



Mid-term Test

1) Reading: /15 p

Read the article about football fans. Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from sentences A – H the one which best fits each gap (1-7). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Grown men with their heads buried in each other's shoulders or hidden behind shaking hands. Young mothers shouting with joy. This is what last Saturday's penalty shoot-out for the European cup produced. **1** _____ Then you'll see what passion does to people. And, while having an ugly side, it is in fact more likely to enrich our lives and make us better people.

Today, supporters are gathering for the big match. Fans who could not afford the fare to travel abroad have sold their car. **2** _____ And many will turn up without any accommodation or even a match ticket. Despite this, they will be relieved just to be there, to be part of it all. It might sound like madness but, as one who is going and is incredibly excited about it, I can tell you I feel extremely fortunate.

Passion should not be confused with obsession. There are those who live in a dream state, madly in love with someone they will never meet – because he is a dead singer or a famous actor who is unlikely ever to visit their hometown – and therefore unable to form real relationships. There are those who spend every waking hour logged on to chat rooms where the only topic of conversation is Star Wars. However, there are also ordinary people – sensible parents, husbands, employees and employers – whose interests and emotions are much more healthy and straightforward. **3** _____

Maybe some people are incapable of finding a passion, but if so they are missing out. Passions are deep, full of joy and pain, teaching you how to sob when you feel hurt, how to deal with disappointment, how to sing with enthusiasm in public (not easy). Because of them you might end up hugging a complete stranger or making new friends. **4** _____ They are a great way for families to bond together; many dads insist that they are spending their time fishing or playing chess because their child is keen, when actually they are delighted to become absorbed by something outside home, job and money worries.

Explosions of joy are normally thin on the ground. **5** _____ If you happen to follow a football or rugby team, there are celebrations all the time.

For some, a passion can be switched on and off – which is better than not having a passion at all, I suppose. Witness the behaviour that tennis brings about at the annual fortnightly UK tennis tournament at Wimbledon. Calm, controlled middle-aged women are suddenly prepared to camp overnight on damp pavements in London and squeal encouragement. **6** _____

I had a nightmare two nights ago. In the nightmare, Liverpool's match against AC Milan went to a penalty shoot-out and Liverpool lost. 'That's not a nightmare', said my husband. But isn't that the point? If I can wake up in a sweat about football, it means I'm not waking up trembling from a dream in which I crashed my car or lost my job.

In the end, what defines us as human is not only language. **7** _____ Passions are a rehearsal for life, a distraction from boredom and most of all they are fun – even when they let you down.

- A These people are also linked to forces they cannot control, but they are to be admired for it.
- B It is the ability to care about something that does not directly affect our health or wealth or importance.
- C They help you to feel part of a community and have something to tease your neighbour about.
- D In spite of their differences, they will all become a part of the same experience.
- E Otherwise cool, fashionable students are happy to wave at the TV cameras while wearing silly hats and sunglasses that spurt water.
- F If you missed the semi-final, then try and catch the European cup final on television tomorrow.
- G The birth of your child, your wedding day, a pay rise are all lovely and a reason to do something special, but they do not happen every week.
- H Others have borrowed from relatives they once promised themselves they would never borrow from again.

2) Vocabulary /10p

Choose the option A, B, C or D that best completes the paragraph.

Most people will come 1 _____ money problems at some time in their lives. It often happens when they are students and they have to do a part-time job in order to make 2 _____ meet. This can be 3 _____, but sometimes it is the only way to survive. However, living on a 4 _____ budget is good training for the future. Everyone should learn to live within his or her 5 _____. Unfortunately, some people have totally 6 _____ goals and think that one day they will have lots of money to pay off their debts. Then they can become very 7 _____ when they fail to achieve those goals. So, if you want to have money to 8 _____, you need to work hard and to have some good luck, too.

- | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1 A over | B across | C up to | D after |
| 2 A bits | B lines | C pieces | D ends |
| 3 A conventional | B exhausting | C exhaustive | D meaningful |
| 4 A tight | B short | C standard | D firm |
| 5 A salaries | B money | C means | D values |
| 6 A real | B realistic | C reality | D unrealistic |
| 7 A depressed | B interesting | C excited | D worrying |
| 8 A do | B burn | C share | D buy |

3) Use of English: /40p

a) Complete the second sentence with between two and five words, including the word given, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. /10p

- It was ages before I got used to living in a foreign country. **ME**
It _____ used to living in a foreign country.
- I'm really not sure if I locked the door. **REMEMBER**
I _____ the door.
- His career became successful after the release of his last album. **OFF**
His career _____ after the release of his last album.
- She finished the book a moment ago. **JUST**
She _____ the book.
- He started teaching in 1990. **SINCE**
He _____ 1990.

b) Complete the gaps with ONE word. /6p

When Tom and Elena were children, they 1 _____ go on holiday with their parents to the seaside every summer. Their parents 2 _____ to own holiday homes next door to each other and Tom and Elena became good friends, almost 3 _____ brother and sister. Now they are grown-ups and 4 _____ their own families who they bring to the beach every year. However, they no longer have the holiday homes and stay in the hotel which has been built. The beach is now 5 _____ of the best in the country, which makes it much 6 _____ popular than it once was and it is often very crowded.

c) Complete the paragraph using the correct form of the word in capitals at the end of the line.

/4p

The two teenagers were 1 _____ to get started on their camping trip.

PATIENT

They'd never been camping alone as their parents had always 2 _____

COURAGE

them before, because they thought it would be 3 _____.

DANGER

However, the two boys had never really been 4 _____, so finally, after a lot of discussion, their parents agreed they were 5 _____ to do anything stupid.

RESPONSIBLE

They put up their tent near the river. They were 6 _____ by the time

LIKE

they'd finished so they dived into the river, which was 7 _____ cold,

BOIL

much to their surprise. After eating their supper they went to bed but they

CREDIBLE

found it 8 _____ to sleep because they were so excited.

POSSIBLE

d) Put each verb in brackets into either the past simple, the present perfect simple or the present perfect continuous.

/10p

It was announced in London this morning that the British Oil Corporation (1) has discovered (discover) oil under the sea near the Welsh coast.

The company, which (2) _____ (drill) for oil in the area since 2001,

(3) _____ (find) small amounts of oil near Swansea last month, and since then

(4) _____ (discover) larger amounts under the seabed nearby. Last year the government

(5) _____ (lend) over to BOC, and (6) _____ (give) permission

for the company to build an oil refinery and other facilities in South Wales.

The reaction of local people to today's news (7) _____ (be) mixed so far. Local MPs (8)

_____ (already welcome) the news, pointing out that the oil industry will bring badly

needed jobs to the area. But local residents are worried about the danger of pollution. 'Nobody (9)

_____ (ask) us yet what we want,' said Ann Griffiths, leader of the Keep Out The Oil

Campaign. 'Look what (10) _____ (happen) when they (11) _____

(find) oil in Scotland in the 1960s. The oil companies (12) _____ (get) rich, not the local

people. BOC (13) _____ (not tell) us the truth about what this is going to mean for our

people.' A BOC spokesman later (14) _____ (refuse) to comment. Meanwhile local

campaigners (15) _____ (ask) the government to hold an inquiry.

e) Put each verb in brackets into a suitable past verb form. /10p

When Professor Mallory, the famous archaeologist, (1) invited (invite) me to take part in his expedition

to find the Lost City of the Himalayas, I (2) _____ (not hesitate) to accept his invitation.

Mallory (3) _____ (discover) an ancient map showing the position of the city,

although no European (4) _____ (ever go) to the area before. In fact, most of

Mallory's colleagues either (5) _____ (believe) that the city

(6) _____ (never exist) or (7) _____ (feel) that it

(8) _____ (vanish) long ago and (9) _____ (become)

simply a legend. According to the Professor, the builders of the city (10) _____

(hide) it among the mountains in order to protect its immense riches. He (11) (believe) that the descendants

of these ancient people (12) _____ (still keep) themselves apart from the rest of mankind for the very same reasons. So when we (13) _____ (set off) on a cool May morning towards the distant mountains, each of us (14) (look forward) to exciting discoveries. For a week or more we (15) _____ (climb) higher and higher, following the map, which Mallory (16) (study) from time to time. Then one afternoon, while we (17) _____ (rest) at the top of a valley, we (18) _____ (notice) that a rider on a horse (19) _____ (wave) at us from the other side of the valley. A rider whose clothes (20) _____ (shine) like gold!

4) **Listening:** /15p

Listen to four people talking about music. For questions 1-8 match the information in the list A-I with the speaker. There is one extra letter which you do not need to use.

Which person ...

- | | | |
|---|-----------|---------|
| A thinks musicians work best in the early part of their careers | Speaker 1 | 1 _____ |
| B has a very understanding family | | 2 _____ |
| C prefers not to go to large concerts | Speaker 2 | 3 _____ |
| D hates not having anything to listen to | | 4 _____ |
| E gets bored with bands when they become popular | Speaker 3 | 5 _____ |
| F doesn't listen to many different types of music | | 6 _____ |
| G tells their friends about new musical discoveries | Speaker 4 | 7 _____ |
| H tends not to pay for downloads these days | | 8 _____ |
| I discovers new music on social networking sites | | |

5) **Writing:** Write: /20p

Essay: :

"is it better to be an only child or have siblings?"

Write your essay in no more than 120 – 180 words.