

# Skills Test Unit 2 Test B

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Everyday English

### 1 Complete the dialogue with the words below.

could let's sure fancy persuaded

**James** It's a lovely day today. Why don't we go for a drive?

**Helen** Hmm, I don't <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ sitting in a car all afternoon.

**James** Oh, all right. If you don't want to sit in a car, perhaps we <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ go for a walk.

**Helen** A walk? I could be <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

**James** Oh, come on! <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ do it!

**Helen** Mmm, yes, it is a nice day. OK. I'm not <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ I can keep up with you, though!

**James** Of course you can! You won't regret it!

Mark: \_\_\_\_ / 5

## Listening

### 2 Listen to a radio interview with two young writers, Ben and Lucy. Circle the two correct sentences.

- A They have both written books.
- B They both took part in writing workshops.
- C They both went to South America.
- D They both write every day.

### 3 Listen again. Circle the correct answers.

- 1 When did Ben start writing?  
**a** at school **b** at university **c** between school and university **d** after university
- 2 Where did Lucy meet the famous travel writer?  
**a** at school **b** at university **c** on her travels **d** at work
- 3 Which country did Lucy visit and write about in the summer holidays?  
**a** Argentina **b** Brazil **c** the USA **d** Chile
- 4 What does Ben say is a good idea to do?  
**a** write a diary **b** read other people's blogs **c** keep things in your head  
**d** write when you get up

Mark: \_\_\_\_ / 10

# Reading

## The teenage explorer

In December 2011, when sixteen-year-old Amelia Hempleman-Adams arrived at Heathrow Airport in London, journalists from all the major newspapers were waiting for her. She had just spent the last seventeen nights in the Antarctic, enduring snowstorms and temperatures as low as  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and she had become the youngest person in the world to ski to the South Pole.

Amelia's remarkable long-distance trek to the pole had been planned by her father, David, an experienced explorer who was famous in Britain in the 1980s and 1990s for his record-breaking expeditions. In his career, he had walked to the North Pole by himself, with no support from any other people, and he had climbed to the top of the highest mountain on every continent in the world. However, skiing across the Antarctic to the South Pole with his teenage daughter and a small team of other skiers was the most challenging journey of his life, mostly because, as a parent, he was very worried about Amelia.

Amelia's preparation for the expedition was very thorough. She spent a lot of time trekking across the English countryside to get fit, and she camped in a large supermarket freezer warehouse to get used to the low temperatures. She also asked for advice from her two older sisters, both of whom had already been to the North Pole with their dad. In fact, famously, her sister Alicia had flown to the North Pole at the age of eight to be with her father at the end of one of his expeditions. As a result, she was the youngest person ever to visit the most northerly place on Earth.

During the expedition, Amelia carried two very special gifts in her bag. Before starting her adventure, she had met Alexandra Shackleton, the granddaughter of the polar explorer, Ernest Shackleton. Alexandra's grandfather had tried and failed to lead a team of brave adventurers to the South Pole in 1909, and she gave Amelia two gifts to remind the young girl of the amazing history of polar exploration. The first was a coin which had belonged to Ernest Shackleton. The second was a photograph of the famous explorer. Like so many early polar explorers, Ernest Shackleton, who never reached the South Pole in his career, had lost his life in the Antarctic. He had a heart attack during a scientific expedition in the 1920s.

When she returned from the expedition, Amelia said that she had enjoyed taking time out from school, and getting to know her father, but she had missed her friends and had found it difficult to deal with the freezing cold and the boring food. She also complained about her father's snoring. It hadn't been easy to sleep in a tent every night with her noisy dad.

**4 Read the text. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?**

- 1 It took months for Amelia to cross the Antarctic on her amazing journey. \_\_\_\_
- 2 Amelia was part of the first father and daughter team to go across the Antarctic to the South Pole. \_\_\_\_
- 3 Earlier in his career, Amelia's dad had been on expeditions to other cold and distant places. \_\_\_\_
- 4 Amelia's father became well-known as a result of this trek with his daughter. \_\_\_\_
- 5 Amelia did much of her training for the expedition before heading to Antarctica. \_\_\_\_
- 6 Amelia's sister Alicia trekked across the Arctic to the North Pole with her dad when she was very young. \_\_\_\_
- 7 Amelia took a coin which used to belong to Ernest Shackleton with her on her expedition. \_\_\_\_
- 8 Ernest Shackleton died during the expedition to the South Pole in 1909. \_\_\_\_
- 9 Amelia regretted missing school during the trip. \_\_\_\_
- 10 Both Amelia and her father complained about the food during the trip. \_\_\_\_

Mark: \_\_\_\_ / 10

## Writing

**5 Write a story about something that has happened to you on holiday, or while travelling. Start the story with one of the sentences in A, and finish your story with one of the sentences in B.**

**A**

I felt really nervous when ...

While I was staying in ...

A few years ago, I met an unusual person.

**B**

In the end, we shook hands and went different ways ...

I didn't know what to say!

I was so frightened that I started to scream.

**Write your story. Use the plan to help you.**

**Paragraph 1:** Begin your story in an interesting way. Introduce the characters, the time, the place and how you felt.

**Paragraph 2:** Develop the story, describing events in the order they happened.

**Paragraph 3:** Bring your story to an end. What happened?

Mark: \_\_\_\_ / 15

TOTAL MARKS: \_\_\_\_ / 40

# Challenge!

## 6 Complete the text with the correct words (a–c).

### Francis Birtles – the first man to drive from England to Australia

In 1927, Francis Birtles began an epic journey by car from England to Australia. The sun-  
1 \_\_\_\_\_ hero was 2 \_\_\_\_\_ to complete one of the most difficult journeys in the world.  
First of all, he 3 \_\_\_\_\_ across Europe, Egypt and India before heading 4 \_\_\_\_\_ a port  
in the south of what is now Malaysia. He 5 \_\_\_\_\_ months planning his expedition before  
setting off. By the time he 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Melbourne eight months later, he 7 \_\_\_\_\_ had  
countless adventures. He had also 8 \_\_\_\_\_ time out to see some of the most amazing sights in  
the world. Amazingly, while he 9 \_\_\_\_\_ to well-wishers at the end of his trip in Melbourne, a  
policeman asked him to move his car because he was obstructing traffic. Today, Birtles's car is in the  
National Museum of Australia in Canberra. Every day, hundreds of people 10 \_\_\_\_\_ the  
museum to see the car.

- 1 a skinned b headed c tanned
- 2 a determined b assertive c arrogant
- 3 a drove b was driving c had driven
- 4 a on b at c for
- 5 a spend b was spending c had spent
- 6 a reached b was reaching c reaching
- 7 a had b was having c has
- 8 a given b gone c taken
- 9 a talking b was talking c had talked
- 10 a visit b is visiting c are visiting