

W zadaniach 1–4, przeczytaj teksty. Z podanych odpowiedzi wybierz właściwą, tak aby otrzymać logiczne i gramatycznie poprawne teksty. Zakreśl literę a, b lub c.

ZADANIE 1

IT'S AS EASY AS APP

What are the basic skills that 1 _____ child starting school should learn? For many centuries the obvious answer was: reading, writing and arithmetic. Quite recently computer classes (ICT) have been made an obligatory part of national curriculums to teach students how to use basic programmes. These days, 2 _____, more and more countries are starting to realise that to succeed in the 21st century pupils should be able to create their own software.

In fact, some schools in the UK are planning to get rid of ICT lessons and replace them 3 _____ programming classes that would involve building websites, designing games and mobile phone apps. They hope that today's generation of children, who are already familiar with using smartphones and practically living in the world of social media, will soon become the designers of the future.

Education authorities have no problem convincing students' parents that 4 _____ skills are important. A recent survey shows that 94% of them believe that computer skills are 5 _____ for the job market. Examples of British teenagers who have managed to sell their apps to big corporations also help make the decision easy. After all, who wouldn't want their child to become a millionaire?

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| 1 a some | b all | c any |
| 2 a although | b however | c despite |
| 3 a for | b with | c from |
| 4 a so | b this | c such |
| 5 a essential | b unnecessary | c modern |

ZADANIE 2

THE ZEBRA MYSTERY

For many years scientists have wondered 1 _____ zebras have black and white stripes. Some believe that the stripes create an optical illusion which hides a zebra's movements and in this way protect it from being attacked. When lions see a group of zebras, the stripes make it difficult for them to assess the zebras' size and speed. However, one study has found that lions are particularly good 2 _____ catching zebras.

There have been other popular theories too. One claims that each zebra has a unique pattern of stripes so 3 _____ one individual can recognise another. There is also a theory that suggests that the stripes help zebras with thermoregulation and protect them from the strong African sun.

A team of US researchers has 4 _____ found evidence that the zebra got its stripes for different reasons. The zebra's short hair makes it easy for dangerous African flies to bite and infect the animal with different 5 _____. It seems that flies find it harder to land on stripes and during their evolution zebras have developed a perfect way to keep the flies away. The stripes are narrow on the lower legs and on the head, the areas which attract flies the most.

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| 1 a which | b why | c what |
| 2 a in | b for | c at |
| 3 a that | b as | c to |
| 4 a never | b ever | c recently |
| 5 a allergies | b diseases | c vaccines |

ZADANIE 3

RUTH FLOWERS: AGE IS NO EXCUSE

When you think of your grandparents' hobbies, gardening, knitting or Nordic walking come to mind. 1 _____ Ruth Flowers was not your average grandmother. When she was in her late sixties, she became a world-famous DJ working under the name Mamy Rock.

She was brought 2 _____ in a very musical family and for many years worked as a singer and singing teacher. It was only when she got invited to her grandson's birthday party at a club that she 3 _____ in love with dance music. Ruth said that at first the security didn't want to let her in because of her age, but she insisted and she enjoyed it very much.

She was 4 _____ in touch with a young French producer who helped her develop her sound and image. In her mixing, she used her favourite artists like the Rolling Stones or Freddie Mercury together with electro music. As for clothes, she loved colourful outfits and cool sunglasses. Ruth gave her first gig during the 2009 Cannes Film Festival, after which she became internationally known. 5 _____ then she played in major clubs throughout the world and even had her own reality show called "Rock It Granny".

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| 1 a Yet | b Although | c In spite of |
| 2 a back | b up | c over |
| 3 a falls | b fell | c has fallen |
| 4 a put | b stayed | c kept |
| 5 a From | b Until | c Since |

ZADANIE 4

WHERE ARE YOUR MANNERS?

While it is true that mobile devices are convenient and help us stay better connected, our social skills seem to be getting worse and worse. According to a recent survey, the majority of people 1 _____ that smartphones, laptops, tablets and social media have made us rudier.

People texting in public places or shouting into their phones on public transport are a common 2 _____. Very often we pay more attention to our Facebook account than the person sitting in front of us. This obsession with digital devices and the need to stay online all the time make people start phone conversations while watching a film at the cinema or forget 3 _____ off their mobile in the theatre, at school or even in church.

Many institutions are trying to bring good old etiquette back. Shops across the UK are putting up signs informing customers that they won't be served while talking 4 _____ the phone. Banks and post offices forbid the use of mobile phones too. There are also numerous online campaigns that make people aware of the basic rules of polite behaviour. All of them come down to a simple fact: use your common sense and 5 _____ you think it will be rude, don't do it.

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| 1 a thinks | b has thought | c is thinking |
| 2 a view | b picture | c sight |
| 3 a to switch | b switching | c about switching |
| 4 a by | b through | c on |
| 5 a unless | b if | c provided |

W zadaniach 5–8, przeczytaj teksty. Z podanych odpowiedzi wybierz właściwą, tak aby otrzymać logiczne i gramatycznie poprawne teksty. Zakreśl literę a, b lub c.

ZADANIE 5

SUPERMARKET MIND GAMES

We all know it too well, we go to a supermarket and we often end 1 _____ buying more than we planned. Having a shopping list in your hand doesn't always help because supermarkets use all kinds of psychological tricks aimed at making us 2 _____ up our trolleys.

It all starts in the car park where potential customers see red signs advertising discounts and bargains. As soon as they see this colour inside, they will automatically associate it with low prices 3 _____. Some red labels will only be used to confuse them. Then it's the usual background music will get shoppers in the right frame of mind and so will the artificial smell of 4 _____ baked bread. Shelves with basic products, such as meat, bread and butter, are situated far from away each other so that you have to walk through many aisles and, on the way, be tempted to get items you don't need.

And just when you think it's over, there are so-called *golden zones*, displays with all kinds of sweets located near checkouts that encourage customers and their children to think that they deserve a reward while they 5 _____ to pay for their shopping.

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| 1 a up | b with | c about |
| 2 a filling | b to fill | c fill |
| 3 a despite | b even though | c therefore |
| 4 a hardly | b freshly | c quickly |
| 5 a are waiting | b will be waiting | c have been waiting |

ZADANIE 6

DON'T WASTE IT

Statistics show that US households throw away a shocking 40% of perfectly good food. At the same time about 50 million Americans don't have 1 _____ to eat and many suffer from hunger. However, if US families managed to 2 _____ food waste by 15 per cent, it would help feed 25 million people.

The big question is: what can be done to solve the problem? To start with, you should plan your meals well ahead, make use of shopping lists and avoid buying on impulse. If you don't know what to do with the leftovers in your fridge, check online guides for suggestions on how to waste less. Alternatively, you can get a useful mobile app which will provide you with creative 3 _____.

Some people get rid of food because the sell-by date has passed and they are afraid they might get sick. 4 _____ they don't realise is that most food products can be safely eaten past these dates. If you know you won't have the chance to eat something, you can always freeze it 5 _____ it goes bad.

There's also an option of donating food to local food banks. Remember that lots of people need the food you throw away.

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| 1 a plenty | b little | c enough |
| 2 a fed up with | b cut down on | c take away |
| 3 a recipes | b receipts | c prescriptions |
| 4 a That | b What | c Which |
| 5 a after | b before | c while |

ZADANIE 7

Do U hav a job 4 me?

Believe it or not, but many employers nowadays do get letters of application written in 'text speak'. And it is not the only reason why more and more employers 1 _____ that the recruitment process is a nightmare.

Many young applicants fail to understand the requirements for the jobs they apply 2 _____. They send off identical CVs regardless of the post. In addition, they find it difficult to show up punctually for a job interview, have 3 _____ idea what to wear on formal occasions and lack basic social skills, e.g. they are unable to make eye-contact with the interviewer or explain why they want a given job. And that's not to mention their poor knowledge of the company they want to work for.

It doesn't prevent young people from 4 _____ unrealistic expectations of the job market. They are mostly interested in professions related to popular culture, the media and sport. Moreover, they just think they can walk into their dream job, because they believe they deserve only the best. 5 _____, all of the above greatly limit young people's working opportunities and contribute to the high rates of youth unemployment.

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| 1 a accuse | b deny | c complain |
| 2 a for | b to | c about |
| 3 a some | b any | c no |
| 4 a have | b to have | c having |
| 5 a Previously | b Unfortunately | c Eventually |

ZADANIE 8

HUNGER FOR POWER

If you think that politics is boring, you haven't watched *House of Cards*, an American political drama. It is directed by David Fincher, who is known 1 _____ *Seven* and *Fight Club*, among others. This TV series is set in the capital of the USA and tells the story of Francis Underwood (Kevin Spacey), a fictional Democratic congressman.

Kevin Spacey 2 _____ the role of a ruthless politician who wants to take revenge on the people that have betrayed him, including the President of the United States himself. He is very cynical and uses a young political reporter to reveal his rivals' dark secrets to the press. His power-hungry wife is no angel 3 _____. They both stop at nothing to reach their goals and destroy their enemies.

The series is a remake of the 1990s British political miniseries and has become a great success, receiving many 4 _____ for excellent acting and directing. Viewers around the world seem to appreciate the fact that it presents the reality of political life as many people suspect it to be: 5 _____ cruel world of empty promises and corruption, with no place for idealism.

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| 1 a from | b for | c about |
| 2 a stars | b plays | c acts |
| 3 a too | b also | c either |
| 4 a prizes | b rewards | c awards |
| 5 a a | b an | c the |