute!

7 Circle the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 I want to go to **the / an / –** Picasso exhibition at the National Gallery.
- 2 She's **the / a / –** nurse at **the / a / –** hospital near your house.
- 3 He had **a few / few / little** ideas about how to run a shop, so his business failed.
- 4 From my point of view **the / a / –** wealthy should pay higher taxes.
- 5 I want to study **the / a / –** Russian at university.
- 6 Anne didn't get the job because she had **few / hardly any / none of** experience.
- 7 Her house is filled with **a several / too much / many junk**.

8 Match the sentence halves.

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 She stopped | A | talk while sitting exams. |
| 2 People don't have to | B | seeing her friend after the argument. |

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|---|
| 3 | I have to | C | go for another appointment. I had a phone call today. |
| 4 | You should probably | D | being able to play tennis like a professional. |
| 5 | I could | E | to write a novel in one month. |
| 6 | Poppy imagined | F | hear a noise coming from the living room. |
| 7 | She managed | G | wear a suit to the office. |
| 8 | Students mustn't | H | talk to your brother. He looks really upset. |

9 Match the words and phrases (1–8) to the definitions (A–H).

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | obviously
online | A | raising money from lots of people |
| 2 | staged scenes
studio | B | filmed in a real setting not a |
| 3 | as a matter of fact | C | it's likely |
| 4 | frankly | D | to be honest |
| 5 | presumably | E | scripted parts of a film |
| 6 | crowdfunding | F | a store of film |
| 7 | shot on location | G | there is no doubt |
| 8 | archival footage | H | in fact, really |

10 Circle the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 The buildings **can't** / **must** have been destroyed in the powerful earthquake.
- 2 That **could** / **must** be him in the photo, but it's hard to tell.
- 3 **It's not possible that** / **It looks as if** they stole the jewellery. They weren't in the country!
- 4 Freya **is bound to** / **might** win the chess match. She's much smarter than her opponent.
- 5 The story **has to** / **can't** be true. There are no facts to support it.
- 6 You **must** / **might** be sick. You look terrible!
- 7 Wild mushrooms **might** / **can't** make you sick, so it's better not to eat them.
- 8 **It's safe to say** / **It's not possible** that most English people have eaten fish and chips.

11 Complete the sentences with the correct phrases below.

seems likely safe to almost sure looks like most probably possible that is bound

- 1 It _____ the concert will be cancelled, as the singer feels very unwell.
- 2 My keys aren't in the house. I'm _____ I left them in the car.
- 3 It _____ that he will go to prison, as there is a lot of evidence against him.
- 4 My back really hurts. This will _____ be the last time I go camping!
- 5 It is _____ scientists will find a cure for cancer one day.
- 6 Your cat _____ to come home soon. It always does when it's hungry.
- 7 It is _____ say that children spend a lot of time on computers.

12 Rewrite the sentences.

1 The amount of corruption shocked me.

It was

_____.

2 Her art is experimental and controversial.

Not only

_____.

3 The class had only just begun working when there was an interruption.

Hardly

_____.

4 A woman had never before become Prime Minister.

Never

_____.

5 I just ate lunch and then went home.

All

_____.

6 I couldn't finish the exam.

What happened

_____.

7 There has seldom been a storm as strong as this.

Seldom

_____.

8 The artist used recycled glass to create the sculpture.

What

_____.

9 I don't often see such a talented performer.

Rarely

_____.

13 Complete the dialogue with the words below.

look about might choice sure

George The problem is when to have the meeting. It's really important that everyone's there.

Angela How 1 _____ having it on Wednesday morning?

- George** I'm not 2 _____ that's the right time. Some people are travelling a long way and might not be here in time. The afternoon would be better.
- Angela** I don't think that's the best 3 _____. The part-time staff will have already gone home.
- George** OK, let's 4 _____ at having a business lunch, then. That 5 _____ be the best solution.
- Angela** Good idea. I'll book a restaurant.

14 Reading

You can't take it with you

Most of us go through life acquiring junk that piles up in our lofts or garages. It appears to be part of our nature to accumulate belongings for no particular reason other than the feeling that we cannot part with them. We like to think that they might come in handy one day. Almost all of this stuff is surplus to requirements – all except maybe a sacred family heirloom. An heirloom is an object that is passed down through the generations and gains sentimental and financial value along the way. Once an object is given the title of 'heirloom', it acquires a new significance. It's almost as if you couldn't throw it away even if you wanted to.

So what are the most popular heirlooms? In the number one spot is jewellery. This is unsurprising, as antique jewellery usually becomes more and more valuable as the years go by and is often linked to an important family event like a wedding or christening. Furniture, weapons and clocks make the top ten, too. More unexpected things in the top ten are stories, letters and recipes. It's good to see hoarding is not simply an exercise in keeping money in the family. Even if the object is rusty or decaying, it has been passed on to you and it's your duty to pass it on to the next generation.

This turned out to be particularly beneficial for retired pilot Martin Kober and his family from Buffalo in upstate New York. A painting they had stored behind their sofa for over thirty years is thought to be a 16th century original by Michelangelo, worth £190 million. Kober's great-grandfather had passed the piece of art down to him and it had hung in the lounge for years, before being knocked off accidentally by a tennis ball. It was only then that family carefully wrapped up 'The Mike', a nickname they gave to the painting because of its suspected creator, and stored it behind the sofa. Antonio Forcellino, an Italian art historian and restorer, was prepared for the worst when he was asked to inspect it in 2010. 'I had assumed it was going to be a copy.' He was pleasantly surprised, however, and remains convinced it is genuine.

Ryan Givens and his three siblings also got lucky with a family heirloom. A nickel is usually worth five cents in the USA – unless it's one of only five 1913 Liberty Head

nickels that are thought to exist. It sold for an impressive \$3.17 million when it went up for auction in April 2013. His mother, Melva, had been given it after her brother died in a car crash and it was found at the scene of the crash. Believed to be a fake by experts, she couldn't bring herself to throw it out because of its sentimental value, and so decided to keep it in a box in her wardrobe. It stayed there until her death in 1992. Melva's son, Ryan, and Melva's other three children held on to it and took it to the American Numismatic Association World's Fair of Money in Baltimore in 2003. Coincidentally, at that same exhibition, the other four Liberty Head nickels were being exhibited, and Melva's old coin completed the original set.

Of course, you're unlikely to be this lucky with any of your own family heirlooms, but you never know. It may be worth clearing out your house, while at the same time watching out for anything that catches your eye, especially if it was handed down to you.

Read the text. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 People often become attached to things they don't need. ____
- 2 An heirloom is an item that is kept in a family just because it is worth a lot of money. ____
- 3 Heirlooms are always linked to important family events. ____
- 4 Items are only kept as heirlooms if they are in good condition. ____
- 5 Kober had inherited the Michelangelo painting from a family member. ____
- 6 Antonio Forcellino expected the painting to be an imitation at first. ____
- 7 The painting was put behind to sofa to protect it from damage. ____
- 8 The experts had believed the fifth coin was a fake. ____
- 9 Melva Givens always knew the true value of the coin. ____
- 10 The writer suggests people keep an eye on what they're throwing out. ____

15 Complete the text with the correct words (a–d).

Car boot sales

If you're looking for something to do on a sunny Sunday morning while you're in England, I'd recommend 1 _____ in the local newspaper, where many of 2 _____ local car boot sales will be advertised. Car boot sales are a popular English pastime and are loved by all 3 _____ bargain hunters. Professional car booters get there as early as 7 a.m., when the event is fast-paced and competitive. Who can be the first to spot the bargain and part with their 4 _____ cash? Go later and it's more of a relaxed family event. One man's rubbish is another man's treasure, and no more so than when you're at one of these sales. Here, instead of 5 _____ clutter, people make money from it. Admittedly, almost all of it is, in fact, useless 6 _____, but don't be surprised if some 7 _____ cups or a tiny handmade wooden toy catches your eye. It won't cost 8 _____, will it? How could you possibly walk by? You stop to look, and before you know it, you're going home with something you never knew you needed.

- 1 a to looking b looking c to look d look
- 2 a the b some c – d a

3 a the b – c of d almost

4 a heartfelt b well-known c well-earned d broad-minded

5 a getting rid b binning c possessing d sorting out

6 a possessions b heaps c stacks d junk

7 a china delicate antique b delicate china antique c antique china delicate
d delicate antique china

8 a much b a lot of c many d a little

16 Complete the sentences (1–5) with the words below. Then match the sentences to the correct responses (A–E) to make dialogues.

can coming mean saying view

1 Are you _____ that he acted in self-interest? ____

2 _____ you just explain that to me again? ____

3 What do you _____, exactly? ____

4 My _____ is that everyone should be given a prize. ____

5 I see where you're _____ from. ____

A Of course I can, madam. It's not that difficult.

B I'm just trying to say that he deserved the recognition he got.

C I suppose so. He didn't really put the others first.

D Yeah, I know. That would be nice.

E I'm glad you do. Nobody else does!

17 Reading

The voyage of a lifetime

As the plane landed in Saint Lucia, I had no idea of the enormity of the challenge I had taken on. Having worked solidly for three months prior to my flight in order to raise funds, I thought I might now get the chance to take it easy for a bit. I mean, there was sun, palm trees and clear blue water. It seemed as far away from hard work as I could imagine. This thought couldn't have been further from the truth.

I had been selected as one of twenty-one trainees to participate in a three-month transatlantic voyage from the Caribbean to the UK. Although a few were in their twenties, at only eighteen years of age and full of optimism and excitement, I was fairly typical of the kind of trainee aboard the forty-metre sail training ship. The first thing the permanent crew had to do was to demonstrate how we were going to successfully get the ship back to the UK. Those who had sailing experience had a lot to learn. Those who hadn't, like myself, were few in number and had an even greater challenge!

With this in mind, there was no time to lose. We were immediately sent up the masts to take down the sails, which meant anyone with a fear of heights had to get over it pretty quickly. Twenty-five metres might not seem that high in the calm seas off the local beaches, but it would prove to be very different in the middle of the Atlantic, when we would have to cope with gale force winds as well. Next was taking orders from the chef. Peeling potatoes for thirty is not the most stimulating job, but it is one of the most vital. Anyone who works outdoors knows how much a good meal is appreciated. Initially we must have been a hindrance rather than a help, but day by day we learned to overcome obstacles like homesickness and fatigue, and became an efficient, supportive unit.

Naturally, living together in such a small area demands tolerance. Most trainees shared a sleeping area with a dozen others, the private cabins being reserved for permanent crew. Although privacy was an issue, the ability to sleep rarely was. We were put into teams of six and had a rota of four-hour shifts which ensured the boat kept moving towards our destination twenty-four hours a day.

Having been at sea without setting foot on dry land for a fortnight, it came as a massive blow that we would be unable to stop at Flores, an island in the middle of the Atlantic, because of a violent storm. It was simply too risky. We wouldn't get to the neighbouring island until the following day. Everyone turned their disappointment into a single-mindedness to reach it as quickly as possible.

After three months at sea, I felt a mixture of emotions as my family rushed to greet me at Southampton. It truly had been a character-building experience and I wasn't ready to hang up my deck shoes. It was with a heavy heart, then, that twenty years later, I learned that the boat, named *Astrid*, was no more. She sank off the coast of Ireland in rough seas in July 2013. Thankfully, no one was hurt, and her memory will live on in the hundreds of teenagers who had the chance to be part of her adventure.

Read the text. Circle the correct answer (a–d).

- 1 When the writer landed in St Lucia, she felt
 - a she deserved a holiday.
 - b energized and ready to work.
 - c worried about what lay ahead.
 - d overwhelmed by the surroundings.

- 2 Training in the Caribbean
 - a taught everyone the importance of team work.
 - b made even the most boring job seem interesting.
 - c meant that trainees could gradually overcome their fears.
 - d was difficult because of the weather conditions they experienced.

- 3 One of the difficulties of life at sea for the trainees was
 - a moving from team to team.

- b dealing with the lack of privacy.
 - c staying awake throughout the night.
 - d getting some sleep when they had the chance.
- 4 The trainees were able to
- a deal with having little privacy.
 - b choose who they worked with.
 - c sleep well despite the conditions.
 - d take a rest whenever they wanted.
- 5 When the *Astrid* sank off the coast of Ireland, the writer felt
- a shocked.
 - b annoyed.
 - c sad.
 - d anxious.

18 Complete the text with the correct words (a–d).

Chuck Close

The American portrait painter Chuck Close was five when his father 1 _____ him an easel for Christmas. He has been painting ever since.

Up until the 1980s he 2 _____ a successful career. However, in 1988, whilst attending an award ceremony in New York, he was dealt a major blow. He collapsed, unable to move his body. A spinal illness had left him paralysed. Determined to 3 _____ this obstacle, Close 4 _____ he would continue painting by holding a brush in his mouth. This meant the technique he had been used to would have to change. Although he 5 _____ some movement since then, he has been unable to create the photographic accuracy of his previous work.

He now divides his paintings into segments. This 6 _____ technique is a clear symbol of his self-preservation and a 7 _____ way of continuing to use his unique style. The reason is that, close up, the pictures appear to be blurred, but from a distance they still 8 _____ the realism of his early work.

- 1 a was making b made c had made d has made
- 2 a was enjoying b enjoys c had been enjoying d has been enjoying
- 3 a fight b support c conquer d overcome
- 4 a was deciding b decided c had decided d had been deciding
- 5 a regained b has been regaining c is regaining d has regained
- 6 a innovative b degenerative c educational d haggard
- 7 a clever b compassionate c satisfied d gradual

8 a took b are taking on c take on d were taking on

19 Circle the correct answer (a–c).

- 1 For me, it's a _____.
a necessary b have to c must
- 2 It's _____ to put money into these projects.
a priority b crucial c needed
- 3 It _____ be an idea to have a rethink of our original plan.
a should b could c might
- 4 It's important to _____ attention to neglected areas.
a have b get c draw
- 5 It's _____ not that appealing to local people.
a probably b likely c essential

20 Circle the correct answer (a–c).

- 1 I'm not _____ by that argument, I'm afraid.
a sure b certain c convinced
- 2 I see _____ you're coming from, but I think you've forgotten about the key issue.
a where b how c that
- 3 I _____ believe it's the best solution to the problem.
a totally b surely c firmly
- 4 I know what you're _____ at, but I don't really agree with you.
a looking b getting c thinking
- 5 There's no _____ in my mind that this is the right way forward.
a point b error c doubt

21 Complete the sentences (1–5) with the words below. Then match the sentences to the correct responses (A–E) to make dialogues.

go decide should doesn't hoping

- 1 I was _____ I could join you in the meeting. ____
- 2 We don't have to _____ right now. ____
- 3 Don't you think you _____ try and guess the meaning? ____
- 4 _____ it make more sense to make a rough copy first? ____
- 5 Which one shall we _____ for? ____

- A I suppose so, but using a dictionary's much easier.
- B I'd prefer to read the second one. It looks more interesting.
- C Of course, you're always welcome.
- D OK. Let's sleep on it, then.
- E It does, yes. I was just being impatient.

22 Complete the text with the correct words (a–d).

Reading by touch

Over 200 years ago, a French schoolboy called Louis Braille came up with a sophisticated system that 1 _____ blind people like himself to read.

His family 2 _____ afford for him to go to a specialist school, but a rich landowner saw his potential and ensured that he attended the Royal Institution for Blind Youth in Paris. Living away from home must have been difficult for the ten-year-old, but he was 3 _____ by his thirst for knowledge.

At some point in 1821, he was introduced to 'night writing', a system of raised dots on paper which was used by soldiers who 4 _____ to communicate without detection. He loved the idea 5 _____ to a point, but the soldiers' system was too complex. He 6 _____ to simplify the code and succeeded in creating a more useable system of six raised dots with sixty-three combinations. He went on to teach it to as many people as possible.

Louis died aged just forty-three, but his memory 7 _____ on through Braille, the code he created. In 1952, a century after his death, the French government finally did what, in my opinion, it 8 _____ have done many years earlier: it formally recognized Louis' achievement. In a touching tribute, his ashes were moved to the Panthéon in Paris, the resting place of all of France's national heroes.

- 1 a enclosed b entrusted c enabled d enlarged
- 2 a couldn't b mustn't c didn't have to d shouldn't
- 3 a cheered on b urged on c carried on d kept on
- 4 a must b didn't have to c ought d needed
- 5 a up b as c next d at
- 6 a stopped b bothered c will be able d managed
- 7 a stays b remains c comes d lives
- 8 a must b can't c should d had better