Learning

UNIT 11

Lesson A Vocabulary and Grammar

A Complete the text with the words in the box. Two words require a different form.

academic	achieve	attend	concentrate	confidence
curriculum	degree	expert	motivation	training

I'm the youngest of four children, and my brothers and sisters had started (1) _____ our local high school years before me. That can give you very powerful (2) _____: they seemed so grown-up, to me, and I wanted to be like them. Unfortunately, this excitement didn't last long. Instead of learning, we were just trying to cover the (3) _____. Classes were just a form of (4) _____ to pass the exams. I struggled to (5) _____. My grades dropped, and so did my (6) _____, especially after a teacher told my parents I had no (7) _____ talent, and it was better not to push me to try to (8) _____ more than I could. And then I discovered astronomy, and it all changed. I'm now studying with some of the world's greatest (9) _____, and I'm finishing my college (10) _____ this summer!

B Circle the correct options.

1. I wonder what Abraham Lincoln *should* / *would* have thought of this.
2. You *should* / *would* have called me instead of doing all that work on your own.
3. She *would* / *could* have been injured in the accident, but luckily, she wasn't.
4. He *should* / *would* have put sunscreen on—look how sunburned he is.
5. I *shouldn't* / *wouldn't* have made pizza if I'd known you hate it.

C Complete the text with the correct form of *should* / *would* / *could have* and the verbs in parentheses.

Members of the jury, I'm here to tell you that my client (1) _____ (not / commit) this crime because she was in Philadelphia that day. She (2) _____ (not / be) there because she had a meeting to attend here, but her manager made her go to Philadelphia. She never trusted her manager, and, on the train, she thought she (3) _____ (say) no to him. However, she didn't because she was sure she (4) _____ (get) in trouble if she had. She (5) _____ (lie) and said she was sick, but she knew her manager (6) _____ (find out). But that was her lucky decision, and you will hear witnesses saying she (7) _____ (not / be) at the crime scene because she was hundreds of miles away. I will prove to you that this trial (8) _____ (never / start).

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Lesson B Listening

A 24 **Listen to the podcast. What is it about?**

a. Accents and why they matter

b. Critical thinking and why it matters

B 24 **Listen again and check the correct options.**

1. Professor Said thinks that
- ☐ **a.** Paco's English is not correct.
- ☐ **b.** people don't speak correctly.
- ☐ **c.** everybody has an accent.

2. Professor Said thought that
- ☐ **a.** her relative was not very smart.
- ☐ **b.** slow talkers are not very smart.
- ☐ **c.** people from Louisiana are not very smart.

3. Professor Said thinks that
- ☐ **a.** we need to examine what we believe.
- ☐ **b.** our beliefs are nearly always wrong.
- ☐ **c.** we must try to disagree with others.

4. Professor Said thinks that it is important
- ☐ **a.** to have the right feelings.
- ☐ **b.** to talk to people we disagree with.
- ☐ **c.** to win arguments.

C **Match the words and expressions.**

_____ **1.** put something to the test	**a.** have
_____ **2.** reason	**b.** confusion about what something means
_____ **3.** hold	**c.** supporting argument
_____ **4.** misunderstanding	**d.** decide the value of something
_____ **5.** evaluate	**e.** examine something

D **Complete the summary of the podcast using the words in the box. Use each word only once.**

able	control	effect	evidence	examine	false	hidden
hold	how	little	reason	somebody	test	truth

Critical thinking is a way of thinking by which you (1) _____ your beliefs to make sure you have good (2) _____ for them. We may (3) _____ beliefs that we formed when we were young and knew very (4) _____ about life. We need to (5) _____ our beliefs because important decisions that we make may be based on ideas we don't know we have, but they (6) _____ our lives. If they are (7) _____, they will have negative (8) _____ on our lives. So, we need to ask (9) _____ we know what we know and evaluate arguments and (10) _____. Talking with people we disagree with is very helpful because they show us our (11) _____ beliefs. They may also see things we don't see that we need to evaluate to find the (12) _____. If we do that, we will be (13) _____ to choose beliefs that are our own and not (14) _____ else's.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Lesson C Vocabulary and Grammar

A Complete the first part of the description with the words in the box.

boarding school	campus	continuing education	enroll
gap year	homeschooling	major in	private school

Lawyers in Space is the worst TV show I have ever seen. The first episode starts like a classic rags-to-riches story. As a child, Ben had to help his father on the farm, so his mother provided him with some basic (1) _____. Ben was very bright, so after he got a job at the age of 16, he was able to (2) _____ for evening classes in the department for (3) _____ at the local community college. Then he got a scholarship and was offered a place at the local university to (4) _____ law. He lived on (5) _____, but he was very unhappy. Other students had been to (6) _____, and some even to (7) _____, so he thought everybody was smarter than him. He made friends with an older student, Charlie, who had just come back from his (8) _____ in Australia.

B Circle the correct form of each verb to complete the second part of the description.

What Ben didn't know was that Charlie, whose father was a British lawyer and diplomat, (1) *would / should* cause him trouble. At the age of four, Charlie (2) *will / was going to* move from England to France, where his father (3) *could / was going to* work for the government. Two days before the move, Charlie's father was accused of a crime he had not committed and mysteriously disappeared. Charlie's mother, also a lawyer, sent Charlie to live with family in the US. The separation (4) *is / was* only going to be temporary, as she was sure she (5) *could / would* be able to prove her husband's innocence. What she didn't know was that she (6) *is soon going to / would soon* be arrested, too.

C Complete the final part of the description with the future in the past of the verbs in parentheses.

At first, Charlie's mother's arrest meant that it (1) _____ (take) longer for her to bring her son back. She didn't know that she (2) _____ (spend) ten years in prison. In the meantime, her husband discovered that the proof of his and his wife's innocence was held on the International Space Station. So, he decided that the only way he (3) _____ (be) free was by going there himself. According to his plan, he (4) _____ (train) at a secret location and, with the help of a friend, he (5) _____ (get) on the next mission to the Space Station. However, the government found out, and stopped their plan. That's why as soon as he and Ben got their law degrees, Charlie decided they (6) _____ (become) astronauts and go to the International Space Station themselves. That's when I realized the show was terrible, and I stopped watching it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Lesson D Reading

1. _____

In 1993, neurologist Oliver Sacks published an article in *The New Yorker* called "To See and Not To See" in which he told the story of a man, Virgil (not his real name), who had lost his eyesight when he was a child, but had gotten it back after an operation 45 years later. The doctors thought the operation had been successful and excitedly waited for the bandages to come off and to see the happiness on Virgil's face. They and Virgil were greatly disappointed, though: Virgil's eyes could see, but his brain could not understand the images it was receiving from his eyes. In other words, the brain had lost the ability to process the data the eyes were sending, and what his eyes saw made no sense to him. This told Sacks that images are not formed in our eyes but in our brain—**i.e.**, the camera doesn't know what it is recording.

2. _____

Sacks's conclusion is helpful in discussing dyslexia. The brain of a dyslexic person seems to process data from the eyes in a way that is different from how a non-dyslexic brain does it. As a result, there are considerable differences between how easily each group can perform the same tasks. The most obvious difference is that many dyslexics struggle with reading, writing, and lists. That is because these tasks are sequential: they depend on the ability to detect and remember the order of letters in words and words in sentences, which a dyslexic brain finds difficult to process.

3. _____

However, dyslexics can accurately identify visual patterns and where the pattern is broken more easily than non-dyslexics. This is what a team of psychologists from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire discovered in 2003. They conducted an experiment in which they gave participants a number of images and asked them to pick out the ones that showed impossible things. They found that people with dyslexia were the fastest at the task.

4. _____

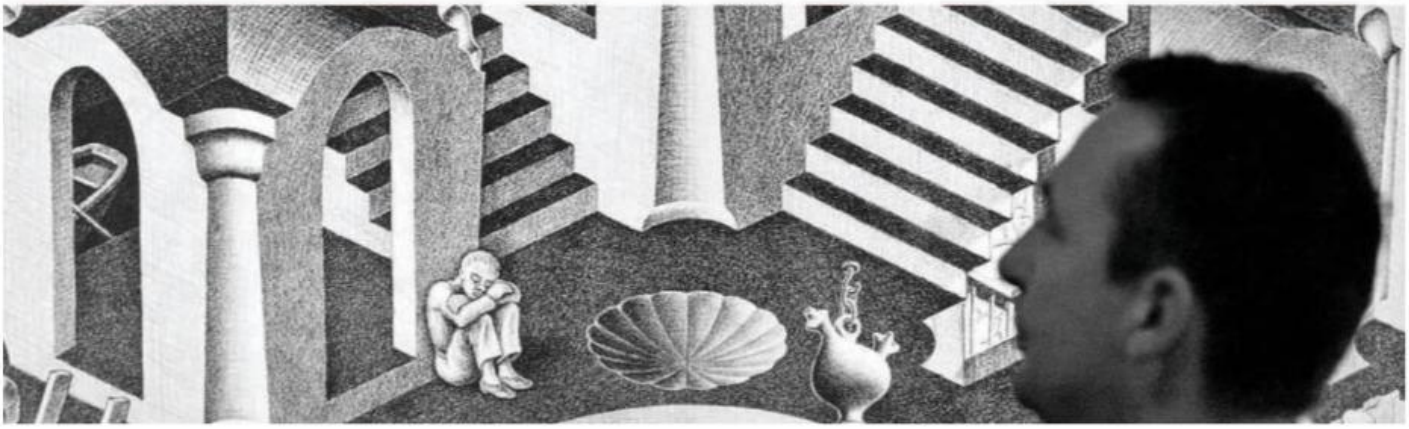
Dyslexics can also think in images, visualize 3-D shapes from 2-D drawings, think creatively about ideas that do not seem connected, and find solutions more easily and often better than non-dyslexic people. This explains why dyslexic people excel at visual arts, architecture, math, science, and critical thinking. Although dyslexia was not known at the time, Picasso, Edison, Walt Disney, Agatha Christie, and Einstein, just to give a few examples, were probably dyslexic. They all did terribly in school because of their dyslexia, but then went on to make their mark on the world.

5. _____

For Virgil, however, regaining his sight at 50 might have been too late. Although the operation had fully repaired his eyes, his brain never learned how to process images again, and he almost completely lost his sight again, not long after the operation.

i.e. (Latin, *id est* = that is) formal way to say *in other words*

▼ Dutch artist M.C. Escher created pieces of art that showed impossible situations.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

A Skim the article and choose the best title.

1. Two Types of Brain
2. Virgil's Story
3. Advantages and Disadvantages

B Read the article again. Match the headings to the paragraphs.

a. Spot the Nonsense
b. A Sad Conclusion
c. Sequences? No, Thanks!
d. Virgil
e. The Bigger Picture

C Read the sentences and write *T* (true) or *F* (false).

_____ 1. Virgil stayed blind because his brain didn't know what to do with images.
_____ 2. We understand what we see because the brain forms the correct image of it.
_____ 3. If you're dyslexic, it's probably difficult for you to read letters in the correct order.
_____ 4. If you're dyslexic, you'll probably notice mistakes in patterns very quickly.
_____ 5. If you're dyslexic, you probably love making lists of things to remember.
_____ 6. If you're dyslexic, you probably find it easy to visualize things that don't exist yet.
_____ 7. If you're dyslexic, you're probably not very creative.
_____ 8. Dyslexia has been studied for centuries.

D Compare the first paragraph of the article and the text below. Circle the information in the article that is missing in the paragraph below, and underline the differences in vocabulary, spelling, and style. Then check the best practices for essay writing.

Oliver Sacks published an article in which he told the story of this guy, Virgil, who had become blind at some stage but then had an operation and could see again. The doctors thought the operation had gone well and were hoping that Virgil was going to be happy with not being blind. But they and Virgil were very disappointed: Virgil's eyes could see, but Virgil's brain couldn't understand the stuff it was getting from his eyes. That is, the brain couldn't process the data the eyes were sending, which in practice means that we see with our brain and not with our eyes. Wow.

☐ 1. Use formal language.
☐ 2. If you can, say where your information comes from.
☐ 3. Use contractions.
☐ 4. Use the passive where possible.
☐ 5. Use precise language.
☐ 6. Use colloquial, friendly language.
☐ 7. Give facts and figures where possible.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Lesson E Writing

A Read the essay. Then look at the underlined parts and match them with the best practices they **fail** to follow. Write the numbers. Some parts break more than one rule.

The Unexamined Life Is Not Worth Living

Socrates was an ancient Greek philosopher, (1) and I think he's the father of Western philosophy. (2) There are some theories about when and where he was born, but he died in Athens in 399 BC.

He was the first philosopher to think that (3) philosophy is for finding the truth, and that the most important truth to find (4) is what the *good life* is—(5) that is, the right way to live your life as a good person in society. (6) You recognize you're ignorant and you go from there, examining your beliefs in detail. (7) You find the truth talking to others: (8) they say what they think, and you ask questions to test their belief. If, for example, that belief seems good for the individual, but (9) bad for society, then (10) it's wrong. (11) If you can't find faults, then that belief is probably correct. He invented critical thinking.

This is why he never wrote anything. (12) As he knew he was ignorant, he believed the only thing he had to teach was a method for finding the truth: ask questions until you find answers that (13) can't be wrong. How do we know what we know about him? Through the conversations between him and other people that two of (14) his students wrote down. But then, are those Socrates's words and ideas, or his students'? It (15) doesn't matter; what matters are the ideas and the method, not (16) his name.

a. Use formal language. _____

b. Use the passive where possible. _____

c. Use precise language. _____

d. Give facts where possible. _____

▼ A statue of Socrates at the Academy of Athens in Greece.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Review

UNIT 11

A Complete the sentences with the words in the box. Two words require a different form.

academic	academy	achievement	attendance
concentration	confident	motivate	train

1. You need to improve your _____; you shouldn't have missed class this morning.
2. She couldn't have studied harder, so she was _____ she was going to pass.
3. One of his greatest _____ was opening a youth center.
4. He wanted to be an actor, but he would have had to go to a performing arts _____.
5. This job requires high _____: a mistake can cost lives.
6. She wants to _____ to be a plumber.
7. To be a successful _____, you need to be good at researching and fundraising.
8. I don't like people who are _____ by greed.

B Complete each sentence with a word or phrase from the box.

boarding school	campus	continuing education	enroll
gap year	homeschooling	major in	private school

1. He hated _____ because he missed his classmates.
2. What is it like for children who live at a _____ to be away from their family?
3. He decided to _____ in film studies, but he may not be able to finish the course.
4. Sending your children to a _____ must be very expensive.
5. With so many buildings, it took me some time to find my way around the _____.
6. The film is about a woman who _____ rocket science.
7. She's taking a _____ to travel, and then she may or may not go to college.
8. There are lots of part-time courses for workers in the department of _____.

C Complete the sentences with a future in the past form of the verbs in parentheses.

1. The mother had no idea how she _____ (afford) her children's education.
2. The students hoped that the school play _____ (be) successful.
3. The teachers knew they _____ (have) to help the students prepare.
4. The elderly couple decided they _____ (do) anything with their retirement money.

LIVEWORKSHEETS