

Skills Test Unit 4 Test A

Name: _____

Everyday English

1 Complete the dialogue with the words below.

point concerned view far see right reckon sure ask agree

Sylvia In my ¹ _____, there is far too much pollution in the sea. What do you
² _____, Anna?

Anna Well, I ³ _____ with you. You're probably ⁴ _____. But I don't think
there's anything we can do about it.

Sylvia I ⁵ _____ what you're saying, but I'm not so ⁶ _____ about that. We can
do lots of things such as fining companies that cause pollution.

Anna Mmm. I take your ⁷ _____, but if you ⁸ _____ me, fines don't have much
effect on big oil companies. As ⁹ _____ as I'm ¹⁰ _____, there's not
much we can do.

Mark: ____ / 5

Listening

- 2 🎧 Listen to a radio interview with Josh Hughes. Tick (✓) the best summary of the aims of Josh's organization.

A

It's a government organization that teaches communities about marine life and the balance of nature, and wants a greater understanding of these issues in schools and colleges.

B

It's a newly-formed organization that wants to get young people to understand more about the problems marine environments face, and wants them to actively take steps to transform the situation.

- 3 🎧 Listen again. Circle the correct answer.

- 1 What's the name of the organisation organization that Josh represents these days?
 - a Save the Whales
 - b Protect the Oceans
 - c Transform the Seas
- 2 Josh talks about how we harm the oceans. Which of the following does he mention?
 - a We catch too many fish.
 - b We hunt too many whales.
 - c We take too much of its oil and gas.
- 3 According to Josh, what is the most important aim of his organization?
 - a To educate people and raise awareness.
 - b To persuade people to take part in the protest.
 - c To promote change by organizing petitions.
- 4 Which of the following examples of positive action has Josh's organization not yet carried out?
 - a starting an online petition
 - b organizing demonstrations
 - c planning charity events for schools

Mark: ____ / 10

Reading

Blood diamonds

Join the *Stop Blood Diamonds* campaign. Please read our factsheet and then join our campaign to prevent conflict in Africa which results from the West's desire for jewellery.

What are the facts?

Every year, mines in Africa produce an enormous number of diamonds which together are worth over \$8 billion. They are one of Africa's major natural resources and one of the continent's most significant exports. In fact, more than half the diamonds in the world come from Africa. It seems ironic that such a luxurious item comes from such a poor continent, but most of these diamonds are mined legally, and the profits from their sale are good for the economies of African countries. However, some mines are controlled by rebels and warlords who sell the diamonds to rich countries in Europe, Asia and America and use the money to buy weapons. These diamonds are called 'blood diamonds'. Their sale has enabled the funding of terrible wars in Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sierra Leone and, in the future, they will undoubtedly pay for many more wars.

So, what steps have already been taken to stop the sale of blood diamonds? Well, firstly, governments have co-operated to set up the Kimberley Process, which is a way of checking exactly where a diamond has come from. Nowadays, diamond exporters have to show where their diamonds were mined and, in the future, this process is going to get stricter and more thorough. Secondly, books, articles and films, such as *Blood Diamond*, which starred Leonardo DiCaprio, have raised awareness of how much damage this trade in illegal diamonds causes in Africa. The problem is that these measures haven't fully addressed the problem. Although governments and international diamond companies are taking the issue of blood diamonds more seriously, ordinary high street jewellery shops in the West still don't seem to care about the origin of the diamonds they sell.

What now?

What are we going to do next to stop the sale of blood diamonds? In the coming months, our campaign group will be organizing protests outside high street shops that sell diamonds and will be taking out advertisements in magazines and major newspapers to highlight the problem. We're also going to start an online petition which you can sign by checking out our website. We believe that high street shops do not provide sufficient assurance to consumers that the diamonds they sell won't make money for warlords and rebels. That is why we need your help. We'd like you to download our online question sheet and take it to your local jeweller's. Ask the questions about the origin of their diamonds and put pressure on diamond retailers to sell diamonds which have not come from countries or regions at war. By doing this, you'll be sending a strong message to your local jeweller's that their role in supporting wars must end.

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

- 1 Diamonds are a minor African export. ____
- 2 All blood diamonds have been mined illegally. ____
- 3 Warlords and rebels control the majority of Africa's diamond mines. ____
- 4 A war in Angola was funded by the sale of blood diamonds. ____
- 5 The sale of blood diamonds has been stopped by the Kimberley Process. ____
- 6 International diamond companies have shown no interest in caring about the origin of blood diamonds. ____
- 7 The *Stop Blood Diamonds* campaign is planning action to target high street jewellery shops. ____
- 8 The campaign group want the press to draw attention to the problem. ____
- 9 The campaign asks supporters to send in questions they think high street shops should answer. ____
- 10 The campaign aims to make jewellers more responsible for finding out where blood diamonds come from. ____

Mark: ____ / 10

Writing

5 Read the description of two events. Choose one of the special days to celebrate at your school. Then write an opinion essay giving reasons why you chose the special day.

<p>INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK DAY 2 April</p> <p>Aims to inspire young people to read more and aims to promote children's literature.</p>	<p>EARTH DAY 22 April</p> <p>Aims to raise awareness of the Earth's environment and to make people appreciate how we need to protect it.</p>
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Write your essay. Use the plan to help you.

Paragraph 1: Write an introduction and state your opinion.

Paragraph 2: Give reasons for your opinion.

Paragraph 3: Support your opinion with specific examples.

Paragraph 4: Write a conclusion and restate your opinion and reasons.

Mark: ____ / 15

TOTAL MARKS: ____ / 40

Challenge!

6 Complete the text with the correct form of the words (a–d).

Journey to the Amazon

Last year, I decided ¹ _____ the Amazon rainforest in Brazil. I don't regret ² _____ on such a long, dangerous ³ _____ through kilometres of thick vegetation. The rainforest is a vast and majestic place. A quarter of all known land species ⁴ _____ the forest, including the jaguar, the river dolphin, the world's largest flower, a monkey the size of a toothbrush and a spider the size of a baseball. There are many more species there, but we ⁵ _____ them all yet.

On the fifth of March, I ⁶ _____ back to Brazil to join an environmental project in an area of the Amazon rainforest with no trees. I ⁷ _____ my ticket. Twenty years ago, this area ⁸ _____ to a group of indigenous people, but, more recently, a logging company has owned it. I've ⁹ _____ to work with no pay on the project. We've got a clear plan. We ¹⁰ _____ hundreds of trees. The trees in the Amazon rainforest store 80 to 120 billion tonnes of carbon, helping to stabilize the planet's climate, so it's vital that we protect them.

- 1 a visit b visiting c to visit d to visiting
- 2 a go b going c to go d to going
- 3 a trek b tour c voyage d excursion
- 4 a will inhabit b inhabits c is inhabiting d are inhabiting
- 5 a don't discover b haven't discovered c didn't discover d weren't discovering
- 6 a to fly b am flying c could fly d flies
- 7 a already buy b already bought c 've already bought d was already buying
- 8 a belongs b will belong c would belong d used to belong
- 9 a volunteered b aided c donated d raised
- 10 a planted b plant c are going to plant d may replant