Grammar and vocabulary

1 Read the text. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line.

A greater understanding

New (1) _____ are being made all the time in science and medicine,	DISCOVER
(2) _____ in the field of human biology and specifically,	PARTICULAR
(3) _____ . How features of human appearance as well as other	GENE
(4) _____ are passed on from one generation to the next is now better	CHARACTER
understood. Previous assumptions are constantly being (5) _____ and	INTERPRET
fresh evidence is being (6) _____ each and every day.	COVER
The (7) _____ of scientific and technological advances are far-reaching.	IMPLICATE
Through learning which human features are (8) _____ , scientists are	DETERMINED
now able to study how our genes affect how we look, our behaviour and also analyse the genetic links to our ancestors.	
A greater (9) _____ of the role of our genes in relation to health is	UNDERSTAND
also very (10) _____ . These days, tests can be undertaken to check on	SIGNIFY
the (11) _____ of certain genes which put an individual at greater risk	EXIST
of, for example, having a heart attack or (12) _____ cancer. Who knows what else may be discovered in the years to come?	DEVELOP

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2 Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) that best completes each sentence.

1 His latest exhibition is open to various _____ and is considered as rather thought-provoking.

A insights B conclusions C interpretations D understandings

2 Hundertwasser's architectural designs were far more environmentally conscious than those of his _____ .

A complements B contemporaries C correspondents D equivalents

3 It was completely _____ to carry out road repairs during the rush hour.

A inpractical B impractical C unpractical D dispractical

4 This article offers new _____ into understanding how stress affects human behaviour.

A awareness B conclusions C ideas D insights

5 Did you know that kiwi fruit are _____ with vitamin C?

A packed B stocked C crowded D occupied

6 She was so absorbed _____ her book that she didn't notice me until I sat down beside her.

A for B on C in D into

7 The Finnish have come _____ an unusual way to de-stress. It's called 'mobile phone throwing'.

A into B up with C by D on with

/7

Listening

3 You will hear people talking in eight different situations. Listen and choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

1 The speaker asks her friend to

A lend her a brochure for the ballet.

B call the booking office.

C check on when the performances are.

2 What is the speaker talking about?

A a film

B a book

C a play

3 Why is the speaker complaining?

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A Because she's not happy with her room.

B Because the hotel is fully booked.

C Because the bar is too noisy.

4 The two speakers

A agree that the film was a disappointment.

B both felt that the main actress was good.

C were surprised at how good the film was.

5 Why does the speaker want the CD?

A Because she bought it as a gift.

B Because she hasn't played it yet.

C Because her son wants to borrow it.

6 The speaker's main criticism of the exhibition is that A there's no order to how it's organised.

B the amount of background information given is overwhelming.

C he found the scale of it to be exhausting.

7 What do the speakers say about the band's new album?

A It has the same feel as their last one.

B It's quite surprising and fresh.

C It resembles their first album in some ways.

Reading

4 Read the article on the next page. Are these statements True (T) or False (F)?

1 Genetically, it is believed that all humans originate from less than 100 individuals. _____

2 It was once thought that blood was the means by which family characteristics were passed on. _____

3 Research has shown that newborns are most fascinated with people's eyes. _____

4 Throughout time, the human concept of beauty has continually changed. _____

5 According to Susan Greenfield, our brain's capacity is not fixed as it is a living organism which grows when cared for. _____

6 Steven Pinker considers that a human's ability to competently use language to communicate is completely spontaneous. _____

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Four classic science books

Oliver Mansell reviews four books, all of which are must-reads for people who want to learn more about themselves.

A In the Blood: God, Genes and Destiny, by Steve Jones

This is the book for anyone who wants to understand the thinking behind theories of DNA. Did you know, for example, that whoever our parents may be, we are all united by 'the basic stuff of life', which contains our genes? And did you know that most of the population of the world may have descended from fewer than 100 people? Other discoveries like these are still being made almost every week, which is why genetics is at the forefront of 21st-century science. Before they'd heard of genes, people believed that family traits were carried in the blood. Today we know that they were wrong. Issues like these are among those discussed in this thrilling book by Professor Jones. As with his earlier books on other subjects, you will find it hard to put down.

B The Human Face, by Brian Bates with John Cleese

This fascinating book collects together the findings of various scientific studies concerning the human face. One of these has shown that 30 minutes after birth, when our eyes can hardly focus, we gaze at faces rather than anything else. And it seems that we continue to be fascinated with them all through life. There have been a number of psychological tests designed to investigate beauty but their conclusions only prove what the Ancient Greeks always knew: a beautiful face is one with regular features. So maybe this is not the book to buy if you want new facts but it does provide some fascinating insights into how faces have developed over the years and whether one can judge a person by their appearance alone. Although rather serious in places, the book is packed with eye-catching photos, making it an ideal birthday present even for the most reluctant student of science.

C Brain Story, by Susan Greenfield

When she was Director of the Royal Institution of Science, Susan Greenfield's main objective was to encourage the greater public understanding of scientific ideas. In this book, she introduces us to the inside of our heads and shows the kind of enthusiasm about the brain that other writers reserve for fine art or football. The idea of 'intelligence' worries her, however, because this suggests that a person's 'brain power' is pre-determined. She agrees with those who insist that the brain, which is capable of amazing things, is constantly developing, and gets better and better with age, providing you look after it. Although this book develops the ideas introduced in her previous one, The Private Life of the Brain, it clearly had television audiences in mind (there was a tie-in series on BBC 1) and as a consequence, it is rather shorter on detail, focusing instead on one or two interesting examples.

D The Language Instinct, by Steven Pinker Where does our feeling for language come from? How do we learn to speak it so effortlessly? Why is it so hard for adults to learn a foreign language? Cleverly structured, with many amusing anecdotes, linguist Steven Pinker's book examines why we use language and where this ability comes from. His personal belief is that language is as instinctive to us as flying is to geese and that we use it to great effect in order to communicate. He illustrates his theory with examples of language taken from various sources, including children's conversations, pop culture and politicians' speeches. Pinker has packed his book full of original ideas; it does not make for light reading but it will nonetheless appeal both to specialists and anyone who finds language and human beings fascinating in the widest sense.

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Writing

5 Complete the review with the words and phrases in the box. There are more words and phrases than you need.

as the show started	both	have you ever heard	I must admit that	judging from this
my only reservation	on stage	since they	the only thing	the set began with
what an incredible	without doubt	you really should		

The incredible Muse

(1) _____ of Muse? It is one of Britain's best rock bands and is made up of three school friends. (2) _____ , they are one of the best bands to see live and even played at the closing ceremony of the 2012 London Olympics. You may remember them from that – they played Survival, the official song of the Olympics.

(3) _____ , the band member you notice most is Matthew Bellamy, who is the lead singer and also the lead guitarist. He's got real stage presence and is an eccentric performer, which makes seeing them perform live such a special event. (4) _____ voice he has too! He's most definitely one of the best singers of our time. (5) _____ Chris and Dominic, the other two band members, are fantastic musicians too, and as all three members of the bands play a variety of instruments, each song is different.

Anyway, I really must tell you about their last concert, which was held at the O2 Arena in London. (6) _____ , Matthew went straight into Hysteria, which, as one of their best songs, really got the fans going. The lighting, effects and set were stunning and you really had that feeling of being completely swallowed up by the music and what was going on.

(7) _____ I wasn't so happy about was the quality of the sound. It echoed a bit at times and (8) _____ I had problems hearing all the lyrics but once the band was into its second song, nobody really noticed or cared.

(9) _____ live concert, they will be the best live rock band for many years to come. So, if you haven't heard their music, (10) _____ buy some of their albums or try and catch one of their shows. In my opinion, their best albums to-date are The Origin of Symmetry and Absolution. But don't take it from me. Find out for yourself!

/10

TOTAL: /50

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