Insight Upper-intermediate End-of-year test

Name: _____

Class: _____

Everyday English

1 Choose the correct answer (a–c).

1 I _____ what you're saying, but I'm not sure I agree with you.

a appreciate **b** consider **c** think

2 We're not going to see eye-to-eye _____ this one.

a on **b** for **c** of

3 I was hoping we _____ convince them because their support would be welcome.

a should **b** ought to **c** could

4 A _____ problem is that there aren't many opportunities for young people.

a negative **b** significant **c** extensive

5 So, in _____ , we can all do our bit to help the environment.

a sum up **b** conclusion **c** finally

Listening

2 Listen to a teacher talking about the results of a survey. Complete sentence 1 with the correct word, and choose the correct answer to complete sentence 2.

1 The survey has questions about technology, politics, jobs, medicine and _____ .

2 According to the speaker, the answers about politics are **idealistic** / **realistic** / **pessimistic**.

3 Listen again. Choose the correct answer (a–d).

3 The survey was about

a childhood in the future.

b morality and ethics in the future.

c what Europe will be like in the future.

d what children thought the future would be like.

4 Children thought robots

a would be difficult to use.

b could help with childcare.

c could drive cars.

d could fly planes.

5 Regarding politics, the speaker

a has the same opinion as the children.

b states that his child thinks the same.

c is used to hearing this answer from children.

d remembers thinking the same way when he was a child.

6 Regarding politics, the speaker is happy because children today

a are more confident.

b are realistic about the world.

c are still idealistic.

d want adults to feel more positive.

7 Most children regard work as

a enjoyable for the majority of adults.

b a necessary part of being an adult.

c something that should make them famous.

d something that should be well-paid.

8 Children are keen to

a support people who need help.

b play football or be a pop star.

c have a dream job.

d promote equality in the work place.

9 Regarding discipline, children

a wanted to be in control.

b were happy to do what they liked all the time.

c were happy for their parents to be in a position of authority.

d were allowed to decide what they ate.

10 In conclusion, the speaker thinks the results are

a surprising.

b saddening.

c positive.

d materialistic.

Reading

Enjoy the ride

We often hear people claim, 'It's the journey, not the destination that matters.' Based on my experience with children, this couldn't be further from the truth. To a child's mind, there is nothing more boring than having to sit in the car for hours. Inevitably, as a parent, you run out of ways to entertain the kids in the first thirty minutes, leaving several hours of hearing, 'How much further?' and 'Are we there yet?' The journey to the holiday destination quickly becomes an obstacle you have to overcome.

However, as we get older, these journeys no longer seem a hindrance. Some people actually engineer ways to increase the journey time by stopping off at a hotel en route, or taking a scenic route. So, why is this the case? Why do we enjoy journeys?

Firstly, it's a good chance to get to know your travel companions. Let's face it, in everyday life, how often do we have time for a three-hour chat with someone? It seldom happens because we are used to constantly rushing around. When we're at work, we're working hard; when we're at home, we're preparing food or doing housework. If our travelling companion is someone we don't know well, we often discover that there is more to them than meets the eye. Even if we're with someone we know well, we're bound to discover things we never knew about them, things that have gone under the radar up to this point. This in itself can make the friendship stronger and enables us to form a closer bond with our friends.

Secondly, by talking to others in this confined space, we often find the courage to offload our burdens. This might come from discussing our imperfections, or our relationships, or our low self-confidence. The worries going round in our heads can find a way out on these long journeys, which in turn takes a weight off our shoulders. We might not find an answer to our problems, but we might receive a degree of assurance – a kind of therapy, if you like.

Thirdly, we are forced to sit down on a car journey. On a longer trip, driving can be shared equally, allowing some relaxation for all involved. Naturally, many of us are sitting down at work or at home, but sitting in a car means we're not distracted by the boss or by chores. We can simply enjoy the scenery, have a nap, or listen to music without feeling under pressure to do something more productive.

Lastly, a long car journey gives us a respect for distance and awe-inspiring landscape. No one is too long in the tooth to appreciate a great sunset or a beautiful snow-capped mountain in the distance. We are given the opportunity to notice things we are unable to see in our day-to-day lives, or that we're usually distracted from appreciating.

Of course, there may be a few hiccups along the way – our travel companion's demand for toilet breaks could get on our nerves, or the severe weather warnings could have been right after all – but it's likely that a long car journey will have more ups than downs. I recommend contacting a few friends and organizing a road trip to anyone who is getting tired of their everyday routine. It will do you the world of good.

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

1. The writer enjoys long car trips with her children. ___
2. Parents have an endless supply of ways to keep their children entertained. ___
3. As people get older, they start to appreciate car journeys more. ___
4. Road trips can force us to communicate with others for extended periods. ___
5. Close friends remember things that they had forgotten about each other. ___
6. People don't like to reveal their insecurities when chatting to a travelling companion. ___
7. Chatting to others on a journey always solves our personal problems. ___
8. The writer thinks we have a chance to chill out on car journeys. ___
9. Older people often get bored with spectacular views on journeys. ___
10. The writer states that people get worried about travelling in bad weather. ___

Vocabulary

5 Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

1. The politician angered his party when he went out _____ and suggested raising taxes.
   a of character **b** on a limb **c** of his depth
2. The children were in _____ at the swimming pool. They had a great time.
   a their element **b** the offing **c** the limelight
3. When the police arrived, protestors decided to _____ off the demonstration.
   a set **b** call **c** fend
4. Simone _____ off going to the hairdresser until her hair was really long.
   a called **b** set **c** put
5. People think I live a _____ life, but I've worked hard for everything I have.
   a charmed **b** shelf **c** prime
6. You need to face the _____ and admit your mistakes.
   a danger **b** fact **c** music
7. Lucy stayed in bed today because she felt under _____.
   a the radar **b** the weather **c** scrutiny
8. Universities are under _____ to raise more money by themselves.
   a pressure **b** control **c** the radar
9. I'm exhausted. I _____ slept last night.
   a hard **b** hardly **c** lately
10. The prize was _____ won by the most dedicated team in the competition.
    a highly **b** high **c** justly

11. Many people _____ on to the hope that they will one day win the lottery.

a keep **b** add **c** cling

12. I don't know what to wear to the party! Will you help me _____ out a shirt?

a pick **b** wear **c** opt

6 Join the words in A to the words in B to make collocations. Then complete the sentences with the collocations.

A	B
tech	dish
light	opportunities
equal	corruption
expose	snack
go	diversity
musical	viral
ethnic	scores
side	start-ups

1 Videos can _____ when people post them on social networking sites.

2 The journalist investigated the police and tried to _____.

3 Bernard Herrmann wrote _____ for many successful movies.

4 At the restaurant we had pasta with a _____ of salad.

5 Due to the _____ in London it's possible to try food from all over the world.

6 I usually eat a banana as a _____ before exercising.

7 Despite the weak economy, thousands of new _____ appear every year.

8 The school's _____ policy protects students from discrimination.

7 Write the correct prepositions in the gaps below. You can use some prepositions more than once.

(to in into on off about)

The director's latest film, shot 1_____ location on a remote island in the Pacific, has breathed life 2_____ the island's economy. This is thanks 3_____ the film makers investing nearly half a million dollars in the project. At first, the islanders had some concerns 4_____ the plan to film in the forest, fearing there would be a rise 5_____ habitat destruction. However, protests resulted 6_____ the decision to call 7_____ the plan, and the director filmed on the beach instead. The film is based 8_____ the life of an explorer, and local musicians were involved in producing the musical score.

8 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

1 Residents were **devastated / vulnerable / distressing** by plans to build a railway through their village.

2 The country has just had its first **electorate / turnout / election** in fifty years.

3 It's untrue that older people are too **juvenile / long in the tooth / mature** to use new technology.

4 My parents are always **set in their ways / dynamic / supportive** of my decisions.

5 The news story lacks **credibility / an agenda / scrutiny** because there is so little evidence.

6 The company didn't respond to complaints and had to improve its **ingenuity / accountability / diversity** to the public.

7 The new cinema is a **critical / monstrous / countless** concrete building which spoils the views.

8 Jack's **perfectionism / perseverance / compassion** is very annoying. Nothing is ever good enough for him!

Grammar

9 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

1 The documentary **could be / can't be** true. Nobody would really do that!

2 **I'm almost sure / It's not possible** that Sue hasn't spread rumours. She's never done it before.

3 You **might / are bound to** recognize me when we meet. I haven't changed a bit!

4 Campaigners want the issue **to be / being** given more attention in the media.

5 The children enjoyed **to be / being** taken to the theme park.

6 My teacher congratulated **that I came / me on coming** first in the class.

7 The optician suggested **to have / having** surgery to help with my short-sightedness.

8 A bunch of flowers was **all / whatever** she received when she left the company.

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

1 Simon would know how to solve the problem if he _____ (be) more experienced.

2 If you traced the source of the story, you _____ (find) out the truth.

3 If you _____ (warn) me, I wouldn't have fallen for the scam.

4 We went to London, but I'd rather we _____ (go) to Edinburgh.

5 The advertising of fast food to children should _____ (ban) completely.

6 A journalist on Twitter reported that the rumours _____ (start) by the government.

7 I remember _____ (take) to hospital in an ambulance three years ago.

8 The teacher expects our work _____ (submit) next week.

11 Rewrite the sentences.

1 I researched the topic online.

What happened _____.

2 Lucy won't tidy her room because she's lazy.

Lucy would tidy _____.

3 'Did you manage to finish the work?'

She asked me _____.

4 'I must wear a suit to the interview.'

He said _____.

5 'I'm sorry that I'm late.'

My friend apologised _____.

6 'You should go to Paris by train.'

He recommended _____.