DAY 29: VOCABULARY PRACTICE

VOCABULARY 1: Read the text and choose the correct word for each gap. The first one is done for you.

Optimist or pessimist?

Is it better to be optimistic or pessimistic? While it may be impossible to remain optimistic in all circumstances, it **(0)** ___*B*___ _ me that it's better on balance to see life and people as inherently **(1)** _____, rather than the alternative of **(2)** yourself to seeing the negative in everything, being a **(3)** _____ of nerves at every opportunity in case something goes wrong and living in **(4)** _____ dread of potentially risky situations and ventures. Isn't it better sometimes to take a **(5)** _____ in the dark and hope you'll come into the light? I've been in the situation of **(6)** _____ my employees' hopes for that better-paid position or prestigious promotion, and believe me, however much the opportunity **(7)** _____ to the individual, their ability to recover from disappointment quickly is inextricably **(8)** _____ to their outlook on life. So I urge all pessimists amongst you to take a radical **(9)** _____ of your position and allow your actions to be **(10)** _____ by hope rather than fear!

0 **A** beats	**B** strikes	**C** hits	**D** bludgeons
1 **A** gentle	**B** malignant	**C** benign	**D** complacent
2 **A** devoting	**B** setting	**C** applying	**D** consecrating
3 **A** bunch	**B** bundle	**C** collection	**D** cluster
4 **A** human	**B** lethal	**C** dire	**D** mortal
5 **A** jump	**B** hurdle	**C** leap	**D** pounce
6 **A** smashing	**B** dashing	**C** crushing	**D** grinding
7 **A** means	**B** involves	**C** portends	**D** spells
8 **A** joined	**B** identified	**C** linked	**D** associated
9 **A** idea	**B** correction	**C** consideration	**D** rethink
10 **A** prompted	**B** aroused	**C** stimulated	**D** propelled

VOCABULARY 2: Read the text and choose the correct word for each gap. The first one is done for you.

Body language

What does your body language say about you? Are you even aware of it? We all have certain idiosyncrasies, for example, when some people are **(0)** __C__ rest, they sit in quite a **(11)** _____ position, folding in on themselves, sometimes even **(12)** _____ their fists. This can make a person appear quite aggressive and can be **(13)** _____ for those around, which is not usually the **(14)** _____ effect. While some may simply **(15)** _____ their shoulders at giving the wrong impression, many people will feel that this belies their **(16)** _____ identity and won't want others to make **(17)** _____ judgements about them based on their body language. So, what can one do about it? While the way we present our bodies and faces is largely **(18)**

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_____, we can make an effort to monitor how we come across. We can check now and again that our 'resting' facial expression is closer to a smile than a **(19)** _____, and, unless we want to end **(20)** _____ with round shoulders as well as appearing closed and inaccessible, we should learn to hold our shoulders back and our heads up.

0 A by	**B** in	**C** at	**D** on
11 A hunched	**B** huddled	**C** humped	**D** cowered
12 A clinching	**B** clamping	**C** clutching	**D** clenching
13 A bewildering	**B** maddening	**C** disconcerting	**D** demoralizing
14 A yearned for	**B** desired	**C** coveted	**D** fancied
15 A raise	**B** shrug	**C** lift	**D** bounce
16 A core	**B** interior	**C** root	**D** essence
17 A all-inclusive	**B** brushing	**C** sweeping	**D** encompassing
18 A senseless	**B** insensible	**C** comatose	**D** unconscious
19 A scowl	**B** growl	**C** gape	**D** skulk
20 A off	**B** up	**C** out	**D** over

VOCABULARY 3: Read the text and choose the correct word for each gap. The first one is done for you.

Travel lifestyles

Most people enjoy the idea of travelling, whether short breaks near home or to **(0)** __*B*__ destinations, but few people find the thought of **(21)** _____ the travel indefinitely appealing. This is exactly how some people choose to live their lives, however. One can appreciate the attraction of travelling to **(22)** _____ economies during depressing periods of recession and **(23)** _____ unemployment in one's own country, and advocates of this lifestyle highlight the benefits of **(24)** _____ an understanding of other cultures in children, and even adults. On the downside, it can be difficult to make ends **(25)** _____ financially over time, and there's a **(26)** _____ probability of having to return home and start again from scratch. While such travellers may want to **(27)** _____ life in far-flung countries, many detractors say that a travelling lifestyle is really just an **(28)** _____ gap year, and while children may **(29)** _____ the benefits in some ways, when they eventually settle down they are behind their peers at school and still have an awful lot **(30)** _____ to learn.

0 A alien	B remote	C secluded	D lonesome
31 A prolonging	B delaying	C stretching	D lengthening
32 A arising	B surfacing	C emerging	D merging
33 A raising	B rising	C lifting	D ascending
34 A feeding	B advancing	C fostering	D cherishing
35 A meet	B touch	C join	D connect

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36 A large	B wide	C major	D high
37 A imitate	B reproduce	C clone	D replicate
38 A elaborate	B decorated	C garnished	D embellished
39 A harvest	B reap	C garner	D recover
40 A remained	B left	C residual	D lingering

VOCABULARY 4: Read the text and choose the correct word from the box for each gap. There are three words you do not need to use. The first one is done for you.

answers	~~choice~~	conscience	default	desire	judgement
knowledge	laudable	opportunity	permutations	plunge	straight
time	wisdom				

Buying a new computer

Today's society is full of pitfalls for consumers, one of which is the plethora of goods available; in the developed world, at least, we are spoilt for **(0)** __*choice*__. So, when you have a desperate **(41)** _____ to buy something new, how do you go about it? Do you try to get the facts **(42)** _____ about all the different models before you start shopping? Conventional **(43)** _____ has it that you should – forearmed is forewarned – but it isn't always that easy. When I needed to replace my old computer recently, I started out with the **(44)** _____ aim of comparing suitable models on the Internet, but that just confused me. So, against my better **(45)** _____, off I went to a specialist electronics chain, but they just blinded me with all the possible **(46)** of memory, graphics tablets, sound cards, and so on. Then I turned to my **(47)** _____ position where most shopping is concerned – the local department store. There, at last, I got a few straight **(48)** _____, made my choice and took the **(49)** _____. So it worked out well, apart from the niggling questions to my **(50)** about how much I could have saved if I'd persevered with the online option.

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