

Apellido:

Nombre:

Lugar de Nacimiento:

Fecha de Nacimiento: / /

DNI:

1. Read and answer

EX 1+2+3	EX 4+5	Total mark

A real-life "Spider-Man" has climbed some of the world's tallest buildings... with no ropes or safety equipment.

French climber, Alain Robert, well known for his amazing ability to climb enormous buildings, has succeeded in reaching the top of one of the highest structures in the world. He climbed the 452-metre Tower Two of the Petronas Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia. Robert took two hours to complete his climb and, as usual, he used no ropes or safety equipment. If he had slipped, there was nothing between him and the road far below.

For 15 years, Robert has fascinated spectators and angered security guards by climbing skyscrapers and monuments such as the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California.

How does he do it?

He is an expert climber and makes his way slowly to the top by gripping window ledges and placing his fingers in cracks in the walls. He keeps a small bag of powder around his waist, to dry the sweat on his hands. Huge crowds gather to watch his terrifying climbs, but his activities have brought him a lot of trouble – he has been put into prison on four different continents. This is because he rarely gets permission for his climbs. He usually begins in darkness, appearing at dawn, already some distance up the side of his chosen building, and before anybody can stop him.

Success at last

This was Robert's third attempt to climb one of the Petronas Towers. On the two previous occasions, he had been stopped by security guards halfway through the climb. In this latest attempt, after finally reaching the top, he was immediately arrested. Robert was not too worried, however. "Climbing the Petronas has always been one of my dreams," he said.

Some problems on the way to the top

The "Spider-Man" may have completed many successful climbs, but his attempts have not always been without problems. When he was climbing the 100-storey Willis Tower in Chicago, a thick fog descended and covered the glass walls of the building with moisture, making it very wet and dangerous. He reached the top, but only after slow and careful progress. In London, he was caught in a storm and had to be rescued by window cleaners.

A recent fall...

More recently, Robert fell and needed emergency surgery for a painful cut after climbing... a small tree! He was being photographed for a magazine interview at the time.

1) Why is Robert's method of climbing so dangerous?

2) Why has Robert been in prison so often?

3) Why does Robert usually start his climbs in darkness?

4) Why was Robert unsuccessful in his earlier attempts to climb the Petronas Towers?

5) What is unusual about Robert's more recent fall?

2. Read about Alain Robert's family life and fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb. When you see + use a modal

Alain Robert has spent many hours planning and booking a very special holiday in the city of Miami in USA. Mr Robert and his wife Dominique have two children, Marie, 14, and Paul, 16. Mr Robert's job requires them to move every four years, so the family _____ (+ travel) a lot. However, they _____ (never be) in the USA before and they are really excited about this trip.

The family flew to the USA on a new airline. The flight was punctual, and the cabin crew were attentive and polite. Dominique is a vegetarian and so a special meal _____ (order) at the time of booking. However, when Dominique asked for her meal nothing but bread _____ (be) available! If Dominique _____ (know), she would have had something to eat before boarding the plane.

A minibus took the family to the Palmview Hotel and they were very impressed with the sight of it. They found their rooms comfortable and enjoyed the food. Each member of the family _____ (give) a pass by the hotel management which _____ (+allow) them to access all of the hotel's facilities, including the swimming pool and the gym. Paul wanted _____ (go) to the pool immediately and rushed off _____ (have) a swim. He was back in 5 minutes _____ (tell) his parents that the pool was closed for maintenance and _____ (be) for the next week. Mr and Mrs Robert were sorry _____ (hear) this but told their son that he _____ (+ go) to the gym instead. This was open and it did have very good equipment.

One of the main things that the family _____ (look forward to) was the entertainment that _____ (describe) in the brochure. The first night there were acrobats, but after that there was only some dancing and the children were bored. If there had been another kind of entertainment, they _____ (enjoy) it much more.

The family agreed that the brochure _____ (not be) honest in its description of the holiday and they said that they _____ (+ never use) this travel company again. They were also looking forward to _____ (complete) the feedback form so that they _____ (+let) the company know how they felt.

3. Read about Peter Stepway, lover of extreme sports. Fill in the gaps with ONE suitable word

Peter Stepway, aged 18, has always loved the sea. However, he lives with his family _____ from the coast.

Peter would like to spend his next holiday doing water-based activities in a warm country. His parents have agreed _____ he is old enough to travel by _____ for the first time. He has to make a choice _____ sailing, windsurfing and scuba diving, and since he has had plenty of experience of the _____ two activities on a lake near his home he has decided to try something completely new. The Water Fun Company organises six courses that interest him, but three of them are not suitable because he has no experience at _____ of scuba diving and they are for advanced level divers. The other three are in The Caribbean, Hawaii and Australia respectively. They all offer fantastic diving on coral reefs and the weather _____ appear to be perfect in all the locations. So Peter has to make his decision based _____ other factors.

He will _____ to pay for the trip by working part-time in an office near his home. His parents have agreed _____ they will pay for the diving course, but there is the cost of the flight and accommodation to consider.

4. Go on reading about Peter and fill in the blanks with a suitable connective

Australia is the furthest from Peter's home and the cost of an airline ticket to get there is too expensive, _____ that is his third choice of country. The course in Hawaii offers diving tuition for six hours every day. _____ Peter would like to have so much tuition, it is too expensive for him. In _____, there is a minimum of six persons to each group and he wants to be part of a smaller group,

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which is on offer in The Caribbean. He hopes that this will enable him to learn the basic techniques

_____ quickly as possible.

The only other detail to decide is the number of days for the course. The shortest course is not really good value for money. _____, the longest one is again too expensive, _____ that Peter has to compromise and choose the only remaining option.

Peter has one other slight problem. Six months ago he had an ear infection _____ affected his hearing and balance. He asked his doctor's advice, and she told him that it would be a good idea to mention it _____ applying to the company, especially _____. Peter wants to book the holiday insurance with them. Dr Johnston has agreed to explain the situation fully to the holiday company _____ necessary.

5. Complete the Dialogue

Peter is back from his holiday and he's telling a friend about it.

Friend: Well, Peter, I want to hear all about your holiday. _____?

Peter: It was certainly fantastic! Even better _____.

Friend: _____?

Peter: I was on a small island in the Caribbean. We were surrounded by coral reefs and exotic fish.

Friend: _____?

Peter: We were only three, so the instructor could pay a lot of attention to each one of us.

Friend: And what about your ear?
_____?

Peter: No, it was fine. Anyway, Dr Johnston had given me some medicine in case I needed it. She said I _____ as I felt the slightest pain. But I didn't need it, luckily.

Friend: Tell me about the fish you saw. Anything special ... or dangerous?

Peter: Well, in one of the dives I was very close to a white shark.

Friend: A white shark! That's really dangerous! _____?

Peter: It was only a few metres away. It was quite scary.

Friend: I can imagine! _____ If it had attacked you?

Peter: I don't know! But the instructor had told us that if a shark came anywhere near us we were _____ and not to move at all.

Friend: Oh dear! I'm not sure I'd like to have that kind of experience.

Peter: Well, if _____ try a less dangerous location first. You probably need a little bit more experience before you go to a place like the Caribbean.

Friend: Sure. I'll take your advice.

6. Composition. Write about 180 words on ONE of the following:

- Finish a story with the following sentence: "I swore I would never let something like that happen to me again"
- "The government needs to take strong measures to stop violent crimes". Discuss.