

# Use of English

## The Rise of Minimalism

Read the text below, choose the correct answer (A, B, C, D)

Minimalism isn't just about having fewer (1) \_\_\_\_\_ - things you own; it's a mindset shift that's transforming how people live. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ by a desire for simplicity and mental clarity, minimalism encourages people to focus on what truly matters and let go (3) \_\_\_\_\_ excess. The movement started as a reaction to consumer culture, with many individuals (4) \_\_\_\_\_ that fewer items can lead to greater happiness and freedom. Minimalists often report feeling less stressed and more fulfilled as they (5) \_\_\_\_\_ both their homes and their minds.



- |                |           |          |                |              |
|----------------|-----------|----------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. _____       | 2. _____  | 3. _____ | 4. _____       | 5. _____     |
| A) attachments | A) Driven | A) from  | A) discovering | A) demolish  |
| B) possessions | B) Hidden | B) by    | B) finding     | B) debunk    |
| C) materials   | C) Found  | C) for   | C) exploring   | C) declutter |
| D) needs       | D) Broken | D) of    | D) covering    | D) devote    |

## When Luck Runs Out

Alex had never believed in superstitions before, brushing off Friday the 13th as nonsense. But this time, things went differently. His alarm (6) \_\_\_\_\_, so he woke up late. Then, as he was rushing out, he spilled coffee (7) \_\_\_\_\_ his shirt and missed the bus by seconds. At work, every task seemed to fall apart—his computer crashed, files disappeared, and his presentation (8) \_\_\_\_\_ mid-slide. By lunchtime, he was questioning everything he'd once laughed at. "If I had stayed in bed," he thought, "this day (9) \_\_\_\_\_ have gone so wrong." Now, Friday the 13th wasn't just a joke; it felt (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a warning he'd never ignore again.



- |                     |          |            |             |           |
|---------------------|----------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| 6. _____            | 7. _____ | 8. _____   | 9. _____    | 10. _____ |
| A) has failed       | A) on    | A) freeze  | A) hadn't   | A) like   |
| B) had failed       | B) at    | B) frozen  | B) didn't   | B) as     |
| C) had been failing | C) in    | C) freezed | C) wouldn't | C) as if  |
| D) was failing      | D) for   | D) froze   | D) hasn't   | D) such   |