Speak out 3RD EDITION

C1–C2

UNIT 2 TEST | Version A

Part A • Grammar, Vocabulary and How to …

GRAMMAR

1 Complete the sentences with the correct words for comparing.

1 The hotel we stayed in was nothing _____ any hotel we'd ever stayed in before.
2 The higher test was a challenge but, in my opinion, the lower level was equally _____ difficult.
3 Unfortunately, the dish was _____ spicy as to be practically inedible.
4 Sunbathing in the garden yesterday was a bit _____ being in the Caribbean, it was so hot.
5 When the letter came it wasn't so _____ a disappointment as a complete shock to the system.
6 The second novel by the author is _____ near as complex as his first.
7 The effects of the storm were not _____ devastating as had been predicted.

/7

2 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

1 No one could be any healthier **as** / **than** Ahmed, but he still came down with a bad case of flu.
2 The speed of my new car isn't a **part** / **patch** on that of my previous one, but it does have a smaller engine.
3 The second witness's report is **by** / **at** complete variance with what the first witness stated.
4 I'm afraid I can't train **that** / **any** more often than I do, as I've got a lot of work on right now.
5 They couldn't have built the houses **more** / **any** closer together. We can practically hear the neighbours snoring.
6 I'm **sadder** / **more sad** than angry about the decision.

/6

3 Complete the second sentence using the word in capitals so that it has the same meaning as the first. Use no more than four words.

1 As he had already commented, he said that complaining about the service would be ineffective.
REITERATED
He _____ that complaining about the service would be ineffective.
2 It's a shame that no further action can be taken.
REGRETFUL
I _____ that no further action can be taken.
3 She couldn't believe that any colleague would have made such a mistake.
PROFESSED
She _____ that any colleague would have made such a mistake.
4 We will certainly resolve the matter within a few days.
CONFIDENT
We _____ the matter will be resolved within a few days.
5 The councillor said that the extension of the park was an example of forward planning.
CITED
The councillor _____ extension of the park as an example of forward planning.
6 The opening hours of the museum will change according to what was said at the meeting.
MENTIONED
As _____, the opening hours of the museum will change.
7 She was dismissed because she said she thought the manager wasn't telling the truth.
QUESTIONED
She _____ integrity, which led to her dismissal.

/7

VOCABULARY

4 Match the sentence beginnings (1–5) with the endings (a–f). There is one ending you do not need.

1 Increased tourism will definitely have tangible
2 If I don't do this assignment tonight, I'll end up
3 Closing the car park in the city centre will have a detrimental
4 A significant increase in funding will facilitate
5 The planned exhibition will showcase

a stuck with an enormous amount for the weekend.
b the building of new cultural centres across the city.
c the talents of local artists.
d benefits for the whole region.
e effect on the high street businesses.
f boost for young people in the area.

/5

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5 Complete the sentences with the adjectives in the box. There are two adjectives you do not need.

commonplace	**deeply-rooted**	**frowned**
irrespective	**long-standing**	**peculiar**
stereotypical		

1 The sense of identity is _____ in the history of the neighbourhood.
2 Everyone is expected to participate _____ of their age or gender.
3 Misusing commas is _____ in my students' work, and I highlight them every time.
4 We have a(n) _____ agreement with our neighbours to check each other's property when on holiday.
5 As far I know, our birthday tradition of giving hand-drawn cards is _____ to our family.

/5

6 Complete the sentences with the correct prepositions.

1 My sister talked me _____ getting a totally new hair style and now I regret it.
2 Someone tipped _____ the press and the celebrity's flight was met by a lot of reporters.
3 Can you fill me _____ on what happened while I was on leave?
4 The teacher reeled _____ the answers so quickly I couldn't keep up with what he said.
5 The college is calling _____ volunteers to help with the charity event this weekend.

/5

7 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

1 Walking through the bustling marketplace is a real **fight** / **assault** on the senses.
2 My favourite dessert came **mounted** / **topped** with a delicious chocolate sauce.
3 It's important to give new bands a **blast** / **shot** as you might be missing out on something amazing.
4 The meal was a modern **make** / **take** on a classic and we absolutely loved it.
5 The café has a **sole** / **unique** atmosphere which is partly down to its lighting and décor.

/5

HOW TO …

8 Complete the sentences with the missing words.

1 I think there's a **f** _ _ _ in your argument. You haven't considered all the points.
2 Maybe we're talking at **c** _ _ _ _ purposes here? I meant today, not next Monday.
3 **F** _ _ _ enough. That's a good reason for thinking about other options.
4 It's an interesting point, but I'm afraid I **b** _ _ to differ.
5 Your comment about the timeline was very interesting. I'd never **c** _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ that.

/5

9 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

1 You're looking at things the wrong way **about** / **round**. Think of it from my point of view for a moment.
2 That's an excellent way of **making** / **putting** it. I wish I'd thought of that myself.
3 Regarding the plans for the new park, I'm definitely **beside** / **with** you there.
4 I **take** / **agree** your point about the cost of the plane tickets. We could always consider driving.
5 You make a good point, and I couldn't agree **further** / **more** about delegating some of the responsibility.

/5

Total: /50

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Part B • Listening, Reading and Writing

LISTENING

1 [Audio UT2.01] Listen to an extract from a talk about voice banks. Which points (1–5) are mentioned?

1 the double meaning of a common phrase
2 how loss of speech can be reversed
3 Stephen Hawking winning an international award
4 the causes of Motor neurone disease
5 the type of voice the scientist's device gave Hawking
6 examples of famous voices recorded in the Voicebank

/6

2 [Audio UT2.01] Listen again and complete the sentences with words from the talk. Use up to three words or a number.

1 A person can lose their voice when their _____ is weak or has disappeared.
2 A famous scientist started using a special speech device in _____.
3 In the first stages of its development, the Voicebank needed as many as _____ sentences to be specially recorded to craft a voice.
4 The most common means of recording sentences is through reading _____.
5 Where motor control is very weak, or non-existent, _____ can be used to trigger speech conversion.
6 The first crafted voices were exclusively _____.

/6

READING

3 Read a blog about London. Which points (1–5) are mentioned?

1 the most popular sights for tourists in London
2 the popularity of visiting many cities in a short time
3 some famous memorials to visit
4 a fashionable road in London
5 ways of travelling across London

/5

Alice's Blog – The Real City

I've heard this comment (or something similar) time and time again when I say I'm from London – 'London? Yes, I know it well. Spent a weekend there a few years ago. Great place.' So, they 'know' it well? Really? Reading between the lines, what it most likely means is that this person has seen the flashy, tourist side of the city; the side glorified in glossy guidebooks. They've been to Tower Bridge, shopped along Oxford Street, maybe dropped into a museum or two and possibly ogled art installations in the Tate Modern. They probably have photographs galore of buildings like the Shard and the Houses of Parliament and selfies of themselves on a Thames cruise or standing by the lions in Trafalgar Square. Right, so they *know* London?

The truth is that people like these have just skimmed the city's highlights. As part of the current trend for some tourists to see as many cities as possible in a short time – for some such tours even a half a day suffices – it is difficult to understand what perception of a city might linger after such a rapid stopover. To me, the very thought of city-hopping in this way exhausts me – these tourists must truly be made of stern stuff. But more than this, I feel a sadness for what they are missing out on.

A city is so much more than its sights. Most big cities have grown, changed and developed over centuries and the traumas and triumphs of their history are etched in their buildings and streets. Cultural mixing, cultural shifts, the mini cultures of its different areas have all contributed to the living entity that a city is today, still changing, ever changing. For a city dweller to get to really know their own city would take dedication and time; for a tourist it is an impossibility.

However, there are approaches tourists can take to make even a short visit more memorable and enriching. And it takes research and planning – by the tourist or by the tour company if one is being used. It's the quiet places, the hidden gems that can give a flavour of a particular city and its culture, and many are within reach of the main sights. If we take London as an example, near St Paul's cathedral – that beautiful Wren building – is a tiny square with a small monument commemorating those who lost their lives attempting to save others. Or a visit to trendy Brick Lane will put you close to the area haunted by Jack the Ripper, and a guided tour can take you down those streets, bringing that dark area of London to life. There are many hidden tunnels and stretches of waterway as well as secluded gardens and little-known museums that can be explored by a visitor and will give them a taste of the real city.

London is my city, and I still can't say that I 'know' it even though I've travelled its length and breadth and uncovered many of its secrets. London's history is rich with both

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disasters and unparalleled innovations, and this can be seen and felt in every corner.

And in addition to this, something that for me is the real essence of London, is the coming together of so many different cultures and peoples, in modern times and in the past, all leaving their mark on the city in various ways. Moving around London, the juxtaposition of so many cultural elements – the smells of different foods, the sounds of different accents, dialects and languages, the colours of different clothes – informs a vibrant tapestry that showcases this bustling metropolis. If a visitor can take away just a small sense of that, as well as the experience of stumbling on some of the city's secret places, the memory will linger long after all the stand-out sights of one city have melded into a dozen others.

4 Read the blog again. Choose the correct options, A, B or C.

1 In the first paragraph, the blogger believes that
- **A** tourists are given the wrong information in guidebooks.
- **B** tourists think they know more about London than they actually do.
- **C** tourists should always include London when they travel round Europe.

2 What is the blogger's attitude to short visits to a range of cities?
- **A** She envies the tourists' stamina.
- **B** She cannot imagine what benefits there might be.
- **C** She regrets being unable to do it herself.

3 According to the blogger,
- **A** cities reflect all aspects of their past.
- **B** the current state of a city is an indication of its future.
- **C** city inhabitants usually know their city well.

4 The blogger's advice to tourists is that
- **A** they should not choose a specific company to organise their tours.
- **B** they do not need to overly plan their trip.
- **C** they do not need to go very far to see interesting parts of a city.

5 The blogger feels that the beating heart of London is in
- **A** its history and architecture.
- **B** its different cuisines.
- **C** its variety of cultures.

/10

WRITING

5 Correct the mistakes in the sentences from a blogpost about restaurants.

1 Try the new restaurant in Dame Street! It's a must to do.
2 The chef at Mario's is reknowned throughout the region.
3 Fusion food has flowed in popularity in recent years.
4 I know all the local foodie heatspots.
5 The removal of restrictions on pavement cafés has been welcomed by people of all sides.

/5

6 Write a blogpost about a restaurant you know that serves food from your favourite cuisine. Say why you like it and whether you would recommend it to visitors to the area.

Write 200–300 words.

/15

Total: /50

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