

## LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE – TEST 1

### Charity

A lot of people in our world have little or no money at all. Many of them are homeless and can't enjoy what most of us take for **Q1**\_\_\_\_\_. They need our help and there are a lot of charity organizations to help poor people. Because of charities many homeless people have shelters, hungry children have been fed, a lot of diseases have already been **Q2**\_\_\_\_\_ and many animals are safe.

Around the world there are a lot of children who suffer from different diseases, running **Q3**\_\_\_\_\_ time and hope. The biggest charity project in Russia is 'Contribution to the Future' whose goal is to help any child in need. Its programmes help poor, homeless and disabled children.

There are a lot of people in the world who have chosen charity as their main mission in life. One of the most famous missionaries was Mother Teresa. She lived the hard life of the poor alongside them; she knew how it felt sleeping on hard floors and living on dirty streets. And because she was experiencing **Q4** \_\_\_\_\_ what the people she was helping were going through, she so effectively knew how to give. Besides meeting people's basic physical needs by giving them food and medicine, she met people's emotional needs as well.

A lot of rich people also feel the necessity to help the poor. For example, Bill Gates is a famous billionaire, but he is also a noted philanthropist who donated the proceeds of his successful books to **Q5**\_\_\_\_\_ educational organizations. He has also given millions to initiatives in global health and learning, hoping to **Q6**\_\_\_\_\_ more and more people to have access to **Q7**\_\_\_\_\_ facilities in these areas. A good example is the opening of 'The School of the Future' in Philadelphia, sponsored by his company 'Microsoft'.

The spirit of philanthropy is not about what or how much you give but rather about the feeling that you are helping others in need.

- Q1. A) common                      B) granted                      C) usual                      D) life
- Q2. A) recovered                      B) healed                      C) cared                      D) cured
- Q3. A) with                      B) out                      C) of                      D) out of
- Q4. A) firsthand                      B) firstrate                      C) firsttime                      D) firstever
- Q5. A) unprofit                      B) unprofitable                      C) nonprofit                      D) nonprofitable
- Q6. A) unable                      B) enable                      C) let                      D) make
- Q7. A) visible                      B) vigorous                      C) vivid                      D) vital

## LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE – TEST 2

### The Archipelago

In the remote southern seas there is a cluster of islands. Each island is inhabited by a different race of people. Although physically they look alike, you can tell them **Q1**\_\_\_\_\_ by their styles of dress and their distinctive dialects. Each island has its own unique form of architecture. The only similarity between them is that each race builds in a manner that is **Q2**\_\_\_\_\_ odds with the environment. On rocky hillsides there are wooden huts and in wooded valleys you can see towns of brick. Arid uplands are irrigated and planted with leafy gardens, whereas, on fertile plains, the parks are paved with stone. **Q3**\_\_\_\_\_ their differences, the islanders coexist peacefully. There is rivalry over certain fishing waters but it rarely **Q4**\_\_\_\_\_ to more than a few heated exchanges.

At the centre of the archipelago, perhaps in the most favoured spot of all, lies an island that has been deserted for many generations. It looks very different from the rest: darker, taller, silent. There is no obvious reason **Q5**\_\_\_\_\_ its abandonment as it has good soil and plenty of freshwater.

Long ago, it was inhabited by farmers and fishermen much like everywhere else in the archipelago, but everything changed when they started building the first wall. As soon as it was finished a second circle of battlements began to rise from the centre, slightly narrower than the one before, so that from faraway the island **Q6**\_\_\_\_\_ an enormous wedding cake.

Nobody can explain why the wall was started but there are many theories as to why it was never finished. Some say that so many had perished during its construction, that no one dared halt the work and thereby admit that it had all been in vain. Others claim that the builders simply **Q7**\_\_\_\_\_ out of materials. But one thing is certain, the predicted threat never arrived and the people at the centre of the archipelago had, quite simply, bricked themselves in.

- Q1. A) out                      B) off                      C) apart                      D) aside
- Q2. A) over                      B) at                      C) against                      D) on
- Q3. A) Despite                      B) In spite                      C) Besides                      D) Although
- Q4. A) raises                      B) attains                      C) amounts                      D) achieves
- Q5. A) with                      B) to                      C) of                      D) for
- Q6. A) recollected                      B) reminded                      C) resembled                      D) remembered
- Q7. A) went                      B) ran                      C) grew                      D) came

## LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE – TEST 3

### Globalization and Communication Growth

The 21st century has **Q1**\_\_\_\_\_ in a new era in man's ongoing quest for a better life and a better world. For the first time in history, we can now claim to live in 'One World.' Globalization has removed many of the gaps that have existed between and among nations. While the physical divide is still present, the **Q2**\_\_\_\_\_ of the Information Highway on how we communicate and live in the present day is simply staggering. Rapid improvements in information technology have allowed us to exchange information and communicate almost everywhere, anywhere, and anytime.

Globalization, as a general term, is best understood as the spread of ideas about the environment, democracy, human rights, and less complicated issues like fashion and fads. Global exchange is now taking place as the market of ideas, culture, and beliefs expand through the use of technology. The nature of business and how it is done has also improved by **Q3**\_\_\_\_\_ and bounds because of globalization.

An example of the remarkable effects of globalization is the invention of the tele phone and the television. Television has enabled young people and adults to have the ability to share cultural and ethnic experiences with others. Telephones have also greatly improved communication. Gone are the weeks and even months of waiting for a letter. Anybody can talk to anyone who has another phone **Q4**\_\_\_\_\_ of distance or location on the planet. With the aid of satellites, 3rd generation phones allow us to make a phone call, send a video, or even receive an email. These **Q5**\_\_\_\_\_ in communication have revolutionized business, commerce, and even the personal lives and relationships of millions of people.

Because of the electronic media, vast amounts of important information can reach any parts of the globe in **Q6**\_\_\_\_\_ time. Business establishments, whether big or small, are using the Internet in many ways to build or expand their company's growth. With the ever improving technology come new markets, high **Q7**\_\_\_\_\_ for products, and also greater competition. Making investments in information and communication technology is now a must for any business enterprise.

- Q1. A) started                      B) began                      C) ushered                      D) launched
- Q2. A) cause                      B) impact                      C) consequences                      D) result
- Q3. A) bonds                      B) gaps                      C) jumps                      D) leaps
- Q4. A) regardless                      B) despite                      C) notwithstanding                      D) because
- Q5. A) breakbeats                      B) breakdowns                      C) breakouts                      D) breakthroughs
- Q6. A) any                      B) no                      C) none of                      D) some
- Q7. A) access                      B) claim                      C) demand                      D) rise

## LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE – TEST 4

### Machu Picchu

In a way, it's wonderful that Machu Picchu can nowadays be visited on a day **Q1**\_\_\_\_\_ from Cuzco. Everyone probably should have a chance to see this remarkable place.

Like many travellers, I hoped to get a taste of Machu Picchu's 'lost in the clouds' atmosphere by approaching the ruins on foot **Q2**\_\_\_\_\_ the Inca trail. I joined the obligatory tour group in Cuzco, then spent the next four days surrounded by others making the classic pilgrimage. Along the way, we crossed several breathtaking Andean passes, treading on original Inca paving stones, and passing several other fine ruins.

Our last **Q3**\_\_\_\_\_ stop was at an exquisitely beautiful site called Huinay Huayna, where dozens of impossibly steep terraces cascade into a deep green gorge backed by a high waterfall. My newfound travelling companions included five Argentines who **Q4**\_\_\_\_\_ my interest in exploring Huinay Huayna by moonlight.

The only problem was a slight difference in styles. Mine was more along the lines of silent and meditative contemplation; theirs involved a ritualistic circle chant, led by the charismatic lone male in the group whom I thereafter nicknamed the Warlock. Absenting myself from the circle that night, I made a mental note to **Q5**\_\_\_\_\_ my distance from them the next day at Machu Picchu.

Before dawn the following morning we climbed to the mountaintop Gateway of the Sun, hoping for the classic panoramic view of Machu Picchu before the tour buses arrived. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate. With dozens of other disappointed trekkers, I shivered on the hilltop in chilly fog for two hours, waiting for a sunrise that never came, then trudged down the hill to Machu Picchu itself. As I **Q6**\_\_\_\_\_, the clouds started lifting, revealing the place to be every bit as spectacular as I could have hoped. By day's end, my tour group had dispersed, apparently preferring a hot bath. I, however, felt I was just **Q7**\_\_\_\_\_ the surface. Moreover, students are given tests from a test bank. The test is made up when they log into the test website. These are the same for students taking distant classes at school or at special courses.

Q1. A) travel                      B) voyage                      C) journey                      D) trip

Q2. A) with                      B) via                      C) across                      D) over

Q3. A) overall                      B) overhead                      C) overnight                      D) overday

Q4. A) captured                      B) shared                      C) kept                      D) held

Q5. A) keep                      B) hold                      C) take                      D) use

Q6. A) descended                      B) ascended                      C) attended                      D) pretended

Q7. A) reaching                      B) touching                      C) scratching                      D) patching

## LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE – TEST 5

### The Changing World of Computers

Computers are rapidly changing the way we do things. For a technology that is still relatively new, their **Q1** \_\_\_\_\_ on the business and consumer sector has been incomprehensible. As if it was not sufficient to own one computer, many people nowadays have a few of them. We think we need a desktop computer, a laptop computer, and a bunch of little computers in our phones and music players, even **Q2** \_\_\_\_\_ they actually do the same thing. Now that everybody has their desktops and laptops, and we are all able to **Q3** \_\_\_\_\_ the Internet anytime we want to, our world has turned into a virtual playground. We can now connect with our foreign neighbours in a matter of seconds, **Q4** \_\_\_\_\_ of how far away they are from us. It's as if we no longer have borders in this highly digital world of ours.

Desktops have always been a great option, but the problem with them is that they are not mobile. They have all the **Q5** \_\_\_\_\_ of other computers, but it can be annoying at times to have to sit in the same spot while working. For businesses and personal offices, desktop computers are still the favoured option because of their power. But when people have to be connected while travelling, the need for laptops really becomes apparent. The main advantage of laptops is the ability to communicate with people no **Q6** \_\_\_\_\_ where you are. Our society has been converted into one that has to have all the latest gadgets. Some people even **Q7** \_\_\_\_\_ down on others if they still have last year's model of some gadget. Those people will always be behind the curve just because of how fast technology is advancing now.

- Q1. A) affect                      B) role                      C) impact                      D) value
- Q2. A) though                      B) now                      C) so                      D) as
- Q3. A) register                      B) log                      C) connect                      D) access
- Q4. A) regardless                      B) regarding                      C) in spite                      D) despite
- Q5. A) qualities                      B) skills                      C) capabilities                      D) traits
- Q6. A) trouble                      B) matter                      C) doubt                      D) problem
- Q7. A) turn                      B) fall                      C) come                      D) look

## LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE – TEST 6

### All Alone

A sickly grey invaded the evening sky and infused with the dusky blue from the after noon's thunderstorm. In the musky air there seemed to be a sweet scent lingering, along with the choking smell of cigarette smoke. Fireflies dangled in the air like puppets, their colour almost drowned out from the rain. Their amber hue seemed to be the only source of light.

Charlotte dragged her feet across the leaves on the ground while swallowing the dreary landscape she had just walked a mile to. She inhaled. Heavy air filled her lungs and caused her to splutter in the dark. Silence crept in, and it haunted her. There was nowhere to **Q1**\_\_\_\_\_ help. Where were the others? She **Q2**\_\_\_\_\_ every ledge, every forest entry, every sharp rock. She acknowledged that the scene was just perfect for another practical joke. How surprising that they'd abandoned her here. They **Q3**\_\_\_\_\_ on her not just because she was the biggest loser in school; skinny, asthmatic, antisocial, afraid of everything, but mostly because she was liable to fall **Q4**\_\_\_\_\_ the same tricks over and over again.

Panicking, Charlotte's hands trembled as her eyes jolted back and **Q5**\_\_\_\_\_ across the horizon. How fitting it was that she should be afraid of the dark. Maybe she should never have agreed to go. She was **Q6**\_\_\_\_\_ to answer 'Yes'. Why were the popular ones asking her to hang out? Why wasn't it the science geeks or the library nerds? She was told there was a first for everything, but she'd always be a loner.

Her eyes fixed on a moving figure, too dark to know if it was human, and too scared to know it as anything else. She looked around, and realised she had been standing under a jagged ledge, threatening to engulf her in a sea of knifeedged rocks. In the dark she could've sworn it was a giant claw. She turned around and planned an escape **Q7**\_\_\_\_\_.

- Q1. A) ask            B) look            C) search            D) seek
- Q2. A) looked        B) scanned        C) skimmed        D) stared
- Q3. A) joked         B) laughed        C) picked          D) teased
- Q4. A) for            B) on                C) over              D) with
- Q5. A) ahead         B) forth            C) forward         D) onward
- Q6. A) cautious     B) doubtful        C) opposed         D) reluctant
- Q7. A) route         B) road             C) way               D) course

## LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE – TEST 7

### Benefits of Healthy Food

There are some benefits of consuming healthy and nutritious food. The main advantage of eating healthily is that you can make your immune system strong and **Q1**\_\_\_\_\_ of viral, bacterial and other health related issues like heart or blood pressure problems. Stronger immune system is the most basic requirement of any human body for efficient performance.

Besides, eating the right kind of food at the right time will definitely **Q2**\_\_\_\_\_ you from getting obese. Obesity leads to other diseases, too. So if you are not obese yet, then it's better to start taking care of your own body by eating healthy and nutritious food. This will ensure that your body weight is maintained according to your height and you will not have to look **Q3**\_\_\_\_\_ weight loss diet plans or fitness centers.

What is more, eating healthy and nutritious food will make your entire day full of energy. You will feel energetic and fresh and will be able to work for more time, which will indirectly increase your performance at school or in the office. However, in today's advanced world you may not have enough time to follow a routine and you may **Q4**\_\_\_\_\_ up eating food at irregular time. And **Q5**\_\_\_\_\_ to this you may not get time to prepare yourself a healthy meal and eat at the right time.

As your work gets harder and tougher, your body needs healthy and nutritious food. No one else except you can **Q6**\_\_\_\_\_ sure that your body is getting healthy food. Last but not **Q7**\_\_\_\_\_ we would like to mention is to do a regular workout. With healthy and nutritious food, it is essential that you do regular workout so that your weight is maintained and you are active and fit.

Q1. A) eliminate            B) do away            C) cut out            D) get rid

Q2. A) prevent            B) avoid            C) hold            D) warn

Q3. A) at            B) to            C) for            D) on

Q4. A) take            B) carry            C) bring            D) end

Q5. A) thank            B) due            C) so            D) because

Q6. A) keep            B) take            C) make            D) for

Q7. A) least            B) worst            C) best            D) most

## LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE – TEST 8

### Luck

About forty years ago I was an instructor in the military academy at Woolwich. I was present in one of the sections when young Scoresby **Q1**\_\_\_\_\_ his preliminary examination. I was touched to the quick with pity because the rest of the class answered up brightly and handsomely while he didn't know *anything*, so to speak. All the compassion in me was aroused in his behalf. I understood that when he came to be examined again, he would be flung over, so it would be simply a harmless act of **Q2**\_\_\_\_\_ to ease his fall as much as I could.

I took him aside, and found that he knew a little of Caesar's history; and as he didn't know anything else, I went to work and drilled him like a galley slave on a certain line of stock questions concerning Caesar which I knew would be used. You won't believe me but he went through with flying **Q3**\_\_\_\_\_ on examination day! He went through on that purely superficial 'cram,' and got compliments too, while others, who knew a thousand times more than he, got plucked. **Q4**\_\_\_\_\_ some strangely lucky accident, he was asked no question outside of the narrow limits of his drill. It was stupefying. Now of course the thing that would **Q5**\_\_\_\_\_ him and kill him at last was mathematics. I **Q6**\_\_\_\_\_ to make his death as easy as I could. So I drilled him and crammed him just on the line of questions which the examiners would be most likely to use, and then launched him on his fate. Well, try to **Q7**\_\_\_\_\_ of the result: to my consternation, he took the first prize! And with it he got a perfect ovation in the way of compliments.

- Q1. A) undertook      B) underscored      C) understood      D) underwent
- Q2. A) charity      B) cruelty      C) loyalty      D) bravery
- Q3. A) marks      B) grades      C) colours      D) banners
- Q4. A) Under      B) In      C) With      D) By
- Q5. A) find      B) expose      C) denounce      D) injure
- Q6. A) suggested      B) settled      C) solved      D) resolved
- Q7. A) conceive      B) imagine      C) predict      D) foretell



## LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE – TEST 9

### Side by Side

Melissa dropped into a chair in front of her manager's cherry veneer desk. 'I don't know how people with kids can do this job,' the 25-year-old radio advertising sales rep said. Her boss, Laurie Thompson, had heard such self-doubt before. Her six salespeople at Connoisseur Media in Erie often popped into her office to give vent to their **Q1**\_\_\_\_\_ about a tough day of coldcalling. Laurie nodded. She didn't have children, **Q2**\_\_\_\_\_ herself instead **to** a sales career, running marathons, cycling, sailing and spending time with her husband. 'I don't think I'll ever have kids, though that would really disappoint my parents,' Melissa said. 'Why? Because you're **Q3**\_\_\_\_\_ only child?' Laurie asked. Melissa said her parents would be disappointed because they **Q4**\_\_\_\_\_ for grandkids. Then she added, almost as an afterthought, 'I was adopted.' From the time she was tiny, Melissa knew that she was adopted. Her new parents were always open with their daughter about where she came from. Along the way, Melissa grew **Q5**\_\_\_\_\_ to questions from people who had learnt she was adopted. So she wasn't at all **Q6**\_\_\_\_\_ about answering her boss that afternoon. 'Have you ever had a desire to meet your real parents?' Laurie asked. 'Not really,' Melissa said. 'It's not that I don't want to. It's just that I haven't got around to it. And I don't feel like I'm missing anything. My parents are wonderful.' Melissa laughed and was about to leave when Laurie asked her another question. 'When were you born?' 'April 14, 1981.' Then, feeling she'd taken **Q7**\_\_\_\_\_ enough of her boss's time, Melissa said goodbye and headed home. Some people can drink several cups of coffee with few side effects.

- Q1. A) happiness            B) joy                    C) frustrations        D) tears
- Q2. A) preparing            B) concentrating    C) involving            D) devoting
- Q3. A) —                    B) the                    C) a                      D) an
- Q4. A) wanted                B) needed                C) desired                D) longed
- Q5. A) accustomed        B) annoyed              C) anxious                D) ashamed
- Q6. A) conscious            B) hesitant              C) interested            D) reluctant
- Q7. A) in                      B) over                    C) on                      D) up

## LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE – TEST 10

### Thanksgiving Day

We **Q1**\_\_\_\_\_ Thanksgiving for granted as a day to watch football, spend time with our families, or eat, but 150 years ago, it wasn't even a national holiday. For the settlers, that meal was at first thought of as a onetime thing. They had no idea this event would become the **Q2**\_\_\_\_\_ of the Thanksgiving customs we now share throughout the United States and Canada. However, that first celebration didn't **Q3**\_\_\_\_\_ our modern traditions much. The meat served was likely goose or duck. And there was probably a bit of fish there, too. There were no potatoes, no pie, no stuffing, and no cranberries. Nowadays Thanksgiving dinner is a meal custommade for overeating. So it helps to **Q4**\_\_\_\_\_ attention and to have some thoughtful strategies to avoid that uncomfortable feeling of being stuffed. Thanksgiving is one of the few holidays where most of my family all get together to celebrate. In the first week of November the family decides whose house we will have Thanksgiving dinner at. It usually ends **Q5**\_\_\_\_\_ being my sisters' house because it is the biggest, and most convenient. We **Q6**\_\_\_\_\_ up a table for the children and the adults can choose to eat at a different table, or in the living room with the game on. During the day, while turkey is being cooked, the adults watch a football game, or just hang out and chat. The children are free to go outside if the weather is good, or play inside with their toys. We usually arrange the food in a buffet style. The children are served first and when they are all set at their table, the adults dig in. While we are eating, there is a lot of talking, and catching up. Then we start to clean up and make up some plates to each take home, and look **Q7**\_\_\_\_\_ to Christmas.

- Q1. A) take                      B) know                      C) make                      D) judge
- Q2. A) tombstone              B) headstone              C) cornerstone              D) flagstone
- Q3. A) recall                      B) resemble                      C) remind                      D) remember
- Q4. A) give                      B) hold                      C) pay                      D) turn
- Q5. A) at                      B) off                      C) out                      D) up
- Q6. A) arrange                      B) do                      C) lay                      D) set
- Q7. A) at                      B) for                      C) forward                      D) up

# LEXICAL & GRAMMAR COMPETENCE

## ANSWER KEYS

TEST 1	TEST 2	TEST 3	TEST 4	TEST 5
1. B	1. C	1. C	1. D	1. C
2. D	2. B	2. B	2. B	2. A
3. D	3. A	3. D	3. C	3. D
4. A	4. C	4. A	4. B	4. A
5. C	5. D	5. D	5. A	5. C
6. B	6. C	6. B	6. A	6. B
7. D	7. B	7. C	7. C	7. D
TEST 6	TEST 7	TEST 8	TEST 9	TEST 10
1. D	1. D	1. D	1. C	1. A
2. B	2. A	2. A	2. D	2. C
3. C	3. C	3. C	3. D	3. B
4. A	4. D	4. D	4. D	4. C
5. B	5. B	5. B	5. A	5. D
6. D	6. C	6. D	6. B	6. D
7. A	7. A	7. A	7. D	7. C