

English placement test

A) Listen to the speaker talking about working abroad. Choose the correct answer - a, b or c - to the questions below.

- 1 What is the speaker talking about?
 - a) Her travels in the UK, China and Brazil.
 - b) Her experience of culture shock while working in the UK.
 - c) Differences in the banking business around the world.
- 2 What does she say about US-UK differences?
 - a) They are big and cause a lot of misunderstandings.
 - b) There aren't any real differences.
 - c) They don't seem big but there are a lot of them.
- 3 What does she think of British food?
 - a) She doesn't always understand the names of food.
 - b) It's no different from American food.
 - c) It usually isn't very good.
- 4 What problems has she had with language?
 - a) People often don't understand her.
 - b) Some accents can be a bit difficult for her to understand.
 - c) A lot of people don't speak good English.
- 5 What does she say about driving?
 - a) She hasn't tried driving in the UK yet.
 - b) It isn't easy but she can.
 - c) It's no problem at all.

B) Choose the best words to complete the text.

Karina is (0) (Mexico / Mexican) but she lives and works in London. She started her job last year, (1) *in / on* April. She loves her work. She sells special-interest holidays. It's (2) *a segment / a niche* market and she really enjoys the work of planning specialised tours for clients. The company is very small. It (3) *has / employs* only four people and they all work in one office. This makes (4) *face-on-face / face-to-face* communication very easy. They can talk to each other at any time.

Next week, she's moving to a new flat because her old one is (5) *too / too much* far from the office. She's a very (6) *punctual / puntual* person – she likes to be on time – and the long journey to work was difficult. She had a lot of problems with train and bus delays. She's also buying some new furniture for the flat. She doesn't have a lot of money so she paid a (7) *deposit / down payment* of ten per cent and she'll make monthly payments. The furniture will be delivered next week.

C) Complete the article using the correct form of the verbs given.

JD steps across the Channel to buy Chausport

By Samantha Pearson

JD Sports Fashion kicked off its plans for international expansion by (1) _____ (buy) Chausport, a French sportswear chain, for €8m cash, or roughly £7m.

The UK's third-biggest sportswear retailer by turnover said it would acquire all 78 stores and share capital of Chausport, which (2) _____ (base) in northern France and inherit its net debt of €2m.

Young shoppers – less affected by the recession than their parents – (3) _____ (continue) to queue for popular brands of trainers and tracksuits in the downturn, allowing JD (4) _____ (perform) better than some on the British high street.

The company (5) _____ (say) 'This strategic acquisition gives JD the opportunity for further growth by entering a new and sizeable European market outside of its established bases in the UK and Ireland.'

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D) Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

I forgot *to bring* (bring) a pen. Can I borrow one?

1. I (not meet) Dan before we were introduced at last year's sales conference.
2. I (talk) on the phone with Ian when the lights went out.
3. Rick (work) in Venezuela for ten years when he was transferred to Argentina.
4. Did you remember (switch off) the lights when you left the office?
5. If we (have) more time, we could have prepared a better presentation.
6. Liam (speak) to technical support for two hours but his computer still isn't working.
7. We (tell) Jim about his promotion yesterday. He was really happy.
8. Taro learned a lot about manufacturing by (spend) time on the factory floor.

E) Complete the sentences with one word.

A I loved the film. B So did I.

1. Don't me for your problems – they're your responsibility.
2. I don't speak French, but my sister
3. Do you have any idea Marc is coming to football practice this week?
4. Robert sang that song really well, he?
5. Neither Roger Belinda are interested in joining the reading group.
6. We didn't to do much sport, but we're really into volleyball now.
7. There's milk in the fridge. Can you go and get some from the corner shop?
8. We have been crazy to buy this house! There's so much wrong with it.
9. I can't used to this computer mouse – it's really different from my old one.
10. If you still feel unwell, you go home and go to bed.