



46. This time next week, I \_\_\_\_\_ travelling around Europe.  
A. am  
B. will have been  
C. have  
D. will be
47. I was \_\_\_\_\_, but I forgot.  
A. thinking of calling  
B. thought to call  
C. going calling  
D. calling
48. As \_\_\_\_\_ as you don't eat the fruit from that tree, you'll be fine.  
A. soon  
B. well  
C. long  
D. far
49. Not until the train had departed, \_\_\_\_\_ his bag was missing.  
A. did he realise  
B. he realised  
C. had he realised  
D. he did
50. He sometimes talks as \_\_\_\_\_ he owns the place.  
A. although  
B. maybe  
C. like  
D. if



61. The slightest remark seems to upset him. He's really got a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. frog in his throat                      C. chip on his shoulder  
B. pain in the neck                         D. thorn in his side
62. We must warn the villagers. Help me \_\_\_\_\_ the alarm, Samantha!
- A. advance                                    C. boost  
B. raise                                         D. escalate
63. I really don't understand. Can you \_\_\_\_\_ some light on it?
- A. shed                                         C. spot  
B. sprinkle                                    D. scatter
64. She's got a lot of emotional \_\_\_\_\_ from her last relationship.
- A. baggage                                    C. luggage  
B. suitcases                                  D. belongings
65. The company is hoping to \_\_\_\_\_ oil in the Arctic Ocean.
- A. crash                                        C. strike  
B. knock                                       D. punch

## ESB C2 Level 3 Use of English (Part Three)

For questions 66 – 75, read the text below and for each gap choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

### Baseball Versus Soccer

Ask people what the most popular sport in the world is and the (66)\_\_\_\_\_ reply will be 'football' and with 250 million players in 200 countries, they would not be far wrong! A (67)\_\_\_\_\_ exception to this clamorous response comes from America where baseball holds sway and football, or soccer as it is known in the States, is way down the list although its (68)\_\_\_\_\_ rating has been climbing steadily in recent years.

Why is it that baseball, which evolved from an 18th-century, English children's bat and ball game called 'rounders', has such a grip on the American psyche? Taken across the Atlantic by early (69)\_\_\_\_\_, the antecedents of modern baseball first appeared in Canada. By the middle of the 19th century, baseball had penetrated deeply into the USA with an (70)\_\_\_\_\_ governing body and a professional national league structure. 1903 saw the inauguration of the World Series where the two champion teams emerging from the playoffs compete (71)\_\_\_\_\_ each other. The 1920s can perhaps be regarded as the golden age of baseball thanks largely to the legendary player, Babe Ruth, star of the New York Yankees and the greatest hitter of all time.

Baseball consists of two teams of nine players apiece taking turns to bat or to field. A player from the fielding side, known as a pitcher, throws a ball to one of the batting team who, armed with a long, sturdy wooden stick, the baseball bat, tries to hit the ball as hard as possible and run round four bases and back to where he started without being run out. This simple explanation masks a complexity of (72)\_\_\_\_\_ obscure rules and procedures.

Surprisingly, soccer was relatively popular in early 20th-century USA but the Great Depression of 1929 and the Second World War pushed it out of mainstream sport. Another contentious factor is that soccer has been seen, until relatively recently, as a girls' game. The American female players have always been successful and actually won the World Cup in 2015. Gradually, attitudes are changing, especially amongst the young, and currently 20% of males in the 18 – 30 age range play soccer as their main sport and 30% of American (73)\_\_\_\_\_ contain a soccer player. In contrast, a recent poll showed that only 1% of the over-fifties named soccer as their chosen sport. So is the demographic clock ticking in soccer's (74)\_\_\_\_\_?

Another barrier to soccer's popularity is that many of the older sports commentators remain stubbornly (75)\_\_\_\_\_ to the 'beautiful game' and leave soccer largely unreported. This creates an impression in the public mind that soccer is merely a niche activity. What then are the prospects for soccer in America? A wisecrack, often repeated by the hard-bitten sports correspondents: "Soccer is the sport of the future in America and always will be", shows that there is still some way to go before soccer is fully integrated into the pantheon of American sport.

66. A. forecasted C. predictable  
B. concluded D. dictated

67. A. notable C. notorious  
B. memorable D. meaningful

68. A. confirmation C. popular  
B. support D. approval

69. A. members C. people  
B. settlers D. foreigners

70. A. official C. original  
B. expert D. extravagant

71. A. next C. towards  
B. against D. within

72. A. allegedly C. seemingly  
B. superficial D. assumed

73. A. houses C. households  
B. relatives D. units

74. A. direction C. place  
B. favour D. advantage

75. A. unwilling C. resistant  
B. resilient D. defiant

### ESB C2 Level 3 Use of English (Part Four)

For questions 76 – 85, read the text below and for each gap choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

#### Nikolai Gogol

Nikolai Gogol was born in Sorochintsy, Ukraine, in 1809, and went on to achieve such fame in the literary world that he has become known as the father of Russia's golden age of realism. However, Gogol very nearly did not (76)\_\_\_\_\_ into a literary career at all.

In 1828, the fresh-faced Gogol moved to Saint Petersburg to join the civil service, but being from the countryside, he struggled due to lack of money and social (77)\_\_\_\_\_. While there, he published a poem at his own expense, the reception of which was so disastrous that he not only burnt every (78)\_\_\_\_\_ copy of the poem, but also very nearly fled to the USA. We must be thankful he did not abandon literature altogether, but focused instead on prose. His first book of short stories was a great success and (79)\_\_\_\_\_ and charmed the Russian literary world.

His writing is full of humour, but there is also often an underlying melancholy, perhaps even bitterness, about life. Something that also comes across in his writing is the (80)\_\_\_\_\_ of the permanent presence of evil in the world. He seems to have been somewhat (81)\_\_\_\_\_ to criticism and easily offended. His debut play, released in 1836, satirised the corruption of Tsar Nicholas's Russia. While the Tsar seemed untroubled, the (82)\_\_\_\_\_ press caused such a fuss that Gogol moved to Rome for six years and, whilst there, he wrote much of the first volume of his greatest work, *Dead Souls*.

He eventually returned to Russia and settled in Moscow, where he began writing a second volume of *Dead Souls*. However, after a series of personal tragedies he became (83)\_\_\_\_\_ with religion and the state of his own health. It is thought that Gogol destroyed the completed second volume of his great work, then sank into depression and simply stopped eating. He died at the age of just 42.

It was a tragic ending for him and a great loss to the world of literature. It is believed that a third volume of *Dead Souls* had also been planned. His influence on Russian literature is unquestioned as Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, and Chekov all (84)\_\_\_\_\_ their debt to him. It is also clear that the (85)\_\_\_\_\_ of Gogol's influence is still felt in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, with over 130 films having been made based on his work.

76. A. adventure C. venturing  
B. venture D. adventurer

77. A. connection C. connections  
B. connecting D. connectivity

78. A. existent C. existential  
B. exist D. existing

79. A. disenchanted C. re-enchanted  
B. enchanted D. enchanting

80. A. notation C. notorious  
B. notice D. notion

81. A. sensitive C. sensible  
B. sensory D. insensitive

82. A. reactive C. reaction  
B. reactionary D. reactant

83. A. unoccupied C. occupied  
B. preoccupied D. occupational

84. A. acknowledged C. acknowledgeable  
B. acknowledging D. acknowledgement

85. A. extension C. extendable  
B. extent D. extending