

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

TEST 1

PART 1

MARK:

1. **READING COMPREHENSION.** WRITE A T (True) or F (False).

The Leap of Faith: Beyond the Cubicle

Five years ago, if you had told Marcus Reed that he would be running a successful organic farm in the mountains, he would have laughed. At that time, Marcus was a high-flying corporate lawyer in the city. "I used to spend sixty hours a week in a grey office," he recalls. "I was proud of my salary, but I was embarrassed by how little I actually enjoyed my life."

The turning point came during a particularly stressful week. Marcus had second thoughts about his career path for years, but he always defended his decision to stay in the law because of the financial stability. However, after a minor health scare, he reached a conclusion: he needed to step outside his comfort zone. "It was a massive leap of faith," Marcus admits. "I didn't know the first thing about farming. Many of my colleagues started spreading rumors that I had lost my mind. Regarding the gossip, I just tried to keep my lips sealed and focus on my goal."

His transition wasn't easy. "If I hadn't saved enough money during my law years, I wouldn't have survived the first winter," he says. Marcus had to learn through trial and error. There were moments when he had serious doubts and almost moved back to the city. But he bore in mind that his happiness was more valuable than a corporate title.

Today, Marcus is a different man. "I wish I had made the change sooner," he smiles. "When it comes to success, people often think it's about money. But as far as I am concerned, it's about the quality of your daily experience." His story has become a local legend, proving that unless you are brave enough to follow your passion, you might never find true fulfillment.

How did Marcus feel about his life as a lawyer?

- A) He was embarrassed by his low salary.
- B) He was proud of his job but unhappy with his lifestyle.
- C) He enjoyed the sixty-hour work weeks.
- D) He was shocked by how much he liked his office.

What triggered Marcus's decision to change his career?

- A) He was fired from his law firm.
- B) He wanted to become a local legend.
- C) A health issue made him rethink his priorities.
- D) He won the lottery and bought a farm.

What was the reaction of his colleagues to his career change?

- A) They were inspired and joined him on the farm.
- B) they ignored him completely.
- C) They spread rumors and questioned his sanity.
- D) They defended his decision in front of the boss.

In the third paragraph, what does Marcus say about his first winter?

- A) It was easy because he was a natural farmer.
- B) He only survived because of his previous savings.
- C) He regretted moving and went back to the city.
- D) He spent the whole time wishing he were a lawyer again.

What does "bore in mind" mean in the context of the story?

- A) He forgot about his happiness.
- B) He kept a specific fact or idea in his thoughts.
- C) He changed his mind about the farm.
- D) He felt bored during the winter months.

What is Marcus's current view on success?

- A) It is strictly measured by financial gain.
- B) It is less important than a corporate title.
- C) It is defined by how you feel every day.
- D) It is impossible to achieve without trial and error.

2.TENSES: Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Right now, I (1. SIT) _____ in a café, thinking about my future. For the past few months, I (2. HAVE) _____ second thoughts about my degree. If I (3. NOT/CHOOSE) _____ Biology three years ago, I (4. STUDY) _____ Photography today. By this time next year, I (5. GRADUATE) _____, but I'm not sure if I want to be a scientist. I wish I (6. TAKE) _____ a gap year before starting university. Unless I (7. REACH) _____ a decision soon, I (8. FEEL) _____ stuck forever.

3.OPEN CLOZE: Read the text and fill each gap with ONE word.

(1) _____ it comes to rumors, it is always better to keep your lips sealed. Gossip can spread fast, especially (2) _____ of social media. I believe that people (3) _____ used to be more respectful of privacy in the past. (4) _____ far as I am concerned, we should bear (5) _____ mind that words can hurt others deeply.

4. PARAPHRASING: Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first, using the word given.

1. I didn't take that leap of faith, so I don't have my dream job now. **HAD**
If I _____ that leap of faith, I would have my dream job now.
2. I'm sorry I told everyone your secret. **WISH**
I _____ everyone your secret.
3. If you don't keep your lips sealed, everyone will know the truth. **UNLESS**
Everyone will know the truth _____ your lips sealed.
4. I think it's a good idea for you to step outside your comfort zone. **WERE**
If _____, I would step outside my comfort zone.
5. It's a pity that we didn't reach a decision yesterday. **ONLY**
If _____ a decision yesterday!

5. **NARRATIVE WRITING:** Write a story (140-190 words) beginning with: "I looked at the contract and realized I was about to take a leap of faith." Include at least 2 vocabulary items from S6 and one Third Conditional.