

TEST 1**WORD FORM**

Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in the space to complete the passage.

DICKENS AND HIS WORLD

It was with the circulation of Pickwick Papers in 1836 that young Dickens began to enjoy a truly (1. PRECEDENT) ascent into the favour of the British reading public. He magnificently (2. PROVE) a theory that his fame would disappear just as quickly as it had come. He remained until his death 34 years later (3. DENY) the most popular novelist the English- speaking world had ever known.

The public displayed a/an (4. SATIATE) appetite for his works, and there was also a great diffusion of them through (5. NUMBER) dramatic adaptations (nearly all completely (6. AUTHORITY) the copyright laws being much weaker in those days).

His immense popularity was based on the widespread perception of him as a great champion of the poor and the (7. POSSESS) against all forms of (8. JUST) and abuse of power. In his personal life, however, he was (9. CAPACITY) of achieving the level of fulfillment he enjoyed with the public, and all his close emotional relationships with women (10. VARY) ended in failure. Yet, he created an extraordinary range and variety of female characters who live on in our minds and culture unlike any others created by Victorian novelists.

CLOZE TEST

Fill in each blank with ONE suitable word.

THE EMERGENCE OF BRITISH POP

Before 1960, the UK pop scene offered little of substance. A faint shadow of its American counterpart, it could boast (1) the questionable talents of sanitised singers (2) Cliff Richard and Tommy Steele. But then along came the revolution; fizzing out of the teen-oriented coffee bars and the budding club circuit came the likes of Korner and Barber as R&B emerged. It was not long before "bluephoria" had taken (3) and the blues and R&B circuit quickly evolved with

bands of the calibre of the Rolling Stones and the Graham Bond Organization shaking things (4) in London.

But the capital did not have a monopoly as far as new talent was concerned (5) from it. The north was awakening, too, and soon the Beat groups would arrive, taking the music world by (6) Acts such as the Animals and the Beatles were formed, (7) latter needing no introduction, of course.

It wasn't long before the tables had (8) ; American pop was soon playing second fiddle to Brit-style bands. The Beatles, championing the cause, took British popular music to the new levels of success. Before (9) , the world couldn't get enough of this plucky quartet. "Beatlemania" had got hold. John, Paul, Ringo and George could do no (10)

TEST 2

CLOZE TEST

Fill in the gap with ONE suitable word.

Little babies are not so innocent after all, it would seem. Infants as young as six months, new research claims, are capable of lying to their doting parents, which they do (1) crying when they are not truly (2) pain or distress. They do it simply to draw attention to themselves, but once they start receiving the loving hugs and cuddles they (3) badly crave, the babies then do (4) best to prolong this reward by offering fake smiles.

This has led to suggestions that human beings are 'born to lie' and that this is a unique quality of our species. As someone who has devoted a lifetime to studying human and animal behaviour, I have to report that this is actually (5) from being the truth. Mankind may be the most adept species at telling fibs, but we are far from alone. A young chimpanzee in captivity, for example, is just as capable of 'lying', as I have witnessed on many occasions, most commonly when human handlers, working with young chimps, have to leave them alone. (6) human babies, the apes really hate (7) left alone, and for this reason, their handlers, (8) have become their 'family', should ideally never be out of sight. Even (9) the handlers always do their best to avoid going away for too long, some absence is unavoidable. In (10) a situation, and as soon as the young ape knows it is going to be left alone, it will start protesting vocally, and these protests can be heard as the handler leaves the building. The screaming stops when the door is slammed, (11) at this point the ape knows that the handler can (12) longer hear him. It has total control (13) its crying and can switch it on and off whenever it likes. The crying is actually a deliberate signal, rather (14) an uncontrollable outburst. But (15) this is a case of "real" lying rather depends on how you look at it.

TEST 3

WORD FORM

Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in the space to complete the passage.

In January 2001, the (1. GOVERN) Panel Climate Change (IPCC) issued its latest report on climate change. Climate models worked out by giant super-computers had become far more reliable since the previous report in 1995 and allowed them to (2. PRAISE) the earlier projections for global warming. Their conclusions were that something very serious is happening and that it cannot be a natural process. The 1990s was the hottest decade for 1,000 years and the Earth is warming faster than at any time in the last 10,000 years. According to the report, human activities are (3. EQUIVOCATE) to blame for the temperature rise. The burning of fossil fuels releases carbon dioxide and, due to deforestation, there are fewer trees to absorb this gas and recycle back into oxygen. Methane (4. CONCENTRATE) have also gone up dramatically because of increases in rice culture and (5. CATTLE), both of which generate methane from (6. COMPOSE) vegetation. These greenhouses gases trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere and cause the temperature to rise. In the worst case, the resulting melting of ice-caps and glaciers would cause sea levels to rise by up to 88 cm, endangering the homes and (7. LIVELY) of tens of millions of people who live in low-lying regions. Unfortunately, there is far greater (8. UNANIMOUS) among the world's scientists over the issue than among politicians. As long as 1990, the IPCC recommended a 60 % reduction in carbon dioxide (9. EMIT), as the basic level required to return the planet's climate to a healthy level. Governments globally failed to (10. ACT) these proposals. Now that the dangers have been reaffirmed by the latest report, it is high time that governments took an active interest in exploring alternative, renewable energy sources.

CLOZE TEST

Fill in each blank with ONE suitable word.

APATHY OR IGNORANCE?

Kande Beach is located on the western shore of Lake Malawi, one of Africa's Great Lakes. It is an idyllic location with guaranteed sunshine for much of the year (1)

..... than the rainy season, so it is hardly surprising that the resort there is much in (2) with tourists.

Many go to enjoy the multitude of activities on (3) such as scuba diving and horse riding. Yet (4) simply want to lounge about relaxing on the shore, taking the odd dip to cool down now and then.

Yet few tourists seem to appreciate the fact that on the very doorstep of their little paradise – at the edge of their bubble, if you will – lies the evidence in microcosm of a desperately impoverished country.

Kapeti Village, for example, is but a stone's (5) from the resort. Here, according to local leaders, the prevalence of one particular very serious incurable illness is alarming at more than 33%. In other words, fewer than two (6)

..... three people are free of disease. However, that incurable disease is far from the only problem, with malaria, cholera and other serious illnesses also wreaking havoc.

But is the general apathy amongst tourists a sign that they care less? Well, it would seem not. Whilst it may be a tall order to burst their bubble and remove the illusion of paradise found, efforts to do so are not entirely in (7) According to locals running village tours, it isn't (8) they see the extent of

deprivation for themselves that tourists begin to appreciate the problem. Then and only then do they begin to open their eyes, but at least it's a start.

TEST 4

CLOZE TEST

Fill in the gap with ONE suitable word.

SECOND-HAND BUT BETTER THAN NEW

Many people who are building their own homes or renovating existing buildings have discovered that it makes more sense to buy second-hand goods (1) to buy new doors, fireplaces or radiators. These days a large number of businesses offer second-hand material, though many of (2) cater exclusively for professional builders. However, there are outlets that sell to members of the public, so someone who wants to indulge (3) a spot of DIY will probably be able to find reclamation material, as second-hand building supplies are known, anywhere in the country. Searching for (4) one wants can be time-consuming, so (5) bother? Is there, for example, any financial reason to make it worth one's while? The answer, in many cases, is yes. An oak door in good condition will be considerably more (6) than a new one, even (7) it is only a few years old. However, the majority of clients of reclamation yards are on the lookout for items that simply can't be found these days, (8) as stone fireplaces several centuries old. Items like this kind, of course, be expensive, but there are a lot of people (9) do not mind paying a high price for a second-hand fireplace that is, in their view, (10) than new.

TEST 5

CLOZE TEST

Fill in each numbered blank with one suitable word.

While most people (1) to have a toned healthy body, not everyone enjoys (2) out at the gym. In fact, many of us (3) sooner avoid any kind of vigorous exercise altogether, and may not even feel it is necessary. Over the years, various health experts have assured us that keeping (4) simply requires a total of 30 minutes of moderate activity most days of the week. Many people believe that to walk to the shops or some light housework constitutes moderate activity, but it turns (5) this may not be the case.

According to the British Association of sport and exercise, it is high (6)..... more specific advice (7)..... given about what actually constitutes moderate activity. Housework, it seems, does not fall into this category. Anyone who devotes a great deal of time every day to dusting and vacuuming no doubt wishes that it (8)..... but research has shown that women who spend over eight hours a day (9)..... housework actually tend to be slightly more overweight than (10).... who do none whatsoever. The association, therefore, would prefer (11)..... if the public were instructed as to exactly what (12)..... of physical activity to aim for.

But setting such guidelines is not easy (13)..... individual fitness levels and exercise requirements vary. For instance, while walking at a fast pace (14)..... generally beneficial for women, it may not be physically challenging enough for men. For this reason, the association would rather this section of the population took up jogging (15)..... relied on walking as a form of exercise

TEST 6

CLOZE TEST

Fill in the gap with ONE suitable word.

The world-famous credit card company Mastercard is removing its (1)..... from its company logo. It will follow the likes of Apple and Nike to have a logo (2)..... has a symbol only and no writing.

Mastercard had traditionally (3)..... a logo that had overlapping yellow and red circles with the word "Mastercard" written over the top. The company has decided to drop the word "Mastercard" (4)..... use just the two intersecting circles as a wordless logo. The new logo will be used as the brand's (5)..... on credit cards and in stores, as well as on advertising at sports and (6)..... events. The company's marketing officer said over 80 per cent of people spontaneously (7)..... the new symbol (8)..... the word "Mastercard". Mastercard conducted extensive research for (9)..... than 20 months (10)..... how recognizable the new logo would be without its name being on it. The new logo is part of a wider strategy to transition from (11)..... a credit card company to a digital payments and financial services company. The world is now full of instantly recognizable logos that contain no (12)..... Apple's bitten apple logo and Nike's swoosh (13)..... prime examples. (14)..... of the logos of apps on people's smartphones are just symbols. A design expert spoke about maximizing the effect of a small (15)..... on a phone or watch. He said: "You're trying to optimize for a very small piece of real estate on a very small piece of glass. A 10-letter name is kind of a monster."