

Workbook

for

Grammar E-book 

Test your Grammar

Improve your Accuracy

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Noun Phrases & Gerund Phrases: Exercises

1

Put the words in the correct order to make noun phrases.

- (a) nuances / subtlest / the
- (b) of / infinite / solutions / number / an
- (c) a / by / children / parent / raised / single
- (d) programmes / more / social / government-funded
- (e) debt / dramatic / in / personal / rise / the
- (f) from / media / online / print / shift / the / to
- (g) artwork / study / children's / of / the
- (h) proper / subjects / balance / a / school / of
- (i) substances / use / the / performance-enhancing / of
- (j) fast / world's / with / obsession / the / food

Check your answers in the Key before doing Exercise 2.

2

Complete the sentences with the best noun phrase from Exercise 1. Consider meaning as well as grammar.

- 1 _____ has forced traditional media to reconsider who decides which topics matter and how extensively these topics should be covered.
- 2 _____ have often been regarded as different from other children.
- 3 _____ is damaging children's health as well as the quality of their lives.
- 4 _____ stimulates the development of a child's mental and physical abilities.
- 5 There are _____ to the problem of poverty.
- 6 _____ are needed to help single-parent families with childcare.

- 7 _____ can provide psychologists with invaluable insights into the working of the mind.
- 8 A baby can perceive _____ in its mother's voice.
- 9 _____ has become widespread among both professional and amateur athletes.
- 10 _____ has been caused by the increasingly easy availability of credit cards.

3

Complete the sentences with the correct simple present form (singular or plural) of the verb in brackets.

- 1 The phenomenal speed at which a computer can process huge amounts of raw data _____ it the edge over the human brain. (*give*)
- 2 Children who are raised with both a mother and a father _____ into more balanced individuals. (*grow*)
- 3 One of the many benefits citizens of all democratic countries enjoy _____ the freedom to elect their own representatives. (*be*)
- 4 The vast majority of parents who have a young child _____ that a stay-at-home parent is better able to give children the attention and affection they need. (*say*)
- 5 Many companies which produce hazardous waste _____ it properly. (*not / dispose of*)
- 6 A manager who cannot motivate employees _____ unlikely to generate new ideas. (*be*)
- 7 The number of students who opt for IT courses _____ increasing. (*be*)
- 8 A huge number of college graduates _____ it difficult to get a job that matches their qualifications. (*find*)
- 9 One of the best ways to deal with too many responsibilities _____ to delegate some tasks to other people. (*be*)
- 10 An applicant with good communication skills _____ a better impression in a job interview. (*make*)

Match each gerund phrase (1 – 6) to the correct sentence ending (a – f).

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Increasing the number of online news outlets | (a) should be a priority if we want to ensure a rich world heritage for future generations. |
| 2 Making dinner with fresh ingredients | (b) is sometimes thought to be the best way to secure a good job. |
| 3 Juggling work, school runs and a myriad other daily obligations | (c) is one of the best ways for the health authorities to deal with issues surrounding obesity. |
| 4 Introducing more sport and exercise in schools | (d) is a challenge for parents who have a nine-to-five job. |
| 5 Preserving local languages and cultures | (e) often makes it difficult for parents to prepare a cooked meal every evening. |
| 6 Completing university education | (f) is one way to enable readers to participate in the production of news and engage more actively with it. |

Noun Clauses: Exercises

1

Underline the noun clause in the following sentences.

- 1 Governments seem uncertain how to deal with the refugee crisis.
- 2 Experts are wondering what to do about global warming.
- 3 Why civilised people so often resort to war is beyond comprehension.
- 4 How much money you earn should not depend on gender.
- 5 Scientists cannot explain why so many people are unhappy.

2

Choose the correct option (a, b or c) to complete the sentences.

- 1 As serious problem for many young graduates is _____ to pay off their student loan debt.
a. that b. how c. what
- 2 _____ girls outperform boys in maths and science surprises some people.
a. That b. What c. The fact
- 3 It has become difficult for parents to explain to their children _____ reading real books is a source of learning and pleasure.
a. how much b. whether c. why
- 4 _____ we have to do is to improve the public transport system.
a. Why b. How c. What
- 5 _____ or not animals should be used for scientific research will always remain a divisive issue.
a. Whether b. When c. Whichever
- 6 Age and lifestyle decide _____ we should be sleeping for.
a. where b. how long c. who
- 7 People no longer know _____ sources of information they can trust.
a. what b. whether c. that

8 We should not allow _____ happens at work to affect our behaviour at home.

- a. that b. which c. whatever

9 _____ we meet when we are in a foreign country can teach us something about the culture.

- a. The fact that b. Whoever c. How much

10 Not all parents understand _____ fast food impacts their children's health.

- a. how b. whatever c. whether

3

Change the questions into noun clauses to complete the sentences.

1 How harmful is fast food?

The corporate media do not tell us _____.

2 Are health data used with or without patient consent?

The public needs to know _____ with or without patient consent.

3 Why do schoolchildren get so much homework?

Many parents wonder _____ so much homework.

4 How does the government use tax money?

_____ is not always explained clearly.

5 When will the next financial crisis arise?

Even experts cannot predict with certainty _____.

6 Where does milk come from?

A large number of city children have no idea _____.

7 Do offenders benefit from rehabilitation programmes?

Several studies have tried to assess _____.

8 Do young people want to change the world?

_____ should not surprise anyone.

9 Why do some people lie to their therapists?

There are various reasons _____.

10 How many species become extinct each year?

It is very hard to know exactly _____.

Linking Words & Sentence Structures: Exercises

1

Underline the correct option in *italics*.

- 1 *Although* / *Despite* gender equality is a fundamental human right, there are still some areas of human activity where it has not been achieved.
- 2 *While* / *However* it may be true that a lot of workers wish to take early retirement, there are many others in their mid-sixties who find it unfair to be forced to stop working.
- 3 *Due to* / *As* the world's population is aging rapidly, it would seem a good idea to encourage people to have more children.
- 4 The Earth now has fewer trees to combat CO2 emissions *because* / *owing to* wanton deforestation.
- 5 Many countries still lack basic human necessities such as clean water and shelter, *hence* / *consequently* the need for increased international aid.
- 6 In my opinion, private car ownership should be restricted *in order not to* / *so as to* exacerbate the problem of pollution and congestion in cities.
- 7 The government needs to invest massively in the public transport system *therefore* / *so that* commuters have an effective alternative to driving.
- 8 *As well as* / *Not only* being faster and more comfortable, modern trains are also much more environmentally friendly than cars and buses.
- 9 Arctic wildlife is endangered by the melting of the ice caps. *Similarly* / *Instead*, coral reefs, which are among the most biodiverse ecosystems on Earth, are at the mercy of rising ocean temperatures.
- 10 Bottled water is often touted as indisputably safe and pure. *In contrast* / *In fact*, most brands of bottled water contain tiny particles of plastic which we ingest when drinking.
- 11 In many countries, young people from rural areas continue to move to the cities *even though* / *in spite of* rising urban unemployment.
- 12 Shopping malls are often overcrowded and tend to encourage overspending. *Nevertheless* / *Besides*, they continue to be popular owing to the vast range of goods and services they offer.

Complete sentences 1 – 8 using *although* and the appropriate sentence from the box.

work-life balance is much talked about
 they have a formal degree
 mass tourism continues to be hugely popular
 it is health and education workers who contribute most to society
 mass urban tourism has come under fierce criticism recently
 as a holidaymaker one may have few opportunities to interact with the local population
 it is easier to commune with nature when one is on one's own
 employers often value practical experience

- 1 _____, learning the basics of the local language can turn out to be very useful.
- 2 _____, an academic qualification remains a considerable asset for job seekers.
- 3 Hordes of holidaymakers continue to flood cities like Venice and Barcelona _____.
- 4 _____, there is a now a discernible shift towards ecotourism.
- 5 Showbiz stars often earn a fortune _____.
- 6 Some people struggle to advance professionally _____.
- 7 _____, employees are often expected to take work home with them.
- 8 Only a minority of people seem to enjoy solo travel _____.

Complete sentences 1 – 10 with the appropriate sentence from the box.

they were marketed aggressively	remarkable progress in computer translation
there has been remarkable progress in computer translation	its harmful effects on health
the proliferation of fraudulent websites	it has harmful effects on health
the fact that a crime is a crime regardless of age	fraudulent websites are proliferating
sustained aggressive marketing	a crime is a crime regardless of age

- 1 Despite _____, some products never become popular.
- 2 Some products never become popular although _____.
- 3 In spite of _____, fast food is still advertised on TV.
- 4 Although _____, fast food is still advertised on TV.
- 5 Overall, the Internet is relatively safe in spite of _____.
- 6 Although _____, the Internet is relatively safe overall.
- 7 Despite _____, in my opinion adult sentences are far too severe for youngsters.
- 8 In my opinion adult sentences are far too severe for youngsters even though _____.
- 9 Even though _____, learning a foreign language will never become obsolete.
- 10 Learning a foreign language will never become obsolete despite _____.

Complete the sentences with the correct linker from the box.

for instance	rather
for this reason	whereas
moreover	which is why

- 1 Young children are able to absorb information very easily, _____ it is sometimes argued that they are better language learners than adults.
- 2 TV exposes children to a lot of violence and adult content. _____, watching TV can easily become addictive and weaken children's interest in more creative activities.
- 3 Public libraries fulfil many different functions besides the lending of books. _____, they often host community activities and serve as a meeting place for people who share similar interests.
- 4 Privacy is both a basic human need and one of the basic human rights. _____, I believe that media intrusion into the private lives of politicians and celebrities should be condemned.
- 5 Our parliamentary representatives should not fear the media. _____, they should willingly be open to media scrutiny at all times.
- 6 It takes years of language learning to become a good interpreter, _____ computers can provide almost instant translation in several languages.

Relative Clauses: Exercises

1

Complete the sentences with a suitable relative pronoun. Add commas where necessary.

- 1 On average, children in the West only do sport twice a week _____ is not enough to counter the effects of their otherwise sedentary lifestyle.
- 2 Some people fear that the spread of English _____ is now the global lingua franca may result in the disappearance of many other languages.
- 3 Countries _____ rely on tourism as a source of income always suffer from the effects of a recession.
- 4 A large number of offenders _____ serve their first sentence turn to crime again as soon as they leave prison.
- 5 Children _____ have the opportunity to learn art at school might become more creative and imaginative adults than those _____ do not.
- 6 Young children _____ astonishing ability to absorb information seems universally recognised are not necessarily better at learning a foreign language than adults.
- 7 Social networking sites make it easy to create groups _____ enable people _____ share similar interests to meet and communicate.
- 8 The best way to deal with criminals _____ reoffend is to supervise them closely once they are back in society.
- 9 Job seekers _____ have an academic qualification can apply for more responsible roles.
- 10 Public sector doctors and teachers _____ provide indispensable services to society deserve to earn more than celebrities.

2

Identify the sentences in Exercise 1 which contain a defining relative clause.

3

Put the underlined relative pronoun in brackets wherever it can be left out.

- 1 Social media users now spend a considerable amount of time online with people who they have never met face to face and who they will probably never meet.
- 2 Children who have to work are robbed of what makes childhood unique and beautiful.
- 3 Social media users sometimes tend to forget that information and photos that they share with others can remain online forever.
- 4 Teenagers are not always aware that the strangers with whom they communicate online may not be trustworthy.
- 5 The practical experience that students gain when doing an internship can help them land a better job later.
- 6 Promotion opportunities can have a decisive influence on the career path which people choose.
- 7 One of the greatest joys that this world has to offer is the diversity of cultures.
- 8 Sometimes, tourists who visit historical or religious buildings behave inappropriately.
- 9 A modern transport infrastructure is essential in countries that depend on tourism for their economy.
- 10 The CV is the first impression that an employer has of a job applicant.

4

Tick the sentences that are grammatically correct and cross out the incorrect ones.

- 1 Assertiveness is a quality that can be learned through training and practice.
- 2 Assertiveness is a quality which can be learned through training and practice.
- 3 People used to believe that giftedness was a quality that you inherit.
- 4 People used to believe that giftedness was a quality which you inherit.
- 5 People used to believe that giftedness was a quality you inherit.
- 6 Film and football stars are the kind of celebrities whose teenagers often like to take as role model.

- 7** Film and football stars are the kind of celebrities which teenagers often like to take as role model.
- 8** Film and football stars are the kind of celebrities who teenagers often like to take as role model.
- 9** Film and football stars are the kind of celebrities whom teenagers often like to take as role model.
- 10** I do not believe that people have inborn qualities make them successful.
- 11** I do not believe that people have inborn qualities that make them successful.
- 12** I do not believe that people have inborn qualities which make them successful.

IELTS Liz

Word Order: Exercises

1

Identify and correct the four sentences in which there is a word order problem.

- 1 All the stress accumulated during the working day often makes it difficult to wind down at home.
- 2 Consumers need to understand how can buying fair trade products bring a better standard of living for poor people in developing countries.
- 3 Increasing tax on flights is not the best way to reduce air travel.
- 4 It is not difficult to understand why is industry experience a great asset when applying for a job.
- 5 Many people work eight hours a day for over 40 years and rightly expect to derive a feeling of fulfilment from their job.
- 6 Some academic programmes require that students do an internship or a work placement in order to graduate.
- 7 Teachers in country schools earn sometimes much less than their counterparts in the city.
- 8 The number of old people in a few years will exceed the number of young people.
- 9 Your income should enable you to cover all your basic needs, pay your bills and live in modest comfort.
- 10 The number of people entering any historical building should be strictly limited.

2

Rewrite the sentences, putting the missing or additional word or words in brackets in the correct place. Add any missing punctuation. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

- 1 Being able to express your feelings is very healthy. (*especially for teenagers*)
- 2 A number of countries have banned advertising targeted at young children. (*already*)
- 3 Teachers want to give a positive learning experience. (*their students*)
- 4 Unfortunately, schools often lack the resources that would help teachers deliver quality instruction. (*to their students*)

- 5 Even environmentally conscious people often waste a lot of water. (*at home*)
- 6 Young people will continue to leave the countryside unless a lot of new job opportunities are created in rural areas. (*exciting*)
- 7 Fierce competition and school demands cause many Japanese students to suffer from severe stress. (*teenage*)
- 8 Earning a good salary can help people create a stable life. (*which is not possible for many*)
- 9 Some people still fail to understand why old buildings be protected. (*should*)
- 10 Tourists often need to be told explicitly how they behave when visiting a foreign country. (*should*)

3

Put the words and phrases in the correct order to make sentences.

Remember to capitalise the first word and to add a full stop at the end of each sentence.

- 1 why / our climate / scientists / explain / can / so rapidly / changing / hardly / is
- 2 to eradicate / not / in the long term / an effective way / is / poverty / charity
- 3 vastly overrated / long prison sentences / in my opinion, / is / of / the deterrent effect
- 4 with a medium / art / can express / children / provides / their emotions / they / through which
- 5 not / a lot of grown-ups / can / do / how / on the Internet / so much time / spend / teenagers / understand
- 6 that / are / by / influenced / it is obvious / technological developments / traditional cultures
- 7 almost one fifth / extreme poverty / firstly, / live / of / of / still / the world's population / under conditions
- 8 mobile phones or laptops / the children / families / how to / their parents / there are / teach / use / where
- 9 responsible / mature / for / are not / their own development / to be / usually / young adolescents / enough
- 10 identified/ treated / earlier on / more effectively / a large number of diseases / are / can be / if they

Tenses: Exercises

1

1 Underline the correct form in *italics*.

- 1 An increasing number of tourists *visit* / *visits* sites where catastrophes occurred.
- 2 Many people *are agreeing* / *agree* that travelling with friends *reduces* / *reduce* safety concerns.
- 3 Teachers working in rural schools *are* / *is* more likely to experience burnout than their counterparts in cities.
- 4 Working in rural schools *are* / *is* rightly regarded as being considerably more challenging than working in urban ones.
- 5 Reusing plastic bottles *is* / *are* not very hygienic, unless of course the bottles *are* / *is* thoroughly cleaned between uses.
- 6 It *is being* / *is* often said that increasing taxes *discourages* / *discourage* investment and expansion.
- 7 An increase in entry fees at popular national parks *are* / *is* unlikely to boost tourism.
- 8 Not everybody *understands* / *understand* how reusing plastic bags *do* / *does* any good at all.
- 9 Contrary to popular belief, most news *does not involve* / *do not involve* celebrities or catastrophes.
- 10 A huge amount of information *are* / *is* available on the Internet, but unfortunately not all sources *are* / *is* reliable.

2

Complete the sentences with the correct Present Simple form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 Visiting national parks is a great form of tourism and should be promoted, as long as the growing number of visitors _____ the animals that _____ there. (*not/adversely/impact* // *live*)
- 2 A large number of people _____ that education in single-sex schools _____ more beneficial to students. (*agree* // *be*)

- 3 There _____ no conclusive evidence that paying employees higher salaries _____ their loyalty. (*be // ensure*)
- 4 Fierce competition for jobs _____ that graduates really _____ to stand out when applying for a job. (*mean // need*)
- 5 Maintaining friendly relationships with colleagues _____ people improve their work-life balance. (*help*)
- 6 In some countries, non-compliance with traditional cultural practices _____ __ punishable by law. (*be*)
- 7 Most news _____ people sad. (*make*)
- 8 Students who _____ the advice of a career counsellor _____ to be more successful than those who do not. (*heed // tend*)
- 9 Most people actually _____ that the police _____ a very good job. (*believe // do*)
- 10 Small fish _____ fewer contaminants than big fish like tuna. (*accumulate*)

3

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets, Present Continuous or Present Simple.

- 1 The population of the world _____ very fast. (*rise*)
- 2 I _____ that wars _____ problems. (*firmly/believe // not/solve*)
- 3 More people than ever before _____ their DNA analysed to discover their ethnic heritage. (*have*)
- 4 In general, people _____ so that their children can have a brighter future. (*emigrate*)
- 5 It is often said that we should act according to what we _____ to be right. (*consider*)
- 6 Most sociologists _____ that official crime statistics _____ the true level of criminal behaviour. (*agree // not/accurately/reflect*)
- 7 Polar bears are now an endangered species because the ice caps _____. (*melt*)
- 8 People _____ the Internet to find answers to questions and to find the products and services they _____. (*search // need*)

- 9 One of the reasons why society _____ increasingly fragmented is that people spend more and more time online. (*become*)
- 10 Before applying for a job, people should make sure their skills and experience _____ what the company _____. (*match // look for*)

4

Underline the most suitable form in *italics*.

- 1 Newspapers *continued* / *have continued* to decline after the advent of the Internet.
- 2 I believe that people *have felt* / *felt* less lonely when family ties *were* / *have been* stronger.
- 3 Technology *has altered* / *altered* the way people interact with each other.
- 4 In my opinion, globalisation *resulted* / *has resulted* in the loss of local traditions.
- 5 Our grandparents *did not expect* / *have not expected* as much out of life as we do today.
- 6 Internet addiction *was* / *has been* recognised as a mental disorder for several years.
- 7 Research *has shown* / *showed* that the adult brain still produces new cells and forms new neural connections.
- 8 Before the discovery of penicillin, bacterial infections *accounted* / *have accounted* for a large proportion of deaths.
- 9 Since Armstrong and Aldrin *have walked* / *walked* on the moon in 1969, man's ambition for space exploration *reached* / *has reached* new heights.
- 10 Facebook, which *was* / *has been* launched over a decade ago, *had* / *has had* and continues to have a dramatic effect on local communities.

5

Put the verbs in brackets into the most suitable form, Present Perfect or Past Simple.

- 1 The gap between old and young _____ due to technology. (*widen*)
- 2 Many people _____ trust in the business world since the global financial crisis that _____ in 2008. (*lose // break out*)
- 3 Text messaging _____ the preferred mode of communication for teens. (*become*)

- 4 A low standard of living meant people _____ a long lifespan.
(*not/enjoy*)
- 5 It is obvious that social networking sites _____ individuals closer together. (*bring*)
- 6 Deforestation in the Amazon _____ many years ago, but it _____ unprecedented levels. (*begin // now/reach*)
- 7 Some women choose to delay having children until they _____ the career ladder. (*climb*)
- 8 Once they _____ released from prison, many first-time offenders turn to crime again. (*be*)
- 9 Today, we even find it hard to imagine how people _____ their free time before the Internet. (*spend*)
- 10 One of the greatest teachers I _____ was when I _____ a degree course in Project Management. (*ever/have // take*)

6

Underline the correct options in *italics*.

- 1 This time next year, millions of people *will be following* / *going to follow* the Olympics on TV.
- 2 The Internet *has made* / *was making* e-books readily accessible, so students *will not have* / *do not have* to carry heavy books around all the time.
- 3 Sometimes we *are forgetting* / *forget* that before computers and the Internet, people *were already spending* / *had already spent* a lot of time in various social networks.
- 4 Most Westerners *agree* / *have agreed* that people in developing countries *had been* / *are* happier and enjoy stronger family connections than those in developed countries.
- 5 Many more species *have been disappearing* / *will have disappeared* before all nations finally *cooperate* / *will cooperate* to tackle global warming.
- 6 Many families *are choosing* / *are going to choose* to buy ready meals, and this *was causing* / *is causing* a number of health problems such as obesity.
- 7 Living away from home *helps* / *helping* university students develop useful life skills needed for when they *will enter* / *enter* working life.
- 8 For quite some time now, hundreds of NGOs *were trying* / *have been trying* to raise public awareness of the harmful effects of fossil fuels.

- 9 Considering the speed at which Antarctic ice *has melted / is melting*, ocean levels *will rise / are going to rise* considerably.
- 10 Many of the medicines we *buy / have bought* today were created by Western chemists, but the active ingredients of those drugs *had been used / are being used* for centuries by the native populations of Asia and the Americas before colonisation.

7

Correct the mistake in each of these sentences.

- 1 Many motorists are going over the speed limit when driving their cars in urban areas.
- 2 It is highly likely that young criminals reoffend again as soon as they have served their sentence and left prison.
- 3 There did not used to be as many dysfunctional families fifty years ago as there are today.
- 4 Since the dawn of time, change is considered unsafe.
- 5 In my opinion, extra-curricular activities should not be compulsory because students were already overloaded with homework.
- 6 Plastic pollution is bound to decrease when single-use plastic bags will be banned.
- 7 Apparently, the polar ice caps melted faster over the last two decades than over the last ten thousand years.
- 8 It seems that GM foods gradually becoming a part of our everyday diet.
- 9 Many more people buy fast foods today than ever before.
- 10 Before the 21st century, nobody ever heard of 'fake news' or 'alternative facts'.
- 11 Parents read stories to children for centuries and used the stories to teach them universal human values.
- 12 Reading aloud to children stimulate the imagination and the acquisition of literacy skills.
- 13 In 1969, some people did not believe that Armstrong and Aldrin have actually set foot on the moon.
- 14 In many parts of the world, discrimination against women is gradually decreased.

- 15** We like to think that all our ideas are our own, and we forget how much our parents' and teachers' beliefs and values were influencing us for many years during our childhood.

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Conditional Statements: Exercises

1

1 Underline the correct options.

- 1 If people *will not* / *do not* have children, they *will* / *would* lack support in old age.
- 2 Children *would* / *might* feel abandoned if their parents *do not* / *will not* spend enough time with them.
- 3 Health food *would be* / *will be* more popular if it *was* / *would be* more affordable.
- 4 If children and grandparents *spend* / *spent* more time together, they *can enjoy* / *had enjoyed* a closer relationship.
- 5 If fast foods *did not get* / *have not got* so much publicity, more people *would* / *will* continue to cook traditional dishes.
- 6 Forests *would not* / *did not* have to be razed to grow plants to feed industrially reared cattle if we *reduce* / *reduced* our consumption of meat.
- 7 If governments *listened* / *had listened* to climate experts sooner, global warming *will be* / *could have been* reduced.
- 8 Fewer people *will* / *would* dislike walking if our cities *might be* / *had been* planned with pedestrians in mind.
- 9 Unless the public transport system *is* / *would be* improved, most people *would* / *will* continue to drive to work.
- 10 Social networking sites *would not* / *will not* lose their appeal provided that they *do not pose* / *had not posed* a risk to users' privacy.

2

In most of the sentences 1- 10 there is one extra word which does not fit. Some sentences, however, are correct.

If a sentence is correct, put a tick (✓) next to it. If there is an unnecessary word in the sentence, cross it out.

- 1 If more money was spent on sports facilities, the number of people engaging in sport would increase.
- 2 Stricter environmental laws will not stop plastic pollution unless if individuals agree to cooperate.

- 3 Children might become more adequate members of society if they could acquired team spirit through learning team sports.
- 4 If governments spent less money on armament and space exploration, they would be able to eradicate or at least reduce world poverty.
- 5 Countries benefit from hosting international sports competitions providing so that the events are well organise.
- 6 Libraries will be able to attract more users unless they will offer free Internet access.
- 7 Pollution and global warming will not decrease so long as a suitable alternative to fossil fuels is found.
- 8 If parents and children will spend increasingly more time online, the generation gap is bound to keep widening.
- 9 Social networking sites would not have become so popular if people did not have an inherent need to communicate and share stories.
- 10 Unless more stringent laws to curb the felling of trees are not adopted soon, deforestation will soon turn into a global disaster.

3

Complete the conditional sentence in each pair so that its meaning is similar to the meaning of the initial sentence. Use one to four words each time.

- 1 Medicines are tested on animals. This way, scientists know that they are safe for human use.

If medicines were _____ on animals, scientists _____ whether they are safe for human use.

- 2 Deforestation should be brought under control because an increasing number of species are facing extinction.

An increasing number of species will _____ extinction unless deforestation _____ under control.

- 3 One problem with sports sponsorship is that an unsuccessful team or athlete means there is a possibility of lower sales for the sponsoring company.

One problem for companies which sponsor sports is that if the team or athlete _____ successful, sales _____ decrease.

- 4 Children pester their parents to buy junk food because they are easily influenced by TV commercials.

If children _____ easily influenced by TV commercials, they would _____ their parents to buy junk food.

- 5 Global companies have taken over the high street. That is why so many local shops closed down.

Fewer local shops _____ down if global companies _____ the high street.

- 6 Offering promotion opportunities guarantees employee motivation.

As long as employees _____ promotion opportunities, they _____ feel motivated.

- 7 Thorough preparation is essential before a job interview. It definitely increases your chances of success.

If you _____ thoroughly before a job interview, your chances of success _____ definitely increase.

- 8 The absence of positive role models means young people cannot live with hope and integrity.

Unless they _____ positive role models, young people will _____ to live with hope and integrity.

- 9 It is a pity that equal distribution of global wealth is only a dream because it means the gap between rich and poor is here to stay.

If the distribution of global wealth _____ unequal, the gap between rich and poor _____ disappear.

- 10 People had to have more children in the past because the infant mortality rate was very high.

If the infant mortality rate _____ lower, people _____ to have so many children.

Modals: Exercises

1

Match each sentence (1 – 10) with the corresponding meaning (a – j) of the modal form.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| a) Certainty. | f) No necessity. |
| b) Uncertainty. | g) Near certainty that something was the case. |
| c) Ability. | h) Near certainty that something was not the case. |
| d) Past ability. | i) Criticising someone for not doing something in the past. |
| e) Future permission. | j) Criticising someone for a past action. |

- 1 According to the new law, university students will be allowed to take up part-time employment.
- 2 Apparently, our ancestors were able to use and control fire more than a million years ago.
- 3 Employees who work from home do not have to spend hours commuting every day.
- 4 If good physical health and a feeling of safety are essential to happiness, our grandparents cannot have been happier than we are.
- 5 Maglev trains can travel at a speed of over 400 kilometres per hour.
- 6 Medical scientists ought not to have waited so long to try to find a cure for HIV.
- 7 Over the next decades, more species will become extinct.
- 8 Previous governments should have taken the necessary measures to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.
- 9 Scientists might find ways to lessen the devastating effects of global warming.
- 10 Seeing Spanish conquistadors must have been a terrifying experience for the indigenous peoples of Central and South America.

Correct the mistake in each of the sentences below.

Type of mistake:			How to correct it:
✗	=	Unnecessary word	Cross out the unnecessary word.
✓	=	Word missing	Insert the missing word at the right place.
W.w.	=	Wrong word / Wrong form of the word	Provide the correct word(s) / form of the word.
W.o.	=	Word order	Provide the correct word order.

- 1 Governments must to commit themselves to tackling global warming without further delay. (✗)
- 2 It is a fact that poor countries would like to can help themselves rather than depend on international aid. (W.w.)
- 3 You always should draw up a list of priorities if you want to manage your time more efficiently. (W.o.)
- 4 Very large groups of tourists should do not be allowed into historical buildings. (✗)
- 5 Nations often unite to fight for freedom. For example, in 1989 the Germans could take down the Berlin Wall, a symbol of oppression and division. (W.w.)
- 6 A good number of companies have abolished their dress code, so employees must not wear formal clothes even in board meetings. (W.w.)
- 7 There is no guarantee that world powers will able to prevent another economic crisis. (✓)
- 8 Children who watch television more than one hour per day are more likely get obese. (✓)
- 9 In my opinion, the World Bank could has done a lot more to eliminate poverty. (W.w.)
- 10 Criminals would not to reoffend if there were more rehabilitation programmes. (✗)

Choose the correct option.

- 1 Governments _ _ _ _ a smoking ban in all public places many years ago, but instead they only did it recently.
- a) could have imposed
 - b) would impose
 - c) must have imposed
- 2 Talent sometimes manifests itself early. For example, it is said that at the age of five the great Lionel Messi _ _ _ _ play football much better than older children.
- a) could
 - b) must have
 - c) were able to
- 3 The future of polar bears is in the balance and they _ _ _ _ become within a few decades.
- a) must
 - b) have to
 - c) could
- 4 Some people use to believe nuclear energy was clean and safe, which is why they _ _ _ _ anticipated disasters such as Chernobyl and Fukushima.
- a) could not have
 - b) were not able to
 - c) must not have
- 5 Columbus did not discover the Indies, but he _ _ _ _ turn this apparent failure into a success.
- a) might have
 - b) was able to
 - c) could

Complete the second sentence in each pair so that it means the same as the first one.

You must use a modal form in each answer, and you can use up to five words altogether. Sometimes there may be more than one correct answer.

1 In some countries, the school-leaving age is 18.

In some countries, children _____ attend school until the age of 18.

2 As the economic situation worsens, unemployment is bound to increase.

As the economic situation worsens, unemployment _____ definitely increase.

3 It is not always necessary to have work experience when you apply for a job, but it certainly helps if you do.

You _____ to have work experience when you apply for a job, but it certainly helps if you do.

4 The possibility of a new global financial crash worries many people.

Many people are worried that a new global financial crash _____ occur.

5 As the population increases, so does the demand for food. Therefore, food shortages are inevitable.

The population increase and the ensuing rise in demand for food _____ inevitably lead to food shortages.

6 I believe it would be a good idea to take away the licence of anyone who drinks and drives.

In my opinion, all drink-drivers _____ have their licence revoked.

7 Perhaps international aid causes dependency on rich countries.

International aid _____ cause dependency on rich countries.

8 It would not be possible for children to enjoy their childhood if they had to work.

Children _____ to enjoy their childhood if they had to work.

9 Climate change is the most crucial issue currently facing the world. It is therefore a great pity that not all countries signed the Kyoto Protocol.

Climate change being the most crucial issue currently facing the world, all countries _____ the Kyoto Protocol.

10 It is almost certain that our great-grandparents held very different social and ethical values from those we have today.

Our great-grandparents _ _ _ _ _ very different social and ethical values from those we have today.

- 11** In some countries, no one under the age of 21 is allowed to get married without their parents' permission.

In some countries, anyone under the age of 21 _ _ _ _ _ their parents' permission if they want to get married.

- 12** Nobody wants their children to live in fear of a possible World War III.

Nobody wants their children to fear that another world war _ _ _ _ _ break out.

IELTS Liz

Passive Voice: Exercises

1

Correct the mistake in each of the sentences below.

Type of mistake:	How to correct it:
✗ = Unnecessary word	Cross out the unnecessary word.
✓ = Word missing	Insert the missing word at the right place.
Gr. = Grammar	Provide the correct form of the word.

- 1 With more speed cameras on major streets, more people who speed will caught. (✓)
- 2 Maintaining local languages and cultures should have be prioritised to ensure a rich world heritage for future generations. (✗)
- 3 Parents should being contacted immediately if their child misbehaves at school. (Gr.)
- 4 Students need to be inspire by their teachers. (Gr.)
- 5 The world of science has often depicted as a man's world. (Gr.)
- 6 Taxes on wealth could to be used to fund universal health care. (✗)
- 7 Most first-time offenders commit crimes again once they have released from prison. (✓)
- 8 Discrimination can easily be avoiding if schoolchildren wear a uniform. (Gr.)
- 9 At present, governments are be fiercely criticised for their failure to deal with the issue of global warming. (Gr.)
- 10 Unfortunately, an efficient way of recycling plastic was not been found yet. (Gr.)

2

Rewrite the sentences with a passive verb form. Whenever possible, do not mention who performed the action.

- 1 People can find happiness through job satisfaction as well as family.

- 2 Social networking sites such as Facebook have brought people closer together.

3 In my opinion, you cannot assess a child's potential in an examination.

4 Schools should not teach art at the expense of other subjects such as maths or foreign languages.

5 Deforestation is threatening many animal species with extinction.

6 People created the United Nations to promote peace and cooperation.

7 The authorities should ban all motor vehicles from the city centre.

8 Very recently, some charitable landlords have offered flats to homeless people.

9 Let's hope that very soon people will no longer use plastic bags.

10 People all over the world are using English as a lingua franca.

3

Choose the correct alternative (a, b or c) to complete this excerpt from an IELTS essay.

Although technology (1) _____ a significant contribution to education, the value of traditional ways of teaching (2) _____. Myriads of facts and figures (3) _____ online, but it is only during face-to-face interaction with peers and teachers that meaningful questions (4) _____ and information critically evaluated. Such information processing (5) _____ memory and, more crucially, promotes deeper understanding.

The image of a university lecturer reading out loud from a textbook while desperate students (6) _____ to jot everything down is only a gross caricature. Countless methods (7) _____ to make lectures more appealing and interactive, and there is

no doubt that good lecturers (8) _ _ _ _ use of them efficiently in combination with more modern resources such as PowerPoint presentations and online materials.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| (1) a) was made | (5) a) aids |
| b) has made | b) is aided |
| c) has been made | c) been aided |
| (2) a) should not be underestimated | (6) a) will be tried |
| b) were underestimated | b) are trying |
| c) is being underestimated | c) have been tried |
| (3) a) have found | (7) a) devise |
| b) will find | b) need to be devising |
| c) can be found | c) have been devised |
| (4) a) will be asking | (8) a) will be made |
| b) have been asked | b) will make |
| c) can be asked | c) are made |

4

Rewrite these sentences expressing general opinions using one or the other of the models given.

a) *Many more animal species are expected to become extinct over the next decades.*

=

b) *It is expected that many more animal species will become extinct over the next decades.*

- 1 a)
- b) It is widely believed that the use of children's favourite cartoon characters in advertisements exerts a negative influence on children.
- 2 a) Children are generally thought to be much more easily influenced by commercials than adults.
- b)

- 3 a)
.....
- b) It is often said that local communities are losing their uniqueness because of the proliferation of global businesses.
- 4 a) Although qualifications are assumed to be paramount, they often make a lesser impression on employers than experience.
- b)
.....
- 5 a)
.....
- b) Owing to the effects of global warming, it is predicted that Arctic sea ice will continue melting.

IELTS Liz

Verb Patterns: Exercises

1

Underline the correct option in *italics*.

- 1 A number of leaders have claimed *that climate change is* / *climate change being* a hoax.
- 2 Good teachers never forget *to put* / *putting* themselves in their students' shoes.
- 3 I firmly believe it is morally wrong to let animals *to suffer* / *suffer* in cages.
- 4 In an election campaign, candidates routinely promise *citizens* / *to citizens* that things will get better.
- 5 In my opinion, young children should not be allowed *to watch* / *that they watch* violent films.
- 6 Large corporations can no longer avoid *to deal* / *dealing* with social issues.
- 7 Local people expect tourists *to behave* / *that they behave* decently.
- 8 Most adults remember *to be* / *being* punished or scolded at school.
- 9 Parents should attempt *to instill* / *instilling* values such as selflessness and generosity in their children.
- 10 Understandably, young graduates would prefer *to find* / *finding* a job that matches their qualifications.

2

Paraphrase these sentences using an *-ing* clause instead of the reporting clause.

- 1 We can no longer deny that we have wasted a lot of natural resources.
We can no longer deny _____ a lot of natural resources
- 2 Several scientists have already admitted that they do not know how to solve the problem of global warming.
Several scientists have already admitted _____ how to solve the problem of global warming.
- 3 People find it hard to imagine that they will have to buy bottled drinking water.
People find it hard to imagine _____ bottled drinking water.

4 Juvenile delinquents often recall that they were treated badly when they were at home or at school.

Juvenile delinquents often recall _____ badly when they were at home or at school.

5 Even people who know each other well rarely mention that they take all sorts of dietary supplements and vitamins.

Even people who know each other well rarely _____ all sorts of dietary supplements and vitamins.

6 As a simple way of reducing our carbon footprint, I suggest that we cut down on air travel.

As a simple way of reducing our carbon footprint, I suggest _____ on air travel.

3

Complete these sentences with the *-ing* form of the *to*-infinitive of the verbs from the box.

be deal endanger lose meet play reduce show stop
work

1 All children should have the opportunity to practise _____ a musical instrument.

2 Elderly people generally resent _____ dependent on others.

3 It is often believed that short prison sentences fail _____ offenders from returning to a life of crime.

4 Ministerial candidates often pretend _____ interest in ordinary people.

5 People who go on a strict slimming diet often risk _____ their health.

6 Several countries have signed an agreement which aims _____ carbon emissions.

7 The war on fake news and propaganda is one that democracies cannot afford _____.

8 Tourists often expect _____ local people.

9 Unfortunately, too few young teachers enjoy _____ in rural areas.

10 World leaders should not delay _____ with the current environmental problems.

4

Paraphrase these sentences replacing the underlined noun phrase with an *-ing* clause as the object of the verb.

- 1 The introduction of new technology in the workplace sometimes involves the dismissal of many employees.

The introduction of new technology in the workplace sometimes involves _____.

- 2 Several countries are considering a ban on e-cigarettes in public places.

Several countries are considering _____ in public places.

- 3 Many people do not mind long hours of work as long as they get proper recognition for their effort.

Many people do not mind _____ as long as they get proper recognition for their effort.

- 4 Great moral leaders such as Nelson Mandela never give up the fight for human rights and dignity.

Great moral leaders such as Nelson Mandela never give up _____.

- 5 Both young and elderly people should carry on with their struggle for a fairer and more equal society.

Both young and elderly people should carry on _____.

- 6 As the economy might go into recession, young graduates should not postpone the search for a worthwhile job.

As the economy might go into recession, young graduates should not postpone _____.

5

Complete these sentences with *being* or *to be*.

- 1 A person should work hard because they enjoy what they do, not because they hope _____ given a raise or a promotion.

- 2 Couples may decide _____ childfree for a host of different reasons.

- 3 Historic buildings deserve _____ cared for and protected.
- 4 I do not think it is wise to shirk one's responsibilities and put off _____ an adult.
- 5 If a student keeps on _____ late for school, there is usually a problem at home.
- 6 Most people need moments of solitude, but nobody fancies _____ lonely.
- 7 Overseas students often miss _____ with their families on festive occasions.
- 8 Some companies that promise _____ ethical only do so because they think it may win them more customers.
- 9 Some people manage _____ happy despite a life full of adversity and sorrow.
- 10 When you travel in unsafe areas, it is a good idea to arrange _____ picked up and dropped off close to your hotel.

6

IELTS Liz

Complete the second sentence in each pair so that it expresses the same idea as the first in a more tentative way. You only need two, three or four words each time.

- 1 Many large cities have a crime problem.
Many large cities seem _____ a crime problem
- 2 Air pollution is getting worse.
Air pollution seems _____ worse.
- 3 Vegetarianism has become a fashion.
Vegetarianism seems _____ a fashion.
- 4 Governments have not listened to the advice of climate experts.
Governments appear _____ to the advice of climate experts.
- 5 Knife crime is increasing among inner-city teenagers.
Knife crime appears _____ among inner-city teenagers.
- 6 Social media's plans to tackle fake news have not had much effect.
Social media's plans to tackle fake news appear _____ much effect.

7 Many governments neglect the issue of poverty.

Many governments tend _____ the issue of poverty.

8 Although we live in a more inclusive society, employers do not hire people with a mental illness or disability.

Although we live in a more inclusive society, employers _____ people with a mental illness or disability.

IELTS Liz

Articles: *a / an / the*: Exercises

1

Underline the correct articles.

- 1 There is often *a / the* decline in *a / the* birth rate when standards of living increase.
- 2 People need to be aware of *an / the* amount of energy they use in their homes.
- 3 With *a / the* growth of urban populations, land is becoming increasingly expensive.
- 4 As *a / the* number of cars rises, so too does *a / the* demand for more fossil fuels.
- 5 We should press *a / the* government to improve *an / the* efficiency of public transport.
- 6 Practical industry experience is generally considered *an / the* asset when applying for *a / the* job.
- 7 Financial aid to poor countries rarely has *a / the* long-term impact and may create *a / the* dependency on aid.
- 8 Over *a / the* past 50 years, there has been *a / the* huge increase in *a / the* number of people owning *a / the* private car.
- 9 Younger adolescents need *a / the* broad range of subjects to help them develop, but at *a / the* age of 18, this is no longer *a / the* case.
- 10 When *a / the* fire breaks out in *a / the* high-rise, *a / the* people who live on *a / the* top floors may easily become trapped and may be unable to escape *a / the* fire.

2

Complete the sentences with *a*, *an* or $\emptyset$ (no article).

- 1 Most people will say that _____ health is the most important thing in _____ life.
- 2 I firmly believe that _____ exercise is essential to keep fit and have _____ alert mind.
- 3 Starting to work at _____ early age prepares you more adequately for _____ adult life.
- 4 Respecting the traditions and customs of the country you are visiting is _____ sign of _____ respect.

- 5 If _____ young people want to start _____ home of their own, they need to earn _____ reasonably good salary.
- 6 Having _____ booming tourist trade can have _____ catastrophic effect on the environment by increasing _____ pollution.
- 7 Travelling on one's own is _____ excellent opportunity to improve one's self-knowledge and to develop as _____ person.
- 8 It is _____ well-known fact that actors and pop stars exert _____ huge impact on the fashion industry.
- 9 For teenagers, _____ clothing is often _____ way to identify others who share their values and beliefs.
- 10 The popularity of _____ online shopping has been caused by _____ number of _____ factors such as _____ price and convenience.

3

Read this excerpt from an IELTS essay and cross out the five articles (*a, an or the*) which are unnecessary/wrong.

We all know wealthy people who live a life of misery. On the other hand, we also know people who can barely afford the basic necessities of a life and yet seem utterly content with their lot. Surely this is proof that there is more to a personal fulfilment than the money?

People who walk a more spiritual path manage to find happiness partly by controlling the urge to possess material things. Indeed, if you have no craving for anything, you do not run the risk of being disappointed if you never get it. Such people have learnt to live in the present and to value every single moment. To them, every new day promises a new adventure, filled with the opportunities to express love and compassion, to revel in the beauty of the nature, and to experience the happiness of making another fellow human being happy.

4

4 In most of the sentences 1- 10 there is a mistake with an article (*a, an or the*). Some sentences, however, are correct.

- If a sentence is correct, put a tick (✓) next to it.
- If there is an unnecessary article in the sentence, cross it out (✕).
- If an article is missing, insert (✓) it at the right place.

- 1 Many newspapers are struggling for a survival.
- 2 A balanced vegetarian diet greatly reduces risk of heart disease.
- 3 In the end, it is up to each individual to follow or ignore their doctor's advice.
- 4 In a good number of countries, the music industry plays significant role in the economy.
- 5 People prefer health foods to foods that have been scientifically produced in the laboratories.
- 6 It is less harmful for a child to grow up in single parent family than in a dysfunctional one.
- 7 Online learning enables students to take breaks in their study schedule whenever they want.
- 8 I do not think it is a good idea for the teachers to discipline disruptive students in front of others as an example.
- 9 In the past, elderly parents were more dependent on their children because of the lack of a social benefits.
- 10 In the developed world, only the lucky few have the chance to eat what they can grow themselves.

5

5 Complete the sentences with *a, an, the* or $\emptyset$ (no article).

- 1 In my opinion, _____ only way to save our planet is to stop using _____ plastic bags.
- 2 It is becoming increasingly common to have _____ year off before starting _____ university.
- 3 With _____ growth of _____ urban populations, _____ land is becoming increasingly expensive.

- 4 'Younger is better' is one of _____ main subliminal messages conveyed through _____ advertising.
- 5 Over _____ last few decades, _____ rise in _____ personal debt has risen dramatically.
- 6 Very often, _____ child psychologists study _____ artwork of _____ children to gain _____ insight into their inner world.
- 7 _____ increasing number of _____ people believe that _____ student's ability should not be assessed through _____ exams.
- 8 In our cities, _____ environmental problems are mainly _____ result of _____ development of _____ modern transportation.
- 9 It is sometimes believed that _____ children no longer read _____ books, but instead spend all their leisure time on _____ social networking sites such as _____ Facebook.
- 10 Some people believe that _____ problem with _____ education in _____ poor countries is _____ teaching methodology used, but in _____ fact it is often _____ lack of _____ resources which is _____ real issue.

IELTS Liz

Pronouns and Referencing Exercises

1

Complete the sentences with *it*, *they* or *there*.

- Obviously, _____ are some disadvantages to having only one global language. Firstly, _____ is highly likely that many other languages would disappear.
- In my opinion, _____ would be beneficial for the world economy if all nations spoke the same language. To begin with, _____ would no longer be any communication barriers.
- In many ways, all cultures are unique. _____ offer diversity as well as different perspectives on the world we live in. _____ is a real risk that all this would be lost if _____ was only one global language.
- _____ is too risky for countries to rely exclusively on tourism as a source of income. _____ would be devastated if ever _____ was a sudden decline in global travel.

2

Complete the sentences with a suitable reference word.

- Taking regular exercise benefits one's health in many different ways. For example, _____ has been shown to reduce the risk of heart disease and obesity.
- In order to be successful in a job interview, one has to prepare _____ carefully beforehand.
- Good lecturers are in pure lecture mode only some of the time. At other times, _____ use other techniques such as small group discussions and PowerPoint presentations.
- Students who interact face-to-face with their peers and their teachers can process the information they receive in a variety of ways, through discussion and question-and-answer sessions. _____ processing is an invaluable aid not only to memory but also to deeper understanding.
- In many parts of the world, there seems to be a tendency for people to want to look younger than they actually are. _____ seems to be the case particularly, though not exclusively, for adult females.

3

Complete this essay paragraph with the five correct pronouns or determiners from the box.

it others their them there these this your
yourself

Some people look into their family history in order to discover any common trends with family members of a previous generation. (1) _____ tends to be the case with people who have special skills in uncommon fields. As some skills are hereditary, (2) _____ can be interesting for people to learn how many (3) _____ in (4) _____ family shared (5) _____ talents from previous generations.

4

Correct the six mistakes with pronouns and determiners in this essay paragraph.

Another reason for the popularity of finding out about one's family history is often due to curiosity about his or her geographical origins. It is to say, some families moved abroad, away from there own country, generations ago, that resulted in them losing their original culture and adopting the culture of the country he or she moved to. Therefore, through research, people can learn more about their country of origin and understand more about the culture that your family originally came from.

5

The following essay paragraphs are almost unreadable because of the amount of repetition they contain. Rewrite them using proper referencing.

A.

Plastic bags made of polyethylene have become normal household items because of the wonderful versatility of polyethylene bags. Polyethylene bags are lightweight, sturdy and generally extremely convenient to use. The fact that polyethylene bags

are lightweight, sturdy and generally extremely convenient to use has made polyethylene bags very popular with shoppers all over the world.

B.

A substantial number of delinquents who serve their first prison sentence tend to reoffend soon after they have left prison. So many delinquents reoffend soon after leaving prison because they cannot find a job and consequently are unable to support themselves financially. The issue of delinquents being unable to find employment could be resolved if delinquents had more opportunities to attend rehabilitation and training programmes while in prison. Rehabilitation and training programmes would enable delinquents to acquire specific skill sets. In turn, the specific skill sets acquired during rehabilitation and training would ensure that delinquents can reintegrate back into society more easily once they have served their sentence.

IELTS Liz

Quantifiers: Exercises

1

Underline the correct word in *italics*.

- 1 Owing to high taxation, *very many* / *a lot* small businesses find it difficult to survive.
- 2 In my opinion, employers should assume *any* / *some* responsibility for the health of their staff.
- 3 Company uniforms may be good advertising, but *not all* / *some* employees like wearing them.
- 4 *Too many* / *Plenty* advertisements encourage children to eat junk food.
- 5 Not having *some of* / *enough* practical experience is a serious handicap when applying for a job.
- 6 *Most* / *More*, though by no means *any* / *all*, major human epidemics seem to come from the use of animals for food.
- 7 *Any of* / *Much of* the entertainment we consume every day does not demand *any* / *some* intelligence.
- 8 Watching a good comedy show can offer *any* / *some* comfort when you are sad or under stress.
- 9 If *everybody* / *anybody* spoke the same language, countries would lose *much* / *many* of their uniqueness.
- 10 Not *more* / *all* countries have *enough* / *any* qualified language teachers.

2

Complete the sentences with *both* / *either* / *neither* / *all* / *none* as appropriate. Use each of these quantifiers twice.

- 1 _____ violent films affect our thinking and our emotions much more than we realise.
- 2 We all like nature, but _____ of us seems to genuinely care for the environment.
- 3 If _____ of the children who spend two or more hours online every day started exercising, obesity might decline.

- 4 Children in households where _____ parent works are of course much more likely to be in poverty.
- 5 Even in households where _____ the father and the mother work full-time, it is the mother who is responsible for most of the child care.
- 6 Nobody knows what the future holds for radio and newspapers, but there is a risk that _____ of these media will disappear unless they adapt.
- 7 Radio and newspapers are becoming less popular because _____ of these media manages to adapt adequately to the Internet era.
- 8 Although newspapers, TV and the Internet have become part of our everyday life, _____ of these media has brought about a real cultural revolution.
- 9 Music lovers often have a laptop or a smartphone at hand as _____ device can be used to listen to music online.
- 10 I believe it would also be beneficial to teach yoga or meditation at school, as _____ of these activities could improve students' motivation and concentration.

3

Complete the sentences with the correct Present Simple form of the verb to be.

- 1 None of us _____ exempt from suffering and life's hardships.
- 2 Sometimes it seems that all the news we get _____ bad news.
- 3 Good teachers know that each of their students _____ an individual learner with specific skills and interests.
- 4 Every student _____ entitled to be recognized for their efforts as well as for their achievements.
- 5 A large number of tourists _____ attracted to places that are associated with famous historical figures.
- 6 When they are having an argument, some people start shouting, while some others just keep silent. Unfortunately, neither method _____ effective in resolving a disagreement.
- 7 In my opinion, both Biology and History _____ interesting to learn.
- 8 Almost every city _____ experiencing a traffic problem.
- 9 Not every tourist _____ interested in learning about local customs and traditions.
- 10 When politicians become untrustworthy, people abstain from voting or vote for someone they do not have much confidence in. Either course of action _____ unlikely to foster democracy.

In all of the sentences 1 - 10 there is a mistake in the use of quantifiers. There is either an unnecessary word or a missing word.

- If there is an unnecessary word in the sentence, cross that word out (✕).
- If a word is missing, insert it in the right place (✓).

- 1 After secondary school, a lot of young people dream of going to university or finding an interesting job, but for many of them either of option is simply impossible.
- 2 As all good teachers know, every of student in a class has some hidden talent.
- 3 Every year, great number of graduates are unable to find jobs.
- 4 For a good number of years, the United States and China have been economic superpowers, and the both countries have been vying for supremacy.
- 5 In many countries, large amount of waste from landfills and dumpsites flows into the rivers or into the sea.
- 6 In order to make sense of the present, I believe we need to have little understanding of the past.
- 7 It is a pity that people seem to have a little understanding of the reality of global warming.
- 8 Major cities are trying to make life easier for cyclists, but there is still plenty scope for improvement.
- 9 We should remain optimistic and trust that there will always be few people who are ready to help in times of trouble.
- 10 The government should be worried about the fact that a few young people are feeling optimistic about the future.

Comparatives and Superlatives: Exercises

1

Underline the correct option in *italics*.

- 1 People often leave rural areas because they hope to find a *much* / *more* better quality of life in the city.
- 2 Considering the disastrous effects of global warming, environmental laws should be *more* / *considerably* stricter.
- 3 The more cars there are on the roads, the *more* / *most* pollutants will be released into the atmosphere.
- 4 In most cities the world over, air pollution is getting *bad* / *worse* and worse.
- 5 *For* / *In* comparison with online catalogues, bookshop browsing offers much more intellectual pleasure.
- 6 In several respects, public libraries are similar *to* / *as* community centres.
- 7 What is in the public interest is not the same *like* / *as* what the public are interested in.
- 8 The standard of living in most Western countries is still *much* / *very* higher than in China.
- 9 Learning a foreign language at school is very different *from* / *of* learning it in the country where it is spoken.
- 10 I believe that young children are *slightly* / *little* more easily influenced by advertising than adults.

2

Complete the sentences with either a comparative or a superlative. Use the correct form of the word in brackets and add any other necessary words.

- 1 Most parents only wish that their children may live they themselves did. (*well*)
- 2 Local businesses do not offer job opportunities as large, international businesses do. (*many*)
- 3 Last summer, several regions across the northern hemisphere experienced temperatures on record. (*hot*)

- 4 In an increasingly material world, art classes are than ever.
(*essential*)
- 5 China and the United States are said to be producers
of plastic waste in the world. (*big*)
- 6 Children are much adults to environmental
risks and therefore need extra care. (*vulnerable*)
- 7 Advertising in the print media is not as advertising online.
(*effective*)
- 8 Some economists say that the 2008 financial crisis was even the
Great Depression. (*bad*)
- 9 Only 60 years ago, China experienced famine ever in
human history. (*bad*)
- 10 Napoleon is one of historical figures of all
times. (*controversial*)

3

Complete each sentence with one suitable word.

- 1 It is sometimes said that humans are more dangerous _____ animals.
- 2 Deforestation in Indonesia is _____ worst on the planet.
- 3 A tenant does not have the same responsibilities _____ a landlord.
- 4 The process of looking for an internship is similar _____ searching for a job.
- 5 Private cars are not as eco-friendly _____ public transport.
- 6 Volunteering and couchsurfing are probably the _____ expensive ways to travel
around the world.
- 7 Of course, cities have a _____ more places of entertainment than rural areas.
- 8 It may be _____ little more difficult to learn another language when you are
older.

4 Rewrite these sentences so that they have the same meaning. The first two have been done for you.

1 Rural areas are not as interesting as cities.

⇒ Cities are *more interesting than rural areas*.

2 Land is cheaper in rural areas than in urban ones.

⇒ Land is not as *expensive in rural areas as* in urban ones.

3 The city is not as good a place as the countryside for children to be brought up in.

⇒ The countryside is _____ the city for children to be brought up in.

4 The historical or cultural value of a building is more important than its age.

⇒ The age of a building is not _____ as its historical or cultural value.

5 Traditional offices are not as conducive to communication as open-plan ones.

⇒ Open-plan offices are more _____.

6 Travelling by train is more expensive than it used to be.

⇒ Travelling by train is not as _____.

7 There are not as many job opportunities in rural areas as in the city.

⇒ There are _____ than in the city.

8 It is now believed that adults are better than children at absorbing new information.

⇒ It is now believed that children are not _____.

Prepositions: Exercises

1

Complete these paragraphs from an essay with a suitable preposition from the box.

as	at	in (x 4)	for (x 2)	from	of (x 5)	on	to	with
----	----	----------	-----------	------	----------	----	----	------

Money has a mixed reputation: while some say it is what makes the world go round, others consider it to be the root (1) ___ all evil. It is probably no exaggeration to say that (2) ___ most cultures today, material values predominate, and consequently money is often regarded (3) ___ a key ingredient

(4) ___ happiness. Within those cultures, however, there are as sub-cultures and individuals who,

(5) ___ their quest (6) ___ happiness, challenge the supremacy (7) ___ material wealth.

(8) ___ our material world, it has become extremely difficult not to bow (9) ___ consumerism. People always want more (10) ___ everything: a bigger car, a more comfortable home, a more exotic holiday. If one has enough money to fulfil those wishes, one finds satisfaction, - (11) ___ a while (12) ___ least. However, new desires soon replace the old ones, which causes one to be miserable again, and so the cycle continues. (13) ___ my opinion, the momentary feeling (14) ___ satisfaction one may get

(15) ___ spending money (16) ___ material goods is but an illusion and has nothing to do (17) ___ happiness.

Fill in the blanks with a suitable preposition or with Ø if no preposition is necessary.

- 1 Many children spend ___ least two hours ___ a day watching ___ television.
- 2 Research ___ space exploration often results ___ advances ___ technology, such as 3D printers.
- 3 Doing sport only once or twice ___ a week is not enough to counteract ___ the effects ___ a sedentary lifestyle.
- 4 ___ my experience, a number ___ other factors play a more crucial role than money ___ bringing about happiness.
- 5 Graduates who apply ___ a position are ___ an advantage if they already have soft skills that can be ___ value ___ a company.
- 6 ___ my opinion, the best way to deal ___ the issue ___ overweight and obesity is to introduce more sport and exercise ___ schools.
- 7 After being released ___ prison, many first-time offenders have difficulty ___ finding employment, which is one of the reasons why so many of them turn ___ crime again.
- 8 Social media may occasionally have a damaging effect ___ communities, but ___ the whole I believe that they are mostly beneficial ___ the individual.
- 9 Social networking websites offer ___ people the opportunity to get to know like-minded individuals, share ideas ___ them and participate ___ discussions.
- 10 Some people fear that the ongoing spread ___ English, which is already the world's lingua franca, may result ___ the disappearance ___ many other languages.

Using Cautious Language: Exercises

1

In each pair of sentences below, tick the sentence (a) or (b) which uses a more tentative tone.

- 1 a) In emerging economies, newspaper circulation is on the increase.
b) In many emerging economies, newspaper circulation seems to be on the increase.
- 2 a) It is sometimes argued that traditional music is out of touch with the complex reality of contemporary society.
b) Traditional music is out of touch with the complex reality of contemporary society.
- 3 a) Health is generally considered to be the greatest asset of a nation.
b) Health is the greatest asset of a nation.
- 4 a) Ready meals save working couples a lot of time and money.
b) It seems likely that ready meals can save working couples a lot of time and money.
- 5 a) Globalisation often tends to cause local traditions to disappear.
b) Globalisation causes local traditions to disappear.

2

Identify the three sentences which do not use any cautious language at all and rewrite them using a more tentative tone.

- 1 A large number of people often mistake fake news websites for genuine news sources.
- 2 Eating fast food often can cause health problems such as obesity.
- 3 Everybody agrees that banning mobile phones in public areas would curtail personal freedom.
- 4 Traditional music is sometimes used to strengthen national unity.
- 5 It could be the case that listening to music inspires some people to create music themselves.

- 6 It is a widely held view that genetically modified foods have a negative effect on our health.
- 7 It is often argued that a vegetarian diet may reduce the risk of heart disease.
- 8 Learning a team sport enables children to get over their shyness.
- 9 Sprawling suburbs often make walking impractical and so tend to increase car dependency.
- 10 Global mass tourism has a negative impact on the environment.

3

Underline all the examples of cautious language in the remaining seven sentences of Exercise 2.

IELTS Liz

Paraphrasing: Exercises

1

Read the essay question and then complete Paraphrases A and B with the correct words from the box. Use a good dictionary to help you if necessary.

Essay question:

When a country develops its technology, the traditional skills and ways of life die out. It is pointless to try and keep them alive.

attempting	developments	disappear	futile
lifestyles	preserve	survive	worthwhile

Paraphrase A:

It is not _____ trying to _____ a country's traditional skills and ways of life as these _____ as a result of technological _____.

Paraphrase B:

_____ to maintain a nation's traditional skills and _____ is _____ since they do not _____ technological progress.

2

Read the essay question and then choose the correct words from the box to complete Paraphrases A - D. Use a good dictionary to help you if necessary.

Essay question: Modern communications mean that it is no longer necessary to write letters.

consequently	devices	effect	eliminated	means
redundant	rendered	result	strengthened	up-to-date

Paraphrase A:

Letter writing has been made _____ by new communications technology.

Paraphrase B:

As a _____ of innovative communications systems, writing letters is now unnecessary.

Paraphrase C:

New _____ of communication have _____ letter writing superfluous.

Paraphrase D:

Modern forms of communication have _____ the need to write letters.

3

3 The paraphrase below is a poor example of how to paraphrase the essay question. Although it contains no grammar or vocabulary errors, it is not a good paraphrase. Why is that? Make a list of three reasons why it would not be considered a good paraphrase.

Essay question: Modern communications mean that it is no longer necessary to write letters.

Paraphrase: The mobile phone has reduced the need for written communications.

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

Choose the correct options in *italics* to make accurate paraphrases of the sentence in the box.

Getting your first job can be a struggle if you do not have prior real-world experience.

- 1 You *may* / *will* struggle to find your first job if you have not gained *sufficient* / *practical* work experience beforehand.
- 2 First-time job seekers with no *useful* / *prior* hands-on experience may *face* / *avoid* a lot of difficulties.
- 3 *Despite* / *Without* first-hand experience, *landing* / *enjoying* your first job may prove really hard.
- 4 If you do not have previous experience, you are *likely* / *certain* to have a hard time *applying for* / *finding* your first job.
- 5 A *lack* / *range* of previous industry experience will *definitely* / *probably* make it difficult for you to land your first job.

IELTS Liz

Punctuation: Exercises

1

Provide the missing full stops and commas in these sentences.

- 1 If you change jobs frequently you will be able to learn new more diverse skills
- 2 We must ensure our children get a good education if we want them to have more opportunities later in life
- 3 Another method of dealing with criminals who reoffend is to have more supervision and checks in place when they are back in society
- 4 As cars pollute the air with carbon emissions it is advisable that the number of vehicles should be limited particularly in city centres
- 5 In my opinion social media easily become addictive which is why some schools do not allow students to use mobile phones or personal computers on the school premises

IELTS Liz

2

Read these two concluding paragraphs from an IELTS essay. Add capital letters and punctuation where necessary.

another way to keep young people from the countryside nearer to the place where they grew up would be to decentralise the education system some of the more prestigious schools and universities or at least some of their departments and faculties could move to a rural area this would have the added advantage of decongesting certain parts of the city

finally entrepreneurs could also be offered more incentives for relocating or for establishing a company in the countryside rather than in a city or a suburban area with prospective employees on their doorstep young people would then be less likely to want to move away from the countryside and from their parents

Spot the Mistakes - Essay no. 1

Find seven mistakes in the essay below concerning the following grammar areas, then correct them:

	Type of Mistake	Tips
1	Singular or plural noun	Pay attention to quantifiers (<i>much, any, etc.</i>). See page 170, Vol II.
2	Use of definite article	[<i>the</i>] See page 150, Vol II.
3	Countable vs uncountable nouns	[C] <i>bike</i> / [U] <i>transport</i> . See page 183, Vol II.
4	Missing or incorrect punctuation	Comma or full stop. See page 239, Vol III.
5	Singular or plural noun	Pay attention to quantifiers (<i>much, any, etc.</i>).
6	Subject - verb agreement	<i>He walks / They walk</i> . The verb form must match the subject.
7	Passive voice	See page 127, Vol II.

Note that the mistakes come in the order shown above.

Essay Question:

Caring for children is very important for our society. Therefore, all mothers and fathers should take a childcare training course.
To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Model Essay Answer Exercise

It has been proposed that all parents should attend a childcare training course in order to understand how to bring up their children. While I agree that parents need to learn about childcare, I think it is totally unrealistic to impose mandatory childcare training courses for all parent.

Obviously, it is crucial that parents know the basics of the childcare, particularly in the early months and years when they first have a child. Understanding a baby's

needs and the possible medical problems that can arise is essential for the baby's safety. Without such knowledges, parents could easily put their baby at risk or be unable to react appropriately in an emergency.

However although childcare is important, it would be impossible in practice to have obligatory childcare training courses for all parents due to the vast number of first-time parents each year. For example, statistics show that in most European countries hundreds of thousands of children are born annually, which means that twice as much people would have to attend a course each year. Both the massive scale and the huge cost of such a plan would make it very difficult to implement.

A much more practical solution than face-to-face teaching, therefore, would be to provide distance learning options via free online video training courses. This would ensure all parents have access to the necessary information at a fraction of the cost. Besides, it would also allow parents to decide which information meet their needs, and to rear their children according to their own culture.

In conclusion, rather than courses which have to be attending in person, it would be better to provide free online courses and educational websites. These would be relatively cheap to design and accessible to parents in their own free time.

Spot the Mistakes - Essay no. 2

Find seven mistakes in the essay below concerning the following grammar areas, then correct them:

	Type of Mistake	Tips
1	Word form	Adjective vs adverb e.g. <i>quick</i> / <i>quickly</i> . See page 000
2	Sentence length	See page 6, Vol I.
3	Gerund or infinitive	e.g. <i>stopped reading</i> / <i>stopped to read</i> . See page 136, Vol II.
4	Relative pronouns	e.g. <i>that</i> / <i>who</i> / <i>which</i> . See page 70, Vol I.
5	Use of articles	See page 150, Vol II.
6	Inappropriate use of the passive	See page 127, Vol II.
7	Subject – verb agreement	e.g. <i>water is</i> / <i>animals are</i> .

Note that the mistakes come in the order shown above.

Essay Question:

In many countries, plastic shopping bags are the main source of rubbish, causing pollution on land and in the water, so people think they should be banned. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Model Essay Answer Exercise

Some people think that plastic shopping bags should be prohibited because they are one of the major pollutants of both land and water around the world. I agree entirely, but I also think other measures could be taken before imposing a totally ban.

The main reason plastic bags should be banned is because they are not biodegradable and therefore continue to pollute the environment for hundreds of years after being disposed of. Plastic bags are often used only once and end up polluting both soil and water, causing floods by clogging up drainage systems and

also causing the death of countless land and marine animals which get entangled in them or ingest them, and besides, even when plastic does start to break down, it fragments into microplastic particles which cause even more damage to animal life, so it seems that the only way to prevent throw-away plastic items from seriously and irreversibly damaging our planet would be to prohibit them.

However, it would be worth trying to change consumer behaviour before completely ban plastic bags. Plastic bags may be a convenience who shoppers appreciate, but they could very easily be replaced with reusable cloth bags. In addition, a plastic bag tax could be imposed in order to deter people from using so many single-use plastic bags. Altering consumer behaviour is an effective way of raising awareness of the plastic pollution as a whole, and this can lead to more action on other unnecessary plastic products in the future.

In conclusion, it is firmly believed that an eventual blanket ban on plastic bags are crucial to preserve life on this planet and protect it from the effects of throw-away non-biodegradable materials. Meanwhile, however, shoppers should be actively encouraged to forego the use of unnecessary disposable plastic items.

IELTS Liz

Spot the Mistakes - Essay no. 3

Find twelve mistakes concerning the following grammar areas, then correct them:

	Type of Mistake	Tips
1	Singular or plural pronouns	e.g. <i>I / we; he, she, it / they</i> . Pay attention to the noun that the pronoun stands for. See page 163, Vol II.
2	Subject - verb agreement	e.g. <i>He walks / They walk</i> . The verb form must match the subject.
3	Prepositions	e.g. <i>at / in / on / etc.</i> Pay attention to verbs that need a particular preposition, e.g. <i>apologise for</i> . See page 204, Vol III.
4	Punctuation	Apostrophes (e.g. <i>a mother's opinion</i>). See page 239, Vol III.
5	Missing or incorrect punctuation	See page 239, Vol III.
6	Word order	Pay attention to the word order in indirect questions (e.g. <i>It is hard to understand why so many people are starving.</i>) See page 000
7	Use of articles	See page 150, Vol II.
8	Use of articles	
9	Use of articles	
10	Prepositions	e.g. <i>at / in / on / etc.</i> Some verbs need a preposition, others do not. See page 204 Vol III.
11	Relative pronouns	e.g. <i>that / who / which</i> . See page 70, Vol I.
12	Prepositions	e.g. <i>at / in / on / etc.</i> Pay attention to nouns that need a particular preposition, e.g. <i>an increase in something</i> . See page 204, Vol III.

Note that the mistakes come in the order shown above.

Essay Question:

Nowadays, young people lack an understanding of how to manage their finances after they finish high school.

Why do they not know how to manage money? How can this be changed?

Model Essay Answer Exercise

Many young people are leaving school without a basic understanding of how personal finances ought to be managed in the adult world. This shortcoming is due to a lack of life experience and limited education, and they can be overcome in two simple ways.

The main reason why so many school leavers are unable to handle their own finances are that they have been living with their parents for free. As a result, they have never had to earn a salary or save money in order to pay bills. Another cause is that personal financial planning is only rarely part of the school curriculum. Schools focus instead over classical subjects, such as maths, science and languages, which means important life skills are not being taught. Thus, both teachers and parents are failing to prepare young people for the real world.

There are two options for solving young peoples' inability to plan personal finances. Firstly parents should spend time with their children teaching them how money is earned, budgeted and used for either savings or expenses. One simple step could be for parents to start teaching young children how to manage their pocket money and, as their child grows up, expand into a more serious household expenses. Secondly, the schools should incorporate life skills into their final year curriculum. In this way, children will be able to learn in supportive environment how their finances need to be budgeted and dealt with in order to avoid debt problems later in life.

In conclusion, young people lack of financial management skills due to the negligence of parents and schools, what can only be solved if both take more responsibility to equip school leavers with the right skills.