

Test Units 5, 6 & 7 – Optimise B2

1. Complete the second sentence so it has a similar meaning to the first. Do not change the word given. Use two to five words, including the word given.

1. I couldn't watch much TV when I was younger.

ALLOWED

I _____ watch much TV when I was a child.

2. Although they were late for work themselves, they gave us a lift to the station.

SPITE

They gave us a lift to the station _____ late for work themselves.

3. He was quick to put out the fire so he didn't get any bad burns.

HIMSELF

He _____ badly because he put the fire out quickly.

4. It'll be impossible for me to come to your birthday party because I'll be on holiday.

ABLE

I _____ to come to your birthday party because I'll be on holiday.

5. The waiter is so rude that I'm not going to leave him a tip.

SUCH

I would leave the waiter a tip if he _____ man.

2. Write a form of the word in capitals in each gap to complete the text.

Some solutions to help the young unemployed

In recent years, we have seen record levels of youth (1) _____ around the world. In some countries, this has resulted in some people being forced into (2) _____ and in many countries, it has caused great anxiety. Although many people blame the (3) _____ crisis, there are other important factors such as a shortage of skills in certain sectors. Another problem is a lack of money or infrastructure for creating new jobs. Fortunately, some organisations are working hard to find (4) _____ solutions to try to overcome these problems. One such (5) _____ is to improve access to the internet for people around the world. This would make a huge difference to people's lives because it would improve infrastructure and training opportunities. Another important idea is to ensure that money is available for new start-ups. This would mean that young people could start their own businesses and even help others out of unemployment.

EMPLOY

POOR

FINANCE

SATISFY

PROPOSE

Fractal Art

Fractal art is considered a (1) _____ new art form which first appeared in the 1980s. Fractals are created from complicated mathematical patterns which repeat themselves indefinitely, getting smaller every time they are repeated. Because of the complexity of the calculations, some (2) _____ such as a computer and specialist software is considered necessary for modern fractal art. However, something similar has (3) _____ been part of African culture for hundreds of years. This can be seen in the patterns on the traditional dresses of Ethiopian women. Unlike modern fractal art, these dresses were not made with computers. Instead, someone would (4) _____ recreate these complex patterns by hand. Even more interesting though, is that fractals can also be seen throughout nature, such as in the repeated rings of a tree or in the lines on a leaf. Perhaps this connection between nature, science and art explains the (5) _____ of fractal art.

RELATE

EQUIP

DOUBT

PATIENCE

ATTRACT

3. Choose the correct word to fill each gap.

The O'Donovan brothers

There were more than three billion (1) _____ for the 2016 Olympics, all tuning in to find out how their country's athletes were performing. For many of them, the two athletes that (2) _____ out most were the O'Donovan brothers from Skibereen in Ireland. They (3) _____ both Norway and South Africa in a men's rowing competition and claimed Ireland's first silver medal for rowing. However, it was their funny, down-to-earth interviews during the tournament which really captured

the hearts and minds of the public. Where most athletes would be anxious (4) _____ competing in an Olympic event, Paul O'Donovan told a TV presenter before the semi-finals, 'It isn't too complex really. A to B as fast as you can go and hope for the best.' Since the Olympics, the pair seem to have (5) _____ well to the media attention. In a recent TV chat show, they had the audience in fits of laughter with their sporting anecdotes.

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|-----------------|--------------|------------|----------------|
| 1 a) spectators | b) viewers | c) umpires | d) competitors |
| 2 a) made | b) pulled | c) stood | d) checked |
| 3 a) beat | b) won | c) scored | d) drew |
| 4 a) for | b) at | c) about | d) to |
| 5 a) benefitted | b) consisted | c) cheated | d) adjusted |

Benefits of vocational training

In many countries, 16-year-olds finishing school go on to study more academic subjects in preparation for university. This was not always the case and in the past, many youngsters would study vocational subjects, like hairdressing or mechanics, which gave them skills they could use in the workplace. (1) _____ vocational training has gone out of fashion, some experts are now arguing for more of it. One advantage is that vocational training usually involves (2) _____ a work placement, which is valuable preparation for the world of work. In contrast to students who have only gone to university, vocational training helps trainees become more accountable. They understand that you cannot just get (3) _____ with being late or taking days off for no reason. Another advantage is that they (4) _____ young people to get hands-on experience in the jobs they want to do. For example, someone interested (5) _____ being an engineer may spend five or six years studying at school and university, only to find the job is not for them. By taking a vocational course, they can try out the job and see if it is for them before making a lifelong commitment.

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|--------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
| 1 a) Despite | b) In spite of | c) Although | d) Even |
| 2 a) going | b) getting | c) making | d) working |
| 3 a) around | b) off | c) out | d) away |
| 4 a) allow | b) let | c) able | d) make |
| 5 a) of | b) at | c) in | d) to |

4. Write one word in each gap to complete the text.

I'm not very sporty and I certainly don't like running through cold, muddy fields, so when my school organised a cross-country run I wasn't very happy. Everyone was expected to participate (1) _____ the run and I couldn't think of any way to avoid it. Instead, I came up with a plan so I didn't (2) _____ to run the complete course. Before the race, I got a map and I worked out all the places where I could take short cuts. This (3) _____ have reduced the distance by several kilometres. On the day of the race, I confidently set off and managed to complete it in record time. However, I soon realised that there was a problem with my plan; the course consisted (4) _____ a series of checkpoints which the participants had to pass through. My teacher pointed out that I hadn't gone through any of them. He told me to run all the way back to the beginning, passing through the checkpoints. I certainly learnt my (5) _____ that day!

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Lola: Are you still interested in doing overseas voluntary work in the summer?

Ruth: Definitely. My parents want me to do it as well. They'd (1) _____ I did that than be hanging around the house all summer!

Lola: Great! So have you looked at the different jobs on offer?

Ruth: Yes, I have. You can go anywhere in the world but I'd (2) _____ to stay in Europe.

Lola: Me too. I'd prefer (3) _____ to be too far from home. What about working on a farm in Italy?

Ruth: I'm not sure. I prefer working inside (4) _____ working outside.

Lola: OK. Another possibility is to work in a charity shop in Brussels.

Ruth: That sounds good. Shall we apply for it then?

Lola: Yes. We'd (5) _____ be quick though. The deadline for applications is next Monday.