Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 8 Standard

READING

1 Read the article quickly. Choose the best summary (1–7) for each paragraph (A–G).

A teen deterrent?

A There is a sound which can only be heard by young people. It is so high, that people over the age of 25 cannot hear it at all. However, for teenagers, it's one of the most annoying sounds in the world.

B Recently, in the UK, a special device has been invented – an alarm which uses this special sound. The makers claim that it can deter young criminals. In many cities around the UK, it's common to see bored teenagers hanging out near shops, or in parks. Most don't get into any trouble. But some end up committing crimes, like fighting other people, painting graffiti on walls, or breaking windows or phone boxes. The alarm is designed to make these teenagers want to go away.

C The person who invented the alarm, Howard Stapleton, said that he had had the idea when his 17-year-old daughter went into a shop, and a group of other teenagers outside were very rude to her. He tested different sounds, and found out that teenagers could be made to go away from an area if they heard a special type of noise.

D Other people in the area have started using these sound alarms. Thousands of shops across the UK have now taken them up. Many people have been very happy with the results. They explained that the number of crimes had gone down and their areas had ended up safer and nicer to live in.

E However, there are problems with the alarm. Perhaps the biggest is that the sound deters everyone under the age of 25 – not just criminals. For example, it can make very young children feel sick. Some mothers have said that it had made their children cry, and they couldn't play outside any more.

F Other people think that the alarms are a very bad idea, because they create areas where it is not possible for young people to go to and spend time in. Not all teenagers are criminals, but the alarm treats them as if they are.

G Other teenagers have turned the special alarm into an advantage. They have made it into a special ringtone for their mobile phones. Because only young people can hear it, they can now get text messages or phone calls in class without their teachers hearing anything at all!

1 These alarms have had a positive effect. ☐
2 Some teenagers are using the special sound in a new way. ☐
3 There is a special noise that teenagers don't like. ☐
4 The alarms punish good teenagers, as well as bad teenagers. ☐
5 How someone had the idea to create the alarm. ☐
6 There is an alarm that makes teenagers want to leave a place. ☐
7 Some parents are upset with the alarm. ☐

☐ 7

2 Read the article again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false), or DS (the article doesn't say).

1 Teenagers can hear more than people over the age of 25. ☐
2 In the UK, most crimes are committed by teenagers. ☐
3 The person who invented the alarm had a daughter who was a criminal. ☐
4 The alarm became quite popular in the UK, and people said it was a good idea. ☐
5 The alarm isn't popular in other countries. ☐
6 The alarm only deters teenagers. ☐
7 The alarm isn't fair, because it doesn't make a difference between good and bad teenagers. ☐
8 Teenagers are now using the alarm to make their teachers go away. ☐

☐ 8

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Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 8 Standard

LISTENING

3 Listen and tick [✓] the things that the two teenagers talk about.

1 committing crimes ☑
2 punishments for crimes ☐
3 the most serious types of crime ☐
4 stealing items from a shop ☐
5 why shoplifting is not a serious crime ☐
6 why people might steal things they don't need ☐
7 not behaving correctly during an exam ☐
8 the reasons why some people might cheat ☐
9 offering people help ☐
10 why cheating can make people ill ☐
11 why cheating is not the right thing to do ☐
12 why it is usually OK to commit a crime ☐

7

4 Listen again and complete the sentences with words from the list. You do not need all the words.

children	choice	criminals	desperation	excitement	explained
fair	fine	ill	~~judges~~	persuade	refused	rich

0 Carol's teacher asked her class to be *judges*.
1 Adam thinks criminals should pay a _____ or go to prison.
2 Carol says that some people might shoplift because of their _____.
3 Adam replies that even _____ people steal things.
4 This is because they get a feeling of _____.
5 Carol says that if someone is _____, they can't study as much as other students.
6 Other students wanted to _____ her that this meant it was OK to cheat.
7 Adam thinks that someone who needed to cheat in an exam should have _____ their situation.
8 He also thinks that some people commit crimes because there is no _____.

8

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Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 8 Standard

WRITING

5 **Write a newspaper article (around 150–180 words) about a real or fictional crime that happened recently in your area. What happened? When did the crime happen? Who committed the crime? What was the punishment?**

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

20

SPEAKING

6 **Work in pairs. Look at the photos below. They show crimes being committed. Take turns to describe your photo, and say what you think is happening. Then, decide together which crime is the most serious.**

7 **Work in pairs. Imagine that you saw or heard about the situations in photo A or B. Take turns to give your news, react and ask for more details. Use the useful language below.**

You'll never guess what …

You won't believe what happened …

I heard a really (sad / scary …) story about …

There was a story in the paper the other day …

Tell me.

20

TOTAL SCORE 70

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