

You are going to listen to a radio programme about writing standards. Choose the correct alternative.

The questions are not necessarily in order.

You will find the audio file 'Reading and Writing' in Sallenet, Unit 5.

Presenter A recent report by a UK university has revealed that standards of writing have fallen significantly among its students. Many people say that this is part of a wider trend today. But how serious is the problem? Professor Jane Bradley is here with us today to discuss the issue. Good morning, Professor Bradley.

1 What did the report say?

- A. The students' handwriting was terrible, but their spelling was good.
- B. All aspects of writing were poor, but the students' spelling was especially bad.
- C. The students couldn't organize written work, but they expressed themselves well.
- D. All aspects of writing were poor, but the students' grammar was particularly bad.

2 Professor Bradley believes that teachers ...

- A. don't teach basic writing skills.
- B. don't have enough materials to use with their classes.
- C. aren't there when the students need to ask questions.
- D. do the best they can in the time they have.

3 What does Professor Bradley think happens in classes?

- A. Students aren't interested in writing.
- B. Students never have any writing practice.
- C. There is more talking in class than writing.
- D. Students don't like talking to each other in class.

4 According to Professor Bradley, in the past, exams used to ...

- A. have a lot of multiple choice questions.
- B. ask students to write full answers.
- C. allow more marks for writing than for content and knowledge.
- D. ask students to tick boxes.

5 Professor Bradley says that texting ...

- A. uses short forms of words
- B. uses a lot of punctuation.
- C. helps people to write better.
- D. is always written in bad English.

6 What effect has texting had on writing skills?

- A. It hasn't had an effect at all.
- B. It's had a positive effect.
- C. It's had very little effect.
- D. It's had a negative effect.

7 According to Professor Bradley, technological advance means that ...

- A. everyone is extremely skilled at using computers.
- B. we need to learn many new skills.
- C. people can only write on computers.
- D. writing skills have become even more important.

8 According to Professor Bradley, good writing skills ...

- A. are less important for lawyers than people who work in banks.
- B. have become less important for employers.
- C. will help you get a great job.
- D. are particularly important in some professions.