4 Taking time out

READING AND USE OF ENGLISH

Part 6

1 Look at the exam task instructions, and at the title and the introduction to the text. What is the topic?

2 Quickly read the main text and the missing sentences (A–G). Underline the reference words and phrases in the sentences, as in sentence A, that may help you to find links between the text and the sentences.

Now do the exam task, using the words you have underlined as clues.

Exam task

You are going to read an article about the increasing interest in listening to stories. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–G** the one which fits each gap (**1–6**). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

The storytellers telling new tales for the digital age

Telling a good story is the most ancient of entertainments – but thanks to the iPod generation, it's coming back into fashion.

By Lena Corner

If you are looking for something to do in the country next Saturday night, in a field in Higher Ashton you'll find a storyteller named Martin Shaw. He will be telling a 13th-century tale of knights, loyalty and romance, starting before midnight and finishing some time around dawn. Bring coffee and a warm blanket, advises Shaw.

Shaw's long tale is one of the highlights of next weekend's Westcountry Storytelling Festival. 'We started out seven years ago with a group of about 100 people gathered in a field,' says artistic director Chris Salisbury. [1] It's a similar tale at the Beyond the Border Festival, which takes place in a dramatic setting near St Donat's castle, right on a cliff edge. When it began in 1993, it had just three storytellers. Now there is a cast of 90 and it is the biggest festival of its kind in the world.

The renewed interest in the art form can be traced to the mid-1980s when Hugh Lupton, Ben Haggarty and Sally Pomme Clayton formed the excellent Company of Storytellers. [2] 'There was a mistaken belief that stories were to be told only to people under the age of six,' says Salisbury. 'People began to realise this wasn't necessarily so.'

Before this change came about, the spoken tradition had undoubtedly been in decline. 'It really was a forgotten art form,' says David Ambrose, festival director of Beyond the Border. 'Our ancestors knew all about it but we forgot how vital it was. [3] I'm sure TV also played a part, and people becoming able to read – we live in a world where things can be written down so we no longer need to remember them.'

Although storytelling occupies an area somewhere between comedy, poetry and theatre, its reputation also suffered from being associated with old men reading out dull stories everyone had heard before. [4] 'That's probably because it's a folk tradition which comes from the heart, so you do get a real mixture. At least at festivals there is some quality control.'

Ambrose believes storytelling's growing appeal is linked to a renewed enthusiasm for live performances, particularly music, following a decline in interest some years ago. [5] 'You only have to look at what's gone on in the music industry. Live forms of any art do something that recordings can't.'

Most storytellers describe their craft as the art of painting visual images in listeners' minds. Some say that to tell stories just comes naturally to them, while others study at one of the many storytelling schools that have appeared in recent years. It is never, ever about reading aloud, and Salisbury compares good storytelling to modern jazz. [6]

And so interest continues to grow. You only have to look at sales of stories recorded on CD, currently one of the main areas of growth in the publishing industry, to see how much we are starting to enjoy having tales told to us.

A 'When it gets done badly like that, it is truly awful,' says Salisbury.

B 'As the musician adds to and partly changes a familiar tune, so the storyteller breathes new life into familiar tales,' he says.

C The group spent the next decade promoting its craft, teaching beginners how to tell a tale and, crucially, persuading people that storytelling was a valid adult art form.

D I think this was a social thing, to do with the break-up of the traditional family unit.

E Unlike all those kinds of entertainment, though, storytelling requires no set design or costumes.

F 'Since then it has grown into a three-day event with an audience of thousands.'

G 'For a while back then we all became a bit obsessed with TV, film and digital art forms, but people have now become keen to attend them again,' he says.

LIVEWORKSHEETS



READING AND USE OF ENGLISH

Part 4

Look at the exam task example. What differences are there between the two sentences?
Now do the exam task. In each case, note down the changes you need to make from the first to the second sentence.

Grammar

too and *enough*, present perfect, verb + infinitive / *-ing*

Correct the mistakes in these sentences written by exam candidates. In some cases, more than one answer is possible.

1 I already have booked hotel rooms for all the students.
2 Mr de Winter dislikes to live in the east wing of the building.
3 Sometimes we do not have enough time for go to the gym.
4 We can go out somewhere in my car, which I just have bought.
5 When I finish to work I come back home.
6 I haven't still seen the manager to complain about this.
7 I think fifty kilometres is too far for us walking.
8 I regretted to send her to the doctor so late.
9 I sometimes miss to watch TV programmes that I really like.
10 Zoos have been controversial since some years, because of the way they treat animals.

Exam task

For questions **1–6**, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. Here is an example (**0**):

Example:

0 Even though we set off at 7.30, it was too late to avoid the morning traffic.
EARLY
Even though we set off at 7.30, it WASN'T (or WAS NOT) EARLY ENOUGH to avoid the morning traffic.

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1 The band did some new songs once they had sung all their big hits.
WENT
The band sang all their big hits and then _____ some new songs.

2 I'll always remember my first visit to Hollywood.
FORGET
I'll _____ for the first time.

3 The singer's agent said photographers couldn't take any pictures of her.
REFUSED
The singer's agent _____ any pictures of her.

4 Tickets don't go on sale until noon, but people started waiting here six hours ago.
HAVE
Tickets don't go on sale until noon, but people _____ six hours.

5 Theatre tickets are so expensive that students can't buy them.
CHEAP
Theatre tickets are _____ to buy.

6 Simon is an ambitious singer, but he hasn't succeeded in becoming famous yet.
MANAGED
Simon is an ambitious singer, but he still _____ famous.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

LISTENING

Part 4

1 Look at the exam task instructions. Answer these questions.

1 What kind of recording will you hear?
2 Who will be speaking?
3 Who is she?

2 05 Look at the underlined key words in the example question. Then listen and choose the best answer (A, B or C). Listen for expressions with similar or opposite meanings to the key words.

Example:
How does Lily usually feel in the moments before she begins a performance?
A very confident
B rather impatient
C a little nervous

3 Underline the key words in the first line of each of the questions, as in the example above.

06 Now listen and do the exam task, listening for expressions with similar or opposite meanings to the key words you have underlined.



Exam task

You will hear a radio interview with singer Lily Alonso. For questions **1–7**, choose the best answer (**A**, **B** or **C**).

1 To help herself to relax, Lily
A does a simple breathing exercise.
B practises yoga on her own.
C laughs at something funny.

2 What does she like to practise doing on the day of a concert?
A singing the songs that she will perform
B saying the lyrics of the songs she will perform
C walking on the stage where she will perform

3 Why does she like to sit and look at the stage before the show?
A It's the quietest place to be at that time.
B It helps give her more self-confidence.
C She can meet some of her fans there.

4 Which does she prefer to do herself?
A her nails
B her hair
C her make-up

5 When she is dressing for a concert, she sometimes finds it difficult to decide which
A T-shirt to wear.
B shoes to wear.
C trousers to wear.

6 When she performs, Lily wears a lucky
A bracelet.
B necklace.
C earring.

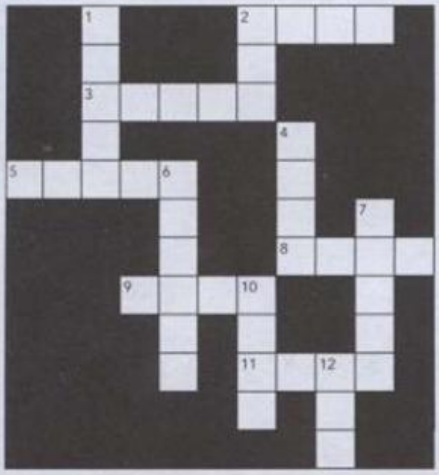
7 Lily believes the best thing to drink before singing is
A milk.
B fruit juice.
C coffee.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Vocabulary

Two-part verbs with *on*

Complete the crossword with the missing verbs.



Across

2 We didn't want to … on the wet grass, so we took the footpath instead.
3 You can usually … on a good director to make interesting films.
5 I enjoy watching films that are … on true stories.
8 I broke a string on my guitar and was unable to … on.
9 At the cinema, two people … on talking even during the quiet parts of the film.
11 There are no trains to the village, so we have to … on the bus service.

Down

1 Following the theft of the painting, the art gallery must … its attention on security.
2 My grandfather … on a bench next to the lake and fed the birds.
4 I don't want to walk all the way home so I think I'll … on a bus.
6 Ticket prices … on how famous the bands are.
7 This is such a great book that I'm going to … on reading it all night.
10 After you … on the shower, you'll need to wait for the water to warm up.
12 I had a problem with my laptop and I couldn't … on to the Internet.

WRITING

Part 2 review

1 Look at the exam task and answer these questions.

1 What must you write a review about?
2 Where will your review appear?
3 What three things must you do?

Exam task

A website that compares entertainment facilities is looking for reviews of cinemas in your town. You decide to write a review for the website. Describe a cinema you have visited recently and say what you think of it. Would you recommend the cinema to other people?

Write your **review** in **140–190** words.

2 Read the model review and answer these questions.

1 In which paragraph does the writer:
   a express positive opinions?
   b make a recommendation?
   c give a general description?
   d express negative opinions?
2 In what style is the review written?
3 What recommendations does the reviewer make?

The Odeon: a traditional city-centre cinema

The Odeon is a large single-screen cinema located in the heart of the city's entertainment district. It is open seven days a week, showing films all night on Fridays and Saturdays.

This old-style cinema, a nice building on High Street, has comfortable seats and a very good sound system. The screen is huge, so watching spectacular films, particularly in 3D, can be a very good experience. The ticket prices are reasonable, and the staff are extremely helpful.

In other ways, however, customer service there is bad. As there is only one ticket office, at weekends the queues to get in are very bad. Furthermore, it is impossible to buy tickets in advance, which is very silly nowadays. The cinema café, too, is crowded, and both the popcorn and the drinks there cost a fortune.

Overall, I would recommend watching films at the Odeon cinema, but only on weekdays. I would also advise taking your own refreshments, rather than buying them there.

3 Improve the review by using descriptive adjectives. Use these words to replace expressions in the text. In some cases more than one answer is possible.

absurd breathtaking dreadful fine poor superb

4 Plan and write your review.

LIVEWORKSHEETS