

English test- Unit 7

READING

1 Read the blog post about arguing traditions. Five sentences have been removed. Which sentence (A–F) fits each gap (1–5)? There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Fight or Flyte?

If you're a regular follower of my blog, you'll know that I'm a speaker in my local debating society as well as an amateur historian. Now, you may know that recently I've been doing some research. I'm fascinated by the art of debating, arguing, disagreeing, whatever you want to call it. Even the most mild-mannered of us argue sometimes. Cultures have their own techniques, rules, and etiquette when it comes to arguing – we all argue whether it's face-to-face or online. (1_____)

So, basically, as far back as the Vikings, people were having rap battles. Yes, you heard me correctly. You'll all be familiar with modern-day rap music even if you don't particularly like it. You may have heard of 'rap battles', or seen them on TV, or been to one and seen it live. If you don't know them, it's where two rappers get together and have a kind of rapping competition. One rapper makes up a short rap about a minute or so long, about his opponent, and then the other rapper responds with his own rap. (2_____) Anyway, the rap battle rhymes are high-speed and designed to offend the opponent, but they are also very clever. In the end, the watching crowd decides who the winner is. The modern rap battle tradition is supposed to have started on the streets of Brooklyn and the Bronx in the US sometime in the 1970s or early 80s, but its origins are perhaps more ancient than that.

So, the first example I've found of rap battles goes way back in history to the time when the Vikings of Scandinavia told fireside tales of the mythical Norse gods. It's not surprising that these stories were popular then – they had all the elements of a good story: drama, love, and violence. (3_____) But here's something that might surprise you about those powerful Norse gods: they didn't always solve their disagreements by fighting – they used words. Norse literature tells of the mischievous Loki who was famous for his ability to offend and insult his rivals. He would accuse them of all sorts of crimes, criticize their clothing, and tease them for being weak or cowardly. His opponent would have to defend himself with words, with each trying to win the argument with the cleverest insult. The existence of such stories suggests that word battles played an important role in Viking society, despite the fact that the Vikings were famous for being fierce warriors in real battles.

This tradition of competitive arguments is recorded in Scottish history too. The name *flyting* comes from the old Scots word for 'arguing'. The flyting tradition was most popular in the 15th and 16th centuries and involved a contest between rival poets. The arguments were famously fierce but generally good-natured. (4_____)

Flyting was also a popular form of entertainment in England where it was often performed for the amusement of royalty. People must have got a lot of entertainment out of arguing with each other back then, although I'm glad the kind of debates we have at the debating society are a bit less dramatic. (5_____) However, examples of it appear in many famous works of Scandinavian and European literature including Beowulf, Shakespeare's plays, and the poems of Robert Burns – and, of course, in the music of today's rap artists.

- A The kind of ingredients that make a great TV series nowadays.
- B Despite this, it is scientifically proven that it's human nature to disagree, argue, and debate.
- C There isn't a great deal written about the actual history and development of flyting.
- D So, I thought I'd share with you some of the interesting ways people have settled arguments from the past to the present.
- E It's a bit like a formal debate really, where one person gives their arguments, the opponent listens, and then takes their turn to respond after the first has finished speaking.
- F Although the contestants attacked each other with words, they apparently had a great deal of professional respect for each other.

GRAMMAR

2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Example: Would you rather eat (eat) out tonight, or stay in?

- 1 Sian admitted that she'd rather we _____ (not go) to the wedding.
- 2 Would you rather _____ (have) more free time or more money?
- 3 I'd rather you _____ (not argue) about the housework. Let's tidy up together!
- 4 Actually, I'd rather _____ (not watch) that film. I've heard it's quite scary.
- 5 Miguel says he'd rather you _____ (pick) him up at 8.00 instead of 8.30

3 Underline the correct words.

Example: Christina can't have / **mustn't have** got engaged – she's only known Bradley for six weeks!

- 1 The boss **shouldn't have** / **might not have** looked at our emails. It was very wrong of him.
- 2 I **might have** / **must have** seen that actress in a play, but I can't remember.
- 3 You **shouldn't have argued** / **shouldn't argue** with her. She was really offended!
- 4 They look guilty. They **must have** / **should have** been misbehaving!
- 5 I suppose I **could have** / **must have** denied it, but I decided to tell the truth.
- 6 They **may have** / **must have** finished their walk by now. It's too dark to see anything.
- 7 You **must have** / **can't have** seen Billy. He's on holiday at the moment.

4 Rewrite the following sentences using modal verbs.

- 1 I'm sure that Mrs Smith didn't leave home.

Mrs Smith _____ home

- 2 Perhaps she's gone to stay with her mother.

She _____ to stay with her mother

- 3 It's possible that Mr Smith committed a crime.

Mr Smith _____ a crime.

- 4 I'm certain that he buried something in the garden.

He _____ something in the garden.

- 5 Perhaps he won the lottery.

He could _____

6 I'm sure he bought a new car.

He _____ a new car.

7 I'm sorry I didn't study enough.

I _____ more

8 It was wrong of you to go to that party.

You _____ to that party

9 It wasn't a good idea for the government to apply all those economic measures.

The government _____ all those economic measures.

10 I'm sure they didn't put on a good show, the reviews are bad.

They _____ a good show.

5 Complete the sentences with the correct word(s).

- 1 This music _____ a band I've heard before. Who is it?
feels like sounds like sounds
- 2 It's so empty here today. It feels _____ we've got the café to ourselves!
as if if that
- 3 Gabriele looks more _____ his mother than his father.
as like as if
- 4 Ben told me you _____ like going to the cinema. Which film do you fancy seeing?
sound feel look
- 5 Leah _____ a bit tense this evening. Do you think she's OK?
seems as if seems seems like
- 6 I don't know what type of cheese this is but it tastes like _____.
horrible old socks good
- 7 Amira looks as _____ she hasn't slept for a week!
though like when
- 8 Mmm, that _____ really good! Are you baking a cake?
smells tastes feels

VOCABULARY

6 Underline the correct word.

- 1 I have that film on DVD. I could **lend** / **borrow** it to you if you like.
- 2 Have you **noticed** / **realized** that new pizza place on the High Street?
- 3 I **advise** / **warn** you to keep practising your acting skills – you have a lot of talent!
- 4 In this session, we'll **argue** / **discuss** the plot of the film and give our opinions on it.
- 5 That's the jeweller's shop that was **robbed** / **stolen** last week.
- 6 Please **remember** / **remind** me to ring Carol and invite her to the cinema.
- 7 According to a recent report, unemployment has **risen** / **raised** again this month.
- 8 The trouble with Jeremy is that he **refuses** / **denies** to accept that he needs to do housework too.
- 9 We didn't agree with her decision but we couldn't **avoid** / **prevent** her from taking the job.
- 10 I really don't **matter** / **mind** if you borrow my bike – you're welcome to use it.

7 Complete the sentences with one word.

Example: Business people often shake hands when they make a deal.

- 1 Alex shrugged his _____ and said he had no idea where the path went.
- 2 Wearing a hat always makes my hair messy! I need to _____ it!
- 3 Did you use to suck your _____ when you were little?
- 4 I knew you'd disagree because you raised your _____ when I suggested it.
- 5 Can you give me a tissue? I need to _____ my nose.
- 6 You don't look old! Your face hardly has any _____ on it!
- 7 It's very rude to _____ your finger at someone.
- 8 My legs are sore after that long flight. I need to _____ them!
- 9 There's a cold wind today. Put this scarf round your _____.
- 10 The mosquito bite on Isabella's arm is sore because she _____ it.

LISTENING

8 Listen to five people talking about different situations they have been in. Choose from the list (A–F) what is happening in each situation. Use the letters only once. There is one extra letter which you do not need to use.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| A warning someone about something | Speaker 1: [] |
| B denying something | Speaker 2: [] |
| C refusing to do something | Speaker 3: [] |
| D reminding someone of something | Speaker 4: [] |
| E advising someone | Speaker 5: [] |
| F avoiding something | |

WRITING

9 Answer the following questions in about 30 words.

- 1 What does favourite celebrity look like?
- 2 Would you rather watch a play or see a film? Why?
- 3 What was the last thing you argue about? Who with? Why?