

Vocabulary

Cost and amount

Complete each sentence with an appropriate word. The beginning of each word has been given to help you.

- 1 I was offered a small **d**_____ of 5% on the laptop if I bought anti-virus software with it.
- 2 I got this case with my new phone for no **e**_____ charge.
- 3 For a modest **f**_____, you can upgrade to the full, ad-free version of the app.
- 4 According to the package I bought, there's no **l**_____ to the number of texts I can send.
- 5 If you are not 100% satisfied with your purchase, you can exchange it or get a full **r**_____.
- 6 The success of the game was in large **p**_____ due to realistic graphics.
- 7 I would have bought the new noise-cancelling headphones, but the high **c**_____ put me off.
- 8 A great **d**_____ of time and effort has gone into making sure the software is user-friendly.

Verb forms with *up*, *down*, *over* and *under*

Complete each sentence by adding the correct prefix, either **up-**, **down-**, **over-** or **under-**, to the word in bold.

- 1 I was running out of storage space, so I _____ **graded** my account to get more.
- 2 Do you know any free games that I can _____ **load** onto my phone?
- 3 Our company is committed to _____ **holding** the highest environmental standards.
- 4 A number of people on the council were opposed to creating the new bike lanes, but they were _____ **ruled**, meaning that the work will go ahead.
- 5 The new software is _____ **going** tests at the moment. When all the bugs have been fixed, it will be available to buy.
- 6 The company plans to reduce the number of staff in an attempt to _____ **size**.

Language focus

Determiners and pronouns

Complete each sentence with the words in the box.

all both enough every few neither one several

- 1 We've got more than _____ TVs in this house. We don't need another one.
- 2 I've been to Paris on _____ occasions, but I've never spent more than a night there.
- 3 _____ smartphones have the ability to access the internet unlike simpler mobile phones, which you can't use to go online.
- 4 There are two ports in my laptop. _____ matches the cable I've got, unfortunately.
- 5 It seems that an upgraded version of this type of tablet comes out every _____ years.
- 6 Now that I've bought a new smartphone, what should I do with my old _____?
- 7 There are two cafés near here where you can get coffee, and I'd say that _____ are very good.
- 8 This is an amazing book in _____ conceivable way.

Future forms

Choose the correct follow-up sentence (A or B).

- 1 The company is to announce their new product tomorrow.
A We'll know for sure whether or not this will happen very soon.
B The time of the announcement is scheduled for 4 pm.
- 2 My laptop will keep crashing.
A I really should get it looked at.
B It's never done this before.
- 3 I'm about to go home.
A I'll see you tomorrow.
B It depends on how much work I've got left to do.
- 4 The price of this type of phone is bound to go up.
A But there's an equally likely chance that it won't.
B So, I'd buy one now if I were you.
- 5 I'm planning on buying myself a smartwatch tomorrow.
A But I don't know if I will.
B I've been saving up for ages.
- 6 I hope I will get the job.
A But somehow doubt that I will.
B There's no doubt in my mind.

Reading and Use of English

Part 2 Open cloze

For questions 1–8, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

Example: (0) TO

The systematic investment plans

As important as it is to make money to cover day-(0)-day expenses, it is equally essential to save (1) the uncertain future. Investment plans (2) in handy while planning your capital. More people are turning to mutual funds these days, (3) the risk involved, as the returns are quite promising.

The systematic investment plans (SIPs) are ideal for people (4) busy schedules as these plans allow for the automation of monthly contributions. A SIP involves a regular investment of a small amount each month (5) than putting all your money in a lump sum plan, which is riskier.

The SIPs also inculcate a sense (6) financial discipline and proves fruitful in the long run. Systematically, fund units are purchased corresponding the amount (7) one invests.

The actual results and benefits can be seen only over a long period of time. Hence, investors must be patient and always talk to a professional (8) making any purchase to get a better understanding of risk factors, financial goals, current portfolio composition, investment horizon, etc.

Reading and Use of English

Part 7 Gapped text

You are going to read an extract from a magazine article. Six paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs (A–G) the one which fits each gap (1–6). There is one paragraph which you do not need to use.

Wi-fi and the most beautiful woman in the world

Whether it's for work, communication, entertainment or downloading apps onto our phones, our lives have become increasingly reliant on wireless communication to the extent that it's difficult – and possibly scary – to imagine not having it.

1

Hedy Lamarr was – for a long time – most notable for being a Hollywood actress. Born Hedwig Kiesler in Austria, in 1914, she took an early interest in acting despite her parents (a pianist and a bank manager) having no particular involvement in the theatre.

2

It was there that she would live for the rest of her life. Changing her name to Hedy Lamarr in order to appeal more to American audiences, and promoted as the 'world's most beautiful woman', her stunning good looks and natural acting talent made her a star, appearing in some of the biggest films of the 1940s.

3

In what spare time she had, she worked on inventing things. Perhaps surprisingly, this Hollywood icon had an urge to scrutinise problems around her and try to devise scientific solutions. Above all else, she loved tinkering on things and making them work better. Among her many projects were making traffic lights effective and coming up with designs to make aircraft more aerodynamic.

4

Her interest in this arose from learning that torpedoes – which were just beginning to be used by navies – were controlled by radio signals. These radio transmissions could easily be intercepted or jammed resulting in the torpedoes being stopped or sent on a different course.

5

Although this 'secret communication system' was never to be employed by the military at the time, neither was it ignored. By the 1950s, the US navy was expanding upon Kiesler's ideas to conduct research into ways of combatting enemy submarines. Further military research would lead one day to the development of early wi-fi technology.

6

Her film career gradually dwindled, and she lived an increasingly secluded existence until her death in 2000. For most of that time, she was remembered only for being a retired actress. Yet, just a few years before passing away, well into her 70s, she began to receive awards for her scientific work. Now, uniquely among Hollywood movie stars, she has an asteroid and a satellite posthumously named after her and has been inducted into America's National Inventors Hall of Fame.

- A** Through the early 1930s, she appeared in several German-language movies and became something of a star by the time she was 18. And by the end of that decade, she had received enough attention from Hollywood producers that she was invited to make a name for herself in the US.
- B** What would really make a difference to the world, however, was Kiesler's work on a frequency-hopping spread spectrum. She called this a 'secret communication system', which she would file a patent for in 1941.
- C** When trying to envision who might have invented this wonder of modern technology, it's tempting to imagine teams of white-coated scientists hard at work in a lab. Or perhaps a whizz kid in his bedroom somewhere, messing about with a bunch of wires and electrodes. The answer as to who was one of the key figures behind the development of wi-fi might surprise you.
- D** It might seem strange now that modern wi-fi had its origins in times of naval warfare and was devised by a movie legend. Indeed, for a long time, Kiesler never received any kind of recognition for her work.
- E** This largely came about because of her involvement with American businessman and film director, Howard Hughes, who also had an interest in aviation. A keen pilot, he dated Kiesler for a time and actively supported her interest in designing new inventions.
- F** None of this, it has to be said, had much appeal for Kiesler, who famously quipped that any girl could look glamorous on screen – all you had to do was stand around and look stupid. What Kiesler did find fascinating, however, was science.
- G** With an acquaintance who was a composer and pianist, Kiesler concocted a device which merged parts from a mechanical self-playing piano and radio technology. Together, they conceived of a form of radio signal that could neither be intercepted nor tampered with.

Listening

Part 4 Multiple matching

🔊 You'll hear five short extracts in which people are talking about giving up an element of modern life.

TASK ONE

For questions 1–5, choose from the list (A–H) the main reason each speaker gives for giving up an element of modern life.

TASK TWO

For questions 6–10, choose from the list (A–H) how each speaker feels about their experience.

While you listen, you must complete both tasks.

A for medical reasons

B to prove somebody wrong

C to improve their mental health

D to help somebody

E for financial reasons

F because of where they live

G for environmental reasons

H for an assignment

Speaker 1 1

Speaker 2 2

Speaker 3 3

Speaker 4 4

Speaker 5 5

A disappointed that they couldn't do more

B proud of their achievement

C relieved that the worst is over

D annoyed by the reactions of others

E shocked by how hard it was

F enthusiastic about taking the next step

G determined to do better in the future

H guilty about their behaviour in the past

Speaker 1 6

Speaker 2 7

Speaker 3 8

Speaker 4 9

Speaker 5 10

Writing

Part 2 Proposal

Your university library has a small sum of money to spend on subscriptions for online newspapers or other publications. You have been asked to propose two subscriptions which would be of general interest to students. Describe the content and explain why they would be of interest to students.

Write your proposal in 220–260 words in an appropriate style.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Speaking

Part 4 Further discussion

You will be asked some of the following questions.

- Do you think some people care too much about money? Why? / Why not?
- What do you think is the best way to save money? Why?
- What do you think is the most important technological development of the last 100 years? Why?
- Do you think that people spend too much time using their phones? Why? / Why not?
- What important technological developments do you think we will have in the future?
- Do you think people's lives are bound to get better because of technology? Why? / Why not?