Class ....

Name:.....

# PRACTICE TEST 3

**Exercise 1. Fill each blank with the present perfect or present perfect continuous of the verb in brackets.**

1. It *(snow)* _____ all day. I wonder when it will stop.
2. We *(have)* _____ three major snowstorms so far this winter. I wonder how many more we will have.
3. It's ten P.M. I *(study)* _____ for two hours and probably won't finish until midnight.
4. I *(write)* _____ them three times, but I still haven't received a reply.
5. The telephone *(ring)* _____ four times in the last hour, and each time it has been for my office mate.
6. The telephone *(ring)* _____ for almost a minute. Why doesn't someone answer it?
7. A: *(you, be)* _____ able to reach Bob on the phone yet?
   B: Not yet. I *(try)* _____ for the last twenty minutes, but all I get is a busy signal.
8. A: Hi, Jenny. I *(see, not)* _____ you for weeks. What *(you, do)* _____ lately?
   B: Studying.

**Exercise 2. Fill in each blank with ONE word to complete the following passage.**

"Where is the university?" is a question many visitors to Cambridge ask, but no one can give them a clear (1) ....., for there is no wall to be found around the university. The university is the city. You can find the classroom buildings, libraries, museums (2) ..... offices of the university all over the city. And most of its members are (3) ..... students and teachers or professors of the thirty-one colleges.

Cambridge was an already developing town long before the first students and teachers arrived 800 years (4) ..... It grew up by the river Granta, as the Cam was once called. A bridge (5)..... built over the river as early as 875.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries more and (6) …… land was used for college buildings. The town grew (7) …… faster in the nineteenth century after the opening of the railway in 1845. Cambridge became a city in 1951 and now it has the (8)……..of over 100,000.
Many young students want to (9) ……..…… at Cambridge. Thousands of people from all over the world come to visit the university town. It (10) become a famous place all round the world.

***Exercise 3. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.***

Do you think education is better now than it was in your grandparents' time? Many older people in the UK believe the opposite. "Schools were better in our day," they complain. "There isn't enough discipline these days. Kids don't work as hard as we did, either. The syllabus isn't as challenging, so clever students aren't being stretched enough. They need to study things in greater depth. Exams are much, much easier now as well."

Were schools better years ago? Some British teenagers travelled back in time to a 1950s boarding school. They got a big surprise! The first shock came when the teenagers met their new teachers. Dressed in traditional black gowns, they look so frosty and uncaring! They were really **authoritarian**, too, so anyone caught breaking the rules - talking in classes, mucking about in the playground or playing truant – was in big trouble! Punishments included writing 'lines' or staying after class to do detention. The naughtiest kids were expelled.

Things were just as bad after class. At meal times the students had to endure a diet of plain, no-nonsense, healthy food. Homework was **obligatory** and it took ages! Copying essays off the Internet wasn't an option, as personal computers didn't exist in the 1950s!

At the end of 'term' everyone sat 1950s-style exams. The old exams were much longer than their twenty-first century equivalents and involved learning huge amounts of facts by heart. History papers were all dates and battles. Maths papers were trickier, too; calculators weren't around in the 1950s, so the students had to memorise multiplication tables and master long division. Our candidates found this really difficult.

The exam results surprised a lot of people. Students predicted to do well in their real-life, twenty-first century exams often got low grades in the 1950s exams. Does this prove modern exams are too easy? Do twenty-first century kids rely too much on modern technology, like calculators and computers?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

The TV series of *That 'll teach 'em!* focused on a 1960s vocational school. UK school-kids study a range of academic subjects these days. But in the 1960s, children judged to be less 'able' went to vocational schools. **These** helped them learn job skills. Boys studied subjects like metalwork, woodwork or gardening. In some classes, they even learned how to milk goats! The girls' timetables included secretarial skills. They also learned to cook, clean and sew - probably not much fun for most girls.

1. What criticism is sometimes made about modern education in the first paragraph?
   A. Teachers aren't strict enough.
   B. The syllabus is out of date.
   C. There's too much stress on exams.
   D. The teaching methods are not good enough.
2. The word "**authoritarian**" in the second paragraph is closest in meaning to ____.
   A. inexperienced B. impolite C. unreasonable D. strict
3. Which of the following statements is TRUE about the food the students ate at school?
   A. It wasn't cooked properly. B. It wasn't delicious.
   C. It wasn't nutritious. D. There wasn't much of it.
4. The word "**obligatory**" in the third paragraph is closest in meaning to ____.
   A. compulsory B. difficult C. long D. complicated
5. According to the passage, how did exams in the 1950s differ from those in the twenty-first century?
   A They covered more subjects. B. It took students less time to do them.
   C. There was more to remember. D. They were less difficult.
6. What was surprising about the students' results after taking the 1950s-style exams?
   A. All the students found the exams difficult.
   B. Students didn't do as well as expected.
   C. Students who were predicted to fail did rather well.
   D. Students did better than twenty-first century exams.
7. The word "**these**" in the last paragraph refers to ____.
   A. school-kids B. subjects C. series D. vocational schools
8. Which of the following statements is TRUE according to the passage?
   A. Vocational schools provided poorer children with equipment.
   B. Vocational schools took children who were good at studying.
   C. Vocational schools prepared students for employment.
   D. Vocational schools were a complete waste of time.

LIVEWORKSHEETS