

UNIT 7: LANGUAGE TEST B

GRAMMAR

Task 1

Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Survey: Free time

Some interesting facts came out in a recent article about young people and their free time activities. Around 50 percent of those interviewed said that playing computer games **(1)** (be) their favourite activity. However, five percent said that they **(2)** (give) away all their computer games recently because they **(3)** (not be) planning to 'waste any more time'. A few teens complained that they **(4)** (not have) any free time at all this year because of exams. Interestingly, only five percent said that they usually **(5)** (spend) a lot of time reading these days. About 40 percent said that they **(6)** (do) a lot of sport the previous week. Amazingly, three teens said that last month they **(7)** (not be) able to do any sport because they **(8)** (break) a toe playing football. They all said they **(9)** (be) more careful in future but for now they **(10)** (watch) a lot of sport on TV.

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Task 2

Complete the questions in reported speech.

My friend Serena dreamt that she met Ed Sheeran and, in her dream, he asked her lots of questions.

- 11 First he asked her ('Do you want to be a singer?')
- 12 Then he asked her ('Have you ever written any songs?')
- 13 And he also asked her ('When will you start writing your first song?')
- 14 After that he asked her ('Can you remember the title of my first hit?')
- 15 Finally he asked her ('Why did my songs become such big hits?')

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VOCABULARY

Task 1

Complete the text with these words. There is one extra word which you do not need to use.

e-book illustrations novel paperback passage print publisher series

The Hunger Games

Have you read *The Hunger Games*? It's a futuristic **(16)** by Suzanne Collins set in a country called Panem in North America. It's available in hardcover and **(17)** But if you don't want any more books on your shelves, you can get the **(18)** There are three books in the Hunger Games **(19)** and they all follow the character Katniss Everdeen. There are no **(20)** in the book but there's a picture on the cover of a 'mockingjay', a fictional bird. The **(21)** signed a contract with the author for over a million dollars. They decided to **(22)** 50,000 copies to begin with. So far it has sold around sixty-five million copies in the USA.

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Task 2

Complete the text with the correct words. The first letter of each word is given.

Film review

There are four *Hunger Games* movies and they have all been successful with **(23)** r reviews. They have praised the **(24)** c plot, the **(25)** u twists and the performance of Jennifer Lawrence as Katniss, the **(26)** m character. On the other hand, some people have complained about the 'unimpressive' **(27)** s effects, especially in the first film. The third book, *Mockingjay*, has quite a **(28)** w storyline, but the producers have made it into two films. People have commented on the **(29)** f scene of the fourth film, which shows Katniss and Peeta with two beautiful children. It seems like a **(30)** h ending, but we don't know what will happen to them in the future.

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UNIT 7: LANGUAGE TEST B

USE OF ENGLISH

Task 1

Read the article and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Home viewing or cinema?

I don't go to the cinema these days for a (31); it's just too expensive for me. (32) general, I wait till a film is available online and then a group of us watch it at home. Apparently, this is quite (33) of our age group since most teenagers are always short of money.

But one guy I know is horrified (34) by this. (38) to him, I'm missing out on the 'big screen experience'. Of course I'm (39) of the difference between a TV/computer screen and a cinema screen, but it's my choice and I'm not (37) of it.

Yes, it's silly, for (38) to watch epic science fiction films like *Star Wars*, (39) instance, on a small screen. But our new TV is perfect for watching smaller, quieter films and I'm always surprised (40) the amazing picture quality.

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|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 31 A fact | B reason | C theory | D guess |
| 32 A In | B Around | C On | D Without |
| 33 A normal | B usual | C real | D typical |
| 34 A anxious | B horrified | C unhappy | D warned |
| 35 A Saying | B Listening | C According | D Agreeing |
| 36 A known | B awake | C aware | D capable |
| 37 A upset | B ashamed | C annoyed | D concerned |
| 38 A true | B safe | C secure | D sure |
| 39 A for | B of | C to | D about |
| 40 A over | B by | C with | D towards |

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Task 2

Complete the article with one word in each gap.

Perfect dancing by talented friends

Maya Taylor and Lucy Green have come first in the Westfield School talent show. We met the two fifteen-year-olds and congratulated (41) on winning. We asked them how they (42) managed to get their performance so perfect.

Lucy: 'We used our mobiles quite a bit to help us rehearse. It started when Maya complained that (43) couldn't remember some of her dance moves. The drama teacher recommended (44) a video of our rehearsal. So I lent Miss Bales my phone and she made a video for us. She encouraged (45) to watch the video at least five times a day, like revising vocabulary before an exam. We promised to (46) this and we both found the video really helpful for rehearsing at home.'

Maya: 'I have to admit that I sometimes (47) the video just once a day because I just could (48) always find the time. But Lucy was very bossy, in a good way! She insisted (49) practising every day for hours and refused (50) give up! She is the most motivating person I know!'

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Total: 50

UNIT 7: SKILLS TEST B

DICTATION

You are going to listen to a recording about how films are usually based on something already written. Listen to the whole recording once. Then you will hear the recording again with pauses for you to write down what you hear. Make sure you spell the words correctly.

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LISTENING

You are going to listen to people talking in ten different situations. For questions 1–10, choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what you hear.

- 1 You hear two friends talking about a public event. What do they agree about it?
 - A how impressive the show was
 - B how important training was for the dancers
 - C how well the city had organised the event
- 2 You hear part of an interview with a writer. What does he say about starting a new book?
 - A He enjoys writing without a definite story in mind.
 - B It's good to take the same approach in all his books.
 - C He hopes to start a new book every year.

- 3 You overhear a girl recommending a new bookshop. She thinks the man
 - A would prefer it to online shopping.
 - B should make time for a snack there.
 - C would be able to get useful advice from the assistants.
- 4 You hear a news report about a new school rule. What does the reporter say about the rule?
 - A It is popular with parents and teachers.
 - B There should be no problems making it work.
 - C Some students are unhappy with its conditions.
- 5 You hear part of a conversation with an artist. The artist
 - A thinks art classes are helpful for beginners.
 - B gets inspiration mostly from his dreams.
 - C recommends a mixed media course at the local art school.
- 6 You hear a media studies lecturer talking to her class. The teacher
 - A believes TV and radio are becoming more popular again.
 - B says politicians and celebrities make money from advertising.
 - C states that a lot of people get their news from social media.
- 7 You hear a teacher talking to students about a film club. Why is he talking to his class?
 - A to encourage them to remain involved with it
 - B to inform them about changes to a particular project
 - C to remind them about future plans
- 8 You hear two friends talking about performing in a school show. What do they agree about it?
 - A There should have been more rehearsals.
 - B It is difficult to remember what to do on stage.
 - C It would be awful to make a mistake in the performance.
- 9 You hear two friends talking about learning to read and write. How do they both feel about it?
 - A pleased that they were taught at an early age
 - B grateful to their parents for their help
 - C happy that they are both good at reading and writing now
- 10 You hear a famous actress talking about starting acting. What influenced her the most?
 - A her friend's support
 - B her mother's encouragement
 - C her enjoyment of the classes

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UNIT 7: SKILLS TEST B

READING

Task 1

You are going to read an article about the famous novelist Charles Dickens. For questions 11–18, choose from the members A–D. The members may be chosen more than once.

Which member(s):

- 11** admires Dickens for getting what he wanted in life?
- 12** talks about how Dickens' own life made him very aware of social problems?
- 13** explains how publishers helped to keep Dickens's readers interested?
- 14** explains how most people get to know Dickens's work these days?
- 15** gives examples of things Dickens did to improve society?
- 16** mentions that Dickens worried about money even as an adult?
- 17** says that readers these days prefer modern books?
- 18** thinks that even today life is hard for people at the bottom of the social ladder?

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Task 2

Read the article again and answer the questions in your own words.

- 19** Which were the two worst aspects of Dickens's childhood? Use information from the article and your own words to explain your answer.

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- 20** Do you think Dickens's work can interest readers today? Why or why not? Give two reasons, using information from the article and your own words.

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Total:		50
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UNIT 7: SKILLS TEST B

What do you know about Charles Dickens?

This week Book Club invites members to write about England's most famous novelist

A

Born in 1812, Charles Dickens was the second of eight children. He didn't have an easy start. His father had a habit of spending too much and the family were always short of cash. They moved house constantly with his parents struggling to pay the rent. Life reached a crisis point in 1824, when Charles was twelve. His father had got into serious debt and his mother had sold everything the family owned, but still there wasn't enough to pay the money they owed and put food on the table. His father was sent to debtors' jail and young Charles was forced to leave school and get a factory job, working ten hours a day in his attempt to earn enough money to get his father out of prison. This experience left Dickens with a fear of poverty for the rest of his life. But Dickens's extremely difficult childhood had a positive side; it gave him great understanding of the lives of poor people and he was able to write about life at the bottom of society from his own personal experience.

B

There's a reason that Charles Dickens was fantastically popular in his time. There was a brilliant way of getting his audience hooked; his novels were printed just a chapter at a time in weekly or monthly magazines, and each chapter ended with the hero in an extremely dangerous situation or with a shocking discovery about a main character. Just as with soap operas today, it made people hungry for more. Anyone who couldn't read tried to get someone more educated to read the new chapter to them when it came out. Today the books are classics and still sell well but they aren't as popular as in Dickens's day. For one thing, they're far from being quick and easy to read. The old-fashioned language as well as the length of the novels requires a lot more concentration than today's popular novels.

C

There have been a huge number of adaptations of Charles Dickens's work for TV, stage and film – more than 200, in fact. It is through these adaptations more than through reading the original texts that many people get to know his work today. As a result, almost everyone is familiar with at least a few of Dickens's stories and characters. One reason for their continuing and lasting popularity, whether as books or on screen, is that Dickens is not afraid to look critically at the dark side of Victorian society, revealing a tough, hard world. In fact, to describe disgusting housing or terrible working conditions, for instance, or cruel and strict people we use the word 'Dickensian', a term which comes from Charles Dickens's name. Sadly, many of Dickens's views of society are still relevant today. People still beg on city streets, society is still cruel to the poor and opportunities are not equal.

D

In the course of thirty-four years, Charles Dickens wrote fifteen long novels with strong storylines, complicated plots, unexpected twists and unforgettable characters with extraordinary names – Fagin, Oliver Twist, The Artful Dodger, Uriah Heep, Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim and Abel Magwitch. He also wrote a huge number of short stories and newspaper articles. He used his sharp observation and dark humour to bring people's attention to problems in the society of his time. It's really easy to learn something about the injustice and awful living conditions of Victorian England from books like *Oliver Twist*, *Hard Times*, *Bleak House*, *Nicholas Nickleby* and *David Copperfield*. Apart from writing fiction, Dickens contributed money to help poor children and worked hard to get laws changed on child employment. By the time he died in 1870, this hardworking, energetic and talented writer had achieved what he deserved. His childhood dreams of fame, success and climbing the social ladder had come true and he had become a literary celebrity in England and America.