



Dictation, Listening and Reading

Reading

3 Complete gaps 1–5 with sentences A–F. There is one extra sentence.

LEARNING FROM HOW OTHERS LEARN

If we want to give our children the best education possible, it is sensible to look at the most successful education systems in the world for ideas. Different countries have different ideas about how to ensure that their children maximise their potential. It's clear that no education system is perfect. **(1)** ____ So, what, if anything, can we learn from them and are there any similarities between them at all?

The two countries are South Korea and Finland. Korea has a one hundred percent literacy rate. Its students achieve outstanding grades in all kinds of tests compared to those in other countries. How do they do it? **(2)** ____ Many are taught by private tutors after their normal lessons. Despite large class sizes, there are no problems with discipline. Teachers are respected and teach in a traditional manner with the children paying attention and obeying instructions unquestioningly.

Finnish children also do very well in comparison with school students in other countries. However, in Finland, schools combine a short school day and extra after-school activities to develop individual interests and motivate the children. **(3)** ____ There is much less stress in Finnish schools than in Korean schools but that doesn't mean that the teaching is unprofessional. Finnish teachers spend less time teaching but more time in professional development. They are highly educated and teaching is a well-respected and well-paid profession.

So, what can we learn from this brief look at two countries who are able to educate their children more effectively than we can? Firstly, children need a reason to learn. That may be pressure from parents, peers and society as a whole to succeed. **(4)** ____ Too often in our schools, we find children who are uninterested in the lessons and parents who are uninterested in their progress. Politicians and journalists would rather criticise teachers than praise them and, as a result, members of the teaching profession lack the respect they receive in other countries. **(5)** ____ The opposite should be true.

As we can see, Finland and South Korea do share one great similarity. In both societies, people look up to teachers and recognise the importance of the job they are doing. So, let's have more respect for teachers, students and education in general and, maybe, our children can be challenging those from South Korea and Finland in the future.

- A** The answer appears to be by sheer hard work. Students are under immense pressure to achieve their goals.
- B** These comparisons can hide faults and ignore positive aspects of poorly performing students but, generally, they give us a good idea of which education systems work best.
- C** Alternatively, it could be an interest in what they are learning and a thirst for even more knowledge.
- D** However, in most studies, two countries have a higher standard of education than others, even though the way they educate their children seems to be completely different.
- E** The idea is that they will work hard because they want to rather than because they are forced to.
- F** The public are more aware of the length of teachers' holidays than the enormous pressure they are under in the classroom.

/10

Name: _____

Class: _____

Total: _____/30

Vocabulary

1 Complete the sentences with the missing words. Some letters are given. There is one space for each missing letter.

- 0 Jack used to be a **b u l l y** but now he's kind to everyone in the class.
- 1 I used to study French but I've had a long break so I'm taking lessons to **s _ _ _ e _** my skills.
- 2 I only have a **v _ _ _** memory of my first day of school, but I think I enjoyed it.
- 3 Mr Brown is quite **I _ _ i _ _**. I'm sure he won't mind if you hand in your homework tomorrow.
- 4 The house next to ours was **s _ _ _ _** by lightning. There was a big fire but no one was hurt.
- 5 I just told you the exam is next Tuesday! Really, you have a memory like a **s _ _ _ _**.

/5

2 Match the verbs in A with the nouns in B. Then complete the sentences. You may need to change the form of the verbs. There is one extra verb.

A	feel	rack	write	find
	regain	jog	have	
B	consciousness	one's brains	an urge	
	a brainwave	one's memory		
	one's dissertation			

- 0 Can you jog my memory what the homework is?
- 1 He's going to _____ his _____ on Ancient Greece.

- 2 I don't _____ to study for the exam, it's an easy subject.
- 3 I've _____ my _____ but I can't remember what her name is.
- 4 After three hours of trying to find a solution, Jenny _____ and solved the problem.
- 5 It was at least five minutes before I _____ when the ball hit me on the head.

/5

Grammar

3 Complete the sentences with one word in each gap.

– Did you really ⁰ use to skip a lot of classes when you were a student, Mum? I can't believe it! Then why ¹ _____ you always telling me that attendance is so important? This is so unfair.
 – Well, yes, it's true. I made this mistake and I'd like to save you from it. My mum ² _____ always trying to explain this to me but I ³ _____ never listen to her. Even now, when she gives me advice, I ⁴ _____ usually roll my eyes although deep inside I know she's almost always right! I ⁵ _____ to think I would be such a relaxed mum to my kids but now I can see I'm just like her!

/5

4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- 0 You can't afford to waste (waste) any more time. You'll miss the train.
- 1 Will you remember _____ (feed) the cat twice a day?
- 2 The degree enabled me _____ (get) a better-paid job.

- 3 She made us _____ (swear) we wouldn't tell anyone.
- 4 My dad keeps _____ (lose) his keys so I'm always late to school.
- 5 I've tried _____ (drink) warm milk but it didn't help me fall asleep.

/5

Use of English

5 Read the text and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

An Unexpected Career

My brother, who is a researcher, is the brains ⁰ behind a revolutionary new technique of brain surgery which has saved hundreds of lives. I'm so proud of him because he ¹ _____ a very good student. He had a ² _____ for science but was quite disruptive in lessons and was often reprimanded. Most of his teachers gave up on him and he fell ³ _____ with all his school work. After wasting time doing dead-end jobs, he decided to go back to school and pass his exams. He went on to do a master's degree and then worked in the ⁴ _____ of research for many years. He is now very successful and in ⁵ _____ of his achievements he was even given an award. I'm so happy he decided to follow his dreams.

- 0 A with ☒ B behind C of
- 1 A didn't used to be B didn't use to being
C didn't use to be
- 2 A passion B brain C knowledge
- 3 A down B behind C off
- 4 A field B scholarship C career
- 5 A success B honour C addition

/5

6 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use the words in capitals. Write up to six words.

- 0 I was in the habit of drinking coffee before breakfast. **USED**
I used to drink coffee before breakfast.
- 1 I think you would find this book interesting. **INTEREST**
I think this book would _____ you.
- 2 My brother always makes a mess when he cooks anything. **WILL**
My brother _____ when he cooks anything.
- 3 I wasn't in the habit of putting off work until the last moment. **USE**
I _____ work until the last moment.
- 4 After the exams we'll have a big party. **FOLLOWED**
Our exams will _____ a big party.
- 5 I haven't trained since my knee injury. **STOPPED**
I _____ when I had my knee injury.

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