VOCABULARY AND GRAMMAR

1 Choose the correct options.

1 She's always had a positive *outlook / approach / goal* on life.
2 Would you say that girls have a natural *thirst / attention / gift* for languages because they're more talkative than boys?
3 Do you think that success at school is down to being *diligent / gregarious / persistent* and spending hours studying?
4 Will you *memorise / recognise / familiarise* your school friends when you meet them at a school reunion?
5 Only those who have some kind of *inquisitive / sharp / innate* ability to get on well with people should become teachers.

2 Match verbs from box A with prepositions from box B to make phrasal verbs. Then use them to complete the sentences.

A	B
set fall put hand soak	up in up off behind

1 The principal may _____ his resignation if many students fail.
2 Don't _____ doing your assignments until the last minute. You may miss the deadline.
3 Recently, several students wanted to _____ a committee to organise a charity event.
4 I was ill for three weeks and have _____ with school work.
5 It's often said that children will _____ information very quickly if they are left to discover things for themselves.

3 Complete the text with one word in each gap.

Last week I went to a school reunion and I was amazed at how different the school looks now. For a start, the building where we [1] _____ to have PE classes has been demolished and a new sports centre has been built instead. I clearly remember how we [2] _____ beg our sports teacher to allow us to play games every afternoon.
Then I bumped into Caroline, who I [3] _____ always having arguments with. I hardly recognised her. She didn't [4] _____ to wear such elegant clothes. But one thing hasn't changed about her. She [5] _____ always talking about others behind their back. It's so unpleasant!
The reunion also reminded me of the importance of discipline and punctuality that our head teacher talked about so often. I got used to certain things so much that even now I [6] _____ arrive at meetings at least fifteen minutes earlier than necessary!

4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1 If you can't find a prospectus, try _____ (look) online for the information you need.
2 The Music Academy exam board first listened to us all _____ (sing) and then they announced who was admitted.
3 I'm sorry, sir. I forgot _____ (check) if my essay is within the word limit you required.
4 Do you think our Chemistry teacher will let _____ (we/use) the lab to carry out our own experiments?
5 We were warned _____ (not touch) any of the exhibits.
6 My sister spent the whole night _____ (check) her students' homework and then she left it on her desk at home.

LANGUAGE IN USE

5 Complete the text with the correct form of the words in brackets.

Book reviews

MAKING SCIENCE POPULAR

By Nicholas Booker

Science is one of the most difficult subjects and even the most [1] _____ (study) students sometimes struggle to solve scientific problems. If you want a book that makes science more [2] _____ (access), I can recommend Bill Bryson's *A Short History of Nearly Everything*. Full of amusing anecdotes and stories about quantum mechanics, evolution, astronomy and chemistry, it's a book that will satisfy your thirst for [3] _____ (know) and help you to [4] _____ (vision) certain scientific processes. The author brings science to life by, for example, giving a graphic and entertaining description of the universe. This is both a well-written book and a highly enjoyable one. Not [5] _____ (surprise), it is considered a must-read by many.

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6 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first, using the word in capitals. Do not change the word in capitals.

1 I was in the habit of skipping early morning classes. **USED**
I _____ early morning classes.
2 Does it make sense to apply to university or should I take a gap year? **WORTH**
_____ to university or should I take a gap year?
3 Our English teacher took us to the cinema to watch foreign films once a month. **WOULD**
Our English teacher _____ the cinema to watch foreign films once a month.
4 Mark won't help me with my homework, so why should I ask him? **USE**
_____ Mark to help me with my homework. He won't help me anyway.
5 My best friend has a very irritating habit of chewing gum loudly. **ALWAYS**
My best friend _____ loudly.
6 I'm not sure if I've told my parents about the school trip. **REMEMBER**
_____ my parents about the school trip.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

AT THE BEIJING DANCE ACADEMY 舞蹈學院

from *Mao's Last Dancer*, by Li Cunxin

Those first few weeks at the Beijing Dance Academy were an agony of loneliness. Nights were the worst. I couldn't wait to get to bed so I could clutch onto my niang's* quilt, my only security.

I knew I had no choice but to stay in Beijing. My parents, my brothers, relatives, friends, my old school teachers and classmates, my village and commune, all of their wishes and expectations made it impossible for me to go back. [1]___ My success was my parents' only hope of breaking that vicious cycle of poverty. I couldn't let them down, even if I did feel trapped in a cage of rules and routines. Every day I couldn't wait for the year to end so I could return home to see my family and roam the streets and fields once more.

I wasn't alone in missing home. I witnessed many teary eyes among my fellow classmates. The girls sobbed more than the boys. [2]___ The boys would be told that crying was a sign of weakness. […]

Our first weeks weren't made any easier when a virus swept through the school. I was among those who had the severe cough, sore throat and high fever. [3]___ I offered to share it with some of my classmates but it was as though I'd offered them poison. I lost a few friends over that, but I did notice that their symptoms lasted much longer than mine. […]

One of the treats at the academy once a month was watching documentaries and occasionally a movie. All the foreign films were from other communist countries. A North Korean movie I remember particularly well was about a young man who had lost his ambitions for the communist cause, and a beautiful girl, a Communist Youth Party member, who helped him and fell in love with him. What I enjoyed most about this movie wasn't the politics but the love story. [4]___ I imagined that if I performed badly enough in class, the political head might send this girl to help me, but the longed-for love never materialised.

*niang: grandmother

A Naturally, I did what my niang would have done – I took out a few pieces of my precious dried snakeskin and wrapped a green onion in them.

B We knew what we had to do – and there was a great determination amongst every boy and girl to succeed.

C The loss of face would be unbearable. It would damage my family's reputation forever.

D Our political heads and teachers showed more tenderness towards the girls.

E For the next couple of weeks I started to behave differently towards the captain of the girls' class, a pretty Qingdao girl with big, bright eyes.

CD•1.25 MP3•25 **Listen to four people talking about classes they attend. Choose from the list (A–F) what each speaker says. Use the letters only once. There are two extra letters.**

Speaker 1: ☐ Speaker 3: ☐

Speaker 2: ☐ Speaker 4: ☐

The speaker:

A wants to develop a professional goal.

B is struggling with the amount of work on the course.

C is motivated by feedback from the tutor.

D is concerned about other students' motivation.

E is thinking of quitting the course.

F is surprised by the attitude of the tutor.

LIVEWORKSHEETS