

Test 3 - First 4

READING AND USE OF ENGLISH (1 hour 15 minutes)

Part 1

For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Example:

0 A wanting B asking C seeking D demanding

0	A	B	C	D
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Feedback forms

Often when we buy something or use a service, we are given a form (0) how satisfied we are with the product or the service. Many people feel that (1) such forms is a waste of time; they think that companies probably take no notice of what people put on the forms. This may be the (2) with some companies but with most nothing could be further from the (3) Surveys are carefully analysed so that problems can be (4) In fact, improvements made by companies often (5) because of what customers have written on these forms.

If you are given a form to complete, companies want you to do so in as much (6) as possible. They obviously like to receive (7) on their products but they also want customers to (8) any problems that they have found. If customers do not do this, companies may remain unaware of problems and, consequently, no improvements can be made.

- | | | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1 | A putting down | B writing up | C filling in | D drawing out |
| 2 | A case | B position | C condition | D state |
| 3 | A experience | B fact | C truth | D practice |
| 4 | A shown | B distinguished | C identified | D marked |
| 5 | A carry out | B come about | C take off | D open up |
| 6 | A detail | B evidence | C point | D information |
| 7 | A approval | B tributes | C admiration | D compliments |
| 8 | A refer | B mention | C notify | D advise |

Part 2

For questions 9–16, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

Example: 0

S	I	N	C	E															
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Outdoor swimming

Ever (0) I was a young girl, I have been an enthusiastic outdoor swimmer. My favourite place to swim is the lido near my home in London – a giant pool with reflections in the sun like jewels. Being unheated, (9) can be uninviting to those (10) prefer warmer water, but that also means fewer crowds.

The swims I prefer are the ones on my own when I have the pool all to (11) Then, I slip into the water and feel it surround me. I swim up and down the pool, thinking of nothing but counting strokes between breaths: ‘One, two, three, four – breathe.’ Whole hours can slowly drift (12) , as my arms stretch out in (13)” of me. I concentrate (14) the noise the bubbles make as I exhale under water. (15) there may be other swimmers around, I still feel alone and at peace, a sensation I don’t get (16) else I know.

Part 3

For questions 17–24, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

Example: 0

C	O	N	S	T	R	U	C	T	I	O	N								
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

The leaning tower of Pisa, Italy

In 1173, (0) work began on what was to become the ‘Leaning Tower of Pisa’. It was, though, never the (17) of the builders that the tower should lean.

CONSTRUCT
INTEND

Pisa was a prosperous city and expensive marble was used to build the tower. After five years, it became (18) that the tower was leaning because the soft soil was incapable of fully supporting the (19) of the marble. Work was halted for almost a hundred years because of a series of wars. However, this long pause in the building work was (20) for the tower as it gave the (21) time to settle. If work had continued, the tower would almost certainly have collapsed.

EVIDENCE

WEIGH

FORTUNE
FOUND

There were later attempts to (22) the tower, but these were not always popular with the local inhabitants because the tower had become a tourist attraction.

STRAIGHT

In 2008, following major (23) work on the tower, engineers (24) announced that the tower would remain stable for at least another two hundred years.

RESTORE
CONFIDENCE

Part 4

For questions 25–30, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

Example:

0 A very friendly taxi driver drove us into town.

DRIVEN

We a very friendly taxi driver.

The gap can be filled by the words 'were driven into town by', so you write:

Example: 0 WERE DRIVEN INTO TOWN BY

Write **only** the missing words **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

25 My sister said to me, 'Please ring me tomorrow morning.'

GIVE

My sister asked me tomorrow morning.

26 Richard invited Julie to the party because he didn't want to risk offending her.

MIGHT

Richard felt Julie he didn't ask her to the party.

27 They let me watch television only after I had finished my homework.

ALLOWED

I watch television until I had finished my homework.

28 The two girls succeeded in winning the quiz by themselves.

MANAGED

In the quiz, the two girls own.

29 I'm sorry that I didn't spend longer with my aunt when I called on her last week.

TIME

I would like to have with my aunt when I called on her last week.

30 The number of students at the college is going to rise next year.

INCREASE

There the number of students at the college next year.

Part 5

You are going to read a magazine article about a voiceover artist. For questions 31–36, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Shirley Ford, voiceover artist

Clive Gartside meets the voiceover artist Shirley Ford, whose voice is familiar from advertisements, cartoons and other recordings.

During our first, hour-long conversation, Shirley Ford speaks to me in the voice of a cheeky 8-year-old boy, the boy's tired mother, an amusing elderly Scottish woman and a very fast-talking alien. Her voices – I struggled to keep count of them all – are recognisable to viewers of children's TV and cartoons, and to people who have seen computerised employee programmes about health and safety. 'I've just done a voiceover about back injuries,' she says, 'so I had to learn quickly how to pronounce loads of medical terms.'

Shirley talks about what it takes to do voiceovers. 'Lots of actors, some very highly regarded, reckon they can do funny voices and, actually, many of them probably can,' she says. 'There's more to it than that, though. You have to bring the script to life for an audience who can't see you. You wouldn't believe how many household names are desperate to do voiceover work. Thinking of the publicity, producers will invite them to auditions, but often they don't get offered parts because they're too used to acting with their whole bodies.'

After school, Shirley enrolled on a drama course with a standard acting career in mind. During the course, she had some occasional work singing jingles for TV adverts. 'One day,' she says, 'the man who ran the recording studio suggested I try out for the part of a rabbit in the soundtrack for a cartoon. It seemed ridiculous – I hadn't studied drama to play rabbits – but I tried it for a laugh and, amazingly, ended up getting a major part.' Shirley realised she could do voices and that voiceover work might be the way to go.

Adult female actors are frequently asked to provide the voices for small boys and girls. Their voices are lighter than those of male actors, and in the recruitment of child performers there are complex procedures and endless forms to deal with, which production companies on tight schedules would

rather avoid. Shirley has learnt to create the right sounds from the back of her throat, and to avoid always sounding like the same child, she collects new voices as she watches children's TV.

Cartoons are the highlight of a job that includes a whole range of things from educational videos to vacuum cleaner adverts. 'Those are hard because you have to sound enthusiastic about something you care nothing about, but my years in this profession help,' she says. 'They've taught me that the trick is to smile while you're talking – that makes your voice sound bright and cheery. When I've got some days doing animation work, it feels like a holiday; the interaction with other actors makes a huge difference.'

The competition for work is fierce, and a good showreel – a recording demonstrating what the artist can do – is essential. 'It's definitely worth investing in a strong showreel,' Shirley says. 'There are agencies which specialise in helping voiceover artists put them together.' She claims to have got where she is – near the top of her profession – through doggedness as much as natural ability. 'Whether it's making your showreel and taking it round all the film and TV companies, advertising agencies and recording studios, or simply practising your voices, it's all about setting goals and refusing to give up.'

For anyone considering a career doing voiceovers, Shirley recommends attending 'specialist workshops – they cover all types of voiceover'. She also believes a passion for human sound is fundamental, describing herself as obsessed with voices and, in a sense, becoming the characters she is performing. 'If I've been in the studio doing a particular kind of American voice, for example, it can take control of me and I'll be speaking like that for hours, perhaps even days afterwards,' she says. 'My children have grown up used to their mum talking in completely different voices.'

- 31 What first impressed the writer about Shirley Ford?
- A the number of her voices that seemed familiar to him
B the speed with which she could master new voices
C the ability she had to make different voices sound funny
D the wide range of voices she could produce
- 32 In the second paragraph, what does Shirley say about voiceover work?
- A Many actors fail to take it seriously enough.
B It rarely suits actors with a background in comedy.
C It requires skills that well-known actors sometimes lack.
D Producers tend to be reluctant to consider famous actors for it.
- 33 What can be a problem with children doing voiceover work?
- A Their voices often seem strange alongside adult voices.
B They tend to sound very similar to each other.
C Hiring them involves completing a lot of paperwork.
D It takes a long time to train them.
- 34 What do we learn about Shirley from the fifth paragraph?
- A She understands that some jobs are more interesting than they might seem.
B She knows how to hide her lack of interest in certain kinds of work.
C She feels free to spend more time on projects that she enjoys.
D She no longer feels bad about promoting certain products.
- 35 The writer uses the word 'doggedness' in line 61 to refer to Shirley's
- A determination to succeed.
B success in her career.
C willingness to accept support.
D knowledge of her field of work.
- 36 The writer's purpose in the final paragraph is to show
- A how badly Shirley's career affects her family life.
B how much Shirley enjoys doing certain accents.
C how exceptionally talented Shirley is.
D how involved Shirley can get in her work.

Part 6

You are going to read an article about the book *Guinness World Records*. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A–G the one which fits each gap (37–42). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

How to break a Guinness World Record

Who doesn't want to be the best in the world?

Why are we so fascinated by breaking records? For record holders, it is official confirmation that you can do something better than anyone else in the world, even if it is just eating a lemon quickly. People like setting goals, pushing themselves – especially if they get to see their name in print at the end of it.

Although humans have been competing and showing off for thousands of years, the official arbiter of human achievement, *Guinness World Records*, is still young. It began only 64 years ago when Sir Hugh Beaver, head of the Guinness company, got into an argument while away on a hunting trip about the fastest game bird in Europe: was it the grouse, the duck or the plover? And so the idea for a book of records was born, a definitive list of the world's superlatives.

It's amazing how many people seem to be interested in breaking a record. GWR gets about 1,000 record claims a week, of which only 5%–7% are accepted, and about 2% make it into the annual book. You may wonder what kind of person is interested in breaking records. Applications come from all over the world: most from the US, followed by India and China – two Indian men are currently battling for the 'longest hair' record. The typical would-be record-breaker is apparently a man in his mid-30s. Ashrita Furman from the US has the record for holding the most records (more than 200, though he has broken up to 600). Some people even make record attempts every day.

Almost anything definable, measurable and provable can become a record. Some, like those, are easy to attempt but difficult to beat, such as eating three cheese biscuits in the fastest time (34.78 seconds). It's easier to beat an existing record than set a new one because 'firsts' have to be approved as suitable records to attempt.

The general notes spell out the importance of evidence – photographic, video, independent witnesses – as much as you can get. For mass-participation records, you must prove that you've counted properly.

GWR gives some general advice to newcomers: analyse the specific rules for your chosen record to spot and exploit any loopholes in them. For example, Furman smashed the world record for rolling an orange for a mile with his nose when he discovered the rules didn't stipulate colour – he chose an unripe green orange that was hard, round and fast. It isn't enough just to be able to do something unusual, such as lick your elbow. You need to have the skill to be able to lick your elbow as many times as possible in one hour – something that can then be attempted and broken by someone else.

Records will be dismissed if they are considered stupid, dangerous or illegal, or if there isn't enough evidence: an organist's playing marathon was rejected because it was only witnessed by her parents. Finally, don't cheat! One man, who broke the record for balancing the most drinking glasses on his chin, had his award disallowed when he admitted to breaking the rules by using plastic cups.

- | | |
|--|---|
| A They change with the times: records involving selfies have become popular recently. | E Another useful idea is to choose something you're good at already and work at that. |
| B So, remember that you are responsible for proving what you've achieved. | F There is also a core of serial record breakers. |
| C The mind is constantly telling you that you can't do things. | G You should apply to GWR before making your record attempt; it will send you the overall guidelines and those specific to your record. |
| D Without the internet, there was no easy way of checking – even the host's well-stocked library couldn't settle the matter. | |

Part 7

You are going to read a magazine article about four extreme fans. For questions 43–52, choose from the fans (A–D). The fans may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Which fan says

- she was able to improve a difficult situation through being a fan? 43
- she first saw her object of interest through a misunderstanding? 44
- her object of interest offers the best entertainment of its type? 45
- she is uninterested in how popular her object of interest is? 46
- she was concerned by what other people might think of her? 47
- she was encouraged to try and achieve something by being a fan? 48
- the object of her interest has become a part of her identity? 49
- she had a low expectation of something at first? 50
- she recognises that keeping her obsession going is a luxury? 51
- she was made to take an interest in something that later became her passion? 52

Superfans

Four women talk about the objects of their passion and dedication.

A Katie on the *Harry Potter* books

One day when I was 11, my younger sister, who was a big fan of the *Harry Potter* books, thrust the first book in the series into my hand and forced me to read it. By the next morning, I'd finished it and taken all her other *Harry Potter* books, too! I loved the fact that it was about an average child doing something extraordinary. Hermione, the clever friend of the main character, Harry, became my hero. I didn't like reading before, but because of her I wanted to be top of my class at school. The books helped me in other ways. My sister and I used to fight all the time but *Harry Potter* brought us together, gave us something in common. We even travelled to the UK so we could visit all the locations that were used for the *Harry Potter* films.

B Sally on the musical *Les Misérables*

I didn't see *Les Misérables* when it opened, thinking it didn't sound like anything special, despite all the positive reviews. When I finally went, I was amazed: it was so different from other musicals. I've been over 1,000 times now, spending more than £50,000. Because it's live theatre, every night is different. You have to keep going back to get everything out of it. I do go to other musicals but it's a risk: you may be wasting your money. When you go to *Les Misérables*, you're sure to have a good time. When I'm at the theatre, I often hear audience members saying things like: 'Oh, this is my fourth time!' I just think: 'OK, keep going!' Some people think I'm mad, but that's what I think of people who sit on cold riverbanks fishing all day.

C Cami on the opera star, Andrea Bocelli

When my husband and I started going to the opera singer Andrea Bocelli's concerts all over the world, I worried that everyone would regard us as crazy. But we made so many friends, and it was all so rewarding, that we just thought: 'Who cares?' Like many fans, I first heard him on TV. There was this programme called *A Night in Tuscany*, which I initially thought would be a travel show. There was something so touching about his voice. We've seen him 60 times now. You'd think we would be getting tired of it all, but you see something new in each show. And we've made wonderful friends. Once, we were having dinner with fans from Japan, South Africa and Europe. The only thing linking us was Andrea. It is expensive, building entire vacations around his tours, but this is our only indulgence so we don't worry about it.

D Jane on the pop singer, Madonna

My friends say I'm the most positive person they know and being a Madonna fan is part of that. I remember precisely when I first saw her on a TV music show. I was only watching because I was bored. Then Madonna appeared on screen and I was transfixed by this young woman with such amazing energy. Slowly the Madonna posters started going up in my room. Soon, I was travelling to concerts around the world. I couldn't care less if she is no longer regarded as the coolest star – being a Madonna fan is important to how I see myself – my sense of self. I've now been to over 90 performances. A Madonna show is like a modern circus: spectacular lights, costumes and dancers. Even without her, it would be fantastic. Madonna isn't my only obsession, but she's the one that provides the most fun. I've met some of my best friends through Madonna.

WRITING (1 hour 20 minutes)

Part 1

You **must** answer this question. Write your answer in **140–190** words in an appropriate style on the separate answer sheet.

- 1 In your English class you have been talking about advertising. Now, your English teacher has asked you to write an essay.

Write your essay using **all** the notes and giving reasons for your point of view.

'Advertisements which are aimed at children should not be allowed.'

What do you think?

Notes

Write about:

1. They can be entertaining and fun. ..
2. They encourage unnecessary spending.
3. (your own idea)

Part 2

Write an answer to **one** of the questions **2–4** in this part. Write your answer in **140–190** words in an appropriate style on the separate answer sheet. Put the question number in the box at the top of the answer sheet.

- 2 You have received this email from your Canadian friend, Nick.

Subject: What to study

I have to decide what subject to study at university next year. I'm good at English Literature, Engineering and History, and I like them all equally. But I just can't make up my mind which one to choose.

What do you think I should do?

Best wishes
Nick

Write your **email**.

- 3 You see this notice on a website.

Articles wanted

Relaxation

What does relaxation mean to you and how do you usually relax?
Why is it important for people to relax?

The best articles will be published on our website.

Write your **article**.

- 4 You have seen this notice in a magazine.

Reviews wanted

Restaurants for special occasions

We are looking for reviews of restaurants which are good places to celebrate special occasions. In your review you should:

- describe the restaurant and the food it serves
- say what special occasions you would recommend the restaurant for.

The best reviews will be published next month.

Write your **review**.

