

Reading and Use of English Part 5

You are going to read part of an article about the hobby of scrapbooking. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Scrapbooking

For people who have never heard of scrapbooking, it's the practice of collecting everyday items and putting them into blank books in creative ways. I collect things such as tickets, receipts, menus and labels that most people would just throw away and I stick them in my books in artistic ways, with short written descriptions of what they are. It's the story of my family life, but told in a more visual way. It's a bit of a family tradition, in fact – I have similar books that both my mother and grandmother filled with recipes, photos and letters. My husband often tells me I should add more detail into my books, such as the stories behind the items, but I think pages and pages of writing can get a bit boring and it's a lot of extra work. Sometimes he'll help me stick things in if I want some company, and I think he enjoys it more than he admits, but I doubt he'll be starting his own book anytime soon.

My hobby helps me keep track of what's in my wardrobe, too. If I go shopping and buy a dress I really like, I'll paste in the price tag that comes with it, particularly if it's more expensive than usual, and maybe take a photo of me in **21** *it* and put that in. If I'm throwing away an old piece of clothing, I might save a button, or cut out a piece of the fabric to keep as a souvenir to remind me of how much I loved it. I suppose shopping for clothes is a hobby as well, so it's double the fun!

I would never claim that my work is innovative in any way, but I do find the whole process a real outlet for my creative energy. I experiment with different forms of handwriting and decorate the pages with glitter and stickers, too. If I go through the books I've put together over the years, I can see how my decorative approach has changed. I'm often surprised by how elaborate my work has become.

- 1 What does the writer say about her husband?
 - A He doesn't get involved in scrapbooking.
 - B He thinks scrapbooking requires too much effort.
 - C He's considering taking up scrapbooking as well.
 - D He thinks her scrapbooking could be improved.
- 2 What does 'it' refer to in line 21?
 - A my wardrobe
 - B a dress
 - C the price tag
 - D a photo

Don't choose an option because you see similarities in the text and the question. Make sure you understand the question.



Sometimes when I look back, I realise that the decorative additions don't always completely suit the items that I've stuck in, but that's all part of the learning process.

My collection of scrapbooks is a wonderful family record. There are pictures of animals that are no longer with us, and a lot of birthday cards. My kids mostly love the ones that feature photos of them when they were little. I've kept some of their drawings, which are really funny and sweet. There are also some examples of their first attempts at writing, and I especially love looking at those. I fill a scrapbook every year and I really enjoy taking one down every now and again and looking through it.

Only one of my children has followed in my footsteps so far. My daughter does online scrapbooking. She doesn't stick things in physical books, but she's got a fashion blog where she photographs clothes and shoes, and then creates beautiful pages to display them. She's the modern version of me, though I prefer a more hands-on approach, and I usually only go online to look at her blog. I think she'll end up working in the fashion industry, which is something I would have loved to do.

Everyone has a different reason why they enjoy scrapbooking. Some say it's like a kind of therapy for them – the chance to relive happy moments and forget about their everyday routine. But for me scrapbooking has really made me appreciate the day-to-day details that we don't normally keep a record of. Life isn't all holidays and celebrations, and pleasure is also found in the times that come between them. Keeping a scrapbook reminds me of that. It's lovely to look back at the memories, but it's essential to appreciate what's happening at the time. That's why I love the actual process of scrapbooking the most.

- 3 What does the writer say about her artistic style?
 - A It has developed over time.
 - B It's extremely original.
 - C It's on the basic side.
 - D It matches the content well.
- 4 Which scrapbook entries is the writer particularly fond of?
 - A photos of her children when they were small
 - B her children's drawings
 - C things her children have written
 - D pictures of old photos



5 What does the phrase 'followed in my footsteps' in line 45 tell us about the writer's daughter?

- A She uses the computer in the same way her mother does.
- B She enjoys making scrapbooks about shoes.
- C She has similar interests to her mother.
- D She will probably have the same job as her mother.

6 How can the writer's views on scrapbooking be summarised?

- A It's an effective means of relaxation.
- B It's a way of showing how special ordinary life is.
- C It's useful for keeping track of important occasions.
- D It helps pass the time when not much is going on.



Once considered to be one of the most (0) *dangerous* roads in the world, the Yungas Road in Bolivia isn't one for those with a fear of

(1) With its uneven terrain, frequent landslides and cliffs with drops of around 610 metres, it would make even the most experienced driver feel (2) In fact, it was said to have claimed the lives of around 300 people per year, earning it the nickname "Death Road".

That, however, was not enough to (3) people from using the road. Before an (4) route was built in the late 2000s, it was the only way for people to go back and forth between the capital city La Paz and the town of Coroico. The road was unique in that (5) drove on the left-hand side in order to better judge the distance between the cliff-edge and their outer wheel, something that (6) would have caused their passengers much stress and anxiety.

Nowadays, the condition of the road has improved (7) and fatalities are far less frequent. It has even become a popular tourist (8) for cyclists, who come to test their skills out on the rough terrain.

DANGER

HIGH

COMFORT

COURAGE

ALTERNATE

MOTOR

DOUBT

DRAMA

ATTRACT