

File Test 9 Grammar, Vocabulary, and Pronunciation A

GRAMMAR

1 Underline the correct word(s).

Example: Although / **In spite of** the city is overcrowded, it has a good public transportation system.

- 1 We should rent that apartment downtown, **though** / **in spite of** it's more expensive.
- 2 **In spite of** / **Although** the cost, I'm really glad we flew business class.
- 3 We ignored the boss's mistake **so as not to** / **not so to** embarrass her.
- 4 I phoned the company **so as** / **so that** they would know we'd be late.
- 5 We need to meet early next week in order **to** / **for** discuss the merger.
- 6 I enjoy the dance class, **even though** / **despite** I'm not very good at it.

6

2 Underline the correct word(s).

Example: Politics is / **are** a dirty business sometimes!

- 1 All of the staff in the travel agency **was** / **were** very helpful.
- 2 Could you pass me **a** / **a piece of** paper for the printer, please?
- 3 Bring two **pants** / **pairs of pants** in case you need to change.
- 4 The scenery in New Zealand **is** / **are** absolutely spectacular!
- 5 Do you have any **advice** / **advices** about traveling in India?
- 6 I live **on the outskirts** / **on an outskirt** of Cape Town.
- 7 Everyone come to the meeting room – I have **some** / **a** good news!
- 8 The Shard is a famous London building, made mostly of **glass** / **the glass**.

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3 Complete the sentences with the correct words.

to for as in is that are

Example: I'm learning Mandarin so as to speak to my colleagues in the Beijing office.

- 1 We managed to catch our connecting flight, _____ spite of the earlier delay.
- 2 It's disgusting – there _____ so much garbage in the streets!
- 3 We entered the meeting room quietly in order not _____ interrupt the presentation.
- 4 This machine is _____ making car parts.
- 5 The police officers _____ investigating the robbery.
- 6 Despite the fact _____ my grandfather is 90, he still runs the family business.

File Test 9
Reading and Writing A**READING**

Read the article about advertising. Five sentences have been removed. Which sentence (A–F) fits each blank (1–5)? There is one extra sentence that you do not need to use.

Don't be fooled by Greenwashing!

Despite the huge rise in environmentally friendly marketing, most “green” products on the market are not actually better for the environment at all. (---1---) As a result of high consumer demand for environmentally friendly products, many companies have simply taken the opportunity to change their marketing strategies and update their packaging to mislead customers into thinking their goods are better for the environment. This practice has become so common that a name has been given to it: *greenwashing*. It is very difficult to spot greenwashing because we are constantly surrounded by clever advertising. So, how do you know you're really shopping responsibly? Here are our top tips.

First, beware of green buzzwords and slogans. We are often reassured by buzzwords such as “natural,” “green,” and “organic.” But should we be? (---2---) A face lotion may contain 98% natural organic ingredients but what about the remaining 2%? Another example is “vegan leather.” Although it is frequently advertised as environmentally friendly, it is essentially just plastic. Plastic is just as harmful, if not worse, for the environment as real leather.

Sadly, this practice of advertising the environmental friendliness of certain ingredients of products while ignoring the larger environmental cost is all too common. A classic example is soy. Food companies have become aware of consumers' concerns about the Amazon Rainforest being cleared to raise cattle. (---3---) This boost sales of the companies' new soy-based products and makes millions for them. However, what most people don't realize is that the Amazon is actually being cleared to grow soybeans almost as quickly as it is for the beef industry. Another example is organic cotton. The good news? Your new T-shirt is organic. The bad news? It took 2,500 liters of water to make it, it has been shipped tens of thousands of miles, and fast fashion creates huge amounts of landfill!

Another thing to watch out for is irrelevant claims. These often appear on the labels of beauty products that claim to be “paraben and cruelty free” – that sounds great until you realize it is irrelevant, depending on where you live. Many countries banned harmful parabens and animal testing a long time ago!

Now we come to perhaps the most obvious greenwashing trick. We look at certain ads, labels, or packaging, and we see “green” because the designers want us to. Who could fail to be convinced by those stunning images of forests, crystal clear rivers, and nature? (---4---) But just because there's beautiful scenery on the label doesn't mean the company cares about its impact on the environment, nor does adding the affixes “Green,” “Eco,” “Bio,” or “Enviro” to a brand name.

So how do you see through all this greenwashing? Unfortunately, there doesn't seem to be much being done at the moment to prevent it. (---5---) If the product has been checked and certified by a recognized organization such as The Soil Association, FSC (for paper and wood), or EcoCert, then it is. Don't be fooled – do your research, and always read the label properly!

File Test 9
Reading and Writing A

- A The product doesn't need to claim to be environmentally friendly because the images do all the work.
- B But the problem is "green" products are too expensive for most people.
- C Even if a product makes these claims, there could be harmful chemicals hiding amongst the "good" ones.
- D So the only way to know whether the product you are buying is green or not is to check the details on the label very carefully.
- E Unfortunately, greener advertising doesn't mean a greener product or a greener business.
- F So, in response they are encouraging us all to "go vegan" to "save the planet."

Reading total	10
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WRITING

Write an essay on the following topic:

"The effect of advertising in modern life"

Write 140–180 words. Include the following information:

- how you think advertising has changed in your lifetime
- explain what you think the positive effects of advertising in modern life are
- explain what you think the negative effects of advertising in modern life are.

Writing total	10
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Reading and Writing total	20
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File Test 9
Listening and Speaking A

LISTENING

1 Listen to five people talking about types of advertising. Which type does each person mention? Choose from the list (A–F). Use the letters only once. There is one extra letter that you do not need to use.

- A pop-up ads
- B viral ads
- C television advertising
- D misleading advertising
- E slogans
- F personalized advertising

Speaker 1: []

Speaker 2: []

Speaker 3: []

Speaker 4: []

Speaker 5: []