TEST 1

0 **A** have **B** do **C** get **D** take



Why we need to play

Human beings are not the only creatures that like to **(0)** ..... fun. Many animals play, as do some birds. However, no other creatures spend so much time enjoying themselves as human beings do. Indeed, we **(1)** ..... onto our sense of fun right into adulthood.

So why do human beings spend so much time playing? One reason is that we have time for leisure; animals have very little time to play as most of their life is spent sleeping and **(2)** ..... food.

So, is play just an opportunity for us to **(3)** ..... in enjoyable activities or does it have a more important **(4)** ..... ? According to scientists, **(5)** ..... from being fun, play has several very real **(6)** ..... for us – it helps our physical, intellectual and social development. It also helps to **(7)** ..... us for what we have not yet experienced. With very **(8)** ..... risk, we can act out what we would do in unexpected, or even dangerous, situations.

1	**A**	hold	**B**	keep	**C**	save	**D** stay
2	**A**	searching	**B**	looking	**C**	seeking	**D** gaining
3	**A**	engage	**B**	combine	**C**	contribute	**D** involve
4	**A**	motive	**B**	purpose	**C**	intention	**D** cause
5	**A**	excluding	**B**	except	**C**	apart	**D** away
6	**A**	assets	**B**	profits	**C**	services	**D** benefits
7	**A**	plan	**B**	prepare	**C**	practise	**D** provide
8	**A**	brief	**B**	short	**C**	narrow	**D** little

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 2

0 **A** predictable **B** steady **C** respectable **D** main

0	A	B	C	D
	■			

Home and abroad

After a short time living in a foreign country, I noticed conversations with locals assumed a **(0)** ..... pattern. There were standard answers to the usual questions. Most questions caused little **(1)** ..... – it was rather like dancing, where both partners know how to avoid **(2)** ..... on each other's toes.

But, 'When are you going home?' was a question I **(3)** ..... to answer, whenever I **(4)** ..... my life and the direction it seemed to be **(5)** ..... . In the last ten years, I had lived in a dozen countries. And I had travelled through dozens more; usually in **(6)** ..... of a purpose or a person; occasionally to see the attractions.

This kind of travel is not **(7)** ..... wandering, but is the extensive exploration of a wide **(8)** ..... of cultures. However, it doesn't allow you to put down roots. At the back of your mind, though, is the idea of home, the place you came from.

1	**A**	puzzle	**B**	trouble	**C**	obstacle	**D** barrier
2	**A**	touching	**B**	moving	**C**	walking	**D** stepping
3	**A**	worked	**B**	competed	**C**	stretched	**D** struggled
4	**A**	considered	**B**	thought	**C**	reflected	**D** believed
5	**A**	making	**B**	finding	**C**	seeking	**D** taking
6	**A**	look	**B**	search	**C**	sight	**D** inquiry
7	**A**	aimless	**B**	unreasonable	**C**	unreliable	**D** indefinite
8	**A**	difference	**B**	arrangement	**C**	variety	**D** order

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 3

0 **A** inviting **B** attracting **C** involving **D** appealing

0	A	B	C	D
	■			

New words for a dictionary

The editors of a new online dictionary are **(0)** ..... the public to submit words that they would like to see in the dictionary. People are already sending in words, some of which they have **(1)** ..... themselves – these will almost certainly not **(2)** ..... in the dictionary!

When a new word is submitted, editors check newspapers, radio, television and social networks to see how **(3)** ..... the word is used. They also **(4)** ..... whether the word is likely to remain in use for more than one or two years. The evidence they collect will help them decide whether or not to put it in the dictionary.

Editors will **(5)** ..... feedback on any words submitted by the public. Even words not accepted will **(6)** ..... to be monitored over the following year. Editors need to be **(7)** ..... of new words which emerge from areas such as popular culture and technology, so that their dictionary is a genuine **(8)** ..... of the current language.

1	**A**	set out	**B**	made up	**C**	brought out	**D**	come up
2	**A**	include	**B**	show	**C**	consist	**D**	appear
3	**A**	totally	**B**	widely	**C**	fully	**D**	vastly
4	**A**	consider	**B**	regard	**C**	prove	**D**	rate
5	**A**	state	**B**	tell	**C**	provide	**D**	inform
6	**A**	keep	**B**	rest	**C**	last	**D**	continue
7	**A**	familiar	**B**	aware	**C**	alert	**D**	experience
8	**A**	mark	**B**	copy	**C**	reflection	**D**	imitation

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 4

0 A heart B key C bottom D focus



Memory

Memory is at the **(0)** ..... of our sense of personal identity. If we did not have memory, we would not be **(1)** ..... of our relationships with other people and would have no **(2)** ..... that we had had any past at all. And without memory we would have no knowledge on which to **(3)** ..... our present and future.

Memory **(4)** ..... of three processes: registration, retention and recall. Registration happens when we consciously notice something. Retention is the next **(5)** ..... , when we keep something we have noticed in our minds for a certain period of time. Finally, recall occurs when we actively think about some of these things that are **(6)** ..... in our minds.

Every day we are subjected to a vast **(7)** ..... of information. If we remembered every **(8)** ..... thing we had ever seen or heard, life would be impossible. Consequently, our brains have learnt to register only what is of importance.

1	A	familiar	B	aware	C	informed	D	acquainted
2	A	view	B	suggestion	C	belief	D	idea
3	A	base	B	depend	C	do	D	make
4	A	contains	B	involves	C	includes	D	consists
5	A	action	B	division	C	set	D	stage
6	A	seated	B	stocked	C	stored	D	sited
7	A	level	B	amount	C	extent	D	number
8	A	exact	B	single	C	one	D	isolated

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 5

0 **A** making **B** taking **C** travelling **D** flying

0	A	B	C	D

Holidays at home

Official figures show that the number of people **(0)** ..... international flights is decreasing, and that this is **(1)** ..... in significant changes to holidaying habits.

As the cost of air tickets increases, it appears that more and more families are choosing to **(2)** ..... their summer holidays at home. People are also becoming more **(3)** ..... of the harm that flying does to the environment, and see it as a way of helping to **(4)** ..... the planet, too.

For many parents a summer with no airport queues or overcrowded resorts may seem attractive, but the idea might well be less **(5)** ..... with their teenage children, who are probably **(6)** ..... to flying off to the Mediterranean or Miami as soon as school breaks up. So, the question is, how can young people **(7)** ..... lots of fun when so much will be closed for the holidays, and so many of their friends are **(8)** ..... to be away?

The answer may lie at the local sports centre. Nowadays, many centres organise summer activities aimed at young people **(9)** ..... either on indoor or outdoor sports. These might range, for instance, from playing table tennis to **(10)** ..... mountain-biking. As well as being healthy and enjoyable, taking part in activities like these is also an excellent way to **(11)** ..... new friends. For the most popular activities, though, it is advisable to **(12)** ..... early for a place – perhaps two or three months in advance.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1	**A** leading	**B** resulting	**C** causing	**D** creating
2	**A** pass	**B** employ	**C** use	**D** spend
3	**A** aware	**B** thoughtful	**C** wise	**D** familiar
4	**A** save	**B** secure	**C** guard	**D** defend
5	**A** liked	**B** popular	**C** approved	**D** accepted
6	**A** used	**B** experienced	**C** preferred	**D** prepared
7	**A** do	**B** live	**C** cause	**D** have
8	**A** positive	**B** inevitable	**C** bound	**D** definite
9	**A** eager	**B** keen	**C** fond	**D** enthusiastic
10	**A** going	**B** cycling	**C** playing	**D** riding
11	**A** meet	**B** know	**C** join	**D** make
12	**A** demand	**B** apply	**C** claim	**D** order

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 6

0 **A** reporting **B** quoting **C** according **D** informing



Fingernails growing faster

People's fingernails and toenails, **(0)** ..... to a recent study, are nowadays growing more quickly. Research **(1)** ..... out at the University of North Carolina indicates that the speed at which human nails are growing has increased by **(2)** ..... to 25 per cent over the last 70 years.

The results of the study show that the **(3)** ..... human fingernail now grows about 3.5 mm a month, **(4)** ..... with just 3 mm seven decades ago. Toenail growth, **(5)** ..... only about 2 mm per month, was also up on the figure **(6)** ..... in a similar survey done 70 years ago.

Researchers **(7)** ..... the rapid increase down to changes in lifestyle, particularly the greater **(8)** ..... of the importance of regular exercise and a healthy diet. This, they point out, is in **(9)** ..... with similar trends in the height and weight of present-day adults.

Interestingly, it appears that nails **(10)** ..... to grow fastest in warmer conditions, with the quickest growth **(11)** ..... among young people, and men. The fastest-growing nail is on the middle finger, while that on the little finger is **(12)** ..... far the slowest, at only a fraction over 3 mm each month.

1	**A** taken	**B** carried	**C** studied	**D** worked
2	**A** near	**B** just	**C** close	**D** next
3	**A** average	**B** medium	**C** common	**D** standard
4	**A** opposed	**B** measured	**C** related	**D** compared
5	**A** although	**B** despite	**C** however	**D** nevertheless
6	**A** achieved	**B** concluded	**C** arrived	**D** obtained
7	**A** set	**B** write	**C** put	**D** say
8	**A** belief	**B** information	**C** familiarity	**D** awareness
9	**A** way	**B** rule	**C** line	**D** case
10	**A** tend	**B** lean	**C** head	**D** aim
11	**A** pace	**B** rate	**C** speed	**D** step
12	**A** by	**B** so	**C** as	**D** too

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 7

0 **A** common **B** frequent **C** general **D** routine



The sticking plaster

Nowadays, one of the most **(0)** ..... items found in the home is the sticking plaster.

Protecting a cut by covering the affected area with a piece of material that sticks to the skin may seem a rather **(1)** ..... idea, so it is perhaps surprising to learn that the plaster was not **(2)** ..... until about ninety years ago.

The person who thought **(3)** ..... the idea was Earle Dickson, an employee of the Johnson & Johnson company. Concerned that his wife Josephine sometimes **(4)** ..... accidents while cooking and doing other jobs, he used pieces of cotton material placed inside strips of sticky tape to cover her injuries. This prevented dirt getting into the **(5)** ..... and protected it from further harm as she did the **(6)** .....

Dickson's boss was impressed, so in 1921 Johnson & Johnson put the new sticking plaster into **(7)** ..... under the brand name Band-Aid. Sales at first were slow, but somebody at the company came up with the **(8)** ..... idea of giving free plasters to the Boy Scouts. This created publicity and from then **(9)** ..... it became a commercial success. Dickson was **(10)** ..... within the company, eventually becoming a senior executive.

Although the basic design of the sticking plaster has remained similar to the **(11)** ..... , there have been many developments in the materials used and it is now **(12)** ..... in a variety of shapes, sizes and colours. Total worldwide sales are believed to have exceeded 100 billion.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1	**A** clear	**B** evident	**C** plain	**D** obvious
2	**A** realised	**B** imagined	**C** invented	**D** dreamt
3	**A** up	**B** over	**C** in	**D** forward
4	**A** did	**B** had	**C** made	**D** took
5	**A** wound	**B** damage	**C** breakage	**D** tear
6	**A** homework	**B** household	**C** housework	**D** homecoming
7	**A** creation	**B** formation	**C** production	**D** construction
8	**A** keen	**B** bright	**C** eager	**D** shining
9	**A** after	**B** to	**C** since	**D** on
10	**A** raised	**B** lifted	**C** advanced	**D** promoted
11	**A** model	**B** original	**C** sample	**D** standard
12	**A** available	**B** achievable	**C** accessible	**D** attainable

LIVEWORKSHEETS