

# SKILLS TEST 8

# Standard

## READING

1 Read the article quickly. Choose the best summary (1–7) for each paragraph (A–G).

### A teen deterrent?

**A** There is a sound which can only be heard by young people. It is so high, that people over the age of 25 cannot hear it at all. However, for teenagers, it's one of the most annoying sounds in the world.

**B** Recently, in the UK, a special device has been invented – an alarm which uses this special sound. The makers claim that it can deter young criminals. In many cities around the UK, it's common to see bored teenagers hanging out near shops, or in parks. Most don't get into any trouble. But some end up committing crimes, like fighting other people, painting graffiti on walls, or breaking windows or phone boxes. The alarm is designed to make these teenagers want to go away.

**C** The person who invented the alarm, Howard Stapleton, said that he had had the idea when his 17-year-old daughter went into a shop, and a group of other teenagers outside were very rude to her. He tested different sounds, and found out that teenagers could be made to go away from an area if they heard a special type of noise.

**D** Other people in the area have started using these sound alarms. Thousands of shops across the UK have now taken them up. Many people have been very happy with the results. They explained that the number of crimes had gone down and their areas had ended up safer and nicer to live in.

**E** However, there are problems with the alarm. Perhaps the biggest is that the sound deters everyone

under the age of 25 – not just criminals. For example, it can make very young children feel sick. Some mothers have said that it had made their children cry, and they couldn't play outside any more.

**F** Other people think that the alarms are a very bad idea, because they create areas where it is not possible for young people to go to and spend time in. Not all teenagers are criminals, but the alarm treats them as if they are.

**G** Other teenagers have turned the special alarm into an advantage. They have made it into a special ringtone for their mobile phones. Because only young people can hear it, they can now get text messages or phone calls in class without their teachers hearing anything at all!

- 1 These alarms have had a positive effect.
- 2 Some teenagers are using the special sound in a new way.
- 3 There is a special noise that teenagers don't like.
- 4 The alarms punish good teenagers, as well as bad teenagers.
- 5 How someone had the idea to create the alarm.
- 6 There is an alarm that makes teenagers want to leave a place.
- 7 Some parents are upset with the alarm.

7

2 Read the article again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false), or DS (the article doesn't say).


- 1 Teenagers can hear more than people over the age of 25.
- 2 In the UK, most crimes are committed by teenagers.
- 3 The person who invented the alarm had a daughter who was a criminal.
- 4 The alarm became quite popular in the UK, and people said it was a good idea.
- 5 The alarm isn't popular in other countries.
- 6 The alarm only deters teenagers.
- 7 The alarm isn't fair, because it doesn't make a difference between good and bad teenagers.
- 8 Teenagers are now using the alarm to make their teachers go away.

8

# SKILLS TEST 8

# Standard

## LISTENING

3  Listen and tick [✓] the things that the two teenagers talk about.

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 committing crimes                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 punishments for crimes                        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 3 the most serious types of crime               | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 4 stealing items from a shop                    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 5 why shoplifting is not a serious crime        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 6 why people might steal things they don't need | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 7 not behaving correctly during an exam         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 8 the reasons why some people might cheat       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 9 offering people help                          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 10 why cheating can make people ill             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 11 why cheating is not the right thing to do    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 12 why it is usually OK to commit a crime       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

7

4  Listen again and complete the sentences with words from the list. You do not need all the words.

children   choice   criminals   desperation   excitement   explained fair   fine   ill <b>judges</b> persuade   refused   rich
---

- 0 Carol's teacher asked her class to be *judges*.
- 1 Adam thinks criminals should pay a \_\_\_\_\_ or go to prison.
- 2 Carol says that some people might shoplift because of their \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Adam replies that even \_\_\_\_\_ people steal things.
- 4 This is because they get a feeling of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Carol says that if someone is \_\_\_\_\_, they can't study as much as other students.
- 6 Other students wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ her that this meant it was OK to cheat.
- 7 Adam thinks that someone who needed to cheat in an exam should have \_\_\_\_\_ their situation.
- 8 He also thinks that some people commit crimes because there is no \_\_\_\_\_.

8

# SKILLS TEST 8

# Standard

## WRITING

- 5 Write a newspaper article (around 150–180 words) about a real or fictional crime that happened recently in your area. What happened? When did the crime happen? Who committed the crime? What was the punishment?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

20

## SPEAKING

- 6 Work in pairs. Look at the photos below. They show crimes being committed. Take turns to describe your photo, and say what you think is happening. Then, decide together which crime is the most serious.



- 7 Work in pairs. Imagine that you saw or heard about the situations in photo A or B. Take turns to give your news, react and ask for more details. Use the useful language below.

*You'll never guess what ...*

*You won't believe what happened ...*

*I heard a really (sad / scary ...) story about ...*

*There was a story in the paper the other day ...*

*Tell me.*

20

TOTAL SCORE  70