Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 4 Basic

READING

1 Read the article. Match the statements (1–8) to the paragraphs (A–E).

Which is the right decision?

A Every now and then, we have to make difficult decisions. For example, you might be faced with an ethical dilemma where there might be two or more possible choices, and none of them are "right." We have to come to a decision, knowing that whatever we do creates further problems, never completely solving the original problem. Here are some examples. What would you do in these situations?

B Imagine that you are walking along a street one day and you see a wallet on the sidewalk. You don't see anyone else around you, so you decide to pick it up. Inside, it contains a large amount of cash, along with a man's name and address. You realize that the wallet belongs to one of the richest people in your country, who probably wouldn't miss the money. The question is: do you send the wallet back, or is it ethical to do something else with it?

C You are on a small boat at sea. Suddenly, you see a person in the water who needs help. He's far away, but he looks quite similar to a well-known criminal you've seen on the news. You can't be sure, however. In the other direction, you can see someone else who needs help. You don't recognize him, but he looks like he's in serious trouble. You wish you had enough room in your boat for two more people, but there's only space for one. What's the right thing to do?

D Looking for a present for your friend, you find two boxes of chocolates: one for $5 and another for $30. They are very similar, except that the cheaper chocolates are made from an oil which is known to be unhealthy and that rainforests are cut down in order to make it. Your friend probably wouldn't notice and would be grateful just to have a present. Which box would you buy?

E These examples of ethical dilemmas show that we often behave differently if we think no one is watching us, perhaps even cheating if we think we can get away with it. We often make decisions based on emotional responses rather than facts or on what we believe to be good for us personally. This can have serious consequences if we find ourselves in positions of power – if we become politicians or doctors, for example, who have to try and make the "right" decision every day.

[c] 0 a decision where only one person will probably live

[ ] 1 examples of how we often make decisions

[ ] 2 examples of people who have to make difficult decisions

[ ] 3 a situation where someone would probably be happy with your choice

[ ] 4 an explanation of what an ethical dilemma is

[ ] 5 an example of a dilemma where no one can see you

[ ] 6 a situation where you don't have all the facts you need

[ ] 7 a situation where you might decide to cheat

[ ] 8 a situation where you have to choose between two people

[ ] 8

2 Read the article again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

0 An ethical dilemma is a problem with one right and one wrong answer. [F]

1 The first example is about finding lots of money that isn't yours. [ ]

2 The second example is about whether or not to save the life of a known criminal. [ ]

3 The article says that it's important to think about decisions, especially if you have some kind of power. [ ]

4 The third example is about why it's important to buy presents. [ ]

5 The first dilemma is an example of how we behave when we think someone is watching. [ ]

6 The second dilemma is about reaching a decision based on an emotional response. [ ]

7 In some jobs, ethical dilemmas are common. [ ]

[ ] 7

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