

Progress Test

Unit 4

Use of English

7 Complete the description with the words below.

both but common contrast difference first second shows unlike whereas

¹ _____ photos show a group of people who are all surrounding one person and looking at them. The ² _____ theme in the two photos is celebration. The first photo ³ _____ a very old man at the centre, ⁴ _____ the second photo shows a young woman in her twenties. It must be the old man's birthday because he is sitting in front of a birthday cake, and the other people must be members of his family because they are all different ages. In ⁵ _____ to the first photo, the people in the ⁶ _____ photo must be the woman's friends as they are all roughly the same age as her. In the ⁷ _____ photo the people are also wearing party clothes, ⁸ _____ in the second photo they are just wearing jeans and T-shirts. Another obvious ⁹ _____ is that the woman isn't sitting down – she is walking through a door into a house. Judging by the expression on her face, she wasn't expecting to find everyone there. So, ¹⁰ _____ the first photo, it must be a surprise celebration.

Mark: ____ / 10

Listening

8 4 Listen to five extracts about the weather. Choose the correct answers.

- 1 People in England often talk about the weather because
 - a they don't like talking about health.
 - b it gives them something to talk about.
 - c they are always worrying about it.
- 2 What caused the most damage to houses on Sunshine Island?
 - a the earthquake
 - b the tornado
 - c the flooding
- 3 What does the man say about the temperature in his garage at the moment?
 - a It isn't warm enough.
 - b It's below zero.
 - c It's quite mild.
- 4 What happened last night?
 - a Lightning struck the house.
 - b The wind blew a tree down.
 - c The rain flooded the garden.
- 5 What problem did the woman have on holiday?
 - a The temperature was too high.
 - b There wasn't enough to do.
 - c The children weren't very well.

Mark: ____ / 5

Reading

9 Read the text. Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?

Singing in the rain

You wake up in the morning and there's snow on the ground, but on the walk to school the sun comes out and it feels like summer. You go outside at lunchtime because it's still sunny, but you get caught in a thunderstorm. On your way home, it's so hot that you have to take off your jumper. Does it sound familiar? If it does, then you probably live in the UK.

The weather in the UK is unpredictable, and this is partly because of the location of the British Isles. Cold polar air from the north and warmer air from the Tropics, brought by the Gulf Stream, push against each other to create the UK's changeable weather patterns.

This means that weather forecasting in the UK is a difficult job, and the people who do it can have embarrassing moments. For example, in 1987, weather forecasters missed a huge storm that was coming towards the UK. There was no mention of the storm during the daytime weather forecast, but later that night, a place called Sevenoaks near London lost six of its seven famous oak trees when the strong wind blew them down.

These days, UK weather forecasters usually know about extreme weather that is about to hit the country, and they also try not to make unrealistic predictions about the weather. For example, they don't say that there's going to be a 'barbecue summer' (a very hot summer when people can cook outside all the time) or a freezing winter, because usually the opposite happens. They now only forecast a maximum of five days, and people don't even trust that – they check regularly to see if a forecast is still correct.

You may think that living with this sort of weather every day makes people unhappy, but actually it has an unexpected effect on a lot of people in the UK. They tend to get more excited by sunshine than most people. They are likely to change into summer clothes whenever they see the sun, whether it is August or December. They don't mind the rain and they're always prepared for it, with their waterproof coats, boots and umbrellas ready by the front door. They also know how to have a good time despite the weather. Rainy summers are so common that people try not to let the weather spoil their fun. In fact, for some people, particularly young children, the rain can be fun, and you may even find them singing in the rain!

- 1 The UK's position causes changes in the weather. _____
- 2 In 1987, forecasters warned people about a storm. _____
- 3 In the storm, Sevenoaks lost most of its famous trees. _____
- 4 UK weather forecasters make promises about the weather. _____
- 5 The writer says people in the UK expect rain in the summer. _____

Mark: ____ / 5