

## VOCABULARY

1 Read the text and choose the correct word for each gap. The first one is done for you.

### Parents pay daughter to do sports

Veronica is a sporty girl who swims very fast, but she also has cystic fibrosis, a life-threatening disease. Sport is important in keeping her healthy but she finds it hard to (0) D herself to do exercise every day. Her parents (1) \_\_\_\_\_ her for her efforts, but this doesn't always (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in making her feel positive about having to work so hard.

So this summer holiday, they've decided to give her a financial (3) \_\_\_\_\_, and Veronica is (4) \_\_\_\_\_ money by swimming, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ exercise into a summer job. Her parents have decided to (6) \_\_\_\_\_ her for staying healthy. She has (7) \_\_\_\_\_ herself a target of twenty lengths (or 500 metres) of the local pool every day. Veronica is proud of the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ she has earned: 'I'm making (9) \_\_\_\_\_ money doing this – £120 so far. If I (10) \_\_\_\_\_ it to 20 km by the end of the summer, I'm going to spend it on a surfboard!'

- |                  |           |             |               |
|------------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| 0 A make         | B set     | C let       | D motivate    |
| 1 A congratulate | B praise  | C push      | D tell        |
| 2 A act          | B achieve | C pass      | D succeed     |
| 3 A incentive    | B debt    | C saving    | D achievement |
| 4 A borrowing    | B lending | C affording | D earning     |
| 5 A getting      | B turning | C doing     | D moving      |
| 6 A invest       | B owe     | C give      | D reward      |
| 7 A put          | B set     | C passed    | D made        |
| 8 A income       | B savings | C loan      | D finances    |
| 9 A good         | B big     | C lots      | D high        |
| 10 A reach       | B get     | C make      | D achieve     |

Marks (out of 10): \_\_\_\_\_

2 Complete the text with the words in the box. There are three extra words you do not need. The first one is done for you.

<u>afford</u>	all	borrow	debts	hurry	invest	lend
loan	matter	owe	salaries	savings	spend	work

### Advice for students

British university students now have to pay for degree courses themselves. These are normally about £8,600 a year for first degrees, so they must decide whether they can (0) afford to (11) \_\_\_\_\_ up to £30,000 on a three-year course. Most undergraduates have to either (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the money from their parents or take out a (13) \_\_\_\_\_ from a government agency, since young people don't usually have the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ necessary to pay for their time at university (15) \_\_\_\_\_ by themselves.

Clearly, when you pay for your education, you (16) \_\_\_\_\_ in your future; people with a degree usually have better (17) \_\_\_\_\_ than people with only school qualifications. However, starting your working life with such big (18) \_\_\_\_\_ probably means you will have to prioritize money over personal interest when making career choices. Otherwise, you might find that you can't pay back the loans no (19) \_\_\_\_\_ how hard you work. It looks as if young people in the UK might not be in such a (20) \_\_\_\_\_ to go to university without giving it serious thought.

Marks (out of 10): \_\_\_\_\_

## GRAMMAR

3 Complete the text with a suitable word in each gap. Use only one word in each gap. The first one is done for you.

### Give directly

Bernard Omondi received the text message early in the morning. In Kenya, where Bernard and his wife live, a (0) *lot* of people use mobile phones to send money with a payment system called M-Pesa. When Bernard read the message to his wife, she (21) \_\_\_\_\_ not understand at first because he (22) \_\_\_\_\_ laughing so much. A few days before, some strangers (23) \_\_\_\_\_ given him a mobile phone and told him they wanted to give him (24) \_\_\_\_\_ money. In this world, not even family and friends have (25) \_\_\_\_\_ money to give each other, so why should strangers do it? Naturally, Bernard didn't believe the message at first. But he soon did, when a second message appeared. It said: 'CONFIRMED. YOU HAVE RECEIVED \$1000'.

The founders of Give Directly (26) \_\_\_\_\_ looking at ways to reduce poverty (27) \_\_\_\_\_ they came up with the idea of just giving money to people who need it. And it works – only a (28) \_\_\_\_\_ of the money they raise is wasted on administration. Kenyans don't seem to waste the money, either. Bernard used his to buy (29) \_\_\_\_\_ old motorcycle and start a taxi service. Before, he had sometimes worked for other people, but often couldn't find (30) \_\_\_\_\_ work at all.

Marks (out of 10): \_\_\_\_\_

4 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Use no more than three words. The first one is done for you.

- 0 I only realized how competitive I was when I started to play Monopoly.  
I *hadn't realized* how competitive I was until I started to play Monopoly.
- 31 I'm sure most people play Monopoly as children.  
There can't be \_\_\_\_\_ who don't play Monopoly as children.
- 32 However, I played the game for the first time last week.  
Before last week, though, I \_\_\_\_\_ played the game.
- 33 I didn't realize how many rules there are in the game.  
I didn't realize that there are a \_\_\_\_\_ rules in the game.
- 34 However, you don't need to know many rules to start playing.  
However, you only need to know \_\_\_\_\_ rules to start playing.
- 35 You get a small amount of money from the bank at the start of the game.  
You get \_\_\_\_\_ from the bank at the start of the game.
- 36 Landing on streets that other people own means you have to pay 'rent'.  
If you land on \_\_\_\_\_ street that another person owns, you have to pay 'rent'.
- 37 At the beginning, I wasn't very enthusiastic about the game.  
At the beginning, I didn't have \_\_\_\_\_ enthusiasm for the game.
- 38 I didn't manage to buy a single street for more than half an hour.  
I didn't manage to buy \_\_\_\_\_ streets for more than half an hour.
- 39 When I bought a hotel on an expensive street, I started winning and having fun.  
I \_\_\_\_\_ much fun until I bought a hotel on an expensive street and started winning.
- 40 Now I play every day. My wife thinks I play far more than necessary.  
Now I play every day. My wife thinks I play far \_\_\_\_\_.

Marks (out of 10): \_\_\_\_\_

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## READING

5 Read the article and decide if each sentence is correct (C) or incorrect (I).

### The world's top cities

Standard of living is partly dependent on where we live. Every year, surveys are published that claim to identify the best cities to live in globally. For a city to reach the top ten, it must score highly across a range of criteria, such as crime, education and the environment. Predictably, the winners are all found in the developed countries of Europe, North America and Australasia. More surprising is the fact that the USA fails to appear in any top ten. In one survey the first US representative is at number 25: Portland in Oregon, a city famous for its low crime rate.

To assess living standards, you have to decide what to measure. The three most important surveys share most of the same criteria: safety, schooling, health care and political-economic stability, for example. They may differ on other factors, like public transport, climate and leisure facilities. This is one reason their results vary quite a lot. Another is that it's difficult to measure many of these factors accurately; one survey might score a place highly for leisure while another gives it a low score. Opinions differ, after all. As a result, the surveys are often criticized. The New York Times claimed that 'The Economist Intelligence Unit's liveability survey' focuses too much on the English-speaking world, for example. Eight of its ten top in 2014 were in Canada, Australia or New Zealand.

Cities move up and down the charts surprisingly often due to current events. Vancouver was knocked off the number one spot in one survey when an important road there was temporarily closed. And last place in 2014 was occupied by Damascus in Syria, the scene of terrible human suffering and political upset at a time of civil war in that country.

So which cities are the best places to live? The clear winner is Vienna in Austria, which appears in either first or second position on all three main surveys. It seems that anywhere in and around the German-speaking world is an excellent place to live; Switzerland and Germany are also up there in the rankings. Elsewhere, Australia and Japan are well represented, with Melbourne, Sydney and Tokyo scoring highly.

These surveys may be of interest, but perhaps they are basically incorrect. What do they mean if they don't take into account the things that really matter most to us: family, friends, cultural familiarity and friendly communities? After all, the best city in the world is probably your own.

- 0 The place you live can affect the quality of your lifestyle. C
- 41 There is more than one survey each year that measures cities' 'liveability'. \_\_\_\_\_
- 42 The surveys only evaluate cities on three continents. \_\_\_\_\_
- 43 Cities in the United States do not normally do very well. \_\_\_\_\_
- 44 The surveys measure how good a city is by looking at the same things. \_\_\_\_\_
- 45 The article gives two reasons why the different surveys say different cities are best. \_\_\_\_\_
- 46 Most of the factors for evaluating cities are easy to measure. \_\_\_\_\_
- 47 The position of cities in the surveys doesn't change much because standard of living is a stable quality. \_\_\_\_\_
- 48 Vienna holds the number one position in three of the main surveys. \_\_\_\_\_
- 49 Cities in Europe dominate the rankings. \_\_\_\_\_
- 50 The writer doesn't think these surveys are the only way to evaluate a city. \_\_\_\_\_

Marks (out of 10): \_\_\_\_\_

## LISTENING

6  76 Listen to five people talking about the 'sharing economy'. Choose the correct option.

### Speaker 1

0 Where does the man live?

- A in a village  B in a city  C in the countryside

51 What do the people share?

- A their jobs  B their cars  C their train tickets

52 What advantage does the man mention?

- A He makes friends.  B It is faster.  C He doesn't like driving.

### Speaker 2

53 How does the 'Borrowing Shop' help the woman?

- A She does less work.  B She saves money.  C She saves time.

54 What did the woman borrow?

- A some books  B some music  C some tools

### Speaker 3

55 What does the man like doing?

- A shopping on the Internet  B buying used things  C buying presents for his family

56 Where did he buy a video camera?

- A from a friend  B online  C in a shop

### Speaker 4

57 Who does the woman share the cooking with?

- A her family  B her neighbours  C her colleagues

58 What advantage *doesn't* she mention?

- A She has more time.  B It's a friendly thing to do.  C It costs less.

### Speaker 5

59 Why does the man like buying food this way?

- A He can choose what he wants.  B It is grown locally.  C It's good value for money.

60 What other advantage is there?

- A People are friendly.  B The food is clean.  C The food is fresher than in a supermarket.

Marks (out of 10): \_\_\_\_\_

## SPEAKING

7 Talk in pairs, A and B.

### Step 1

Student A: look at the first photograph. Talk about the reasons the man may be doing this.

Student B: look at the second photograph. Talk about the reasons the woman may be doing this.

Make sure you both:

- describe what they are doing.
- talk about the reasons they may be doing these things and what incentives there are for people like this.
- say whether you would be motivated to do something similar.

You have two minutes to think about what you are going to say. Student A: you go first.



### Step 2

Student A: ask Student B questions about something they had some success in doing.

Make sure you ask:

- why the thing they did was a success.
- what motivated them to do it.
- whether they found it easy or difficult, and why.

Student B: now you ask Student A.

You can receive ten marks for including all the points above and using a range of language.

Marks (out of 10): \_\_\_\_\_

## WRITING

**8** You see this notice in your language school.

### HELP WANTED

The school director is asking each student to write a report about their country or a country that they know well. The best entries will appear in a special travel article in next month's school magazine. Send us a report of about 100–200 words about the country giving some basic information about the place and the people. Make sure you include some information and advice for visitors.

**Please send your report to [editor@beaconsmag.ac.uk](mailto:editor@beaconsmag.ac.uk).**

Write your report. Write about 100 words.

You can receive ten marks for including all the necessary points and the conventions of report writing.

Marks (out of 10): \_\_\_\_\_