

Read the text and complete Tasks A and B.

Getting Away

When my friends and I finished high school in 2007, we all asked our parents for the same present: a rail pass that would allow us to travel around Europe. Since we would be travelling as a group, my parents reluctantly agreed to grant my wish. **(1)** _ _ _

We had all agreed that Paris should be our first destination so, one fine August morning, we set off early to catch the Eurostar, the train that would carry us though the Channel Tunnel between Britain and France. **(2)** _ _ _ Nothing I'd heard or seen had prepared me for the breathtaking beauty I found around every corner in the city centre. **(3)** _ _ _ We had a great time walking around and doing very French things, like eating delicious croissants and drinking *café au lait* in picturesque cafés with red walls and dark wooden tables. We took a boat ride down the River Seine and, one morning, we spent nearly two hours lost underground in the city's enormous metro system. We did, however, finally manage to get to Montmartre, a historic part of northern Paris which has great character and some of the best views of the city.

On the fourth day, we all voted to make Berlin our next stop. **(4)** _ _ _ After finding a cheap hotel near Alexanderplatz,

a huge public square in the city centre, we headed out to take a look at some of Berlin's world-famous contemporary art galleries. The next day, we hired bicycles and rode all around the city, stopping at the open-air East Side Gallery. This gallery is actually part of the Berlin Wall which separated the eastern and western parts of the city when East Germany was under communist rule. **(5)** _ _ _

After a couple of fun-filled days in Berlin, our group spirit started to fade, and we couldn't agree on where to go next. We decided that it was probably a good idea to break up into two smaller groups: the boys and the girls. The others were all happy with this solution, but I was the only girl who didn't want to go on to Poland. **(6)** _ _ _ As a result, I did something I'd never thought I'd do: I decided to continue travelling on my own. It was, without a doubt, the best – and the bravest – decision I've ever made. **(7)** _ _ _ My solo trip was a truly life-changing experience, though my parents weren't exactly thrilled when they heard about it!

A

Choose the sentence (**A – H**) which best fits each gap **1-7**. There is one extra sentence which you will not need to use.

- A** Even the dirty side streets were like something straight out of an old film!
- B** We took some great photos of the amazing graffiti art we saw on the 1,316-metre-long section of the Wall.
- C** We all thought Poland was an excellent choice, as both the countryside and the cities are said to be really beautiful.
- D** I had my heart set on seeing Prague and Vienna instead.
- E** We managed to book a youth hostel from my laptop while we were on the train so, as soon as we arrived, we checked in, dumped our bags in our rooms and went off to explore the city.
- F** It made me stronger and more independent, and I learnt a lot about myself along the way.
- G** We each received an 'All-Europe Pass' that we could use to travel on as many trains as we liked in 25 European countries within a period of 30 days.
- H** We took the overnight train and arrived in Germany's vibrant capital bright and early the next morning.

____/7

B

Write **T** (true), **F** (false) or **NS** (not stated).

- 1** The writer's parents encouraged her to go on the trip.
- 2** The 'All-Europe Pass' allows travellers to visit 30 different countries.
- 3** The friends booked their rooms in Paris while they were travelling.
- 4** The friends went to a café next to the Seine.
- 5** The art galleries that the friends visited in Berlin were all near Alexanderplatz.
- 6** Most of the friends preferred Paris to Berlin.
- 7** The East Side Gallery is outdoors.
- 8** The writer regrets travelling on her own.

____/8

Reading Comprehension: ____/15

Vocabulary

Choose **a**, **b**, **c** or **d**.

- The musician was _ _ _ by the government to create the music for the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games.

a composed	c commissioned
b polarised	d appreciated
- Tony thought he was fooling me, but I could see right _ _ _ his lies.

a into	c between
b through	d across
- Living in the city is great, but we hadn't realised we'd have so many new _ _ _ , such as high parking fees.

a wages	c supervisors
b benefits	d expenses
- Anna has to have _ _ _ , so she'll be in hospital for about a week.

a slavery	c surgery
b lullaby	d agency
- At this university, you must be _ _ _ ; if you're late, the lecturers won't let you in.

a punctual	c physical
b inevitable	d vital
- Her first flight as the captain of a plane was an important _ _ _ in her professional life.

a aftermath	c shiftwork
b milestone	d cause
- The internet is a(n) _ _ _ tool for research and communication.

a natural	c powerful
b autistic	d simultaneous
- I have decided to _ _ _ matters into my own hands and do the job myself.

a turn	c organise
b employ	d take
- You need a special _ _ _ to bring a pet into this country.

a permit	c regulation
b process	d proposal
- My cousins live in a(n) _ _ _ area, 100 kilometres from the nearest town.

a profound	c isolated
b vocal	d courteous
- Our new four-bedroom house seems really _ _ _ after living in a tiny one-bedroom flat for so long!

a unconscious	c humanitarian
b spacious	d universal

- Do you think I should _ _ _ for a summer job?

a serve	c apply
b express	d protect
- Nicholas is the newest _ _ _ of staff in our office.

a infrastructure	c customer
b member	d resident
- Julia works her fingers to the _ _ _ in order to pay for her children's education.

a belt	c basis
b metal	d bone
- Mark _ _ _ when he was offered another job with better pay.

a retired	c distributed
b resigned	d reduced

Vocabulary: _ _ _ /15

Grammar

Choose.

- The painting **sold/was sold** to a private buyer.
- Dario **apologised/reminded** the teacher that he had to leave the lesson early.
- The new law was successful **although/despite** not being popular.
- The dog **ate/was eaten** all the food because it was hungry.
- Sophie **told/said** that the film wasn't worth seeing.
- The reason **for/why** the strange weather still hasn't been explained.
- All the songs **played/were played** for the judges.
- She said that she **would/will** be leaving the following month.
- It was **such/so** a frightening experience that I never want to do it again.
- In spite of/Even though** being rich and famous, she was very unhappy.

Grammar: _ _ _ /10

Test total: _ _ _ /40

Vocabulary

Choose **a**, **b**, **c** or **d**.

- 1 Close the window, or the _ _ _ will come in.

a insecticides	c mosquitoes
b synagogues	d fossils
- 2 My grandfather was a farmer, and he spent his whole life in a remote _ _ _ area.

a rural	c biodegradable
b local	d marine
- 3 We don't have internet _ _ _ at our school yet.

a expense	c catalyst
b exhaust	d access
- 4 As soon as we got to the campsite, we _ _ _ our tent.

a used up	c set off
b cheered up	d put up
- 5 Tomatoes are the most important summer _ _ _ on our farm.

a crop	c spot
b fieldwork	d aspect
- 6 The village has become very popular with tourists but, luckily, it has _ _ _ its character.

a depleted	c imitated
b comprised	d retained
- 7 I've nearly finished packing. There are just a few odds and _ _ _ left.

a cons	c ends
b tubes	d ads
- 8 The plane won't take off until all the passengers are _ _ _ board.

a in	c on
b at	d over
- 9 Deforestation has caused major _ _ _ erosion in this region.

a climate	c groundwater
b energy	d soil
- 10 This year our capital city will _ _ _ an international dance festival.

a conduct	c participate
b host	d bounce
- 11 The children were _ _ _ sorry for breaking the radio.

a genuinely	c subconsciously
b drastically	d regularly
- 12 The seaside resort was _ _ _ with tourists.

a neighbouring	c bustling
b enquiring	d thriving

- 13 The _ _ _ between the shop owner and the customer resulted in a physical fight.

a conflict	c census
b instinct	d brink
- 14 Three people were _ _ _ in the car accident.

a damaged	c invaded
b injured	d harnessed
- 15 Can you believe she built the machine _ _ _ scratch?

a over	c in
b by	d from

Vocabulary: _ _ _ /15

Grammar

Choose.

- 1 Write your name at the top of the **slice/sheet** of paper.
- 2 The phone rang **while/before** I was watching the film.
- 3 I **was going/used to go** to the cinema more often than I do now.
- 4 By the end of the month, I **will have been studying/am going to be studying** Spanish for three years.
- 5 They have been working **since/for** about an hour.
- 6 The rain **had poured/was pouring** down when they got off the plane.
- 7 We've postponed **telling/to tell** her the bad news until she comes out of hospital.
- 8 The road isn't **widely/wide** enough for a bus.
- 9 Who is **older/elder**, you or John?
- 10 The car was moving at about 80 kilometres **an/the** hour.

Grammar: _ _ _ /10

Test total: _ _ _ /25

Writing

Choose ONE of the topics below and write your answer.

TOPIC 1

You see this article in a national newspaper.

Funding for Student Volunteer Programmes

Yesterday the government announced that it plans to give extra funding to secondary schools to set up and run after-school volunteering programmes.

Each school will set up a volunteering centre on school property. Students who choose to volunteer will be asked to dedicate a minimum of 40 hours of their free time to the programme each year.

The volunteering opportunities will range from tutoring younger students to environmental action. While many parents and teachers enthusiastically support the plan, critics say that the money would be better spent on improving existing school facilities, many of which are in poor condition.

What do you think of the government's plan? Write an **essay**, discussing your opinion. Give reasons/examples to support your views.

You should write about **180 words**.

TOPIC 2

You see the following notice in an English language magazine and decide to write an article.

What Can We Do for the Environment?

People are becoming increasingly aware of the impact that environmental problems have on our daily lives. We are looking for articles in which readers discuss what each of us, as individuals, can do to help protect the environment. We will publish the most interesting articles next month.

Write your **article**. You should write between **150 and 180 words**.

TOPIC 3

You have decided to enter a short story competition in an international magazine. The story must begin with the following words:

Kevin's science experiment was going horribly wrong.

Write your **story**. You should write **120-180 words**.

Writing: ____/20

Vocabulary

Choose **a**, **b**, **c** or **d**.

- Rose is very _ _ _ ; once she's made up her mind she never changes it.

a permanent	c stubborn
b reckless	d confusing
- Listening to music always _ _ _ me when I'm feeling stressed.

a soothes	c emphasises
b deceives	d qualifies
- Your hair looks fantastic! Your hairdresser certainly works _ _ _ with her scissors.

a milestones	c layers
b details	d wonders
- Not everyone could see the _ _ _ benefits of building a cinema complex in the town.

a nutritious	c trustworthy
b repetitive	d potential
- You really should _ _ _ Tom's new blog; it's amazing!

a make out	c run into
b check out	d come round
- He was a poet, but he earned most of his money by writing the _ _ _ for popular songs.

a lyrics	c tips
b lullabies	d legislation
- Richard uses a lot of _ _ _ colours in his paintings.

a vertical	c warm
b rolling	d punctual
- Our school is organising a concert to _ _ _ money to build a swimming pool.

a stage	c raise
b recover	d prove
- Ms Sumberg is the _ _ _ in charge of the photography exhibitions in this museum.

a conductor	c choir
b curator	d composer
- Don't forget to wash the dishes and _ _ _ down the table before you leave.

a turn	c wipe
b fall	d clean
- We bought Dad a wonderful present even though we only had a(n) _ _ _ amount of money to spend.

a illiterate	c limited
b imperative	d unofficial
- Tony's family found it difficult to make ends _ _ _ after his mum lost her job.

a meet	c stay
b pay	d greet

- Mary and Richard broke _ _ _ for a very silly reason.

a through	c out
b up	d away
- Lots of artists make _ _ _ to help them plan a major artwork.

a sketches	c palettes
b easels	d stools
- The council built an enormous water park in an attempt to _ _ _ tourism in the area.

a spoil	c relay
b release	d boost

Vocabulary: _ _ _ /15

Grammar

Choose.

- This car, **where/which** we found in front of our house this morning, was the one used by the bank robbers!
- Don't be late, **do/will** you?
- If Dr Robbins is going to speak, we **had better/would** go to the meeting.
- Alex said he **had to/must** get up early the next day.
- While/No matter how** I don't usually like ballet, I thought last night's performance was fantastic.
- Miranda **gave/was given** a laptop for her birthday, which was a really nice surprise for her.
- I'd rather we **are leaving/left** now.
- Only if/Even if** you have an invitation can you see the show.
- Did you get Marina **make/to make** the cake for the party?
- I was about to **watch/have watched** a DVD when the lights went out.

Grammar: _ _ _ /10

Test total: _ _ _ /25

Writing

Choose ONE of the topics below and write your answer.

TOPIC 1

You are looking for work for the summer. You read this ad in a local newspaper, and decide to apply for the job.

Summer Jobs for Young People

We need young people to work in our seaside restaurant for one or two months this summer.

Applicants should be hard-working, reliable and have a positive attitude.

To apply: Write to Ms Walters, manager of the Seaview Restaurant, mentioning any relevant skills or experience you have, and why you think you would be suitable.

Write your **letter of application**. You should write **120-180 words**.

TOPIC 2

A group of students at a school in the UK is doing a project on schools around the world. They have asked you to write a report on your school, including:

- ▶ information about the classrooms
- ▶ your opinion on the teachers
- ▶ recommendations for improvements

Write your **report**. You should write **120-180 words**.

TOPIC 3

You receive an email from your English-speaking friend, Rachel. Read Rachel's email and the notes you have made. Then write an email in reply to Rachel, using all your notes.

From:	Rachel Brodie	<p>Great!</p> <p>Invite them to stay with me.</p> <p>Give details.</p> <p>Sure. Suggest...</p>
Sent:	10th March	
Subject:	Visit	

Hi there!

How are you doing? Mike and I are thinking of visiting your town next weekend. You've told me a lot about it and the surrounding area, so I'm really excited about seeing it for myself.

I was wondering if you could tell me where the best place for us to stay might be. Also, how do you think we should spend our time when we're there?

Maybe we could go on a day trip together on Sunday. What do you think?

Write back soon,

Rachel

Write your **email**. You should write **120-150 words**.

Writing: ____/20

Vocabulary

Choose **a**, **b**, **c** or **d**.

- 1 We bought Dad some new golf _ _ _ for his birthday.

a bows	c clubs
b rackets	d cues
- 2 The artist is painting a _ _ _ of the president.

a palette	c paddle
b portrait	d patch
- 3 _ _ _ the children into three groups, and ask each group to choose a leader.

a Divide	c Surrender
b Analyse	d Expand
- 4 Miranda always sleeps like a _ _ _ . Nothing wakes her up!

a dog	c horse
b bone	d log
- 5 Have you seen the new _ _ _ in the park? It's a dolphin with water coming out of its mouth.

a fortress	c fountain
b fossil	d friction
- 6 _ _ _ power comes from the sun, and it doesn't cause pollution.

a Global	c Isolated
b Solar	d Physical
- 7 A _ _ _ is like a little house on wheels.

a caravan	c hostel
b motel	d tanker
- 8 Don't count your _ _ _ before they're hatched. Something could still go wrong.

a sheep	c cucumbers
b feathers	d chickens
- 9 Teenagers in that country watch three hours of TV a day, _ _ _ average.

a in	c at
b on	d for
- 10 The report about the dead fish was a wake-up _ _ _ ; they realised they had to clean up the river.

a code	c cross
b call	d chain
- 11 My grandmother never had the chance to learn to read or write; she was _ _ _ .

a inevitable	c illiterate
b intentional	d immune

- 12 The woman I work for was sick, so I had to _ _ _ for her at the meeting.

a bring about	c work out
b make out	d stand in
- 13 Butterflies have a very short _ _ _ . I think they only live for a few days.

a lifetime	c lifebelt
b lifespan	d lifeline
- 14 Tom is so _ _ _ ; he'll never change his mind.

a reckless	c abusive
b stubborn	d hectic
- 15 We're _ _ _ for your help. Thank you very much.

a grateful	c harmful
b hurtful	d powerful

Vocabulary: _ _ _ /15

Grammar

Choose.

- 1 He bought **some/an** iron so that he could iron his clothes.
- 2 If I **had been/were** you, I'd tell the child's parents about the bullying.
- 3 My brother's bed, **what/which** was a present from our aunt, is too small for him now.
- 4 It **is believed/has believed** that the writer is working on a new book.
- 5 That elephant **weighs/is weighing** 4,000 kilos!
- 6 I finished work **before five minutes/five minutes ago**, so I'm feeling tired.
- 7 Mary isn't **no/any** better than me at maths.
- 8 John offered **to take/taking** us home after the party.
- 9 I've just **had my purse stolen/stolen my purse** on the train!
- 10 Only then **he realised/did he realise** that he was talking to the wrong person.

Grammar: _ _ _ /10

Read the text and complete Tasks A and B.

LIKE A FISH

Many of us have experienced that fabulous feeling of freedom that comes with diving into a sea of crystal-clear water. Some people love being in the sea so much, and are so interested in exploring life under the surface, that they take up the exciting sport of scuba-diving.

The word “scuba” is an acronym for “self-contained underwater breathing apparatus”. This apparatus is the equipment that enables divers to breathe when they are underwater. In addition, scuba-divers have equipment to help them regulate air pressure and control the speed at which they ascend and descend in the water. Of course, scuba-divers can't do without a mask to help them see underwater and, in cold water, they need a wetsuit to protect them from heat loss.

Needless to say, it is crucial to receive proper training in the use of this equipment before you go scuba-diving. This sport carries significant risks and, without training, these dangers are multiplied. A typical course begins with a presentation of the science and terminology of scuba-diving. You watch videos showing you how to use the equipment correctly and prepare for your first dive. Usually, the next step is to jump into a swimming pool in order to practise the skills you've learnt. Breathing underwater for the first time is something you'll never forget! Naturally, it's very important to master the basic scuba skills before you go any further. After more studying and practice, you'll be ready to dive in open water, where you must always work with a partner. In the beginning, you'll also be under the supervision of your instructor so that your confidence increases and you become a safe and responsible scuba-diver. Beginners' courses typically consist of the presentation of scuba theory,

along with five pool dives and four open-sea dives.

Almost anyone can take up scuba-diving. There are special programmes for children as young as eight years old, and children from the age of ten can get the Junior Open Water Diver's Certificate. Anyone aged fifteen or over who is in reasonably good health can become a certified scuba-diver after successfully completing a course. There are no upper age limits, and scuba-diving is a sport that is even accessible to people with physical disabilities. You just need to be able to swim and tread water, and you must have good lung function.

Some people love being underwater so much that they decide to make a career out of it. There are numerous jobs that require the specialised skills of a scuba-diver. Divers are employed in the military, the police force, the oil industry, and are members of search and rescue teams and firefighting teams. They are needed for harbour and boat maintenance, underwater photography, fishing, marine biology and archaeological research. Of course, before you can get a job as a professional diver, you will require additional training, and divers can, at times, be exposed to significant danger.

Most people, however, scuba-dive purely for enjoyment and relaxation. If you're more adventurous, you can explore shipwrecks or underwater caves. Lots of divers like to go diving at night, using underwater torches to observe the nightlife of the ocean. Some travel the world to experience diving in different settings. Whatever type of diving they prefer, it is probably safe to say that all divers love the experience of moving silently through the water along with the creatures of the sea.

A

Write T (true), F (false), or NS (not stated).

- 1 Scuba-diving equipment gives you control over how fast you go up or down in the water.
- 2 Wetsuits stop divers from getting too cold.
- 3 There are no risks for trained scuba-divers.
- 4 The presentation of scuba-diving theory is usually the longest part of a course.
- 5 You must see a doctor before you start scuba-diving.
- 6 The elderly can go scuba-diving if they are healthy.
- 7 Every profession that uses scuba-divers has its own training course.
- 8 According to the writer, only professional divers should explore shipwrecks and underwater caves.

_____/8

B

Complete the notes based on the text. Write no more than **three** words in each gap.

- 1 The _____ for self-contained underwater breathing apparatus is "scuba".
- 2 Scuba equipment allows divers to breathe underwater, control their speed and _____.
- 3 Before divers move into open water, they usually practise in a _____.
- 4 For your first open-water dive, you work with both a partner and _____.
- 5 If you are in _____ and 15 or older, you can become an officially-certified scuba-diver.
- 6 People with physical disabilities can scuba-dive if they have good lung function, can swim and _____.
- 7 Night divers use _____ to help them see.

_____/7

Reading Comprehension: ____/15

Test total: ____/40

Writing

Choose ONE of the topics below and write your answer.

TOPIC 1

You recently attended an art course. Unfortunately, you were very disappointed with the course, so you decide to write a letter of complaint to the school. Look at the advert for the course and the notes you have made.

CREATIVE ART COURSES

Learn to draw and paint! Try sculpture and pottery!

- ▶ Small classes 25 students! Pottery classes cancelled!
- ▶ Easy access: short walk from the station 40 minutes!
- ▶ Friendly, experienced teachers
- ▶ Supplies needed for the course are included in the fee

Courses begin in September.

Cost: €150 for the two-month course; €220 for the three-month course

want refund

Write your **letter**. Use all your notes, and write **120-150 words**.

TOPIC 2

You have been discussing cyberbullying in class and with other students at your school. Your teacher has asked you to write a report including the following information:

- ▶ specific examples of cyberbullying at your school
- ▶ how widespread and serious the problem is
- ▶ what students think should be done about it

Write your **report**. You should write **120-180 words**.

TOPIC 3

Your English teacher has asked you to write a composition discussing the following statement:

Advertisements aimed at children should be banned because children are easier to “trick” into spending their money than adults are.

You should include:

- ▶ your opinion
- ▶ reasons and examples to support your opinion

Write your **composition**. You should write **150-200 words**.

Writing: ____/20