

Grammar

1 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs given.

- It must (be) hard for such a young actor to play that role in the film.
- I (look) for a present for my mum for weeks when I found just what I wanted!
- Sally would know the answer to the question if she (revise) properly.
- Don't forget (switch) off your phone when you get on the plane!
- If you had asked me, I (lend) you some money.
- Claire asked me if I (help) her make a birthday cake for Dominic.
- Why does Anna insist on (play) loud music when she's studying?

/ 7

2 Choose the correct alternatives to complete the dialogue.

- Gus:** What's the matter?
Jane: Oh, mum and dad have (1) *criticised/ been criticising* me as usual!
Gus: Why?
Jane: They don't think I'm (2) *too active/active enough*. They've (3) *told/said* me to spend less time on the computer and do more outdoor activities!
Gus: What kind of activities?
Jane: Well, they've suggested (4) *going/to go* for a walk in the countryside this Sunday. There's a lake where you can go swimming!
Gus: No way! It'll be freezing!
Jane: I know, but (5) *unless/in case* I go, they won't let me have any time on the Internet during the week. It's so unfair!
Gus: And I (6) *was about to/would* ask you if you wanted to go to a music festival on Sunday afternoon. Blue Subway are playing.
Jane: Oh no – I love that group! I really wish I (7) *can/could* come!
Gus: Never mind, you might actually enjoy the walk ...
Jane: No, I won't! I'll (8) *have wished/be wishing* I was at the festival!

/ 8

Total / 15

Vocabulary

3 Complete the sentences with the correct answer, A, B or C.

- Esther can only work a few hours a week so she's looking for a job.
A manual **B** self-employed **C** part-time
- I took the jeans back to the shop and got a because they were too small.
A receipt **B** refund **C** bargain
- While I was running in the park, I felt and had to sit down.
A dizzy **B** painful **C** allergic
- The of the film was too stupid to be credible!
A plot **B** scene **C** role
- The earthquake was very strong, but fortunately there were no
A refugees **B** casualties **C** damages
- What's going on? My phone's!
A crashed **B** frozen **C** gone dead
- There's an interesting review of that novel in the section of the newspaper.
A business **B** arts **C** gossip

/ 7

4 Complete the text with these words. There are three extra words.

ability • acquire • gifted • keep • majority
 manage • mind • opportunity • practical
 qualification • self-confident

The (1) of people I know speak one foreign language or maybe two at the most. My friend, Nadia, however, is really (2) She can speak four different languages fluently! She doesn't think she has any particular linguistic (3), however. According to Nadia, anyone can (4) a language as long as they are prepared to work hard and (5) at it. I disagree. I think you have to have a good memory and be (6) enough to practise the language whenever you have the (7) When we went on a school trip to France, recently, I was afraid to speak French in case I said something wrong. Nadia, however, didn't (8) making mistakes. As a result, her French had improved amazingly by the end of the week!

/ 8

Total / 15

Use of English

5 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first, using the word given. Do not change the word given. Use between two and four words.

1 Most people believe that too much fatty food is bad for your health.

BELIEVED

Too much fatty food
..... bad for your health.

2 We had planned to watch a film on my laptop, but the battery ran out.

GOING

We
..... watch a film on my laptop, but the battery ran out.

3 It wasn't a good idea to go to school when you had a temperature.

GONE

You
..... to school when you had a temperature.

4 'Congratulations!' my violin teacher said when I passed my Grade 8 exam.

CONGRATULATED

My violin teacher
..... my Grade 8 exam.

5 I won't go to Australia unless I can find work as a volunteer.

THAT

I will only go to Australia
..... I can find work as a volunteer.

Reading

6 Read the article about Big Data and match the headings (A–F) with the paragraphs (1–5). There is one extra heading.

Big Data

What is it?

Big data refers to the huge amount of information that is exchanged through computers across the world every day. Whenever we do something online, whether it's posting a social media message, placing a shopping order or watching a funny video, we provide information about ourselves, our habits, our likes and dislikes. Offline activities that can be recorded, such as credit card use in shops, are also a part of big data. All this information can be stored and analysed to show patterns in human behaviour and social trends, which can be useful to companies, scientists, farmers, government organisations – the list is endless!

1

Over 90% of big data was only created in the last few years since a large number of people have had access to technology, but the amount is growing rapidly. According to the computer company IBM, 2.5 billion gigabytes of data were created every day in 2012! Nowadays, as computers play an increasingly bigger role in daily life, it must be even higher.

2

New software has been developed in order to collect and process all this information and data scientists are having to learn new skills in order to make sense of it. In fact, data science is an industry which is growing so quickly that there is currently a shortage of employees with the specialised knowledge required to understand and use big data efficiently.

3

By collecting all this information, people try to identify patterns which can tell them something useful. For instance, some universities in the UK are now using big data to help them predict which students will drop out of their courses. Things like library use, card swipes into buildings and electronic submission of coursework can be tracked and this information can be analysed to provide profiles of different types of students. The aim is to identify those whose behaviour suggests they may be at risk of giving up their courses so that action can be taken early enough to prevent them from doing so. Big data is used in other areas too, such as entertainment and sport. Take tennis, for example. During the annual Wimbledon tournament in London, a service called the 'Slamtracker' allows fans to look up statistics about their favourite players' past performances and style of play. It even predicts the outcomes of matches, based on the backgrounds of the players.

4

While it cannot be denied that big data helps us see connections between things that improve our understanding of the world, many people feel that the price we pay for this knowledge is too high. According to companies like Google and Facebook, we, the consumers, own the information we share on their sites, yet Google and Facebook allow advertisers to use information from our messages and posts to sell us specific products and services. Think about those adverts that pop up on your computer and try to persuade you to buy a certain brand of trainers or something else that you may have researched online. Some people see them as a minor inconvenience that's worth putting up with in order to get free email and social media services. Others believe that they are an invasion of privacy and that there should be laws to protect individuals' information from being used in this way.

5

In the future, big data analysts will probably continue to gather data which will lead to the development of even more products and services designed to make life easier. In medicine, neurologists will be able to interpret the meaning of a brain scan on many more different levels while cinemas will be able to work out how the weather affects what kind of films people go and see. In other words, we will be able to understand the world around us in ways we could never have imagined. At the same time, however, we will have to find ways to stop companies, organisations and governments exploiting information about ourselves, which they have no right to know.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| A What does it show us? | D How can we control the way it's used? |
| B How will it change our lives? | E Who does it belong to? |
| C Who analyses it? | F How much is there? |

7 Read the article again. Are these statements True (T), False (F) or is the information Not Mentioned (NM)?

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Big data is information taken from online sources only. T/F/NM | 4 In theory, the information that users exchange on social media sites doesn't belong to them. T/F/NM |
| 2 Data scientists are currently in demand. T/F/NM | 5 It is illegal to use knowledge of people's Internet activity in order to sell them something. T/F/NM |
| 3 A large number of British university students fail to complete their courses. T/F/NM | |

/ 5

Total	/ 10
--------------	-------------

Listening

8 Listen to five short extracts. Choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

- A woman and her son are having a conversation. What doesn't the boy want to do?
A Go on a trip round Europe.
B Take a lot of things with him on his travels.
C Walk to the station.
- A singer is talking to the audience during a concert. What does she apologise for?
A Not feeling well tonight.
B Being unable to perform on another occasion.
C Making a mistake with a date.
- A Katie and her brother, Jamie, are talking on the phone. What does Jamie say about university life?
A He only has time to relax at the weekend.
B It's more stressful than he expected.
C It's better than he thought it would be.
- You hear a news report. What has happened?
A Thousands of homes have been flooded.
B Heavy rain has caused evacuations and casualties.
C Weather conditions have created a dangerous situation.
- You hear an advert for a new invention. What do we learn about it?
A It reduces one of the harmful effects of mobile phones.
B It helps you see things on screen more clearly.
C It isn't for sale yet.

/ 5

9 Listen again and complete the sentences with one word in each space.

- The boy has only got minutes before his train leaves.
- 'Electric Jellyfish' is the name of a(n)
- Katie complains to Jamie about their
- Some people in York have no at the moment.
- The invention described is useful if you want to use a digital device at

/ 5

Total	/ 10
--------------	-------------

Writing

10 You have been discussing the subject of money and spending in your English class. Write an essay with this title:

'Children should not get pocket money unless they earn it.'

You should:

- introduce the topic and give your personal opinion.
- give your main argument, with reasons.
- give one or two other arguments, with reasons OR give opposing arguments and say why you don't agree with them.
- summarise your argument in a conclusion.

Use some of these phrases:

- In my opinion, ...
- I believe that ...
- Secondly, ... / Lastly, ...
- In addition, ... / What's more, ...
- Nevertheless, ...
- In conclusion, ...

Write 220–250 words.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Speaking

11 Work with a partner. Discuss this statement:

'Schools don't do enough to prepare students for life outside the classroom.'

Use some of these phrases:

- Do you see what I mean? / Are you following me?
- What I mean is ... / What I meant was ...
- Yes, that's exactly what I mean/meant.
- No, that's not quite what I mean/meant.
- Are you saying that ...? / If I understand you correctly, ...
- What do you mean when you say ...?
- Sorry, I'm not with you. / I don't understand what you're getting at.

/ 10

Total

/ 75