

I. Reading

Read the text and choose the best answer (A–C) to complete the sentences (1–4).

Today, millions of people want to learn or improve their English but it is difficult to find the best method. Is it better to study in Britain or America or to study in your own country?

The advantages of going to Britain seem obvious. Firstly, you will be able to listen to the language all the time you are in the country. You will be surrounded completely by the language wherever you go. Another advantage is that you have to speak the language if you are with other people. In Italy, it is always possible, in the class, to speak Italian if you want to and the learning is slower.

On the other hand, there are also advantages of staying at home to study. You don't have to make big changes to your life. As well as this, it is also much cheaper than going to Britain but it is never possible to achieve the results of living in the UK. If you have a good teacher in Italy, I think you can learn in a more concentrated way than being in Britain without going to a school.

So, in conclusion, I think that if you have enough time and enough money, the best choice is to spend some time in the UK. This is simply not possible for most people, so being here in Italy is the only viable option. The most important thing to do in this situation is to maximise your opportunities: to speak only English in class and to try to use English whenever possible outside the class.

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1. What is the article about?
A How many people learn English.
B The best way to learn English.
C English schools in England and America.
2. What is one of the advantages of going to the UK to learn English?
A There are no Italians in Britain.
B You will have to speak English and not your language.
C The language schools there are better.
3. What is one of the advantages of staying in your country to learn English?
A The teachers aren't very good in Britain.
B You have to work too hard in Britain.
C Your life can continue more or less as it was before.
4. People who don't have a lot of time and money should...
A Learn English in Britain.
B Try and speak English in class more often.
C Go to Italy to learn English.

1	2	3	4

II. Writing

➤ Complete the conversations with *it, him, her, them, he, she or they*.

1. A: Do you like Chinese food?
B: Yes, I love _____. _____'s delicious.
2. A: Do you like The Beatles?
B: Yes, _____'re great. I listen to _____ a lot.
3. A: Do you like Mel Gibson?
B: Yes, I quite like _____. I think _____'s OK.

Complete the sentences with *someone, anyone, everyone, or no one*.

4. When the Pilgrim Fathers arrived in America, there wasn't _____ to meet them.
5. The next autumn _____ said, 'Let's cook a special dinner with the fruit and vegetables from our farms!'
6. _____ said 'Yes' – because they all wanted to have some fun.
7. At first, _____ wanted to ask the Native Americans for dinner, because they were afraid of them.

Choose the correct item to complete the sentences.

8. I've brought you *few / a few* sweets.
9. I have *little / a little* time to read news on the Internet and no time at all to read books.
10. Have you got any money?' 'Little / A little. I can't buy this thing.'
11. 'Did you buy any furniture?' 'A little / A few.'
12. If you travel by any means of transport you *can / should / must* have a ticket.
13. You *shouldn't / don't have to / couldn't* laugh at your friends.
14. If you travel by plane, you *must / must not / should not* have your mobile phones switched on.
15. I think you *should / must / may* keep to a balanced diet.
16. You *mustn't / may not / needn't* do this task today if you don't have time.

Choose and tick (✓) the correct answer.

- 17 These plants need to _____ every day or else they'll die.
 A watering B be watered C water
- 18 Susan told me she _____ a dinner party the following Friday night.
 A had B will have C was having
- 19 The film _____ at 8 o'clock.
 A beginning B begins C has begun
- 20 They _____ solving the crossword for an hour but they haven't solved it yet.
 A have been B had been
 C were D are
- 21 We _____ the house for two hours.
 A were cleaning B cleaned
 C have been cleaning D had been cleaning
- 22 How long _____ your best friend?
 A were you knowing B had you known
 C have you known D had you been knowing

➤ Fill in the necessary prepositions from the list.

over • between • on • before • for • in (x2) • with

Thomas Telford (1757–1834)

Telford was trained as a stonemason and studied architecture. He won great praise (13) _____ his work (14) _____ canals (15) _____ England and Wales (16) _____ returning to Scotland in 1802. There, his task was to survey transport (17) _____ the Highlands and improve it. (18) _____ 1803 and 1847, he designed and built the Caledonian Canal (it linked the North Sea (19) _____ the Atlantic Ocean) together with (20) _____ 1,400 km (900 miles) of new roads and 1,200 new bridges.

Taken from *The History of Scotland for Children*