

Test 2 answer key with extra explanations

Reading and Use of English

Part 1

Questions 1–8

1 The correct answer is B: The adjective ‘bad’ is the only option here that collocates with (goes with) the noun ‘manners’.

2 The correct answer is C: ‘nothing new’ is a phrase that means ‘not something new at all’.

3 The correct answer is B: ‘at ease’ is the only phrase that fits in this sentence. It means ‘comfortable’.

4 The correct answer is D: The phrase ‘keep (someone) busy’ is tested here. In this case, it isn’t someone, but someone’s hands. The other verbs can’t be used in this phrase.

5 The correct answer is A: ‘tendency’ is the only noun that fits grammatically in this sentence. ‘custom’ and ‘habit’ are followed by ‘of’ and ‘preference’ is followed by ‘for’.

6 The correct answer is C: ‘act’ is the only verb that fits grammatically in this sentence. It is the only one that can be followed by ‘as’. The other verbs are all followed directly by an article and a noun.

7 The correct answer is D: The verb ‘separate’ is the only option that fits in this sentence. You can divide/split people by making them disagree with one another, for example; you can exclude someone/yourself from a group, for example.

8 The correct answer is B: ‘while’ is a linking word showing a contrast between two ideas. The other options also show contrasts, but are used in different situations. ‘whether’ is usually used to report questions or doubt, for example, ‘I don’t know whether to stay or go’; ‘unless’ means ‘if not’ so is used in conditional sentences; ‘except’ means ‘not including’.

Part 2

Questions 9–16

9 The correct answer is ‘Despite’: The phrase ‘Despite the fact that’ introduces the idea of a contrast. People might be expected to dislike being in such a cold place, but the hotel is actually very popular.

10 The correct answer is ‘up’: The phrasal verb ‘put up with’ is tested here, meaning ‘tolerate’.

11 The correct answer is ‘there’: ‘there is’ introduces a fact, something that exists. A common mistake is to use ‘it is’ instead of ‘there is’.

12 The correct answer is ‘every/each’: The ice melts every/each summer. This happens once a year. ‘once’ on its own is incorrect.

13 The correct answer is ‘has/needs’: An auxiliary verb in the third person singular is needed here, and must express the idea of necessity. ‘has’ and ‘needs’ are followed by the full infinitive (‘to be’). ‘must’ is incorrect because it is followed by an infinitive without ‘to’.

14 The correct answer is ‘it’: The pronoun ‘it’ refers to ‘this hotel’ at the beginning of the sentence.

15 The correct answer is ‘who’: The relative pronoun ‘who’ refers to a person: in this case, ‘an architect’.

16 The correct answer is ‘in’: The preposition ‘in’ follows the verb ‘involved’ when we are talking about a project or an idea. ‘with’ is incorrect here because ‘involved with’ is used to describe doing something with a person or a group.

Part 3

Questions 17–24

17 The correct answer is ‘abilities’: A noun is needed after ‘hidden’ and ‘many’ before the gap shows that the noun must be plural.

18 The correct answer is ‘astonishment’: The phrase ‘to someone’s astonishment’ is tested here. Only the noun fits in this phrase, so the adjectives ‘astonishing’ or ‘astonished’ are incorrect here.

19 The correct answer is ‘accuracy’: The verb ‘improved’ needs a noun as a subject.

20 The correct answer is ‘identification’: A noun is needed after ‘the’.

21 The correct answer is ‘unexpected’: An adjective is needed here after ‘so’. ‘unexpected’ means surprising’. ‘expected’ doesn’t make sense here, especially after ‘so’.

22 The correct answer is ‘basic’: An adjective is needed here to describe ‘features’. ‘basically’ is an adverb so does not fit here.

23 The correct answer is ‘differences’: A noun is needed here after the adjective ‘small’. The verb ‘distinguish’ after the gap shows that its third-person subject needs to be plural.

24 The correct answer is ‘highly’: An adverb is needed here to qualify the adjective ‘developed’. ‘higher’ is incorrect here because it is a comparative adjective.

Questions 25–30

25 The correct answer is ‘you must | have/’ve left’: *‘must + have + past participle’* is tested here. It is used to show that the speaker/writer is certain that something happened in the past.

26 The correct answer is ‘not (supposed/meant/intended) to be | used’: *‘is + full infinitive’* is tested here. It is used as an imperative form, for giving instructions. Here, the instruction is negative, so we need *‘is not + full infinitive’*. Also, the full infinitive is a passive form, *‘to be + the past participle of the main verb’*.

27 The correct answer is ‘put us off | seeing’: The phrasal verb *‘put (someone) off’* means to make someone not want to do something. It is followed by a gerund or a noun. Here, the gerund *‘seeing’* is needed because the verb *‘see’* is used in the first sentence.

28 The correct answer is ‘in favour of | banning’: The phrase *‘be in favour of’* means *‘support’*. It is followed by a gerund or a noun. Here the gerund *‘banning’* is needed because the verb *‘ban’* is used in the first sentence.

29 The correct answer is ‘be asked | to show’: The passive future form with *‘will’* is needed here (*will be asked*) and the full infinitive (*to show*) must follow it.

30 The correct answer is ‘was not/wasn’t prepared | to share’: If you are not prepared to do something, you refuse, or *‘will not’* do it. *‘Anna wouldn’t share’* means *‘Anna refused to share’* or *‘Anna was not prepared to share’*.

Questions 31–36

31 The correct answer is B: The instructor (Sam) told the writer (Alex) to ‘take a deep breath’ and gave him other advice, reassuring him that things would go well. This made Alex feel more confident, and Alex was grateful for this. **A** is incorrect because there is wind and snow, but Alex does not say that the weather is getting worse. **C** is incorrect because although Alex understood that the co-pilot was telling him to jump, Alex did not feel either pleased or unhappy about it. **D** is incorrect because Alex describes the movements of the helicopter, he does not say that there is anything wrong with it.

32 The correct answer is C: The words mean that it was not just jumping out of a helicopter that was a new experience for Alex, it was his first time actually being in a helicopter. So the words highlight how unusual the whole situation was for him. **A** is incorrect because the words do not justify Dave’s lack of patience, they just show that Dave is much more experienced at heli-boarding than Alex. **B** is incorrect because the words do not explain why Alex is there. **D** is incorrect because Alex feels the opposite: he feels nervous about jumping.

33 The correct answer is A: The landing was unpleasant: Alex says it made his ‘spine shake and sent a shiver through [his] entire body’. But Alex felt relieved: He says, ‘But at least I was on the ground’. **B** is incorrect because Alex just ‘hopped a couple of times to get going’. **C** is incorrect because Alex does not say or suggest this. **D** is incorrect because Alex does not say or suggest this, in fact he just carries on and joins the other snowboarders.

34 The correct answer is D: Hope says ‘you mean you got scared’ to Alex, and then Alex says to Hope, ‘believe whatever you want’. There is nothing in the text to suggest that Hope is concerned about Alex. She just suggests that Alex is lying about why he took time to jump out of the plane. **A** is incorrect because this is not suggested by their conversation. **B** is incorrect because this is not suggested by their conversation. **C** is incorrect because Alex does not speak to Hope in a friendly way.

35 The correct answer is C: Alex says, ‘Dave was arrogant, but he didn’t have the skills to back up his talk’. **A** is incorrect because this is not mentioned or suggested in the text. **B** is incorrect because this is not mentioned or suggested in the text. **D** is incorrect because when Bryce complimented Dave, ‘Dave nodded as though he already knew it had been a nice jump’.

36 The correct answer is D: Alex says: ‘Sam, our instructor and only connection to the rest of the world, was still on board [the helicopter]’. **A** is incorrect because the group that Alex is with have not changed their plan, although the people in the helicopter may have. **B** is incorrect because there is no suggestion that Alex is angry. **C** is incorrect because this is not suggested in the text.

Questions 37–42

37 The correct answer is F: The ‘goal’ in option F is the goal of the ‘research’, part of the ‘ongoing global campaign’ in the sentence before the gap.

38 The correct answer is C: ‘the gleaming yellow craft’ in option C is ‘the submersible’ in the text before the gap.

39 The correct answer is A: ‘that reassurance’ in option A refers to the writer giving the ‘OK’ sign to confirm that they don’t mind staying in the tiny space inside the submersible.

40 The correct answer is B: ‘What I’m even less prepared for’ in the sentence after the gap refers to what the writer found surprising in option B.

41 The correct answer is G: ‘At first I’m not sure why’ in option G refers to ‘the pilot suddenly points’ in the sentence before the gap. ‘it’ in the sentence after the gap refers to ‘an enormous submerged mountain’ in option G.

42 The correct answer is E: ‘ones’ in option E refers to ‘species’ in the sentence before the gap.

Questions 43–52

43 The correct answer is C: The writer says ‘teachers always stress how important it is to relax your arms and upper body – but how on earth can you, when you’re approaching a piece of music you have zero chance of getting through without a mistake?’

44 The correct answer is A: The writer says ‘there are times when I find it an intensely annoying and frustrating instrument – when I haven’t played for a while and I start practising again, and just can’t get my fingers into exactly the right position, the resulting sounds can be really screechy and awful’.

45 The correct answer is D: The writer says ‘It wasn’t until after tons of lessons and countless nerve-racking concert appearances with my school orchestra that it struck me I’d actually fallen in love with the instrument; it had just taken me until then to see it’.

46 The correct answer is B: The writer says ‘I began practising obsessively in any moment I had. I loved the instrument, but I realised I wasn’t a natural cellist. I was determined not to let that stand in my way, though’.

47 The correct answer is B: The writer says ‘I was desperate to improve quickly!’

48 The correct answer is A: The writer says ‘[The cello] really allows the player to express their personality, too. It’s almost as though the listeners can hear the musician’s soul’.

49 The correct answer is D: The writer says ‘I began for one reason only: the choice was between the violin and cello, as these were the only instruments we had at home, and my mother decided I looked ridiculous holding the violin’.

50 The correct answer is B: The writer says ‘Another frustration was that if I asked any professional cellist exactly how they played, they were unable to describe what was physically needed to achieve the beautiful tone I was looking for’.

51 The correct answer is C: The writer says that for beginners to be able to ‘draw the bow smoothly across the strings of the instrument and make a beautiful sound’ ... ‘requires a level of control that’s usually beyond them’.

52 The correct answer is A: The writer says ‘I wish it was more widely heard. Although it’s sometimes used in TV ads, that’s not enough for the general public to realise what wonderful music the cello can make’.