

GRAMMAR

Read the text and for each question 1–15, write ONE word in the space provided at the bottom.

The movies

In the 1920s American movies filled (0) the cinema screens (1) _____ the world. Most (2) _____ made in Hollywood, a suburb of the city of Los Angeles in California. Hollywood's big attraction (3) _____ filmmakers was (4) _____ clean air and plentiful sunshine. The movies made there were bright and clear. (5) _____ the 1920s it had become the film-making capital of the world.

Hollywood movies were made by large companies called studios. The men (6) _____ ran these studios were businessmen and their main aim was to make (7) _____ much money as possible. They soon found that one way to do this was to standardize their films. When audiences (8) _____ shown that they liked a certain kind of film, the studios made (9) _____ more of exactly the same kind.

Another sure way for a studio to make money was to turn its actors (10) _____ "stars". Stars were people who were so popular that people went (11) _____ crowds to see any film they appeared (12) _____, no matter how good or bad it was. A famous star could make (13) _____ movie a certain success. So the studios went (14) _____ great lengths to make their actors into stars. They set (15) _____ special publicity departments to get stories about their actors into the newspapers.

0 _____ *the* _____

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

7 _____

8 _____

9 _____

10 _____

11 _____

12 _____

13 _____

14 _____

15 _____

Total____/15pts

VOCABULARY

Read the sentences. Use the word given in capitals at the end of the lines to form a word that fits the gap in the sentences.

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 0. My sister never stops talking. She's a very <u>talkative</u> person. | TALK |
| 1. Please make the cheque _____ to M. Brown. | PAY |
| 2. Arnold is very tall and _____. | MUSCLE |
| 3. I couldn't help it. The accident was _____. | AVOID |
| 4. There were no _____ between the systems. | SIMILAR |
| 5. People who suffer from _____ should buy a pet. | LONELY |
| 6. Unfortunately, his illness was _____. | CURE |
| 7. Her hair is _____, not bright red. | RED |
| 8. To be a good novelist, you really have to be very _____. | IMAGINE |
| 9. There is a large amount of _____ evidence. | CONFLICT |
| 10. There will be no pay rise in the _____ future. | SEE |

Total ____/10 pts

Test your English, Word-formation, FRAGMENT, Marius Misztal, adapted

READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following magazine article about well-known people who are amateur artists. For questions 1 – 10, choose from the people A, B, or C. Some of the people may be chosen more than once.

Amateur Artists**A / Johan Leeming, TV presenter**

Johan started painting just four years ago. “I wanted to do something creative in my spare time. So a friend and I enrolled in a local adult education course and before long I was completely hooked! I go to classes regularly, as I rarely have time to paint at home,” Johan explains. “The only thing that would make me miss a class is work.

“Even if you’re a beginner, I’d recommend that you use the best materials you can afford. I started off using a box of student-quality watercolours and cheap paper, but once I started to use artist-quality paints and good paper, my work improved dramatically. It doesn’t have to cost a fortune; I get six paintings out of one sheet of heavy watercolour paper, and can manage with five colours in my paint box – the fewer, the better, as it makes you learn to mix colours for yourself.”

Johan finds painting very therapeutic. “Everyday worries disappear when I’m working on a picture. It’s totally absorbing, and at the end of a class, I wonder where the time has gone.”

B/ Veronica Lynn, singer

Veronica loved painting as a child. “I used to steal my father’s house paints and, since his favourite colour was green, my pictures used mostly greens!” she remembers.

“I dabbled with painting for a long time, but only had time to start seriously a couple of years ago. I discovered a local art class and when I saw some of the tutor’s work, I thought, ‘Ooh, I’d love to paint like that.’

“I have always loved flowers, and they feature in most of my paintings. I enjoyed painting the magnolia I showed at the SAA exhibition because I liked doing the purple streaks in the petals.

“Nowadays I often get so involved in painting that my husband says ‘Are we going to eat today?’ Painting takes my mind off other things. And it’s a complete contrast with my working life. If I mess it up, it doesn’t matter, because I don’t have a reputation to keep up.”

C/ Albert English, comedian

Albert said, “I’ve been interested in art all my life, but it was only when I was 15 years old that I discovered that I could really lose myself in painting. It helped me a lot. I started off painting in oils, but was always too impatient and couldn’t wait for the paint to dry. So I tried acrylics, which were much better as they dry quickly.

“My picture for the SAA exhibition was of ships, and I had great fun experimenting with the colour in the sea and capturing the movement of the waves and the ships.

“Painting gives me a great sense of achievement. I’m amazed at the way my pictures turn out sometimes, and when a painting’s finished, it’s there to enjoy. I can look at it and think, ‘I did that.’ It’s not like other things in my life, it’s permanent.”

READING COMPREHENSION
(continued)

Which of the people A – C state the following?

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1/ I neglect other things when I'm painting. | _____ |
| 2/ The equipment you use affects the standard of your painting. | _____ |
| 3/ I don't mind if I do a painting that isn't very good. | _____ |
| 4/ My attitude to painting has changed. | _____ |
| 5/ My paintings generally have the same subject matter. | _____ |
| 6/ I didn't enjoy a certain type of painting. | _____ |
| 7/ After taking up painting, I quickly became very keen on it. | _____ |
| 8/ Painting was good for me during a certain period. | _____ |
| 9/ I took up painting because I wanted a particular kind of hobby. | _____ |
| 10/ My paintings aren't always as I'd expected them to be. | _____ |

Total ____/10pts

LISTENING

You will hear three short conversations. How many blanks can you complete? Some have been completed for you. Use no more than one or two words for each blank. To get 5 points, you need to complete 10 blanks correctly.

Conversation 1TOPIC study

PLACE _____

PEOPLE _____

FEELINGS angry

REASON _____

Conversation 2TOPIC sport

PLACE _____

PEOPLE _____

FEELINGS _____

REASON _____

Conversation 3

TOPIC _____

PLACE café

PEOPLE _____

FEELINGS _____

REASON celebrate

Total ____/5 pts

Bridget Bloom – English for Speakers of Other Languages – Communicator – 4, 2005; Adapted

Autorka: Mgr. Edita Mareková

Recenzentka: PaedDr. Anna Brisudová

Korektor: Joshua M. Ruggiero

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