

GRAMMAR

- 1 Fill in the blanks with: although, so as not to, so that, in order to, in spite of, despite**

The Unexpected Trip

(1) _____ it was raining heavily, we decided to go hiking in the mountains. We had been planning the trip for weeks and didn't want to cancel it. We woke up early (2) _____ catch the first bus to the national park, but when we arrived at the station, it was completely empty.

The bus driver had called in sick, (3) _____ the company could find a replacement, we had to wait for more than an hour. (4) _____ being tired and cold, everyone stayed in good spirits. We shared snacks and jokes while waiting.

When we finally arrived at the park, the rain stopped. We started walking quietly (5) _____ scare the animals. The forest looked beautiful after the rain — the trees were shining, and everything smelled fresh.

At the end of the day, we were exhausted but happy. It was one of the best trips we had ever taken, (6) _____ all the problems we had faced.

6

2 Circle the correct word(s).

Hurry up, students! We don't have much 1 **a time / time** to waste before the trip. Please pack carefully and don't forget your 2 **trouser / a pair of trousers**, because it might get cold at night. Oh, and take some 3 **advices / advice** with you from your parents — they always know what's best! We'll stay at a small hotel in the countryside. The 4 **staff / staffs** there **is** really friendly, and the 5 **furniture / furnitures** in the rooms **is** simple but comfortable. Remember, you can't bring too much 6 **luggage / luggages**, so just one bag per person, please! Also, there isn't any cereal left, but you can have 7 **a toast / a piece of toast** before we go. And don't worry about the weather — the 8 **clothes / a pair of clothes** you're wearing are perfect for hiking.

8

Grammar total 14

VOCABULARY

- 3 Read the text below and use the word in CAPITALS to form a noun that fits each gap.**

6

A Winter Challenge

Last year, I decided to take part in a mountain survival course. The first day was easy, but as soon as the weather changed, everything became a real 1 _____ (**LOSE**) for me. The temperature dropped below zero, and I felt the 2 _____ (**HOT**) leaving my body. We had to climb for hours, and some people suffered from 3 _____ (**WEAK**) and couldn't continue. I admired the instructor's 4 _____ (**STRONG**) and positive attitude — he never gave up! At night, we built fires to fight the 5 _____ (**COLD**) and cooked a small meal. After eating, we divided the 6 _____ (**PAY**) for the food and fuel equally among everyone. It was a great experience that taught me discipline and the importance of 7 _____ (**REDUCE**) — carrying less, using less, and appreciating more.

4 Complete the text with one word about business.

The Rise and Fall of a Small Company

In the early 2000s, "GreenTech," a small company producing eco-friendly household products, was going through a **b**_____ period. Sales were increasing fast, and the company started to **ex**_____ a lot by selling its goods to international customers. All the products were carefully **ma**_____ in local factories using sustainable materials, which helped them **m**_____ **money** quickly. Before launching new items, the marketing team would always do market **re**_____ to understand what customers really wanted. However, after several successful years, sales began to **dr**_____, and competition became tougher. A larger corporation decided to take **o**_____ the company, and soon after, the two firms **m**_____ to form a single, stronger brand. Unfortunately, some of the smaller factories had to **cl**_____ down as production was moved abroad to cut costs. Even though the founder sometimes says he regrets mixing business with **pl**_____, he admits he learned valuable lessons about success and teamwork.

10

5 Write the words in parentheses with the correct prefix or suffix.

Life in the Future City

The new eco-city of Solaris is famous for its innovative transport system. Instead of cars, people travel on a **1 monorail (rail)** that moves silently above the streets. The vehicles are made of special glass that is completely **2** _____ (**break**), ensuring passenger safety. Visitors are often amazed by the city's design and the **3** _____ (**abundant**) of green spaces between buildings. Even though workers sometimes complain about being **4** _____ (**paid**), they say that living in such a clean and peaceful environment is worth it. Before moving in, residents must make a **5** _____ (**paid**) rent deposit which is made before signing a digital contract. Many foreigners move here to see the **6** _____ (**improve**) in technology and sustainability. In schools, teachers focus on **7** _____ (**pronounce**), creativity, and kindness. Children are encouraged to be **8** _____ (**thought**) toward others and to participate in community projects. Local authorities also promote equality through fair **9** _____ (**capital**) rules and housing systems that benefit everyone in the **10** _____ (**neighbor**). However, life here isn't perfect — with so many exciting events, it's easy to **11** _____ (**sleep**) and arrive late to work!

10

Vocabulary total

26

PRONUNCIATION

6 Circle the stressed syllable in the words in bold.

Example: There has been a huge **in|crease** in sales this year.

- 1 Can you update us on how the project is **pro|gress|ing**?
- 2 This area has some wonderful local **pro|duce** – you must try the cheese.
- 3 Oil is one of the country's biggest **ex|ports**.
- 4 The airline company eventually agreed to give us a **re|fund**.
- 5 I'd say this is the most **mul|ti|cul|tu|ral** area of the city.

5

Grammar, Vocabulary, and Pronunciation total

45

READING Reading and use of English part 5

You are going to read an extract from a newspaper article about a travel writer called Janet Montgomery, who writes guides to small towns. For questions 1 -6, choose the answer (a, b, c or d) which you think fits best according to the text.

Anyone who has travelled through Britain's lesser-known towns and villages will be familiar with the name Janet Montgomery.

I went to meet Janet at her flat in Leicester, where she's lived since retiring as a school teacher. A cheery welcome awaited me, and Janet showed me into a living room lined with bookshelves, where she gave me an insight into her writing.

'I grew up in a small town in West Yorkshire, the kind of place you might pass through on your way to somewhere else,' says Janet. 'Geography was always my passion, not surprisingly, being brought up where I was. A charming place, but rather out of the way. As a child, I'd look out of the window at the rain coming over the hillside and wonder what was on the other side of it. And further afield, beyond the next hill. So I suppose you could say I caught the travel bug quite early on, in a way.'

As a girl, she came across a pile of old Baedeker travel guides in a little-used cupboard while visiting family. These turned out to belong to a great-uncle of hers, Charles Montgomery. After serving in the First World War, he returned to France on regular holidays, by himself as it happened, always armed with his camera and trusty Baedekers. Mainly landscapes and views of monuments, his photographs were painstakingly catalogued, a process that Janet came to realise was crucial to her later work as a travel guide author. 'Obviously, times were hard then and his finances didn't allow him to go as far as he'd have liked to, but his photographs are a fascinating insight into life in the inter-war period and after the Second World War. In my own way, I feel I'm continuing with his work, filling in the gaps by visiting the places that he was never able to see.' I look over at the black-and-white photos on the bookshelves.

She left her hometown to study geography at Glasgow University, her first experience of being away from home for any length of time and one she admits was quite an eye-opener for a girl with a sheltered upbringing. She noted down her impressions, and wrote lengthy letters to relatives, including her great-uncle Charles. After returning from a short trip to Northern Ireland, Janet wrote about her experiences for the university magazine. 'It wasn't much of a guide in the sense we now know, and I was taken aback when a writer on a local newspaper contacted me about writing a similar guide to the Loch Lomond area. They must have seen something in the way I wrote, attention to detail, who knows. It didn't lead to much at the time, but on leaving university, I sought out opportunities to write short pieces, for parish magazines, that sort of thing, and it just went on from there. Having a small readership never bothered me.'

Times have changed in the 40 years since she took her first steps in the publishing world, and I ask Janet how she feels about the impact of the internet on what she does. 'You can find everything you want on the internet and that's marvellous. So many people are writing now. Still, I'm fairly sure there'll be a market for what I do.' She explains: 'Some will always feel more secure with a book in their hands, having everything in one place. That said, I am aware that my readership might be becoming a little more limited, you might say, as I am clearly more popular with the older generation.'

'With that, Janet hands me her latest pocket guide to Welsh village churches and cheerfully bids me farewell, as if sending me off on the kind of journey she herself has made numerous times.'

1 What does Janet say about her interest in travel?

- A It is related to where she lived when she was young.
- B She was born into a family of travel enthusiasts.
- C It was a consequence of an unhappy childhood.
- D It came from her interest in nature.

2 What does Janet mean by 'caught the travel bug' in line 9?

- A She felt annoyed that she was unable to travel.
- B She became interested in insects from other continents.
- C She had the desire to see other places.
- D She became a travel writer.

3 How did her great-uncle's work influence her?

- A She wanted to return to the places he'd visited.
- B She realised the importance of being organised.
- C She felt sad that he hadn't seen everything he wanted to.
- D He left her a large number of documents to work through.

4 What does the word 'one' in line 20 refer to?

- A a girl
- B a time
- C an experience
- D a university

5 How did she feel about her first published work?

- A She was disappointed by readers' reactions.
- B She was confident about her style.
- C She felt it was a natural consequence of her effort.
- D She was surprised by the interest in her work.

6 How does she feel about the future?

- A She feels jealous of younger writers.
- B She hopes to write internet travel guides.
- C She worries about the kind of information on the internet.
- D She realises there will be fewer people buying books like hers.

Reading total	12
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WRITING : In your social studies course, you have watched a documentary on the potential effects of too much pollution on the air quality of city centres. Your professor has assigned you an essay to write. (between 140 and 190 words)

Write an **essay** using **all** the notes and give reasons for your point of view.

Keeping the air quality in city centres at healthy levels for their residents is a concern for many places. How can we solve the problem of pollution in city centres?

Notes

Write about:

- automobiles
- factories
- (your own idea)

Writing total	10
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Reading and Writing total	22
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LISTENING

1 You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about their visit to a restaurant. For questions 1-5, choose from the list (A-H) what each speaker didn't like about the visit to the restaurant. Use the letters only once. There are three extra letters which you do not need to use.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| a) the size of the portions | 1. Speaker 1 _____ |
| b) the quality of the drinks | 2. Speaker 2 _____ |
| c) the service they received | 3. Speaker 3 _____ |
| d) the way the restaurant was advertised | 4. Speaker 4 _____ |
| e) the time they had to wait | 5. Speaker 5 _____ |
| f) the bill they received | |
| g) the music in the restaurant | |
| h) the attitude of the manager | |

2 Listen to the interview and complete with only ONE word.

1. Scientists are exploring the idea of buildings that can grow and _____ themselves.
2. The goal is to combine modern architecture with _____ to create sustainable cities.
3. Materials made from mushroom roots could be kept _____ and allowed to grow.
4. The special concrete contains _____ that can fix cracks when water gets in.
5. Using this new technology could increase a building's _____ by many years.

5

Listening total 10