Idioms and Word formation.

K **For each question, write one word which can be used in all three sentences.**

1 There will be a help and support line when the new computer system is in ..... .
I'm giving my laptop away because it's of no ..... to me any more.
What's the ..... of trying to keep up with fashions that change too quickly?

2 I think it's time Megan faced up to ..... and realised that she's going to have to change her lifestyle.
There's a lot of talk about the effects of technology, but I don't think people have really changed that much in ..... .
It's amazing how popular ..... TV has become in such a short time.

3 Many of today's mobile phones wouldn't look out of ..... in science fiction films.
Vikram's been offered a ..... at Oxford to study computer science.
Nothing will ever take the ..... of my old, reliable transistor radio.

4 Do all these lights on the stereo serve a ..... , or are they just for decoration?
Jerry seems to lack a sense of ..... since he retired.
I can't believe that Alfie would've sent you a computer virus on ..... .

5 In this game, you compete against the ..... to collect as many gold rings as you can.
People in my office waste time surfing the Net and watching the ..... until it's time to leave.
We provide full technical support for all our products around the ..... .

6 During the 1970s, computer chips began to appear in people's homes in the ..... of the first games consoles.
You need to fill out the ..... online to become a member of the website.
All the players have been in good ..... lately, so it should be a good match.

7 I was in the ..... of texting Debbie when my phone rang and it was her!
Recent developments mean that there is a good chance the Middle East peace ..... could be restarted.
If the monster isn't behind that door or that door, then it must be behind the third one – it's just a ..... of elimination.

8 The path ..... around the side of the building.
What ..... you to come up with the idea of a clockwork radio?
The scientist ..... me into the laboratory, where an experiment was going on.

Idioms

L **Complete each dialogue using the appropriate form of an idiom in the box.**

a leopard can't change its spots • all mod cons • break the mould • change your tune have a change of heart • know sth inside out • reinvent the wheel • stick to your guns the tools of the trade • turn over a new leaf

1 'Do you think they might pick Lisa on Thursday?'
'It would really ..... for them to choose a woman to run the club, but I hope so.'

2 'I thought you were going to tell Nigel you were angry with him.'
'Well, I ..... and decided to just ignore it after all.'

3 'Your son's behaviour in class has improved this term, Mrs Harris.'
'Oh, good. Let's hope he's ..... .'

4 'Is your research based on other people's work?'
'Some of it. Well, there's no point ..... , is there?'

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5 'I'm not sure whether to change my mind and let Jenny go to the party.'
'I think you should . .. . and show her you're serious.'

6 'I wish Terry wouldn't be so thoughtless all the time.'
'I know, but .... , you know.'

7 'I'm thinking of asking Felicity out on a date.'
'You've ..... , haven't you? You said she annoyed you.'

8 'You've got lots of books on computing languages.'
'It's what I do for a living, so they're just .... , really.'

9 'You moved recently, didn't you? What's your new place like?'
'Oh, fantastic. It's got .... and it's handy for the train.'

10 'Maria came round and fixed my computer yesterday.'
'Oh, she .... computers ..... , doesn't she?'

Word formation

M **Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the space.**

We often think of ourselves as living in a time of (**1**) ..... (**CONTINUE**) technological change and development. We tend to believe that we are unique in history in dealing with a constantly (**2**) ..... (**EVOLVE**) world of gadgets, devices and innovations. However, the end of the nineteenth century and the start of the twentieth was also a time that saw many (**3**) ..... (**REVOLT**) changes.

People had needed to show (**4**) ..... (**FLEXIBLE**) throughout the nineteenth century, as the effects of the Industrial Revolution meant constantly making (**5**) ..... (**ADJUST**) to deal with changing working conditions. Towards the end of the century, though, people had to become more (**6**) ..... (**ADAPT**) than ever before. The typewriter (1873), the telephone (1876), the electric light bulb (1879) and other (**7**) ..... (**INFLUENCE**) developments gave people the (**8**) .... (**CAPABLE**) to live and work in ways their grandparents could not have imagined. Over the next 30 years, little remained (**9**) ..... (**ALTER**) as the camera, the cinema, the phonograph, the plane and radio all had an (**10**) ..... (**ELECTRIC**) effect on people and society. The modern

N **Complete the sentences by changing the form of the word in capitals.**

1 The weather's been so ..... today that I don't know what to wear. (**CHANGE**)
2 Bonnie showed a lot of ..... in the way she handled the problem with Olivia. (**MATURE**)
3 The flats were built in the 1960s, but they were all ..... in the 90s. (**MODERN**)
4 Jack got in a lot of trouble for ..... breaking school rules. (**PERSIST**)
5 I really don't think I'd have the ..... to finish a marathon! (**ENDURE**)
6 I feel a lot better since I decided to stop eating ..... food. (**PROCESS**)
7 Can we ..... the lesson for next Wednesday? (**ARRANGE**)
8 We need to rely more on wave power, wind power and other ..... sources of energy. (**NEW**)
9 I gradually lost touch with Ricardo after his ..... to Islam. (**CONVERT**)
10 I'm scanning my gran's photos onto my computer because they'd be ..... if anything happened to them. (**PLACE**)

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