

Topic vocabulary: Thinking

A Circle the correct word.

- 1 Don't be so **optimistic** / **pessimistic**. Everything's going to be fine, you'll see!
- 2 Most newspapers are usually **biased** / **prejudiced** towards a certain political outlook.
- 3 I'm slightly **dubious** / **cynical** about whether Sean's idea is going to work.
- 4 To suggest that it's possible to create a society without crime is a little **naïve** / **sceptical**, isn't it?
- 5 The only **ingenious** / **plausible** explanation I can think of is that Jenna got the dates wrong.
- 6 Please don't **baffle** / **discriminate** me with loads of technical terminology. Use plain, simple English!
- 7 It's not always easy to **assume** / **assess** someone's suitability for a job just by talking to them in a short interview.
- 8 How can the government **justify** / **speculate** spending so much on the armed forces?
- 9 Looking at the damage, I would **estimate** / **deduce** that the painting will cost at least €2,000 to restore properly.
- 10 I don't think you should **reflect** / **presume** that lots of people are going to help you with this project.

B Complete using the correct form of the words in the box. More than one word might fit in each gap, but try to use all the words.

concentrate • consider • contemplate • deliberate • gather • grasp • ponder • reckon • suppose

- 1 It took me quite a long time to what the aim of the game was.
- 2 The jury are still , but they're expected to reach a verdict soon.
- 3 I from your tutor that you're thinking of changing course.
- 4 You really have to very hard when you are doing calligraphy.
- 5 I'm seriously asking for a pay rise tomorrow.
- 6 How long do you it'll take to get to Manchester?
- 7 I don't I could borrow your lecture notes this weekend, could I?
- 8 If you've ever the question 'Why does the universe bother to exist?', then this is the book for you.
- 9 Let's not even the possibility of failure.

C Each of the words in bold is in the wrong sentence. Write the correct words on the lines.

- 1 I'm in a real **hunch** because I've been invited to two parties on Saturday and I don't know which one to go to.
- 2 Dave said he's got complete **guesswork** in us, and thinks we're going to do a great job.
- 3 Sarah's a/an **intuition** when it comes to astrophysics, but she's not very practical in everyday things.
- 4 You often need to use a little educated **notion** when you're starting a cryptic crossword.
- 5 I've got a/an **ideology** that someone in this office is going to get promoted soon.
- 6 Communism and capitalism are very different types of **dilemma**.
- 7 Who gave you the **faith** for the main character in the book?
- 8 Detective Tacker had absolutely no evidence that Roddard was involved, but all his **paradox** told him that he was.
- 9 I've got a small **inspiration** about the exam syllabus. Should I talk to Mrs Jacobs about it?
- 10 Paying mothers a salary to raise their children is an interesting **genius**.
- 11 The fact that more people would come here if the place wasn't so crowded is a real **query**.