

Vocabulary

1 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in the box.

abundant brainstorm coin document intriguing
innovative inspiration originate pass away term

- It was an _____ story, full of mystery and suspense.
- The 'New Home RTX' is an _____ new cleaner that makes housework quick and easy.
- The carrot is thought to have _____ from Afghanistan and surrounding areas.
- Many problems can be solved by _____ several people's ideas.
- All information relating to the crime has been carefully _____ by the police.
- As an artist, I get a lot of _____ from the Dutch masters, such as Rembrandt.
- Language is constantly changing as new words are _____ and other words become obsolete.
- This is a dictionary for the medical profession with hundreds of up-to-date medical _____.
- There is an _____ supply of water, which means crops can be grown all year round.
- Jackie's grandfather _____ peacefully at the age of 97.

Marks: ____/10

2 Complete the text.

A day in the life of a freelance journalist

After a shower and breakfast, it's straight to work. I go to my study, which I call my WOR. This ¹_____ means 'Work Only Room'. I ²_____ on my computer, then I spend the first hour or so ³_____ the internet for news and interesting stories. My housekeeper arrives at 9 a.m. and always asks me if I would ⁴_____ for some tea. I always say yes! From nine to eleven, I ⁵_____ data for the article I'm working on, then I start to write before lunch. If I get a bit bored, I write some fun ⁶_____ using the letters in my name or I make a list of all the popular ⁷_____. I know about a certain topic, though I try not to use them in my articles!

I like to listen to the radio while I'm writing, so I download ⁸_____ of my favourite programmes. As I work from home, I do a bit of social ⁹_____ after lunch and I update my blog. These days I often attend online interviews through ¹⁰_____ – so I rarely need to leave home!

Marks: ____/10

Reading

3 Read the text. Are the sentences true or false?

New words in English

As the world of technology, fashion and politics changes, new words get coined every day.

- Compounds are the most common type of new word, where two existing words are combined to give a new meaning. It is not hard to guess what *social networking* or *home-schooling* mean if you understand the original elements. You are probably familiar with compounds such as *hardware* and *software*.
- 'Portmanteau' words are similar to compounds, but may include only part of both of the original words in the new word. Consider the example of *guesstimate* coming from the original words *guess* and *estimate*.
- Perhaps the most dynamic way of forming new words in English comes from the invention of new phrasal verbs. Phrasal verbs are formed by adding an adverb or preposition to an existing verb, for example *scroll down* and *click through* in computer language.
- Old words can also be altered to make them sound more humorous, or fashionable. Examples are *barbie* for *barbecue* or *prezzie* for *present*. These words are often shortened forms of the original words.
- New words don't just originate from within the language. English has loan words from many different languages from around the world too. *Tsunami*, for example, comes from Japanese meaning a large wave.

- Compounding words is the most typical way of forming new words.
- A Portmanteau is a blend of words which joins two full original words.
- Almost all new phrasal words are about computers.
- Some new words come from modified old words.
- Loan words come from European languages only.

Marks: ____/5

4 Read the text again and answer the questions with a complete sentence.

- Why do new words appear in languages?

- What is a compound?

- How is a portmanteau word different to a compound?

- How is a phrasal verb formed?

- How can you make old words sound fashionable?

Marks: ____/15

Grammar

5 Choose the correct modal to complete the sentences.

- 1 Could / Would you mind opening the window, please?
- 2 Can / Might you need some help with your suitcase?
- 3 Might / Would I suggest that you study before taking your maths exam again?
- 4 The management would / could ask that you leave your valuables in the deposit box.
- 5 Could / May you possibly show me how to fill in the application form?
- 6 We could / would ask that you don't take any photos during the performance.
- 7 May / Would you be interested in joining the chess club?
- 8 Might / Could you turn down that music, please?
- 9 I would / could think it's about eight o'clock.
- 10 Could / May you tell me where the station is, please?

Marks: ___ /10

6 Rewrite the sentences to make them more formal. Use distancing techniques and the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I would like to catch the next train to Paris. (hope)

- 2 Do you want a first-class or economy-class ticket, sir? (want)

- 3 I want to buy a new watch for my husband. (think of)

- 4 Do you want to go out this evening? (wonder)

- 5 What do you have in mind? (have)

- 6 I want to book a table at your roof-top restaurant. (want)

- 7 For how many people? (would, be)

- 8 When would you like to collect the TV? (want)

- 9 We would like to have it by the weekend. (hope)

- 10 Are you going to pay by credit card or by cash? (want)

Marks: ___ /10

Language skills

7 Complete the dialogue.

Erika Good morning. I ¹ _____ if you could help me. I was ² _____ to buy an English dictionary.

Assistant Is it to help you study English?

Erika Yes. I'm ³ _____ for an advanced dictionary.

Assistant ⁴ _____ a look at this one. It has over 180,000 words.

Erika I have to do some creative writing. Does it have a section on typical ⁵ _____ and metaphors? I also need a list of typical ⁶ _____, like 'it's raining cats and dogs'.

Assistant It has all that plus a section on typical ⁷ _____ to show which words are used together like 'to coin a new word'. There's also a version that comes with some ⁸ _____, a CD-ROM version of the dictionary which you can use on your computer.

Erika Great, I ⁹ _____ like to take it.

Assistant ¹⁰ _____ you want the CD-ROM version?

Marks: ___ /10

8 Complete the mini-dialogues.

Dialogue 1

A ¹ _____?

B I first became interested in computers at a young age, when I was about eight years old.

A ² _____?

B My first was an Apple Mac.

A ³ _____?

B No, I sold it and I have had many computers since then. Technology moves quickly!

Dialogue 2

A I was wondering what social networking involves.

B It is using some popular websites to
⁴ _____.

A Might you also explain to me what podcasts are?

B Of course. They are ⁵ _____.

Marks: ___ /10

Writing

9 Write an opinion essay on the following statement: *In the next few decades most people will read e-books and not traditional books printed on paper.* Write 200–250 words and organize your writing into four paragraphs:

- Explain what e-books are and how they work.
- Explain why e-books are effective.
- Explain why e-books are better than traditional books.
- Conclude your essay.

Marks: ___ /20

TOTAL: ___ /100