Part 3

Questions 11–15

For each question, choose the correct answer.

Steve Cummins talks about starting his own business

I'd worked for the company for almost ten years. They were good employers and the money wasn't that bad. They trusted in my ability and always left me to get on with my work. And I shared an office and met some lovely people, so I certainly wasn't unhappy there. But I just couldn't stop wondering how better my life would be if I had my own business and could make my own decisions. And so one year ago this week I left my job.

We don't have a spare room at home, so the kitchen table has been my office. It was difficult to begin with, but I soon got used to working in this way. I started by visiting small businesses in the area to see if I could interest them in my services. My proudest moment was making my first sale, a website for a local cake shop. Soon after, I started getting calls from other people asking for help with websites of their own and I found myself getting quite busy.

Of course, there have been challenges. I'm not earning quite as much as before but it's enough. I don't have to pay for transport to work anymore so that means I'm not spending quite so much. My biggest problem has been managing my time. There's no boss to tell me what to do and I'm sometimes a little lazy. I have this rule that work stops on a Friday afternoon so I can spend time with the family at weekends, so I need to pay more attention to this.

So, I wouldn't say it's been easy, but I don't regret my decision at all. I've enjoyed being my own boss and I'm quite hopeful about the future. During the next 12 months I plan to rent some office space as I'd like to be able to separate work from my home life. I'm going to need to earn more money to pay for it but I think it will help me to focus on my work.

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11 Why did Steve leave his job?

A He didn't like attending meetings.

B He wanted more control of his work.

C He had a great idea for a product.

D He wanted to earn more money.

12 Steve's greatest pleasure so far has been

A getting his first customer.

B not having to drive to work.

C having his own office.

D not having to answer the telephone.

13 What does Steve say is the most difficult about working for himself?

A working hard enough

B not having a regular salary

C feeling lonely

D working at the weekend

14 In the next year, Steve thinks

A he will get an office job.

B he will earn less money.

C he might not need to work in his kitchen.

D there will be much more competition.

15 What would be a good introduction to this article?

A In this article, Steve Cummins explains the problems of starting your own business and dealing with difficult customers.

B Thinking of starting your own business? Steve Cummins did just that and now wishes he had done it sooner.

C Steve Cummins made a big decision last year to leave his job. Read on to find out about the ups and downs of being your own boss.

D Steve Cummins explains below how he dealt with not enjoying his job by leaving his employer and starting his own business.

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Part 4

Questions 16–20

Five sentences have been removed from the text below.
For each question, choose the correct answer.
There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

My new hobby

After years of doing very little exercise, I recently took up running. I certainly feel fitter; I've lost a bit of weight and I can run distances now that would have been impossible for me 20 years ago. [16] So, what is it that keeps me interested?

Well, to begin with, there's nothing like sharing a love of something with other people. When I train with my club we do sometimes talk about other things as we're running around the streets. [17] We'll share news of our goals, our latest injuries, our next runs, knowing we have a friendly, interested and understanding ear. I've yet to meet a horrible runner!

[18] This is something I've really enjoyed. It might be helping to organise a run in the local park or helping those who are new to running get started. I do very little compared to some people, but I certainly aim to include more of this in the future.

It really helps me to relax as well. I live quite a busy life and find it surprisingly difficult to go ten minutes without thoughts racing through my head. Yet I can often go ages during a run thinking of nothing other than the pavement in front of me and how my body is feeling. [19]

I like having something to aim for and running provides opportunities for a focus, whether it's something long term, like my marathon ambitions, or more immediate like going for a personal best time on a shorter run. But it's important to remember not to push myself too hard, and one of my goals is always to enjoy running!

[20] This is especially true when you've done something you didn't think was possible. That's been the case with the personal best times I've had in the past and completing some of the longer runs.

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A And it's good for your health.

B Then there's that sense of achievement.

C But I don't think these are the reasons I go running.

D Finding the time to run can be a problem.

E I injured myself earlier in the year.

F Running gives me a rest from anything that is on my mind.

G Running also offers lots of opportunities to volunteer.

H But mostly we talk about running.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 5

Questions 21–26

For each question, choose the correct answer.

Drawing

Drawing is one of the earliest forms of communication and goes back much **(21)** ..... than the written word. However, despite its long history, it has not always been **(22)** ..... of as a form of art.

When paper became easily **(23)** ..... in the 14th century, the use of drawing in the arts increased. Some of the great artists of **the Renaissance** produced drawings of the highest **(24)** ..... and presented the human body in a more realistic way than ever before. However, it was often practised **(25)** ..... order to plan a larger painting and wasn't taken very seriously as a form of art.

Today, drawing is regarded as a **(26)** ..... skill and no less important than oil painting or other creative works.

21	**A** wider	**B** further	**C** bigger	**D** greater
22	**A** taken	**B** seen	**C** thought	**D** made
23	**A** free	**B** open	**C** around	**D** available
24	**A** quality	**B** type	**C** kind	**D** sort
25	**A** for	**B** in	**C** on	**D** with
26	**A** valuable	**B** correct	**C** dear	**D** likely

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Part 6

Questions 27–32

For each question, write the correct answer.
Write **one** word for each gap.

The Koala

We're leaving Australia soon and we've just met that well-known symbol of Australian wildlife, the koala. I've always called them koala bears, but they are a member **(27)** ..... the marsupial family.

They are only two centimetres long when **(28)** ..... first come into the world and spend the first six months living in their mother's pouch before moving on to her back for a further six months.

They live on eucalyptus leaves, which they eat huge amounts of, up to 1 kilogram **(29)** ..... day. One benefit of this diet is that they rarely need to drink water as they get **(30)** ..... from these leaves. They can live for up to 15 years in the wild and as long as 20 years when cared for in zoos or nature reserves.

Unfortunately, as more of these eucalyptus trees **(31)** ..... cut down, we are seeing a fall in **(32)** ..... number of koalas.



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