**B2U1 Self-test**

**I. Vocabulary**

**Choose the appropriate word or expression to fill in each blank.**

1. The war and the years in the harsh mountains had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ aged him.

A. early B. earlier C. prematurely D. maturely

2. Everyone was very concerned whether he would pull \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or not.

A. through B. together C. out D. up

3. The money was donated by a local businessman who wishes to remain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. anonymity B. anonymous C. open D. well-known

4. Competition among \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ often causes parents’ anxieties.

A. siblings B. members C. groups D. generations

5. In the face of the disaster, the Chinese people showed great strength, courage, solidarity and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. indifference B. defiance C. resistance D. resilience

6.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ off his name. I refuse to have him as a guest.

A. Remove B. Cancel C. Stick D. Strike

7. The Sex Discrimination Act has not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ discrimination in employment.

A. continued B. eliminated C. disposed D. dispensed

8. Some people have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ fascination with crime.

A. bad B. moral C. morbid D. more

9.

---I think it's wiser to wait until Jack comes back.   
---\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Perhaps he can provide us with more information.

A. I couldn't agree more B. Certainly not C. I don’t think so D. We’d better not

10.

-- So you feel he's been making unrealistic demands on you?

--Yes, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. true B. sure C. absolutely D. good point

**II. Listening Comprehension**

**News Report**

**Directions:** *In this section, you will hear one news report. At the end of the news report, you will hear three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D).*

**Questions 1 to 3 are based on the news report you have just heard.**

1. A. An old woman who is living at a retirement home has a wish to play a game.

B. An old woman who is working at a retirement home has a secret wish to complete.

C. An old woman who is living at a retirement home has had her bucket list completed.

D. An old woman who is visiting a retirement home has compiled a bucket list.

2. A. Shirley has many children and three grandchildren.

B. Shirley had three children and many grandchildren.

C. Shirley’s children have never come to the retirement to visit her.

D. Shirley has had no chance to see her grandchildren at all.

3. A. To display her products.

B. To look for a lost friend.

C. To ask her children to visit her.

D. To convey a three-word message.

**Script**

It’s game time at Three Links Retirement, and Shirley Smith is always in charge.

Front and center, she runs bingo like her game show heroes she recently met.

“Pat and Vanna, they were nice,” Shirley said. “It was fun.”

With pink socks on her feet and pink flowers in her hair, she has a bedroom to match. She still paints in the quieter hours of the day and regularly sees her family, including three children and grandchildren galore.

Shirley was married for 57 years.

“He was dark, curly hair, handsome as can be,” she said.

While she has had a fantastic life, her bucket list wasn’t empty.

“I said there is one thing,” Shirley said. “I want to put an ad on television.”

Shirley wanted to buy five seconds of TV commercial time for a three-word message.

“Love one another,” she said. “Love one another.”

Shirley said it’s ultimately up to everyone what they do with her short message, but she is quite happy that her bucket list is now empty.

**Questions:**

1. What’s the news mainly about?
2. Which of the following is true?
3. Why did Shirley want to buy five seconds of TV commercial time?

**Key:** 1. C 2. B 3. D

**Long Conversation**

**Directions:** *In this section, you will hear one long conversation. At the end of the conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D).*

**Questions 4 to 7 are based on the long conversation you have just heard.**

4. A. She has packed it in one of her bags.

B. She has probably left it in a taxi.

C. She is going to get it at the airport.

D. She is afraid that she has lost it.

5. A. It ends in winter.

B. It will cost her a lot.

C. It will last one week.

D. It depends on the weather.

6. A. The plane is taking off soon.

B. There might be a traffic jam.

C. The taxi is waiting for them.

D. There is a lot of stuff to pack.

7. A. At home.

B. In the man’s car.

C. At the airport.

D. By the side of a taxi.

**Script**

M**:** Mary, I hope you're packed and ready to leave.

W**:** Yes, I’m packed, but not quite ready. I can’t find my passport.

M**:** Your passport? That’s the one thing you mustn’t leave behind.

W**:** I know. I haven’t lost it. I’ve packed it, but I can’t remember which bag it’s in.

M**:** Well, you have to find it at the airport. Come on, the taxi is waiting.

W**:** Did you say taxi? I thought we were going in your car.

M**:** Yes, well, I have planned to, but I’ll explain later. You’ve got to be there in an hour.

W**:** The plane doesn’t leave for two hours. Anyway, I’m ready to go now.

M**:** Now, you're taking just one case, is that right?

W**:** No, there is one in the hall as well.

M**:** Gosh, what a lot of stuff! You're taking enough for a month instead of a week.

W**:** Well, you can’t depend on the weather. It might be cold.

M**:** It’s never cold in Rome. Certainly not in May. Come on, we really must go.

W**:** Right, we're ready. We’ve got the bags, I’m sure there's no need to rush.

M**:** There is. I asked the taxi driver to wait two minutes, not twenty.

W**:** Look, I’m supposed to be going away to relax. You're making me nervous.

M**:** Well, I want you to relax on holiday, but you can’t relax yet.

W**:** OK, I promise not to relax, at least not until we get to the airport and I find my passport.

**Questions:**

4. What does the woman say about her passport?

5. What do we know about the woman’s trip?

6. Why does the man urge the woman to hurry?

7. Where does the conversation most probably take place?

Key: 4. A 5. C 6. C 7. A

**Passage**

**Directions:** *In this section, you will hear one passage. At the end of the passage, you will hear three questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D).*

**Questions 8 to 10 are based on the passage you have just heard.**

8. A. He is blind.

B. He has only peripheral vision.

C. His sight is fading fast.

D. He is far-sighted.

9. A. Take him to see a doctor.

B. Help him experience and store up the memories.

C. Help him compile a bucket list and complete it.

D. Drive him to nearby places.

10. A. He wanted to write something as he found it difficult to answer the question.

B. He wanted to draw a picture and keep it to show to his future kids.

C. He wanted to write down the question and then consider how to answer it.

D. He wanted to draw a picture as the question was too emotional.

**Script**

Nine-year-old Ben Pierce of Denton, Texas, isn't blind – at least not yet.

Born 17 weeks premature, Ben suffers from a condition that is slowly stealing his sight. He has already lost his peripheral vision. His parents, Dan and Heidi, say the rest is fading fast.

"And so our goal became, what can we help him experience, to store up these memories," said Heidi Pierce. "And we sat him down and said, 'What do you think would be cool to see? What's on your wish list?'"

For the last year, the Pierces have been crossing sites off Ben's before-I-go-blind-bucket-list.

They have explored everything from the depths of Arizona to high above Alaska. From places they can go in their van to faraway Van Goghs.

He is nine - which is also reflected in the list itself.

"He wanted to see the inside of the Apple store," said Heidi. "And his enthusiasm about seeing these things, his joy, is contagious."

Today it's chalk under a microscope. That was actually on the list. His parents really are trying to cram in as many different visuals as they can.

"He'll be able to talk about what the ocean is like with his kids," said Dan.

"And he will remember in his mind what that looks like because he was there before," said Heidi.

When asked if he realizes how lucky he is that his parents are making all this happen Ben got a little emotional. He considered that for quite a while – then asked a question:

"Do you have a pencil?"

As his parents later explained, when Ben finds a question too emotional to answer, he prefers to draw it out. This time what he drew equals, "Yes! I'm thankful!" though the picture looked like doodles.

Ben may be losing his eyesight, but he clearly sees what he's got.

**Questions**

8. What happened to the 9-year-old boy Ben Pierce?

9. What is his parents’ goal?

10. Why did Ben ask “Do you have a pencil?”

**Key:** 8. C 9. B 10. D