

Reading and Use of English Part 8 Multiple matching

How to go about it

- › Read the whole text quickly first to get a general idea of what it's about.
- › Read all the questions to see the kind of information you are looking for.
- › Read section A, then look again at the questions, answering any that you can. Do the same for the other three sections.

You are going to read a newspaper article in which four people talk about their life-changing decisions. For questions 1–10, choose from the people (A–D). The people may be chosen more than once.

Which person

- advises people to take responsibility for improving their own lives?
- was initially worried about making the change?
- found the experience confusing at times?
- mentions the urge to spend time alone?
- made a difficult decision as a result of an unpleasant experience?
- emphasises the importance of new relationships?
- kept open the option of changing their mind again?
- based the decision on something they used to enjoy?
- hopes to be a role model to others?
- was reluctant at first but was persuaded to change their mind?

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Language focus Talking about the past

1 Complete the conversation with a suitable form of the verbs in brackets. Sometimes more than one form is correct. Use contractions where possible.

A: Hey, where have you been, Dad? I (1) _____ (look) for you for ages.

B: I (2) _____ (sort) through some of the old stuff in the attic.

I (3) _____ (manage) to sort about half of it so far.

I found a box full of home-made jam, which I threw away.

It (4) _____ (sit) up there for about ten years.

A: Mm, delicious.

B: Yeah! And there are also some pots of paint, which have been there since we

(5) _____ (move) in. There's a huge box of your old toy cars.

Remember how you (6) _____ (sit) for hours racing them?

A: Dad! Why don't you just chuck them out? It's been at least ten years since

I (7) _____ (play) with cars!

B: I know. I actually put them all in a bin bag, but as I (8) _____

(throw) them away, I (9) _____ (realise) Kathy's son might want them.

HOW TO MAKE LIFE-CHANGING DECISIONS

Four people talk about taking a leap into the unknown

A Catherine Offord

'Just before the decision was the hardest bit,' says 30-year-old Catherine Offord. She quit her PhD to go to work as a teacher in Micronesia in 2016. 'Afterwards, it felt like a weight was lifted off my shoulders. I didn't regret it once.'

One thing that had been holding Offord back was a feeling of failure for not completing her PhD, even though she wasn't enjoying the course. But, over time, she realised that her happiness was more important than seeing something through for the sake of it. 'Sometimes, you have to cut your losses.'

It helped to break down the decision into manageable steps. 'It felt really overwhelming to make a decision that would potentially affect the rest of my life. It paralysed me. But when I decided that I was only going to make a decision for the next year, that was really helpful.'



B Colin Thackery

'When my wife died, it felt like my life was going into reverse. After 66 years of marriage, I wasn't sure what would happen. But after a while, a new friend and I started to entertain everyone in our social club once a month by getting up on stage and singing; Bill would do country and western numbers, I'd take the ballads. I noticed that singing raised my spirits once again.

Stepping off the stage one evening, a bloke came up to me and suggested I apply to be on *Britain's Got Talent*. I told him not to be silly – why would they want an old man like me? 'If you don't use it, you lose it,' he retorted. And then he dared me to, so I printed the form and sent it off.

By the time it got to the final – and I was announced as the winner – I simply couldn't believe what was happening. If you watch the broadcast back, you'll see me asking the presenter what was going on. It was very noisy, you see, and I'm slightly deaf. I was in a daze.

My whole life has been turned upside down again, although I'm not complaining. I'm the oldest person in the world ever to sign a record deal. Just a few years ago, I thought everything was over, and now I'm a pop sensation!



C Victoria Bryan

The first time 38-year-old Victoria Bryan got into a cockpit, she freaked out. Formerly a journalist from the UK, she moved to the other side of the world to retrain as a pilot in New Zealand. 'It's done me a power of good to do something totally different with my life,' she says.

She has learnt that if you are unhappy with your life, you have to take a leap of faith. 'You can't just sit there and think things will improve. You're the only one who can make positive changes in your life. You have to go out and do it.'



'Talking to people is one of the best things you can do,' says Bryan. 'Don't bottle everything up. When you're overwhelmed, it's tempting to hide yourself away and have a good cry. But it's better in the long run to get out there and befriend as many people as possible. Throw yourself into whatever you're doing that's new. You can't just be longing for your old life.'

D Dwayne Fields

'Growing up on an estate in London, I learnt to cope with the constant threat of crime and violence. One time, I was attacked while walking with a friend and ended up in hospital. After that, people around me were saying we should catch up with my attackers and get them. There was pressure to get revenge. The more I heard those voices, the more I wondered if they were right.

That night, I re-evaluated everything. I thought back to the kid I was in Jamaica before I moved to London; the time spent outdoors exploring in nature. I wanted to find that person again. I applied to join a trip to the South Pole. I was too late; I was offered the North Pole instead. I wasn't bothered. I'm from Jamaica – to me they were just cold and icy. Since then, I've circumnavigated Jamaica by kayak, run ultra-marathons and trekked across the Sinai desert.

The adventures and expeditions are great experiences for me, but I also hope that by doing them I can inspire other people to live their best lives too.'



2 Six of the following sentences contain mistakes with verb forms. Find the mistakes and correct them.

- 1 I decided not to watch the film because I'd already been seeing it three times.
- 2 We were going to renovate our kitchen last summer, but we couldn't because we'd run out of money.
- 3 Not having eaten for hours, I was feeling pretty hungry when I'd arrived.
- 4 I'd love to have had more time to catch up with Gemma, but she had to leave early.
- 5 This is the third time I asked you to help me. I'm not going to ask again!
- 6 I'd rather you didn't tell everybody about my plans last night, but now everybody knows, I suppose it's not the end of the world.
- 7 We were meant to have gone on holiday last week, but in the end, I wasn't allowed to take any time off until I'd finished my project.
- 8 When I was a kid, we would often visit my grandparents and I would love listening to their stories about the good old days.
- 9 The party wasn't too bad, but I'd sooner stay at home instead.
- 10 It's been a long time since I've had such an enjoyable evening!

Nouns in formal English

1 Use the words in brackets to make suitable nouns to complete the text.

The Modern Age

Among the wide array of trends that are associated with the processes of (1) _____ (*modern*) and economic development, one in particular stands out: the rapid (2) _____ (*age*) of the population. In the days before widespread (3) _____ (*provide*) of pensions, the only guarantee of having a decent (4) _____ (*retire*) was to have plenty of grown-up children to look after you.

At the same time, infant (5) _____ (*mortal*) rates in the days before mass (6) _____ (*immune*) programmes and modern (7) _____ (*hygienic*) standards were considerably higher than today, so parents typically had as many children as possible. In the modern world, however, children are no longer a means of (8) _____ (*survive*) but rather a matter of (9) _____ (*choose*), leading to a sharp (10) _____ (*reduce*) in the number of births.

Simultaneously, dramatic (11) _____ (*improve*) in healthcare have caused the average (12) _____ (*long*) of one's lifespan to increase, with the result that over-64s will soon outnumber under-18s in many parts of the world.

2 Make the following informal sentences more formal by changing the underlined words and phrases into nouns.

- 1 The experiment didn't work because we didn't have enough time.
The _____ of the experiment was caused by a severe _____ of time.
- 2 I asked them to explain, but they didn't respond.
I received no _____ to my _____ for a/an _____.
- 3 I'm really disappointed that I'm not allowed to take part.
I would like to express my _____ at not receiving _____ to participate.
- 4 Although it's unlikely the project will be delayed, we urge you to be prepared just in case it happens.
Despite the _____ of any _____ to the project, we urge you to make suitable _____ for such a/an _____.
- 5 Harry quit his job because he couldn't commit to the company long-term.
Harry's _____ to make a long-term _____ led to his _____ from the company.

Vocabulary Changes

Collocations

Complete each sentence with the most suitable word from the box. Use each word once only.

dramatic gear places refreshing sides social
subject sweeping tune ways

- I'm usually the one who has to cook, so it made a _____ change to be cooked for!
- I know you think you have a difficult life, but I'd change _____ with you any day.
- Whenever I'm trying to talk about myself, you always change the _____ so we're talking about you again!
- Eric was lazy as a child, and he's lazy now. I don't think he'll ever change his _____.
- I'm making good progress with my driving lessons, but I keep forgetting to change _____ when I speed up.
- When our new boss came in, it was a nightmare. She spent her first months making _____ changes to dozens of company policies!
- We were losing 11-0, but after their best player changed _____ and started to play with us, it was a lot more balanced.
- I find the pace of _____ change a little too slow at times.
- So you're a big fan of social media now, are you? You've changed your _____! You used to say it was a ridiculous waste of time!
- Having a newborn baby at home has brought about _____ changes in our lifestyle – we're both absolutely exhausted all the time!

Other verbs of change

Choose the correct verb to complete each sentence.

- The building used to be a factory, but it's been *amended* / *converted* / *modified* into luxury flats.
- When you're giving a presentation, don't use the same flat intonation all the time. It's better if you *shift* / *switch* / *vary* your voice a little.
- The tickets were originally booked in my name, but we managed to *adapt* / *adjust* / *transfer* them to Steve's name.
- The new park has totally *altered* / *switched* / *transformed* this area. It used to be really run-down, but now it's lovely.
- I spelt my surname wrong on the form. Is there a way for me to *amend* / *shift* / *transform* my application?
- Can you *adjust* / *convert* / *transfer* the air conditioning? It's a bit too cold in here.
- It's the same old car, but I've *adjusted* / *modified* / *varied* it by installing a more powerful engine and painting it red.
- When we're speaking at home, we often *alter* / *amend* / *switch* between our two languages – sometimes in the middle of a sentence!
- The book has been *adapted* / *adjusted* / *transferred* into a script for a major Hollywood movie.
- Your essay is mostly fine, but there are a few places where I think you should *alter* / *convert* / *transform* the language slightly.
- How on earth are we going to *modify* / *shift* / *vary* public opinion so that our opponents actually start supporting our plans?

Reading and Use of English Part 1 Multiple-choice cloze

How to go about it

- › Read the whole text first to get a general understanding of what it's about.
- › All four options are often similar in meaning, so don't just choose the first answer that feels OK. Think about why the other options are wrong.
- › Pay attention to complementation: the way that certain words are typically followed by particular structures (e.g. a preposition, an *-ing* form, a clause, etc).

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).

- 0 A eagerly B fondly C fiercely D keenly

Nostalgia

Nostalgia is the feeling that things were better in the past. It's what makes us look back (0) *B* at our childhood and teenage years as 'the best years of our lives', while conveniently forgetting all the bad stuff that (1) on in those days. It makes us listen endlessly to the music from our (2) and re-watch old movies and TV shows. Nostalgia is behind the (3) irrational revival of vinyl LPs and even cassettes – technologies that really ought to have been consigned to the dustbin of history.

In the 17th century, nostalgia was (4) an illness, inflicting soldiers and others who spent extended periods away from home. As late as the 19th century, doctors believed nostalgia (5) from a so-called 'pathological bone', even though they were unable to locate such a bone anywhere in the human body.

Nowadays, we have a better understanding of nostalgia, which is no longer (6) as an infliction to be cured. In fact, it may even be good for you, in that it can make you more optimistic, inspired and creative, and it increases the desire to try new things. As long as we don't allow our memories of the past to (7) our view of the present, a few nostalgic reminiscences from time to time can do us a (8) of good.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1 A went | B got | C carried | D held |
| 2 A generation | B adulthood | C formation | D youth |
| 3 A substantially | B inevitably | C seemingly | D understandably |
| 4 A considered | B recognised | C appreciated | D believed |
| 5 A revealed | B arose | C generated | D acquired |
| 6 A distinguished | B observed | C encountered | D perceived |
| 7 A dispose | B distort | C differ | D deceive |
| 8 A energy | B strength | C power | D force |



Reading and Use of English Part 2 Open cloze

For questions 1–8, 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).

What was life like before luggage had wheels?

Like many men of his generation, my father (0) *WOULD* always carry our cardboard suitcase on his left shoulder. I never managed that technique, arguing that the suitcase's handles were there to be used, though the real reason may have been that I simply wasn't strong (1)

Wheeled contraptions for carrying suitcases existed in the 1960s, but it wasn't (2) 1970 that Bernard D Sadow had his eureka moment. Struggling (3) two heavy suitcases on his way home from a family holiday, he noticed an airport worker effortlessly moving heavy machinery on wheels. (4) his return, he mounted four wheels on a big suitcase, with a pulling strap attached at the front.

Still, rolling luggage was slow (5) catch on. Sadow's suitcase was rather clumsy and was eventually overwhelmed by the two-wheeler *Rollaboard*, devised in 1987. The sight of cabin staff marching them through airports established the *Rollaboard* as the suitcase that professionals used. As their popularity grew, far (6) women began to travel alone on business trips.

Perhaps rolling luggage hasn't been an unalloyed good. It encourages people to take more than they need – more than they could ever (7) carried in the unwheeled age. But outside the cheap flight, (8) other modern development has made travel easier.



How to go about it

- › Always read through the whole text first.
- › The gapped words are usually grammatical words like auxiliary verbs, prepositions, conjunctions, quantifiers, etc. If you're not sure of the exact word, at least try to work out what sort of word is missing then guess.
- › Be careful with spelling. You won't get marks for incorrectly spelt words in any Use of English tasks.

Listening Part 2 Sentence completion

▶ 2 You will hear a student giving a presentation about how photography has changed over time. For questions 1–8, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

HOW PHOTOGRAPHY HAS CHANGED

In the 1850s, 'wet collodion' photography showed (1) for the first time.

'Pictorialist' photographers manipulated images, for example by giving them (2)

In the 1920s, photographs of California's (3) became world-famous.

At the same time, photography was used to reject (4) in Europe.

Between the two World Wars, the work of 'humanist' photographers appeared in (5)

In the 1960s, photographers wanted people to have a strong (6) when they saw their photos. The (7) of photographs changed dramatically around the year 2000.

Nowadays, (8) is nearly always accompanied by photography of some kind.

How to go about it

- › You will need to write down the same form of the word as you hear.
- › The missing information often appears before the information in the notes. In such cases, you'll need to remember what the speaker was talking about a few seconds earlier.

How to go about it

- › Say if you recommend the film or not. If you recommend it, say who it is suitable for.
- › If the question includes a choice (e.g. a book or film), say what you're reviewing!
- › You must answer all the questions in the task, but not necessarily in the order they appear or with one paragraph for each question.
- › Don't retell the whole story. Focus on what is relevant to the questions.

Writing Part 2 Review

- 1** Read the following Writing Part 2 task. Can you think of any books or films that would be suitable for this review?

You see the following announcement on a website.

Book and Film Reviews Wanted

Send us a review of a book or film that shows how somebody made a significant change in their life. What did you learn about the person's reasons for making the change? Did the person regret changing their life?

Write your **review** in **220–260** words in an appropriate style.

- 2** Read the model answer. In which paragraphs (1–4) does the writer answer the following questions? Some questions may be answered in more than one paragraph.
- a Is it a book or a film?
 - b Would you recommend it?
 - c Who would you recommend it to?
 - d Who is the person that made a significant change?
 - e What significant change did the person make?
 - f What did you learn about the person's reasons for making the change?
 - g Did the person regret changing their life?



Review: *A Breath of Fresh Air* ★★★★★

The Biggest Little Farm is a documentary film about a young couple, Molly and John Chester, who leave their comfortable city lives to start an ecological farm in the remote countryside.

At the start of the film, Molly is a successful food blogger, specialising in organic products, so it is only natural that she should harbour the ambition to grow such ingredients on a farm of her own. However, the couple repeatedly put off their move, daunted by the prospect of such a major upheaval. It's only when they adopt a dog, who turns out to be too noisy for their neighbours to tolerate, that the decision is thrust upon them: they face a stark choice between getting rid of their dog and leaving their city home. They choose to keep the dog.

The film documents their lives over several years as they struggle to build an economically viable farm in harmony with nature. The challenges they face include an infestation of snails, coyotes repeatedly attacking their chickens and a deadly fire. The couple are racked with doubt and regret: have they made the biggest mistake of their lives? Finally, after several exhausting years, the Chesters' farm starts to flourish. It turns out that nature is just as good at solving problems as it is at generating them.

I must admit, I wasn't expecting to enjoy a documentary about a farm, but I was pleasantly surprised by this uplifting story. I highly recommend it to anybody considering making a big change in their life or feeling tempted to give up on their dreams.

- 3** Read the model answer again. Answer the questions.

- 1 What tense is used for almost all the verbs in the review? Why?
- 2 What other three tenses are used? Why?

4 Read about emotive *should*. Find an example in the model answer.

We sometimes use *should* in a *that*-clause after *be* + an opinion:

*It's funny that you **should** mention that.*

*It's a pity that there **should** be so little time.*

*I'm surprised that you **should** feel that way.*

Emotive *should* can be omitted without changing the meaning in any way. However, if used correctly, it can make your writing sound more sophisticated.

5 The useful collocations below all come from the model answer. Use words from the box to make more collocations with the words in bold. Use each word once only.

cockroaches grudge guilt hard massive message
perfectly progress surrounding warm

- 1 a comfortable / _____ life
- 2 the remote / _____ countryside
- 3 to **harbour** an ambition / a _____
- 4 a major / _____ upheaval
- 5 to **document** somebody's life / _____
- 6 economically / _____ viable
- 7 an **infestation** of snails / _____
- 8 **racked** with doubt / _____
- 9 **pleasantly** surprised / _____
- 10 an **uplifting** story / _____

6 Complete the following definitions with words from the model answer.

- 1 If you are _____ by the _____ of something, you are reluctant to do something because you think it will be difficult or unpleasant. (para 2)
- 2 If a _____ is _____ upon you, you are forced to choose although you'd have preferred not to. (para 2)
- 3 If you _____ a _____ choice, you have to choose between two unpleasant options. (para 2)
- 4 If you live in _____ with _____, you don't disturb plants and animals and they don't disturb you. (para 3)
- 5 If a business _____, it is extremely successful, like a healthy plant that keeps growing. (para 3)

7 Complete the following exam task.

You see the following announcement on a website.

Reviews wanted

Send us a review of a book or film that focuses on somebody who underwent an important change. What did you learn about the person's life before and after the change? Did the book or film offer any guidance on how others might deal with similar changes?

Write your **review** in **220–260** words in an appropriate style.

Useful language

Introducing and describing a film

... is a film about ...

The film documents their lives ... as they struggle to ...

The film, starring ..., takes us from ... to ..., although the main focus is on ...

The film depicts the main character as ...

Interpreting and recommending a film

If there is a lesson for viewers, it is that we need to ...

I highly/wholeheartedly recommend this film to anybody considering ...

I must admit, I wasn't expecting to enjoy ...

I was pleasantly surprised by ...