Unit 8: Exercise 10

Read the final part of the passage again. Choose the correct answers to the questions.

H The last 50 years have seen a wide range of measures to promote the Welsh language, such as the establishment of the Welsh Books Council in 1961, the Welsh language radio station BBC Radio Cymru in 1977 and the UK's first Welsh language TV station, S4C, in 1984. Other measures include substantial budgeting for the translation of public documents into Welsh. Within Wales itself, there has been support from across the political parties for many initiatives, including 550 Welsh language schemes at community level.

I Clearly, the long-term survival of Welsh will depend on the actions of those young enough to be going through the education system at the moment. Professor Sioned Davies of Cardiff University, in her introduction to the report *One Language for All*, says of the compulsory Welsh classes in schools that there are 'some individual examples of exemplary teaching', but that children's 'attainment levels are lower than in any other subject'. She concludes that a change of direction in educational policy is needed urgently before it is too late.

J The report cites one interviewee who reported that having a working proficiency in Welsh 'opens doors'. 'No door is shut to you if you can speak Welsh,' they said. Some people choose to pursue the formal route of Welsh language qualifications, others just hope to pick it up informally or learn it as one would a foreign language whose culture appeals. At any rate, the challenge is to find a common path to ensure that the language remains viable and robust.

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1 Which of the following does the article state has received generous funding?

- ◯ A community schemes
- ◯ B Welsh-language documentation
- ◯ C Welsh-language radio
- ◯ D Welsh-language television

2 Which of the following groups does the continual success of Welsh depend most upon?

- ◯ A politicians
- ◯ B teachers
- ◯ C the media
- ◯ D young people

3 What point does Sioned Davies make about Welsh teaching in schools?

- ◯ A Few children are choosing to study Welsh.

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- ◯ B It is too late to introduce policies that will preserve Welsh effectively.
- ◯ C Pupils are not achieving high standards.
- ◯ D The quality of Welsh language teaching is unacceptably low.

4 What advantage of speaking Welsh is mentioned in the final paragraph?

- ◯ A better understanding of Welsh culture
- ◯ B greater ease of learning other languages
- ◯ C increased opportunities
- ◯ D more qualifications

5 What is the writer's main purpose in writing this article?

- ◯ A to argue that more needs to be done to support the use of Welsh
- ◯ B to criticise government policy with regard to the Welsh language
- ◯ C to publicise a research report into the use of Welsh
- ◯ D to report on the sustainability of the Welsh language

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