

## B2 – Test Unit 4



### VOCABULARY

#### A. Read the text and complete the blanks with the correct form of the words in bold.

People suddenly disappearing into a huge hole in their house, in the middle of the night, along with their bed, and entire buildings being sucked into the ground: skinholes have captured people's (1) \_\_\_\_\_ ever since they first appeared. If you see a photo of a skinhole, you may feel like you are looking at something from your (2) \_\_\_\_\_ and yet they are not something from a dream or from the mind of a science fiction writer or film (3) \_\_\_\_\_. It is true that they may only happen (4) \_\_\_\_\_, but they do exist in the real world.

**IMAGINE**

**CONSCIOUS**

**PRODUCE**

**OCCASIONAL**

Skinholes always seem to be a perfect circle, but they vary in size from less than a metre to several hundred metres, both in diameter and depth. On 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010 at a street (5) \_\_\_\_\_, in the centre of Guatemala City, an area about 20 metres across and 30 metres deep collapsed. The skinhole swallowed an entire 3-storey house that was used as a clothes factory. (6) \_\_\_\_\_ say that skinholes are particularly common when there have been heavy rains after a long period of dry weather. In the case of the Guatemala skinhole, (7) \_\_\_\_\_ believe that it was caused by a combination of the heavy rains of Tropical Storm Agatha, the Pacaya volcano eruption days earlier and leaking sewer pipes. A (8) \_\_\_\_\_ growing space of soft ground below the street eventually collapsed, causing what seemed to be a very sudden event.

**INTERSECT**

**GEOLOGY**

**SCIENCE**

**GRADUAL**

#### B. Choose the word that best completes each sentence.

1. Sharon always tries to buy products that do not contain \_\_\_\_\_ sweeteners.
2. These two photos look so much \_\_\_\_\_ that I can't spot the differences.
3. Sue will have to call a(n) \_\_\_\_\_, as the tap in the bathroom is leaking.
4. Colin \_\_\_\_\_ wanted to become a doctor, but in the end he decided to become a lawyer.
5. Melanie asked Natalie to water her plants during her \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The ancient statue was found \_\_\_\_\_ by the archeologists.
7. There has been a deal of \_\_\_\_\_ surrounding the way as well as the reason why these ancient monuments were built.

**C. Choose the correct word.**

1. The fire **spread / stretched** quickly because of the strong winds that were blowing in the area.
2. Whenever a problem **rises / arises**, I always ask for my sister's advice.
3. During the **intermission / intersection** I got a bottle of water and some popcorn.
4. They have asked an **electrician / accountant** to help them with the financial difficulties they have been facing lately.
5. Eating healthily and exercising regularly will have a beneficial **affect / effect** on your health.
6. Last summer we visited Stonehenge because we wanted to experience it **first-class / first-hand**.
7. Have you heard that petrol prices will **rise / raise** again?

**D. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in the box.**

religious

consult

identical

interrogate

eventually

machinery

first-born

interfere

handful

interpretation

1. Heavy \_\_\_\_\_ will be used in the construction of the new motorway.
2. Patrick and Ian are \_\_\_\_\_ twins, so it's not easy for people to tell them apart.
3. Only a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ of students volunteered for the end-of-year art event.
4. People believe that \_\_\_\_\_ ceremonies took place in many of the ancient monuments around the world.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ children are considered to be more responsible than their siblings.
6. At the moment the police are \_\_\_\_\_ the suspect about the robbery at the National Bank last month.
7. They have a different \_\_\_\_\_ on the events that happened last night.
8. After driving four hours, they \_\_\_\_\_ arrived at the isolated village.
9. Dorothy should \_\_\_\_\_ a dietician before going on a diet.
10. It's annoying when you \_\_\_\_\_ every time I argue with Tom, so don't do it again.

**GRAMMAR**

**E. Choose the correct option.**

1. At first I \_\_\_\_\_ a bicycle, but then I changed my mind and decided to buy a motorcycle.
2. By the time Sophie decided to go on a diet, she \_\_\_\_\_ on ten kilos.
3. When the children came home, it was obvious they \_\_\_\_\_ in the mud.
4. Tina \_\_\_\_\_ by plane before, so she was a bit nervous when they took off.
5. At last, I found my sunglasses, I \_\_\_\_\_ for them all day.

6. Mark \_\_\_\_\_ to learn Spanish on his own for three years, but last year he decided to go to a language school.
7. I was tired yesterday because I \_\_\_\_\_ for two nights.

**F. Choose the correct answer.**

1. All the information you need **is / are** available on the internet.
2. How **much / many** species of tiger have become extinct?
3. There are very **a few / few** job opportunities in the town I live in.
4. There is **plenty of / hardly any** paper left in the machine, so we can't make photocopies.
5. News **travels / travel** fast nowadays.
6. There are **lot / lots of** magazines about computers available on the market.
7. Does this position require any previous work **experiences / experience** ?

**G. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentences, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words including the word given.**

1. There is almost no coffee left. **HARDLY**

There \_\_\_\_\_ left.

2. Tony hasn't tasted Chinese food before. **FIRST**

It was the \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese food.

3. As a child, Stephen spent hours playing alone in his room. **WOULD**

As a child, Stephen \_\_\_\_\_ alone in his room.

4. My mother wanted to go shopping yesterday, but it rained hard all day. **WAS**

My mother \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday, but it rained hard all day.

5. There was so much noise in the office that I couldn't work. **DEAL**

There was such \_\_\_\_\_ in the office that I couldn't work.

## LISTEN

You will hear part of a radio interview with a doctor speaking about the phenomenon of déjà vu. For questions 1-6 choose the best answer (a, b or c)

1. *How does Dr. Townsend explain the radio presenter's impression that they had met before?*
  - a. The doctor resembles someone the presenter knows.
  - b. The presenter probably dreamt about it.
  - c. The presenter may have seen something that caused it.
2. *When does déjà vu occur?*
  - a. It happens before an event.
  - b. It happens during an event.
  - c. It happens after an event.
3. *Which of the following is not an explanation for déjà vu, according to Dr. Townsend?*
  - a. Forgotten memories make something new look familiar.
  - b. Circuits sending messages to the brain are working at different speeds.
  - c. Previous events are being experienced again.
4. *How does the mobile phone theory explain déjà vu?*
  - a. Mobile phones make it difficult for people to concentrate on what is happening.
  - b. Mobile phones make users careless.
  - c. Mobile phones weaken the memory of users.
5. *Who would be most likely to report the most occurrences of déjà vu?*
  - a. An elderly person whose routine stays the same.
  - b. A businessman who travels frequently.
  - c. The average person with a mobile phone.
6. *Why did Dr. Townsend write his book?*
  - a. To explain different theories of déjà vu.
  - b. To tell people the truth about déjà vu.
  - c. To help people avoid the experience.

## READING

Six sentences have been removed from the text below. Choose from sentences (A-G) the one that fits each blank (1-6). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

# The mystery of the Maria Celeste



One of the greatest sea mysteries of all time is the disappearance of the 107 foot-long British ship called the *Mary Celeste*. It had left from New York on 5<sup>th</sup> November 1872 heading for the port of Genoa in Italy. (1) \_\_\_\_\_

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1872, a lookout on another ship, the *Del Gratia*, spotted the *Mary Celeste* over 600 miles off the coast of Portugal. (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Strangely, there was no distress signal being displayed either. Oliver Deveau, chief mate of *Del Gratia*, boarded *Mary Celeste* and found it had been abandoned. There was a great deal of water on the ship, but it was not in danger of sinking. The ship was also carrying 1,701 barrels of alcohol which could easily catch fire, but nine of these were found to be empty.

The ship's papers were missing, but the captain's logbook, which is a book where information about the ship's journey is recorded, was untouched. The clock was not functioning, the compass was destroyed, and other equipment used for finding direction was missing. (3) \_\_\_\_\_. The rope used for the main sail could not be found either. However, another rope was found tied to the back of the *Celeste* with one end hanging in the water many metres behind the ship.

All personal belongings of the captain and crew were still on the ship and there were no signs of a light or any sort of violence. What was clear was that the captain and crew had left the ship in a hurry. (4) \_\_\_\_\_ There have been many theories over the years, but as yet, none of these have been proven.

Some people have suggested that bad weather forced the crew to abandon the ship and take refuge in the lifeboat. (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Both of these theories do not sound so convincing because there were no signs of damage to the ship.

One of the most believable theories is that the flammable alcohol from the nine barrels leaked out and the captain thought that the ship was going to explode. He ordered everybody on board into the lifeboat and then tied the lifeboat to the back of the ship, so that he could observe the situation from there. That can explain why there was a long rope attached to the back of the ship. (6) \_\_\_\_\_ Unfortunately, the rope must have broken or somehow become untied.

We may never know what happened to the crew of the *Maria Celeste*, but there certainly are a number of theories. One thing we do know is that no trace of the lifeboat or any of the crew has ever been found.

- A. Others think that a tsunami or 'rogue wave' came through and washed the captain and crew overboard, perhaps with little warning.
- B. If the threat of explosion passed, they would still have the option of climbing back on board the *Mary Celeste*.
- C. However, it never reached its destination and Captain Benjamin Briggs, his wife and daughter and an experienced crew of seven were never seen again.
- D. The ship was not travelling in a clear direction, its sails were damaged and there was no sign of anybody on board.
- E. The question is, what made the crew abandon the ship so quickly?
- F. The captain had had a similar experience just one year earlier.
- G. The only lifeboat, which was stored on top of the main entrance to the storage area, was also missing.