

A. Reading /15

1. Read the article from a magazine and choose the best answer, A, B or C.

Lexi: the language learning app which helps you learn cool words!

If you've been following the latest technology news, you must have read about 17-year-old Marcy Carlton. She is the founder and CTO (chief technical officer) of Lexi. **Lexi** is the new language learning app which has recently been valued at \$50,000,000, and is the talk of Silicon Valley.



Lexi is an app which helps language students learn new words. You may think that this is nothing new – there are, after all, hundreds of language learning apps which you can download. However, Lexi has become a hit because it tells users how cool the words are. So students can either learn words which are useful for their school studies or words that are just cool; users who have successfully learnt more of the cool words have a higher status on the app's social network.

Marcy says that she first developed the app because she wanted something to help her learn new words when she was studying Spanish at school. It took her little more than three months to create the app but when she showed it to her friends, they were unimpressed. She realised that they weren't talking about the app itself but the words she had used. When she started to include words which were more 'exciting', her friends soon became more interested. Before long, Lexi had been downloaded by thousands of youngsters and it was being talked about all over Facebook and Twitter.

Despite its success, Lexi has been controversial. Recently a group of language teachers criticised the app, saying that it doesn't take languages seriously and that you can't be a successful language learner if you just learn the fashionable words. However, Marcy disagrees with the critics and says that if it wasn't for Lexi, many children would not be learning languages at all. She strongly believes that if you want someone to learn something, it has to be fun. And no one can say that Lexi isn't fun because users haven't stopped using it this month.

So what does the future hold for Marcy? She's one of a growing army of young developers who've made a lot of money before they've even finished school and some might say she's achieved more than most people would in a lifetime. However, Marcy says that for her it's just the beginning and she hopes to develop more apps that will inspire people to learn. She's also aware that software development is dominated by men and, as a woman, she's looking forward to being part of a new movement of women developers. We certainly wish Marcy good luck!

1 Why has Lexi been a success with students?

- A Because it helps them learn formal language.
- B Because you can download it free.
- C Because you can learn fashionable words.

2 How did Marcy's friends first respond to her app?

- A They weren't very interested in it.
- B They thought it would help them learn Spanish.
- C They thought she spent too little time working on it.

3 What does a group of people say about the app?

- A It takes languages seriously.
- B It doesn't help people learn all they really need to learn.
- C It's fun and learning shouldn't be fun.

2 True or False?

4 Marcy agrees with the critics and she thinks she will change the app.

5 She'd like to create more apps for learning in the future.

B Vocabulary /10

1. Complete the words with the missing letters or write one word in each gap.

- a. Snow_____ing involves travelling down a snow-covered hill standing on a board.
- b. Karim was worried about entering the competition but in the end he _____k up the challenge.
- c. Some people down_____ all the films they watch from the internet.
- d. When you _____ your password, don't make a mistake. Some sites may not give you access.
- e. _____lanches can happen when people are skiing down mountains.
- f. Fli_____ attendants are specially trained to calm people down if they are afraid of flying.
- g. Our team had a meeting to decide what the web deve_____ should work on next.
- h. Hurric_____ often happen in the North Atlantic Ocean.
- i. The new beauty thera_____ attracted a lot of customers by lowering the prices she charged for manicures.
- j. Please turn the TV _____ when you finish watching it.

C Use of English /40

Activity 1: Read the text and complete it with the verbs in the correct tense. (Past simple, Past continuous or Past Perfect) / 10p.

Canada to the rescue

Russian cross-country skier Anton Gafarov was competing (compete) at the Sochi Winter Olympics in 2014. He _____ (do) well in the race when he _____ (fall) and _____ (damage) his left ski. Soon after that, he _____ (fall) again. He realized that his ski _____ (break) into two pieces. While he _____ (try) to continue on one ski, the Canadian Ski coach, Justin Wadsworth, suddenly _____ (run) out of the crowd and _____ (replace) Gafarov's broken ski with a spare one that he _____ (buy) for his own team. Gafarov _____ (finish) the race in front of his home crowd.



Activity 2: Match the questions with the replies. Choose the option with the correct form of the verbs in brackets to complete the sentences. (Present Perfect simple- Present perfect continuous) 10

P

1. Do you want a chocolate?
 2. Why is your sister so angry?
 3. Do you want to watch Iron man?
 4. Why is your father so tired?
 5. How long have you been doing your homework?
 6. Is it alright if I go out now, Mum?
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- a. I _____ (do) it for more than four hours.
 - b. No thanks, I _____ (eat) four today already. 1
 - c. Wait a minute. _____ you _____ (clean) your room?
 - d. She _____ (argue) with her boyfriend all day.
 - e. He _____ (work) in the garden all afternoon.
 - f. Ok. Can you believe I _____ (never see) it?

Activity 3: Read the article and choose the correct word (A, B or C). / 5 p

English and the internet

When **(1)** _____ internet was **(2)** _____, I don't think anyone **could** imagine how it would **(3)** _____ us improve our lives. For example, I used to have English classes but I realised that I could learn English just as well myself by **using** the resources available online. I've already read articles from two or three international newspapers today and when there were some words I **(4)** _____ understand, I simply checked with an online dictionary. You can also find music and videos on sites like YouTube or Spotify to practise listening. Finally, you can use Skype, a programme **(5)** _____ lets you make video calls, to speak to friends all over the world.

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 1 A a | B the | C a |
| 2 A invent | B invented | C inventing |
| 3 A let | B make | C allow |
| 4 A haven't | B didn't | C don't |
| 5 A which | B what | C who |

Activity 4: Join the sentences using both the **past simple and the **past perfect**. Include the words in brackets. 5p**

- 1) I passed my Geography exam. I studied hard (because)

- 2) John arrived at the party. We left home. (by the time)

- 3) I started cleaning. Everybody left my house. (after)

- 4) Monty saved enough money. He bought a new console.
(when _____)
- 5) My sister lived in England. She moved to Belgium (before)

Activity 5: Choose the correct answer. / 10 p

1. Our games are usually [**played / playing**] on Saturday afternoons.
2. I haven't finished writing [**yet / already**]. I'll meet you in about an hour.
3. 'How long [**were you / you are / have you been**] learning the piano?' 'Only since last year.'
4. Jules [**had been waiting / had waited**] patiently outside the gym when Grant finally appeared.
5. He said we'd [**met / been meeting**] once before but I couldn't remember him.
6. Sam's parents make him [**do / doing / to do**] lots of jobs around the house.
7. In hospital, they made [**me / me to / to me**] eat the most disgusting food!
8. The gardener won't [**make / let / allow**] the children walk on the grass. They have to use the path.
9. We're visiting New England, [**whose / where**] my parents were both born.
10. Can you remember the name of the actor [**which / who**] played the main role in that film?

You will hear five people talking about work and jobs. Listen to the recordings and match the sentences (A--H) to the speakers (1--5). Mid term Part 1

A I'm not sure what I'll do in the future.

Speaker 0 D

B I still haven't found a job.

Speaker 1

C I had to work a lot of hours.

Speaker 2

~~D I don't want to work at home.~~

Speaker 3

E I like the variety in my job.

Speaker 4

F I got paid for the job I did.

Speaker 5

E Writing /20

You have received an email from your English-speaking friend, Lisbeth.

Hey! How are you? What have you been doing?

I'm emailing because my friend's doing a video project and he wants to record people talking about amazing experiences they've had. If you're interested, send me an email describing the experience and saying why it was so amazing. I look forward to hearing about your experience!

Love, Lisbeth☺

Read Lisbeth's email, then write your reply. Follow this plan:

- set the scene (who, where, when, etc).
- say what happened first.
- develop the story.
- Say how it ended.
