Useful language: correcting some common mistakes

1 **Choose the correct alternative in these examples where exam candidates made mistakes.**

1 I'm sure you won't have any difficulties *finding / to find* the solution to the problem.
2 Did you have the chance *of getting / to get* to know any Native Americans when you were living in the States?
3 Everybody who *work / works* here *get / gets* a good salary.
4 I suggest you *buy / to buy* a telephone card as soon as you arrive in the country.
5 You *either can / can either* finish reading this book or choose another one.
6 Not only *was the food / the food was* bad, but the sports facilities were not as you stated in the brochure.
7 The hotel offers *French traditional / traditional French* cuisine.
8 Some of the lessons that we attended in the last course *could be / could have been* better prepared.

2 **Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. You must use between three and six words, including the word in capitals, without changing it.**

1 I like all the people working as managers in this company.
WHO
I like everyone ..... position in this company.
2 The service was first-class and the rooms were excellent too.
ONLY
Not ..... the service was first-class too.
3 You have two possibilities – driving there or going by train.
EITHER
You ..... there by train.
4 At the concert I didn't play as well as I expected.
SHOULD
I ..... at the concert.
5 You'll easily manage to finish the work by Friday.
DIFFICULTY
You ..... the work by Friday.
6 The food at this restaurant is delicious, and the prices are very reasonable.
MEALS
This restaurant ..... very reasonable prices.

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7 I think this type of mobile phone would be the best choice for you.
SUGGEST
I ..... this type of mobile phone.

8 I hope to be able to see the Bolshoi Ballet when I'm in Moscow.
CHANCE
I hope I ..... to the Bolshoi Ballet when I'm in Moscow.

3 **The key word for all the following transformation sentences is EYE. Choose one of the expressions from the box to complete each sentence, making all the necessary changes.**

Tip! Often the answers depend on knowledge of typical English collocations or idioms.

catch someone's eye	turn a blind eye to	
see eye to eye	keep an eye on	in the public eye

1 Although I love my sister, I don't always agree with her.
I love my sister despite ..... with her.

2 The teacher pretended not to see what the children were doing.
The teacher ..... the children's behaviour.

3 It must be hard for celebrities never to have any privacy, mustn't it?
It must be hard for celebrities always ....., mustn't it?

4 We'll pay the bill and leave as soon as the waiter notices we're waiting.
As soon as ....., we'll pay the bill and leave.

5 Sarah watched the children while they were playing in the garden.
Sarah ..... children while they were playing in the garden.

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