

Cumulative Skills Test Units 1–5 Test A

Name: _____

Everyday English

1 Complete the sentences with the missing words. Use one word in each sentence.

- 1 Susie looks _____ if she's seen a ghost. She's gone white.
- 2 Oh, come on! You've got _____ to lose! Try it with me and I'll pay!
- 3 As far _____ I'm concerned, we should start again.
- 4 You've really _____ me down. I'm very disappointed in you.
- 5 We _____ to inform you that the match has been cancelled.

Mark: ____ / 5

Listening

2 🎧 Listen to Dan and Lucy talking about going away on holiday. Complete the sentences with a number.

- 1 Dan went on a round-the-world trip with _____ friend(s).
- 2 Lucy is going to stay in Portugal for _____ week(s).

3 🎧 Listen again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Dan took the photo of the boat. ____
- 2 Joe and Robbie are standing on the boat in the photo. ____
- 3 Robbie is similar to Dan in appearance. ____
- 4 These days, Dan and Robbie are often together. ____
- 5 Dan thought that the people were kind to him in Thailand. ____
- 6 Lucy isn't at all excited about her trip to Portugal. ____
- 7 Lucy has already decided what to take with her on holiday. ____
- 8 Lucy enjoyed scuba diving when she first tried it. ____

Mark: ____ / 10

Reading

St Kilda

If you've ever wanted to get off the beaten track, it would be difficult to find anywhere as remote as St Kilda, a group of islands which lie in the North Atlantic Ocean, over sixty kilometres north-west of Scotland. It's one of the most isolated places in Europe, and it was once inhabited by a unique community of people with their own language and their own ancient way of life. Nowadays, nobody lives on the islands except for a few military personnel, although the place comes to life every summer when research scientists arrive to study the wildlife, and a small number of tourists make the long boat journey across the ocean to see the remains of the old houses which now stand empty.

On a bright, blue day in August 1930, the last St Kildans locked the doors of their houses and made their way to the boat that was waiting for them. For religious and traditional reasons, they had left an open bible and a small pile of food in each of their houses. It would be easy to say that they were sad to leave the islands where their ancestors had lived for a thousand years, but, in truth, many of them were looking forward to their new lives on the mainland, away from the poverty and isolation of St Kilda. There had never been more than 200 people living on the islands in St Kilda's entire history, but by the time of its evacuation there were only thirty-six people left, and most of them were old. It was impossible to continue with no young people to farm the land and grow – or find – food.

Historians have argued about the main reasons why the community on St Kilda failed. Illness and emigration played a part, and it seems that the common factor was the way that the modern world influenced the islanders. While they were living in isolation, they had little choice but to work hard and to make the best of their lives, but things changed in the 19th century when tourists started arriving on the islands. At first, this had a positive effect because islanders could sell home-made clothes and birds' eggs to the visitors – but the benefits came at a price. The islanders lost their self-esteem because the tourists treated them as strange, primitive people, and many St Kildan children died because mainland diseases such as tetanus and influenza arrived with the boats. In the longer term, regular contact with the outside world made the St Kildans less self-reliant. As a result of the tourist trade, they could buy things from the mainland for the first time, so they stopped farming or hunting for birds' eggs, which had been their traditional methods of getting food. They became disconnected from their ancient way of life, and most of the young men emigrated from St Kilda to find work in Scotland. Eventually, the end of their traditional community became inevitable.

4 Read the text. Circle the correct answer (a–d).

- 1 St Kilda is situated
 - a in the west of Scotland.
 - b in the middle of a group of islands.
 - c close to the Scottish coast.
 - d in the north-western part of the Atlantic.
- 2 In the winter, the only things likely to happen on the islands are
 - a house renovations.
 - b sightseeing visits.
 - c military activities.
 - d wildlife studies.
- 3 In the text, we discover that the St Kildans who left the islands in 1930 were
 - a all very upset about leaving for the last time.
 - b probably religious people.
 - c worried about being poor on the mainland.
 - d short of food to eat.
- 4 Reasons why the St Kilda community had to leave include
 - a the influence of tourists from elsewhere.
 - b diseases caused by the failure of crops.
 - c the increasing numbers of young people in the community.
 - d the price of goods from the outside world.
- 5 In the 19th century, tourists visiting from Scotland
 - a worked on the islands.
 - b admired the islanders' values.
 - c bought goods made by the islanders.
 - d brought cures for diseases like influenza.

Mark: ____ / 10

Writing

5 Write one of the following tasks.

- A Write a personal letter to a friend. Tell them you have been worrying about your exams. Explain how you are planning to improve your mood with exercise, and other plans you have to feel happier.
- B Write a letter to a local newspaper expressing your views and concerns on a plan to introduce a curfew on young people being out alone after 8 p.m. Explain how you feel about this scheme. Show an understanding of the problem and make alternative suggestions.

Mark: ____ / 15

TOTAL MARKS: ____ / 40

Speaking

6 Think about your typical weekend and what you did last weekend. Prepare to answer the questions below. Then work with a partner. Take turns to interview each other.

- 1 What do you usually do at the weekend? Where do you go? Who do you spend time with?
- 2 What did you do last weekend? Where did you go? Who did you go with? Did anything unusual happen? If so, what?

Challenge!

7 Complete the text with the correct words (a–d).

A trip to Andalucía

Last summer, my family and I went on a trip to Andalucía in the south of Spain. While we ¹_____ in Seville, we saw a lot of famous ²_____, including the cathedral, Torre del Oro. Then we went to Granada and visited the Alhambra Palace. The place was ³_____ crowded because there were so many tourists there, but it was still fabulous. If you go to Granada, you ⁴_____ exactly what I mean! The Alhambra is one of the most beautiful palaces in the world. It is located ⁵_____ of the hill al-Sabika. Today, some of the wall paintings in the palace ⁶_____ to decay. Protecting monuments like the Alhambra is important, so I've joined an online support group to ⁷_____ awareness of this issue. By the end of this century, some world famous monuments will have fallen down if we ⁸_____ to look after them now.

- 1 **a** stayed **b** have stayed **c** had stayed **d** were staying
- 2 **a** sees **b** views **c** visions **d** sights
- 3 **a** up **b** over **c** far **d** many
- 4 **a** see **b** will see **c** saw **d** would see
- 5 **a** on bottom **b** on top **c** at top **d** under
- 6 **a** start **b** have started **c** started **d** were starting
- 7 **a** raise **b** donate **c** take part in **d** address
- 8 **a** failed **b** were failing **c** fail **d** are failing