Gateway B2+ Test Unit 10

1.Choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) to complete the text.

The students joined the debating table and the debate began. The topic was 'the rise in university fees in the UK'. First, the chairman (1) ..... the rules of the debate and then it began. There were two teams: one in favour of the increase and one against. Those for the rise, (2) ..... the importance of the rise in fees for the country's economy, and added that the increase would not affect the quantity of students attending universities. At this point, the opposing team (3) ..... and started shouting their counterarguments. The others claimed they couldn't (4) ..... anything that was being said and continued restating their own arguments, until the chairman (5) ..... and demanded order at the table.

1 **A** picked out **B** picked up on
C spelled on **D** spelled out

2 **A** spoke in **B** spoke out
C pointed out **D** pointed over

3 **A** talked down on **B** talked down to
C cut in **D** cut up

4 **A** make up **B** make out
C pick on **D** pick out

5 **A** spoke in **B** spoke out
C pointed out **D** pointed over

2. Complete the text with one word ending in *-ever* in each gap.

(1) ..... said that being a teenager is easy was obviously not a typical teenager! My life is so difficult! At school my friends are everything to me, but (2) ..... much I try to spend time with them, my teachers and parents seem to want to keep us apart. (3) ..... I go out to the park with my friends my mum is always phoning me, telling me I have to come home for dinner. Just leave me in peace, please!
(4) ..... I say, she ignores. Sometimes I will bring a friend home but (5) ..... it is, my parents don't like them. It's a disaster!

3 Complete the dialogue with the correct form of the verbs given.

Ruby: Hey, Julie, you're a member of the new English Club, aren't you?

Molly: Yes, I think it's a great idea. My teacher suggested (1) ..... (try) it and I think my English is improving.

Ruby: What do you do exactly? Because I can't stand only (2) ..... (do) grammar exercises. I'm the first (3) ..... (admit) it.

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Molly: I know. I felt the same, but we do a lot of speaking on topics that interest us. The teacher listens and only gets involved when we start making important mistakes.

Ruby: Okay. And definitely no grammar exercises?

Molly: Well, only if we really don't understand something.

Ruby: Well, if it's not only grammar, then I'll consider
(4) ……..….. (join) it. It would be nice
(5) ……..….. (improve) my speaking.

Molly: Great. It's on Friday after school.

4. Read the article and choose the best answers, A, B or C.

The advantages of bilingualism

As a linguist, I often get asked at what stage an individual is given 'bilingual' status, and, to be frank, bilingualism is a difficult concept to judge, as it is commonly the listener's perception of the person's proficiency that provides the status. However, it is frequently agreed that an individual is bilingual when they have a native-like control of both their first and second language.

There are advantages to being brought up in a bilingual household. Research amongst linguists proves that raising a child bilingually gives them academic advantages. An experiment carried out on a group of monolingual and bilingual children aged 10–12, concluded that the bilingual children had improved levels of literacy over their monolingual counterparts. Given that literacy can shape a child's future, raising a child in a bilingual environment can potentially give the bilingual child a greater chance of success in education. An additional investigation found that bilingual children displayed superior communicative competence, in that they were more confident, polite, and told the truth more frequently than their monolingual equivalents.

Having the knowledge of two languages in adulthood also has its advantages. Firstly, doors open the instant you reach bilingual status. You hear, 'Oh, Paul speaks Greek, ask him if he can translate the document,' or 'I think Maria speaks Spanish, why don't you ask her to join you at the meeting and she can interpret for you.' You have a skill which is quite uncommon and sought after. Therefore, being bilingual can impact careers and provide opportunities. Secondly, with the ability to hold conversations and comprehend two languages, people also have the capability to interact socially with a greater number of people from different cultures. Being bilingual, you have the option to make more friends from different cultural backgrounds which in turn, increases social awareness.

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Understanding the benefits of being bilingual and wanting to provide his children with a bilingual upbringing, a bilingual (English-German) German language teacher from Australia decided, as soon as his children were born, to communicate with them in German, despite the fact that German was not his mother tongue. The teacher carried out his daily life speaking English to his wife, family, friends and colleagues, and communicating solely in German to his two children. His wife, on the other hand, only spoke to the children in the language which surrounded them, English.

To ensure the children gained sufficient coverage of the German language, the father encouraged them to watch TV in German and also to read books in this language. Whenever feasible, he took them to Germany, so they could interact with 'people that spoke their language'.

During the early stages, the children often confused English and German words, which made it difficult for the mother to understand what they were saying, as she had absolutely no knowledge of the language. But this phase did not last long and the confusion soon lifted. However, even to date, they occasionally input German words into English sentences and vice-versa, but when questioned, they immediately correct themselves.

Now the children have grown up and begun their careers. So has being bilingual affected them? If so, how? Well, one of the sons has started to work for a German company where he uses German on a daily basis. Unsurprisingly, he found getting a job directly after university relatively easy, while his monolingual friends struggled for months. His brother has just finished university and is planning to move to Munich for one year before starting a career in teaching. Like his father, he wants to be a German teacher.

As we have seen, the knowledge of two languages provides countless advantages. Why then, don't you choose to develop a language that you perhaps studied at school, or consider raising your own children in a bilingual environment? For more information on this topic, I refer you to my latest book, *Bilingual Environments*, which will be out on Monday.

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1 At what stage is an individual given bilingual status?

A It is difficult to say because it is very subjective.

B When their first and second languages are at the same level.

C When they are brought up in a bilingual household.

2 Research on monolingual and bilingual children showed ...

A all bilinguals do better at school.

B monolinguals were less honest.

C bilinguals read more books.

3 Why did the Australian father not speak his native language to his two sons?

A so his children would become bilingual

B so he could improve his German

C so he could talk to his wife in English

4 What were the consequences for the children of the father's approach?

A They both got excellent jobs.

B They sometimes missed real communication with real people.

C Initially the sons had problems communicating with their mother.

5 What is the conclusion of the writer?

A that schools should focus on offering second languages

B that there are numerous benefits to bilingualism

C that parents should be bilingual

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