

Grammar

1 Correct the mistakes in the sentences. There are two mistakes in each sentence.

1 First time I met Sam he was reading the book about multiple intelligences.

2 I enjoy documentaries about famous people more that documentaries about environment.

3 The exam was such difficult that I will probably get the bad results.

4 In general, training as the nurse is not more difficult as studying medicine.

5 His performance wasn't enough good that day to win a final of the tennis tournament.

/ 5

2 Complete the text with one word in each gap.

The most extraordinary person I've ever met has to be my great-grandmother. She's called Ellie and she's 98 now, but she doesn't seem any older (1) my grandmother really! She's bright and intelligent and her brain still works very fast. She's always telling me about what she's seen on TV. She answers all the questions on quiz shows. She's as good (2) any of the contestants. The thing about Ellie is that she's always happy and she never complains. 'Life's (3) short to grumble,' she says. She loves hats and whenever she goes out in her wheelchair she wears (4) purple and red one. It's fantastic and suits her very well. She's given me lots of her old clothes, some dating back 50 years and they're in perfect condition. I think they must be worth a lot of money. It was Ellie who persuaded me to follow my dream of becoming an artist. I shall always be grateful to her for that. She's (5) an amazing lady!

/ 5

3 Complete the email with the correct form of these words. There are two extra words.

as * early * enough * hard * quick
so * too

Hi Tom,

How's it going? Are you happy in your new job? I'm sorry I haven't been in touch recently, but I've been really busy working on a marketing campaign at work. We have a great new line of products but the designer isn't very well-known, so we weren't selling (1) units. My new boss works (2) than just about anybody I know and I'm learning (3) much from her. Since she took over the campaign, sales have increased more (4) than anyone expected and the designer's career has really taken off. He's working on new designs all the time, but it takes longer than you might think to get them into the shop. The (5) we can hope to see his new range is next spring. But for now sales are good, so we're happy.

Hope to see you soon.

Carrie

/ 5

Total / 15

Vocabulary

4 Complete the text with these adjectives. There are two extra options.

creative • easygoing • good-natured • insecure
mature • pushy • stubborn

We're having a big family party at the end of this month. It's really interesting when everyone gets together. My mum has got three brothers and although you can see the similarities they are quite different as well. My Uncle Tom is the oldest and he's the typical (1) parent. He's always trying to get my cousins to be more ambitious and he gets annoyed when they aren't chosen for a sports team or the school play. Then there's Uncle James. He's the complete opposite. He's an art teacher and he's really (2) He never tells his children off and he's always very relaxed. He wants everyone to discover their (3) side and do painting or sculpture or something. Uncle Paul is the one in the middle and he's very funny. He's always telling stories. But he can be a bit (4) and he won't do anything he doesn't want to do. Then there's my mum. She loves it when they're all together and if there are any arguments – which there always are – she's the peacemaker. She's very (5) Everyone says I'm like her. It makes me sorry that I'm an only child, but at least I'll have all my cousins around at the party. I can't wait!

/ 5

5 Choose the correct alternatives to complete the text.

Marie Curie was one of the most famous scientists of her time. She was born in Poland, but went to live in Paris to study mathematics and physics. There she met her husband, Pierre Curie, and together they conducted (1) *investigations/creations* into radioactivity. Their work was very dangerous, but eventually they discovered the chemical elements polonium and radium. They were awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1903. Marie's (2) *education/happiness* was cut short when Pierre was killed in a tragic accident. However, she was very (3) *easygoing/determined* and took over his teaching post, becoming the first woman to teach at the Sorbonne. She devoted herself to continuing their work and eventually won a second Nobel Prize, for Chemistry, in 1911. She was a (4) *modest/frank* woman and, despite her success, she continued to face opposition from male scientists. She said, 'Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are (5) *outgoing/gifted* for something and that this thing must be attained.'

/ 5

6 Complete the text with the correct noun form of the words given.

My cousin Emma has always wanted to be an (1) (act). But she was also really good at music and her parents wanted her to go to university to become a classical (2) (music) – so that's what she did. But she had the dream of going to drama school and as soon as she finished, she went for her first audition. Unfortunately, she was turned down at that school, but they told her that the more work she did, the better her (3) (perform) would be. So, even though she was in full-time (4) (employ) by then, she continued to practise. She went back a year later and this time she got in. Now she feels she is moving in the right (5) (direct) at last.

/ 5

Total / 15

Reading

7 Read the article about the human brain. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A–G the one which fits each gap. There is one extra sentence.

The amazing human brain

The brain is an amazing organ and the complexities of the way it works may never be fully understood, but scientists have made a lot of progress in explaining how and why different parts of our brains are used. (1) These people are sometimes called 'autistic savants' and their mental abilities are brilliant and inexplicable. Some are able to do amazing mathematical calculations at high speed. Others can perform music without ever having had a music lesson in their lives. One American savant, Kim Peek, the person who inspired the famous film *Rain Man*, could read two pages at the same time, one with each eye and was said to have total recall of more than 12,000 books he had read. A British savant, Stephen Wiltshire, can draw incredibly detailed drawings of places after seeing them only once.

It is believed that savants may have these exceptional abilities because of some form of damage to the brain which allows an unusual form of communication between the different sides of the brain. (2) The problem in understanding a savant's abilities has been that most are unable to explain how they do these extraordinary things – either because their language skills are less advanced or because they themselves do not know how; the abilities simply 'come' to them.

(3) This man's name is Daniel Tammet. Scientists believe that what Daniel can tell them may help unlock some important secrets of the brain. Daniel is capable of doing extremely complicated mathematical calculations in his head in a matter of seconds. He is obsessed with numbers and counting. (4) While they were playing in the playground, he was standing there counting the number of leaves on the trees! For him, counting is an absolute joy. It makes him happy and content. (5) He gets uncomfortable when there is too much disorder. For example, going to a supermarket is not an enjoyable experience for him as he is distracted by counting the tins and calculating anything and everything that he sees there. Likewise, working nine to five in a typical office environment would be difficult. (6) He can also speak seven languages and has been writing his own language, called Manti, since he was a child.

According to Daniel, he sees numbers as different colours, textures and images, and when he calculates complex numbers, the images change and form new images which give him the answers. If Daniel's explanations can help scientists discover more about the way the brain works, then perhaps we can all learn to develop our own potential to a greater level.

- A He therefore works from home helping clients with literacy and numeracy skills.
- B However, Daniel needs to be in control of what is happening around him.
- C Some scientists believe that we all have the potential to use this ability, but we do not know how.
- D However, scientists have found one savant who has excellent linguistic ability and is able to describe his thought processes clearly.
- E Apparently, there are very few people who can match this in the world.
- F He says he has been like this for as long as he can remember and it set him apart from other children at school.
- G There are, however, a certain number of people whose brains seem to work in a completely different way to the rest of us.

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8 Read the article again and choose the best answers, A, B or C.

- 1 The mental abilities of 'autistic savants'
 A only apply to science subjects.
 B will never be understood.
 C cannot be easily explained.
- 2 When he read books, Kim Peek
 A was able to picture them as films.
 B could remember everything in them.
 C had to read everything twice.
- 3 'Autistic savants' may have unusual abilities because of
 A damage to one side of the brain.
 B their advanced language skills.
 C uncommon connections within the brain.
- 4 The autistic savant Daniel Tammet is unusual because
 A he can explain how he thinks.
 B he can speak more than one language.
 C he has no mathematical ability.

- 5 Daniel Tammet dislikes some environments because
 A they are outside his control.
 B they remind him of the school playground.
 C he doesn't know how to express himself.
- 6 What does the word 'potential' in the last line refer to?
 A Our ability to see numbers as colours, textures and images.
 B Our ability to improve and succeed.
 C The possibility of understanding how the brain works.

/ 6

Total / 12

Use of English

9 Complete the second sentence so it means the same as the first, using the word given. Do not change the word given. Use between two and five words.

- 1 If I sleep for a long time, I feel more tired.
LONGER
 The more tired I feel.
- 2 Jack doesn't have the ambition to apply for that job.
ENOUGH
 Jack is to apply for that job.
- 3 Susie plays the piano so well even though she is only 14.
SUCH
 Susie is even though she is only 14.
- 4 Sandy is better at languages than Tom.
AS
 Tom Sandy at languages.
- 5 I rushed my homework.
SPEND
 I time on my homework.
- 6 The exam wasn't as easy as I thought it would be.
MORE
 The exam I thought it would be.
- 7 Marcus isn't creative enough to write a play.
HAVE
 Marcus to write a play.
- 8 The journey was too long for us to be able to go.
SO
 The journey that we couldn't go.

/ 8

Listening

10  **Listen to four speakers talking about extraordinary people. Match the speakers (1–4) with the statements (A–E). There is one extra statement.**

Speaker 1
 Speaker 2
 Speaker 3
 Speaker 4

- A He/she talks about someone we may know from the television.
- B He/she talks about someone who has had a successful career at a young age.
- C He/she talks about someone whose work inspired those who came after him/her.
- D He/she talks about someone who has refused to change a situation.
- E He/she talks about someone who has overcome a big problem.

/ 4

11  Listen again and complete the sentences with one word in each gap.

- 1 According to Speaker 1, Steve Jussup used to be an and sporty person before his accident.
- 2 Steve Jussup is very determined and never gave up
- 3 Speaker 2 describes a young woman who found out that she had a for persuasion.
- 4 Agatha Christie was the subject of a mystery herself when she completely for a short period of time.

5 People know about Sister Wendy because of her
..... on television.

6 Sister Wendy has a special talent as an historian.

16

Total / 10

Writing

12 Read the notice and write your article.

Articles wanted!

Which person has had the most influence on you in your life? Describe that person and what they do.

It could be a relative, a famous person or someone you know. Tell us how and why they have influenced you. Send us your articles now!

You should:

- include an introduction with the person's name and some personal information.
- think of one main point.
- think of one or two additional points.
- write a conclusion.

Use some of these phrases:

- He/She looks/seems ...
- He/She can/tends to be ...
- He/She is completely/totally/rather/quite
(+ 'extreme' adjective)
- The reason why I chose this person is ...

Write 190–220 words.

1 / 10