

MID-COURSE ASSESSMENT

(UNITS 1–6)

SECTION A: LISTENING

1a **MCA1** Listen to four people talking about their language learning experiences and answer the questions.

Which speaker, A, B, C or D

- 1 says languages are useful in today's business world? _____
- 2 is currently learning a new language? _____
- 3 travelled for a year after school? _____
- 4 has no plans to live abroad? _____
- 5 has a job using another language? _____
- 6 studied two languages at school? _____
- 7 thinks it's unnecessary to learn another language? _____

1b Listen again and check your answers.

/7

2a **MCA2** Listen to a talk about modern explorers and adventurers and complete the notes. Use no more than two words or a number in each gap.

Ed Stafford:

- walked along the Amazon in ¹ _____ days
- started his journey in Peru in the Andes
- found most dangerous animals were ² _____ and insects
- did it to raise awareness of disappearance of ³ _____

Geoff Mackley:

- is a New Zealand-born ⁴ _____
- is an expert on recording ⁵ _____
- has his own ⁶ _____ on the Discovery Channel

Laura Dekker:

- was the ⁷ _____ to sail around the globe in 2012
- fought the ⁸ _____ as they tried to stop her going

2b Listen again and check your answers.

/8

SECTION B: READING

3 Read the article. Are these statements true or false, or does the text not say? Choose the correct answers.

Graduate training programmes

Many large companies provide graduate training programmes (GTP). These are programmes which allow new graduates to get a job and continue studying, usually for professional qualifications. The programmes offer several advantages. For example, it can be quite frightening to start that first job if you do not have anyone to help you. On a GTP, graduates find it easier to settle in to a job because they are given support while they are on the programme. They will have an experienced person, called a mentor, usually a more senior member of staff, who can help them with any problems they may have. In addition, they may also have a 'buddy'. This is someone who has recently finished the graduate training programme themselves. After the programme, the graduates will be put into the most suitable position for them in the company.

Another advantage of the GTP is that people can move more quickly through an organisation, as they learn a lot about the company on these programmes. Furthermore, they will probably make good contacts while they are working for a large company and this can be very useful in the future.

- 1 Only large companies offer graduate training programmes.
true false doesn't say
- 2 Graduates often get professional qualifications after this training.
true false doesn't say
- 3 Going to work for the first time can be quite scary.
true false doesn't say
- 4 Mentors will offer courses for professional qualifications.
true false doesn't say
- 5 If an employee on a GTP has any difficulties, the mentor will help them.
true false doesn't say
- 6 Everyone will have a 'buddy' on a graduate training programme.
true false doesn't say
- 7 Only the most suitable graduates will work in the company when the GTP ends.
true false doesn't say
- 8 It's easier to progress through the company if someone does a GTP.
true false doesn't say

/8

4 Read the texts and answer the questions.

My favourite TV ad

A John, Cardiff

I think all the ads for Specsavers, the cheap glasses company, are great. I may have to wear glasses and I might go to them in the future. Their ads all show people doing silly things because they refuse to wear glasses. The ads all start very seriously, like a drama or documentary. The one I like best is where a vet examines a cat lying on his table. He is worried because he can't hear its heart beat. His assistant comes in and he wants to tell her the bad news when she picks up the cat, which was, in fact, her fur hat. Then the ad shows the cat sitting on another table staring at the vet, who looks confused as we see the slogan: 'He should have gone to Specsavers!'

B Sarah, London

I used to love the Tango ad. You remember Tango, that fizzy orange drink? It was very bad for your teeth, but we loved it when we were younger. I still occasionally drink it. Their best ad was the one with a man running round the streets painted the same orange colour as the drink after he had drunk a can of Tango. People even started using 'tango' as a verb in the English language – *you've been tangoed*, which they would use if someone was wearing orange clothes or had a good suntan.

C Mrs Beaton, Edinburgh

My favourite ad was the one for Cadbury Smash, the instant mashed potato product. It was back in the 1970s and 80s. The ad showed a family of Martian robots laughing at how much time humans spend peeling potatoes, cooking them just to smash them to a paste afterwards to make mashed potato. The solution, according to the aliens, is to use Smash instant potato powder. All you have to do is add water and you have mashed potato. I can still remember the slogan: 'For Mash, get Smash'. I think these ads are much better than ones that use cute animals.

D Fiona, Catford

My favourite ad is the one for Cravendale milk, with cats that can use their thumbs like people do. Just imagine what they could do if they could hold things! I can't stop laughing when I see them. Ads with animals in them are always the best. This ad shows cats behaving like humans, using their thumbs to pick up balls, turn the pages of a book, open doors and so on. In the ad, the cats get together to steal the bottle of Cravendale milk from a man eating cereal. I can imagine my cats doing that!

In which text, A, B, C or D, does the person

- 1 like an ad which uses aliens? _____
- 2 enjoy ads with animals in them? _____
- 3 like an ad which created a new word? _____
- 4 not currently use the product advertised? _____
- 5 have domestic pets? _____
- 6 still know the famous saying from the ad? _____
- 7 find that all the ads make them laugh? _____

___/7

SECTION C: LANGUAGE

5 Complete the conversation with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- A: How long ¹ _____ (you / work) in England now?
 B: Nearly a year.
 A: When exactly ² _____ (you / start)?
 B: Last October.
 A: When ³ _____ (you / go) back to France?
 B: In three weeks' time. I've got a job with a large company in Paris.
 A: ⁴ _____ (you / need) to speak English for that job?
 B: Of course. That's why I got it. After a year here, I'm quite fluent.
 A: Why ⁵ _____ (you / leave) England? Don't you like it here?
 B: I love it, but I couldn't find such a good job here. I have to take it.
 A: So ⁶ _____ (you / stay) here if you could find a better job?
 B: Yes, definitely.
 A: Hey, I've got a good idea. Let's have a holiday together before you leave. ⁷ _____ (you / ever / visit) Scotland?
 B: No, I never got the chance.
 A: Right. Why ⁸ _____ (we / not take) the car and drive around Scotland?
 B: Great idea! That would be fantastic!

___/8

6 Complete the text with one word in each gap.

Jenny hasn't found a good job ¹ _____. She's been looking ² _____ ages and she's still hopeful. So far she has managed to find a few part-time jobs, but they don't pay enough for her to rent her own flat. She's still living with her parents, ³ _____ don't mind her being there, but they would like to see her get a job to match her education and skills. It's harder to find jobs today ⁴ _____ it was ⁵ _____ they were young. However, Jenny believes that it isn't ⁶ _____ difficult as people think to get a good job and that she will get one soon. Jenny's parents are also the ⁷ _____ supportive people she knows and she feels very lucky to have them.

___/7

7 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first.

- 1 She is unlikely to buy a house even if she wins the lottery.
She _____ the lottery.
- 2 David's mother is a famous writer and now he's studying creative writing at university.
David, _____, is now studying creative writing at university.
- 3 We bought the cheapest car we could find when we were students.
We bought _____ expensive car we could find when we were students.
- 4 She studied at Cambridge University, one of the oldest universities in the world.
Cambridge university, _____, is one of the oldest universities in the world.
- 5 This is more difficult than I thought.
This isn't _____ I thought.

___/5

8 Complete the text with the words in the box. You don't need all the words.

catchy challenging time-consuming let progress
overconfident broke approach sensitive
moody ambitious assertive cautious tedious
hard-working overrated

I always thought that to be a teacher you had to be a very ¹ _____ person who can keep control in a classroom. However, when I stood in front of my first class, thinking it would be really easy, I soon realised that perhaps I had been rather ² _____. The teenagers found the lessons ³ _____ and were not interested in anything I had to say. The students were not very ⁴ _____. They never handed in their homework. They were often very ⁵ _____ and bad-tempered. It was a good thing that I wasn't a very ⁶ _____ person, otherwise I would have been very upset by this. I enjoy ⁷ _____ situations and this is definitely one of those situations. The experience of my first lesson left me feeling very depressed and I knew that I either had to find a different ⁸ _____ to these classes or give up altogether. I didn't give up and I found new ways to present my subject and keep the youngsters interested. It was ⁹ _____ at first. I had to spend a lot of time preparing each lesson. But eventually, my hard work paid off and finally I made ¹⁰ _____ and started to enjoy my new career.

___/10

SECTION E: SPEAKING

10 Prepare to talk to your teacher about some of your opinions. You have two minutes to prepare. Make some notes so that you can

- describe the personality of someone who is important in your life.
- say if you think personality is more important than the way someone looks.
- say what kind of advertisements attract you and why.
- explain which you think is better – private or state education.
- say what you would like to study if you could study any subject at all.

When you have prepared, talk to your teacher. Your teacher will ask you questions.

Your notes

**MID-COURSE ASSESSMENT
SCORE CARD**

NAME: _____

CLASS: _____

SECTION A: LISTENING

___/15

SECTION A: READING

___/15

SECTION C: LANGUAGE

___/30

SECTION D: WRITING

Content points	___/5
Production and coherence	___/5
Range	___/5
Accuracy	___/5

___/20

SECTION E: SPEAKING

You		
described the personality of someone important in your life.		
Content:	1	2
Effective communication:	1	2
said if you think personality is more important than looks.		
Content:	1	2
Effective communication:	1	2
said what kind of advertisements attracted you and why.		
Content:	1	2
Effective communication:	1	2
explained whether you think private or state education was better.		
Content:	1	2
Effective communication:	1	2
said what they would study if you could study any subject at all.		
Content:	1	2
Effective communication:	1	2

___/20

Total: ___/100