

Use of English

Task 8

Read the text below. For questions (39–48) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

A Famous Race

The Tour de France is known the world over and watched by millions. It is one of the most (39) — endurance races in the sporting calendar. But how did it all begin? It all started when Henri Desgrange, (40) — of the cycling newspaper *L'Auto*, was looking for a way to increase sales and thought a race would help him achieve this. He was right, as both the first Tour de France and *L'Auto* became hugely successful, and a rival paper, *Le Vélo*, was forced to go (41) — business.

That first race took place in July (as it continues to do today), and (42) — six stages, with 60 riders cycling 2,500 kilometres over 19 days, cycling day and night. The winner of the first race was Maurice Garin, a Frenchman, who finished the race in 94 hours, 33 minutes and 14 seconds. The (43) — with the modern race is striking – nowadays there are 20 stages, and cyclists cover a distance of 3,361 kilometres in 22 days. The fastest contestants complete the course in about 82 hours, and there are nearly 200 cyclists who enter the race, although not all of them (44) — it to the finish line.

The bikes have changed from the early days, too. The original bikes weighed 16 kilograms, (45) — today bikes often weigh less than 7 kilograms. Because (46) — cyclists had to race at night, they had lamps on the front of their bikes. One thing that has not changed is the colour of the (47) — winner's jersey. The colour was chosen by Desgrange because his newspaper was (48) — on yellow paper.

Perhaps the greatest difference is the prize money that the riders can win. Today's winner can expect to take home as much as £432,000, compared to £462 won in the 1903 race.

39	A	dictating	B	ordering	C	demanding	D	pressuring
40	A	editor	B	principal	C	leader	D	supervisor
41	A	around	B	out of	C	back from	D	behind
42	A	counted	B	numbered	C	included	D	added
43	A	connection	B	variation	C	opposition	D	contrast
44	A	do	B	make	C	go	D	come
45	A	as	B	while	C	during	D	since
46	A	originally	B	primarily	C	actually	D	really
47	A	whole	B	complete	C	total	D	overall
48	A	pressed	B	printed	C	copied	D	stamped

Task 9

Read the texts below. For questions (49–58) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Burning Man

I'm sitting in the desert in Nevada, USA. I'm waiting patiently for the climax of the alternative arts festival (49) ____ as Burning Man. Next to and (50) ____ me are the friends I've made while living in the camp here. The thirty-foot wooden man in the centre of the festival – the Burning Man himself – is now on fire and we can feel the (51) ____ as the excitement builds. It has taken several months to build the man, and even (52) ____ time was devoted to the design of the structure itself. It needs to burn long enough for us to be able to see the breath-taking spectacle of performers dancing around it, followed by the perfectly timed fireworks display. As soon as the man falls, spectators and participants pack up their camper vans and (53) ____ . Until next year, of course. I'll be there for sure!

49	A	know	B	knowing	C	known	D	knew
50	A	in front	B	in between	C	behind	D	across
51	A	hot	B	heat	C	heating	D	hotness
52	A	many	B	much	C	most	D	more
53	A	leave	B	left	C	are leaving	D	have left

Schoolkid Billionaires

Think you've got a good business idea? Want to start your own company? Still at school? No problem! Young people are probably most suited to being entrepreneurs, because there's less risk (54) ____ a business when you're young. You haven't established (55) ____ in a career yet, and probably don't have a family to support. So you have (56) ____ to lose – you should just go for it. That's what Mark Zuckerberg did. He became a billionaire at the age of 23, thanks to the phenomenal success of Facebook. Now is a better time than ever, so it's worth (57) ____ business a try. Many countries actively encourage young entrepreneurs via schemes (58) ____ aim to provide them with the work skills, knowledge and confidence they need. So, why not try to come up with an idea that you think could be successful? You never know, it may even make you a billionaire!

54	A	to start	B	in starting	C	for start	D	of starting
55	A	you	B	your	C	yours	D	yourself
56	A	nothing	B	none	C	no	D	not
57	A	giving	B	to give	C	of giving	D	given
58	A	which	B	what	C	who	D	where