

PLACEMENT TEST

LISTENING

PART A: Listen to Hana talk about her Greek holiday and answer the questions. You will listen to the conversation twice. You have 30 seconds to go over the questions 1-5 below.

1. What does Hana say about the beaches in Greece?

- a) they are white
b) they are beautiful
c) they are so clean
d) they are big

2. What did Hana mainly do in Greece?

- a) relaxed and went shopping
b) went swimming and read a book
c) ate food and sunbathed
d) went dancing and ate in restaurants

3. Who did Hana go to Greece with?

- a) her mother, father and brother
b) her mother, sister and brother
c) her father, brother and cousin
d) Her sister, mother and aunt

4. How long did she spend in Greece?

- a) a week
b) four days
c) five days
d) a month

5. What was happening when she arrived in Greece?

- a) a carnival
b) a dance festival
c) a fighting tournament
d) a football tournament

PART B: Listen to the conversation about "Dragon's Den" and choose the right answer. You will listen to the conversation twice. You have 30 seconds to go over the questions 6-10 below.

6. Steve Jobs thinks his product is _____?

- a) amazing and mystical
b) magical and revolutionary
c) magical and reliable
d) powerful and innovative

7. What is Steve Jobs trying to pitch to the Dragon's Den judges?

- a) iPhone
b) iTunes
c) iPad
d) iPlayer

8. What did James Caan think of Steve's presentation?

- a) it was impressive
b) it was uninventive
c) it was amazing
d) it was fantastic

9. Why does James Caan not invest in Steve's product?

- a) he would be hard to work with
b) it would be difficult to sell the product
c) the software is only ok
d) the novelty of the product will wear out

10. What expression does Peter Jones use to say he is out?

- a) he brings too much to the table
b) he brings too much to the party
c) he bought too much for the party
d) he sings too much at the party

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PART C: Listen to an interview between a man and a woman named Katia. You will listen to the conversation twice. You have 30 seconds to go over the questions 11-15 below.

11. What did Katia do for her internship?

- a) She was an international lawyer.
- b) She was involved with human rights problems.
- c) She sent people to Latin America.
- d) She travelled the American continent.

12. What kind of people did she deal with?

- a) People who disappeared during the seventies
- b) Dictators in the government
- c) The Court Justices in the country
- d) Travellers with problems

13. What problems did she run into?

- a) People were judged in military courts.
- b) Guilty civilians were escaping.
- c) The healthcare system was failing.
- d) There was too much corruption.

14. What is the first step in the process when people go to report human rights abuses?

- a) Find the answer in the international law code
- b) Go to an NGO
- c) Seek the media's help to spread awareness
- d) Contact local lawyers first

15. How do the people pay for their services?

- a) They take a loan from the bank
- b) With finances they earn from the program
- c) The NGO doesn't cost any money
- d) The international courts will force the local governments to pay.

PART D: Listen to the lecture titled "The Case of the Vanishing Honeybees". You will listen to the lecture twice. You have 30 seconds to go over the questions 16-20 below.

16. According to the audio, what is NOT a usual cause of bee death?

- a. illnesses in bees
- b. weather conditions
- c. parasites
- d. lack of food for bees

17. Which group of people first domesticated bees?

- a. unknown humans from centuries ago
- b. European settlers
- c. Apis mellifera
- d. beekeepers in the 19th century

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18. What is the scariest thing about bee disappearances?

- a. their predators will suffer
- b. we will have to use a different sugar in our tea and coffee
- c. honey will become too expensive
- d. all farming will be affected

19. About how much food production in America is affected by pollination?

- a. 10%
- b. 25%
- c. 33%
- d. 66%

20. What do scientists agree is the most likely cause of bees disappearing?

- a. pests such as the varroa mite
- b. not enough variety in genetics
- c. pesticides sprayed on crops
- d. a combination of more than one reason

Read the text and circle the correct answer for questions 21-35 in each blank.

Colin Grylls is a student journalist from the USA. He is part of a team of student journalists and he is following 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

“The Olympics have always been important in my family because of my dad and his cycling career,” said Grylls. His father, Dave Grylls, was a world-class cyclist. He **21)** _____ a silver medal in the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. “Because my father was a famous cyclist, I am interested in sports and want to do stories about athletes. **22)**_____ so many great stories to tell. When I graduate, I want to get a job in sports reporting, and this experience **23)** _____.”

The younger Grylls likes reporting on the culture of Brazil. He **24)** _____ stories on Brazilian food, customs, people and government. Nowadays, he is working on a story about the differences in culture **25)** _____ the U.S. and Brazil.

“I have a lot of things to write about. I **26)** _____ new people, learned new words (in Portuguese, Brazil’s official language) and now **27)** _____ new favourite foods. Brazilians love their fresh fruits and vegetables such as okra, coconuts, corn and beans. Many **28)** _____ contain beans, rice or flour. My favourite is probably the feijoada, a bean stew made with pork and rice.

Sao Paolo is a/an **29)** _____ city, unlike any other. It is in the west of Brazil. The country has almost 7,500km of coastline and thus **30)** _____. Copacabana and Ipanema are great for beach holidays. 20 million people live in greater São Paulo! Can you believe that! In Brazil, 81% of the population lives in urban areas because the amazon rainforest covers up to 57% of the country. Sao Paolo alone covers only 11 percent of the country but houses 43 percent of its population. Therefore, apartments are **31)** _____.

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This beautiful tourist location is a modern and busy city. It is home to a lot of museums, theatres and restaurants. Restaurants are open until late, so if you feel hungry after a long night out, no problem, you **32)** _____. However, eating out is expensive. There are great night clubs in the city. However, you **33)** _____ very careful with your money at these types of places.

Because of its history, São Paulo is home to a number of statues, parks, museums and interesting buildings. The Altino Arantes building is my favourite. It is **34)** _____ building in Brazil and shows the growth of the city in the 1940s. Brazil is also home to the world's largest carnival - Rio Carnival! **35)** _____, on March 12th, around 2 million people take to the streets of Rio de Janeiro to enjoy music, dancing, elaborate costumes and parades.

- 21.** a) joined b) won c) kept d) delayed
- 22.** a) There are b) There were c) They are d) They were
- 23.** a) help me with that b) will help my with that
c) will help with that d) will help with them
- 24.** a) wrote b) is writing c) will write d) has written
- 25.** a) above b) with c) in d) between
- 26.** a) can meet b) have met c) will meet d) am meeting
- 27.** a) am having b) have c) will have d) had
- 28.** a) traditional dishes b) delicious food
c) fantastic vegetables d) awesome fruit
- 29.** a) busy b) unique c) historical d) warm
- 30.** a) a lot of big streets b) many great beaches
c) several wonderful cities d) some good attractions
- 31.** a) cheaper in São Paulo than in New York City
b) the cheapest in São Paulo
c) the most expensive in São Paulo
d) more expensive in São Paulo than in New York City
- 32.** a) will find a place to eat b) cannot find a place to eat
c) might be able to find a place to eat d) will have to search hard for a restaurant
- 33.** a) may be b) have to be c) may d) have to
- 34.** a) taller b) taller than c) the tallest d) tallest
- 35.** a) Last year b) Next year c) Each year d) Twice a year

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Read the questions 36-40 and choose the best answer to fill in each blank.

It's Monday lunchtime in a school canteen. Kids are waiting for sausages, burgers and chicken nuggets. They walk past the salad and fruit (no one wants that!) and take chips. Their favourite school food is pizza. Other kids buy chocolate bars and cola from the vending machine. In addition, surprisingly, British teenagers drink six cans of fizzy drinks (cola, lemonade) a week. Another fact about British kids is that they spend one third of their pocket money on those kinds of foods. This is how school lunches are in Britain.

Today's foods served in schools are high in fat, but low in fiber and vitamins. The result? British kids are too fat, and it is dangerous. 37% of 15-year-olds are too heavy. These kids can have big health problems in the future.

Jamie Oliver, a famous British chef, knows all about the problems. He visits different schools with his TV programme *Jamie's School Dinner*. He makes healthy food with the school cooks. It is not easy because some kids do not want to try his food and he has money problems. British schools spend only €0.5 on each school meal. To change it, Jamie takes a petition to the Prime Minister Tony Blair. Now the Government is giving € 410 million for healthy food.

36) What do British children eat at school?

- a) junk food b) salad c) fruit d) not mentioned

37) What can be a result of British kids' eating habits?

- a) overweight kids b) wasting Money
c) learning problems d) Social exclusion

38) Who is worried about kids' eating habits?

- a) The British government b) Parents
c) A famous cook d) Teachers

39) What is the main difficulty in the Jamie's School Dinner Project?

- a) Kids' likes and dislikes
b) Training the school cooks
c) Limited money source
d) People's disinterest

40) What can be the best title for the text?

- a) Deadly School Meals
b) Dark Side of Cooking Shows
c) School Dinners Around the World
d) Getting Healthier Food into Schools

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For question 41, read the paragraph and choose the right summary for the paragraph.

41. Most teenagers and young adults do not know what they want to do in the future. It is a big decision. There are things you can do. For example, you can take an interest test or do some research on your own about a career. You can also spend a day with a person who is working in a field that interests you. These are just a few helpful ideas before you choose a career.

- a) Some students do not want to decide their career plans.
- b) There are some ways to help a person decide about his/her career plans.
- c) Interest tests are the most beneficial way to decide one's career plans.
- d) When you do some research on your own career, you may find out more about it.

Read the text and circle the correct answer for questions 42-55 in each blank.

Zara, the world's largest fashion retailer, has an original solution to the style and marketing problem. Rather than hire world-class designers, Zara, politely copies them. The company is now **42)** _____ on earth. It has grown overall sales by about 50% in five years to \$17.5 billion. Its employees **43)** _____ 80,000 to 110,000 in that time.

Inditex is a pioneer among “fast fashion” companies, which essentially imitate the latest fashions and speed their cheaper versions into stores. It is **44)** _____ the cost of making high-fashion clothes. Every one of Inditex's brands — Zara, Zara Home, Bershka, Massimo Dutti, Oysho, Stradivarius and Pull & Bear— follow the Zara template: trendy but inexpensive products **45)** _____ in beautiful, good-looking stores.

The roots of Inditex go back to 1963. Ortega, the son of a railway worker, started a business making housecoats and robes in La Coruña. In 1975, he opened a store in town. He called it Zorba, after the 1964 film “Zorba the Greek.” But there was a bar called the same, Zorba, two blocks away. One day the owner of the bar came and said, ‘This is going to confuse things to have two Zorbas.’ **46)** _____. The holding company Inditex was created in 1985.

Inditex now makes 840 million garments a year and has around 5,900 stores in 85 countries, **47)** _____ changing. Inditex has opened more than a store a day in recent years. **48)**_____ 4,400 stores to open in Europe, and almost 2,000 in Spain alone.

A traditional ready-to-wear fashion company in the West **49)** _____ sends the designs for its clothes to factories in countries like China and India because the labour to make them is cheap there. These clothes are then shipped back and stocked in stores in spring and fall, with smaller shipments throughout the year.

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All those thousands of Inditex stores receive deliveries of new clothes twice a week. In this way, Inditex **50)** _____ consumer behaviour. When you go to Gucci or Chanel in October, you know that clothes will still be there in February. With Zara, you know that if you don't buy it, right then and there, within 11 days the entire stock **51)** _____. You buy it now or never. And **52)** _____ the prices are so low, you buy it now.

“The high street is really divided according to brand value. Prada wants to be next to Gucci, Gucci wants to be next to Prada. The strategy is to try to keep far away from the likes of Zara. Zara's strategy is to get **53)** _____. **54)** _____, in Istanbul, where I live, Zara, Uterqüe and Massimo Dutti can all be found on Tesvikiye Caddesi, **55)** _____ avenue. They are one street away from Cartier and Hermès and Chanel.

- 42.** a) biggest fashion store
b) the largest fashion retailer
c) the most expensive brand
d) most important manufacturer
- 43.** a) have gone from
b) has increased to
c) improved from
d) have gone up
- 44.** a) an instrument for inviting
b) a pleasant place to meet
c) an efficient way to reduce
d) a terrible idea to make
- 45.** a) which they sold
b) that are sell
c) which are sold
d) that they are sold
- 46.** a) They decided not to change the name anyways.
b) Because Zorba and Zara are similar.
c) So, they changed the name to Zara.
d) However, Zara became the new name.
- 47.** a) though that number is always
b) because it rarely is
c) as the stores are generally
d) but they are probably

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48. a) There are currently plans for
b) In the past they had
c) Sometimes they have
d) At present they are probably
49. a) includes immediately new styles in
b) sends the designs for its clothes to
c) follows the fashion for the stores for
d) improves the quality of products at
50. a) certainly improves
b) is clearly going to decrease
c) will probably please
d) has completely changed
51. a) is changing
b) used to change
c) will change
d) has changed
52. a) because
b) except
c) so
d) before
53. a) closer than
b) as close to them as possible
c) very close
d) the closest of all
54. a) Finally
b) Unfortunately
c) For example
d) Because
55. a) an attractive and crowded
b) fantastic but heavily trafficked
c) excellent but exciting expensive
d) famous but fun

Read the following passage to answer the questions 56-60.

Yesterday was definitely not a normal day. I had to take a cold shower because the heater wasn't working! Good thing it was already in the **30s** in the morning. After my very short shower I didn't have time to eat my normal breakfast, so I grabbed an apple that was on top of the kitchen table and ran out the door. Then, when I got to the bus stop, I realized I didn't have the monthly sales report

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with me, so I had to run back to the apartment to get it. When I finally got to the office, everyone was waiting for me. To make things worse, there were so many people on the bus that I didn't have room to go over the report. Fortunately, there weren't any mistakes in it. But I was so worried about the presentation that I forgot to eat the apple. Of course I couldn't eat it during the meeting, so I had to wait until 10 AM to eat it. The rest of the day went much better, and the boss even congratulated me on the report. He told me it was very clear and concise, and much better than the report from the previous month. He told me that if my work continued to improve, he would promote me to section supervisor.

56. What does the passage describe?

- a) a typical day in the narrator's life
- b) the narrator's routine before he goes to work
- c) why yesterday was a day like any other
- d) the unusual things that happened to the narrator yesterday

57. What does the term 30s refer to?

- a) the amount of time the narrator spent in the shower
- b) the time of day
- c) the temperature
- d) the narrator's age

58. How does the writer get to work?

- a) walks
- b) drives
- c) takes the subway
- d) takes the bus

59. Which of the following could be said about the report?

- a) It was probably not written by the narrator.
- b) It is prepared every week.
- c) It only had a few mistakes.
- d) It is prepared once a month.

60. How do you think the writer felt when he got home at the end of the day?

- a) happy
- b) depressed
- c) angry
- d) hungry

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Read the text and circle the correct answer for questions 61-67 in each blank.

FOOTBALL FANS IN ITALY

Violent clashes near Rome's Olympic Stadium delayed the start of the Italian Cup final between Napoli and Fiorentina. **61)** _____ fans fought on the streets ahead of the game. There has been chaos in the city all day, with huge traffic jams reported after 60,000 Fiorentina and Roma fans descended on the city.

Three Napoli supporters and one police officer were injured and taken to the hospital **62)** _____ they were shot in another incident. Police later **63)** _____ that the shooting was not related to the game. They were opportunistic criminals taking advantage of the situation.

The violence caused a lengthy delay to the final. Napoli and Fiorentina were meant to kick off at 8pm but there were lengthy discussions between club officials, police and fans about **64)** _____ to play. Then it was agreed that the game would start at 8.45pm. While waiting for the game to start, flares and fireworks **65)** _____ onto the pitch. One exploded close to a fireman but luckily he was not injured.

In protest to the violence outside, a large number of Napoli supporters chose to watch the match in almost complete silence. They protested **66)** _____ singing or displaying any banners or flags. Their side eventually won the game **67)** _____ two goals from Lorenzo Insigne and Dries Maartens. Fiorentina got the cup for the fifth time.

- 61.** a) rival b) amazing c) complete d) disgusting
62. a) soon b) after c) before d) later
63. a) explained b) investigated c) hesitated d) argued
64. a) as b) on the contrary c) whether d) however
65. a) thrown b) had thrown c) were thrown d) threw
66. a) without b) by c) via d) through
67. a) before b) still c) thanks to d) owing to

Read the text and circle the correct answer for questions 68-75 in each blank.

Friday night some time ago, thousands of Iraqis came together around their TVs. They tried not to listen to the sounds of fighting in the streets. They wanted **68)** _____ all the trouble in their country. Instead, they paid their attention on a young singer. All eyes were on Shada Hassoun.

Shada was twenty-five years old, the daughter of an Iraqi father and a Moroccan mother. As a child she always wanted to be a singer; "If I **69)** _____ a singer one day" she said to her parents. One day, she managed to be on a talent show in Lebanon called Star Academy. She won Iraqi hearts by singing the song "Baghdad". In the song, the Iraqi capital **70)** _____ as a great and a beautiful city.

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The words bring to mind Baghdad's long history. In war-torn Iraq, Shada became a symbol that everyone **71)** _____, and her victory on Friday was celebrated across the country.

The show is a rare distraction for Iraqis who stayed indoors because of the violence affecting most of Baghdad. Zainab, 20, a college student who lives in the Saidiya district of Baghdad, says she normally doesn't watch variety shows, **72)** _____ Hassoon "because everybody talks about her."

Shada Hassoun, 25, thanked Iraqis and wrapped the country's flag around her body when the result of Star Academy Middle East was announced. Shada became the object of attention in Arabic-language media in Iraq and across the Arab world. She **73)** _____ a simple life in Lebanon but now she is rich and has everything she wants.

In late July 2009, Shada achieved her life dream: She went to her country's capital Baghdad **74)** _____. After the concert, she held a press conference in Baghdad where she talked about her feelings about her country. She was the first Iraqi and Arab singer **75)** _____ despite the unstable security in the city.

Hassoun is working on her album that is going to include songs in the Iraqi, Lebanese, Gulf, Moroccan, and Egyptian dialects. Her main goal is—as she said in an interview—to represent her beloved country Iraq in the best way.

68. a) to forget b) forgot c) forget d) forgetting

69. a) have a chance, I can
b) have a chance, I will be
c) had a chance, I would be a singer one day
d) had had a chance, I would have been a singer one day

70. a) described b) will be described c) describes d) is described

71. a) could succeed b) could have succeeded
c) would succeed d) would have succeeded

72. a) but she had to watch b) but she has admired
c) and she will be following d) and she could vote for

73. a) would lead b) used to have c) might continue d) forgot about

74. a) to become an aid worker in developing countries.
b) where she sang in two big charity concerts for the children of Iraq.
c) in which she decided to give her last concert to make her dreams more realistic.
d) which hosted a big outdoor concert series with thousands of people.

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75. a) who visited Baghdad after the war began in 2003
b) where she had childhood memories
c) that she arrived at the airport
d) had moved from the world of entertainment to politics

Read the following passage and answer the questions 76-80 according to the passage.

As part of our series on extraordinary people, this week we find out about Rita Howard, a woman with a very unusual talent.

What was the weather like yesterday? What were you thinking about when you woke up this morning? If someone asked you these questions, you probably wouldn't find it too hard to answer. But how about remembering the same information for this date last year, or even ten years ago? Most of us find it easy to remember what happened on the most important days of our lives, but soon forget the little details of the other days, weeks, months and years. We often imagine that, without this regular 'forgetting,' our brains would be too crowded with memories and thoughts. For Rita Howard, however, it's as easy to remember a day thirty years ago as it is for her to tell us about yesterday.

Rita can choose any date from her 68 years and say where she was, what she was doing, and what day of the week it was. For years, she had no idea that this amazing memory was anything special. She was a hard-working student who always did well at school. Then later she became a historian, a job where she had many opportunities to use her ability to memorize all the facts she had ever learned. Even so, it was only six years ago, when she was in a research project, that scientists actually told Rita she had hyperthymesia--an unusually good memory of her own experiences. Only around 20 people worldwide have the condition.

People began to imagine that I knew everything," says Rita. "Whereas, of course, I only know everything about my own life!" Another common idea is that Rita has far more memories than everyone else. "In fact, we all have a similar number," she comments. "I'm just far better at finding and using mine than other people."

As Rita reached retirement age, she wondered if her memory would get worse. Three years later, however, it's just as good as ever. "Will that always be the case?" she asks. "Who knows? I know all about the past, not the future!"

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76. Why does the writer ask about yesterday's weather at the start of the article?

- a) The story is about weather
- b) To introduce a woman who has a talent for remembering.
- c) The study of weather is called hyperthymesia.
- d) The woman in the story is a meteorologist.

77. Where is the passage taken from?

- a) Newspaper article
- b) Textbook
- c) A scientific journal
- d) Book review

78. When did Rita expect her memory to change?

- a) At the age of 68
- b) Six years ago
- c) Three years after her retirement
- d) She doesn't know

79. What would be the best title for the passage?

- a) Remembering the most remarkable moments in life
- b) The ways to improve your memory
- c) The woman who can remember every day of her life
- d) Extraordinary people with extraordinary memories

80. Which of the following could be said about Rita's memory?

- a) She knew her memory was special when she was young.
- b) Doctors only studied Rita's ability after she retired.
- c) People often have wrong ideas about Rita's memory.
- d) She knows her memory will stay the same.

Read the text and circle the correct answer for questions 81-95 in each blank.

Sam, **81)** _____, was your typical boy next door: honour roll student, basketball player, band member, devoted big brother. However, on May 11, 2014, Mother's Day, he took a synthetic drug. If Sam and his friends had had information about synthetic drugs, **82)** _____ nearly two years ago. Sam died; his friends survived.

His mother, Motsay, has devoted much of her time to raise awareness about drugs. Last year, she encouraged more than 45 schools across Indiana to hold drug awareness events during National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week. The initiative seeks to **83)** _____ to address the consequences of substance abuse. The idea really is to counteract the myths about drugs and alcohol that teens get from **84)** _____ internet, television, movies (and) music."

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85) _____ can be extremely powerful for teenagers. That is why at one Drug Abuse event in Washington, D.C., Barbara Theodosiou **86)** _____ among the speakers. Theodosiou plans to tell students what her son Daniel lost out on when he started taking large quantities of cough medicine to get high at the age of 15. After countless overdoses and rehab visits, and jail time, he died at the age of 23. "So we are going to be sharing **87)** _____. When I share the life of a person at their age, I believe that they'll be able to relate."

Former addict Michael DeLeon explained he was committed to trying to get in front of as many middle and high school children as possible. He is a former prison inmate who founded the nonprofit organization *Steered Straight, Inc.* He **88)** _____ documentaries about the heroin addicts in the United States. DeLeon has made presentations about drugs to middle and high schools in 40 states so far. "You go into the school for 90 minutes and deliver information. It **89)** _____ captivating, engaging, believable and entertaining." Based on surveys he does with students; he can tell the message is getting through. For instance, before the presentation, about 30% of students might say they would tell their parents if their friend was doing drugs. After the presentation, that number **90)** _____. Building on that success, De Leon teamed up with two professors to develop a drug education program. It focuses on the heroin epidemic in New Jersey; **91)** _____ and what can be done to solve the problem. The two-week program will be rolled out in 10 schools across the country in February. In Maryland, students are already required to take a health education class before graduation, **92)** _____ usually in the 9th grade. In addition, in Maryland, every 11th and 12th grader is getting some additional education by attending assemblies.

The school district **93)** _____ a drug awareness poster contest. The student with the winning poster at each school gets \$250. **94)** _____ trying to shovel the anti-drug message down kids' throats, the goal here is providing direction. "Schools need to create environments where students feel safe talking about drugs and the topic is no longer taboo. If you help one student, it's worth it," says

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Motsay. Last year, she spoke at four different locations around Indiana, talking about Sam and the

95) ____ . Sam would have been a senior this year, preparing for graduation and for college.

81. a) by all accounts
c) which account for
- b) that take account of
d) that on no account
82. a) they could make a very different decision
b) they might have made a very different decision
c) they would have known the symptoms
d) they should have known the symptoms
83. a) raise money from families affected
b) give parents information about different therapies
c) find a solution with teenagers and their parents
d) provide accurate information to students and families
84. a) the
b) ----
c) an
d) any
85. a) Hear from people whose lives were affected by drugs
b) Hearing from people whose lives were affected by drugs
c) To hear from people whom affected by drugs
d) Hearing from people whom affected by drugs
86. a) must be
b) could be
c) should be
d) will be
87. a) when it cost our family
c) what it cost our family
- b) when did it cost our family
d) what did it cost our family
88. a) has also been created
c) had also created
- b) has also created
d) created
89. a) has to be
b) can be
c) had to be
d) could be
90. a) decreases to around 20%
c) jumps to around 70%
- b) remains stable
d) first increases then decreases
91. a) what has caused
c) what has it caused to
- b) what has been caused by
d) what has it been caused by
92. a) where they earn a diploma
b) which includes a unit on drugs
c) which consists of a long-session
d) where they pass a standardized test

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93. a) will have ran
c) will already have run
- b) will have been running
d) will also be running
94. a) In case b) Rather than c) Instead d) If
95. a) Sam's marvellous graduation ceremony
b) suffering he went through as an adult
c) way he eased her stress after her loss
d) incomprehensible pain following his death

Read the following passage to answer the questions 96-100.

A Step in the Right Direction

It was once famously said that some things in life – like death and paying taxes – are inevitable, and leaving education trying to find employment is something that young people everywhere have to face. However, despite the large amount of research that has been undertaken on young people in the job market, relatively little is known about what happens once young people start their first job. A team of researchers from Leeds Metropolitan University looked into this aspect. The survey focused on 30 people and 39 employers, and addressed a range of issues in relation to recruitment, employment, and particularly young people in the workplace.

It is clear from the interviews with young people that, for the vast majority, the idea of a 'job for life' no longer exists. While some had clear career ambitions, the majority appeared to be unclear on what they wanted to do. One consequence of this is that many young people saw their early work experiences as temporary, or a 'stop gap' until their ideas on what they wanted to do had developed, or simply a way of earning money to pursue other ambitions such as travel.

This tendency has also been noted by many employers, and is particularly disappointing to smaller businesses looking for long-term loyalty in their staff. However, some employers, for example, in areas such as financial services and call centres had adjusted to the new situation, and appeared to accept that they cannot expect young people to be loyal and see a long-term future with one employer.

Like a number of other studies, the findings confirm that employers tend to focus on 'softer' skills and behavioural qualities in the recruitment process, with a less prominent role played by formal qualifications. The opinions of this sample of young people were remarkably consistent with those of the employers. Most of the young people seemed to have understood the message that formal qualifications are often a necessary but not sufficient condition for obtaining the types of jobs which they hope to do in the future. They recognized that skills like communication, team-working, organization, and customer service are all important. There was evidence that many young people had clearly worked on developing such skills.

Where there does appear to be a significant difference of opinion between the views of young people and employers related to the extent to which young people actually possess the necessary 'employability' skills, by and large, the young people interviewed were confident in their ability to demonstrate these skills and qualities. Employers, on the whole, were much less positive about this, often feeling that educational institutions were focusing too strongly on academic skills and qualifications, at the expense of employability.

Another area where employers' and young peoples' views differed is in relation to Information Technology (IT) skills. When asked about the things they value most about young recruits, many employers mentioned their ability with computers. On the other hand, few young people mentioned this explicitly. The probable explanation is that young people simply take their IT skills for granted, often not realizing how valuable they might be to some employers. Encouraging young people to be

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more positive about this aspect might help some to improve the way they are viewed by potential employers.

In terms of the inductions provided for their young recruits, the results of this study confirmed both expectations and the findings of earlier research – that employers vary widely in the nature of the training they provide. Differences included the length of time the inductions ran, how formal the training was, what topics were covered, and how often training occurred. The reaction of most young people to the induction they had experienced was positive, or at least neutral. There is clearly a tension between the need for new recruits to become good at their jobs, and their understandable desire to get involved as quickly as possible.

From the point of view of the employer, much depended upon the nature of the job, the type of employer (particularly size and sector), and the frequency with which they recruit young people. In general, the more regularly young people were recruited and the larger the employer, the more formal the induction process.

In uncertain economic times, it seems that young people more than ever are having to do all they can to find employment.

96. What did the survey reveal in general about young people?

- a) They place little value on their early work experience.
- b) They would rather take a year off before going to university.
- c) They are unclear about what they want to do when they finish their education.
- d) They feel they will never change jobs throughout their working lives.

97. What do employers think about behavioural qualities?

- a) They are less important than formal qualifications.
- b) They are more important than formal qualifications.
- c) They are just as important as formal qualifications.
- d) They are not important at all when recruiting employees.

98. What can we learn from the survey about young people and IT skills?

- a) Young people need to let employers know that they have these skills more often.
- b) Employers feel their own skills are inferior to those of young people they employ.
- c) They are something that young people need to work on before starting a job.
- d) Employers assume that young people have adequate knowledge in this area.

99. What does the survey suggest?

Young people themselves value skills such as being able to _____.

- a) fit in easily at work.
- b) set higher standards than others.
- c) work with people more efficiently.
- d) bring in more customers for the business.

100. In what ways do induction processes vary?

- a) why they are implemented
- b) who they are managed by
- c) when they are being designed
- d) how they are evaluated

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Name Surname:
Student Number:

WRITING – Write a 250-word response to the following topic. Your response will be scored based on your ability to use language accurately and effectively in a well-organized way.

Talk about your high school days. Imagine that it’s the last day of high school and you’ve been asked by a teacher to say a few words that summarize the events that have occurred over the last four years that are most meaningful to you. What do you say? Why?

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