Hobbies and leisure

Complete the sentences with the correct word from the box.

about  at  by  in  into  on  to  with

1. I'm not very keen _________ science fiction films, but the rest of my family loves them.
2. I'm interested _________ taking up scuba diving, but it's an expensive hobby.
3. My father has always been fascinated _________ architecture and loves visiting old castles.
4. I used to prefer rock and folk music, but I've really got _________ jazz recently.
5. John is very excited _________ starting tennis lessons next week.
6. Maria is quite pleased _________ her daughter's progress in her ballet class.
7. Some people can become addicted _________ playing computer games.
8. Antonia is brilliant _________ cooking; I wish I could do it as well as her!

Complete the sentences with the correct preposition and your own ideas.

1. I'm very keen _________
2. My best friend is brilliant _________
3. I'm really excited _________
4. Many people are addicted _________
5. Lately, I've really got _________

Choose the correct alternative to complete the sentences.

1. The viewers / spectators in the stadium cheered for their team.
2. Jacob decided to take place / part in a cooking competition.
3. Rachel took / set up painting because she wanted to make better use of her free time.
4. I really enjoyed the demonstration / exhibition of eighteenth-century art at the city gallery.
5. My favourite singer is giving / running a concert in my home town and I hope to see her.
6. I go to the cinema regularly and like to see moving / thrilling films that are very emotional.
7. Elena enjoys reading detective stories with complicated but interesting schemes / plots.
8. He is a very sociable / sensible person who loves meeting new people in his free time.
For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

0 A taste B appeal C interest D attraction

Example answer: B

The joy of photography
Photography is a hobby with wide (0) _________. And I don't mean taking photos on your mobile phone, though it cannot be (1) _________ that such pictures can be surprisingly good these days. Serious photography means taking the (2) _________ to do some research, exploring the technical (3) _________ of the subject and investing in what might be quite expensive equipment. So why take up photography? Firstly, it allows you to (4) _________ special moments that you want to remember forever. In addition, it (5) _________ your imagination because you are always in search of ideas for original and out of the ordinary photos. However, a lot of practice is required before you (6) _________ to take really good pictures on a regular basis. When you finally do it, it will be a (7) _________ of great satisfaction for you. Photography can also transform the way you look at the world. You start to see details that in the past you used to miss (8) _________. All in all, it’s a highly absorbing hobby.

1 A rejected B contradicted C denied D refused

2 A trouble B care C effort D concern

3 A characteristics B forms C qualities D aspects

4 A seize B capture C grab D catch

5 A motivates B renews C stimulates D reacts

6 A manage B succeed C achieve D reach

7 A reason B cause C source D means

8 A utterly B completely C fully D absolutely
Complete the sentences with the correct word from the box.

1. Luke saw his friends ................. the crowd of tourists outside the castle.
2. I went for a tour ................. the city and was impressed by how beautiful it was.
3. In Rome there are kilometres of tunnels ................. the city.
4. It was getting late so we decided to head ................. to the campsite.
5. It was really relaxing taking a walk ................. the river.
6. In the distance, ................. the mountain range, there is a huge lake.
7. Our guide led us ................. the caves and showed us their interesting features.
8. Many important events have happened ................. the walls of this palace.

Choose the alternative for each sentence which is NOT correct.

1. We went on a travel / trip / journey to the jungle.
2. I enjoyed the beautiful view / scenery / outlook from the top of the hill.
3. The family boarded / got on / embarked the bus and it left almost immediately.
4. Giorgio packed his two bags / luggage / suitcases and took the early train.
5. The train fare / fee / ticket was much more expensive than Anna expected.
6. On the way to Scotland we sat in the front coach / carriage / cabin of the train.
7. A river voyage / trip / cruise is the best way to go sightseeing.
8. We decided to take a charter / programmed / scheduled light to Spain.

In pairs, ask and answer the following questions.

1. Where do you usually go on holiday?
2. Do you usually go to places where there are lots of tourists, or do you go to less well-known places?
3. What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of exploring less well-known places when travelling?
Exam task

For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:
0 A represent     B indicate    C refer    D mention
Example answer: C

Off the beaten track

The expression 'getting off the beaten track' is used to (0) represent to the experience of avoiding famous tourist attractions and choosing instead to explore less well-known places when travelling.

For many people the whole (1) aim of travel is to visit cities such as Paris or Venice that have a great (2) reputation as places of beauty and historic importance. Furthermore, they are not particularly (3) disturbed by the crowds that are usually found in such locations. But for others who have more of a (4) sense of adventure, a good holiday must (5) consist of unfamiliar experiences, even taking some risks.

Travelling off the beaten track may be done by some students who don't (6) stick to a rigid plan, but make decisions about what to do depending on how they feel. Other travellers prefer to spend money on guided tours to unusual locations. Such tours are designed to (7) meet their particular needs, and all the arrangements are made for them. However people choose to get off the beaten track, the hope is always the same: to have a special, often unique (8) experience of a different culture.

Exam tips

• Read through the whole text first.
• Look at the words before and after each gap.
• Try each word (A, B, C and D) in the gap and decide which is correct. If you are not sure, choose the word that you think best fits the gap.
Sport

Choose the correct verb to complete the sentences.

1. I play / practise / go jogging every morning before work.
2. I go / take / make plenty of exercise every week because I walk to work!
3. Most experts say that keeping / going / making fit is very important if you sit at a desk all day.
4. Tony plays / practises / makes tennis at a local club when he has some free time.
5. Clara hit / beat / shot the ball really hard and it went into the net.
6. The class make / do / play gymnastics once a week in the new gym.
7. The school football team beat / won / succeeded every team they played this term.
8. I did a course to develop / expand / progress my tennis skills.

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets, -ing or to + infinitive.

1. Elena can’t stand (play) football; she prefers athletics.
2. I regretted (do) the extra training session because I felt so tired afterwards.
3. Lucas is planning (take up) skiing next year.
4. Nicole really enjoys (go) for long runs in the hills near her home.
5. The squash player managed (win) the final game despite being exhausted.
6. Leo refused (join) his local gym even though his friends were all members.
7. My mother is considering (enter) a golf tournament next month.
8. We knew we were unlikely (lose) against a very weak and inexperienced team.

Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

1. I can’t stand ...........................................................................................................
2. I’m considering ........................................................................................................
3. My friends and I really enjoy ..................................................................................
4. The weather is likely ..............................................................................................
5. My family’s planning ..............................................................................................
Exam task

For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:
Example answer: C

Coming second: pleasure or pain?
Every ambitious athlete hopes to (0) ______ their dream of winning a gold medal at the Olympics. However, not everyone can win, and often talented athletes must accept second place. A team of psychologists recently (1) ______ some research on the emotional responses of those finishing second. For certain individuals, a silver medal may (2) ______ their expectations and so naturally they will be delighted. They may also enjoy surprising experts and journalists who believed they had absolutely no (3) ______ of achieving anything.

In (4) ______, the athlete who everyone assumed would win with ease, but then suffers a (5) ______ defeat, may not celebrate their silver medal. This reaction differs sharply from the athlete who comes second but finished a long way behind the winner. There is a (6) ______ in the research that shows such a person will feel significantly happier.

To a certain (7) ______, these findings are not surprising. Silver medallists who were close to victory will almost certainly (8) ______ on what might have happened if they had trained harder, or done things differently.

1 A controlled B conducted C directed D guided
2 A exceed B overtake C pass D overcome
3 A outlook B view C estimate D prospect
4 A opposition B contrast C distinction D contradiction
5 A thin B trend C narrow D slight
6 A habit B amount C range D level
7 A extent B wonder C consider D reflect

Get it right!

Look at the sentence below. Then try to correct the mistake.

When I was at primary school, I enjoyed to play basketball.
Health and fitness

Complete the text with the words in the box. There are two words you do not need to use.

- a
- all
- an
- both
- every
- few
- much
- that
- the
- those

Michael Green loved swimming from (1) __________ early age. He took (2) __________ opportunity that came along to spend time in his local pool. As he got older, he regularly entered local competitions, (3) __________ of which he won. This perfect record attracted a lot of attention and he started working with a coach. (4) __________ training sessions paid off and Michael rapidly improved his speed and strength. However, (5) __________ believed that he would continue to work so hard, especially when he had so (6) __________ schoolwork to do. But winning (7) __________ national championship was his dream, and (8) __________ was what motivated him. However, Michael went on to achieve even more than this, becoming the world champion before his eighteenth birthday.

Exam task

For questions 1–8, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example: (0) NO

Running a marathon

So you want to run a marathon? There is (0) __________ doubt that running 42 kilometres is a great achievement. Many training plans involve running four times a week for at (1) __________ three months, and sometimes longer. Experts strongly recommend that you should (2) __________ used to running long distances gradually. If you don’t, it can increase the chances (3) __________ picking up an injury. It (4) __________ generally thought that runners should initially go on fairly relaxed training runs. The pace should be gentle enough to allow you (5) __________ have a conversation with someone running alongside you. Don’t make the mistake of eating too little before the race, or you will rapidly run (6) __________ of energy. But (7) __________ should you eat a large meal. It goes without saying that choosing the right footwear is also essential. (8) __________ you do, avoid clothes made of cotton and go for artificial materials, or even some types of wool such as merino. Choose clothing that will be comfortable.
Read the sentences. Choose the correct word for each space, a, b or c.

1. The diet______________ I'm on is quite boring, to be honest.
   a who  b what  c which
2. My fitness trainer is someone______________ everyone likes and trusts.
   a who  b whom  c whose
3. That's the gym______________ I go to three times a week, even when I'm busy.
   a what  b where  c which
4. The nutritionist______________ ideas I'm interested in has just published a new book.
   a whose  b whom  c which
5. There aren't many days______________ I don't go jogging in the park.
   a which  b whom  c when
6. By the time I was 12, there weren't many sports______________ I hadn't tried.
   a what  b which  c who
7. The stadium in______________ I train once a week is in the north of the city.
   a which  b where  c whose
8. People don't understand______________ I have to do to maintain this level of fitness.
   a which  b whom  c that

Complete the sentences with a relative pronoun (who, which, when) and your own ideas.

1. There aren't many days ______________ I don't ________________.
2. By the time I was ten, there weren't many ______________ I hadn't tried.
3. A sports person ______________ I admire is ________________.
4. ________________ is a country ________________ I would like to visit.

Exam facts

- In this part, you read a text with eight gaps in it.
- You have to write a word that fits each gap.

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