PRACTICE TEST 4 – ONLINE

Ex 1: Choose the best answer

The joy of photography

Photography is a hobby with wide **(0)** ..... . And I don't mean taking photos on your mobile phone, though it cannot be **(1)** ..... that such pictures can be surprisingly good these days. Serious photography means taking the **(2)** ..... to do some research, exploring the technical **(3)** ..... of the subject and investing in what might be quite expensive equipment. So why take up photography? Firstly, it allows you to **(4)** ..... special moments that you want to remember forever. In addition, it **(5)** ..... your imagination because you are always in search of ideas for original and out of the ordinary photos.

However, a lot of practice is required before you **(6)** ..... to take really good pictures on a regular basis. When you finally do it, it will be a **(7)** ..... of great satisfaction for you. Photography can also transform the way you look at the world. You start to see details that in the past you used to miss **(8)** ..... . All in all, it's a highly absorbing hobby.

1	**A** rejected	**B** contradicted	**C** denied	**D** refused
2	**A** trouble	**B** care	**C** effort	**D** concern
3	**A** characteristics	**B** forms	**C** qualities	**D** aspects
4	**A** seize	**B** capture	**C** grab	**D** catch
5	**A** motivates	**B** renews	**C** stimulates	**D** reacts
6	**A** manage	**B** succeed	**C** achieve	**D** reach
7	**A** reason	**B** cause	**C** source	**D** means
8	**A** utterly	**B** completely	**C** fully	**D** absolutely

Ex 2: For questions 1–8, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example: (0) *WHETHER*

Keep on learning!



It doesn't matter **(0)** ..... you are still at school or in full-time employment, making the effort to learn new things is very important. Most of us have a few subjects on **(1)** ..... we focus. These may be associated **(2)** ..... our study or job, or sometimes a hobby. **(3)** ..... it is obviously important to develop a deep understanding of **(4)** ..... matters to us most, it is equally worthwhile to extend our range of knowledge beyond what we are familiar with, and that is true at **(5)** ..... age.

So the best advice is to find the time to **(6)** ..... on new challenges and learn new skills outside the areas where we feel most comfortable. People often choose subjects **(7)** ..... as new languages, computer skills, or painting. If you can't get to a class, then you can go online. Online courses can easily **(8)** ..... found, and learning online means you put in as much time as you want each day.

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Ex 3: **For questions 1–8, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).**

Example: (0) *EXISTENCE*

An interesting new planet

Until recently, the **(0)** ..... of planets outside our own solar system was difficult to prove. Now, thanks to increasingly **(1)** ..... equipment, hundreds have been discovered orbiting distant stars. Recent **(2)** ..... of the nearest star to Earth, Proxima Centauri, have led to a **(3)** ..... discovery: a rocky planet similar in size to the Earth which may have liquid water on its surface.

EXIST
SENSE
INVESTIGATE
SIGNIFY

Although the new planet is **(4)** ..... closer to Proxima Centauri than the Earth is to the Sun, there is still a **(5)** ..... of life there. This is because the star is much smaller and cooler than our sun, so conditions on the planet may be **(6)** ..... enough to support life. Temperatures on the planet will be **(7)** ..... on whether there is an atmosphere surrounding it.

CONSIDER
POSSIBLE
COMFORT
DEPEND

Travelling to Proxima Centauri and exploring its planet is totally **(8)** ..... at the moment. Despite it being one of the nearest stars to the sun, it would take thousands of years to get there using current technology.

REAL

Ex 4: **Track 1 You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1–8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).**

1. You hear a woman telling her son about her favourite schoolteacher.
   What did the woman like about her history teacher?
   - **A** his acting skills
   - **B** his sense of humour
   - **C** his passion for the subject

2. You hear a girl talking about maths.
   What does the girl enjoy most about maths?
   - **A** getting clear answers
   - **B** applying it to everyday life
   - **C** solving difficult questions

3. You hear a man telling a friend about being unable to study art at school.
   He says that he would have liked to study art in order to
   - **A** know more about art history.
   - **B** learn some techniques.
   - **C** follow a career in art.

5. You hear a girl telling a friend about her brother.
   How does the girl's brother feel about starting university?
   - **A** anxious about meeting new people
   - **B** worried about managing the workload
   - **C** concerned about his abilities in his subject

6. You hear a student talking to his teacher about an assignment.
   The boy says that he feels
   - **A** uneasy about having to write about an unfamiliar topic.
   - **B** unsure about how to carry out some research.
   - **C** doubtful about which writing style to use.

7. You hear a science teacher talking to her class.
   What is she doing?
   - **A** cancelling an activity / a plan
   - **B** changing an arrangement
   - **C** correcting some information

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4. You hear two students discussing a sports class they have just attended.

What do they agree on about the class?

A how relevant the information was for them

B how knowledgeable the teacher was

C how inspiring the new ideas were

8. You hear two friends discussing learning foreign languages.

They both hold the opinion that

A communication does not rely on speaking a language.

B it's possible to learn about culture through language.

C learning languages is essential for travel.

Ex 5: **Track 4 You will hear a girl called Lydia giving a talk about a project she has been involved in on healthy eating. For questions 1–10, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.**

The healthy eating project

Lydia says an alternative name for healthy eating is having a **(1)** .....

Lydia compares the food we eat to **(2)** ..... for our bodies.

Lydia says people do not need to avoid certain foods such as **(3)** ..... .

Lydia says the food pyramid describes the foods we ought to eat and their **(4)** ..... .

Lydia offers to provide listeners with **(5)** ..... which contain fruit and vegetables.

Lydia points out that **(6)** ..... is a non-food source of one vitamin.

Lydia says that **(7)** ..... is an example of a snack we needn't avoid.

Lydia says the action of **(8)** ..... salad items doesn't burn more energy than the food provides.

Lydia gives the example of **(9)** ..... as a drink that is useful for our bodies.

Lydia explains that some people think **(10)** ..... is a substitute for eating healthily.

Ex 6: **Track 10 You will hear an interview with a travel writer called Anna Bryant, who is talking about what to do when visiting other countries. For questions 1–7, choose the best answer (A, B or C).**

1. Before travelling to another country, Anna always tries to

A watch people practising their traditions.

B talk to someone from that country.

C do some background reading.

2. How does Anna feel about her language skills?

A regretful that she didn't pay more attention at school

B confident that she can communicate fairly easily

C amazed by how many languages she has acquired

5. How did Anna overcome culture shock when she lived abroad?

A by studying the culture carefully

B by getting to know local people

C by establishing a routine

6. How did Anna feel when she was at the Lantern Festival?

A astonished that she had never heard about it

B anxious to remember every moment of it

C eager to participate in it

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3. Anna says that when visiting someone in their home
   - **A** it's fine to let them know you're anxious.
   - **B** it's a good idea to copy how they behave.
   - **C** it's advisable to find out what to do in advance.

4. How did Anna feel when she made a mistake?
   - **A** annoyed that she had forgotten some advice
   - **B** grateful that her host was sympathic
   - **C** amused by her own behaviour

7. What does Anna say about the book she is writing about culture?
   - **A** She is disappointed in her progress so far.
   - **B** She is keen to get feedback from people she knows.
   - **C** She is unsure about including her own experiences.

Ex 7: Listen and write

*Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS ANDIOR A NUMBER** for each answer.*

HOMESTAY APPLICATION

Example	*Answer*
Surname:	*Yuichini*

First name:	**1**		
Sex:	female	**Nationality:**	Japanese
Passport number:	**2**	**Age:**	28 years
Present address:	Room 21C, Willow College		
Length of homestay:	approx **3**		
Course enrolled in:	**4**		
Family preferences:	no **5**		
	no objection to **6**		

Questions 7–10

Answer the questions below.

*Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** for each answer.*

7 What does the student particularly like to eat? .....

8 What sport does the student play? .....

9 What mode of transport does the student prefer? .....

10 When will the student find out her homestay address? .....

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Ex 8: Read and choose the best answer

Having just watched the whole of Channel 8's TV series *Tomorrow's Homes*, I've been wondering about how anyone can predict the future of domestic life. You'd imagine that if you knew what architects and technology companies were developing now to make life easier, more exciting and more beautiful, you'd have a pretty good idea of what to expect in tomorrow's homes. In reality, it's more complicated, and just as much about what we'll choose to hang on to from **today's** – the things that are 'future-proof'. In the 1950s, people thought that in the twenty-first century household tasks would be done by labour-saving devices or robots – with food pills for dinner. Yet people still wash up and cook, even though the technology exists that makes neither of these tasks necessary.

Tomorrow's Homes, however, dared to make predictions which it turned into reality using an average home belonging to a family called the Forseys. Four miles of cable were installed in the house so that all the electrics, from lights to the fridge, could be controlled via the internet, and various other devices and gadgets were introduced in addition to this. The family were then filmed as they got used to their new home life. Program presenter Harry Thwaites is also a consultant who spends his work life imagining the future, so testing out his ideas for the program was a fascinating experiment for him. His approach was to use technology that was not totally brand new, but had only recently become more affordable. CCTV cameras for security have been around for years, for example, but they are no longer only an option for the mega-rich.

The Forsey family consists of a husband and wife with four children and two grandchildren. They appear to be very natural and ordinary on the program, and it was always interesting to see how they reacted to the technology they were testing. One example that **sticks** in the mind is when Janine, the mother, enters her reconstructed, all-white home (after successfully unlocking her new front door by using her thumb print as a key), and she immediately bursts into tears – quite understandably it has to be said. A short while later, her husband Ben gets locked out because the skin on his thumb is too rough. As the series progresses, however, they slowly come to accept the technology, and even start to believe it could have some value in their lives.

I was keen to see during the show if anything emerged as potentially future-proof, and there were some great examples. To help Janine deal with various worries, she was provided with a mind-controlled relaxation tool. This was a kind of headband connected to a DVD, which, incredibly, she could control with her thoughts. When she relaxed mentally, she made an image of the sun go down, as it would at night, on the DVD. When she had tried the gadget and achieved the sun set, she was asked how effective the gadget had been. Janine commented, 'Nothing can compare to a nice cup of tea and a good soap opera!'

1. The writer makes the point in the first paragraph that predicting how homes will be in the future …

A. requires detailed study of architectural trends.
B. is impossible if you only look at new developments.
C. has been very difficult until now.
D. is made easier by programmes and articles about them in the media.

2. What does "today's" refer to in the first paragraph?

A. current ideas
B. the present reality
C. the homes we currently live in
D. modern architecture

3. According to the second paragraph, the technology installed in the Forseys' house

A. was chosen to match the specific needs of the family.
B. was previously only used by a limited section of the population.
C. was still too expensive for anybody except the wealthiest.
D. was tried out by experts before the family used it.

4. What does "sticks" mean in the third paragraph?

A. blocks something
B. remains there
C. corrects an error
D. highlights something

5. According to the third paragraph, how did the family members react to the new technology?

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A. Their attitude towards it became increasingly positive.
B. Some of them adjusted more quickly to it than others.
C. The parents struggled with it throughout the series.
D. Some of their responses to it were surprising.

6. How did Janine feel about the mind-controlled relaxation tool?

A. She was amazed at what it was capable of.
B. She thought it would work if used with other things.
C. She found it totally useless.
D. She preferred more traditional methods of relaxation.

Ex 9: Choose from the sentences A–G the one which fits each gap (1–6). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

The aim of the national Tree of the Year competition is to promote and celebrate the most interesting trees around the country. Images and descriptions of a shortlist of 28 trees are put online and the public are asked to vote for their favourite.

The four trees that gain the most votes before 5 p.m. on 5th October will be given a grant of £1,000. In addition, all trees that receive 1,000 or more votes will get a grant of £500. The grants may be spent on a tree health check or advice from a tree expert, or an educational event, for example. 1 [ ]

Among the 28 shortlisted trees there are a wide range of tree species, each with its own unique, fascinating story. For example, the 'Ding Dong' tree is a copper beech tree growing in a primary school playground. It was named the 'Ding Dong' tree because of a game pupils invented in which they race to touch its trunk, shouting 'Ding Dong!' The protective space underneath the 50-year-old tree is used as a magical outdoor classroom, while the indoor classroom displays pictures of the tree through each season of the year. 2 [ ]

Many of the other trees in the competition are remarkable for their age alone. The Craigends Yew, for example, is thought to be up to 700 years old, making it one of the oldest in Scotland. It is an amazing sight as many of its branches have layered. 3 [ ] As a result of these extra growths, the total size when measured around the tree's crown (the main body of its leaves and branches) is a massive 100 metres.

Another very old tree, the Holm Oak in Kilbroney Park, Northern Ireland, is much loved by local people. It measures 3.6 metres around the trunk, and its beautiful bark looks like the skin of a snake. 4 [ ] The advantage of this lack of uprightness is that young children can climb safely and easily on it. Kilbroney Park is home to many remarkable trees, but this tree was chosen as the favourite by community members.

A 500-year-old veteran oak tree stands in the ancient woodland pasture at Carngafallt in Wales. One of the interesting things about this twisted, hollow tree is that it has several 'air trees' growing out of it. An 'air tree' is one growing without its roots touching the ground. 5 [ ] It extends its roots down inside the oak's hollow trunk.

The original Bramley apple tree in Nottinghamshire is younger than many in this competition, but is the famous parent of all modern Bramley apple trees. 6 [ ] Many years later, Matthew Bramley, the new owner of the tree, was carrying some of his fruit when he met a gardener called Henry Merryweather. Henry asked if he could take some cuttings from Matthew's trees to grow his own trees. Mr Bramley agreed, provided they were named 'Bramley's Seedling'.

A This means that they are touching the ground and have taken root.

B These roots have become enormous with age and have now emerged above the ground. Children love to jump over them like horses in a race.

C But the most distinctive thing about this tree is that its main trunk is leaning towards the ground at an angle of 45 degrees.

D The best example of this on the big old tree is another species of tree called a rowan.

E Alternatively, they could be used to hold a community event in honour of the tree.

F It was planted from a seed in 1809 by a woman called Ann Brailsford.

G Children hang bird feeders from its branches and it is used as the focus of many of the educational activities going on around it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Ex 10: Nowadays, international tourism is the biggest industry in the world. Unfortunately, international tourism creates tension rather than understanding between people from different cultures. To what extent do you agree or disagree? Write about 250 words.

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Ex 11: "I'm travelling to your country during Tet holiday. Could you give me some information about it? What do you often do? What do children receive? Can you tell me some dishes for Tet?" Write a letter about 150 words to respond.

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