You have seven parts in this practice activity. Follow the instructions to complete each one of them.

Part I - Organize the conversation

Part II - Fill in the blanks of the text

Part III - Word closest in meaning

Part IV – Insert the sentence

Part V, VI, VII – Comprehension Questions

I. Read part 1 of the conversation. REG starts the conversation. Organize the lines of ABDEL´s responses

REG Abdel! Long time no see. How are things? ABDEL :____ REG Yeah, I've lost some weight. ABDEL :____ REG I was able to turn my financial situation around. ABDEL :____ REG I started tracking my life. ABDEL :____ REG No, tracking my life . . . but I guess some people would call what I've been doing a kind of life hack. ABDEL :____	a. Did you say hacking your life? b. Oh, OK. So, you've been using one of those fitness tracker things? c. Reg? Is that you? I almost didn't recognize you. d. That's great. I'm kind of surprised to bump into you, though. I thought you were going to have to take a semester off to make some money. e. Yeah? So you've lost some weight and sorted out your finances? That's really impressive. What's your secret?

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II. Read Part 2 of the conversation. Fill in the blanks (A-G) with the correct option.

*REG Well, yes and no. **–1--** I have a fitness tracker, and I truly think it's great. It really helps me stay active and keep in shape. But the fitness tracker is not what started this.*

You see, there's this movement called "the quantified self," which basically involves using technology to __A__ the data of your daily life. So, for example, you might track your activity levels, the food you eat, your moods, your energy levels, that kind of thing. And then once you've tracked all that data, you can interpret it and use it as the basis for your decisions about your life.

A

1. quantifying
2. quantified
3. quantifies
4. quantify

ABDEL OK. I understand the theory now, but I'm not sure I see how it works in practice.

*REG **–2--** As you know, I had money troubles last semester. I got a part-time job, but it wasn't enough. I needed to earn more. And because I was working, I had less time to study, which caused my grades to **suffer**. I was absolutely certain that my only option was to take a semester or two off and work full-time.*

Then my sister suggested that I track my expenses to see what I was spending my money on. She tried it herself, and was able to reduce her expenses __B__ I doubted it would help, to be honest, but it was essential that I do something, so I gave it a try. So I tracked my expenses and then looked at the data I'd accumulated. I couldn't interpret things in a really precise way. After all, I didn't have months and months of data, but it was easy to see that my top three expenses were rent, car, and food.

III. The word "suffered" is closest in meaning to the word:

1. accumulate
2. decline
3. endure
4. interpret

B

1. significantly
2. significant
3. signify
4. signifying

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ABDEL I can understand rent and car, but food? Really?

REG Yeah, that surprised me, too. But it turned out that I spent so much time working, studying, and __C___ back and forth that I had no time to cook, so I was eating out pretty much all the time, and that gets pretty expensive. Anyway, --3-- I realized that if I got rid of my car, I would save hundreds every month because I wouldn't have to pay for gas, insurance, or parking.

In fact, I saw that I would save so much that I could actually quit my job and still have some extra dollars in my pocket every month. And it occurred to me that if I used those extra dollars to get a better apartment that was closer to campus, I wouldn't need a car at all.

So what did I do? Sold my car, quit my job, and moved closer to school.

C

1. communicating
2. compensating
3. commuting
4. comprehending

ABDEL Huh. It sounds so simple.

REG It is simple. But until I tracked and interpreted all that data, I never saw how much I could save. I just went on doing things the way I'd always done them, you know?

ABDEL I hear you.

REG Anyway, the __D__of doing those three things is that I've turned pretty much every __E___of my life around. Health wise I'm doing great. I walk to campus every day, go to the gym a couple times a week and cook for myself almost every night. That's how I was able to lose some weight.

My financial __F___is really good, too, as I said. Because I'm in good shape, I haven't been sick in months, so I've got no medical expenses. And I've got more time to study than before. My grades are so much better that I'm __G___for a scholarship this semester. It's not much, but every little bit helps

D.	E.	F.	G.
1. consequential	1. expect	1. substitution	1. eligible
2. consequentially	2. precise	2. situation	2. alleged
3. consequences	3. produce	3. situations	3. electoral
4. consequence	4. aspect	4. situated	4. elegant

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ABDEL So let me get this straight. You quantified your life and based on the data you accumulated, you quit your job, sold your car, moved into a better apartment, got healthy, lost weight, raised your grades, and got a scholarship? I'm impressed . . . and really tempted to do it myself.

*REG You should totally do it. It'll change your life. You know, there are a lot of people quantifying their lives these days. **--4--** I go to regular meetings with some of them. We talk about many aspects of using information, including things like machine learning and big data. It's interesting stuff. Why don't you check out our next meeting? It's on Thursday.*

ABDEL I'd love to come. Text me the details, OK? Oh, and let me know which fitness tracker you use, too.

REG Will do! Glad you're so eager to do this! See you Thursday.

IV. Read part 2 of the conversation and find the best position to insert the following sentence:

Let me tell you how it worked for me.

Position 1 Position 2 Position 3 Position 4

V. What can be inferred of ABDEL's comments during the conversation?

1. He is acquainted with "the quantified self"
2. He believes that REG is suffering
3. He wasn't aware of all the benefits of some simple life adjustments
4. He want's to go out with ABDEL's sister

VI. Why was ABDEL so surprised to encounter REG?

1. REG was supposed to have a new job far away
2. REG had had financial issues that interfered with his ability to continue studying.
3. REG was taking time to travel
4. REG needed to take care of his health before he could continue his career.

VII What can be expected from ABDEL next?

1. To meet REG and his new friends to learn more about how to improve your life with data analysis
2. To buy a new book about how to reduce your possessions to make money and live healthier
3. To collaborate in a Big Data project to create apps for tracking health habits and make financial profit
4. To meet REG and discuss better ways to obtain a scholarship

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