

## Section 1: Use of English

Tick the most appropriate way to complete each sentence:

1. The Principal was furious because everybody \_\_\_ in the school yard.

- has been fighting
- had been fighting

2. It's 20:00. According to the TV programme, the MasterChef final \_\_\_.

- will have started
- started

3. Oh my God! \_\_\_ terrible news! We should inform the management straightaway.

- This is
- These are

4. The snowstorm has resulted \_\_\_\_\_ numerous flight cancellations.

- in
- to

5. He is only fourteen years old and he \_\_\_ 8 IGCSEs with top marks!

- passed
- has passed

6. When I started working here, the exams policy \_\_\_ restructured.

- was being
- was been

7. The coach \_\_\_ the team not to stay in the sun for too long.

- advised
- adviced

8. The pool \_\_\_\_, so we can't swim today.

hasn't been cleaned

wasn't cleaned

9. When Lucida was still an infant, I \_\_\_\_ her twice every night.

was always feeding

would feed

10. This is the man \_\_\_\_ dog bit my son.

who's

whose

**20 marks**

**Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one, using the word given. Do not change the word given.**

1. By the end of the year, the Chief of Police will have approved 10 staff promotions.

**(by)**

By the end of the year, \_\_\_\_\_ the Chief of Police.

2. 'Why have you been stealing your sister's erasers?' mum asked Jason. **(wanted)**

Mum \_\_\_\_\_.

3. In my opinion, he should lose weight. **(him)**

If \_\_\_\_\_ lose weight.

4. They never got along when they were classmates. **(use)**

They \_\_\_\_\_ when they were classmates.

5. I like lychee, and my sister does too. **(so)**

I like lychee, and \_\_\_\_\_.

6. "We finished our homework and emailed it to our teacher an hour ago." said the children. **(us)**

The children \_\_\_\_\_.

7. We are terribly sorry we will be unable to attend your wedding next month! We just can't afford the travel expenses. **(wish)**

We \_\_\_\_\_ to attend your wedding.

8. If he doesn't quit smoking, he won't feel better. **(unless)**

He \_\_\_\_\_.

9. He's been playing in the sun all morning, and now he feels dizzy. **(feel)**

If \_\_\_\_\_ dizzy now.

10. "Do we have to pay in advance?" Jeremy wondered. **(whether)**

Jeremy wondered \_\_\_\_\_ in advance.

**30 marks**

**Fill in the blanks using prepositions:**

1. He is accustomed \_\_\_\_\_ making his own revision notes.
2. The presidential elections will take place \_\_\_\_\_ 21/12/22.
3. YouTube is popular \_\_\_\_\_ teenagers nowadays.
4. Jamal is always worried \_\_\_\_\_ my exams.
5. Not many youngsters are aware \_\_\_\_\_ the dangers of the internet.
6. We look forward \_\_\_\_\_ receiving your job application!
7. Next year, \_\_\_\_\_ Easter, we'll be visiting our grandparents in Austria!
8. This spectacular sculpture is made \_\_\_\_\_ marble.
9. We are hugely excited \_\_\_\_\_ the party tomorrow. It starts \_\_\_\_\_ 9:30.

**20 marks**

**Circle the word which means the opposite of the word in bold:**

1. We admire your contribution and **commitment** to the school.

- (a) betrayal      (b) support      (c) dedication

2. Your boss is such a **pompous** man! How do you put up with him?

- (a) arrogant      (b) pretentious      (c) humble

3. On your way out, please leave the door **ajar**.

- (a) half-open      (b) slightly-open      (c) wide-open

4. The teacher told me you were a little **apprehensive** this morning.

- (a) confident      (b) anxious      (c) worried

5. I find people who are too **ambitious**, frightening!

- (a) aspiring      (b) modest      (c) stony-hearted

**10 marks**

**Read Johnny's email to Ramona. Then, using your own words, give the meaning of the words in bold.**

Hi sis,

I've just sat down to relax a bit, after a painful week at work. My boss, Mr Hollowood, doesn't realise that what we charge customers is a real (1) **rip-off**. He doesn't understand that I am always (2) **confronted** by clients who compare our prices to those of other stores. The other day I was (3) **in hot water** when a lady showed me the receipt for some shoes she bought from ABC store for £212, and which we were selling for £600. I was furious and out of arguments. I decided to tell Mr Hollowood I could no longer act as Customer Service Manager. What (4) **added fuel to the fire** was that he (5) **gave me the cold shoulder** and told me that the Customer Service Department should be shut down anyway! I was (6) **frantic** and **couldn't get my act together**. I was shouting and made it clear to him that the store would never survive with unhappy customers. My colleague Jemma, who is (7) **in the same boat** as me, tried to calm me down. She encouraged me to (8) **speak my mind** (9) **without losing my temper**. At the end of the day, I realised that I need to start looking for another job, since Mr Hollowood and I will never agree; you see, (10) **you can't teach an old dog new tricks!**

Anyway, I'll fill you in next week when we meet up at mum's.

Love,  
Johnny

1		6	
2		7	
3		8	
4		9	
5		10	

**20 marks**

**Total: 100 marks**

## SECTION 2: Reading Comprehension

**Read the article carefully, and answer all the questions that follow.**

---

### 'Why I'm dreading Christmas': Life as a kinship carer

By Marie Jackson  
BBC News



**Hundreds of thousands of children will spend this Christmas with relatives or friends because their parents are unable to look after them. For these so-called kinship carers, life can be a struggle, as one grandparent explains.**

Christmas with the Brooks family used to be a happy, fun occasion. Michelle would cook dinner with all the trimmings for the 17 relatives squeezed into their very small home in Newcastle, followed by a family tradition of a raucous game of bingo. Her husband, Dave, would hang a pair of gold earrings on the Christmas tree for her to find first thing in the morning.

Their three children would get whatever was on their wish-list, and a few extras in a stocking. But one devastating night two years ago, Michelle's life was turned upside down. Her daughter, in her 20s, who has problems with addiction and her mental health, suffered an episode that put her young children at risk.

Police officers turned to Michelle and asked if Thomas, then a toddler, and Jack, a pre-schooler, would be safe with her. Yes, she replied. And the two boys went to live in Michelle's house, alongside her and Dave and their two teenage children.

Michelle is one of the estimated 200,000 kinship carers in the UK. As a working family, she and Dave, like many in their position, receive no extra financial support from the government or local authority. *"We have never had a night where we could go to bed*

*and say everything is fine," Michelle says. And the difficulties are never more acute than at Christmas.*

---

### **What is kinship care?**

- It's when a child lives full time - or most of the time - with a relative or friend who isn't their parent, usually because their parents aren't able to care for them
  - About half are grandparents
  - There might be an informal arrangement made with the parents, or there may be intervention by the local authority, leading to the child being placed with kinship foster carers on a Child Arrangement Order or Special Guardianship Order
  - Research indicates about half of children are in kinship care because of parents' drug or alcohol misuse.
- 

On their first Christmas all together, Michelle tried to keep everyone happy, dealing with a string of visitors throughout the day in one-hour slots (the boys have different fathers). *"What happens this year - we're not sure," says Michelle. "I can't plan ahead. I have to see nearer the time and fit in around everybody."*

In the meantime, Dave, a driver, is doing double shifts six days a week to put aside a bit of money for Christmas.

Her uncomplaining teenagers, meanwhile, have been putting their feelers out, sensing they will need to adjust their expectations this Christmas. It's something that Michelle struggles with. *"They have become insignificant in all of this. It's them who have forfeited a lot," she says.*

In the past, Michelle was in a position to donate presents to children who were in need. Last year, the charity, Relative Experience, sent her whole family Christmas presents. *"It's hard on the pride, but young children come before pride." That used to be me who put gifts into those supermarket trolleys, thinking, 'I hope that puts a smile on someone's face.' And it does."*

Grandparents Plus Organisation chief executive Lucy Peake fears many kinship carers will have to rely on food banks and present donations this festive season. *"We can all feel bombarded by images of perfect families having perfect Christmases, and it's hard to measure up," she says.*

Christmas can be a painful reminder to the children that they aren't living with their parents and a stressful time for their carers who step in to look after their grandchildren unexpectedly, she adds.

### 'Anything could happen'

Michelle says she'll go through the motions this Christmas but, in truth, she dreads it. "There's a sense that anything can happen - Christmas exposes people's weaknesses", she says. "It's juggling the situation, it's damage limitation, it's difficult."

Michelle is speaking out about her family's circumstances because she wants people to understand kinship caring, in the way they do foster care and adoption. She has been talking to student social workers about her experience to help them understand more about it.

---

### LEXICAL ANALYSIS

Each cell in the first table includes a definition. Use each of these definitions to explain the meaning of the words in the second table.

save	extras / accessories	give something up unwillingly	monetary	child 3-4 years old
dependence on substances	child 12-36 months old	give for a good cause	loud /noisy	severe / distressing

trimmings	
raucous	
addiction	
toddler	
preschooler	
financial	
acute	
put aside	
donate	
forfeit	
	30 marks



**READING COMPREHENSION**

**1. In your opinion, what have the teenagers given up and why have they lowered their expectations this Christmas?**

---

---

---

---

5 marks

**2. "It's hard on the pride, but young children come before pride."**

**Why does Michelle talk about pride? Isn't she proud she's looking after her children?**

---

---

---

---

5 marks

**3. "We can all feel bombarded by images of perfect families having perfect Christmases, and it's hard to measure up," she says.**

**What does Michelle mean when she says 'it's hard to measure up'?**

---

---

---

5 marks

**4. If you go through the motions, you only make half-hearted efforts associated with a particular action, because it is expected of you.**

*'Michelle says she'll go through the motions this Christmas but, in truth, she dreads it.'*

- **What actions do you think Michelle will perform this Christmas to please the children in the family?**

---

---

---

---

---

5 marks

- Why do you think she dreads it?

---



---

2 marks

5. Why does Michelle campaign for kinship care?

---



---



---

3 marks

6. There are certain things that Michelle enjoyed at Christmas in the past as a parent. There are some things that she will do this Christmas as a parent and kinship carer.

Compare and tick as appropriate.

	<u>THEN</u>	<u>NOW</u>
Cook dinner		
Provide a lot of extras for the Christmas celebration		
Throw a big party		
Receive presents from her husband		
Have a loud fun time		
Arrange meetings with visiting relatives		
Spoil her children with all they wish for		
Donate to charity		
Receive from charity		

20 marks





