

Vocabulary

Intelligence and ability

Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- 1 Alex has a real *flair* / *brain* for languages – he learns vocabulary at an incredibly fast rate.
- 2 Otile is a very *gifted* / *bright* young dancer. She could become a professional dancer if she wanted.
- 3 I'm not a *hugely* / *largely* talented musician, but I can play a few instruments quite well.
- 4 My father is *weak* / *hopeless* at cooking. Everything he tries turns out to be a disaster.
- 5 I was always thought of as a *bright* / *strong* child, especially when it came to reading and writing.
- 6 We all have *an ace* / *a gift* for something. We just have to find out what it is.
- 7 I have *an awesome* / *a poor* memory for names, but I can remember people's faces very well.
- 8 My brother could play the violin very well when he was just eight. People thought he was some kind of child *prodigy* / *whizz*.
- 9 Matt is a *naturally* / *practically* gifted designer.
- 10 All the course leaders have said that Barbara is an *absolutely* / *extremely* promising medical student.

Phrases with *thought*

Complete each sentence with an appropriate word. The beginning of each word has been given to help you.

- 1 If someone gives you a gift that you don't really need or want, remember that it's the thought that **c**_____.
- 2 A: Should we have a farewell party for Liam at the end of the month?
B: **H**_____ that thought. Someone else had the same idea. We should get together and discuss it.
- 3 Can we get pizza tonight? On **s**_____ thought, we had pizza a few days ago. Let's get something else.
- 4 A: Have you heard? Mia failed her test.
B: I thought as **m**_____. She didn't exactly study very hard, did she?
- 5 Sorry I didn't say hello to you the other day in the street. I was a bit **I**_____ in thought.
- 6 A: I was wondering if I could ask you a favour. I need to borrow some money.
B: I'll **g**_____ it some thought. But remember what happened last time I lent money to you?
- 7 Could you turn that music down, please? It's making me lose my **t**_____ of thought.
- 8 There are several **s**_____ of thought about how the mind works, and they don't all agree with each other.

Language focus

Passives 1

Complete each gap with the correct form of the word in brackets. Add any other necessary words.

- 1 As a teenager, _____ (*tell*) that I wasn't smart enough to go to university actually made me more determined to get in and succeed.
- 2 Do you like this ring? It _____ (*give / me*) my grandmother.
- 3 I had a strange feeling that I _____ (*watch*). Then I looked up and saw the camera high up on the ceiling of the store.
- 4 We were standing around on the station platform with no idea about when the train would arrive. We _____ (*ought / inform*) about the delay, but we weren't.
- 5 Their latest smartphone _____ (*regard*) as being the most powerful ever invented.
- 6 The findings of the research _____ (*need / check*) carefully before publication.
- 7 Research is currently _____ (*carry out*) into the effects of the treatment.
- 8 After being found guilty of the crime, the man _____ (*sentence*) to three years in prison.
- 9 Lunch _____ (*serve*) at the later time of 12.45 tomorrow.
- 10 Your manager _____ (*must / inform*) of any holiday plans at least one month in advance.

Passives 2

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence.

- 1 We expect the board to make an announcement this evening.
The board _____ an announcement later today.
- 2 According to rumours, the actor will win several awards at tonight's ceremony.
The actor _____ several awards at the ceremony tonight.
- 3 Hundreds of years ago, people thought that the world was flat.
A long time ago, the world _____ flat.
- 4 Allegedly, the politician had been lying to the public.
The politician is _____ to the public.
- 5 Reports say that the criminal was caught this morning.
The criminal _____ this morning.
- 6 I asked someone to repair my laptop for me.
I got my _____.
- 7 The boxer's opponent hit him and broke his nose.
The boxer _____ by his opponent.
- 8 I'm going to a special company who can print out my photos for me.
I'm going to _____ out by a special company.
- 9 According to estimates, there were nearly 5000 people at the parade.
It _____ 5000 people were at the parade.
- 10 I think I need to ask the opticians to check my eyes.
I need to _____ at the opticians.

Reading and Use of English

Part 5 Multiple choice

You are going to read an article about architecture. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to the text.

Amazing Architectural Feats in History

What comes to mind when you hear the word ‘architecture’? Time and again, beautiful structures and buildings designed with such unique details and precision have made their mark in the list of architectural feats. The brilliance of some of these architectural marvels remains unparalleled through the passage of time. Man has been creating structures since time immemorial. The origin of buildings, or shelters, as they were known back then, dates to over 10,000 years. The form of construction kept improving as they discovered better raw material and garnered enough knowledge to build sturdy structures. Gradually, man moved from houses to the construction of buildings, and then evolved to design them in various shapes, also adding colours and patterns to them.

A building can speak volumes about a country’s culture and the existing lifestyle during the period when it was constructed. Therefore, these architectural feats also serve as inspirations for artists and designers to add cultural elements to their works. In fact, architectural history also helps to detail the evolution of a place. The material used can range from stone, glass and even steel. The aesthetics and functionality distinguish these buildings from one another. Although, like everything else, a building’s aesthetics do eventually show wear and tear due to weather conditions and other adverse factors. Thus, they often demand renovation. As a result, some historical constructions now seem slightly modernised.

Some of the earliest and most brilliant architectural monuments include Stonehenge in England. There is a lot of speculation surrounding this construction, but it is believed that the initial design for Stonehenge was established over 5,000 years ago. What began as a circular ditch of about 100 meters in diameter underwent a lot of revisions and reconstruction throughout the years. Large holes were dug in this ditch to hold stones. This architecture is now protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, and thus visitors must adhere to the regulations and guidelines set in place to safeguard this marvel.

The Pyramids of Giza are one of the most monumental architectural feats in history. These pyramids originated as tombs and were filled with items like food, clothes and riches. Additionally, the inner walls have been adorned with various hieroglyphics, paintings and impressive illustrations. These inscriptions successfully depict the life of ancient Egyptians. The brilliance with which they have survived the passing of time is incredible to note, considering the lack of proper equipment and knowledge about quality material back then.

When discussing architectural marvels, one cannot omit talking about the Great Wall of China. Spanning deserts, grasslands, mountains and many other regions, the construction of the Great Wall of China began around 770 BC, and went on till 1644 AD. A technique called *hangtu* was used by the workers to build the wall. *Hangtu* is a type of rammed-earth construction often used to build walls, foundations and tombs in China. This involved pouring gravel and earth into wooden moulds and compacting it while adding more until it reached the desired height and density. The most unique fact about this architecture is that it was built over a span of six dynasties and covers a total length of 13,170 miles.

Shifting the focus to the 20th century will put the Panama Canal into the spotlight. Constructed with the intent of connecting the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean for ease of travel and trade, this project involved excavating 50 miles of land. The largest man-made lake could be created only after flooding a large area that resulted in environmental havoc. However, this construction started in

1903 and kept over 75,000 people employed. It was opened to the public on 15th August 1914 and it remains a significant feat in the history of mechanical engineering to date.

Some other marvels that continue to impress and inspire are the Hoover Dam, the Empire State Building, Golden Gate Bridge, Burj Khalifa, Beijing Daxing International Airport, Notre Dame Cathedral, Cathedral of Brasilia, Harpa Concert Hall, Milwaukee Art Museum, The Dancing House, Lotus Temple, Taj Mahal and more. The various accomplishments of some great engineering minds have rightfully registered themselves in the pages of history. These masterpieces are regarded as symbols of expression throughout the time and artistically represent regional heritage.

- 1 What does the writer want to convey in the first paragraph?
 - A the importance of architecture
 - B how colours and patterns make the buildings stand out
 - C how architecture emerged and evolved through time
 - D a list of architectural feats

- 2 According to the writer, what does a building represent?
 - A the aesthetics and techniques used by the workers
 - B the wear and tear that it goes through
 - C inspiration for the artists and designers
 - D a country's heritage and lifestyle of the people

- 3 What does the writer mean by 'revisions and reconstructions'?
 - A The original structure was demolished and newly revised building was made in its place.
 - B Stonehenge underwent slight modifications over time to rectify the wear and tear.
 - C Some colours and patterns were added to the construction of Stonehenge.
 - D A few large holes were dug to place more stones at Stonehenge.

- 4 How is the life of Egyptians depicted through the architectural feats?
 - A through the inscription in the form of various hieroglyphics, paintings and impressive illustrations
 - B through the things that filled the pyramids
 - C through the notes and equipment present at the time of the construction
 - D through the adherence to various regulations and guidelines

- 5 What is the hangtu technique as explained by the writer?
 - A Hangtu is a construction spanning deserts, grasslands, mountains and many other regions.
 - B Hangtu involves pouring stones and rammed-earth in the steel moulds.
 - C It's a type of rammed-earth construction, popular for constructing buildings in China.
 - D The technique of hangtu involves transferring earth till the desired height and density in gravel moulds.

- 6 Approximately how long did the construction of Panama Canal take?
 - A about eleven years
 - B a span of six dynasties
 - C approximately 50 years
 - D over two centuries

Reading and Use of English

Part 3 Word formation

For questions 1–8, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0). Write your answers in CAPITAL LETTERS.

Example: (o) COMMUNICATION

Are 'emoji' dumbing us down?

Are emoji just silly little pictures that add little meaning to written (0)	COMMUNICATE
Or do they add a (1) that conventional language simply can't convey?	RICH
They first made their (2) in the 1990s, when an employee of a Japanese mobile network began working on an idea that he thought might encourage the	APPEAR
(3) of teenagers on the network. He and his team created 176 characters	PARTICIPATE
that took (4) from manga art and made them available for use in SMS messages.	INSPIRE
They were an immediate hit. Only in Japan, perhaps, would these become so	
(5) quite so quickly, but they have now spread all across the world.	FASHION
Not only do emoji allow us to put more feeling into written (6) in a	CORRESPOND
brief amount of space, they also allow us to engage a part of our brain which uses	
visual and (7) thinking. They provide the potential to bridge language	SYMBOL
barriers. Whereas, vocabulary or characters from another language may be	
(8) to many, emoji can be understood by almost everyone.	COMPREHEND

Listening

Part 4 Multiple matching

🔊 You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about things they have learnt.

TASK ONE

For questions 1–5, choose from the list (A–H) what each person enjoyed.

TASK TWO

For questions 6–10, choose from the list (A–H) what new thing each person has learnt.

While you listen you must complete both tasks.

A having conversations with other people

B someone's positive attitude Speaker 1 1

C the clean environment Speaker 2 2

D being asked for details Speaker 3 3

E using a phone for the first time Speaker 4 4

F being given regular reminders Speaker 5 5

G being similar to someone else

H having a meal

A how to manage other people

B different types of people can do the activity Speaker 1 6

C there is more than one way to learn something Speaker 2 7

D how to do something more quickly Speaker 3 8

E dealing with online learning Speaker 4 9

F a good teacher needs to be an expert Speaker 5 10

G planning their time more effectively

H creating something from scratch

Writing

Part 1 Essay

Your class has recently discussed ways of encouraging young people to study subjects such as maths and science. You have made the notes below:

How can schools encourage more people to study maths or science?

- make lessons more engaging
- invest more in science equipment
- explain the importance of maths and science to society

Some opinions expressed in the discussion:

'There are lots of famous people throughout history who could become role models for young people.'

'Young people might learn more from actively doing their own experiments.'

'People who study these subjects can really change the world.'

Write an essay discussing two of the ideas in your notes. You should explain which idea is more important for schools to consider, giving reasons in support of your answer. You may, if you wish, make use of the opinions expressed in the discussion, but you should use your own words as far as possible.

Write your answer in 220–260 words in an appropriate style.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Speaking

Part 2 Long turn

1 Learning new skills

Student A: Look at the **three** pictures. They show **people learning new skills**.

Compare **two** of the pictures, and say **why the people might be motivated to learn these things and how beneficial these skills are**.

Why might the people be motivated to learn these things?
How beneficial are these skills?

1A



1B



1C



Student A talks on his/her own for about 1 minute.

Student B: **Do you think it's better to learn with the help of someone else? Why?**

Student B talks on his/her own for about 30 seconds.

2 Making mistakes

Student B: Look at the **three** pictures. They show **situations in which it's important not to make a mistake**.

Compare **two** of the pictures and say **what responsibilities these people have** and **what would be the consequences of them making a mistake**.

What responsibilities do these people have?
What would the consequences of them making a mistake be?

2A



2B



2C



Student B talks on his/her own for about 1 minute.

Student A: **Which role do you think carries the most responsibility? Why?**

Student A talks on his/her own for about 30 seconds.