

Test on Units 5 & 6

I. **Read this article about council tax rise in Wales. Some words have been removed from the text. Your task is to fill in the gaps with the right words from the list. There is one more expression than you need. Write the right letter in the white boxes. An example has been given for you.**

ONE IN THREE FACE COUNCIL TAX RISE

One in three homeowners in Wales face higherJ.... (0) next year after revaluation of properties. It will mean 33% of homes going up a band, and only 8% moving down.

The Welsh Assembly Government promised a helping hand by (1) scheme, so that no one goes up more than one band in any one year. A year ago the assembly government (2) that “around a quarter” of homes would move up band, and the same number would move down.

The bandings, which determine how much council tax homeowners will have to pay, are being sent out from Wednesday. The actual impact (3) will only become clear from next February to April when Welsh local authorities send out the council tax bills for the year 2005/6.

“This is the first time that a revaluation (4) since council tax was introduced in 1993,” she said on Wednesday. “I want to reassure council taxpayers that revaluation in itself was not undertaken as a reason to increase council tax levels. However, it is logical that homes that have increased (5) greater than the national average are more likely to move up the banding system.

Flintshire council leader, Alex Alridge, chairman of the Welsh Local Government Association, said: “There is real work to do to ensure that the impact of revaluation will be fair and evenly spread since the figures show significantly more households (6) to higher bands.”

“While average council tax bills will not change as a result of the Valuation Office Agency’s review we are (7) of the impact on a significant number of homes which have seen exceptional increases in value in recent years.”

Opposition parties criticised the re-banding. “The first thing to note is that Plaid Cymru is totally (8) the unfair, property-based council tax,” said the party’s local government spokesman, Dai Lloyd. “We have been calling for a local income tax to fund local government since the ‘70s whereby taxes are based on (9) to pay. “We are now finding that some pensioners on low fixed incomes are living in properties that have seen their valuations go through the roof, and are seeing their council tax increase by between two and three bands.”

“People living in Cardiff, Wrexham, the Vale of Glamorgan, Powys and Monmouthshire are going to be particularly badly hit. I expect that much more money (10) in council tax from next year. The Welsh Assembly Government is raising taxes by the back door yet again.”

Mount Road resident, Mary Simmons, a pensioner, said she was worried. “We bought this house in 1977 and paid nearly £11,000 and were put into band B,” she said. “I think the value of the house now would be £140,000. If I’m right, we’ll be into band E which is going to make (11) to someone on a fixed income. I am getting a bit concerned about it.”

The Assembly government will discuss the details of the scheme with councils. A dedicated helpline has been set up for people (12) about their new council tax band.

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| A) on homeowners | E) people’s ability |
| B) opposed to | F) get into band |
| C) with queries | G) has been undertaken |
| D) have been allocated | H) introducing a relief |

I) had predicted
J) council tax bills
K) will be collected

L) very aware
M) in value
N) a big difference

II. Read this information sheet about job vacancy. Then give short answers (maximum 3-5 words) to the questions. An example (0) has been given for you.

Job vacancy

‘Lidl’ is one of the largest and fastest growing discount food retailers in Europe with operations in Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Belgium and Portugal. Lidl is committed to selling good quality products at the lowest price possible.

Being one of the largest growing discounters in the UK, Lidl has already established a committed management team. This team ensures that the lowest costs are maintained and that the benefit is passed onto Lidl’s customers. Lidl is expanding aggressively throughout the UK and is looking for determined, highly motivated managers to build on the current success.

At present we have vacancy for an Executive Management position which requires a leader with a very strong personality. The ability to win support and commitment at all levels is a must. Responsibilities will include staff management as well as the controlling of costs and inventories. One of the major aspects of this position is to maintain our high commercial standards, reporting directly to the Regional Director.

The ideal candidate for the job should be between 26-35 years of age with managerial experience and educated to degree level. Self-motivation is a pre-requisite as well as the ability to work under pressure and on your own initiative. You should have a high level of commercial awareness and be results-orientated.

(0) What is Lidl? A discount food retailer

(1) What does Lidl sell?

(2) How do they make sure that benefits are passed onto Lidl’s customers?

(3) On which continent do they operate?

(4) What kind of workforce are they looking for?

(5) Who do they want to employ now?

(6) Who will the new employee report to?

(7) Should the candidate for this job have a university degree?

III. Read this letter about teenagers having holiday or weekend jobs. Then read the statements and decide if they are true or false according to what the text says. An example has been given for you.

Dear Sir,

I was surprised to read your recent editorial on the question of student’s part-time jobs. You appear to be making a lot of generalisations on the basis of just one unfortunate incident (I assure you not all young people who deliver newspapers are as foolish and dishonest as the two youths mentioned in your article).

The first point I would like to make is that there are many jobs teenagers can do which give them useful experience of the working world. They are brought into contact with a variety of people, often older, and are given the experience of expressing themselves clearly and coherently. I am thinking here of jobs such as travel guides and shop assistants.

Another argument for schoolchildren and college students having holiday or weekend jobs is that many parents need the financial assistance. If we take, for example, a family in which the father is unemployed or perhaps a single-parent family on a low income, it seems logical and fair that a son or daughter should try to bring money into the household.

One further thing I want to say is that a lot of jobs for the young can be fun for the people who them and also useful to the community. Youngsters who help in schools, hospitals and with the elderly often derive a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction as well as contributing something valuable to local society.

In conclusion, I would add that when I was a girl, my father said my teens were a time for books, hobbies and academic studies. Thinking back, I feel I would have learnt much more – about myself, other people and life in general – if he had allowed me to do a limited amount of real work. Certainly, when she is old enough, I shall encourage my own daughter to do so, rather than waste her time with soap operas, computer games and discotheques, like so many people today.

Yours faithfully,

Leslie Hobst

- (0) This letter was written to a newspaper. **True** / False
- (1) All young people that work are intelligent and honest. True / False
- (2) There are many advantages of youngsters doing part-time jobs. True / False
- (3) Children in one-parent families should not work. True / False
- (4) Working may mean a lot of fun and satisfaction. True / False
- (5) The writer worked when she was at school. True / False
- (6) A job helps you to learn about yourself. True / False
- (7) Many people today watch soap operas. True / False

IV. You are going to read a text about how to be a good team member. Some words are missing from the text. Your task is to choose the most appropriate word in the white boxes. There is an example given for you.

How to be a good team member

When you are ...E.. (0) at a job, it is important to be a 'team player'. A team player works well with the other people on the (1) . Employers like it when their (2) get along very well with one another and still get the job (3) done.

There are many things you can do (4) a good team player. When working with others, be (5) to compromise. Think of ways to solve problems. Do not demand (6) your ideas used.

Show loyalty to your team. Be committed (7) the team's growth and improvement. Think of ways to help your team (8) its goals. Find a way to work in different conditions. Adapt to change in your work setting. Be responsible and accept new ways of (9) your job.

If you do these things, you will be a better team member. Your employer will (10) your good work.

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| A) doing | G) willing |
| B) job | H) appreciate |
| C) to be | I) team |
| D) that | J) employees |
| E) working | K) meet |
| F) to | L) done |

V. You are going to read a text about job prospects. Some words are missing from the text. Your task is to write the missing words into the white boxes. There is an example given for you (0).

Job prospects

Are you looking for ... (0) a job? More and more people are looking for work. Also, more people are changing jobs as job markets change. How do you find (1) about new jobs? Besides the local newspaper, there are many places to check for more information (2) possible jobs.

Public libraries in most towns and cities (3) information about jobs and different careers. This information includes lists of local and national job opportunities. The information tells you (4) to apply for the jobs.

Job centres provide services (5) locating jobs. Local authorities offer many civil service job opportunities. Civil service jobs are (6) with the local or national authorities like, for instance, forest rangers, post office clerks, or highway workers.

Many businesses hire workers (7) employment agencies. Employment agencies handle (8) temporary and permanent jobs. Many employment agencies list jobs in the want ad section of newspapers. You can also find the names of employment agencies in the telephone (9). Employment agencies usually charge a fee.

Your friends and relatives who are working are another source (10) learn about jobs. They can tell you about job openings where they are working or about other jobs.

VI. You are going to read a text about mobile phone sales. In most lines there is an unnecessary word. Find them and write them in the white boxes. If a line is correct, put - in the white boxes.

Mobile phone sales grow strongly

- (0) Global mobile phone sales grew by 35% in the second quarter of
- (0) 2004 compared with the same period in last year, according to in
- (1) market monitors Gartner. All over regions saw stronger demand,
- (2) with total handset sales are reaching 156 million, Gartner said.
- (3) Replacement has handsets fuelled sales in the United States and
- (4) Europe, where the mobile phone and market is maturing.
- (5) Meanwhile Nokia, the leading handset maker, continued to lose
- (6) market share legally to arch-rivals Motorola and Samsung.
- (7) Nokia's market share rose in the second quarter time compared
- (8) with the first three months of the year, helped by a price-cutting
- (9) strategy. But its share out of the global market was still down

(10) compared with the second and quarter of 2003. Motorola
 (11) expanded in the Americas, but lost some market to share in
 (12) China, Gartner said. The report also highlighted spectacular
 (13) growth in emerging markets. Latin America, notably other Brazil
 (14) and Mexico, led the sales increase, while in demand in Argentina
 showed signs of recovery following its economic meltdown in 2001.

VII. In this section you are going to hear an anecdote about how Mark Twain earned his first money. Your task will be to choose the correct answer and write its letter into the white box on the left. An example (0) has been given for you.

His first money

(0) The story is about the ... money Mark Twain ever earned.
 A) amount of C) *first*
 B) sources of D) last

(1) The story happened
 A) in their house C) in the schoolyard
 B) in the school building D) outside their house

(2) Schoolboys at the time ... their teachers.
 A) did respect C) often shouted back at
 B) did not respect D) loved

(3) Children often ... on the desks.
 A) wrote their names C) wrote their friend's name
 B) drew knives D) drew bodies

(4) The school principal wanted them to pay ... dollars if they damaged the desks.
 A) four C) nine
 B) eight D) five

(5) If they would not pay they ... in front of the whole school.
 A) had to apologise C) were beaten
 B) were deceived D) were scolded

(6) Mark Twain ... his father about why he needed the money.
 A) did not inform C) intended to tell
 B) misled D) honestly told

(7) His father agreed to
 A) receive the beating C) report it to the school
 B) pay the money D) suffer for his son

(8) Mark Twain did not bother much about
 A) the beating C) his father suffering
 B) the money D) the school

(9) Mark Twain was ready to
 A) give the money to the principal C) get a second beating
 B) leave the money at home D) take the money to school

(10) This way they could
 A) earn even more money C) earn some dollars
 B) save his father's face D) beat the whole school

VIII. In this section you are going to hear a report on people who are often absent from work. Your task will be to match the information in column I with the information in column II, and write the letter of the correct answer into the white boxes. There is an example (0) for you.

| | I | | II |
|-----|--|---|-------------|
| (0) | the distance (in kilometres) between the two Moeller Electronics factories | A | 325 |
| (1) | the number of the people employed by each factory | B | 1999 |
| (2) | the monthly pay earned by a Czech worker in euros | C | 176 MILLION |
| (3) | the sick pay a Czech worker gets a month (in euros) | D | 15 |
| (4) | the rate at which the number of Czech workers absent from work has risen | E | 710 |
| (5) | the year when the Czech sick pay policy was introduced | F | 370 |
| (6) | the number of workers absent because of illness on any given workday (out of 10,000) | G | 20 |
| (7) | the number of days taken off work in Britain last year | H | 53 |
| (8) | the number of workers visited by the health insurance people in Berlin | I | 1,100 |
| (9) | the percentage of the Berlin workers on sick leave who were found fit for work | J | 65,000 |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| I | (0) | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| II | D | | | | | | | | | |

Total: 79 points

79-67=jeles 66-59=jó 58-51=közepes 50-40=elégséges 39-0 elégtelen