

READY FOR C2 - TEST UNITS 3 & 4

1. Choose the correct options to complete the blog post.

A must-not see

To say I was looking forward to seeing the latest film by Robert Wilmer is an understatement. He's been **(1)** *on / in / under / at* the forefront of action cinema for years and I'm a big fan of all of his films, so the sequel to *Walking on Mars* was top of my list.

I'll start with what's good about *Walking on Mars: The Return*, because, quite frankly, it won't take long. Hats off to Diane Ronald. Her acting is **(2)** *in / on / under / at* a par with the first film, and that's impossible to fault. I'm quite simply **(3)** *at / under / in / on* awe of her as an actress and would go so far as to say she's one of the greatest of our generation.

Now the hard part. The film has been **(4)** *in / on / under / at* scrutiny since it opened at the cinemas last week. The flaws in the plot are blindingly obvious to anyone, many of the jokes are **(5)** *at / under / in / on* poor taste, and apart from Ronald, there is some questionable acting **(6)** *under / at / in / on* display. **(7)** *On / Under / In / At* retrospect, I have to say that the soundtrack wasn't as bad as I first thought. That's not to say I'm rushing to put it on my playlist, however.

All in all, sequels rarely live up to the original and it's fair to say that this one would have put any thoughts for a third film **(8)** *on / at / in / under* jeopardy!

2. Read the text below. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the space. There is an example at the beginning.

The future of printing

Scientists are forever trying to think up new and **(0)** INVENTIVE **(INVENT)** ways to reduce the number of trees that are cut down every year. And they may just have come up with one particularly clever **(1)** _____ **(SOLVE)**.

The de-printer is a(n) **(2)** _____ **(ORDINARY)** gadget that is able to literally suck ink off paper. In turn, the paper can be reused up to ten times.

A **(3)** _____ **(SPECIAL)** coated material is used on the paper meaning the ink can't be absorbed into the page. Once the page has been printed and read, a **(4)** _____ **(POWER)** laser vaporises the ink.

Barak Yekutieli, the man behind the project, also explains that the process can go one step further. 'What's left is just pigments of the ink which we collect and those can be **(5)** _____ **(CYCLE)** back into new printer inks', he said.

And the good news is that existing printers could have this device alongside their **(6)** _____ **(CONVENTION)** printer. This would mean that the **(7)** _____ **(TRANSFORM)** of printed paper to plain paper could be done **(8)** _____ **(RELATIVE)** easily.

3. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only one word in each space. There is an example at the beginning.

The Brompton Bike

Back in the late 19th century, the original safety bike was invented, that is, the type of bike we still see today. (0) SO perfect was its design that it remained relatively unchanged until the late 70s. That's when Andrew Ritchie patented his design for a new type of bicycle, a folding model, which he called the Brompton. (1) _____ to what some people think, the Brompton wasn't named (2) _____ anything related to cycling, but rather after the London cemetery Ritchie could see while he was working on it.

(3) _____ not having access to computers, Ritchie managed to design the complex geometry required for his folding bike on his kitchen table. Initially, production was slow (4) _____ a result of a lack of funding, but this all changed in 1988 and his company was able to start full-scale production.

So, (5) _____ made the Brompton so innovative and how has it remained largely unrivalled to this day? To (6) _____ intents and purposes, it was the first truly successful folding bike due to three key elements: it's handmade, well-engineered and well-designed. On top of (7) _____ the bike's resale value is incredibly high.

Today, Brompton is the biggest maker of bicycles in the UK. The company also exports to more than 40 different countries, which account (8) _____ 80% of sales.

4. Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- In the negotiating room, there was a *grain* / *glimmer* of hope as both parties finally found common ground on the contentious issue.
- The new collaborative approach brought a *hint* / *breath* of fresh air to the workplace.
- Despite the compromise, he felt a *pang* / *fit* of regret for not exploring alternative solutions that could have satisfied everyone.
- *The brainstorming session resulted in a stroke / pang of genius, unveiling an innovative approach that satisfied everyone's concerns.*
- The successful collaboration earned a *scrap* / *round* of applause, acknowledging the team's dedication to compromise and shared success.
- Piecing together the *scraps* / *glimmers* of evidence, the group uncovered a comprehensive solution that addressed each stakeholder's needs.
- Amidst a *pang* / *fit* of anger, he recognised the importance of stepping back and taking a moment for reflection.
- Although she was unhappy with the feedback she received, she acknowledged there was at least a *grain* / *breath* of truth to it.

5. Choose the correct words to complete the sentences. You can use each word only once.

backlash	scapegoat	watershed turnover	keepsakes standpoint	shortcomings	willpower
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- My cousin lacks the _____ to make a positive change to her routine.
- From the children's _____, the decision to change teachers is nonsensical.

- The loft was the dumping ground for old photographs, childhood toys and other _____.
- When the footballer took to social media with her comments, it sparked an angry _____ from the team's rivals.
- The high rate of staff _____ dissuaded her from accepting the position offered.
- It was the manager's job to highlight the _____ of each staff member in their annual review.
- The journalist became a _____ for the newspaper's mishandling of the story.
- It turned out to be a _____ moment for their relationship – it was when they agreed to work together.

6. Choose the correct options to complete the text.

I am a nature photographer and people often (1) *asks / ask* me how to get into it. My (2) *advice / advices* to them is always the same: start today. Most of the best people in the (3) *fields / field* started young and took thousands of photos before they land the one that just takes your breath away.

Firstly, think about the light: shooting in the hour just before and after sunset, known respectively as the golden hour and the blue hour, tends to produce the most satisfying images. Secondly, experiment by focusing on different parts of your (4) *surroundings / surrounding*. Taking a different angle can help to transform an ordinary scene into an exciting narrative. Thirdly, experiment with monochrome to convey mood and (5) *atmosphere / atmospheres*. Anybody employing these tactics (6) *have / has* a good chance of getting a great photo.

And be prepared to put in the hours. Getting one of my photos accepted by *National Geographic* was the (7) *highlight / highlights* of my career to date. I managed to capture (8) *salmons / salmon* swimming upstream on a late summer evening in Scotland. It had taken me a couple of days but was so worth it.

7. Complete the gap in the sentence with the correct form of the word given.

- Two Scandinavian countries, _____ (NAME) Sweden and Denmark, are opposed to the plans.
- As far as I can see, all the criticism was totally _____ (JUSTIFY) – they did nothing wrong.
- The question of who is going to pay the invoice has become a _____ (STICK) point that we just can't agree on.
- Please make sure any _____ (AMEND) to the agreement are made in red.
- Compromise involves both parties being prepared to meet _____ (HALF).
- The director was _____ (BITTER) disappointed with the way the film had turned out.
- _____ (STABLE) in the region means it's been taken off the Foreign Office's list of safe holiday destinations.
- Remember to take your coats, bags and any other _____ (BELONG) with you when you leave the classroom.