

## B2- TEST 1

### Why we need to play

Human beings are not the only creatures that like to (0) ..... fun. Many animals play, as do some birds. However, no other creatures spend so much time enjoying themselves as human beings do. Indeed, we (1) ..... onto our sense of fun right into adulthood.

So why do human beings spend so much time playing? One reason is that we have time for leisure; animals have very little time to play as most of their life is spent sleeping and (2) ..... food.

So, is play just an opportunity for us to (3) ..... in enjoyable activities or does it have a more important (4) ..... ? According to scientists, (5) ..... from being fun, play has several very real (6) ..... for us – it helps our physical, intellectual and social development. It also helps to (7) ..... us for what we have not yet experienced. With very (8) ..... risk, we can act out what we would do in unexpected, or even dangerous, situations.

- |   |             |           |              |            |
|---|-------------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| 1 | A hold      | B keep    | C save       | D stay     |
| 2 | A searching | B looking | C seeking    | D gaining  |
| 3 | A engage    | B combine | C contribute | D involve  |
| 4 | A motive    | B purpose | C intention  | D cause    |
| 5 | A excluding | B except  | C apart      | D away     |
| 6 | A assets    | B profits | C services   | D benefits |
| 7 | A plan      | B prepare | C practise   | D provide  |
| 8 | A brief     | B short   | C narrow     | D little   |

## A bicycle you can fold up

Folding bicycles have (0) ..... around for quite some time now. However, an amazing new Japanese version (9) ..... be folded with a swiftness and efficiency never seen before. This bike is designed (10) ..... that it is possible to fold it up quickly. Once folded, you pull the bike along (11) ..... ease.

This remarkable bike has a half-folding frame with a hinge in the middle. And, although the basic idea is (12) ..... original, its inventor has created an especially clever variation, combining compactness (13) ..... convenience with smart design.

Recently, folding bicycles (14) ..... become very popular in Japan, particularly in congested urban areas like Tokyo, a city (15) ..... every square centimetre of space is in great demand. Japanese cyclists need to be able to store their bikes in tiny areas at home or the office. And (16) ..... they should want to take their bicycle on the underground, a folding model is a big advantage.

## Tea

Tea is an (0) ..... popular drink with many people. It is estimated that the consumption of tea in England alone exceeds 165 million cups daily. Despite this, the drink was virtually (17) ..... in England until about 400 years ago. The first (18) ..... to tea in England comes in a diary written in 1660. However, its (19) ..... really took off after the (20) ..... of King Charles II to Catherine of Braganza. It was her great love of tea that made it (21) .....

**EXTREME**

**KNOW**

**REFER**

**POPULAR**

**MARRY**

**FASHION**

It was believed that tea was good for people as it seemed to be capable of reviving the spirits and curing certain minor (22) ..... It has even been suggested by some historians that it played a significant part in the Industrial Revolution. Tea, they say, increased the number of hours that (23) ..... could work in factories as the caffeine in tea made them more (24) ..... and consequently able to work longer hours.

**ILL**

**LABOUR**

**ENERGY**

For questions 25–30, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

**Example:**

- 0 A very friendly taxi driver drove us into town.

**DRIVEN**

We ..... a very friendly taxi driver.

The gap can be filled by the words 'were driven into town by', so you write:

**Example:**

0

**WERE DRIVEN INTO TOWN BY**

Write **only** the missing words **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

- 
- 25 They didn't sell many programmes at the match.

**FEW**

Very ..... at the match last Saturday.

- 26 We got to work late because we decided to drive rather than take the train.

**INSTEAD**

We got to work late because we decided to drive ..... the train.

- 27 Last Friday was the first time my car ever broke down, even though it is very old.

**NEVER**

Until last Friday, my car ..... down, even though it is very old.

- 28 'All your complaints will be investigated by my staff tomorrow,' said the bank manager.

**LOOK**

The bank manager promised that his staff ..... all our complaints the next day.

- 29 Last year the heavy rain caused the postponement of the tennis tournament.

**BECAUSE**

Last year the tennis tournament ..... so heavily.

- 30 Jack does not want to work for his uncle any longer.

**CARRY**

John does not want ..... for his uncle.

## Home and abroad

After a short time living in a foreign country, I noticed conversations with locals assumed a (0) ..... pattern. There were standard answers to the usual questions. Most questions caused little (1) ..... – it was rather like dancing, where both partners know how to avoid (2) ..... on each other's toes.

But, 'When are you going home?' was a question I (3) ..... to answer, whenever I (4) ..... my life and the direction it seemed to be (5) ..... . In the last ten years, I had lived in a dozen countries. And I had travelled through dozens more; usually in (6) ..... of a purpose or a person; occasionally to see the attractions.

This kind of travel is not (7) ..... wandering, but is the extensive exploration of a wide (8) ..... of cultures. However, it doesn't allow you to put down roots. At the back of your mind, though, is the idea of home, the place you came from.



- |   |              |                |              |              |
|---|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1 | A puzzle     | B trouble      | C obstacle   | D barrier    |
| 2 | A touching   | B moving       | C walking    | D stepping   |
| 3 | A worked     | B competed     | C stretched  | D struggled  |
| 4 | A considered | B thought      | C reflected  | D believed   |
| 5 | A making     | B finding      | C seeking    | D taking     |
| 6 | A look       | B search       | C sight      | D inquiry    |
| 7 | A aimless    | B unreasonable | C unreliable | D indefinite |
| 8 | A difference | B arrangement  | C variety    | D order      |

### An Irish cookery school

In the last few years, a number of cookery schools have been set **(0)** ..... in Ireland to promote Irish cooking. **(9)** ..... such school is run by Kathleen Doyle not **(10)** ..... from the centre of Dublin.

'I opened the school twelve years ago,' says Kathleen. 'The school was by no means an overnight success; I found **(11)** ..... necessary to work hard to build up a reputation. One of my advantages was that I'd had problems with my own cooking. I've made **(12)** ..... mistake that it's possible to make, but **(13)** ..... of this, I know what people do wrong from first-hand experience.'

Just **(14)** ..... most cookery schools in Ireland, Kathleen initially copied the classical dishes of France and Italy and other countries **(15)** ..... have a reputation for excellent food. 'Now though, things are changing,' says Kathleen. 'We get excellent produce from Irish farms and, **(16)** ..... a result, we're encouraging students to create unique Irish dishes.'

## Running speed

Elite (0) ..... like the Jamaican Usain Bolt have regularly been clocked running at nearly 45 kilometres per hour. Such speed would have seemed (17) ..... not so long ago. Scientists now suggest that humans can move (18) ..... faster than even that, perhaps as fast as 65 kilometres per hour.

**COMPETE**

**BELIEVE**

**CONSIDER**

For years, it was assumed that simple muscle power determined human speed, but recent research suggests otherwise. The most important (19) ..... factor appears to be how quickly the muscles can contract and thus (20) ..... the time a runner's foot is in contact with the ground.

**LIMIT**

**MINIMUM**

Is our athletic ability inherited? Researcher Alun Williams has (21) ..... twenty-three inherited factors that influence sporting performance, such as the (22) ..... use of oxygen, and strength. As world population rises, predicts Williams, the (23) ..... of there being someone with the right genes for these twenty-three (24) ..... will increase noticeably and thus faster runners are likely to emerge in future.

**IDENTITY**

**EFFICIENCY**

**POSSIBLE**

**CHARACTER**

For questions 25–30, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

**Example:**

- 0 A very friendly taxi driver drove us into town.

**DRIVEN**

We ..... a very friendly taxi driver.

The gap can be filled by the words 'were driven into town by', so you write:

**Example:**

0

**WERE DRIVEN INTO TOWN BY**

Write **only** the missing words **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

- 25 Robert had never been to Turkey on business before.

**FIRST**

It ..... Robert had ever been to Turkey on business.

- 26 It was impossible for me to know which road to follow.

**NOT**

I ..... known which road to follow.

- 27 So far this year the cost of petrol has not increased.

**INCREASE**

So far this year there ..... in the cost of petrol.

- 28 I cannot get all my clothes in the suitcase.

**BIG**

The suitcase ..... take all my clothes.

- 29 The waiter carried the tray very carefully so that he wouldn't spill any of the drinks.

**AVOID**

The waiter carried the tray very carefully so ..... any of the drinks.

- 30 I wasn't able to get to the airport on time because of the bad weather.

**PREVENTED**

The bad weather ..... to the airport on time.