

VOCABULARY

1 Read the text and choose the correct word for each gap. The first one is done for you.

Travel lifestyles

Most people enjoy the idea of travelling, whether short breaks near home or to (0) B destinations, but few people find the thought of (1) _____ the travel indefinitely appealing. This is exactly how some people choose to live their lives, however. One can appreciate the attraction of travelling to (2) _____ economies during depressing periods of recession and (3) _____ unemployment in one's own country, and advocates of this lifestyle highlight the benefits of (4) _____ an understanding of other cultures in children, and even adults. On the downside, it can be difficult to make ends (5) _____ financially over time, and there's a (6) _____ probability of having to return home and start again from scratch. While such travellers may want to (7) _____ life in far-flung countries, many detractors say that a travelling lifestyle is really just an (8) _____ gap year, and while children may (9) _____ the benefits in some ways, when they eventually settle down they are behind their peers at school and still have an awful lot (10) _____ to learn.

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| 0 A alien | B remote | C secluded | D lonesome |
| 1 A prolonging | B delaying | C stretching | D lengthening |
| 2 A arising | B surfacing | C emerging | D merging |
| 3 A raising | B rising | C lifting | D ascending |
| 4 A feeding | B advancing | C fostering | D cherishing |
| 5 A meet | B touch | C join | D connect |
| 6 A large | B wide | C major | D high |
| 7 A imitate | B reproduce | C clone | D replicate |
| 8 A elaborate | B decorated | C garnished | D embellished |
| 9 A harvest | B reap | C garner | D recover |
| 10 A remained | B left | C residual | D lingering |

Marks (out of 10): _____

2 Read the sentences and choose the correct word from the box for each gap. There are two words you do not need to use. The first one is done for you.

beautifully	brightly	environmentally	greatly	highly	perfectly	precisely
prohibitively	radically	reasonably	scientifically	shoddily	widely	

- 0 You know a new design is a success when it is widely used in all walks of life.
- 11 It's encouraging that the younger generation appears more _____ concerned than that of their parents.
- 12 Sales of solar panels would no doubt soar if their installation were more _____ priced.
- 13 The beauty of technology today is that devices are so small that they have to be really _____ crafted.
- 14 The architect Frank Gehry is _____ admired for some of his striking buildings.
- 15 There may well be people who don't accept global warming, but it has been _____ proven that the atmosphere is getting hotter.
- 16 This latest e-reader isn't _____ original, but it does what it's meant to extremely well.
- 17 The new restaurant on the river is _____ expensive; I can't see it lasting for very long.
- 18 I'm really disappointed with the new desk I bought; it's so _____ put together that one of the legs is already working loose.
- 19 This phone is getting quite old, but I'm loath to change it as it's still _____ adequate for my needs.
- 20 The eco houses being built just outside the town are _____ innovative: they draw their heating from thermal springs under the ground.

Marks (out of 10): _____

GRAMMAR

3 Complete the text with a suitable word in each gap. Use only one word in each gap. The first one is done for you.

There has been a disused plot of land in the town for some years, where a factory used to stand. Recently, it (0) *was* bought at auction (21) _____ a well-known developer, to build lost-cost housing in collaboration with a social housing cooperative. The deal with the cooperative was believed to (22) _____ been signed and sealed well before building started. The developer (23) _____ the apartments built very quickly – simple ‘self-assembly’ units (24) _____ commissioned from Sweden – and then they were plumbed, wired and decorated. What could (25) _____ wrong? However, at this point, rumours started spreading about toxic chemicals still in the ground, so the housing cooperative got cold feet and wanted to pull out of the deal. Relations between them and the developer (26) _____ very sour and they got a solicitor (27) _____ examine the contract. It appeared that there was a get-out clause, so the housing cooperative left the project. When asked (28) _____ he hadn’t had the contract more carefully drawn up, the developer just said that he had (29) _____ too busy. The apartments were pulled down and (30) _____ is now generally thought that another factory is interested in buying the land.

Marks (out of 10): _____

4 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Use between three and eight words and do not change the word given. The first one is done for you.

- 0 The police dispersed the demonstrators with tear gas and water cannons. **by**
The demonstrators *were dispersed by the police* with tear gas and water cannons.
- 31 The celebrity chef was astonished when she was awarded first prize in the final. **to**
The celebrity chef was astonished when the _____ in the final.
- 32 It was widely believed that the old king had been buried in the cathedral foundations. **have**
The old king _____ in the cathedral foundations.
- 33 He asked us ‘Will you call me when you’re ready to order dessert?’ **if**
He asked _____ ready to order dessert.
- 34 We weren’t able to remove the old oak tree ourselves; we needed to employ a tree surgeon. **get**
We needed to _____ the old oak tree.
- 35 The CEO having finally sacked his assistant felt able to speak freely about the issues. **been**
His assistant _____ at last felt able to speak freely about the issues.

Marks (Two marks per question. Total marks out of 10): _____

READING

5 You are going to read an article from which five paragraphs have been removed. Choose from the paragraphs A–F the one which fits each gap (36–40). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

Iconic designs

What makes a design truly iconic? Is it something that looks good? Or something that is practical? Or something that is simple and easy to use? Many would say that it’s all of these, and if that is the case, then one of the most truly iconic designs must be that of the ballpoint pen.

36 _____

Up to the early nineteenth century, the most common writing implement was the quill – originally a feather whose tip was dipped in dark paint, or later ink, in order to write on the page. The problem with this method of writing was the speed at which the ink dried on the tip, necessitating frequent dips into the ink, and equally frequent drips onto the paper.

37 _____

The first type of ballpoint pen was patented in 1888 by John Loud, a tanner who needed a marker for leather. His pen worked well for that purpose but it was too coarse for use on paper, so it lost popularity to the fountain pen. Several other attempts at designing an effective ballpoint pen were made in the early twentieth century but **none**

solved the problem of ink flow – either not enough ink was delivered or too much came through and it didn't dry fast enough, resulting in smudges on the paper.

38 _____

Biro moved to Argentina with his brother Gyorgy in 1941 and together with a friend, Juan Jorge Meyne, they started the company Biro Pens of Argentina, to produce and market their new invention, by 1943 a pen they called the *birome*, combining their names. They had a qualified success, and notably licensed the design to the British RAF as the ballpoint was more stable in high altitudes than the fountain pen, which tended to leak.

39 _____

Both companies went on to sell the pens with great success, along with **others**, but faults in the design meant that consumer expectations weren't met, and sales began to fall sharply. By 1951 ballpoint pen sales were dropping and fountain pen sales were on the rise again.

40 _____

The BIC came in many varieties: different colours of ink, clear and opaque cylinders, disposable and refillable ink cartridges, but all had one fault. Because the ink is drawn to the tip by gravity, the pen needs to be facing downwards to be able to write effectively. However, the company Fisher brought a new pen to market in 1965 which had a pressurised ink container and a particularly viscous ink, which meant it could write upside-down without drying up or dripping. This became known as the space pen and has been used by astronauts. It is still the ubiquitous BIC Cristal that is most popular today though, reportedly selling as many as fourteen million pens around the world every day.

A The solution to **this problem** was the invention of the fountain pen, which became very popular from the late nineteenth century as it held its own ink dispenser – the cartridge – so it obviated the need to dip the tip into the ink. However, it brought with it its own problems, notably that of the ink needing quite a long time to dry on the paper.

B Around **this time**, a French manufacturer Marcel Bich, licensed the design of the Argentine pen and introduced his own pen to the market, a six-sided clear cylinder with a visible ink cartridge. Bich shortened his name to Bic, and his design became the iconic BIC Cristal, the type of ballpoint pen we most commonly see today.

C Tracing **its** history back to the late nineteenth century, the ballpoint pen addressed a simple need: a pen where the ink flows freely, dries fast and doesn't smear on the paper. The ballpoint uses a ball-bearing tip, made of steel, brass or tungsten carbide, at the end of an ink cartridge. As the ball tip rotates on the paper, the ink is evenly distributed on the ball and then on to the paper.

D **The product** attracted attention from a lot of quarters, and two years later the rights to market the pens in the United States were bought by the Eversharp Company (a pencil manufacturer). Unbeknown to them, an American businessman, Milton Reynolds, had seen the birome on a trip to Argentina, and brought back samples which he then used to produce and, with enough changes to the design, patent in the US before Eversharp was able to.

E Seeing that minor changes to the design could avoid the whole issue of patents, there began a 'race to market', with several well-known suppliers of pens creating and marketing their own model. Names still recognized today such as Parker Pens and Papermate brought out their own products and initially sold millions. Finally, Parker Pens bought out the pen division of Eversharp, and the company failed.

F Then, in the 1930s, Hungarian Laszlo Biro noticed that the ink used on newspapers dried quickly, so he determined to design a pen combining quick-drying ink which wouldn't smudge with a delivery system that would ensure regular flow on the paper, and he came up with the first useable ballpoint pen, patented in 1938.

Marks (out of 5): _____


6 Now read the whole text in the correct order and decide what these highlighted words and phrases refer to. This can be a single word or item, or a whole phrase.

0 none _____ *several other attempts*
41 others _____
42 this problem _____

43 this time _____
44 its _____
45 The product _____

Marks (out of 5): _____

LISTENING

7  **57** You will hear part of an interview for a job at a firm of architects. For questions 46–55, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

- 0** The third stage of the interview process is intended mainly to find out
- A** why the candidate wants to join the company. ☐
 - B** how good the ideas are that the candidate could bring to the company. ☐
 - C** how the applicant would get on with the current team of employees. ☐
 - D** how strongly the candidate agrees with the principles of the company. ☒
- 46** What is the candidate's main reason for wanting to join the company?
- A** She wants to solve the problems inherent in trying to build in a green way. ☐
 - B** She believes that environmentally-friendly building is the only option. ☐
 - C** She wants to come up with an idea that can secure Earth's future. ☐
 - D** She wants to follow her intuitions about sustainable building. ☐
- 47** She believes the worst problem that needs addressing is
- A** the building materials used are too cheap. ☐
 - B** natural building materials are too ugly. ☐
 - C** the money that needs to be invested at the beginning. ☐
 - D** the damage that traditional materials can cause. ☐
- 48** She cites concrete as a problematic material for building car parks because
- A** it doesn't create attractive areas. ☐
 - B** it allows water to simply run off it. ☐
 - C** it isn't a very flexible building material. ☐
 - D** it doesn't work with natural materials. ☐
- 49** According to Ms Pooley, how can green building be brought to the less well-off?
- A** Money can be diverted from the higher end of the market. ☐
 - B** Richer people can be engaged to persuade them of the benefits. ☐
 - C** Constant access to money needs to be made available. ☐
 - D** You can start by building offices and factories. ☐
- 50** What is the candidate's reaction to the idea that there is a resistance to change in society?
- A** She thinks it's unfortunate but true. ☐
 - B** She thinks it takes time for people to change. ☐
 - C** She thinks it isn't true at all. ☐
 - D** She thinks it's a widely-held belief. ☐
- 51** She uses the example of hybrid and electric cars to show that
- A** greener technologies can have practical applications. ☐
 - B** people will always follow the example of others. ☐
 - C** sales can be increased by making radical changes. ☐
 - D** people can be persuaded to change their minds. ☐
- 52** What does the interviewer think of Ms Pooley's ideas about people embracing change?
- A** He completely agrees with her ideas. ☐
 - B** He agrees with them to a certain extent. ☐
 - C** He completely disagrees with them. ☐
 - D** He didn't feel that her example was relevant. ☐
- 53** Which reason doesn't she give for planting vines on the outside of buildings?
- A** They can protect us from the sun. ☐
 - B** It's a cheap solution to the problem. ☐
 - C** They can help to keep the building warm. ☐
 - D** They blend in with the nature around. ☐
- 54** What do the interviewer's last words suggest about his company?
- A** that it has solved the problems inherent in environmentally-friendly building ☐
 - B** that there are some surprising designs that the company is working on ☐
 - C** that it's currently trying to solve some of the challenges involved in green building ☐
 - D** that it's starting to look at how music can be used in green architecture ☐
- 55** In the interview several expressions are used to describe the kind of design the company is interested in. Which of these expressions does not describe it?
- A** environmentally-friendly building ☐
 - B** green architecture ☐
 - C** hybrid building ☐
 - D** inexpensive building ☐

Marks (out of 10): _____

SPEAKING

8 Work in pairs to read the two steps and carry out the instructions.

Step 1 Look at job advert 1 below.

Student A: You are a manager for the company advertising and you are going to interview Student B to find out how suitable he/she is for the job. Prepare a few questions to ask him/her.

Student B: You have applied for the job. You are now going to be interviewed by Student A. Think of how you might answer questions about your suitability for the job, and think of phrases you can use to buy time.

Now carry out the job interview.

Step 2 Now look at job advert 2.

Student B: You are a manager for the company advertising and you are going to interview Student A to find out how suitable he/she is for the job. Prepare a few questions to ask him/her.

Student A: You have applied for the job. You are now going to be interviewed by Student B. Think of how you might answer questions about your suitability for the job, and think of phrases you can use to buy time.

Now carry out the job interview.

Job advert 1

Office manager

We are a small company specializing in garden furniture and equipment, focusing on recycled goods. We are looking for a new office manager. The successful candidate will have a relevant business qualification, experience in office management and will have an outgoing but sensitive and sympathetic personality. You will be in charge of a team of around 20 administrative staff and will work closely with the sales and marketing managers. Appropriate salary, terms and conditions for the post.

Job advert 2

Apprentice jewellery designer

A small jewellery manufacturing workshop is opening up a new post as assistant to the principal jewellery designer. The successful candidate will have a qualification in a related subject, for example crafts or textile design, and will have experience in practical work of an appropriate kind. You will be expected to learn on the job, initially following instructions closely, but the right person will be creative and will soon be able to start taking on their own projects. After a successful probation period of six months, the full salary will be paid and you can expect frequent rises as experience is gained.

Marks (out of 10): _____

WRITING

9 You are a reporter on a local newspaper. Yesterday, you were called to the scene of this accident:

Write your article for the newspaper about the accident. Remember to give details of what happened, where and when it happened, how it happened and who was involved. Write about 300 words.

Marks (out of 10): _____

