

I. VOCABULARY

A) Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in the box.

have get pass study take work

- 1 I need to _____ my exams so that I can go to university.
- 2 Dominic _____ three degrees but I can't remember what they are at the moment.
- 3 He didn't _____ a degree from university but he still became richer than all his classmates.
- 4 Did you learn Spanish by yourself or did you _____ a course?
- 5 He only _____ part time because he has to look after three children.
- 6 Is she _____ for a degree in engineering or computer programming? I can't remember.

B) Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words or phrases in the box.

increase get better get worse improve reduce

- 1 Public transport has _____ but it still isn't perfect.
- 2 The number of extreme weather events isn't _____ according to the government. However, most people think it is going up.
- 3 We need to _____ the amount of plastic in the environment before it's too late.
- 4 How can I _____ my score? I keep getting poor results.
- 5 My cold _____ so I went to bed.

C) Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

- 1 has / days / school / her / Maria / of / memories / happy
_____.
- 2 smell / in / England / of / the / of / rain / reminds / always / me / living
_____.
- 3 the / happy / feel / sight / of / them / makes / the / sea / always
_____.
- 4 taste / the / remember / always / will / I / bread / mother's / my / of
_____.

D) Choose the correct option, a, b or c.

- 1 We've been travelling for three months now and I'm starting to get a little ____.
a strange b anxious c homesick
- 2 It was such a ____ island with no traffic allowed on it.
a positive b peaceful c lively
- 3 Are you ever ____ when you travel abroad alone with nobody to help you?
a unpleasant b dull c nervous
- 4 She's a ____ child who always laughs and smiles when you talk to her.
a nervous b cheerful c enjoyable
- 5 I'm quite ____ about the plan. I can't see what could possibly go wrong.
a optimistic b stressful c nervous

II. GRAMMAR

A) Choose the correct alternatives.

- 1 I often go/I'm often going to the cinema on Thursdays if I'm not busy.
- 2 He can't go out tonight. He's studying/He studies for an important exam at the moment.
- 3 We loving/We love classical music. We go to a concert almost every month.
- 4 Well, I usually play/I'm usually playing computer games in the evening but tonight I'm too tired.
- 5 Are you working/Do you work right now? I need some help with the washing.

B) Choose the correct option, a, b or c.

- 1 When are you ____ that assignment? I need it for the meeting.
a finishing b going to finish c finish
- 2 I ____ tennis with Belinda on Friday. Do you want to play?
a 'm not playing b 'm not playing to c 'm not going play
- 3 When he finishes university, he ____ for work abroad.
a looking b 's going to look c 's looking
- 4 How ____ to work with a broken arm?
a are you going to drive b you are going to drive c are you driving
- 5 She ____ her friends at 9 o'clock near the clock tower.
a going to meet b 're meeting c 's meeting

C) Complete the sentences with the correct form of will.

- 1 My father thinks people _____ drive cars in the future. Cars will drive themselves.
- 2 Martin's sure his team _____ win the cup this season. They _____ also finish top of the table.
- 3 We think it _____ rain later – the sky is dark grey. But tomorrow _____ be lovely and sunny.
- 4 I hope I _____ play the piano better when my sore finger improves. It _____ hurt so much.
- 5 There _____ be more cars on the road. We _____ be stuck in traffic jams all the time!

D) Choose the correct alternatives.

- 1 He was *painting/painted* a picture on the beach when I first was *seeing/saw* him. He was so handsome!
- 2 While I *was running/ran* through the park, I *was remembering/remembers* that it was my sister's birthday.
- 3 She *was staying/stayed* in Boston one night about six years ago. She was *studying/studied* for her medical degree at the time, I think.
- 4 Eric *was walking/walked* home last night when he *was suddenly realising/suddenly realised* that he'd left his car at work! He felt so stupid.
- 5 I *was falling/fell* off my chair one day while I was eating/ate my dinner.

E) Complete the sentences with the correct form of the past simple or used to.

- 1 When I was in Bali, I _____ (see) a turtle for the first time.
- 2 I didn't use to eat (not eat) oranges when I was a girl but now I eat them all the time.
- 3 Where _____ (go) last night? I couldn't find you anywhere.
- 4 Children just play computer games nowadays. They _____ (play) outside all the time when I was a boy.
- 5 _____ (smoke) when you were young? I stopped when I was 20.

III. READING

A) Read the article. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Our senses help us to remember certain experiences, places and people. ____
- 2 Memories are stored in the hippocampus. ____
- 3 The action of remembering something is simple. ____
- 4 We only remember happy memories. ____
- 5 We always remember events exactly as they happened. ____

How does memory work?

Have you ever experienced a moment when a sound, sight, taste or smell made you feel happy or sad? Perhaps a song reminded you of something you used to do or somebody you used to know? Or maybe a specific sight or smell made you think of something you were doing at a particular time in the past? Everybody has experienced this at some time; in fact, nine out of ten people experience this at least once a day. Our senses are important in order to help us recall key moments, events and even people in our lives. But how does memory work? And why do we connect particular things with certain memories?

The brain is a complex part of our bodies; in fact, it is the most complex part we have! It is made of about a billion neurons and these help the brain to remember. The hippocampus is near the centre of the brain. It's responsible for keeping important memories and remembering where things are. It helps us remember the way to work, or where you left your keys.

The hippocampus is very busy. The action of remembering something is quite complicated! When your brain records memory, it usually records other details, such as where you were at the time, who you were with, and what you were eating. This explains why other small things, for example a certain smell or taste, can activate memories and make you think of something in the past.

Important information, like addresses and friends' names or things with a strong emotional connection, are stored in our long-term memory. In fact, we often connect feelings with memory. Feelings can have positive and negative effects on our memories; the sound of a song that makes you think of a happy moment or the sight of something that makes you feel frightened.

So can we trust our memory? Some memories are recorded better than others because of the large amount of information the hippocampus needs to process. However, sometimes when we remember, our brains can make small changes to the memory, mixing old memories with new details and changing it. This is why we sometimes think a particular event happened when it really didn't happen at all!

The best way to improve your memory is to keep it active. The more often you recall a memory, the easier it is to find! Doing exercise, getting at least seven hours sleep at night and developing new skills will keep your memory active and improve your ability to remember at any age!

V. LISTENING

A) Listen to three people talking about their memories. Choose the correct alternatives.

- 1 David and his brothers saw a herd of *cows/horse* running towards them.
- 2 David and his brothers felt *safe/shocked* when they reached their house.
- 3 *His brother/A smell* reminds David of that day.
- 4 Holly moved to China in *1988/1998*.
- 5 Holly *missed/didn't miss* her friends and family a lot in the beginning.