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Sections	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
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Corrector			

NAME: _____ SURNAME: _____

07/19

SENIOR FIVE - MID YEAR EXAM

Paper 1

Time allowed: 1h 15 min

SECTION A: Reading Comprehension

Read the text and circle the correct option, true (T) or false (F).

Sticky Business

Thousands of different brands of chewing gum are available in the shops today. They have different logos, but the products inside are very similar. Each company tries to find different ways of selling their products. Contrary to popular belief, chewing gum can be really beneficial. Some producers say that chewing gum helps you both concentrate and relax. Recent TV advertisements also tell us that 20 minutes of chewing can prevent tooth decay. Research has shown that when people are told this, sales increase.

Although the making of chewing gum's big business now, it is not a modern invention. For centuries, the ancient Greek chewed gum. The gum was obtained from mastic trees, which were found mainly in Greece and Turkey.

It was in the 19th century, however, that the process of making modern chewing gum was developed. In the late 1860s, chicle was discovered in sapodilla trees in the Mexican rainforest. Gum made from chicle is much smoother and more elastic than gum from mastic trees.

The process of collecting chicle from the rainforests is difficult. Chicle flows more easily before the sun comes up; that is why it is usually collected at night. The chicles collectors (*chicleros*) go into the hot, humid forests and climb up the sapodilla trees in the dark.

When it comes out of the tree, chicle is liquid and therefore difficult to transport. So it is heated on small fires. When it cools down, it is made into large sticky blocks. These are then transported to production centres. The price paid for a kilo of gum when it leaves the forest is \$1.75. When it reaches the shops, consumers pay about 100 times that price.

It is getting more difficult for the *chicleros* to make a living, however. Many alternatives to chicle have been developed and the main part of chewing gum is now man-made. Only a few natural products are used to help improve the flavor and the texture. As a result, the *chicleros* find it difficult to sell their product to the big companies.

The companies have no difficulty in selling to the consumer, however. Chewing gum is big business. If all the pieces of gum produced every year were laid end to end, they would stretch to the moon and back six times!

Adapted from Going for Gold (Intermediate) Longman

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1) Chewing gum has no positive aspects. | T | F |
| 2) Chicle was discovered in sapodilla trees in Ancient Greece. | T | F |
| 3) The collecting of chicle takes place during the night. | T | F |
| 4) It is easier to transport chicle when it is not solid. | T | F |
| 5) Gum extractors make a high profit in the chewing gum market. | T | F |

SECTION B: Language in Use

1) Read the passage below. Choose the correct option for each gap and write it in the box.

New Technology and Progress?

Technology is making (1)___ rapid progress in different areas. For example, doctors today can help babies, even before they are born. They can discover health problems and – sometimes – they can even resolve them. Parents can already choose to have a boy (2)___ a girl, and soon they'll be able to choose their baby's eye and hair colour. Some scientists think we might be able to choose a personality and level of intelligence for our children.

Another way in which science (3)___ people is with cosmetic surgery. Doctors can change most parts of a person's face or body and this is very important for people who have been in accidents. (4)___ that, technology can also be beneficial for the natural environment since scientists use chemicals to change the weather and we (5)___ now create rain in some areas, and stop it in others, which, of course, has both advantages and disadvantages.

Adapted from English Result -Intermediate (Oxford)

1. ___	A. the	B. -	C. a	D. an
2. ___	A. or	B. and	C. but	D. in addition to
3. ___	A. help	B. have helped	C. is helping	D. has been helped
4. ___	A. Apart from	B. And	C. In addition	D. As well
5. ___	A. will be able	B. might be able	C. had been able	D. can

