

READING

SECTION 1 Questions 1–14

Read the text below and answer Questions 1–7.

Young Fashion Designer UK competition

Young Fashion Designer UK is an exciting national competition which aims to showcase and promote the exceptional work achieved by students studying courses in textile design, product design and fashion throughout the UK.

The competition is designed for students to enter the coursework they are currently working on rather than specifically producing different pieces of work. If you would like to add to your coursework, that is for you and your teacher to decide.

You can apply independently or through your school/college. To enter please ensure you follow these steps:

- 1) Provide three A3 colour copies from your design folder.

You must include:

- initial ideas about the clothing
- a close-up photograph of the front and back view of the finished clothing.

- 2) Please label each sheet clearly with your name and school (on the back).
- 3) Print off a copy of your registration form and attach it to your work.
- 4) Post your entry to the Young Fashion Designer Centre.

Once the entry deadline has passed, the judges will select the shortlist of students who will be invited to the Finals. You will be notified if you are shortlisted. You will need to bring originals of the work that you entered. Each finalist will have their own stand consisting of a table and tabletop cardboard display panels. Feel free to add as much creativity to your stand as possible. Some students bring tablets/laptops with slideshows or further images of work but it should be emphasised that these may not necessarily improve your chances of success.

The judges will assess your work and will ask various questions about it. They will look through any supporting information and the work you have on display before coming together as a judging panel to decide on the winners. You are welcome to ask the judges questions. In fact, you should make the most of having experts on hand!

There are 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners for each category. The judges can also decide to award special prizes if the work merits this. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will receive a glass trophy and prize from a kind donor.

Questions 1–7

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the text on page 60?

In boxes 1–7 on your answer sheet, write

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

- 1 Participants are required to create a new item of clothing for the Young Fashion Designer UK competition.
- 2 Participants must send information about the thoughts that led to the item they are entering for the competition.
- 3 The shortlist will consist of a fixed number of finalists.
- 4 Finalists can choose how to present their work to the judges on their stand.
- 5 It is strongly recommended that finalists support their entry with additional photographs.
- 6 Questions that the students ask the judges may count towards the final decisions.
- 7 Extra prizes may be awarded depending on the standard of the entries submitted.

Read the text below and answer Questions 8–14.

Which keyboard should you buy?

It's worth remembering that a bad keyboard can significantly affect your entire computing experience. So make sure you pick the right keyboard for your needs.

A Logitech K120

Logitech's K120 offers a number of extra features. It's spill-resistant, draining small amounts of liquid if you have an accident. It isn't particularly eye-catching, but it feels very solid. For the price, it's a tempting choice.

B Cherry MX 3.0 Keyboard

The Cherry MX 3.0 looks simple and neat, thanks to its compact build. It's solid, durable and you don't need to push keys all the way down to activate them. It's also rather loud though, which can take some getting used to.

C Logitech K780

The K780 is a compact, pleasantly modern-looking keyboard. There's an integrated stand for smartphones and tablets too. It's quiet to type on, and the circular keys are easy to familiarise yourself with, well-spaced and large enough to hit accurately. For this price though, the lack of backlighting is disappointing.

D Microsoft Sculpt Ergonomic

The Sculpt's curved, strange-looking build serves a purpose. It provides wrist support and lifts your forearms into a relaxed position so you don't hurt yourself from typing for lengthy periods. It feels weird, but it seems to do the trick.

E Microsoft Universal Bluetooth Keyboard

Microsoft's Bluetooth keyboard has one very handy feature – you can fold it in half and carry it around in your jacket pocket or bag, and it feels rather like a large wallet. It has generously sized keys, though the two-piece spacebar takes some getting used to. Another useful feature is that you can get up to three months' use from a single charge.

F Corsair Strafe RGB Keyboard

Corsair's keyboard is expensive, flashy and extremely impressive. All of its keys are programmable, there's eye-catching backlighting and the buttons are textured for improved grip. All this is because it's designed for gamers. However, it's also silent, meaning it is suitable for everyday office work too.

Questions 8–14

Look at the six reviews of computer keyboards, **A–F**, on page 62.

For which keyboard are the following statements true?

Write the correct letter, **A–F**, in boxes 8–14 on your answer sheet.

NB You may use any letter more than once.

- 8 This keyboard may not suit users who prefer the keys to be almost silent.
- 9 This keyboard is easily portable because it can be made to fit into a small space.
- 10 This keyboard includes a special place to put small devices.
- 11 This keyboard is designed to prevent injury to those who spend a lot of time on the computer.
- 12 This keyboard offers good value for money.
- 13 This keyboard is primarily aimed at people who use their computer for entertainment.
- 14 It shouldn't take long for users to get used to the shape of the keys on this keyboard.

SECTION 2 Questions 15–27

Read the text below and answer Questions 15–20.

Working for a small company may be better than you think

Recent research shows that many job-seekers believe their ideal position would be in a large company. However, working for a small or medium-sized business has many advantages that are too easily overlooked. Here are just a few of them.

Working in a small organisation with a small workforce means it's likely to be easy to become part of it. It won't be long before you're familiar with the staff and the departments that you need to deal with. This can provide a feeling of comfort that takes much longer to develop in a large company. Departments are likely to be small and have close connections with each other, which helps to make internal communication work well – everyone knows what's going on. You'll also gain a better understanding of how your own role fits into the company as a whole.

In a small business you're likely to have considerable variety in your workload, including opportunities to work in different areas of the company, which will allow you to identify abilities that you didn't know you had. An introduction to new activities could even lead to a change of career. This variety in your work will help to make it stimulating, so you have a good reason for getting out of bed in the morning.

There will be plenty of opportunities to show initiative, and you'll also learn to function well as part of a team. Because it's much harder to overlook someone within a small workforce than a large one, your efforts are more likely to attract the attention of those higher up. You'll have plenty of opportunity to show what you can do, and to have your potential noticed. The result is very likely to be that promotion comes to you faster.

Small businesses are usually flexible, something that is rarely true of large organisations. This means that if they're well managed, they can adapt to make the most of changes in the wider economy, which in turn can help you. Don't dismiss them as a place to work because of the myths about them. Small firms can be ideal places for developing your career.

Questions 15–20

Complete the sentences below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the text for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 15–20 on your answer sheet.

- 15 In a small business it is easy to become with colleagues and other departments.
- 16 You may find you have you were not aware of.
- 17 Finding that your work is will make you enjoy doing it.
- 18 Other people are likely to realise that you have
- 19 Opportunities for will come sooner than in a larger business.
- 20 You can benefit from a small company being more than a large one.

Read the text below and answer Questions 21–27.

Starting a new job

- A Make sure you know when and where you are expected to report on your first day. If the route from home is unfamiliar to you, make a practice run first: the normal first activity in a new job is a meeting with your boss, and it would be embarrassing to be late. Dress formally until you're sure of the dress code.
- B You should expect to have an induction programme planned for you: a security pass; visits to whatever parts of the organisation you need to understand to do your job properly; meetings with anyone who could affect your success in the role; and someone to show you where everything is and tell you all the real rules of the culture – the ones that are never written down but which everyone is meant to follow.
- C It can be a shock to join a new organisation. When you are a newcomer, feeling uncertain and perhaps a little confused, there can be a strong temptation to talk about your old job and organisation as a way of reminding yourself and telling others that you really know what you are doing, because you did it in your previous role. Unfortunately, this will suggest that you have a high opinion of yourself, and that you think your old place was better. It has enormous power to annoy, so don't do it.
- D All employers have a core product or service paid for by customers which justifies their existence. If you are not part of this core activity, remember that your role is to provide a service to the people who are part of it. Understanding their concerns and passions is essential for understanding why your own role exists, and for knowing how to work alongside these colleagues. This is why you must see this product or service in action.
- E When I worked for a television company, all of us, whatever our job, were strongly encouraged to visit a studio and see how programmes were made. This was wise. Make sure you do the equivalent for whatever is the core activity of your new employer.
- F Don't try to do the job too soon. This may seem strange because, after all, you have been appointed to get on and do the job. But in your first few weeks your task is to learn what the job really is, rather than immediately starting to do what you assume it is.
- G Starting a new job is one of life's major transitions. Treat it with the attention it deserves and you will find that all your work in preparing and then going through the selection process has paid off magnificently.

Questions 21–27

The text on page 66 has seven paragraphs, **A–G**.

Which paragraph mentions the following?

*Write the correct letter, **A–G**, in boxes 21–27 on your answer sheet.*

NB *You may use any letter more than once.*

- 21** the emotions that new employees are likely to experience at first
- 22** a warning to be patient at first
- 23** how colleagues might react to certain behaviour
- 24** travelling to your new workplace before you start working there
- 25** an example of observing an activity carried out within an organisation
- 26** some things that the organisation should arrange for when you begin
- 27** a division of jobs within an organisation into two categories