GE B1 Unit 5 SKILLS TEST

Listening

Task 1 You are going to listen to six conversations. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what you hear.

1 You will hear two friends talking about a talent show they saw on TV. They agree that

A the quality of the acts was high.

B there were too many singers on the show.

C the decisions about the competitors were unfair.

2 You will hear a boy talking to his friend about piano lessons. He thinks that his new teacher

A talks too much.

B tells good stories.

C explains things clearly.

3 You will hear a girl talking to her friend about an acting course she's doing. How does the girl feel about it?

A pleased with her progress

B worried about the other students

C surprised by the activities they do

4 You will hear two friends talking about a music video they have both watched. The boy thinks that

A the video lasts too long.

B the sound quality is poor.

C the song is boring.

5 You will hear two friends talking about a film they've just seen. They agree that

A the action was exciting.

B the music was excellent.

C the acting was very good.

6 You will hear two friends talking about their school play. The boy suggests that the girl should

A practise more at home.

B write her lines down to remember them.

C watch videos about how to act.

Task 2 You are going to listen to the first four conversations again. Answer the questions in your own words.

7 What does the boy say about the judges on the TV show?

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8 What does the boy say about his old teacher?

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9 Why was the girl nervous about other people on the course?

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10 What problem did the girl have with the video?

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Reading

Task 1 - Read the article and choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

11 In the first paragraph, the writer says that
A it always takes a long time to become a celebrity.
B some celebrities think fame will be better than it is.
C some celebrities hate being famous.
D there are too many celebrities these days.

12 Why did Kevin Jonas decide to leave his band?
A He wanted to have children.
B He wanted to try a different career.
C He argued with the other members.
D He disliked the music they were playing.

13 Freddie Prinze Junior developed his love of cooking
A by working in a restaurant.
B by reading a cook book.
C by watching someone cook.
D by seeing a famous chef on TV.

14 Vanilla Ice found out about buying and selling houses
A when he was a teenager.
B after he became famous.
C in the last few years.
D when his music career ended.

15 In the final paragraph, the writer says that the wish to be famous
A is more powerful than the wish to be normal.
B comes from wanting to be popular.
C never makes you happy.
D doesn't affect all people in the same way.

16 What is the author of the article focusing on?
A The stars who turn their backs on fame.
B The negative side of being famous.
C The difficult road to becoming a celebrity.
D The people who end up being famous by accident.

Becoming a celebrity

Some people work for years to become a celebrity, only to find that fame wasn't as great as they expected. It's not that they dislike it exactly, they just realise that there is more to life than being famous.

Formed in 2005, *The Jonas Brothers* quickly became world-famous. Their albums sold in millions and they played to thousands of fans. But Kevin, one of three brothers in the band, suddenly decided he'd had enough. But why? Had he fought with his brothers? Or found something better? Actually, he felt the group were no longer making music he wanted to listen to, so he left. He created a restaurant-searching app called *Yood* shortly after quitting, and he's a dad too these days. He'll certainly have more time for his children now he's not touring and recording!

Freddie Prinze Junior became famous after appearing in well-known Hollywood films such as *I Know What You Did Last Summer*. Recently, however, he decided to stop acting to follow another of his passions: cooking. He grew up seeing his mum creating amazing dishes for the family – she's worked in restaurants all her life – and has been trying to cook as well as her ever since. He hasn't launched a career as a celebrity television chef yet, but he's written a book containing seventy-five of his favourite recipe.

When rapper Vanilla Ice released *Ice Ice Baby* in 1990, it became a huge hit. Although he still makes music, he's never been able to repeat this success, at least musically. Ice bought his first house long before recording *Ice Ice Baby*. He was only seventeen, but even back then realised he could make money by buying and selling property. So that's what he did after his musical success disappeared. He also started racing jet-skis (a small vehicle you sit on that travels fast across water), and became one of the best jet-skiers in the world.

Research suggests that wanting to be famous comes from a basic human need to be part of a group. This makes us want other people to like us. As these celebrities perhaps demonstrate, achieving fame doesn't always meet this need and looking for other things in life is actually more likely to give us what we want.

Task 2 - Read the article again and answer the questions in your own words.

17 List the achievements of each of the celebrities since they stopped doing the job that made them famous.

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18 Explain what you think Kevin Jonas's life is like now.

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Writing

Read the exam task below. Write **100** words in an appropriate style. Write your answer **in a frame.**

Articles wanted!

Why do you enjoy going to school? How important is it for you to do well at school?

Tell us what you think!

Write an article answering these questions and we will publish the most interesting articles on our website.

Write your **article** in about **100 words**.