

N.C. GRIVAS

B₂

COURSEBOOK

Way *to the*
TOP

Suitable for ALL B₂ LEVEL EXAMINATIONS

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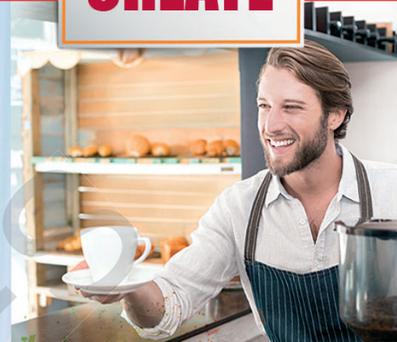
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SAMPLE PAGES

Module 6

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

**KEEP CALM
AND
CREATE**



Answer the questions:

- ▶▶ How often do you go to art museums?
- ▶▶ Have you ever tried something artistic such as drawing, painting or sculpture?
- ▶▶ How many forms of art can you name?
- ▶▶ What is your favourite form of art?
- ▶▶ What do you do for entertainment?
- ▶▶ Do you spend a lot of money on entertainment?



▶▶ LOOK AHEAD

In today's world, we are constantly surrounded by sounds, whether it is music coming through speakers or car horns beeping. Imagine that along with these sounds, you could also see shapes or colours coming from the objects that produce them, like in the pictures below. How would you feel about this – excited, scared or confused? Why?



▶▶ READ ON 

Here is the situation: You are at the dentist's and while you are waiting for your appointment, you look through some of the magazines that are there for people to read. You come across this article which you think looks interesting. Read the article and answer the questions that follow.

I Can See Music

Do you find your art lessons at school uninteresting? Well, I bet you would look forward to them a whole lot more if you could actually hear, taste or even smell the colours you need to paint a perfect picture. Amazingly, some people actually can. This rare condition is called *synaesthesia* and it affects at least 4% of the population. Apparently, people with *synaesthesia* experience their senses in a totally different way from the rest of us. They hear colour, see music, taste words or smell numbers. (A) Not surprisingly, *synaesthesia* has often been **associated with** artistic creativity. Read on to see how this incredible gift has influenced the work of the following artists, past and present.

Wassily Kandinsky (1866-1944)

The talented artist Wassily Kandinsky discovered his *synaesthesia* as a young boy when he was given a box of paints by his aunt. When he opened it, he was amazed to find that each of the colours sounded like a different musical instrument. The way Kandinsky related colour to sound is clear in his work. In his famous *Yellow-Red-Blue* painting, for instance, he heard flutes, cellos and an organ in the blues and the high sounds of a trumpet in the yellows, while the warmth of the red made him think of a finale. (B)

Pharrell Williams

'I could always see what I was hearing,' says the American singer-songwriter, Pharrell Williams. 'For me, there are seven basic colours, and these correspond with musical notes.' Williams says that his ability to see things this way is a gift and is the root of his talent. He admits that without his *synaesthesia*, he wouldn't have achieved such fame. He comes up with the majority of his ideas in the shower. He explains that this is the only place he can use his imagination without being distracted by his *synaesthesia* as the water blocks out all sound.

Stevie Wonder

Singer-songwriter, Stevie Wonder, is probably one of the most productive musicians of recent years. (C) Despite being blind almost his whole life, Stevie Wonder is said to have sound-colour *synaesthesia*. When the musician plays his piano, he is able to sense the colour of each musical note in his mind. In other words, he can actually see his music.

Although a lot more is now known about *synaesthesia*, it has not always been that way. Many art historians believe that the famous artist Vincent van Gogh had *synaesthesia*. It is said that van Gogh took up piano in 1885, but struggled to learn the instrument saying that each note produced a different colour. (D) What a pity! Now we will never know whether he would have also become a famous musician.

▶▶ LOOK BACK

Would you like to have *synaesthesia*? Why?

▶▶ LISTEN 

Listen to two young people talking about their *synaesthesia*. What has it helped the girl do recently?

a write a song

b paint a picture

▶▶ COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following is closest in meaning to **associated with** in the first paragraph?
 - a linked to
 - b separated from
 - c ignored by
 - d affected by
- 2 What point is made about *synaesthesia* in the first paragraph?
 - a The majority of people experience it.
 - b Only those who take art lessons experience it.
 - c All creative people experience it.
 - d Being able to hear colours is one example of it.
- 3 Who said that if he didn't have *synaesthesia*, he wouldn't have been so successful?
 - a Wassily Kandinsky
 - b Pharrell Williams
 - c Stevie Wonder
 - d Vincent van Gogh
- 4 What is the main purpose of the article?
 - a to show that *synaesthesia* can cause emotional problems
 - b to encourage people to be more creative
 - c to explain how artistic people have a hard time
 - d to show how a condition can encourage creativity
- 5 At what point in the article would the following sentence best fit?
"His teacher thought he was crazy and asked him to leave."
 - a (A)
 - b (B)
 - c (C)
 - d (D)



▶▶ VOCABULARY

1 Tick (✓) the correct sentences.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 A productive artist produces very little work. | 4 If you struggle to do something, you try hard to do it. |
| 2 A flute is a musical instrument. | 5 If you sense something, you are aware of it. |
| 3 If somebody is blind , they can see very well. | |

2 Put the verbs in the correct place.

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1 Different musical instruments different sounds. | a influence |
| 2 Try not to let other people your decisions. | b correspond |
| 3 If her answers do not with yours, then I'll know she's lying. | c distract |
| 4 OK, I it. It was me who took the last piece of cake! | d produce |
| 5 You shouldn't him; he's trying to study. | e admit |

▶▶ FOCUS ON VOCABULARY

1 Word Formation

Fill in the correct form of the word in capitals.

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1 Children often have a good | IMAGINE |
| 2 There's nothing more enjoyable than feeling the of the sun on your face on an autumn day. | WARM |
| 3 Not, he lost his job for failing to show up for work. | SURPRISE |
| 4 He gave a long speech which made half of the audience fall asleep. | INTERESTING |
| 5 For me, a good friend is someone who has the to make you laugh. | ABLE |
| 6 Who do you think is the most talented in the band? | MUSIC |
| 7 She has worked as an art for many years. | HISTORY |

2 Fill in the correct word to complete the sentence.

root • opposite • majority • definition

- 'What is **the** **of** smart?' 'I think it means clever.'
- His poor diet is probably **the** **of** his health problems.
- Anna is so shy; she's **the** complete **of** her sister.
- The** **of** the students were not happy about the amount of homework they had to do.

3 Different meanings of note

Match the word '**note**' in each sentence with its meaning.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 She left her children a note to say she would be home late. | a a short explanation or an extra piece of information at the bottom of a page or at the back of a book, etc. |
| 2 He was so happy when his uncle pulled out a £20 note and gave it to him. | b information written down from a book or during a lesson |
| 3 For more information, see Note 3. | c a short informal letter |
| 4 It's good to go over your revision notes just before an exam. | d a piece of paper money |
| 5 As soon as he played the first note , I immediately recognised the song. | e a particular musical sound |

▶▶ SHORT WRITING

Write a paragraph about how you think it would feel to be able to see sounds.

▶▶ CONFUSABLE WORDS / COMMON MISTAKES

a Choose the correct word(s) to complete the dialogue.

Nick & Kate

Kate: What's that you're **1) listening to / hearing**, Nick?

Nick: Greek rap. Do you like it?

Kate: I do, actually. Is that kind of music popular **2) with / to** teenagers in your country?

Nick: Yes, it is.

Kate: What about American rap music? Are you keen **3) on / about** that, too?

Nick: Of course. Drake and Kendrick Lamar are two of my favourites.

Kate: Really? My friend Olivia is really into rap, too, and I'm sure she **4) told / said** me that Drake would be performing **5) alive / live** at the British Summertime Festival in Hyde Park this year. Let me check the programme. Oh, he's actually performing tomorrow. If you fancy going, I can call Olivia and ask her to get us some tickets. Her brother works as an assistant at the festival every summer. Olivia's very pretty by the way.

Nick: Quick, give her a ... what do you call it?

Kate: A ring?

Nick: Ah, yes, give her a ring.

Kate: Ha! Ha! OK.

..... *After the Concert*

Olivia: So, what did you think of the concert, Nick?

Nick: It was fabulous! Thanks for getting the tickets, Olivia.

Olivia: No worries. My family and I are going on a trip to Athens in three months' time, so you'll be able to return the favour by taking me to see one of your favourite Greek rappers live. Er ... , if you want to, that is.

Nick: Cool! I'd love to.

Kate: Right, that's settled, then. Let's head for the bus stop, and hope that the bus isn't crowded **6) from / with** people as it usually is at this time.

b Now listen and check your answers. 

▶▶ LANGUAGE AWARENESS 21

ADJECTIVES

Adjectives are either weak (gradable) or strong (ungradable). We use 'very' with weak adjectives and 'absolutely', 'totally', 'completely', etc. with strong adjectives.

Cold is a 'weak' or 'gradable' adjective - it can be measured.

e.g.: a bit cold - cold - very cold

Freezing is a 'strong' or 'ungradable' adjective. It cannot be 'a bit freezing' or 'very freezing' as freezing already means very cold. Therefore, we say 'absolutely freezing'.

Tick (✓) the correct sentence each time.

- 1 He was very exhausted.
He was totally exhausted.
- 2 It was very disgusting.
It was absolutely disgusting.

▶▶ LOOK AHEAD

Have you tried drone photography or drone racing?



Yes

Did you enjoy it / them?
Why?



No

Would you like to try either
of them? Why?

▶▶ READ ON

Oscar is trying to persuade his mother to let him take up drone racing. Read their conversation.

Mum: I really think you should take up a hobby, Oscar.

Oscar: As a matter of fact, I've been thinking of starting a new sport.

Mum: I'm pleased to hear it. Anything that can keep you occupied for a few hours a week is fine by me. What do you have in mind?

Oscar: I'd like to sign up for a drone training course.

Mum: But drone photography isn't really a sport, is it?

Oscar: Actually, I meant drone racing. It's awesome, and so exhilarating – the speed, the action ...

Mum: ... the crashes. If you ask me, it sounds highly dangerous, not to mention expensive.

Oscar: I'm telling you, Mum, it's neither. I can assure you it's perfectly safe, and it won't cost too much either.

Mum: Hm, well, I'm not convinced. For starters, you don't have a racing drone ...

Oscar: I don't need one. One of the great things about the course is that you learn to build your own drone, and the school provides all the equipment.

Mum: Even so, you have to admit that a drone could cause serious injury if it crashed into someone.

Oscar: Come on, Mum. It's not that bad.

Mum: All I'm saying is that something more conventional might be better.

Oscar: I know what you're saying, but just hear me out, will you? The course I want to enrol on is for beginners. They don't let you fly a real drone straightaway. You start off on a simulator. That way, you get to learn the basics, and they're really strict with people who break the rules. Honestly, Mum, you worry too much.

Mum: Mm. I suppose I do tend to overreact. But are you sure you won't change your mind?

Oscar: Positive. Hey, what about Dad? He won't have any objections, will he?

Mum: Are you kidding? He'll probably want to join you on the course!

Oscar: Oh no! I hadn't thought of that!



▶▶ LOOK BACK

How does Oscar's mother react when he tells her he wants to start drone racing?
Do you think her reaction is justified?



▶▶ LISTEN 

Listen to the conversation between Oscar's mum and an instructor at the school and choose the correct answer.

The drones used at the school

- a cannot be flown outdoors.
- b are better suited for indoor use.
- c can cause serious damage if used incorrectly.

▶▶ FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE

a Fill in the correct word to complete the expression.

think • hear • change • assure • saying • have • telling

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1 I really you should ... | 5 I can you that ... |
| 2 I'm pleased to it. | 6 I know what you're / ... |
| 3 What do you in mind? | 7 Are you sure you won't your mind? |
| 4 I'm you, ... | |

b Now, tick (✓) the phrases that we use when we want to persuade / convince someone of something.



▶▶ COMPREHENSION

Write T (for True) or F (for False).

- 1 The course Oscar is interested in is rather expensive.
- 2 Anyone who wants to enrol on the course must own a racing drone.
- 3 Oscar feels his mother is overreacting.
- 4 The course is designed for inexperienced people.
- 5 Participants learn to construct a simulator.
- 6 Oscar cannot be persuaded to change his mind.
- 7 Drone racing would not appeal to Oscar's dad.

▶▶ VOCABULARY

Tick (✓) only the true sentences.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 If you sign up for a course, you enrol on it. | 4 If you hear someone out , you listen to them without interrupting. |
| 2 An exhilarating experience is one which is exciting. | 5 A simulator is a racing drone. |
| 3 A conventional hobby is an unusual one. | |



▶▶ FOCUS ON VOCABULARY

Expressions with break

Match the expressions with **break** with their definitions.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|---|
| 1 break the rules | | a make people feel more relaxed and willing to talk to each other |
| 2 break a promise | | b manage to understand a secret message |
| 3 break the ice | | c not do something that you said you would do |
| 4 break somebody's heart | | d achieve a better result than there has ever been before |
| 5 break a code | | e do something you are not allowed to do |
| 6 break a record | | f make somebody very unhappy |

▶▶ SPEAKING

Giving personal information

Answer the following questions.

- 1 Tell me three things you like to do in your free time.
- 2 What type of films do you like and why?

Situations

TASK 1 ▶ What would you say in the following situations?

Situation 1:

You are talking to your parents about a new sport you would like to start. Talk about the sport you would like to take up. Explain why you would like to do the sport. What would you say?

Situation 2:

You are talking to your friend about a new hobby you have taken up. Talk about your hobby, how long you have been doing it, how often you do it and why you enjoy it. What would you say?

Scenarios

TASK 2 ▶ You will now take part in a conversation.

Scenario:

You want to see a film at the local cinema at the weekend, but you don't want to go on your own. Your friend is not keen on going with you as it's not the type of film he / she normally watches. Convince your friend to go with you. You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. Your teacher will take the place of your friend.





▶▶ PRE-LISTENING

1 Choose the correct word(s).

- 1 Fortunately, the course my plans.
a doesn't match b suits
- 2 What time did the meeting take yesterday?
a part b place
- 3 The speech several important topics.
a held b covered
- 4 We suggestions from members on topics they would like us to include.
a organise b welcome

2 Fill in the correct verb to complete the sentence.

come • catch • make • give • gain

- 1 Why don't you it a go to see if you like it?
- 2 The sport has continued to in popularity over the years.
- 3 When I across an interesting article, I bookmark it.
- 4 The band disappeared for a while, but now they are trying to a comeback.
- 5 I'm sure this new technology will on very quickly.

▶▶ LISTENING TASK

You will hear a speech and a long conversation. Each passage has a short title to tell you what it is about, followed by a brief description of the situation. Listen to each passage and answer the questions.

1- 4. The film-making club

Here is the situation: You are interested in joining your school's film-making club, so you decide to attend the introductory meeting. At the start of the meeting, the teacher who will be running the club is giving some information about it.

- 1 When are the club meetings held?
a at five o'clock on Mondays
b once a week
c from 3.30 - 5 pm after school every day
- 2 The teacher points out to the students
a that meetings could affect their other activities.
b that they must attend all club meetings.
c that they won't have time for other activities.
- 3 Which of the following would the club NOT hold in the evening?
a a party
b a meeting
c a talk by a guest speaker
- 4 Club members
a will learn a variety of skills.
b must act in their own film.
c will focus mainly on directing skills.



5-9. A new hobby

Here is the situation: Tamsin bumps into her friend Jason, whom she hasn't seen for a long time. They start chatting about Tamsin's new hobby.

- 5 What does Tamsin say about her hobby?
 - a It has recently become popular again.
 - b It has never lost popularity.
 - c Its popularity has increased steadily since it first started.
- 6 Why did Tamsin decide to take up roller derby?
 - a She wanted to learn to skate.
 - b Jason's sister recommended it.
 - c She read about it on the Internet.
- 7 Which of the following is NOT true about the sport?
 - a A 'blocker' can score points.
 - b Each team has four defence players.
 - c Points are scored by passing other players.
- 8 What is Jason's opinion about the sport?
 - a It is rather boring.
 - b It sounds a bit dangerous.
 - c The rules are too strict.
- 9 Tamsin says that
 - a protective equipment is not necessary.
 - b roller derby is much safer than any other contact sport.
 - c players don't often get injured.



▶ LANGUAGE AWARENESS 22

1 COMMON MISTAKES

Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

- 1 'Is that our waiter?' 'No, **it / he** isn't.'
- 2 'Who is it?' 'It's **me / I**.'

2 IN OTHER WORDS - LOVE

fall in love • be / fall head over heels in love (with)

• lose one's heart (to somebody)

3 SPECIAL LANGUAGE POINTS

Note the following structures with 'question'.

- 1 The man **in question** is now in America.
- 2 His future as a politician **is in question** because of the scandal.
- 3 It is **beyond question** that the crisis is affecting the entire world.
- 4 No, you can't do that. It's **out of the question**.

▶▶ LOOK AHEAD

- 1 Do you ever get bored during the summer holidays?
- 2 What activities do you like to do during the summer holidays?

▶▶ READ ON 

Take a look at the following web page.

The Student Room

Welcome back to **THE STUDENT ROOM**, and since we are about to break up for the summer, we would like to give you some ideas on how to spend your time productively during the holidays. They have all been suggested by fellow students, so check them out and see if anything grabs your attention.



HOME

TRAVEL

EXAMS

RULES

NEW YEAR
NEW FRIENDS

ENTERTAINMENT

THE BIKE SHOP

Located in the centre of town, this is a community bike shop which not only teaches participants of all ages how to fix and maintain bikes, but also offers them the opportunity to earn their own bike. By working with the bike shop mechanics, you can earn first a bronze, then a silver and finally a gold badge. Once you have reached the gold stage, you will be presented with your very own bike. Then you will be able to use it to take part in the field trips we organise every Friday, which allow you to explore educational and recreational opportunities. If you are not interested in joining the actual programme, but you have an old bike you would like to donate to the shop, just let them know. They would be more than happy to accept it.

Barista Basics

What better way to learn some skills that will almost certainly come in handy later on than by completing this free barista course at the High Street Youth Centre? This two-week programme will equip young people with the skills required to make great coffee, either at home or in the workplace. Starting with the basics – how to operate a coffee machine – you will then learn the art of producing the perfect cup of coffee. The programme also includes an optional ten hours of work experience in a café to help you develop your skills and, hopefully, help you get a job in the future.

Virtual Summer Art Camp

For the more creative among you, why not acquire new skills or improve those you already have by participating in this three-week Virtual Summer Art Camp? Under the direction of an experienced art teacher, Mrs Gabriella Dexter, you will learn about the life and work of masters such as van Gogh, Matisse, Monet and Picasso and create pieces of art based on their techniques. Online presentations are part of the lessons, and you will complete up to three different projects per day. There is a small charge for these lessons, plus you need to take into account the cost of purchasing the necessary materials.

Well, we hope we have provided enough options to keep you all busy this summer while also learning some useful life skills. For those of you who do sign up for these or any other programmes, don't forget to share it with us.

Have a great summer. See you in September!

▶▶ LOOK BACK

Which one of the activities would you choose to do during your summer holidays? Why?

▶▶ LISTEN

Listen to a short dialogue between two students and say which of the programmes the boy decides to join.

- a Bike Shop
- b Barista Basics
- c Virtual Summer Art Camp

▶▶ COMPREHENSION

Which programme does each statement refer to? Tick (✓) the correct box.

		Bike Shop	Barista Basics	Virtual Summer Art Camp
1	Participants have the chance to gain work experience.			
2	This is a course for creative people.			
3	Participants have to pay for the materials they use.			
4	Weekly trips are organised.			
5	This programme lasts less than three weeks.			
6	Participants learn to repair something.			

▶▶ VOCABULARY

Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.

- 1 What is the of fixing the bike?
 - a charge
 - b cost
- 2 Are you going to up for one of the summer programmes?
 - a sign
 - b take
- 3 I'd like to learn to repair and my bike.
 - a require
 - b maintain
- 4 Would you mind showing me how to this machine?
 - a allow
 - b operate



▶▶ **FOCUS ON VOCABULARY**

1 Which of the phrases are synonyms of the phrase 'come in handy' and which are antonyms? Write S (for Synonym) or A (for Antonym).

- 1 prove useless
- 2 be pointless
- 3 be of help
- 4 be useful
- 5 be worthless
- 6 be beneficial



2 **Word Formation**

Fill in the correct form of the word in capitals.

- 1 The competition attracted from all over the country.
- 2 Which course subjects are ?
- 3 This painting is amazing. I didn't realise you were so
- 4 What are your favourite activities?
- 5 We all found the useful and interesting.

- PARTICIPATE**
- OPTION**
- ART**
- RECREATION**
- PRESENT**

3 **Phrasal Verbs with break**

a Match the phrasal verbs with their meanings.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1 break out | a stop working |
| 2 break off | b be affected by an unpleasant feeling / condition |
| 3 break down | c end something suddenly |
| 4 break into | d start suddenly (something unpleasant) |
| 5 break up | e enter a building by force |
| 6 break out in | f close for school holidays |



b Fill in the correct phrasal verb in the appropriate form to complete the sentence.

- 1 When do schools for Christmas?
- 2 My laptop keeps – I need to get a new one.
- 3 I wonder why she decided to the engagement so suddenly.
- 4 The police are looking for two men who the museum last night.
- 5 She a rash after using the soap.
- 6 Several people were injured when fighting after the match.

4 Prepositions

Fill in the correct preposition to complete the sentence pairs. There is one preposition which you do not need to use.

in • on • into • under

- 1a You should **take** all your options **account** before making a decision.
 b Do you think the idea can be **put** **practice**?
- 2a How many students **took part** the programme?
 b A healthy diet **combination with** regular exercise will help keep you fit.
- 3a The course **focused** developing students' language skills.
 b Scientists are **the verge of** finding a cure for the disease.

▶ TRANSFORMATIONS

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given.

- 1 It costs £4 to use the pool.
CHARGE There is a £4 using the pool.
- 2 I'd love to go to the concert with you.
HAPPY I'd be more go to the concert with you.
- 3 Professor Mills directed the research.
DIRECTION The research was carried out Professor Mills.
- 4 You will learn a variety of skills on the course.
EQUIP The course will a variety of skills.

▶▶ SHORT WRITING

Imagine you took part in one of the programmes referred to in the text on page 126. Write a paragraph about your experience.



►► CONFUSABLE WORDS / COMMON MISTAKES

Nick & Kate

a Choose the correct word to complete the dialogue.

Kate: So, Nick, what do you fancy **1) eating / to eat** on your last night in England?

Nick: Fish and chips! I must try some of your famous fish and chips before I go back to Greece. My English teacher told me that you used to wrap them in newspaper. Is that right?

Kate: We did use to serve fish and chips in newspaper, but that was years and years ago. We don't do it any more. So, is it a large or a small portion for you, or is that a silly question?

Nick: It's a silly question.

Kate: OK. Do you feel like walking to the chippy with me?

Nick: Chippy? What's that?

Kate: That's what we call the fish and chip shops in England.

Nick: Er, ... is it OK if I don't come? I'm feeling a little tired and I have to **2) pack / make** my suitcase.

Kate: OK, I don't mind, but I'll be going to the chippy on Warren Street. Olivia's father owns it. Olivia sometimes helps out there.

Nick: Oh, I think the **3) clean / fresh** air might **4) make / do** me good, after all. I'll go and get my jacket.



..... At the fish and chip shop

Olivia: Hi, Kate! Hi, Nick!

Kate: Hi, Olivia! I ... er, ... we were hoping we'd see you here. You see, Nick is leaving tomorrow and ...

Olivia: Oh, so soon?

Nick: Yes, I **5) hope / wish** I could stay longer, but I've been **6) in / to** England for two weeks now.

Olivia: That's a shame. Well, never mind. I'll see you when I **7) come / will come** to Greece with my family in October.

Nick: Fantastic! I've given you my number. I'll **8) wait for / wait** your call.

Olivia: OK.

Kate: Er, ... excuse me, you two, but can I order my fish and chips? I'm absolutely starving.

b Now listen and check your answers. 

►► LANGUAGE AWARENESS **23**

1 COMMON MISTAKES

Tick (✓) the correct sentence each time.

- 1 My dad will be angry unless I'm not home by ten o'clock.
My dad will be angry if I'm not home by ten o'clock.
- 2 He has graduated from Oxford University.
He has graduated from the Oxford University.
- 3 What a bad luck!
What bad luck!
- 4 He is nearly never at home.
He is hardly ever at home.
- 5 I'm sorry. You've got a wrong number.
I'm sorry. You've got the wrong number.
- 6 Never ask him money.
Never ask him for money.

2 SPECIAL LANGUAGE POINTS

Note the following structures with 'there'.

- 1 **There's** two police officers at the door.
- 2 Once upon a time **there** lived a king.
- 3 **There** has never been anybody like him.
- 4 **There** must be somebody in the office to answer the phone.
- 5 **There** seem to be no problems.
- 6 I don't want **there** to be any more trouble.

▶▶ LOOK AHEAD

- 1 What sports facilities are available in your area?
- 2 If a new sports center opened in your area, what facilities do you think it should offer?

▶▶ READ ON

- a Read the writing task and choose the correct answer.

Writing Task

The local town council is planning to build a new sports center in the area. They would like community members to suggest ideas on where to build the center and which facilities to include.

- Write a **letter** to the local council to explain your opinion. Give reasons to support your ideas.
- Start your letter, "Dear Town Council Members,"

- 1 You should write **a formal / an informal** letter.
- 2 The letter will be read by someone **you know personally / you don't know**.
- 3 The purpose of the letter is to **present information / make suggestions**.
- 4 It is **necessary / not necessary** to provide an explanation for each point you make.

- b Read the model letter.

Dear Town Council Members,

I am writing with regard to the council's proposal to create a new sports center in the town. I have several suggestions to make about the facilities the sports center should offer, as well as a suitable location.

To begin with, I am strongly in favour of the proposal to create a new sports center, and I suggest you use the town's old biscuit factory for this purpose. For one thing, it is close to the bus station, and is therefore easy to get to. In addition, the building is large enough for several facilities. Consequently, it would be able to offer a wide range of activities to suit all tastes.

As far as the facilities are concerned, I recommend they include an indoor basketball and volleyball court, a gym and a swimming pool. You might also want to create a football pitch and a running track in the area around the building. These facilities would not only be popular with residents but they could also be used by local teams. What is more, they could be used to hold tournaments, which would attract visitors to the area.

In conclusion, I hope you will take my suggestions into consideration when making your final decision. In my opinion, it is a good idea to convert the old biscuit factory into a sports center as it will help improve the quality of life for community members of all ages.

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Radcliffe



▶▶ **LOOK BACK**

Do you agree with the suggestions the writer makes in paragraph 3 of the letter? Why?

▶▶ **LISTEN** 

Listen to a member of the council talking about the new sports center and choose the correct answer.

The facilities at the new sports center will include

- a two outdoor pools.
- b four tennis courts.
- c six outdoor basketball courts.

▶▶ **COMPREHENSION**

1 Complete the sentence with a word from the model letter.

- 1 Nathan approves of the council's to build a new sports center. (para. 2)
- 2 Nathan recommends converting an old in the town into a sports center. (para. 2)
- 3 The sports center would provide access to a variety of sports facilities. (para. 2)
- 4 The center could offer facilities for, and could also be used by local teams. (para. 3)

2 Write T (for True) or F (for False).

- 1 Nathan is writing to suggest ways to improve the town's sports center.
- 2 Nathan suggests several possible locations for the project.
- 3 The town's bus station is situated near an old factory.
- 4 Nathan thinks the sports center should have an indoor swimming pool.
- 5 The town attracts many visitors.

▶▶ **VOCABULARY**

1 Put the words in the correct place.

- 1 Do you think the of life for teenagers is better now than it was in the past? a **decision**
- 2 Most of the local are in favour of the plan. b **suggestions**
- 3 Do you mind if I make a few ? c **purpose**
- 4 Please let me know as soon as you make your final d **residents**
- 5 The of the meeting was to discuss the new project. e **quality**

2 Choose the correct answer to complete the sentence.

- 1 They are planning to **make / hold** the tournament at the beginning of May.
- 2 We have decided to **convert / create** our attic into a bedroom.
- 3 We believe the event will **attract / recommend** many people to the area.
- 4 There are plenty of activities available to **offer / suit** all tastes.



▶▶ FOCUS ON VOCABULARY

1 Collocations

Match the columns.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------|
| 1 martial | a track |
| 2 running | b rink |
| 3 bowling | c ring |
| 4 volleyball | d court |
| 5 skating | e arts |
| 6 boxing | f alley |



2 Prepositions

Fill in the correct preposition to complete the sentence.

in • out • under • with

- The school is badly **need of** new sports equipment.
- Students often feel **pressure** to perform well in exams.
- Playing sports helps teenagers stay **of trouble**.
- Are you **favour of** an after-school athletics club?
- The members of the group **have** a lot **common**.
- Students have the opportunity to **interact** their peers.

▶▶ WRITING SKILLS

1 Organising your letter

Look at the model letter on page 131 and say in which paragraph the writer

says he hopes his ideas will be considered.

mentions where he thinks the center should be built.

says why he thinks certain activities should be offered.

explains why he is writing.



2 Linking words / phrases

The phrases 1-6 were all used in the model letter on page 131.
Which of the phrases a-f could replace them?

- 1 For one thing,
- 2 Consequently,
- 3 To begin with,
- 4 What is more,
- 5 In conclusion,
- 6 In my opinion,

- a Moreover,
- b To sum up,
- c To start with,
- d To my mind,
- e As a result,
- f One reason is that

3 Register

Tick (✓) the phrases that would be suitable to include in a letter to your school principal?

- 1 So, here's what I reckon you should do
- 2 It might be a good idea to
- 3 I think your idea sounds awesome
- 4 I would like to put forward several suggestions
- 5 I've got loads of ideas to share with you
- 6 I am writing to express my opinion
- 7 I decided to drop you a line
- 8 I hope you will find my suggestions useful

4 Checklist for writing a formal letter

Tick (✓) the true statements and correct the false ones.

When writing a formal letter, you should

- 1 paraphrase the question in your introduction.
- 2 use set phrases to start and end your letter.
- 3 use chatty expressions.
- 4 include similar ideas in the same paragraph.
- 5 use a variety of linking words.
- 6 use short forms.

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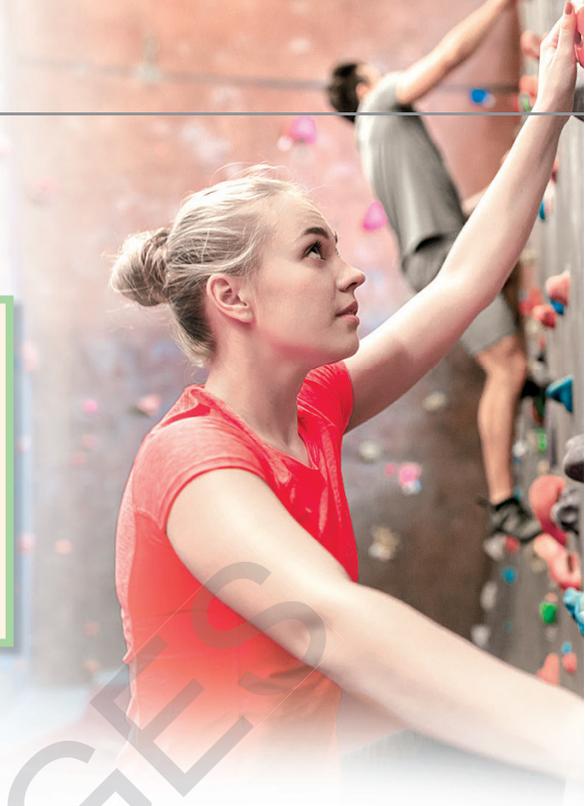
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▶▶ SPEAKING

1 In pairs, discuss the following statements regarding extracurricular activities.

- 1 Students need regular breaks from studying.
- 2 Young people are not interested in joining after-school clubs.
- 3 Members of an after-school club have the chance to develop their interests and talents.
- 4 Students have no time for extracurricular activities.
- 5 After-school clubs can help to keep teenagers off the streets.
- 6 The activities should be chosen according to the students' interests.

2 Imagine your school has received funding to set up some after-school clubs. Which of the following clubs do you think would be the most popular with students?

• Drama club

• Environmental club

• Arts and Crafts club

• Robotics club

• Book club

• Chess club

• Cookery club

• Film-making club

▶▶ WRITING TASK

A local high school is thinking of setting up some after-school clubs for students. The teachers at the school would like students to give their opinion and suggest ideas on the kind of clubs to set up.

- Write a letter to the teachers to explain your opinion. Give reasons to support your ideas.
- Start your letter, "Dear Teachers,"

You should write about one page.

▶▶ See Writing Task Booklet

▶▶ LANGUAGE AWARENESS 24

1 COMMON MISTAKES

Tick (✓) the correct sentence each time.

- 1 She has as good a voice as my sister.
She has so good voice as my sister.
- 2 How good an actor he is!
What good actor he is!
- 3 It was such cold day that we stayed at home.
It was so cold a day that we stayed at home.

2 COLLOCATIONS

Tick (✓) the items which can follow the word 'hold'.

- 1 a conversation
- 2 one's tongue
- 3 one's tears
- 4 one's excitement
- 5 someone responsible

Consolidation

Choose the correct answer.

- 1 He is a(n) writer who has written over thirty books.
 a strict b optional
 c productive d crowded
- 2 I really enjoyed skydiving – it was such a(n) experience.
 a exhilarating b conventional
 c uninteresting d amazed
- 3 I hope you will take my suggestions account.
 a under b in
 c to d into
- 4 They arranged to meet at the bowling after school.
 a court b rink
 c alley d ring
- 5 These skills will come handy when you start looking for a job.
 a on b in
 c at d for
- 6 He tried to break the by telling a joke.
 a promise b ice
 c record d rules
- 7 Can you turn that music down? It's me from my work.
 a persuading b maintaining
 c recommending d distracting
- 8 The little girl looked as if she were the verge of tears.
 a on b to
 c in d at
- 9 Police are investigating a fire which at a supermarket this morning.
 a broke up b broke down
 c broke out d broke off
- 10 I'm thinking of up for the after-school drama club.
 a signing b enrolling
 c taking d attending
- 11 It's talking to him; he won't listen.
 a useful b pointless
 c suitable d beneficial
- 12 How many teams took in the tournament?
 a part b place
 c principal d purpose
- 13 The of the students voted in favour of the proposal.
 a root b quality
 c majority d opinion
- 14 I can you that there is nothing to worry about.
 a ignore b assure
 c express d require
- 15 Would you like to tell me what you in mind?
 a think b suppose
 c take d have
- 16 The school is need of new computers.
 a with b in
 c for d on
- 17 This course will participants with the skills they need for the job.
 a equip b acquire
 c focus d reckon
- 18 This game has really ; everyone seems to be playing it.
 a come across b put forward
 c caught on d checked out
- 19 Why don't you it a go? It might be fun.
 a give b try
 c make d take
- 20 They have decided to the old train station into a museum.
 a become b convert
 c cause d correspond
- 21 I should my revision notes; I have a test tomorrow.
 a show up b go over
 c come up with d bump into
- 22 You can tickets for the show online.
 a construct b prove
 c perform d purchase
- 23 The programme offers students the chance to work experience.
 a earn b take
 c repair d gain
- 24 I'm trying to tell you something important, so please me out.
 a listen b wait
 c hear d block

SAMPLE PAGES

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