La Cultural

MOD 12 - NIVEL SUPERIOR B TEST

English File Advanced (4th edition) - Units 6 to 10

NAME: _____

Instituto avalado por

Asociación de Centros de Idiomas.
Personería jurídica inscr. N° 15.038

A READING   Read the article and tick A, B, or C.   (____/15)

Art or just artificial?

SECTION A   In 2018, the famous London-based auction house Christie's put a painting entitled Edmond de Belamy up for auction. The portrait of a gentleman dressed in black was in a style reminiscent of traditional portraiture but was somewhat blurry and lacking in detail – not the sort of art that usually fetched such high prices. It was expected to sell for no more than $10,000 but the winning bidder paid a staggering $432,500 for it. Why? Because the portrait had been created by computer algorithm, not by a human artist.

SECTION B   The concept of computer-generated art is certainly nothing new. After all, digital art has been around for decades, but while computers were able to generate the original forms of digital art, they did not do this independently. This is because they had to be specially programmed to produce a particular image to specific criteria and aesthetics. Recently, however, artists have begun using a class of AI (Artificial Intelligence) algorithms called 'generative adversarial networks' (GANs) which have the ability to independently 'learn' about aesthetics by analyzing thousands of images of creative artworks. The algorithms are called 'adversarial' because they have two opposing sides: one side generates the images; the other evaluates the quality of the images and decides which are closest to the original analyzed images. In effect, the two sides are working both together and against each other as the second side takes a critical role in assessing the quality of the images the first has produced. Of course, the process isn't entirely independent as an artist must then sort through the results and choose the images he or she wants to use in a project.

SECTION C   What would the great artists of the past think of the computer-generated art of today? Would Leonardo da Vinci be appalled or delighted to discover that AI was capable of generating paintings and unique artworks of its own? We'll never know. But like it or loathe it, AI is taking an increasing role in creative arts of all genres. There's certainly no doubt that we're at the beginning of the next major art movement. The concept of AI art has been received with mixed feelings, however. While some artists are thrilled with the prospect of having a new media to explore, others are sceptical that computers can access the same levels of creativity as humans. Those pioneering artists who have embraced AI, are utilizing the newest technology to extend their art – pushing creative boundaries beyond what they themselves are limited to. They say they like the fact that the machines aren't perfect – they work objectively without the interruption of feelings or preferences. Their mistakes can produce interesting and unexpected results, whereas an artist might be more 'precious' about their artwork and less likely to take risks.

SECTION D   Sceptics, however, feel that computers, no matter how sophisticated, will never be able to simulate human creative thinking and reasoning. This raises doubt about the quality of artworks made without passion or feeling, something that famous artists throughout history have been famous or infamous for. On the one hand, critics say that computers are machines and will therefore always produce substandard quality work. But on the other hand, art is subjective – everyone will have a different idea of what they like and dislike and we all have the right to our own opinions.

SECTION E   Another issue worth considering is the speed at which AI art can be created in comparison to the many hours, weeks, months, or even years that human artists can spend creating an artwork themselves. Of course, a computer's complete lack of passion and care about a final artwork can speed up the process considerably, but that raises a serious question in terms of artists' livelihoods: if the art market becomes flooded with quickly produced AI artworks, will there still be a market for original man-made art in future?

SECTION F   There have also been concerns raised about the legal implications of AI-generated art. If it has been created by a machine, is there actually an artist? In most cases, it is an artist who uses the AI, and chooses the images created by it, but who has true ownership and copyright of the artwork in that case? In addition, many speculate about the value of such artworks, and whether process is in fact more important than the finished piece. These are questions that will be answered over time but it's unlikely that AI will replace human artists altogether. Just as the work of the great artists of the past was informed by the social and political context of their times, AI, working in collaboration with humans, will eventually find its role in modern society in the future.

1. **In section A the writer's main intention is to _____.**
   a. explain the process of selling.
   b. criticize computer-generated art
   c. highlight a significant event in the art world

2. **Which of the following does the writer describe in section B? .**
   a. The reasons why AI artwork has become popular
   b. How AI art is generated.
   c. The origins of digital art.

3. **In section B, what do the two sides in the AI art algorithms do?**
   a. They work independently of each other and then compare the results. .
   b. They work together but in different roles.
   c. They compete against each other to create the best image.

4. **What does the writer wonder about 'the great artists of the past' in section C?**
   a. Whether they could create artworks of equal quality to computers.
   b. Whether they would use AI in their projects.
   c. Whether they would approve of AI-generated art.

5. **Which of the following reasons does the writer give in section C to support AI art?**
   a. Some artists feel that AI enhances their creativity rather than work against it.l
   b. AI takes a lot of the pressure of competition off artists.
   c. AI art is novel at the moment so it can make the artists who use it more successful.

6. **Which of the aspects of AI technology does the writer say artists appreciate in section C?**
   a. It can't argue with their creative decisions.
   b. It can come up with surprising results.
   c. It can be as creative as humans.

7. **According to the writer in section D, sceptics doubt that AI would be able to create quality art because _____.**
   a. people relate better to human art
   b. the technology is not yet sophisticated enough
   c. it is unable to feel emotion

8. **In section E, the writer points out that _____.**
   a.   when it comes to art, people's tastes are very different
   b. AI will eventually have the same level of care in producing artwork as humans
   c. AI can create artworks much faster than human artists

9. **In section F, the writer discusses _____.**
    a. his own experiences of using AI
    b. issues that might affect the careers and legal rights of artists
    c. the prices AI-generated art could sell for in the future

10. **The writer's main objective in the text is to _____.**
    a. compare the creative abilities of AI technology and human artists
    b. criticize artists who use AI in their projects
    c. give an explanation of the current conflicting views on AI-generated art

B LISTENING.

Listen to an interview with former athlete Johannes Bern about the use of technology in sport. Tick A, B, or C. (____ /15) **CLICK HERE TO LISTEN**

1) **What is Johannes' overall impression of VAR?**
   A He feels it's a positive addition to football.

   B He has some reservations about it.

   C He thinks the technology isn't sophisticated enough.

2) **According to Adrian, the main reason for introducing VAR was to _____.**
   A replace human referees

   B eliminate the risk of players getting injured

   C provide support for referees

3) **According to Johannes, what reduces players' motivation on the pitch?**
   A referees making poor decisions

   B stopping and starting the game too frequently

   C conflict with other players

4) **In Adrian 's opinion, the marathon runner Eliud Kipchoge _____.**
   A may not have achieved the record without technological support

   B risked his physical health to get the record

   C should have his record time officially recognized as a World Record

5) **Both Adrian and Johannes agree that use of technology in sport is _____.**
   A necessary in order to improve the quality of all sports

   B not legitimate and therefore should be banned

   C inevitably going to cause some doubt and controversy

1. You'll have to call me on the landline – there's no network **coverage / contact** here.

2. The council is going to **lengthen / widen** the road so that cars can overtake each other safely.

3. I asked if they wanted my help but they **deplored / declined** my offer.

4. There are some **stables / hives** near my house. Perhaps we can ask the owner for some honey.

5. Drain the pasta through the **sieve / colander** to get rid of the excess liquid.

6. The road in my neighbourhood is a bit of a **black / grey** area – no one knows who is responsible

for maintaining it.

2) Complete the idioms with ONE word. **STUDY:** (____/6)

Example: Adele turned as _white_ as a sheet just before she fainted.

1. Marilyn might be nearly 80 but she's **as fit as a _____**!
2. We startled a huge deer in the woods but **quick as a _____** it was gone!
3. You'll need to shout when you speak to my grandfather – he's **as _____ as a post**.

Now, complete the words with a **negative prefix**. **STUDY:**

4. Do you think it would be **____appropriate** to buy the boss a little gift to say thank you?
5. Anita's **____replaceable** as far as I'm concerned. I don't know what I'll do if she leaves.
6. What I can say, **____officially** of course, is that there will be some changes to the company
    soon.

3) Word formation. **STUDY:** (____/8) each x2

1. They had to measure the _____ **(wide)** of the room before buying new furniture.
2. The argument was _____ **(weak)** by the lack of evidence.
3. He spoke with _____ **(deep)** conviction about his beliefs.
4. The _____ **(high)** of the basketball player gave him an advantage on the court.

D GRAMMAR .

1) Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

STUDY: Gerund / infinitive SB p. 78, 156, Conditional sentences SB p. 62, 153 (___/5)

1. We would _____ (wait) to start eating, if we had known that you were coming.
2. I would hate you _____ (think) I hadn't enjoyed the event.
3. I'm tired of _____ (give) presents I don't need. I'd rather just have a birthday card.
4. We've arranged for lunch _____ (be) served at 12.30 after the workshop has finished.
5. It's no use _____ (ask) Mike to help this weekend. He's going to be away until Monday.

2) Combine the sentences forming RELATIVE CLAUSES. (___/5)

STUDY: Relative clauses SB p. 99, 160

1- A friend knows a lot about cooking. He recommended a good restaurant to us.

A friend _____

2- The rooms at the hotel are well cleaned. They have air-conditioning.

The rooms at the hotel _____

3- I've only had these shoes for a week. They've broken already.

These shoes_____

4- Mike lives next door. He has many cats and dogs.

Mike_____

5- I have only one best friend. Her name is Angela.

I have_____

3) Is the sentence right or wrong? Write CORRECT or INCORRECT.
   Then correct the incorrect sentences by writing them below. (___/5)

STUDY: Expressing future plans / arrangements SB p. 157

Example: *I see Melanie after class tonight.*   **Incorrect** *I'm seeing Melanie after class tonight.*

1 - Will we be eating lunch at the usual time? Your brother wants to know.

2 - We're to be make sure she's there on time because she's usually late.

3 - My sister-in-law is about to have a baby, so my brother is very nervous.

4 - It is believed that the company director is on the point of to resign.

5 - The Prime Minister is open the new shopping centre here on Friday.

4) SENTENCE TRANSFORMATION - Complete each sentence using the word given so that it means the same as the sentence before. (____/15 marks)

1. I hate it when people wake me up early in the morning. **(WOKEN)**

   I hate _____early in the morning.

2. You should finish your homework before dinner. **(BETTER)**

   You _____ your homework before dinner.

3. She wore dark glasses so that she wouldn't be recognized. **(SO AS)**

   She wore dark glasses _____

4. I'm sure he forgot about the meeting. **(HAVE)**

   He _____ the meeting.

5. A cup of coffee is sufficient for me in the morning. **(NEED)**

   A cup of coffee _____the morning.

6. The director is about to accept the project. **(POINT)**

   The director _____the new project.

E WRITING (____/20 MARKS)

On a separate sheet, choose **ONE** of the titles below and write a pros and cons **ESSAY** in approximately **180-240 words.**

- *Gadgets make daily life easier.*
- *The success of a company depends on the happiness of its employees.*
- *The Government should pay for investigation of alternative medicine.*

When you write your essay, make sure you:
-use appropriate language
-use linkers
-check your grammar, spelling and vocabulary.
-state your ideas in a well-organized way:

Paragraph 1	Introduction
Paragraph 2	Arguments in favour
Paragraph 3	Arguments against
Paragraph 4	Conclusion, saying whether you think the advantages outweigh the disadvantages, or vice versa.