

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading and Use of English

1 Read the article and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Ice skating – my passion

I first (0) A ice skating when I was eight years old. I remember seeing a poster at my local leisure centre (1) ice-skating lessons and begged my dad to (2) me have a go. He agreed (3) I promised not to break any bones, and the following week, I turned up at the ice rink for my first lesson. I remember feeling a bit unsteady at first, but I soon got used to the ice underneath my feet and was thrilled by the (4) of sliding across the ice. Later, my instructor taught me how to do different turns and jumps. I was (5) of falling at first, but I picked it up quite quickly and then it felt so exciting! I soon became much more confident about (6) risks. Now I train at the ice rink twice a week and have taken part in several national contests. Next year, I am hoping to (7) an international event in Switzerland. I have also kept the promise I (8) to my dad – I have never fallen and injured myself while ice skating!

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| 0 A took up | B played | C thought | D came |
| 1 A taking | B advertising | C giving | D teaching |
| 2 A allow | B let | C permit | D enable |
| 3 A as long as | B as soon as | C as far as | D as much as |
| 4 A emotion | B attention | C feeling | D touch |
| 5 A worried | B alarmed | C anxious | D scared |
| 6 A doing | B taking | C making | D having |
| 7 A take | B make | C enter | D participate |
| 8 A made | B did | C said | D told |

2 For questions 9-16, read the text below and think the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS**.

50 THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU'RE 11 ^{3/4}

Name: _____

Date: _____

In April 2012, a UK-based organisation, responsible for conversation projects (the National Trust), set (0) up a nationwide scheme (9) _____ encourage children to spend more time outdoors. The idea called “**50 THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU'RE 11 ¾**” came (10) _____ response to a report which highlighted a severe decline (11) _____ the amount of time children are spending outdoors. Research revealed that fewer (12) _____ one in ten children regularly played outside (13) _____ comparison to just half a generation ago. Furthermore, (14) _____ report found that a third of children have never climbed a tree and one in ten cannot ride a bike. This new plan encourages youngsters to spend time outdoors (15) _____ providing an interesting checklist of things to do outside. Activities include things like setting (16) _____ a snail race, flying a kite or making a mud pie.

3 For questions 17-22, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

Write only the missing words **IN CAPITAL LETTERS**.

Example:

0 I ate out more in the past than I do know.

USED

I don't eat as much AS I USED TO.

17 This summer has been much cooler than last year.

Cool

Last summer _____ this year..

18 Andrea and Silvio have been close friends since university.

WHEN

Andrea and Silvio's friendship _____ students.

19 It took him longer to climb the mountain than his brother.

More

His brother climbed the mountain _____ than he did.

20 The company went out of business after months of losses.

LOSING

Name: _____

Date: _____

The company went out of business because it _____ for months.

21 I was too late to buy any tickets for the film.

ALREADY

The box office _____ all the tickets by the time I got to the cinema

22 Sam stopped playing football when he left school.

USED

Sam _____ a lot when he was at school.

