

Test 5

Reading and Use of English • Part 7

You are going to read four reviews of autobiographies in which the writers described their lives as teenagers. For questions **43–52**, choose from the writers (**A–D**). The writers may be chosen more than once.

Which writer

knew at an early age what career he would choose?

43

did not enjoy his education?

44

was not brought up by his parents?

45

was very critical of one person?

46

invented some details in his book?

47

worked on the book with another author?

48

described other people very well?

49

told of the good and bad times of his early career?

50

was confused about what he had to learn?

51

described how the place where he lived changed over time?

52

Reviews of famous autobiographers who wrote about being teenagers

A Winston Churchill – politician

Churchill wrote the first volume of his autobiography in 1930, nine years before becoming Prime Minister of the UK. Called *My Early Life*, it covered the time from his birth in 1870, when he grew up in a very grand house as the neglected son of a wealthy aristocratic who were too busy to spend much time with him. Instead, he spent his days – and developed his strongest bond – with the nanny who looked after him. Although he went on to become an excellent writer and perhaps the outstanding European politician of his day, the boy Churchill detested being made to study, and wrote entertainingly about his schoolmaster's attempts to teach him Latin. When instructed that 'mensa' meant 'oh, table' and informed that this was what you would say if you were talking to a table, young Churchill did not see why he needed to know this, and replied that he couldn't see the point. 'But I never do,' he said. His teacher didn't see the funny side, which, fortunately for us, makes the book all the more entertaining.

B Laurie Lee – poet

Laurie Lee's classic memoir *Cider With Rosie* tells of his childhood in a remote valley in England's Cotswold Hills in the early years of the twentieth century. At the start of the book, the valley seemed to have developed little in hundreds of years; by the end, a bus service and electricity have arrived; Lee's village was no longer so remote, but was now fully connected to the modern world. Much of the book shows what a remarkable woman Laurie's mother was, raising him and his brothers and sisters with little help from anyone else. As he grows older, he senses a feeling that he was born to be a poet. He was right of course, and besides his poetry, Lee

also produced plays, short stories and travel books, as well as this autobiographical masterpiece, which is as alive now as the day it was written.

C Robbie Williams – singer

The former singer of the British boy band Take That released his autobiography *You Know Me* after two decades being one of the most famous musicians on the planet. Starting with his childhood in Stoke-on-Trent, it tells of the successes and hard times Robbie experienced after becoming a superstar. *You Know Me* was clearly aimed at his fans, many of whom would probably already have bought *Feel*, the 2004 biography of Williams written by journalist Chris Heath, who also collaborated on this publication. So how is *You Know Me* different? Well, there are plenty of anecdotes, gathered from informal interviews Heath conducted with Williams, which provide insight not just into the man himself, but into the music industry as a whole.

D Gerald Durrell – wildlife writer

British naturalist Gerald Durrell wrote this account of the years he spent aged 10 to 15 living on the island of Corfu. His eccentric family and the inhabitants of Corfu are portrayed brilliantly. Gerald's brother Lawrence in particular emerges as a bad-tempered, mean and unreasonable young man. It's tempting to think that Lawrence (who also became a writer) must have been outraged by the book's publication. But apparently he both liked it, and praised its accuracy. Although it is an autobiography, not all the 'facts' in the book are actually correct: for example, some of the family actually lived in a different part of the island, rather than all in the same home as the book claimed.

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Writing • Part 2

Write an answer to **one** of the questions 2–5 in this part. Write your answer in **140–190** words in an appropriate style **on the separate answer sheet**. Put the question number in the box at the top of the answer sheet.

- 2 You see this announcement on an English-language website for teenagers.

Reviews wanted!

Tell us about a museum that you have visited. Describe the museum. What can you see there? What do you like about the museum? What didn't you like? Who would you recommend the museum to?

We will post the most interesting reviews on the website.

Write your **review**.

- 3 This is part of a letter you receive from an English friend.

I'm not very fit and I'd like to take up a sport, but I don't know what sport I should do. Have you got any ideas? What else could I do to be more healthy?

Write your **letter**.

- 4 Your English teacher has asked you to write a story for the class website.

Your story must begin with this sentence:

Anna was surprised to see so many people in the room.

Your story must include:

- a competition
- a happy ending

Write your **story**.

- 5 Answer the following question based on the set text.

You see this notice in an English-language magazine for teenagers.

Places in books

Tell us about a place described in a book you have read. Was this place important to the story? What effect did the place have on the characters in the story?

The best articles will appear on our website!

Write your **article**.

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
Listening • Part 1

39 You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1–8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1 You hear a boy telling his class about a music workshop he attended with other students from his school.
What does he say about the workshop?
 - A It inspired them to attempt things they hadn't tried before.
 - B It confirmed their confidence in their ability to compose.
 - C It gave them a great opportunity to work with professional musicians.
- 2 You hear a girl telling her friend about a long train trip she went on.
What does she say about it?
 - A It took longer than she'd expected.
 - B It felt more uncomfortable than usual.
 - C It was too noisy for her to do her homework.
- 3 You hear a theatre actor giving a talk to some drama students.
What does he emphasise about his work?
 - A the advantages of always being asked to play the same kind of character
 - B the difficulties of playing someone who is very different from him
 - C the energy required to repeat the same role over many performances
- 4 You hear a girl talking to her teacher about her homework.
What is her problem?
 - A She's taken on something that's too extensive in scale.
 - B She's found it difficult to identify reliable sources of information.
 - C She's struggled to find a topic that's really inspired her.
- 5 You hear a girl phoning her mother about a friend she was supposed to meet.
How does she feel now about the meeting?
 - A concerned about her friend's excuse for cancelling
 - B cross that her friend failed to contact her in advance
 - C embarrassed that she gave her friend the wrong information
- 6 You hear a science teacher talking to his class about an experiment they are going to do.
What does he tell them?
 - A that the reaction they are hoping for may happen very suddenly
 - B that only following his instructions carefully can guarantee success
 - C that they should be prepared to observe minor changes
- 7 You hear two friends talking about a carnival that has just taken place in their town.
What do they agree about it?
 - A It was more exciting in previous years.
 - B It had more to attract teenagers than other local events.
 - C It provided young people with a great chance to perform.
- 8 You hear a teacher talking to her student about a story he's written.
What is she doing?
 - A explaining which parts particularly impressed her
 - B giving hints as to how he could develop his writing skills
 - C trying to establish where his ideas came from

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Listening • Part 2

 You will hear a boy called Harry telling his class about an art event he took part in recently. For questions 9–18, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Art Day

Fiona, the person running the art day, had once worked as a (9) _____.

Harry uses the word (10) _____ to describe his feelings when he first arrived.

Harry was inspired by the variety of (11) _____ paper in the drawing book he was given.

Harry put a (12) _____ on the cover of his drawing book.

Harry's first painting was a (13) _____.

Harry was particularly impressed by the (14) _____ that another student had done.

With Fiona's help, Harry attempted a more (15) _____ style of drawing than he'd tried when he started.

After lunch, the group chose the theme of the (16) _____ for the sculpture they intended to make together.

Harry found a collection of (17) _____ to include in the sculpture.

The (18) _____ of the art group was what made Harry decide to sign up for the next session.

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Listening • Part 3

41 You will hear five teenagers talking about playing tennis. For questions 19–23, choose from the list (A–H) the reason each speaker gives for enjoying the game. Use the letters only once. There are three extra letters which you do not need to use.

A It helps me to relax.

B I'm learning to cope with pressure.

Speaker 1 19

C It's a great mental challenge.

Speaker 2 20

D I like the chance to be competitive.

Speaker 3 21

E It's a good way to make friends.

Speaker 4 22

F It's more fun than other forms of exercise.


G It's taught me how to accept losing.

Speaker 5 23

H I've improved a lot through working hard.

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Listening • Part 4

 42 You will hear an interview with a girl called Lucy Hughes, who is talking about her love of maths. For questions 24–30, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 24 What first made Lucy excited about maths?
- A taking part in a maths activity at school
 - B being able to use the basic maths skills she'd learnt
 - C recognising a link between maths and the natural world
- 25 What does Lucy's dad suggest about some people attending his training sessions?
- A They don't realise that maths is easier than they think.
 - B A lack of confidence discourages them from using maths.
 - C Having to remember so much has put them off maths.
- 26 How have Lucy's parents helped her with maths?
- A by giving her practical maths problems to solve
 - B by taking her to local events connected with maths
 - C by working through difficult maths homework with her
- 27 Lucy suggests the appeal of maths for her is that
- A there is a limitless number of areas to explore.
 - B there is always a single clear and definite answer.
 - C there is more than one method for working out the same solution.
- 28 When Lucy entered a maths competition recently, she
- A was worried by the level of the other competitors.
 - B felt confident once it was her turn to perform.
 - C only realised close to the end that she could actually win it.
- 29 What did Lucy discover during the competition?
- A that people from a range of cultures have similar attitudes to maths
 - B that people in different countries solve maths problems in the same way
 - C that people with no shared languages can understand the same maths problems
- 30 Lucy thinks that in the future
- A she will need maths to study science at a high level.
 - B she wants to train to become a maths teacher.
 - C she would like to just enjoy maths purely as a hobby.