

**WRITTEN COMPREHENSION**

Read the web page and answer the questions that follow. ( \_\_\_\_\_ / 18)

***A SURPRISING VICTORY***

- I It was called the greatest surprise in the history of sport. In 2016, Leicester City Football Club won the English Premier League, even though at the start of the season the small club had begun with 5,000-1 odds to win the title.
- II Leicester City's win was particularly remarkable because the most successful clubs in the Premier League, like Arsenal, Manchester City and Chelsea, are paid huge sums of money in return for the rights to broadcast their games. As a result, they are able to acquire the most talented players and smaller, less wealthy clubs find it difficult to compete with them. Before the 2016 season, Leicester City spent under £55 million on their team as opposed to the £420 million invested by Manchester City.
- III So how was it that a team with no big names managed to win the league? Some experts suggest that a large part of their success was due to the fact that they managed to avoid injuries amongst their players. What is more, unlike some of their rivals, they were not participating in a European competition and as a result, they were able to concentrate all their energies on the Premier League.
- IV There can be no doubt that good coaching and great teamwork also played a central role in their success. Spectators could not help but notice the amazing team spirit demonstrated by the players and the fact that they seemed to be enjoying themselves immensely on the pitch.
- V Yet there are those who have another explanation for the rise of Leicester City. In 2012, archeologists from the University of Leicester discovered the remains of England's King Richard III buried under a local car park. After digging up his bones, he was ceremonially reburied in Leicester Cathedral in March 2015. And it was then that the local football team started winning.
- VI Whatever the reason for Leicester City's unlikely rise, there can be no doubt that their story will be talked about for many years to come. Leicester City captured the imagination of people all over the world and proved that the impossible is sometimes possible.

1 Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Find the line in the text to support your answers. (6 x 1 = 6 points)

- 1 Leicester City could not afford to buy any new players before the 2016 season. \_\_\_\_\_  
.....
- 2 Leicester City were more focused than other teams. \_\_\_\_\_  
.....
- 3 The Leicester City team had fun during the season. \_\_\_\_\_  
.....
- 4 The writer doubts that teamwork affects a club's success. \_\_\_\_\_  
.....
- 5 Some people believe that Leicester City's win has nothing to do with the players. \_\_\_\_\_  
.....
- 6 Only the English were excited by what happened to Leicester City. \_\_\_\_\_  
.....

2 Answer the questions (3 x 2 = 6 points )

- 1 Why was Leicester City's win in 2016 a surprising victory?  
.....
- 2 Why are certain clubs paid very large amounts of money?  
.....

3 What's the connection between Leicester City Football Club and King Richard III?

.....

3 Find words or expressions in the text that mean: (6 x 1 = 6 points)

- 1 amounts (paragraph II) .....
- 2 in addition (paragraph III) .....
- 3 opponents (paragraph III) .....
- 4 part (paragraph IV) .....
- 5 parts of a dead body (paragraph V) .....
- 6 improbable (paragraph VI) .....

### VOCABULARY AND GRAMMAR

4 Complete the sentences with the words and expressions below. (10 x 1 = 10 points)

**championship** | **effort** | **in the lead** | **cheered** | **opponent**  
**humble** | **cope** | **award** | **displayed** | **in a row**

- 1 The fans ..... whenever we scored a goal.
- 2 We've lost five games .....
- 3 Vicky won the ..... for best player of the year.
- 4 How did you learn to ..... with the pressure?
- 5 Clara is always ....., despite her accomplishments.
- 6 He's making no ..... to improve.
- 7 She was ..... throughout the race.
- 8 Gerald ..... his trophies on a shelf.
- 9 His ..... was a far better player.
- 10 We're going to play in the ..... !

5 Complete the sentences to show that you understand the meaning of the bold words. (5 x 2 = 10 points)

- 1 It was a lot of **effort** to .....
- 2 It's not easy to **cope with** .....
- 3 My parents aren't **willing** for me to .....
- 4 My friends **let me down** when they .....
- 5 The coach treats all the team members **alike**, so everyone feels .....

6 The following sentences do not make sense. Correct them by replacing the words in bold with words in bold from another sentence. (9 x 1 = 9 points)

- 1 Lifting weights can help you develop **speed**. .....
- 2 Those black clouds are a sure **opponent** of rain. ....
- 3 Our team won the gold **sign**. .....
- 4 You woke me up. I was **slight** asleep. ....
- 5 He showed bad **strength** by insulting the winner. ....
- 6 My **sportsmanship** is an excellent player. ....
- 7 You shouldn't drive at such a high **turnaround**. ....
- 8 You can hear that she has a very **fast** accent. ....
- 9 Last week's victory was the start of a **trophy**. ....

7 Rewrite the sentences in reported speech. (5 x 2 = 10 points)

- 1 "Sally gave me a present yesterday."  
Jack said .....
- 2 "I'm working now."  
Alice said .....
- 3 "We've just spoken to Wayne."  
Marcia mentioned .....
- 4 "Do you want a cup of tea?"  
Neil asked me .....
- 5 "You can borrow my bicycle."  
Mark told me .....

8 Rewrite the sentences in reported speech. Use a suitable reporting verb below. (5 x 2 = 10 points)

**wondered | warned | promised | advised | complained**

- 1 "We'll pay for your driving lessons," my parents said.  
.....
- 2 "Don't go out in the storm tomorrow," the news announcer told people.  
.....
- 3 "Did you work last weekend?" Jeremy asked us.  
.....
- 4 "I don't like the service here," the customer said.  
.....
- 5 "You should start studying tonight for the exam," Lynn told me.  
.....

9 Complete the sentences in a **logical way** using reported speech. (4 x 2 = 8 points)

- 1 Our teacher reminded us .....
- 2 Nigel admitted that .....
- 3 My sister wondered .....
- 4 The tour guide explained that .....

10 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the active form. (5 x 1 = 5 points)

- 1 I do not understand why my salary ..... (not pay) yet.
- 2 He has been working on the project for weeks. Hopefully, it ..... (complete) soon.
- 3 I have never purchased anything from this shop! Why ..... this  
..... (charge) to me?
- 4 Someone borrowed that book a week ago. It ..... probably  
..... (return) by next Wednesday.
- 5 He looks very upset. He ..... (must / tell) the bad news.

**11** Rewrite the sentences in the correct passive form. Do not change the original meaning. (5 x 2 = 10 points)

1 I'm moving the money into your bank account right now.

.....

2 We have received your application.

.....

3 Did a designer choose the office furniture?

.....

4 They'll sell the business unless it starts making a profit.

.....

5 How much money do people borrow from banks every year?

.....

**12** Rewrite the sentences with the words in brackets. Do not change the original meaning of the sentences. (5 x 2 = 10 points)

1 They'll make the presentation next week. (be)

.....

2 How many smartphones did people buy last year? (were)

.....

3 Hackers may have stolen information from the bank. (been)

.....

4 The magazine is going to pay me £50 for the photo. (I)

.....

5 How much pocket money do you get? (given)

.....

Grammar \_\_\_\_/53