

English Mock Exam

- 1 Read the Strategy. Then read the extract below and try to work out the meaning of any unknown words. Then circle the correct answer (A–D).

It is clear that interest in hobbies is changeable, but a few hobbies have stood the test of time. A conspicuous example of this is collecting. Anything is collectible if someone decides to collect it. And it is a curious fact that even objects with little intrinsic value can become exorbitantly priced if enough people demonstrate a desire for them.

What fact about collecting does the author point out?

- A Very valuable objects are the most popular.
- B All collectibles are extremely expensive.
- C Objects of little value can become very expensive.
- D Certain types of objects are popular collectibles.

- 2 Read three texts. Circle the correct answer (A–D).

For some reason, I was never thrilled by the hobbies my family and friends attempted to interest me in. When I was younger, my mum and sisters tried to get me into scrapbooking, but I failed to see the point. My friends' passion for skateboarding and martial arts like karate didn't catch my interest either. My dad tried to get me involved in his hobby, model planes, but I didn't have the patience for it. Then my mum and I started chatting with a neighbour who grew rare plants. One tour of her greenhouse, and I was hooked. Of course my friends were very surprised – and still are – but I am sure that plants will be a lifelong passion.

- 1 The writer suggests that

- A his friends don't understand his hobby.
- B he and his mother share the same interests.
- C he used to be interested in skateboarding.
- D he is keen on making things at home.

Hobby-related holidays are on the way to becoming one of the most lucrative forms of tourism, and younger people are definitely joining in. Of course, sports-related camps have been a huge part of tourism for ages, but what if you're someone with little interest in tennis or basketball? A good option for you might be a two-week photography tour – with stunning scenery, ancient buildings and sometimes even underwater photography. Alternatively, if you are interested in nature, you can spend two weeks in an exotic location helping to identify rare plants and animals – while soaking up some sun and meeting like-minded people.

- 2 What does the writer say about hobby-related holidays?

- A They have existed for a long time.
- B They are mainly sports-related.
- C They are usually for young people.
- D They are popular and varied.

MAPPLETON SCHOOL HOBBY DAY

Think you're too busy studying to make time for a hobby? Haven't found a hobby that interests you, but want to explore some possibilities?

Then come to Mappleton School's annual Hobby Day! Students and teachers will give presentations and lead hands-on workshops. Everything from collecting and crafting to photography and landscape painting will be covered. Come with an open mind, and there's a good chance you'll find an interest to last a lifetime! Saturday, 3 March from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- 3 The purpose of the text is to

- A help people find time for a hobby.
- B encourage people to participate in an event.
- C list hobbies that students might enjoy.
- D remind people why it's good to have hobbies.

6 Complete the text with the correct past tense form of the verbs in brackets.

Fauja Singh used to take part in amateur races when he was younger, but he ¹ _____ (not start) running marathons until he was in his eighties. He ² _____ (not run) a race since 1947 when he joined his local running club at the age of 84. The coach nearly ³ _____ (send) him home on the first day because he ⁴ _____ (wear) a suit. Mr Singh's first race was the London Marathon, which he ⁵ _____ (complete) in six hours and 54 minutes, a new record for the over-nineties. The previous record holder ⁶ _____ (set) a time of seven hours and 52 minutes. Today, at the age of 103, Mr Singh is still running marathons.

Look at the information, then complete the sentences about Mariana's life. Use *used to* or *didn't use to*.

	aged 10	now (aged 16)
Study hard for exams	x	✓
live in a small town	✓	x
Play the ukelele	x	✓
Do BMXing	✓	x
Bake cakes	x	✓

- Mariana has excellent marks now, but _____.
- Mariana lives in San Francisco now, but _____.
- She plays in folk band now, but _____.
- She gets the bus to school now, but _____.
- She is doing a course of bakery now, but _____.

2 Complete each pair of life events with a suitable verb.

- _____ born / brought up
- _____ a flat / a house
- _____ home / school
- _____ married / engaged
- _____ a business / a family
- _____ a house / money

Mark: / 6

3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs below.

emigrate grow up move pass away retire settle down

- My grandfather is in his seventies, but he has no plans to _____ from his job.
- I missed my friends terribly when we _____ house.
- They're thinking of leaving the UK. They'd like to _____ to Australia.
- My best friend _____ in France, so she's bilingual.
- When I leave university, I want to go travelling before I _____ and have a family.
- Tom's grandmother is ill in hospital. He'll be extremely upset if she _____.

- 4  1.02 Listen to a teenage girl asking people in the street about the best age to do certain things in life. Complete the table.

Best age to leave home:	
1 Woman	
Best age to learn to drive:	
2 Girl	
Best age to start a family:	
3 Boy	
Best age to buy a house or flat:	
4 Girl	