

Task 1

EXAM TASK Read the texts. Match choices (A–H) to (1–5). There are three choices you do not need to use.

Which advertisement describes ...

- A a student exchange trip? _____
- B a meeting with a psychologist? _____
- C changing courses? _____
- D why doing a degree is a good idea? _____
- E a language course? _____
- F a way to meet people? _____
- G a relaxation technique? _____
- H the advantages of a part-time course? _____

1

Are you unhappy with your current course, but worry that changing universities is **a drastic measure**?

Visit the university careers service!

We can help you see **the bigger picture** and choose a new course that is right for you.

We will make sure you have the right qualifications and help you with the admission process.

2

We run sessions with mental health experts and offer a range of courses and workshops that can help with stress, anxiety and other issues. Join our student workshop for students who feel pressurized to perform, but lack motivation; this workshop will get your research back on track.

3

Joining a student club is a great way to make your social life thrive!

Try something new or foster a passion you already have with the friends you make, whether it's baking, rock climbing, or learning Mandarin!

We have hundreds of activities so there is bound to be something that you'll love.

4

Getting a degree these days doesn't mean you have to study for three or four years as a full-time student.

'As I work full-time, I knew doing a part-time degree at the same time would be hard work. But **on the plus side**, it gives me lots of flexibility and it will **go a long way towards** getting me a better job in the future.'

Lisa Preston, Birtwell University

5

We have learning materials in 50 languages. You aren't learning **in isolation**, you can practise conversation skills with native speakers through our language exchange.

If you're an international student, you can prepare to study in the UK with our English language courses. They conform to the university entry requirements for all our undergraduate courses.

Task 2

Learning at home

Have you ever thought about leaving school and learning at home? Thousands of young people do exactly that. It's called 'home-schooling' or 'home education'. So why do parents make the decision to do this? Some parents take their children out of school due to **bullying** or other serious problems, but there is a growing number of British parents who choose to home-educate their children from the start.

We spoke to Erin Morgan, who chose home-schooling for her children. 'We took our children out of school when my son Joseph was six and daughter Lily was eight. There were no problems with teachers and neither of the children was being bullied – in fact they were quite popular – but they were simply bored. With large class sizes, little money and other problems, it's difficult for teachers to give some children the **individual** attention they need.'

EXAM TASK Read the text. For questions (1–5) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

- 1 The writer says that home-schooling in Britain ...
A is a serious problem.
B only happens when children are unhappy at school.
C must start at a very young age.
D is becoming more common.
- 2 Which of the following is **not** a reason why Erin decided to home-school her children?
A The classes had too many students.
B Her children didn't get on with other students.
C The teachers couldn't give the students enough attention.
D Her children were not interested in the material.
- 3 What does the word '**This**' in paragraph 3 refer to?
A Lily's swimming lessons.
B Joseph's music classes.
C Lily and Joseph's after-school activities.
D The parents' meetings with other home-schoolers.

'When we started home-schooling, I was worried the children wouldn't **fit in** socially, so they have a few organized activities a week. Joseph is learning the trumpet and plays in a band. Lily goes to ballet classes and they both have swimming lessons. **This** means they learn skills and enjoy the company of other children at the same time. In addition, I belong to a home-schooling network so we often get together for trips with other home-schoolers.'

'We don't have a set **timetable**, but negotiate what we're going to do every day. Morning activities include using the computer, writing, spelling, reading, maths and science. After lunch, we generally choose something more creative like art, sewing or gardening. I have to admit that some activities are more popular than others, but in my view, it's important to get through every subject in order to get a good general education.'

'People ask what happens when home-schoolers get to secondary school age. I have friends with teenage children and most of them have decided to follow a **syllabus** and take GCSE exams. This has meant a more organized day, but the young people still take a great deal of responsibility for their own learning. One boy I know is planning to stop home-schooling when he is 16, do a part-time college course and then go on to university.'

'Whatever the age of your children, home-schooling is a challenge, but in my opinion the worst thing to do is to turn the home into a **formal** school. Learning should be fun, and children and young people need to feel happy in order to achieve.'

- 4 According to Erin, Lily and Joseph ...
A especially enjoy the creative activities.
B can decide what activities to do each day.
C will not take GCSE exams.
D will go to a regular school when they're 16.
- 5 Why did the author write the article?
A To convince parents to do home-schooling.
B To warn parents about the problems with home-schooling.
C To describe home-schooling and the reasons for choosing it.
D To point out the need for improvements in local schools.

Task 3

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (27–32).
There are two choices you do not need to use.

How do you feel about social media?

27 **Zoe**

It took me a while to accept the idea of social networking sites – but my two teenage daughters told me to give it a try and I have to say it was a real eye-opener. I started off by trying to track down old school friends, and it worked – I managed to contact people I'd lost touch with over the years, and I've even met up with some of them. I can't say I'm addicted to these sites like my daughters, but at least I understand the attractions.

28 **Fran**

I don't think there's anything really wrong with these sites – for keeping in touch with friends and family, for example. However, if you find you are on 24/7, then I'd say you've probably got a problem. What I really can't stand are people who post thousands of photographs or videos or update their profile every day. To me, that's a sign that the person is just using the site to show off.

29 **Jack**

If people have got nothing better to do than spend all their free time on one of these sites, they need to get a life. I can't understand why some people would rather talk to friends in a virtual world instead of going out and meeting real people. I've got a couple of friends who never phone me any more – they think they can keep in touch with their instant messages. I'd prefer a real conversation any day.

30 **Harry**

There are a number of signs that indicate a young person is spending too much time on social media sites. You should be worried if your child is anxious, stressed or feeling overwhelmed by normal routines; if they are leaving homework unfinished or are getting bad grades at school; and if their relationships with important people such as their family are suffering.

31

Zach

For me, it's a way of connecting with such a huge variety of people – from all over the world. You can share problems and experiences in a matter of seconds! And while we are constantly being told how so many of us suffer from loneliness these days, social media seems like an obvious way to stay in touch with people, wherever they are in the world, and to meet new people – even when you're very shy like me!

32

Milly

I've used social media to help promote my business. I'm self-employed and it's an absolutely brilliant way to communicate with my customers. I've built a strong community around my brand, and my followers are interested and engaged in my products. I like to entertain with what I post, though – to make my followers laugh or tell them something they didn't know. Then people are more likely to 'like' the post and share it with others!

Which person _____?

- A talks about various mental health issues
- B believes social media has been a help to them professionally
- C accuses some users of laziness
- D has used social media to renew past acquaintances
- E thinks some users only want to draw attention to themselves
- F suggests online communication works well for less confident people
- G says loneliness can be a result of social media use
- H doesn't see the point of certain relationships

Task 4

Read the text below. Choose from (A–H) the one which best fits each space (33–38). There are two choices you do not need to use.

A Successful Jewellery Business

Jody Mortimer has been interested in jewellery ever since she was a child. In art classes at school, she enjoyed designing bracelets and necklaces, (33) _____. There was no doubt in her mind that she would go to art college (34) _____. She gained a place at a well-known college, and learned about using a range of materials – not just gold, silver and jewels, but also ones that were used much less for jewellery, (35) _____. The course also taught her about running a business, and Jody decided she wanted a career in jewellery.

Near the end of the course, (36) _____, called Ellie, who also wanted to design jewellery, and they agreed to go into business together. They considered (37) _____, but realized it would be too expensive. Instead, they decided to sell their jewellery online and through existing shops.

Next they had to design and create their own original jewellery. At the same time, they travelled around the country, visiting jewellery shops which might agree to sell their products. They also created a website for their business. The first year was difficult for Jody and Ellie, (38) _____. Now, they wouldn't want to do anything else.

- A but slowly business improved
- B opening a shop
- C like metals and glass
- D and so did she
- E when she left school
- F she talked to another student
- G using different materials and colours
- H as similar items

So... you want to be a runner

What does it take to become a top-class runner? Our reporter, Vernon Phua, interviewed marathon runner Michael Chiang, and asked him to tell our readers what they (1) _____ to do in order to follow in his footsteps. First of all, you (2) _____ bear in mind that success doesn't come easily and you (3) _____ train hard. 'When I was still at school, I (4) _____ wake up early in the morning to train and then I rushed off to school. After school I trained some more,' says Michael.



At the same time, however, you (5) _____ neglect your studies. Michael regrets not studying more at school. 'I didn't try hard enough to get into university,' he says. But, you (6) _____ allow failure to discourage you. As the Chinese say, 'Failure is the mother of success'. It is part of learning how to be successful: you (7) _____ know what it is like to lose and learn from your mistakes. You also (8) _____ to learn how to deal with stress so that you don't crumble under pressure. And always remember: success doesn't come overnight.

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|---------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. a. ought | b. must | c. should |
| 2. a. should | b. ought | c. had to |
| 3. a. will have to | b. shouldn't | c. ought |
| 4. a. must have | b. should have | c. had to |
| 5. a. don't have to | b. shouldn't | c. must |
| 6. a. ought to | b. shouldn't | c. don't have |
| 7. a. have to | b. mustn't | c. ought |
| 8. a. have | b. must | c. should |