USE OF ENGLISH: Multiple Choice

Read the text and choose the correct answers. Circle the letter a, b or c.

TASK 1

IT'S AS EASY AS APP

What are the basic skills that 1_____ child starting school should learn? For many centuries the obvious answer was: reading, writing and arithmetic. Quite recently computer classes (ICT) have been made an obligatory part of national curriculums to teach students how to use basic programmes. These days, 2_____, more and more countries are starting to realise that to succeed in the 21st century pupils should be able to create their own software.

In fact, some schools in the UK are planning to get rid of ICT lessons and replace them 3_____ programming classes that would involve building websites, designing games and mobile phone apps. They hope that today's generation of children, who are already familiar with using smartphones and practically living in the world of social media, will soon become the designers of the future.

Education authorities have no problem convincing students' parents that 4_____ skills are important. A recent survey shows that 94% of them believe that computer skills are 5_____ for the job market. Examples of British teenagers who have managed to sell their apps to big corporations also help make the decision easy. After all, who wouldn't want their child to become a millionaire?

1 a some	b all	c any
2 a although	b however	c despite
3 a for	b with	c from
4 a so	b this	c such
5 a essential	b unnecessary	c modern

TASK 3

RUTH FLOWERS: AGE IS NO EXCUSE

When you think of your grandparents' hobbies, gardening, knitting or Nordic walking come to mind. 1_____ Ruth Flowers was not your average grandmother. When she was in her late sixties, she became a world-famous DJ working under the name Mamy Rock.

She was brought 2_____ in a very musical family and for many years worked as a singer and singing teacher. It was only when she got invited to her grandson's birthday party at a club that she 3_____ in love with dance music. Ruth said that at first the security didn't want to let her in because of her age, but she insisted and she enjoyed it very much.

She was 4_____ in touch with a young French producer who helped her develop her sound and image. In her mixing, she used her favourite artists like the Rolling Stones or Freddie Mercury together with electro music. As for clothes, she loved colourful outfits and cool sunglasses. Ruth gave her first gig during the 2009 Cannes Film Festival, after which she became internationally known. 5_____ then she played in major clubs throughout the world and even had her own reality show called "Rock It Granny".

1 a Yet	b Although	c In spite of
2 a back	b up	c over
3 a falls	b fell	c has fallen
4 a put	b stayed	c kept
5 a From	b Until	c Since

TASK 4

Why is a baker's dozen not 12?

Request a dozen eggs from a farmer, a dozen steaks from a butcher, or a dozen pencils from a travelling office supplies salesman, and you will almost certainly receive 12 of your chosen item (although counting errors do happen). But a *baker's* dozen is commonly understood to mean 13. Are bakers just bad at counting? Not quite.

There are a few theories as to why a baker's dozen became 13, but most think it has its origins in the fact that many societies throughout history have had extremely strict laws concerning bakers' products. This is due to the fact that it is fairly easy for bakers to cheat customers and sell them less than what they think they are getting.

These societies took this very seriously as bread was a primary food source for many people. So in Britain from the mid-13th century up to the 19th century there was the Assize of Bread and Ale law. This law set the price of ale and what weight a loaf of bread should be. So basically, in terms of bread, it settled the relationship between the price and quality of wheat and what the price and quality of a loaf of bread from a certain quantity of wheat should be.

Even though this law appeared at the request of bakers, it still caused a problem for them. If they happened to accidentally cheat a customer by giving them less than what they were supposed to according to the law, the punishment and fines were severe. Depending on where the lawbreaker lived, it could include for example losing a hand.

In those times it wasn't that hard to accidentally cheat a customer. Making a loaf of bread with an exact weight was nearly impossible by hand without modern day tools. So, bakers began giving more than what the statute outlined to make sure they went over and never under. Specifically, in terms of the "baker's dozen", if a vendor or other customer were to order a dozen or several dozen loaves of bread from a baker, the baker would give them 13 for every dozen they ordered. Likewise, when selling quantities of anything, they'd give 13 measures when only 12 were purchased.

This practice eventually made its way into the Worshipful Company of Bakers (London) guild code. This guild was actually started in the 12th century and had a large part in putting together the conditions of the Assize of Bread and Ale law.

1 Why did many societies have strict laws about bread products?

   A Customers wanted more bread than bakers could produce.
   B Bakers were not very good at counting.
   C It was not very difficult for bakers to give customers less than they paid for.
   D It was easy for bakers to sell more bread.

2 What did the Assize of Bread and Ale law regulate?

   A the weight of a loaf
   B the price of bread
   C the quality of bread
   D all of the above

3 Why was the Assize of Bread and Ale statute a problem for bakers?

   A They did not want it to appear.
   B They had to pay money or recieve another punishment if caught cheating.
   C They had to take less money for products.
   D They all lost a hand if they made a mistake.

4 Why wasn't it hard to accidentally cheat a customer?

   A All the loaves were underweight.
   B No one knew how big a loaf should be.
   C It was hard to make loaves which were all the same weight.
   D They did not use any tools.

5 How did the bakers make sure they did not cheat customers?

   A They gave one extra loaf if anyone bought 12 loaves.
   B They always sold 13 loaves.
   C They did not sell bread to vendors.
   D They always gave the exact amount of bread the law ordered.

Choose the option that fits the gap correctly. Circle the letter a, b or c.

TASK 17

1 _____ my favourite vase?
  a Who did break
  b Who broke
  c Who was broken

2 I'd like to _____ you a favour.
  a please
  b request
  c ask

3 If he _____, he would never get up before 8 o'clock.
  a didn't have to
  b mustn't
  c hadn't

4 Have you ever _____ Alaska?
  a been to
  b gone to
  c been on

5 _____ three or four times yesterday.
  a I called you
  b I was calling you
  c I would call you

TASK 18

1 You know very well that _____ go there alone.
  a you shouldn't
  b you're unable to
  c you aren't allowed

2 I have two neighbours, but _____ has a swimming pool in their garden.
  a not one of them
  b none of them
  c neither of them

3 _____ weather! Let's go for a walk.
  a It's such a beautiful
  b What beautiful
  c But for the beautiful

4 _____ last week that I couldn't study there.
  a I told
  b I was told
  c It was told

5 I'll have chicken for the _____ course.
  a lead
  b main
  c principal

TASK 19

1 Very _____ people knew about the secret room.
  a few
  b little
  c small

2 Terrorists tried to _____ the bridge.
  a give up
  b set up
  c blow up

3 Could you _____ to her now?
  a excuse
  b apologise
  c regret

4 _____ your phone number with her.
  a She mustn't had
  b She may not have had
  c She needn't have

5 _____. Yes, I believe it's in the living room.
  a I doubt it
  b I don't think so
  c Let me think

TASK 20

1 You can join them tomorrow. _____.
  a That's fine with me
  b I haven't got any doubts about it
  c I'm sure about that

2 He lived there _____ the beginning of 1990.
  a since
  b for
  c from

3 Where is she? _____ at half past one.
  a She had to be here
  b She was supposed to be here
  c She should be here

4 We are terribly sorry, but we _____ help you at all.
  a couldn't
  b won't be able to
  c might not

5 What's the average _____ in Ukraine?
  a family
  b retirement
  c salary

USE OF ENGLISH: Mini-dialogues

Complete the mini-dialogues by choosing the correct option. Circle the letter a, b or c.

TASK 5

1 X: Would you like to join us?
   Y: _____
   X: Be ready tomorrow at 7 then.
   a How come?
   b Why not?
   c Wouldn't I?

2 X: What's her phone number?
   Y: _____ . Let me check in my mobile.
   a Hang up
   b Hold on
   c Look out

3 X: How long have you known each other?
   Y: Let me think. We've been friends since the moment we _____ introduced.
   a are
   b have been
   c were

4 X: I hope it's not too much trouble for you.
   Y: _____
   a I apologise for all the trouble.
   b Not at all.
   c That's a good point.

5 X: Excuse me, have you got change for 5 pounds?
   Y: _____
   X: Thanks, I need it for the parking meter.
   a Certainly, here you are.
   b I'm afraid not.
   c Sorry to trouble you.

TASK 6

1 X: Which one do you prefer: the blue one or the red one?
   Y: _____
   X: Let me check.
   a I don't like either of them.
   b Neither, actually.
   c Have you got any green ones?

2 X: I've got a sore throat and a fever.
   Y: _____
   a What's the matter?
   b How long have you been like this?
   c What do you think I should do?

3 X: Who's the _____ behaved student in your class?
   Y: Unfortunately it's me. My parents are not happy about it.
   a least
   b best
   c worst

4 X: Do you _____ sugar in your tea?
   Y: Just one spoonful, please.
   a take
   b drink
   c avoid

TASK 7

1 X: Whose house is it?
   Y: _____ .
   a My cousin
   b My cousins
   c My cousin's

2 X: It's very kind of you.
   Y: Don't _____ it.
   a prove
   b mention
   c predict

3 X: Could I speak to Mark, please?
   Y: _____
   a Put him on the phone.
   b I'll just see if he's in.
   c I'd be glad to.

4 X: Do you need my help?
   Y: _____
   X: OK, I'll be in my office in case you need me.
   a No thanks, I think I can manage.
   b Are you sure it's not too much trouble?
   c That's very kind. I'll pass it on.

5 X: Happy Easter!
   Y: _____
   a I beg your pardon!
   b Thanks, me too!
   c The same to you!

TASK 8

1 X: I'd like to book a single room for next weekend, please.
   Y: _____
   X: Oh dear, let me think about it then.
   a There are only double rooms available.
   b Certainly, single rooms overlook the sea.
   c I don't think you need to book it.

2 X: Stop _____ me!
   Y: I'm sorry. Please carry on.
   a interrupt
   b interrupting
   c to interrupt

3 X: Is a window seat OK with you?
   Y: _____
   a I don't mind sharing.
   b I'd rather take a seat.
   c By the aisle would be better.

4 X: I'd like to make _____ for tomorrow, please.
   Y: Certainly, would 10 o'clock be convenient?
   X: That would suit me fine.
   a an appointment
   b a complaint
   c an excuse

5 X: Do you mind if I open the window?
   Y: _____