



LET'S REVIEW



Use of English

1. Read the text and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

There are a 1_____ number of decisions to be made every day, from the moment we wake up of a deep sleep to the moment we fall asleep at the end of the day. Some people are very good at 2_____ decisions and others find it almost impossible. Take, for example, a simple meal with my friend Barbara. She can never decide what to 3_____ and will look at the menu for ages and ages before 4_____ loudly, almost incapacitated with indecision. It results in her voice becoming extremely 5_____ the more frustrated she gets. However, I do admire the fact that she still tries to stay positive in such situations and she invariably 6_____ a desire to be more decisive like myself. When it comes to food, it's easy for me, as I'll know instantly what I want. However, she finds it easy to decide what to wear and has an innate 7_____ of style. I can imagine her still looking 8_____ and stylish at 70, while at 22 I already look like an elderly woman who doesn't care about how she looks.

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|----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. A weird | B confused | C confusing | D strange |
| 2. A doing | B having | C saying | D making |
| 3. A choose | B opt | C select | D pick |
| 4. A trembling | B coughing | C barking | D sighing |
| 5. A calm | B angry | C quiet | D noisy |
| 6. A expresses | B announces | C states | D exposes |
| 7. A fashion | B idea | C sense | D impression |
| 8. A childlike | B youthful | C childish | D juvenile |

2. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. You must use between two and five words.

1. They started building their house ten months ago.

HAVE

They _____ for ten months.

2. Some children's verbal skills are very poor and it's important to spend time with these children.

WHOSE

It's important to spend more time with the _____ very poor.

3. The children that did well had more interaction with their parents in the early years.

THOSE

The children that did well were _____ more interaction with their parents in the early years.

4. She understands a lot about the kind of work we do here.

GOOD

She _____ understanding of the kind of work we do here.

5. Expressing himself clearly is difficult for him.

FINDS

He _____ to express himself clearly.

Listening

1. **You will hear two different speakers. Choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what you hear. There are two questions for each speaker.**

Speaker 1

1. How did the speaker feel about her dream home?
 - A. She had nightmare about it.
 - B. She was horrified by the size of the house.
 - C. It made her feel nervous at times.
2. What is the best thing about the house for the speakers?
 - A. Being able to accommodate some family treasure.
 - B. Being able to remove some big furniture.
 - C. Having the room to keep big possessions.

Speaker 2

1. What does the speaker say about her home?
 - A. It has very limited space.
 - B. She spends a lot of time in the kitchen.
 - C. It cost more that she planned.
2. What does the speaker say about the local cafés?
 - A. There are very few good ones.
 - B. There are too many of them.
 - C. It's a good place to meet neighbours.

Reading

4. Read the text below and choose the answer (A, B or C) which you think fits best according to the text.

1. The writer joined the course in order to
 - A. Develop an ability to talk about anything.
 - B. Learn about the history of the art of conversation.
 - C. See if people can learn how to converse more effectively.
2. The other course participants
 - A. Were attending for a variety of reasons.
 - B. Had similar reasons to the writer for attending.
 - C. Felt that technology had ruined their lives.
3. How did the writer feel about the other participants?
 - A. He thought their personal reasons were ridiculous.
 - B. He was disappointed by their lack of ambition.
 - C. He was uninterested in their personal relationships.



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11 June at 07:35 · 🌐

HOW TO HAVE A CONVERSATION

Is conversation dying? Do we really need to be taught how to talk to each other? I joined a class at the School of Life, an academy of 'self-help'. The topic was 'How to have a conversation'. The basics of this were first described by the Ancient Roman writer Cicero, which can be summarized as follows: speak clearly, do not interrupt, be polite, never criticise people, do not talk about yourself and never lose your temper.

I had arrived about twenty minutes early but the rest of the class was already there. One woman invited me into her circle. She was finding it hard to have meaningful relationships. 'Sometimes you feel the smartphone is like a third person', she said. Another person agreed and described how immediate access to Google blocked any type of conversation with her boyfriend. My classmates also spoke of more personal reasons for their attendance.

These goals seemed disappointingly unambitious to me. I had hopes of becoming a funny and intellectual conversationalist. However, none of my new friends shared this desire. It was the simple act of talking, listening and learning that my classmates were suffering a lack of social relationships.

