

QUESTIONS ON GRAMMAR, VOCABULARY AND DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

Practice 10

IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS – 1 point.

1. The following sentences include idiomatic expressions. Write down the exact word that complete each sentence in the right form. Each item is worth 0.1 point.

1. Absolutely right! You've hit the nail right on its _____.
2. Two essays and a presentation due next week should give you plenty to sink your _____ into.
3. Lisa walked in tentatively, like a _____ on a hot tin roof.
4. After taking up yoga lessons, I started to wake up at the _____ of dawn.
5. I'm sure she'll take it fine, as she always takes things in her _____.
6. We were burning the _____ oil to finish it on time. midnight
7. They haven't been on speaking _____ since their father died.
8. There is really no _____ what Eric will do next.
9. Me? Have a holiday? _____ would be a fine thing!
10. Thanks for being so _____ top of things.

CLOZE TEST

2. For questions 1-10, read the text below and fill in each space with the word which best fits in there. Use one word only in each space.

Water on the moon

As (0) a result of the recent discovery of lunar water, the moon has suddenly become a far more interesting place for investors, (1) _____ must now view the long-term prospects with optimism. The last manned mission to the moon drew (2) _____ a close in 1973, (3) _____ two astronauts from *Apollo 17* climbed back into their lunar module, (4) _____ collected a lot of moonrock, but bereft (5) _____ any future plans. Now the moon shines brighter for astronauts and scientists alike, (6) _____ to the existence of (7) _____ might be billions of tonnes of water at (8) _____ poles.

There is (9) _____ high-tech substitute for water in space exploration. To support the international space station, (10) _____ has cost at least \$100,000 a day to send water (11) _____ orbit. Not (12) _____ would lunar water cut these costs, but it would additionally be used for rocket fuel, (13) _____ two components, liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen, are the elements found in water.

Scientists are particularly excited (14) _____, given the absence of an atmosphere, lunar water has never been recycled and they believe, therefore, that it (15) _____ very well hold clues to the formation of the solar system itself.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

3. For questions 1-6, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

The Collectors

The market for film posters is partly (1) _____ by nostalgia, but today serious collectors regard posters as an investment and prices have risen as a result. David Hutchinson is a typical collector with what he is (2) _____ to call an addiction. 'I loved film posters as a child and I've been (3) _____ ever since', he says. People collect posters of well-known films, or ones they (4) _____ with some memory, like their first date. Sometimes, (5) _____, a poster of an obscure 1920s film may have a fantastic image and that's what (6) _____. Only posters with good graphics are of interest to serious collectors. Modern posters, using photographic rather than drawn images, are not so stylish and are reproduced on a very large scale. As a result, they are less collectable.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. A driven | B pushed | C powered | D urged |
| 2. A merry | B happy | C jolly | D funny |
| 3. A hooked | B nailed | C stuck | D fixed |
| 4. A accompany | B correlate | C associate | D affiliate |
| 5. A regardless | B although | C moreover | D however |
| 6. A counts | B reckons | C catches | D minds |

LEXICAL FIELDS (A) – 1,5 points

4. Choose six of the following verbs denoting sounds. Explain what they mean exactly (connotations and nuances of meaning between them) and write a sentence which exemplifies their specific meaning. You will get 0.25 points for each verb successfully defined and exemplified.

WHINING – SQUEAKING – CHIRPING – WHIRRING – HISSING – PUFFING – WHOOSHING

LEXICAL FIELDS (B) – 1 point (verbs of seeing)

5. Underline the most suitable option in each sentence. Each correct item is worth 0.1 point.
- She *noticed/watched/eyed* her daughter's boyfriend up and down, and then asked him in.
 - Jack *stared/glimpsed/glanced* at the map for a while, unable to believe his eyes.
 - Would you like to *regard/observe/view* the house that is for sale this afternoon?
 - Police *faced/gazed/spotted* the wanted man in the crowd outside a football ground.
 - I *checked/glanced/faced* at my watch. It was already well after three.
 - The burglar turned to *view/regard/face* me and said, 'Don't you recognize me?'
 - I only *beheld/witnessed/noticed* we were running low on petrol after we had passed the last filling station.
 - Tony was *noticing/glimpsing/scanning* the page, looking for his name in print.

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- i) I only *peered/glimpsed/squinted* the Queen from a distance before her car drove away.
- j) Sally was sitting by the sea, *glancing/gazing/facing* at the shape of the distant island.

WORD-FORMATION

6. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the space.

Secrets of the Office Password

Millions of office workers switch on their computers each

morning and (0) **IMMEDIATELY** reveal quite a lot about their **IMMEDIATE**

personalities. In many (1) _____, it is necessary for an **ORGANISE**

(2) _____ to key in a personalized password before he **EMPLOY**

or she can gain access to the company's computer (3) _____. **NET**

The choice of password is, however, generally left up to the

individual, and this is the area which has provided teams

of (4) _____ with such a good opportunity for research. **PSYCHOLOGY**

According to a recent study, four distinct categories of password can

be identified, corresponding to four personality types. Most people,

rather (5) _____, go for their own name, or that of a close **PREDICT**

family member or beloved pet. Other, slightly more (6) _____ **IMAGINE**

people choose their favourite football team, cartoon character or film

star. But around 11% actually choose a Word that they feel in some

way is a (7) _____ of their character. Passwords like 'superstar', **REFLECT**

'genius' or 'sexy' turned out to be surprisingly common amongst

this somewhat (8) _____ group, and it's difficult to believe that **MODEST**

all were intended to be jokes. The smallest of the four categories,

however, was made up of the truly (9) _____ conscious. These **SECURE**

were people who had taken the exercise seriously and had chosen a

password that was completely (10) _____ with any aspect of their **CONNECT**



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work and lives. Company secrets, it seems, will always be safe with them.

ANSWER KEY

1. IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS – 1 point.

1. Absolutely right! You've hit the nail right on its **HEAD**.
2. Two essays and a presentation due next week should give you plenty to sink your **TEETH** into.
3. Lisa walked in tentatively, like a **CAT** on a hot tin roof.
4. After taking up yoga lessons, I started to wake up at the **CRACK/BREAK** of dawn.
5. I'm sure she'll take it fine, as she always takes things in her **STRIDE**.
6. We were burning the **MIDNIGHT** oil to finish it on time.
7. They haven't been on speaking **TERMS** since their father died.
8. There is really no **KNOWING/TELLING** what Eric will do next.
9. Me? Have a holiday? **CHANCE** would be a fine thing!
10. Thanks for being so **ON** top of things.

Comentado [Office1]: You may also say *you nailed it*.

Comentado [Office2]: A similar expression is *to burn the candle at both ends*.

2. CLOZE TEST

Water on the moon

As (0) a result of the recent discovery of lunar water, the moon has suddenly become a far more interesting place for investors, (1) **WHO** must now view the long-term prospects with optimism. The last manned mission to the moon drew (2) **TO** a close in 1973, (3) **WHEN** two astronauts from *Apollo 17* climbed back into their lunar module, (4) **HAVING** collected a lot of moonrock, but bereft (5) **OF** any future plans. Now the moon shines brighter for astronauts and scientists alike, (6) **DUE/THANKS/OWING** to the existence of (7) **WHAT** might be billions of tonnes of water at (8) **ITS/THE** poles.

Comentado [Office3]: Draw to a close (finish).

Come to a halt (stop): *The demonstration came to a halt in front of the Parliament.*

Comentado [Office4]: Bereft of ("despojado, desprovisto de")

There is (9) **NO** high-tech substitute for water in space exploration. To support the international space station, (10) **IT** has cost at least \$100,000 a day to send water (11) **INTO** orbit. Not (12) **ONLY** would lunar water cut these costs, but it would additionally be used for rocket fuel, (13) **WHOSE** two components, liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen, are the elements found in water. Scientists are particularly excited (14) **BECAUSE/AS/SINCE** given the absence of an atmosphere, lunar water has never been recycled and they believe, therefore, that it (15) **COULD/MAY/MIGHT** very well hold clues to the formation of the solar system itself.

3. MULTIPLE CHOICE

- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. A driven | B pushed | C powered | D urged |
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| 3. A hooked | B nailed | C stuck | D fixed |
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Comentado [Office5]: Expression: *it's the thought that counts*.

4. LEXICAL FIELDS (A) – 1 point

(Remember that you should only define and exemplify 6 of the following)

Whining: "a long high unpleasant sound because you are in pain or unhappy" → *the dog's whining grew louder.*

Squeaking: "a short high sound that is not very loud" → *Edward could hear a mouse squeaking under the fridge.*

Chirping: "short high sounds especially of small birds and some insects. In figurative language, it also means to speak cheerfully" → *Birds were chirping merrily in the trees.*

Whirring: "a continuous low sound like the parts of a machine moving" → *Three large fans whirred overhead in the afternoon heat.*

Hissing: "to make a long 's' sound like the sound that a snake makes" → *The tyres hissed on the wet road.*

Puffing: "to breathe or blow out air noisily, especially because you have been running, climbing, etc.". → *he was puffing a bit when he reached the top.*

Whooshing: "to move very quickly with the sound of air or water rushing" → *The train whooshed past us.*

Comentado [BAA6]: Many candidates defined this verb as "to make a hissing sound". You cannot possibly define using the actual defined word.

5. LEXICAL FIELDS (B) – 1 point (verbs of seeing)

- She *noticed/watched/eyed* her daughter's boyfriend up and down, and then asked him in.
- Jack *stared/glimpsed/glanced* at the map for a while, unable to believe his eyes.
- Would you like to *regard/observe/view* the house that is for sale this afternoon?
- Police *faced/gazed/spotted* the wanted man in the crowd outside a football ground.
- I *checked/glanced/faced* at my watch. It was already well after three.
- The burglar turned to *view/regard/face* me and said, 'Don't you recognize me?'
- I only *beheld/witnessed/noticed* we were running to get petrol after we had passed the last filling station.
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- I only *peered/glimpsed/squinted* the Queen from a distance before her car drove away.
- Sally was sitting by the sea, *glancing/gazing/facing* at the shape of the distant island.

6. WORD-FORMATION

Secrets of the Office Password

Millions of office workers switch on their computers each morning and (0) **IMMEDIATELY** reveal quite a lot about their personalities. In many (1) **ORGANISATIONS** it is necessary for an (2) **EMPLOYEE** to key in a personalized password before he or she can gain access to the company's computer (3) **NETWORK**. The choice of password is, however, generally left up to the individual, and this is the area which has provided teams of (4) **PSYCHOLOGISTS** with such a good opportunity for research. According to a recent study, four distinct categories of password can be identified, corresponding to four personality types. Most people, rather (5) **PREDICTIBLY**, go for their own name, or that of a close family member or beloved pet. Other, slightly more (6) **IMAGINATIVE** people choose their favourite football team, cartoon character or film star. But around 11% actually choose a Word that they feel in some way is a (7) **REFLECTION** of their character. Passwords like 'superstar', 'genius' or 'sexy' turned out to be surprisingly common amongst this somewhat (8) **IMMODEST** group, and it's difficult to believe that all were intended to be jokes. The smallest of the four categories, however, was made up of the truly (9) **SECURITY** conscious. These were people who had taken the exercise seriously and had chosen a password that was completely (10) **UNCONNECTED/DISCONNECTED** with any aspect of their work and lives. Company secrets, it seems, will always be safe with them.

IMMEDIATE

ORGANISE

EMPLOY

NET

PSYCHOLOGY

PREDICT

IMAGINE

REFLECT

MODEST

SECURE

CONNECT



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