

VOCABULARY: Fixed phrases

Complete the sentences with phrases from the box.

at a loose end at a stretch at first glance
at sixes and sevens by no means
in my element in turn in vain

1 The rock fall caused the main road to be closed for several months, which _____ led to congestion in the minor roads throughout the town.

2 I'm not particularly outgoing. I'm much more _____ when I'm alone, just sitting in the garden, playing with my dogs or reading.

3 I'd invite you over, but we've just moved house and everything is _____ right now. Maybe in a couple of weeks' time?

4 While some people often work ten hours _____, it's not recommended to work more than four hours without a break.

5 She tried _____ to save the school from closing, but it was too late – the decision had already been made by the powers above her.

6 If you're _____ this weekend, why don't you bring the kids over to ours and we'll have a barbecue?

7 The future of the planet is _____ predetermined. We can still make a difference to reduce the environmental damage we have caused.

8 _____ the car seemed like a real bargain, but when my friend, who's a mechanic, had a look at it, he identified some serious mechanical issues.

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VOCABULARY: Internal word changes

Complete the text using the correct form of the words in brackets.

When I was younger, I was always top of the class along with one other girl. Our ⁹ _____ (rival) was ¹⁰ _____ (deny), but we were also good friends. We often wondered who was more intelligent really, but there was no way to prove it. However, one day our ¹¹ _____ (curious) got the better of us, and we devised a quiz, set by all our friends, to find out who the cleverest was. It's a

¹² _____ (laugh) idea when I think back to it now. We had a complete ¹³ _____ (able) to

understand that intelligence is far more than just a test result. Really our intelligence was ¹⁴ _____ (compare) – she's now a surgeon and I work as a composer. We've followed completely different routes. I think we've both ¹⁵ _____ (continue) grown, though, in terms of intelligence and emotional maturity, and realised that we both have ¹⁶ _____ (assure) in our abilities and have succeeded in our own ways. And our 'quiz' result? We both got them all right!

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VOCABULARY FILE

Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

17 The astronauts, travelling at a **breakneck** / **breakthrough** speed, left the atmosphere and entered into space while millions watched on their TVs.

18 We watched *Deadly Bite 3* at the cinema last night. My partner loved it, but it was far too **gory** / **squeamish** for me.

19 I've got a **hunch** / **quest** that Noel isn't going to turn up to the party tomorrow. He just seemed reticent when I mentioned it.

20 I found it strange that Nita wanted to be a nurse because she doesn't have much **empathy** / **initiative** for others and nursing is a caring profession.

21 The politician was a **proponent** / **sponsor** of universal basic income, which was completely against their party's own policy.

22 It's common for people who are bilingual to have a mental **bar** / **block** over individual words where they can only recall them momentarily in one language.

23 People with **chronic** / **conventional** back pain can improve their quality of life by practising yoga or Pilates.

24 To get to the coast, you need to **crawl** / **head** for the national park's main entrance and then take the first left down the dirt track just by the entrance.

25 The police **classified** / **compiled** a list of suspects they wanted to question regarding the recent bank robbery.

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GRAMMAR: Verb and noun phrases

Choose the correct option (A, B or C) to complete the sentences.

- 1 Although _____ was once a key part of the economy, this has declined significantly in recent years.
A manufacture B manufactured C manufacturing
- 2 Nicola asked her manager to explain the _____ of the finance report to the future of the business.
A relevance B relevant C irrelevant
- 3 People cannot _____ expect governments to solve all of societies' problems in the age of globalisation.
A realistically B realistic C realise
- 4 It is generally argued that universities should _____ students if they are caught cheating in any way in all forms of assessment.
A punishing B punish C punishment
- 5 I believe that removing art and music from the school curriculum is _____ for a lack of creativity in children these days.
A irresponsible B responsibility C responsible
- 6 I find books by this author to be completely and utterly _____ due to the way she intricately develops the characters.
A absorbingly B absorbed C absorbing
- 7 When approaching complex mathematical equations, try to _____ them before attempting any calculations.
A simplistically B simplify C simplistic
- 8 Rui da Silva is _____ the most naturally skilful player that has been signed for the team recently.
A undeniably B denying C undeniable

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GRAMMAR: Verb and noun phrases

Correct the mistakes in the underlined words in the text. Write your correction below the underlined words.

Running a marathon is a popular activity nowadays, but for a serious ⁹ athletic, ultramarathons present a ¹⁰ comprehensively challenge. For a race to qualify as an ultramarathon, it must be longer than the ¹¹ custom marathon of 42 km. The highest 60 km

ultramarathon actually takes place in Nepal. As a race that winds its way through the mountains, the scenery is ¹² remarkable beautiful. Training is obviously a key factor to completing the race, especially since the race takes place at high altitudes. As a result of this, all the ¹³ participate are likely to feel some form of ¹⁴ exhausted at the end of every day, irrespective of their fitness levels. Nevertheless, those who have completed the Everest Ultra, describe the experience as ¹⁵ empower.

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GRAMMAR: Verb and noun phrases

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 16 Children develop the ability to _____ (EMPATHY) with others at about two years old.
- 17 People are exposed to a large number of _____ (ADVERTISE) on social media.
- 18 These days fast food is _____ (READY) available everywhere with online delivery.
- 19 Lou Burgeon was one of the most _____ (INFLUENCE) female artists of all time.
- 20 When choosing suitable clothing for hiking, _____ (UNCOMFORTABLE) should be your main concern.
- 21 The biggest _____ (ATTRACT) of urban living is the accessibility of goods and services.
- 22 Employers look for people who are _____ (TRUST) when appointing managers.
- 23 In spring, adult birds need to _____ (CONTINUE) hunt for food to feed their young.
- 24 Young people _____ (VARIOUS) in the amount of time they devote to playing video games.
- 25 Scientists are usually thought of as having strong _____ (ANALYSE) traits in their thinking.

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