

CONCRETE ART

This month street artists are transforming a concrete 1 _____ in the center of town into a work of art.

Even though many of the buildings are going to be knocked down in the spring, the mayor has invited 100 street artists to transform the area. You will see everything here from 2 _____ statues on the sidewalks to drawings of strange landscapes and wildlife on the walls of the buildings. This is the type of area that usually has a sign that says "No 3 _____." However, it will be open to the public for one month only, until the buildings are destroyed.

Some people don't understand how an artist can put so much effort into a work of art that is going to disappear so soon. The artists themselves are happy to do the work, but it's sad that it will not last long. "Art is usually seen in private collections, but street art 4 _____ to the street," says Jay, one of the 100 artists. "So if a building is destroyed, the art goes too." The town's mayor wants to 5 _____ that it will be an unforgettable experience, so everyone is working hard and doing the best they can.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. a. oasis | c. wasteland |
| b. compass | d. statement |
| 2. a. colossal | c. non-existent |
| b. cliché | d. waterproof |
| 3. a. Transforming | c. Trespassing |
| b. Slipping | d. Moving |
| 4. a. belongs | c. holds |
| b. values | d. creates |
| 5. a. ensure | c. prove |
| b. jot down | d. say |



B. Complete with the words in the box. There are two extra words which you do not need to use.

clue trinkets membership pastime tools gardener ring privacy prize focus

- Jack bought Alice an expensive _____ for their anniversary.
- Mark has a shelf in his house where he puts all the _____ he buys during his trips abroad.
- Can you be quiet? I'm trying to _____ on my report.
- My favorite _____ is reading books.
- Unfortunately, I don't have the right _____ to fix the engine.
- I have three sisters, so I don't get much _____ in my house.
- Kelly doesn't have a _____ about how to download files from the Internet.
- What is the cost of a one-year _____ at your gym?

L. Complete with the correct form of the words in capitals.

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. The police finally found the _____ they were looking for. | PROVE |
| 2. When Rita saw the snake, her first _____ was to scream. | REACT |
| 3. My younger brother spends his time watching _____ TV shows. | MIND |
| 4. Doing crosswords is _____ for the brain. | STIMULATE |
| 5. The beach was filled with _____ who had come to relax. | VACATION |

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A. Circle the correct words.

1. I got really upset when Alice **accused** / **blamed** me of lying.
2. When I'm at our beach house in the summer, my favorite **pastime** / **leisure** is searching for seashells.
3. The man received a **prize** / **reward** for returning the lost wallet.
4. I am a big **fan** / **audience** of Michael Phelps.
5. This is such a difficult board **competition** / **game**.
6. He works so hard that he has no **leisure** / **occupation** time.
7. Please **share** / **distribute** your lunch with me. I forgot to bring mine.
8. I am only **blaming** / **criticizing** your work so I can help you improve.
9. Can you please **distribute** / **divide** these books to the other students?
10. She won the gold **medal** / **prize** at the London Olympics.

B. Complete with the correct form of the words in the box. There are two extra words which you do not need to use.

Indecisive era decade essay annual calendar honor unclear insist punctual

1. Kathy is such a(n) _____ student. She is never late.
2. Alice always gets good grades on her _____. She should become a writer.
3. My brother, Tony, is a(n) _____ older than me. It took my parents ten years to have a second child.
4. I always write my appointments on my _____ so that I don't forget them.
5. Jack _____ on taking us out to dinner to celebrate his promotion.
6. After the war the country entered a(n) _____ of hope.
7. Harry is very _____. He keeps changing his mind.
8. The neighborhood picnic has become a(n) _____ event. This year I'm making my famous tuna sandwiches.

C. Complete with the correct form of the words in capitals.

Olympic Heroes

The Olympic Games would be 1 _____ without a surprise win from an athlete who becomes a(n) 2 _____ hero.

One such athlete is swimmer Eric Moussambani. He was a(n) 3 _____ athlete from Equatorial Guinea who was selected to compete in the 2000 Sydney Olympics. His training was 4 _____ because he didn't have a coach or the necessary facilities. However, he managed to beat competitors who, for years, had spent more than 50 hours in 5 _____ training. In the Olympic competition, all Moussambani did was follow the rules! The other two swimmers lost the second they accidentally jumped into the pool too soon. The 6 _____ watched Moussambani swim to a slow victory competing with nobody but himself and beating much faster competitors. Some thought that it was 7 _____ that the slowest swimmer won the race. Others thought that it was a moment in sport that proved that following the rules is just as important as talent. Obviously, the beauty of the Olympic Games doesn't only lie in the gold medals but also in the 8 _____ moments when athletes do what nobody imagined they could.

COMPLETE
EXPECT
EXPERIENCE
FORMAL
WEEK
SPECTATE
FAIR
GOLD



D. Choose a, b, c or d.

- _____ that writer has written five books.
a. Already c. So far
b. Since d. Just
- Greg _____ his History assignment yet.
a. hasn't finishing c. hasn't been finished
b. hasn't been finishing d. hasn't finished
- I have not _____ Patricia since she moved away last year.
a. see c. been seen
b. seeing d. seen
- I _____ for my keys for half an hour, but I can't find them.
a. have been looking c. have to look
b. have been looked d. have looking
- I have _____ been to such a beautiful beach.
a. never c. before
b. yet d. ever
- How long _____ since you last had some fun?
a. has it being c. have it been
b. has it been d. have it being
- I _____ overtime all week so I feel exhausted.
a. have been worked c. have working
b. have been working d. working
- I haven't been to an art festival _____.
a. before c. just
b. already d. never

E. Complete with the Present Perfect Simple or the Present Perfect Progressive of the verbs in parentheses.

1.

A: Wow! What an amazing postcard collection!

_____ you
_____ (be) to
all these places?

B: No, actually, I haven't. Some are from places that my friends _____ (visit) in the past. I _____ (collect) postcards for over 15 years. That's why I have so many of them.

2.

A: _____ you
_____ (see) this documentary before? It's about a group of doctors and scientists who _____ (look) for a way to cure a disease.

B: I know, I _____ (already / see) it. I remember how it shows that scientists _____ (conduct) experiments for years but they still _____ (not find) the cure for that disease.

3.

A: _____ you
_____ (finish) painting the bedroom? Kelly _____ (wait) for you to call her since nine o'clock this morning.

B: I _____ (not paint) the whole room yet. I need a few more hours before I finish and then I'll call her.

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

- My brother has never seen such a boring documentary before.
It's the most boring _____ seen. **ever**
- I bought this house in February.
I _____ February. **had**
- When did Steve start learning Chinese?
How _____ Chinese? **has**
- It's been a long time since I last visited Mary.
I _____ a long time. **for**
- Melissa isn't hungry. She had lunch an hour ago.
Melissa isn't hungry. She _____ lunch. **already**
- I first met Mr. Hopkins last year.
I _____ last year. **have**
- Tiffany started working in the marketing department two months ago.
Tiffany _____ in the marketing department for two months. **been**
- The last time Jessica went to a museum was two months ago.
Jessica hasn't _____ two months. **for**

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A. Complete with the correct form of the verbs play, go, do, join or collect.

1. Lisa seems so calm since she started _____ yoga.
2. Sultan Hassan al-Bolkiah _____ cars and owns over 7,000 of them!
3. Last week, Mary _____ a gym because she wants to lose weight.
4. On rainy afternoons, I enjoy _____ board games.
5. My family enjoys _____ to the sports club together.
6. My teacher wants us to _____ the school's writing club.
7. Jack _____ karate at his school in the afternoon.
8. Kevin _____ coins from around the world. It is his hobby.
9. Do you _____ pilates in your spare time?
10. In the winter, we _____ ice skating on the frozen lake.
11. Does anybody want to _____ tennis with me?

B. Complete the blanks in the paragraph with one word only.

READY FOR TAKE OFF

Jake Lewis has been making and flying model airplanes since he was as young 1 _____ his ten-year-old son. "Making model airplanes had always been 2 _____ best way for me to spend my spare time. I made my first one with my father when I was 8 years old." While the rest of the boys would 3 _____ basketball or soccer, Jake would stay at home making model airplanes. "It took me a while to get my first plane up in the air, but fortunately I got better 4 _____ better as the years passed." That's when Jake decided to join a model airplane club and started taking part in competitions. "The club helped me learn more things about model planes," Jake says. "I knew that the 5 _____ I learned, 6 _____ better my planes would become. Each time I started making a new plane, my goal was to make my new plane fly higher and faster 7 _____ the previous one." Jake has won over twenty competitions since then. What is the 8 _____ satisfying thing about his hobby? Having the opportunity to share it with his son and seeing him get excited about airplanes.



C. Complete with the correct form of the adjectives or adverbs in parentheses. Add the and as where necessary.

A: What kind of hobby should I take up? I have some spare time on weekends and I'm thinking of either going hiking or learning to surf. What do you think?

B: I prefer hiking because I think that it is 1 _____ (adventurous) hobby of all. Also, I consider surfing to be 2 _____ (dangerous) than hiking. But then again, I'm not 3 _____ (good) at swimming as you.

A: Actually, I don't think that hiking is

4 _____ (exciting) as surfing is. If you ask me, 5 _____ (high) the wave, 6 _____ (great) the adrenaline rush!

B: Well, I believe that you should think about it 7 _____ (carefully).



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

1. Jason is not as good at baseball as Peter is.

Peter _____ Jason is.

better

2. I have never watched a funnier movie.

It is _____ I have ever watched.

the

3. Greg is getting taller all the time.

Greg _____ taller.

and

4. If you exercise, you become thin.

The _____ you become.

more

5. This book isn't as boring as I thought it would be.

This book is _____ I thought it would be.

than

6. If we recycle more, there won't be so much garbage.

The _____ garbage there will be.

less

7. I thought this dish would be more tasty.

This dish _____ I thought it would be.

as

8. I have never read a less interesting article than this one.

This is _____ I have ever read.

least

2b

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A. Complete with the correct form of the words in capitals.

DESERT ULTRAMARATHONS

An ultramarathon is any sporting event in which 1 _____ have to run or walk longer than the traditional marathon of 26.2 miles. Desert ultramarathons in which 2 _____ have to face a hot 3 _____ desert are very popular nowadays.

Some of these desert ultramarathons may last for days. Interestingly, such marathons are not only for 4 _____ and experienced athletes, but also for people who compete for the experience of running through a desert. It's a very exciting experience but it is also very challenging. Taking part in such a race is a real test of 5 _____ because runners have to run over sand dunes, carrying various items like a sleeping bag, safety equipment, and a water bottle. More importantly, they usually have to do this in difficult weather conditions, because it is not 6 _____ for temperatures to reach 95°F.

For these reasons, whoever wants to participate must be well-prepared and careful. Otherwise, it will be difficult for them to finish the race, as many runners collapse from 7 _____ before they reach the finish line.

PARTICIPATE

**COMPETE
SAND**

GIFT

ENDURE

COMMON

EXHAUST



B. Complete with the words in the box. There are two extra words which you do not need to use.

entertain falcon advertise represent effort origins odds honor evidence adjustment

1. The _____ were against him, but he won the tennis match.
2. People have been looking for _____ of life on other planets for years.
3. Winning Saturday's game is a matter of national _____.
4. Look at how high that _____ is flying.
5. This tradition has its _____ in the Middle Ages.
6. A: What does this symbol _____?
B: I'm not sure. Let's check on the Internet.
7. Lisa's parents hired a clown to _____ the children.
8. Can you make more of a(n) _____? You're not trying very hard.

I. Choose a, b, c or d.

Sanchez Wins on Steel Wind Again!

The Oriana racetrack was crowded yesterday afternoon, due to the fact that many spectators showed 1 _____. Of course, most of them came to see Eduardo Sanchez, the Mexican 2 _____ who has the whole equestrian world talking. Sanchez has a(n) 3 _____ way of riding. This is because one of his legs is shorter than the other, a problem he has managed to 4 _____ because of his love for the sport. He has been riding horses since the age of six and has won first place in many international races. Once Sanchez jumps in the 5 _____, there's no way of stopping him and his horse. He now makes a perfect team with Steel Wind, who from last place can 6 _____ all the horses on the track in the 7 _____ of an eye and win a race. Such was the case yesterday. Although, in the beginning, Steel Wind was all the way in the back, he soon reached the front and remained there till the end of the race. Eduardo Sanchez and Steel Wind raced to victory and won first place once again!

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. a. off | c. in |
| b. up | d. out |
| 2. a. operator | c. sprinter |
| b. resident | d. jockey |
| 3. a. only | c. agile |
| b. unique | d. actual |
| 4. a. pass | c. overcome |
| b. defeat | d. leap |
| 5. a. odds | c. horn |
| b. finish line | d. saddle |
| 6. a. cross | c. display |
| b. outrun | d. speed |
| 7. a. shut | c. wink |
| b. close | d. blink |

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A. Read the e-mail below and divide it into paragraphs.

Hi Daisy, Sorry I haven't written for so long, but I've been really busy lately. There have been so many interesting changes in my life since I moved to Sydney that I thought I'd write and fill you in on what I've been up to. Well, first of all, I finally discovered my true talent. Painting! I signed up for a college course just for fun and as it turns out I'm pretty good at it. Actually, I'm working on a new painting at the moment. It's a huge oil painting of the old factory in our town. It's taking ages to finish, but I know it's going to be great! The other news is that I finally found a roommate so I can move out of my aunt's house. Guess who it is! Your old roommate, Susie! We ran into each other a few weeks ago and we hit it off. We've been hanging out a lot since then and we have a lot of things in common. She's really nice and she's been helping me settle in. Anyway, that's all my news. How's everything with you? Write back soon with your news and make sure you send my love to everyone. Take care, Sally

B. In the e-mail above there are some informal expressions. Find the expressions that mean:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. be busy with = _____ | 5. enjoy each other's company immediately = _____ |
| 2. to have a particular result = _____ | |
| 3. take a really long time = _____ | 6. get used to living in a new house or place = _____ |
| 4. to meet somebody you know when you are not expecting it = _____ | |