The cost of crime

Reading

1 Read the first part of the article below. Which two subjects doesn't it mention?

a Some places where CCTV is installed.
b The cost of CCTV.
c The popularity of CCTV in the UK.
d The shop owner's reason for installing CCTV.
e What criminals think of CCTV.

Verbs and prepositions VOCABULARY 3.4

2 Read part 1 again and choose the correct prepositions.

NEWS | REVIEWS | COMMENT

In my local corner shop a few weeks ago, I mentioned having an unwanted TV to the owner, Rizza. His normally bored face lit up. Within ten minutes we were back at my flat, apologising [1]*to/for/about* my wife [2]*of/for/with* the noise – it was late – as we dragged an ancient TV out of the loft.

"It really is quite old," I said. But Rizza insisted [3]*of/to/on* taking it, saying it was perfect for the shop. I assumed he meant for entertainment during quiet periods.

A few days later, I was in Rizza's shop again and I spotted our old TV. On the screen I saw a picture of myself.

"Security cameras," Rizza announced, "to catch shoplifters." I look around the shop. It's a tiny place. Only a magician could succeed [4]*after/in/for* taking anything without being seen.

"Great!" I say.

Rizza's decision to install closed-circuit television (CCTV) is not unusual. The number of CCTV cameras throughout the UK has been estimated as high as four million. However, recent research, based [5]*on/of/in* the number of cameras in an average town, thinks the number is closer to two million. You don't need to apply [6]*with/to/of* anyone [7]*to/from/for* permission to install a CCTV camera. So, they are everywhere: from busy shopping centres to the quietest corners of public parks.

3 Read the second part of the article below. Fill in the gaps with the correct verb and preposition.

worry	cope	~~convinced~~	complained	stops	with	to	from	~~of~~	about

Most British people support CCTV. It makes areas feel safer, they say. It discourages crime and helps to solve it, they add. And if you've ever seen CCTV images of a criminal on the news, it's hard to disagree. However, many others are not [1] *convinced* [2] *of* its effectiveness. There is no clear evidence that CCTV [3] _____ criminals [4] _____ committing crimes.

Opponents also [5] _____ [6] _____ the issue of personal privacy. A few years ago Geoffrey Peck felt unable to [7] _____ [8] _____ his life. He attempted suicide in a British street and he was spotted by a CCTV camera. The police were called and fortunately he survived. However, the pictures were shown on TV – to approximately nine million viewers – and Geoffrey's face was clearly visible. He [9] _____ [10] _____ the police about this and was awarded £7,000 compensation.

I passed my local shop again the next week. Rizza was repairing the glass door with his son. Neither of them looked very happy.

"Thieves broke in last night," he explained.

"Oh, no!" I replied. "Have you watched the CCTV yet?"

"There are no CCTV pictures," he said unhappily, pointing to his son. "He turned the camera off when he left the shop last night!"

4 Read the complete article and answer these questions.

1 What did the writer think Rizza wanted the TV for?

_____

2 What does the writer think of Rizza's idea? Why?

_____

3 What reason does the writer give for the large number of CCTV cameras?

_____

4 Why do some people like CCTV?

_____

5 What arguments against CCTV does the writer mention?

_____

6 Why did Geoffrey Peck get £7,000?

_____

7 Did Rizza's CCTV help after the break-in at his shop? Why?/Why not?

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS