

**ПЛЕХАНОВСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ**  
(заочный тур 2022-2023 год)

**READING**

**Task 1. You are going to read an article about silence. For questions 1-10, choose from the sections of the article (A-D). The sections may be chosen more than once.**

**SOUNDS OF SILENCE**

**A**

It was 10.37 p.m. on a bitterly cold midwinter's night when an ice storm hit, cutting off our electricity for days. Suddenly, the incessant humming, buzzing and chattering of TVs, microwave ovens, radios, computers, digital clocks, lamps and the refrigerator were gone and with it, my sense of tranquillity. Other than the occasional snapping and popping of a perky fireplace fire, the house was doused in the sudden immensity of silence.

Silence unsettles us. Silence both widens our attention and focuses it at the same time. Not because of what we can't hear but because of what we suddenly can. At 2 a.m. a silent house can be an unsettling house. It creaks. It clicks. It shuffles. It's not that we hear nothing - we hear everything. Each and every unintended noise draws our attention. A silent house jumps to life.

**B**

The composer John Cage once entered a soundproof chamber at Harvard University with the intention of listening to absolute silence. 'I literally expected to hear nothing', he said. Instead of nothing, he heard the whooshing and gurgling of his nervous system and circulating blood. When he emerged, he declared that silence does not exist.

What we think of as silence is actually the absence of man-made noise. Kathleen Moore, in her article *In Search of Silence*, wrote: 'It's not easy to find silence in the modern world. If a quiet place is one where you can listen for fifteen minutes in daylight hours without hearing a human created sound, there are no quiet places left in Europe. In the USA, a country with huge wide open spaces, there are none in the east. And in the American West? Maybe twelve.'

**C**

Natural sound has a different quality and texture to man-made sound. There's randomness. It's stripped of intention. Think of the difference between the sound of a river or the continuous roaring and splashing of a waterfall to that of shopping centre music, a nearby freeway or even white noise machines. Man-made noise dulls us. Thought narrows. Sitting by a river or waterfall, or on a secluded stretch of beach, our thoughts become expansive. Our nervous system slows and soothes. We all become philosophers; we see and hear life's bigger picture with clarity.

Gordon Hempton, an acoustic ecologist, on a mission to preserve the natural sounds of the wilderness, noted that in a dense moss-covered forest it is possible to be aware of something as delicate as the sound of a falling rain drop - undetectable in any city. 'A drop of rain may hit twenty times before it reaches the ground and each impact - against the bough of a tree, a leaf or a rock - makes its own sound.' And you will hear each drip with deafening precision. It's not the sound itself but the silence surrounding it. Silence is not the absence of sound but the amplification of sound.

**D**

In 1952 John Cage's experimental work *4'33"* was performed by the young pianist David Tudor. The concert hall was ideal for Cage's *4'33"* because the back of the hall was open to the surrounding forest. The piece was four minutes and thirty-three seconds of the pianist sitting at the keyboard without playing a single note. Four minutes and thirty-three seconds of listening not to music but to silence. During the first movement only the wind in the trees outside the auditorium was audible. The second movement brought rain drops pattering the roof. The third whispers and mutterings from a confused and frustrated audience. The piece was a requiem to unintended sound.

Cage said, 'People began whispering to one another and some people began to walk out. They didn't laugh - they were just irritated when they realised nothing was going to happen and they haven't forgotten it thirty years later; they're still annoyed.' When Tudor finished, raising the keyboard lid and himself from the piano, the audience burst into an uproar - 'infuriated and dismayed,' according to the reports.

But Cage's work wasn't silent at all. It's not that nothing happened. For those who actually widened their awareness and listened carefully, they would have heard a world of unintended sound.

*In which section are the following mentioned?*

1. an explanation of how silence is really a lack of mechanical sound  
A            **B**            C            D
2. the contradictory and sometimes disturbing nature of silence  
**A**            B            C            D
3. a missed opportunity for some to pay close attention to accidental and uncontrollable sounds  
A            B            C            **D**
4. an opinion on where it may still be possible to experience silence  
A            **B**            C            D
5. a description of the sounds made in a familiar setting that we become aware of during quiet periods  
**A**            B            C            D
6. an unpredicted realisation following an attempt to experience true silence  
A            **B**            C            D

7. how an unexpected loss of familiar background sounds can cause a change of mood

**A**                      **B**                      **C**                      **D**

8. a comment about how our perception of a sound depends on the environment in which it is heard

**A**                      **B**                      **C**                      **D**

9. how the experience of hearing something different to what was expected in a particular environment provoked a strong reaction

**A**                      **B**                      **C**                      **D**

10. a contrast between the physical and emotional effect sounds can have, depending on their source

**A**                      **B**                      **C**                      **D**

**Task 2.** You are going to read an article. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the article. For questions **11 – 17** choose from the paragraphs **A-H** the one which fits each gap. There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

## **HELP GUIDE US THROUGH THE UNIVERSE**

*Sir Martin Rees, Astronomer Royal, launches this year's Young Science Writer competition*

If you ask scientists what they're doing, the answer won't be 'Finding the origin of the universe', 'Seeking the cure for cancer' or suchlike. It will involve something very specialised, a small piece of the jigsaw that builds up the big picture.

**11**

So, unless they are cranks or geniuses, scientists don't shoot directly for a grand goal - they focus on bite-sized problems that seem timely and tractable. But this strategy (though prudent) carries an occupational risk: they may forget they're wearing blinkers and fail to see their own work in its proper perspective.

**12**

I would personally derive far less satisfaction from my research if it interested only a few other academics. But presenting one's work to non-specialists isn't easy. We scientists often do it badly, although the experience helps us to see our work in a broader context. Journalists can do it better, and their efforts can put a key discovery in perspective, converting an arcane paper published in an obscure journal into a tale that can inspire others.

**13**

On such occasions, people often raise general concerns about the way science is going and the impact it may have; they wonder whether taxpayers get value for money from the research they support. More intellectual audiences wonder about the basic nature of science: how objective can we be? And how creative? Is science genuinely a progressive enterprise? What are its limits and are we anywhere near them? It is hard to explain, in simple language, even a scientific concept that you understand well. My own (not always effective) attempts have deepened my

respect for science reporters, who have to assimilate quickly, with a looming deadline, a topic they may be quite unfamiliar with.

**14**

It's unusual for science to earn newspaper headlines. Coverage that has to be restricted to crisp newsworthy breakthroughs in any case distorts the way science develops. Scientific advances are usually gradual and cumulative, and better suited to feature articles, or documentaries - or even books, for which the latent demand is surprisingly strong. For example, millions bought *A Brief History of Time*, which caught the public imagination.

**15**

Nevertheless, serious books do find a ready market. That's the good news for anyone who wants to enter this competition. But books on pyramidology, visitations by aliens, and suchlike do even better: a symptom of a fascination with the paranormal and 'New Age' concepts. It is depressing that these are often featured uncritically in the media, distracting attention from more genuine advances.

**16**

Most scientists are quite ordinary, and their lives unremarkable. But occasionally they exemplify the link between genius and madness; these 'eccentrics' are more enticing biographees.

**17**

There seems, gratifyingly, to be no single 'formula' for science writing - many themes are still under-exploited. Turning out even 700 words seems a daunting task if you're faced with a clean sheet of paper or a blank screen, but less so if you have done enough reading and interviewing on a subject to become inspired. For research students who enter the competition, science (and how you do it) is probably more interesting than personal autobiography. But if, in later life, you become both brilliant and crazy, you can hope that someone else writes a best-seller about you.

**A**

However, over-sensational claims are a hazard for them. Some researchers themselves 'hype up' new discoveries to attract press interest. Maybe it matters little what people believe about Darwinism or cosmology. But we should be more concerned that misleading or over-confident claims on any topic of practical import don't gain wide currency. Hopes of miracle cures can be raised; risks can be either exaggerated, or else glossed over for commercial pressures. Science popularisers - perhaps even those who enter this competition - have to be as sceptical of some scientific claims as journalists routinely are of politicians.

**B**

Despite this, there's a tendency in recent science writing to be chatty, laced with gossip and biographical detail. But are scientists as interesting as their science? The lives of Albert Einstein and Richard Feynman are of interest, but is that true of the routine practitioner?

**C**

Two mathematicians have been treated as such in recent books: Paul Erdos, the obsessive itinerant Hungarian (who described himself as ‘a machine for turning coffee into theorems’) and John Nash, a pioneer of game theory, who resurfaced in his sixties, after 30 years of insanity, to receive a Nobel prize.

**D**

For example, the American physicist Robert Wilson spent months carrying out meticulous measurements with a microwave antenna which eventually revealed the ‘afterglow of creation’ – the ‘echo’ of the Big Bang with which our universe began. Wilson was one of the rare scientists with the luck and talent to make a really great discovery, but afterwards he acknowledged that its importance didn’t sink in until he read a ‘popular’ description of it in the *New York Times*.

**E**

More surprising was the commercial success of Sir Roger Penrose’s *The Emperor’s New Mind*. This is a fascinating romp through Penrose’s eclectic enthusiasms - enjoyable and enlightening. But it was a surprising best seller, as much of it is heavy going. The sales pitch ‘great scientist says mind is more than a mere machine’ was plainly alluring. Many who bought it must have got a nasty surprise when they opened it.

**F**

But if they have judged right, it won’t be a trivial problem - indeed it will be the most difficult that they are likely to make progress on. The great zoologist Sir Peter Medawar famously described scientific work as ‘the art of the soluble’. ‘Scientists,’ he wrote, ‘get no credit for failing to solve a problem beyond their capacities. They earn at best the kindly contempt reserved for utopian politicians.’

**G**

This may be because, for non-specialists, it is tricky to demarcate well-based ideas from flaky speculation. But it’s crucially important not to blur this distinction when writing articles for a general readership. Otherwise credulous readers may take too much on trust, whereas hard-nosed sceptics may reject all scientific claims, without appreciating that some have firm empirical support.

**H**

Such a possibility is one reason why this competition to encourage young people to take up science writing is so important and why I am helping to launch it today. Another is that popular science writing can address wider issues. When I give talks about astronomy and cosmology, the questions that interest people most are the truly ‘fundamental’ ones that I can’t answer: ‘Is there life in space?’, ‘Is the

universe infinite?' or 'Why didn't the Big Bang happen sooner?'

11. A B C D E **F** G H  
12. A B C **D** E F G H  
13. A B C D E F G **H**  
14. **A** B C D E F G H  
15. A B C D **E** F G H  
16. A B C D E F **G** H  
17. A B **C** D E F G H

**Task 3. For questions 18 – 22 choose the correct letter from A - D for each answer.**

### IS HOME A REALLY NEW WORKPLACE

One of the scourges of the modern world is the length of time we take commuting to and from work. In large cities this can mean losing three or more hours every day just traveling from home to work and back again. Surely there is an alternative! Well, according to a survey conducted in the US, 22% of people would much prefer working from home, should circumstances allow. Liz Sewell spoke to several people who have already made the change to this modern - day workplace to try and find out more.

Scott Miller is a 40-year-old draughtsman who has been working from home for the past two years. He admits that it wasn't something that he craved for; rather it happened when his wife, Jules, a university lecturer, was offered a full-time position. "She didn't think that she could take the job. I knew that she really wanted it, but she didn't want to put our son into full-time care. I had been working for the same firm for seven years and decided to approach my bosses. My track record probably helped because they accepted the proposition. As long as my productivity was maintained, they didn't mind where I worked. Also my wife is happy, and her career is blossoming."

"Now I go into the office every Monday afternoon for a meeting and to pick up my week's work. Interestingly, I feel that I work even better from home, so much so that even though our son is now at school, I still work there."

However, is working from home as simple as it sounds?

Transferring work to a different workplace is only part of the equation for Joanne McCarthy, who until three months ago was a Human Resources Manager for a large public corporation. She has now become a full-time trader on the stock market. She says she loves the freedom that working from home gives her, but she really misses the social interaction.

"As my job just involves working for myself, by myself, I find that I have become much more introverted because I don't have that face-to-face, professional involvement with people any more. I spend all day on the computer checking the

prices of my stocks. By evening, I am desperate to talk to my husband - even if it is only about what he has been doing all day.”

She has realized that this could jeopardise her attempts to work from home and has decided to join a local investors’ club which meets once a week, just to get more interaction in her life. “I don’t think I’ll learn anything from it, but it will be nice to meet with like-minded people and talk business. Meeting friends for coffee or for lunch meets my social needs, but work is still a large part of my life.”

One of Joanne’s friends helped her to make the transition to working from home. Louise Tate is an accountant and used to commute an hour each way to her office before deciding there had to be a better way. For her, the biggest problem with working from home was distractions. “It was so easy to get distracted by the other things you have to do at home, like washing and cleaning,” she told us. “I had to force myself to view my study as an office, not part of the house. So I came up with a novel idea - my husband thought I was mad, but I had a separate entrance built to the office. At the beginning of my workday, I go out of the front door of our house, lock it, and then walk around to the office. Now I feel that I am really at work, and my productivity has increased as a result. I know it sounds strange, but it works for me.” Twelve months down the track and Louise never wants to face the morning traffic again.

People choose to work from home for a multitude of reasons. Take the example of George Mercer, who owns seven cafes within a 7 mile radius of downtown Miami. He has based his office in his Fort Lauderdale beachfront home, and keeps in contact with his various managers by phone, fax and email. “When I started the business four years ago, I couldn’t decide which cafe to have as my main base, so I decided to set up my office at home. With modern telecommunications nowadays, I am always able to contact my premises and order provisions from my suppliers.”

“If I get fed up with working from home, or if there are problems that have to be dealt with in person, I just jump in the car and drive to the cafes. From time to time, we have meetings at my place, which give the managers a break from their own ‘offices’. They get a change of scenery. I still have control but they have a large amount of independence in the day-to-day running of the cafes. I love my job and it’s obvious that my managers respond well to the arrangement. Life’s great at the moment and I wouldn’t change a thing!”

Obviously, not everyone is able to have the type of work that can be done from home, but there are plenty of people just like me - judging by Internet sites and the more traditional employment vacancy ads - who would jump at the chance.

**18. Scott Miller**

- A. had always wanted to work from home.
- B. no longer has the original reason for working from home.**
- C. had difficulty persuading his employer to let him do it.
- D. only visits the office for staff meetings.

**19. Joanne McCarthy**

- A. sometimes has regrets about working from home.

- B. enjoys talking about her work with her husband.
  - C. is still learning her business.
  - D. is determined to ensure that working from home satisfies her.
- 20. Louise Tate**
- A. got angry with her husband about the office door.
  - B. had to have a total change of mindset to be able to work from home.
  - C. often gets distracted by her domestic duties.
  - D. recommends working from home.
- 21. George Mercer**
- A. does all his business using modern telecommunications.
  - B. usually only sees his managers at scheduled meetings.
  - C. lives less than 7 miles from any of his cafes.
  - D. None of the above.
- 22. The writer of this article**
- A. is envious of these people being able to work from home.
  - B. works from home herself.
  - C. doesn't give her opinion on the subject.
  - D. plans to work from home in the future.

## USE OF ENGLISH

**Task 4. For questions 23– 32 Choose the best sentence whose meaning is closest to the original sentence.**

**23. We live in a modern detached house on the edge of Stonehouse, Gloucestershire and have been interested in renewable energy for many years.**

- A. The family live in a new house and have been interested in alternative energy for a long time.
- B. The family live in a modern house and use different forms of energy.
- C. The family live in a modern house, joined to a neighbouring house and use alternative energy.
- D. The family live in a country house, made of stone, that they wish they could use renewable energy.

**24. Solar panels produced 100% of the hot water from March to mid-September in 2018, proving to us that solar power really does work in England.**

- A. Many people don't think that solar power is suitable for England.
- B. There is enough sunlight to provide energy for their heating needs for half the year.
- C. The solar panels provide all their electricity for half the year.
- D. The solar panels heated all their water for half the year.



**25. We sell all the electricity we produce, including what we use ourselves, to “Good Energy” and this has reduced our electricity bill down substantially.**

A. The family makes a profit on the electricity they produce, even taking into account the electricity they use.

B. The family sells all the electricity their home generates and buys back what they need, reducing their electricity costs.

C. “Good Energy” makes a profit by buying and selling electricity from small family producers.

D. The family uses the electricity they produce for free.

**26. In Britain, by law, electricity supply companies have to satisfy a certain proportion of renewable energy generation, so they are prepared to pay a premium for that.**

A. Electricity is produced in several different ways by law and each method costs a different amount to produce.

B. Renewable energy costs more than other forms of energy generation, but electricity suppliers must still buy a certain amount of it by law.

C. Electricity suppliers are prepared to pay a higher price for electricity generated from renewable sources because of legal requirements.

D. Electricity suppliers are required by law to pay a higher price for electricity generated using renewable resources.

**27. With the money we raise, we’re hoping to give grants to local people for electricity reduction projects, thereby encouraging people to demand less energy which will enable us to produce electricity from renewable sources.**

A. Grants are an effective way of reducing electricity use, but are only used locally.

B. People need to reduce their demand for electricity before producing from renewable sources can become profitable.

C. Grants for electricity reduction projects will lead to the production of more electricity from renewable sources and reduce the amount of energy people use.

D. Grants will be given to local people to encourage them to demand less energy.

**28. My investment began when a similar council-run project to install a second-hand wind turbine in a nearby village fell through.**

A. Projects involving second-hand wind turbines are often unsuccessful.

B. The writer decided to invest in a wind turbine even though a similar project didn’t succeed in a nearby village.

C. The writer decided to invest in a wind turbine because a similar project didn’t succeed in a nearby village.

D. Projects run by councils have less chance of success than projects run by individuals.

**29. You can even buy used wind turbines on the Internet that sell for 10% of their original price and have a lot of life left in them.**

A. Used wind turbines that are bought on the Internet are generally the best ones.

B. Used wind turbines save money in the short term, but not necessarily in the long term.

C. Used wind turbines are easy to buy and use.

D. You can buy good used wind turbines for a fraction of their original cost.

**30. Opponents claim that a wind turbine will blight the landscape, but these opponents are people who have moved in recently and don't want anything to change the countryside setting they bought into, not locally born people.**

A. Locally born people are more concerned about saving money than recent arrivals to the countryside.

B. The landscape can be changed dramatically for the worse if wind turbines are used.

C. Opponents of wind turbines are often recent arrivals worried that the countryside will change in appearance.

D. Locally born people are not concerned about how the countryside looks.

**31. It's worth bearing in mind that the highest tip of the blade is 20 metres above ground level, whereas typical electricity pylons are 35 metres to the top, so the electricity pylons that run adjacently actually dwarf the turbine.**

A. Electricity pylons have a more dramatic effect on how the countryside looks than wind turbines do.

B. Wind turbines are not as effective as electricity pylons because they are smaller.

C. Wind turbines need to be made bigger so that they can be effective.

D. Electricity pylons and wind turbines are generally built close to each other.

**32. With regard to the wind turbine, I did everything myself - the planning application, noise assessment, visual impact and television interference assessment.**

A. There was a lot of planning involved in getting a wind turbine, but the writer had previous experience of this work.

B. There was a lot of planning involved in getting a wind turbine, but the writer managed it alone.

C. Previous experience of wind turbines is not necessary for the successful completion of a small project.

D. There are four things that need to be done in order to get a wind turbine, of which three relate to the environment.

**Task 5. For questions 33 – 42 choose an idiom from the list (A -O) to complete the sentences below. There are more idioms than you will need.**

- A. a Trojan horse
- B. Midas touch
- C. Pandora's box
- D. Herculean task
- E. cut the Gordian knot
- F. Sisyphean tasks
- G. as wise as Solomon
- H. Pyrrhic victory
- I. it's all Greek to me
- J. Rome wasn't built in a day
- K. when in Rome, do as the Romans do
- L. fiddling while Rome burns
- M. Achilles heel
- N. the sword of Damocles
- O. beware of Greeks bearing gifts

33. Jane: Can you understand this error message?  
Ben: Sorry, \_\_\_\_\_ **I** \_\_\_\_\_. You'd better ask one of the programmers.
34. Ann: Everyone in my new office dresses so casually. Should I dress that way, too?  
Derek: By all means. You know, \_\_\_\_\_ **K** \_\_\_\_\_.
35. Dan: What do you think of our new colleague John?  
Carol: Well, he is very brilliant and smart, but vanity is his \_\_\_\_\_ **M** \_\_\_\_\_.
36. Mandy: Wait, hasn't Matt already solved that impossible equation?  
Angela: Yes! I have no idea how he did it, but he sure \_\_\_\_\_ **E** \_\_\_\_\_.
37. It was a bit of a \_\_\_\_\_ **H** \_\_\_\_\_ for Manchester United, as several of their players were seriously injured in the match.
38. Another stock market crash is hanging over this government like \_\_\_\_\_ **N** \_\_\_\_\_.
39. This software tycoon seems to have the \_\_\_\_\_ **B** \_\_\_\_\_. It's incredible how successful he is!
40. His appointment to leader has caused many problems within the party, with some members accusing him of being \_\_\_\_\_ **A** \_\_\_\_\_, sent to destroy the party from within.
41. The digitization of books is a \_\_\_\_\_ **D** \_\_\_\_\_ but also opens up cultural content to millions of people all over the world.
42. My old boss thought the proper way to treat an employee was to engage them in \_\_\_\_\_ **F** \_\_\_\_\_, moving stock from one place to another for no purpose but to stay busy.

**Task 6.** For questions 43 – 52 choose a phrasal verb from the list (A - O) to complete the conversation below. There are more phrasal verbs than you will need.

- A. worry about
- B. bounce off
- C. occur to
- D. make up
- E. talk through
- F. hit on
- G. set in
- H. break down
- I. rough out
- J. piece together
- K. grapple with
- L. bring out
- M. get on
- N. thrash out
- O. reflect on

**Matthew:** I did my best to (43) \_\_\_K\_\_\_ (*try hard to deal with*) this idea you talked about in your lecture, that written language is becoming more like spoken language these days, but I'm finding it difficult. I've been trying to (44) \_\_\_I\_\_\_ (*write or draw the outline of an idea without going into details*) some chapters for my dissertation and I like this topic, but I think I need to (45) \_\_\_E\_\_\_ it \_\_\_ (*discuss something in order to understand*) with you first.

**Prof. Smith:** Well, why don't I (46) \_\_\_B\_\_\_ a few ideas \_\_\_ (*inf.*) *tell someone about an idea to find out what they think of it*) you? Then you can see if they make sense. When you write emails to your friends, how formal are they?

**Matthew:** Pretty informal usually.

**Prof. Smith:** Let's just (47) \_\_\_O\_\_\_ (*slightly formal*) *think very hard about something*) that for a moment. What makes them informal?

**Matthew:** I suppose it's grammar for one thing. I use contractions like 'I'm' or 'it's' instead of 'I am' or 'it is'. And slang words and so on.

**Prof. Smith:** Yes, and didn't it (48) \_\_\_C\_\_\_ (*come into your mind*) you that what you're doing is sort of talking to people rather than writing to them?

**Matthew:** Ah. I see. I think I understand now. Things like email and text messages and chat rooms and so on are changing the way we write, is that it?

**Prof. Smith:** Exactly. Go away and think about it a bit more and I'm sure you'll (49) \_\_\_F\_\_\_ (*have a good idea (especially one that solves a problem)*) a few more ideas. Look at a few newspapers and magazines. Try and (50) \_\_\_H\_\_\_ the topic \_\_\_ (*to divide information or a piece of work into*

*smaller parts so that it is easier to understand or deal with*) into different themes, like grammar and vocabulary.

**Matthew:** OK, thanks. I'll probably be able to **(51)** \_\_\_\_\_ **J** \_\_\_\_\_ it all \_\_\_\_\_ now (*to try to understand a situation by collecting different pieces of information and considering them at the same time*).

**Prof. Smith:** Yes, and come back if you need more help and we can **(52)** \_\_\_\_\_ **N** \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_ (*discuss something in order to find a solution*) together and try and clarify it more. OK? Bye.

**Matthew:** Thank you! Bye.

**Task 7.** For questions **53 – 62** choose an exclamation from the list (A - N) which would fit these situations. There are more exclamations than you will need.

- A. Cheers!
- B. Keep it up!
- C. Dream on!
- D. Go for it!
- E. Get off!
- F. Wakeup!
- G. Go easy on them!
- H. Go on!
- I. Watch out!
- J. Come off it!
- K. Hurry up!
- L. Giddy up!
- M. Hold on!
- N. Calm down!

- 53. A pedestrian is about to cross a busy road without looking. What might you say? - **I**
- 54. Your elder sister told you she had just seen a flying saucer. What might you say? - **J**
- 55. You are waiting for a friend to arrive to go to the cinema, but he calls you to say he is running late. What might you say? - **K**
- 56. Your brother is in a long-distance race and is looking very tired and about to give up? What might you say? - **B**
- 57. A friend calls with some important information that you need to write down, but you don't have a pen. What might you say to the caller while you find one? - **M**
- 58. You think a teacher should treat some students less severely. What might you say? - **G**

59. Your brother is to start a race in the hope of breaking a record. What might you say? - **D**
60. Your sister is starting to lose her temper. What might you say? - **N**
61. A child is pulling at the clothing of another child, who is getting annoyed. What might the second child say? - **E**
62. Your friend told you a very surprising bit of news. What might you say? - **H**

**Task 8. For questions 63– 70 use the correct phrase (A – J) from the following list to replace each of the *phrases in italics* in the sentences below. There are more phrases than you will need.**

- A.** The so-called headmaster  
**B.** The ex-headmaster  
**C.** The headmaster-to be  
**D.** The late headmaster  
**E.** The present headmaster  
**F.** The actual headmaster  
**G.** The headmaster in question  
**H.** The headmaster present  
**I.** The stop-gap headmaster  
**J.** The sacked headmaster  
**K.** The lonely headmaster  
**L.** The aspiring headmaster

63. The *headmaster who is the subject of discussion* made a speech. - **G**
64. The *headmaster, who is now dead*, made a speech. - **D**
65. The *headmaster who was at the occasion* made a speech. - **H**
66. The *man who was due to take up his appointment as headmaster* made a speech. - **C**
67. The *man who had previously been headmaster* made a speech. - **B**
68. The *person who is now headmaster* made a speech. - **E**
69. The *headmaster who was dismissed* made a speech. - **J**
70. The *man who was temporarily acting as headmaster until someone was appointed permanently* made a speech. - **I**

**Task 9. For questions 71 – 80 decide if the **highlighted** words in the following sentences are used correctly or not?**

71. A **malevolent** person has a heart of gold.  
 A right      **B wrong**
72. He had the job before me. He was my **predecessor**.  
**A right**      B wrong
73. A road with ice on it is called a **slip road**.

- A right      B wrong
74. A student who doesn't work hard enough is known as an understudy.  
A right      B wrong
75. He works for an advertising agency. He's a copywriter.  
A right      B wrong
76. I had to sack her for incompetence - a very tasteless task.  
A right      B wrong
77. If something is fragile it means it has a sweet or pleasant smell.  
A right      B wrong
78. Inflammable is the opposite of flammable.  
A right      B wrong
79. It's not comprehensive - I mean, no-one can understand it.  
A right      B wrong
80. She's written fifty-eight novels. She's really prolific.  
A right      B wrong

**Task 10. For questions 81– 95 choose the best answer A, B, C or D.**

81. I remember \_\_\_\_\_ absolutely amazed the first time I saw the pyramids.  
A. being  
B. to be  
C. to have been  
D. having being
82. There are two candidates. We have to choose \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the first or another  
B. between themselves  
C. either one or the other  
D. among them
83. A: Have you interviewed the seven candidates?  
B: \_\_\_\_\_  
A. Yes, I have seen all them.  
B. No, I haven't seen nobody of them.  
C. Yes, I have seen everyone.  
D. No, I have seen neither of them.
84. I regret \_\_\_ my colleagues about my personal problems – it was a big mistake.  
A. to tell  
B. telling  
C. having been told  
D. to be told
85. Scientists believe that life \_\_\_\_\_ on Mars, but no-one knows for sure.  
A. did existed  
B. had existed  
C. could have been existed  
D. might have existed

86. According to government statistics, men of all social classes in Britain visit pubs \_\_\_\_\_, though the kind of pub they go to may be different and their reasons \_\_\_\_\_ there vary, too.
- A. quite regularly.....for going
  - B. quite regular.....in going
  - C. rather regular.....why they go
  - D. rather regularly.....that they go
87. Nowadays not only men go to see the football matches regularly, but women as well, which \_\_\_\_\_ the case.
- A. didn't used to be
  - B. used not to be
  - C. was not used to be
  - D. was used not to being
88. So many different types of music have been called jazz \_\_\_\_\_ that it is hard to say \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. at one or another time.....really what is it
  - B. in one or another time....what really is it
  - C. in one time or another.....that is really it
  - D. at one time or another.....what it really is
89. \_\_\_\_\_ we might consider going hiking in the mountains.
- A. Had the weather to be improved
  - B. Whether the weather will be improved or not
  - C. Should the weather been improved
  - D. Were the weather to improve
90. The tsunami on the island \_\_\_\_\_ by a sudden tectonic shift in the ocean.
- A. is reported to have been caused
  - B. appear to have been caused
  - C. considered to be caused
  - D. is seemed to have caused
91. Jack suddenly saw Carol \_\_\_\_\_ the room. He pushed his way \_\_\_\_\_ the crowd of people to get to her.
- A. across ..... through
  - B. over.....through
  - C. across.....across
  - D. inside.....along
92. \_\_\_\_\_ thinks that Janet is the best candidate for the job.
- A. The majority of my colleagues
  - B. Practically all
  - C. Neither of us
  - D. A number of people
93. Boris lost his job and was short of money, so \_\_\_\_\_ his flat and move in with his elder brother.
- A. that he did was to sell
  - B. what he did was to sell



- C. he had sold  
D. having to sell
94. I am a typical night owl and I often feel weary \_\_\_\_\_ early in the morning.  
A. when I wake up  
B. provided I had woken up  
C. if I will wake up  
D. been woken up
95. \_\_\_\_\_ badly in the past, Julia found it very difficult to trust anyone again.  
A. As being hurt  
B. Having been hurt  
C. Hurting  
D. Having hurt

**Task 11. COUNTRY STUDIESQUIZ. For questions 96 – 100 choose the best answer A, B, C or D.**

96. **By tradition, the Prime Minister is**  
A. The Speaker and First Lord of the Treasury  
B. Lord Chancellor and Minister for the Civil Service  
C. First Lord of the Treasury and Minister for the Civil Service  
D. The Speaker and Minister for the Civil Service
97. **The War of the Roses (1455 – 1485) was between the dynasties of:**  
A. Stuart and Windsor  
B. York and Lancaster  
C. Tudor and Stuart  
D. Lancaster and Wessex
98. **Which of these books was not written by Robert Louis Stevenson?**  
A. Prince Otto  
B. A Child's Garden of Verses  
C. The Moonstone  
D. The Black Arrow
99. **The last pitched battle fought on the British soil was**  
A. The Battle of Culloden  
B. The Battle of Hastings  
C. The Battle of Stamford Bridge  
D. The Battle of Shrewsbury
100. **Which of these kings of England didn't die in military action?**  
A. Harold II  
B. Richard I  
C. Richard III  
D. Henry IV