

Test on units 1 & 2 – English File Advanced

Listening

1. Listen to two friends talking about learning languages. Then tick (✓) A, B, or C.

- 1 Anthony says that a lot of people using English...
A lack confidence in their ability to use the language.
B are not aware of errors they make.
C speak a form of it that is not standard.
- 2 Anthony says that communication problems in English...
A are more important in some circumstances than in others.
B are being discussed by a small number of experts.
C result from a lack of effort when using the language.
- 3 Anthony says that little attention is paid to problems with using English because...
A people usually do not notice these problems.
B people prefer to focus only on the positive aspects.
C these problems affect only a small number of people.
- 4 Anthony says that people's level of English...
A often depends on what level they are required to reach.
B is often lower than they think it is.
C depends mostly on how well they are taught.
- 5 Anthony says that misunderstandings caused by inaccurate English...
A are getting more and more serious.
B are a problem that cannot be avoided.
C are not the same for native speakers as for foreign speakers.

Reading

2. Read the text. Then choose A, B, C, D for questions 1-5.

- 1 According to the text, the job given to Ben Southall was
A so amazing many people thought it wasn't real.
B intended to increase visitors to Queensland.
C only open to people who had visited Queensland.
D worth several million dollars.
- 2 Tourism Queensland wanted would-be caretakers to
A be sociable.
B have film-making skills.
C be familiar with Queensland.
D have previous experience.
- 3 Tourism Queensland did not expect to
A spend so much money advertising the job.
B generate so much interest in their advert.
C run their advert for more than 3 days.
D make any money from advertising the job.
- 4 Ben was surprised the job was so
A problematic. B interesting.
C demanding. D relaxing.
- 5 Ben's bosses
A suggested he become an author.
B offered him a home in Queensland.
C gave him a bonus.
D extended his employment.

4

The Best Job in the World

Imagine being offered £70,000 to spend six months in a luxurious \$2m villa on a beautiful tropical island in the Pacific Ocean. It sounds the stuff of fantasy, but believe it or not, this was a real job offered to a lucky young man from Britain, named Ben Southall. Ben was one of thousands of hopeful individuals who applied for the fantasy job, which was created by Tourism Queensland in an attempt to boost tourist numbers in their state.

Tourism Queensland placed an advertisement on their website for what they called 'the best job in the world': a caretaker for the beautiful islands of the Great Barrier Reef, off the north-east coast of Australia. The caretaker's duties were listed as exploring the Great Barrier Reef area, making friends with the locals, enjoying the lifestyle and climate of Queensland, and reporting to the rest of the world about life in the region. As if that wasn't enough, the perks of the job included five-star accommodation and access to a swimming pool. No experience was necessary. Would-be caretakers were simply asked to forward their CVs and a 60-second video showcasing their skills and talents.

The international media quickly got wind of the incredible job, and details of it appeared in newspapers around the world. People rushed to log on to Tourism Queensland's website. Within 3 days, more than a million people had viewed the ad. In fact, the volume of traffic was so great, the website crashed!



The people at Tourism Queensland were stunned. Their goal had been to generate publicity for Queensland, but the amount they got was beyond their wildest dreams. They spent \$1.7 million advertising the job but, by the time the job was filled, had gained more than \$100 million worth of free publicity! From 34,000 applications, a shortlist of fifty candidates was drawn up. These fifty were narrowed down to fifteen. Finally, after much discussion, Ben was singled out as the best person for the job.

So, how did Ben find life as a caretaker? Well, it turns out the job was far from plain sailing. Ben had hardly any time to relax on the beach, go snorkelling, or lie beside his swimming pool. In addition to his everyday tasks, Ben had to follow a gruelling schedule of press conferences, public talks, promotional events and meetings. He ended up working long hours, seven days a week, in order to get everything done. Ben travelled around Queensland meeting local politicians and giving lectures. He gave hundreds of media interviews. And he kept a running web commentary about what he was up to. "It was a job that needed 18 to 19 hours' work every day", says Ben. Yet despite this, Ben loved the work and really enjoyed his six months. And he wasn't the only one who was happy. Ben's employers at Tourism Queensland were so satisfied with his performance that they offered him a six-figure contract to become a PR person and promote Queensland worldwide. Ben is now writing a book about his amazing experience. He hopes it will become a best-seller!

Vocabulary

3. Complete the words in the sentences.

Example: I **tend** to keep quiet when my mum starts complaining about my room.

- Steve won't change his **m** _____ – once he makes a decision, there's no going back.
- Lara's got a heart of **g** _____; she never says no when she's asked for help.
- Ingrid says her new boss is a cold **f** _____. Apparently he gives nothing away and rarely smiles.
- My fiancé's parents are actually very down to **e** _____ and they agree with us that we shouldn't spend a fortune on our wedding.

- e) We were completely **b**_____ by his account of events. It just didn't make any sense whatsoever.
- f) I'll choose a **r**_____ letter of the alphabet and I want you to give me five nouns that start with that letter.
- g) The teacher returned the students' work and asked them to correct any **e**_____ before re-submitting it.
- h) My boyfriend's parents gave me a gorgeous tablet computer for my birthday. I was amazed at their **g**_____!

4. Underline the correct word(s).

Example: I'd like to get a job / profession abroad.

- a) I don't enjoy my job because the work is monotonous / rewarding.
- b) My salary isn't high, but the career / benefits are really good.
- c) Leo is a great boss because he's good at motivating / demanding people and making them want to work hard.
- d) I recently had some qualifications / training, which will help me do my work more effectively.
- e) I had to hire / quit my job after just five months for health reasons.

5. Make abstract nouns from the words below.

Example: friend friendship

- a) adult _____
- b) lose _____
- c) frustrate _____
- d) wise _____
- e) hate _____

6. Translate the sentences into English. For the underlined words you MUST use a word which starts with the given letter.

- a) Niestety, w mojej firmie, urlop tacierzyński (p.../l...) jest niepłatny (u...).
- b) Ubiegałem się o (a...) pracę w Google, ale to była zbyt wymagająca (d...) praca i nie chcieli mi dać umowy na stałe (p.../c...).
- c) Kiedy masz nastolatka w domu, przewracanie oczami (e...) i bycie „upierdliwym” (p.../i.../t.../n...) staje się normą (b.../t.../n...).

d) Katy złapała (g...) swą torbę i wybiegła w pośpiechu (r.../o...), żeby upichcić (c...) coś dla swojego rozsądnego (s...) współpracownika (c...)

e) Jest bardzo popularne wierzenie (b...), że upośledzenie (i...) odbiera wolność.

7. Fill in the correct forms of the verbs in bold.

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____
- (4) _____
- (5) _____
- (6) _____

For many people, meetings are part of everyday working life. But often, getting a group of people together in one room is easier said than done. That's why Keith Harris created *whenisgood.net*, a **1) (use)** website that helps companies schedule their meetings. Data from Harris's site has revealed an interesting statistic. **2) (apparent)**, the most suitable time to hold a meeting is 3 pm on a Tuesday. But why? Well, to start with, it's not too early in the week or in the day. As Harris explains, on Monday mornings, or indeed on any morning, the **3) (major)** of office workers need time to organise their day, get a quick cup of coffee, and check their emails. And 3 pm is also not too late. It seems that most office workers think it's too **4) (risk)** to attend meetings that might go on past five o'clock! But what about Tuesdays? Most likely, business people have a **5) (prefer)** for Tuesday meetings because it leaves the end of the week free to finish last-minute jobs before the weekend. So from now on, if you ever need to call a business person at 3 pm on a Tuesday, don't be surprised to hear an **6) (assist)** asking you to call back later!

8. Look at this job advertisement. You would like to apply. Write (in short) what your relevant job experience is and what personal traits would make you good for the position.

Is this for you?

We are looking for responsible, experienced people (individuals or couples) of any age to 'work' as house-sitters in different European countries for varying lengths of time. All you need to do is take care of someone's house, pets, and garden whilst they are away on business or on holiday.

You won't earn any money but your accommodation is free. The minimum length of stay is one week so you can move from place to place.

Interested? Send an email or letter and CV to Bruce Matthews at housesit@talknet.com or post it to...
