CULTURAL INGLESA DEL CENTRO
WWW.CULTURALINGLESADELCENTRO.COM

CINGLESA@YAHOO.COM.AR
RAMÓN L. FALCÓN 1479
TEL.: 4431-7366

6TH ADOL - OPTIMISE B2

STUDENT'S NAME : _____ **DATE:** _____

UNITS 1 AND 2

READING

Free time forecasters

A A quick internet search for 'unusual hobbies' turns up some interesting results. Collecting things has always beena popular hobby and you will find a huge range of weird and wonderful collections. (**1**) _____Hobbyists are now investigating everything from plants to robotics and one in particular has a huge number of followers – meteorology.

B If you're wondering what it is, meteorology is the study of weather patterns, and meteorologists are the peoplewho bring us our daily weather forecasts. We all know the professional weathermen and women on local and national TV but there are another 200,000 amateur meteorologists in the United States alone who contribute to making our forecasts as accurate as possible. (**2**) _____

C One such meteorologist is Pierre Alan, who, at 15 years old, has been interested in the weather since he was only six years old. (**3**)'I still keep a record of my readings but nowadays I upload the information to my weather website,' says Pierre. 'I'm also more interested in trying to predict the weather, so I publish my predictionson the website.'

D The basic equipment for measuring the weather has really changed very little over the years; a thermometer for measuring temperature, a barometer for measuring humidity, a rain gauge measuring rainfall and an anemometer, which measures wind speed. (**4**)__The result is that there are thousands of weather hobbyists with highly accurate equipment and the possibility of sharing their information with other meteorologists through the internet. Pierre even has a webcam on his roof so that users of his website can see for themselves what the weather is like!

E One of the disadvantages of a hobby like this is that a lot of people don't think it's cool. 'Some of my friends have made fun of what I do and they don't understand why I like it,' explains Pierre. 'They think you have to begood at football or a great dancer to be interesting. I don't agree with them though because I think you have todo the things that interest you. That's what will make you happy and might even make a difference to the world.'(**5**) ____ In fact, Pierre has become famous for his often-accurate forecasts and he's been invited to give theweather forecast on several TV channels.

1. **Read the article again. Choose from sentences A–F the one which fits each gap (1–5). There is one extra sentence you do not need.**

A However, what has changed is that most serious meteorologists now take digital measurements and for this you need to connect the equipment to a computer.

B These amateurs, who are fascinated by meteorological events, give all their free time to observing the weather from their homes and mobile weather stations.

C Fortunately, a lot of people agree with him and some people do think that meteorology is cool.

D When he was starting out, he would measure the rain and snow fall in his garden with plastic cupsand kept a diary of daily weather conditions.

E He decided to stop studying the weather because the equipment was too expensive to maintain.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

F However, another type of hobby which is becoming more popular is that of amateur scientist.

VOCABULARY

9 **Complete the sentences with the words in the box. There are some extra words you do not need.**

broadcast | cast | credits | flop | on demand producer | satellite | viewers

1 I usually leave the cinema when the _____ come on. I'd rather avoid the crowds than know who all the actors are.

2 *Bladerunner* is one of the greatest sci-fi films ever but it was actually a _____ when it first appeared in cinemas.

3 Apparently, there were more than 30 million _____ for the last World Cup final.

4 The best thing about the internet is that you can watch your favourite programmes _____.

5 The film of *Les Miserables* had a _____ of more than 50 actors and actresses.

10 **Complete the sentences with the phrasal verbs in the box in the correct form.**

creep up behind | dig up | hurry up look up | think up

1 We used to play a game where you _____ your friends without them seeing you.

2 Rosie needs to _____ or she'll be late for school again.

3 Tim spends too much time _____ excuses for not doing his homework. It would be quicker to just do the work!

4 I _____ the meaning of the word before the lesson but I couldn't remember it when the teacher asked me.

5 We've been researching our family history and we _____ a lot of interesting information.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

11 **Complete the sentences with one preposition in each gap.**

1 I don't think I'll ever get bored _____ studying English. There's so much to learn.

2 All of the instructors in our activity centres are experienced _____ giving first aid.

3 Selena thought about taking a year off university but she decided _____ it in the end.

4 It's important that you pay attention _____ this part of the talk because we'll tell you how to enrol on the course.

5 In my opinion, there's nothing wrong _____ staying in bed late at the weekend.

GRAMMAR

6 **Read the text below and choose the correct word or phrase for each gap.**

I want to tell you about what I've been doing in my free time. If you read my last blog post, you'll know that **(1)** _____ of my friends wanted to start a band. Well, they asked me to join them so I've been doing **(2)** _____ band practice. **(3)** _____ of us can play our instruments amazingly well yet, but we're getting there! As I used to play the piano when I was younger, I've got the job of keyboard player. I found it quite hard the first **(4)** _____ times I played but I'm getting better now. I don't make too **(5)** _____ mistakes and the others seem happy with my playing. We're not ready to put on a concert just yet. I think we need another few months of practice!

1 a) any	**b)** some	**c)** one
2 a) lots of	**b)** a lot	**c)** many
3 a) None	**b)** Neither	**c)** No
4 a) little	**b)** some	**c)** few
5 a) much	**b)** many	**c)** any

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 **Put the verbs into the correct tense: present perfect simple, past simple or past perfect simple.**

1 Belinda was very upset when she realised that she _____ (lose) her new smartphone.

2 He _____ (just send) me an email but I haven't had time to read it yet.

3 _____ you _____ (see) that documentary about the North Pole on TV last night?

4 There _____ (not be) much interest in the school trip so far. I hope it doesn't get cancelled.

5 We _____ never _____ (experience) such bad weather until those storms last summer.

6 **Choose the correct words.**

1 Olga's exams haven't finished **yet** / **already** so she's still busy revising.

2 **By the time** / **After** we finished our survey, we'd talked to more than 50 people.

3 We should try to be a bit quieter because Ben has just **been** / **gone** to bed.

4 I'm a bit worried because it's 10 o'clock now and my brother **still** / **just** hasn't called me.

5 Elisabeth started having music lessons last year. **So far** / **Up to** that point she hadn't been interested in learning an instrument.

_____/5

16 **Complete the second sentence so it has a similar meaning to the first. Do not change the word given. Use two to five words, including the word given.**

1 At first I found it strange living in the countryside but it isn't strange anymore.

USED

At first I found the countryside strange but I _____ there now.

2 It was too wet to go camping so in the end we stayed in a hotel.

UP

It was too wet to go camping so we _____ in a hotel.

3 After several attempts, Dana managed to climb the tree and get our ball back.

SUCCEEDED

After several attempts, Dana _____ the tree and got our ball back.

4 We would never go to bed until we had had our milk and biscuits.

USED

We _____ to bed until we had had our milk and biscuits.

5 They received criticism because they didn't recycle their glass and plastic.

FOR

They _____ their glass and plastic.

LIVEWORKSHEETS