

LISTENING Time: 15 minutes

Task 1 You will hear a conversation of two students Gareth and Rebecca about Rebecca's best friend. For each question (1-5) choose the correct answer A, B or C. You will hear the text twice.

1. Who is Rebecca's best friend?
 - A) Her best friend from college, Robert
 - B) Her best friend from school, Richard
 - C) Her best friend from college, Richard

2. Where did Rebecca meet him?
 - A) In college, when her roommate was hunting for people with similar interests
 - B) In college, when she went to a college library
 - C) In college, when they were playing Final Fantasy Seven

3. Why are they good friends?
 - A) They like each other very much.
 - B) They spent a lot of time together.
 - C) They have different tastes

4. Do they often meet each other these days?
 - A) Yes, quite often
 - B) No, they live far from each other
 - C) They meet online a lot.

5. What do they usually fight about?
 - A) About their pets
 - B) About simple silly things
 - C) About chewing gums

Task 2 You will hear a talk about water sports. For each question (6-15), fill in the missing information in the numbered space. You will hear the text twice.

Water sports

All over the world people head for oceans, lakes, pools and rivers in search of fun, freedom and (6)_____. On the water, in the water or under the water, there are a huge range of sports and activities available to lovers of H₂O. Let's take a look at some of the more colourful and adventurous water sports.

When Captain James Cook landed in the Polynesian islands of Hawaii in 1778, he was (7)_____ to find the native men and women, both royalty and ordinary citizens, riding waves standing on wooden (8)_____. Despite being centuries

old, surfing only really took off in the rest of the world from the 1950s, starting with the southwest (9)_____ of the USA. Nowadays surfing is enjoyed by surfers wherever there are (10)_____, in Bali, Australia, Japan, France and even Britain.

Contemporary surfers use lightweight fibreglass boards to catch waves of varying shapes and sizes as they roll in towards the (11)_____. One of the main attractions of the sport is its (12)_____ – all a surfer really needs is a surfboard, a wetsuit and a way of getting to the beach.

Although there has been a fiercely competitive professional (13)_____ since the 1970s, surfing traditionally appeals to young people with a relaxed outlook on life. A whole lifestyle has built up around the sport, and movies like Big Wednesday, Point Break and Blue Crush have popularised surf (14)_____. Surfing also has its own language – an excited surfer is ‘stoked’, a surfer who falls off their board ‘wipes out’, and something a surfer really likes is ‘awesome’. The heroes of the surfing (15)_____ are the soul surfers – surfers who live only to travel and surf.

Transfer your answers to the ANSWER SHEET

READING COMPREHENSION (15 minutes)

Read the text about tattoos. Look at the sentences after the text to decide if each sentence (1-10) is true or false. If it is true, mark A on your answer sheet. If it is false, mark B on your answer sheet

Why People Get Tattoos

Jack lay, quiet and unmoving, for thirty minutes while a stranger repeatedly stabbed him with sharp needles, causing blood to pour steadily out of his leg. Jack was getting a tattoo. His friend Tony had recently gotten a tattoo, and Jack was so impressed by Tony’s bravery and his tattoo that he decided to get one too. Getting a tattoo because your friends and peers have them is just one of the reasons why a lot of young people in North America get tattoos. Peer pressure, media influence, and personal expression are some of the common reasons for wearing tattoos today.

The desire to be part of a group, to be accepted by one’s friends or peers, can have a great influence on what a person does. Sometimes, wearing a tattoo can be a sign that you belong to a certain group. Gangs often use special clothes and tattoos to identify their particular group. For example, in one gang all the members may wear green army jackets and have large ‘Xs’ tattooed on their arms. It is not only gangs that have this type of special ‘uniform’. Young people often belong to a certain group of friends. Some of these groups wear only brand-name clothes. Some wear only black clothes. Others wear tattoos. When a person’s friends are all doing something, such as getting a tattoo, that person is more likely to do the same thing, and get a tattoo too.

The media is another big influence behind the popularity of tattoos in North America. A

wide variety of media images show tattoos. Tattoos can be seen on people appearing in commercials selling expensive cars. Famous sports heroes with tattoos are shown in magazines. Fashion models are often seen in magazines and on TV wearing designer clothes that show their bodies tattooed with detailed and colourful patterns. These media images link tattoos to ideas of wealth, success, and status. As a result, many people decide to get a tattoo for its fashion and status value.

It is not always the influence of other people or the media that results in a person getting a tattoo. Many people decide to wear tattoos in order to express their artistic nature, their beliefs, or their feelings -- in other words, to show their individuality. A musician in a rock band may get a tattoo of a guitar on the arm. Some environmentalists may tattoo pictures of endangered animals on their shoulders. Lovers may tattoo each others' names over their hearts. A tattoo can be a public sign to show what is important in a person's life.

As you can see, there are many reasons why young North Americans get tattoos. A tattoo can be part of a group's uniform. It can be a sign of fashion. It can be an expression of individuality. The decision to get a tattoo is most often a result of the influence of friends or media or the desire to express oneself. For Jack, it was a mixture of all three.

1	Jack was getting a tattoo because his friend Tony had recently gotten a tattoo
2	Peer pressure, media influence, and the beauty of pictures are some of the common reasons why teenagers get tattoos
3	A tattoo may show that you belong to a certain group
4	Young people are more likely to do the same thing when they see that their friends wear tattoos
5	But tattoos can't be seen in commercials
6	Tattoos are associated with the ideas of wealth, success, and status
7	Only the influence of other people results in a person getting a tattoo.
8	A tattoo can show what a person's care for in his/her life.
9	Tattoos can be sign of individuality
10	There are four reasons why Jack was getting a tattoo

Transfer your answers to the ANSWER SHEET

USE of ENGLISH (10 minutes)

**Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space.
For each question, mark the correct letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet.**

Example:

0	A one	B some	C any	D many
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Answer:

0	A	B	C	D
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MAKING THE MOST OF A YEAR OUT

According to (0)_____ recent research, gap years are usually being put (1)_____ good use. This is especially true for women, who tend to be seeking new cultural experiences in their year out (2)_____ many men rate having a good time higher than broadening their horizons. Women are also more likely to go to foreign lands (3) _____ their own, but men prefer to travel in groups.

When asked about what they expected from their year out, more women than men mentioned enrolling in language (4)_____ abroad and doing voluntary work, such as teaching or participating in various development projects. Women were also more likely to socialize (5) _____ the locals than men, who often choose to stick to their traveling companions. Women were also more willing to (6) _____ an effort to learn the language of the countries they visited.

Charlotte Pierce, 22, is a good example of a female adventurer. She started off in Mexico where she learned Spanish and familiarized with the rich Aztec and Mayan heritage, then she travelled down overland across Latin America to Colombia, Brazil, and finally Peru.

‘I have always been fascinated by the ancient American civilizations,’ she says. ‘To me, a gap year is not just a chance to (7) _____ traveling and have fun. When I’m out there, I’d also like to see and learn new things.’

While exploring the Inca temples and cities in her free time, Charlotte also tried her (8)_____ at some unusual jobs to help pay for her adventures. ‘I had this job once in Peru where I helped a scientist to catch snakes in the mountains,’ she recalls. ‘(9)_____ I’d found the idea exciting at first, I soon realized that getting so close to snakes, armed with just a stick, was not fun but quite terrifying.’

Charlotte feels she made the right choice when she decided to have a year out. ‘When I arrived (10)_____ England, I was exhausted and broke. But it was still the best year of my life. So, would I do it again? Definitely! I’d leave tomorrow...’

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|-----|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 1 | a) on | b) in | c) into | d) to |
| 2 | a) while | b) as | c) since | d) which |
| 3) | a) with | b) on | c) by | d) in |
| 4) | a) courses | b) classes | c) lessons | d) trainings |
| 5) | a) by | b) about | c) with | d) among |
| 6) | a) do | b) take | c) get | d) make |
| 7) | a) make | b) go | c) get | d) take |
| 8) | a) hand | b) mind | c) arm | d) power |
| 9) | a) However | b) But | c) Though | d) Despite |
| 10) | a) from | b) at | c) to | d) in |

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