

TASK 5

SUPERMARKET MIND GAMES

We all know it too well, we go to a supermarket and we often end 1 _____ buying more than we planned. Having a shopping list in your hand doesn't always help because supermarkets use all kinds of psychological tricks aimed at making us 2 _____ up our trolleys.

It all starts in the car park where potential customers see red signs advertising discounts and bargains. As soon as they see this colour inside, they will automatically associate it with low prices 3 _____ some red labels will only be used to confuse them. Then it's the usual: background music will get shoppers in the right frame of mind and so will the artificial smell of 4 _____ baked bread. Shelves with basic products, such as meat, bread and butter, are situated far away from each other so that you have to walk through many aisles and, on the way, be tempted to get items you don't need.

And just when you think it's over, there are so-called *golden zones*, displays with all kinds of sweets located near checkouts that encourage customers and their children to think that they deserve a reward while they 5 _____ to pay for their shopping.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 a up | b with | c about |
| 2 a filling | b to fill | c fill |
| 3 a despite | b even though | c therefore |
| 4 a hardly | b freshly | c quickly |
| 5 a are waiting | b will be waiting | c have been waiting |

TASK 6

DON'T WASTE IT

Statistics show that US households throw away a shocking 40% of perfectly good food. At the same time about 50 million Americans don't have 1 _____ to eat and many suffer from hunger. However, if US families managed to 2 _____ food waste by 15 per cent, it would help feed 25 million people.

The big question is: what can be done to solve the problem? To start with, you should plan your meals well ahead, make use of shopping lists and avoid buying on impulse. If you don't know what to do with the leftovers in your fridge, check online guides for suggestions on how to waste less. Alternatively, you can get a useful mobile app which will provide you with creative 3 _____.

Some people get rid of food because the sell-by date has passed and they are afraid they might get sick. 4 _____ they don't realise is that most food products can be safely eaten past these dates. If you know you won't have the chance to eat something, you can always freeze it 5 _____ it goes bad.

There's also an option of donating food to local food banks. Remember that lots of people need the food you throw away.

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|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1 a plenty | b little | c enough |
| 2 a fed up with | b cut down on | c take away |
| 3 a recipes | b receipts | c prescriptions |
| 4 a That | b What | c Which |
| 5 a after | b before | c while |

TASK 7

Do U hav a job 4 me?

Believe it or not, but many employers nowadays do get letters of application written in 'text speak'. And it is not the only reason why more and more employers 1 _____ that the recruitment process is a nightmare.

Many young applicants fail to understand the requirements for the jobs they apply 2 _____. They send off identical CVs regardless of the post. In addition, they find it difficult to show up punctually for a job interview, have 3 _____ idea what to wear on formal occasions and lack basic social skills, e.g. they are unable to make eye-contact with the interviewer or explain why they want a given job. And that's not to mention their poor knowledge of the company they want to work for.

It doesn't prevent young people from 4 _____ unrealistic expectations of the job market. They are mostly interested in professions related to popular culture, the media and sport. Moreover, they think they can just walk into their dream job, because they believe they deserve only the best. 5 _____, all of the above greatly limit young people's working opportunities and contribute to the high rates of youth unemployment.

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 a accuse | b deny | c complain |
| 2 a for | b to | c about |
| 3 a some | b any | c no |
| 4 a have | b to have | c having |
| 5 a Previously | b Unfortunately | c Eventually |

TASK 8

HUNGER FOR POWER

If you think that politics is boring, you haven't watched *House of Cards*, an American political drama. It is directed by David Fincher, who is known 1 _____ *Seven* and *Fight Club*, among others. This TV series is set in the capital of the USA and tells the story of Francis Underwood (Kevin Spacey), a fictional Democratic congressman.

Kevin Spacey 2 _____ the role of a ruthless politician who wants to take revenge on the people that have betrayed him, including the President of the United States himself. He is very cynical and uses a young political reporter to reveal his rivals' dark secrets to the press. His power-hungry wife is no angel 3 _____. They both stop at nothing to reach their goals and destroy their enemies.

The series is a remake of the 1990s British political miniseries and has become a great success, receiving many 4 _____ for excellent acting and directing. Viewers around the world seem to appreciate the fact that it presents the reality of political life as many people suspect it to be: 5 _____ cruel world of empty promises and corruption, with no place for idealism.

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|------------|-----------|----------|
| 1 a from | b for | c about |
| 2 a stars | b plays | c acts |
| 3 a too | b also | c either |
| 4 a prizes | b rewards | c awards |
| 5 a a | b an | c the |