

## QUESTIONS ON GRAMMAR, VOCABULARY AND DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

### Practice 14

#### MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

#### The Concept of Evolution

Charles Darwin did not invent the concept of evolution. When he was a student in Edinburgh in the late 1820's, evolution was already the **(1)** ... of the town. But evolution was rejected by the establishment. Those who **(2)** ... to evolutionary thinking were called Lamarckists, after the French scientist Jean-Baptiste Lamarck, who was the first to propose that species are not static, but change over time and give **(3)** ... to new species. Lamarck had offered this **(4)** ... in a book published in 1809. He did not, however, propose a correct mechanism for **(5)** ... species change into each other. The mechanism was discovered first by Charles Darwin and independently by Alfred Russel Wallace. From reading the economist Thomas Malthus, Darwin was aware of the consequences of **(6)** ... growing populations. Once resources become limiting only a **(7)** ... of individuals can survive. Darwin was also an **(8)** ... observer of animal breeders. He analysed their methods and studied their results. Slowly he understood that nature like a gigantic breeder.

- |                  |                 |               |               |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. A talk        | B story         | C gossip      | D tale        |
| 2. A combined    | B cohered       | C adhered     | D abode       |
| 3. A occasion    | B evidence      | C raise       | D rise        |
| 4. A perspective | B perception    | C prospect    | D incentive   |
| 5. A all         | B how           | C now         | D once        |
| 6. A expressly   | B exponentially | C exquisitely | D exclusively |
| 7. A friction    | B division      | C section     | D fraction    |
| 8. A agile       | B arduous       | C ardent      | D amorous     |

#### WORD-FORMATION

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

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| 1. ORDINARY | 5. ACHIEVE |
| 2. MERCY    | 6. RELATE  |
| 3. BRING    | 7. ELUDE   |
| 4. ABLE     | 8. CURE    |

### A Musical Genius

For many people Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) is the most (0) ..... (INFLUENCE) figure in the history of western classical music. His (1) ..... talent was already clearly evident as a young man, (2) ..... surviving a somewhat unconventional (3) ..... during which his eccentric father would often force him to take music lessons in the middle of the night. The young Beethoven's ability won him the admiration of the leading contemporary musical figures. Throughout the 1790s he worked hard to secure the interest of wealthy patrons. Such patronage (4) ..... him to concentrate on becoming a successful composer.

Whatever his awe-inspiring musical (5) ....., however, his personal life was something of a disaster. His day-to-day (6) ..... with people invariably turned out to be rather turbulent. Although he apparently fell in love with a number of society women, the identity of the girl who lay closest to his heart remains (7) ..... to this day. However, just at the point when Beethoven was beginning to reap the rewards of his early endeavours, he had to come to terms with the crushing realisation that his increasing deafness was (8) ..... . From that point on, his music displayed a striking change in style, becoming both heavier in tone and larger in scale.

#### MULTIPLE MEANINGS

3. For questions 1-5, think of one word only which can be used appropriately in all three sentences.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

- I don't think Judy is proving very suitable for the post because she seems unable to \_\_\_\_\_ any of the tasks I give her.
- If you \_\_\_\_\_ this form, we will consider your claim for an extra allowance.
- All Lance needed was a rare 19<sup>th</sup> century stamp to \_\_\_\_\_ his collection.

2 \_\_\_\_\_

- Working in the travel industry, the peak season really \_\_\_\_\_ it out of you.
- Melanie really \_\_\_\_\_ after her mother when it comes to choosing holidays.
- It \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of courage to go bungee jumping at her age.

3 \_\_\_\_\_

- The new airport has the capacity to \_\_\_\_\_ 14 million passengers per year.
- Always wear protecting clothing when you \_\_\_\_\_ dangerous chemicals.
- Sarah gave up her job because she couldn't \_\_\_\_\_ the level of responsibility expected of her.

4 \_\_\_\_\_

- It seemed \_\_\_\_\_ that five minutes before the film was due to start, Tom was the only person in the cinema.
- When he sat down, you couldn't help but notice that the professor was wearing \_\_\_\_\_ socks.

- I don't really like sweet things much, but I do enjoy the \_\_\_\_\_ bar of chocolate.

5 \_\_\_\_\_

- Walk down the \_\_\_\_\_, go up a flight of stairs and you'll see the library on your right.
- With the \_\_\_\_\_ of time, the events of that day began to fade in all their memories.
- The students were told to pick a short \_\_\_\_\_ from the novel and analyse it for homework.

**IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS – 1 point (these very same sentences came up in the exam in 2016 – Andalucía)**

**4. 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.**

- Survivors of natural disasters suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder can only weather the \_\_\_\_\_ if they are given the appropriate emotional support.
- I've got an extremely bad memory; I have a memory like a \_\_\_\_\_.
- She wouldn't admit her mistake because she didn't want to lose \_\_\_\_\_ in front of her peers.
- They tried to persuade me to join the protest but I stuck to my \_\_\_\_\_ and didn't give in as I think they're not going to sort out their problems that way.
- Pat likes to play everything cautiously, so she hardly ever does anything on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the moment.
- Let's not \_\_\_\_\_ about the bush and get straight to the point of the argument.
- I haven't got the \_\_\_\_\_ idea where he could be. He should have turned up by now.
- When people are desperately in need, they would just grasp at \_\_\_\_\_ to find a solution to their problems.
- He never seems to put a foot \_\_\_\_\_ or make any mistakes, so it's going to be difficult to prove him guilty.
- I like to spend my holidays in secluded little villages that are fairly unknown, far off the \_\_\_\_\_ track.

**LEXICAL FIELDS – 1 point (these same exact verbs came up in the exam in 2018 – Andalucía)**

**5. Choose five of the following verbs expressing ways of moving/walking. Explain what they mean exactly (connotations and nuances of meaning between them) and write a sentence which exemplifies their specific meaning. You will get 0.2 points for each verb successfully defined and exemplified.**

MARCH – TIPTOE – CRAWL – WANDER – PARADE – STRIDE – CREEP – STOMP - STROLL

**CLOZE TEST – 1 point**

**6. 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. Each correct word is worth 0.1 point.**

**RELAXATION**

True relaxation is most certainly (0) \_\_\_\_\_ a matter of flopping down in front of the television with a welcome drink. Nor is it about drifting (1) \_\_\_\_\_ an exhausted sleep. Useful though these responses to tension and over-tiredness (2) \_\_\_\_\_ be, we should distinguish between them and conscious relaxation in (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of quality and effect. (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of the level of tiredness, real relaxation is a state of alert yet at the same (5) \_\_\_\_\_ passive awareness, in which our bodies are (6) \_\_\_\_\_ rest while our minds are awake.

Moreover, it is as natural (7) \_\_\_\_\_ a healthy person to be relaxed when moving as resting. (8) \_\_\_\_\_ relaxed in action means we bring the appropriate energy to everything we do, (9) \_\_\_\_\_ as to have a feeling of healthy tiredness by the end of the day, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ than one of exhaustion.

**LEXICAL FIELDS (B) – 1 point (verbs of speaking)**

**7. Underline the most suitable option in each sentence. Each correct item is worth 0.1 point.**

- a) The accused sat silently throughout the proceedings and did not emit/pronounce/utter a word.
- b) I forgot to announce/mention/narrate earlier that I'll be home late this evening.
- c) We were just having a friendly gossip/chat/whisper about football.
- d) I'm sorry to cut/butt/rush in but did you happen to mention the name 'Fiona'?
- e) The police officer addressed/argued/lectured the children for ten minutes about the dangers of throwing stones, but then let them off with a warning.
- f) John was muttering/whispering/swallowing something under his breath, but I didn't catch what he said.
- g) It is difficult for me to speak/tell/say exactly what I mean in a foreign language.
- h) The two people involved in the accident were both pronounced/defined/stated dead on arrival at Kingham Hospital.
- i) My boss didn't say it in so many words, but she clarified/declared/implied that I would get a promotion before the end of the year.
- j) When all the votes had been counted, Julia was declared/announced/stated the winner.

**SPOTTING MISTAKES – 1 point**

**8. Some of the following sentences include a mistake. Write OK for the sentences which are correct and write the sentence correctly for the ones which are wrong. The mistakes may involve changing or adding words or structures. The sentences which are correct cannot be modified. Each item is worth 0.1 point.**

- a) Only after climbing onto the roof he managed to escape from the rising flood waters.
- b) I'd hope that it'd be all sorted out pretty quickly.
- c) It's high time you throw out all those smelly old trainers.
- d) Ten museums have been robbed in the last six months and the number has been raising steadily over the last few years (rising).
- e) Who she married hardly matters any more, does it?

- f) I wouldn't have said it was a big problem.
- g) Opposite this house did the old city walls run.
- h) Tarantino's latest film has a so violent scene that the censors refused to pass it.
- i) Darren won because he took the fewest time to complete the task.
- j) The US dollar has been laying low for several weeks now.

**CONDITIONALS – 1 point**

- 9. Conditional sentences are generally linked with the connectors *if* and/or *unless*. Provide 5 more connectors we can use in conditional sentences.**

## ANSWER KEY

### 1. MULTIPLE CHOICE

- |                         |                        |                  |                   |
|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. A <b>talk</b>        | B story                | C gossip         | D tale            |
| 2. A combined           | B cohered              | C <b>adhered</b> | D abode           |
| 3. A occasion           | B evidence             | C raise          | D <b>rise</b>     |
| 4. A <b>perspective</b> | B perception           | C prospect       | D incentive       |
| 5. A all                | B <b>how</b>           | C now            | D once            |
| 6. A expressly          | B <b>exponentially</b> | C exquisitely    | D exclusively     |
| 7. A friction           | B division             | C section        | D <b>fraction</b> |
| 8. A agile              | B arduous              | C <b>ardent</b>  | D amorous         |

### 2. WORD FORMATION

- |                  |                   |              |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 1. EXTRAORDINARY | 4. ENABLED        | 7. ELUSIVE   |
| 2. MERCIFULLY    | 5. ACHIEVEMENT(S) | 8. INCURABLE |
| 3. UPBRINGING    | 6. RELATIONSHIPS  |              |

### 3. MULTIPLE MEANINGS

#### 1 COMPLETE

- I don't think Judy is proving very suitable for the post because she seems unable to **complete** any of the tasks I give her.
- If you **complete** this form, we will consider your claim for an extra allowance.
- All Lance needed was a rare 19<sup>th</sup> century stamp to **complete** his collection.

#### 2 TOOK

- Working in the travel industry, the peak season really **took** it out of you.
- Melanie really **took** after her mother when it comes to choosing holidays.
- It **took** a lot of courage to go bungee jumping at her age.

#### 3 HANDLE

- The new airport has the capacity to **handle** 14 million passengers per year.
- Always wear protecting clothing when you **handle** dangerous chemicals.
- Sarah gave up her job because she couldn't **handle** the level of responsibility expected of her.

#### 4 ODD

- It seemed **odd** that five minutes before the film was due to start, Tom was the only person in the cinema.
- When he sat down, you couldn't help but notice that the professor was wearing **odd** socks.

- I don't really like sweet things much, but I do enjoy the **odd** bar of chocolate.

#### 5 PASSAGE

- Walk down the **passage** go up a flight of stairs and you'll see the library on your right.
- With the **passage** of time, the events of that day began to fade in all their memories.
- The students were told to pick a short **passage** from the novel and analyse it for homework.

#### 4. IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS – 1 point

- a. Survivors of natural disasters suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder can only weather the **STORM** if they are given the appropriate emotional support.
- b. I've got an extremely bad memory; I have a memory like a **SIEVE/GOLDFISH**.
- c. She wouldn't admit her mistake because she didn't want to lose **FACE** in front of her peers.
- d. They tried to persuade me to join the protest but I stuck to my **GUNS** and didn't give in as I think they're not going to sort out their problems that way.
- e. Pat likes to play everything cautiously, so she hardly ever does anything on the **SPUR** of the moment.
- f. Let's not **BEAT** about the bush and get straight to the point of the argument.
- g. I haven't got the **SLIGHTEST/FAINTEST/FOGGIEST** idea where he could be. He should have turned up by now.
- h. When people are desperately in need, they would just grasp at **STRAWS** to find a solution to their problems.
- i. He never seems to put a foot **WRONG** or make any mistakes, so it's going to be difficult to prove him guilty.
- j. I like to spend my holidays in secluded little villages that are fairly unknown, far off the **BEATEN** track.

#### 5. LEXICAL FIELDS – 1 point

*(Remember that you should only define and exemplify 5 of the following)*

**March:** "to walk with stiff regular steps like a soldier" → *Soldiers were marching up and down outside the government buildings.*

**Tiptoe:** "to stand or walk on the front part of your foot, with your heels off the ground, in order to make yourself taller or to move very quietly" → *Being so late, she tiptoed to her bedroom.*

**Crawl:** "to move forward on your hands and knees, with your body close to the ground" → *A man was crawling away from the burning wreckage.*

**Wander:** "to walk slowly around or to a place, often without any particular sense of purpose or direction" → *She wandered aimlessly around the streets.*

**Parade:** "to walk somewhere in a formal group of people, in order to celebrate or protest about something" → *The victorious team will parade through the city tomorrow morning.*

**Stride:** "to walk with long steps in a particular direction" → *She came striding along to meet me.*

Creep: “to move slowly, quietly and carefully, because you do not want to be seen or heard” or “to move with your body close to the ground; to move slowly on your hands and knees” (=crawl)  
→ *She crept toward the edge of the roof and looked over.*

Stomp: “to walk or move with very heavy or noisy steps” → *She stomped angrily out of the office.*

Stroll: “to walk somewhere in a slow relaxed way” → *People were strolling along the beach.*

## 6. CLOZE TEST – 1 point

### RELAXATION

True relaxation is most certainly (0) **NOT** a matter of flopping down in front of the television with a welcome drink. Nor is it about drifting (1) **INTO** an exhausted sleep. Useful though these responses to tension and over-tiredness (2) **MAY/MIGHT/CAN/COULD** be, we should distinguish between them and conscious relaxation in (3) **TERMS** of quality and effect. (4) **REGARDLESS/IRRESPECTIVE/INDEPENDENTLY** of the level of tiredness, real relaxation is a state of alert yet at the same (5) **TIME** passive awareness, in which our bodies are (6) **AT** rest while our minds are awake.

Moreover, it is as natural (7) **FOR** a healthy person to be relaxed when moving as resting. (8) **BEING/FEELING** relaxed in action means we bring the appropriate energy to everything we do, (9) **SO** as to have a feeling of healthy tiredness by the end of the day, (10) **RATHER** than one of exhaustion.

## 7. LEXICAL FIELDS (B) – 1 point (verbs of speaking)

- a) The accused sat silently throughout the proceedings and did not emit/pronounce/utter a word.
- b) I forgot to announce/mention/narrate earlier that I'll be home late this evening.
- c) We were just having a friendly gossip/chat/whisper about football.
- d) I'm sorry to cut/butt/rush in but did you happen to mention the name 'Fiona'?
- e) The police officer addressed/argued/lectured the children for ten minutes about the dangers of throwing stones, but then let them off with a warning.
- f) John was muttering/whispering/swallowing something under his breath, but I didn't catch what he said.
- g) It is difficult for me to speak/tell/say exactly what I mean in a foreign language.
- h) The two people involved in the accident were both pronounced/defined/stated dead on arrival at Kingham Hospital.
- i) My boss didn't say it in so many words, but she clarified/declared/implied that I would get a promotion before the end of the year.
- j) When all the votes had been counted, Julia was declared/announced/stated the winner.

## 8. SPOTTING MISTAKES – 1 point

- a) Only after climbing onto the roof DID HE MANAGE to escape from the rising flood waters.
- b) I'd hope that it'd be all sorted out pretty quickly. OK

- c) It's high time you **THREW** out all those smelly old trainers.
- d) Ten museums have been robbed in the last six months and the number has been **RISING** steadily over the last few years.
- e) Who she married hardly matters any more, does it? **OK**
- f) Opposite this house **RAN** the old city walls.
- g) Tarantino's latest film has **SUCH A VIOLENT SCENE / SO VIOLENT A SCENE** that the censors refused to pass it.
- h) I wouldn't have said it was a big problem. **OK**
- i) Darren won because he took the **LEAST** time to complete the task.
- j) The US dollar has been **LYING** low for several weeks now.

### **9. CONDITIONALS – 1 point**

Apart from *if*, which is the default conjunction, there are several other conjunctions and/or structures that may introduce conditional sentences:

- *Provided (that)/providing (that): You can take my car provided/providing (that) you return it by six o'clock tonight.*
- *Supposing/Imagining: Supposing/imagining that you lost your job tomorrow, would you have enough money to live on?*
- *As long as: As long as you keep missing lessons, you'll never make any progress.*
- *On condition that: The bank have agreed to lend us the money on condition that we can pay it back by the end of the month*
- *But for: But for her help, I would have never reached this point.*

As teachers, we should make our students aware of this variety of options and avoid the constant and only use of *if*.