

Exercise 1

Read the article about the first trip to the deepest part of the world's oceans, and then answer the following questions.

The first trip to the deepest part of the ocean

On January 23, 1960, Jacques Piccard and Don Walsh successfully descended to the deepest part of the world's oceans in a very special submarine called the *Trieste*.

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The former, who cared passionately about the marine environment, later used this fame to establish the Foundation for the Study and Protection of Seas and Lakes.

- 1 Who designed the *Trieste*?
..... [1]
- 2 Where was the *Trieste* built?
..... [1]
- 3 What substance enabled the *Trieste* to rise to the surface?
..... [1]
- 4 What is the Challenger Deep named after?
..... [1]
- 5 What problems did the *Trieste* have on the way down? Give **two** details.
.....
..... [2]
- 6 What creature did Piccard and Walsh see at the bottom of the ocean?
..... [1]
- 7 How long did it take the *Trieste* to reach the surface after the dive?
..... [1]
- 8 What depth did the *Trieste* reach?
..... [1]

[Total: 9]

Exercise 2

Read the article about three people (A–C) who write a blog. Then answer Question 9(a)–(h).

Writing a blog

Three young people share their thoughts on writing a blog

A Francesca

I started writing my music blog two years ago. Recently, I had to stop writing it for a short time, just because I was busy with other things, but apart from that, I've added a post every week. I've had the aim of becoming a music journalist for a while. I'm sure that writing the blog helps me to develop the specific skills I'll need far more than the general writing we do at school. I try to make each post really different, so I might write about a particular song one week, and then about the history of a whole genre of music the next. It can make thinking of new things to write about a bit of a challenge, but I find blogs that focus on one particular type of music a bit dull, to be honest. If enough people read what bloggers write, they can actually make a small profit each month. I'm lucky enough to be in that position now.

B Paulo

I love reading blogs, especially about fashion, so eighteen months ago I decided to start my own. There weren't many blogs on teenage fashion – they were mainly for adults and a lot of them were pretty boring. I guess I expected to get about a million hits per blog post within a few weeks, but of course that hasn't happened. It would be nice to have a few more than a thousand sometimes, though. It'd help if more students at my school knew about it, I suppose, but I can just imagine some of the comments they'd make, so I've been a bit careful with who knows about it. I occasionally look back on what I wrote in the first few months after I started. I'm actually quite impressed with some of it, and the entries which aren't so good at least show me how much better my writing has become in the time I've been doing it.

C Amy

I've been posting my book review blog for the last two years, and quite a few people now follow it. Some of the things I wrote when I first started seem a bit boring compared to my reviews these days. But that's to be expected, as I had no idea how to write critically about someone else's work back then. What's interesting is how the grades I'm getting in several different subjects have got better over the last two years. I really don't think that can be a coincidence, and my teachers are really pleased too, of course. I've never kept my blog a secret from anyone I know. In fact, I'm glad that so many of my friends know about it, because I wouldn't still be blogging today if they hadn't convinced me to continue after I got a few negative comments about my reviews. Knowing that I can learn from other people's opinions means I actually enjoy reading them these days.

9 For each question write the correct letter A, B or C on the line.

Which person ...

- (a) earns a bit of money from their blog? [1]
- (b) finds value in reading their old blog posts? [1]
- (c) almost gave up writing their blog completely? [1]
- (d) sometimes finds it hard to think of ideas for blog posts? [1]
- (e) thinks that writing their blog has improved their performance at school? [1]
- (f) avoids telling certain people that they write a blog? [1]
- (g) believes that their blog will be useful for their future career? [1]
- (h) suggests that they are disappointed by how many people read their blog? [1]

[Total: 8]

Exercise 3

Read the article about anime, which is the name for animation from Japan, and then complete the notes.

The history of anime

Are you a fan of Japanese animation? If so, you may already know that anime, as Japanese animation is commonly known, originally dates back to the birth of Japan's film industry in the early 1900s. You might also be aware that anime has been one of Japan's major international cultural influences throughout the past century.

Much of the work done in the early years of anime used very basic film-making techniques, but as technology gradually improved, the popularity of anime slowly began to grow. The first modern anime productions, which were created in the late 1940s, had some similarities with American animation, but they also had their own uniquely Japanese style. And it is this style which has come to define anime. At this time, however, few people outside Japan knew about anime, and this lack of international success limited its development.

One thing that really helped anime to expand and develop was the arrival of television in the 1950s, which led to a sudden increase in the domestic market for animated shows. However, at that time, TV stations in other countries showed little interest in anime, so only TV stations in Japan were targeted by producers and filmmakers.

In fact, it wasn't until 1963 that anime achieved international success. This came in the form of a series called *Astro Boy*, which opened up the door for other anime programmes and films internationally. What also helped greatly was the fact that anime began to be adapted to suit non-Japanese audiences. It would be quite a long time before international audiences demanded to be able to watch the original Japanese versions as a matter of principle.

The next development to transform the anime industry was video, which occurred in the 1980s. This meant that viewers could watch their favourite anime shows whenever they wanted. This proved to be hugely successful for anime. Yet few videos were distributed outside Japan, and therefore the money-earning potential that this presented was not fully realised.

It was towards the end of the 1990s that another major development helped anime to reach an even broader audience: the internet. This made watching and learning about an anime series or character as easy as typing a name into a search engine.

However, a major threat to the success of anime was the fact that Japan's economic growth slowed considerably in the mid-1990s, in common with that in many other countries. The effects were felt from around 1995 until well into the new millennium. The result of this was that less money was invested in anime during this time, which signalled a turn towards productions that were guaranteed to sell. This also meant that experimental work largely died out.

Despite all of these difficulties, anime continues to survive both at home in Japan as well as internationally. Its future may not look quite as bright as it once did, but the chances are that it will still be a source of fascination to all kinds of people around the world for many years to come.

You are going to give a talk about the history of anime to your class at school.

Prepare some notes to use as the basis for your talk.

Make short notes under each heading.

10 What caused the growth in popularity of anime?

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-
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- [4]

11 What factors negatively affected the growth of anime?

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-
- [3]

[Total: 7]

Exercise 4

12 Read the article about an environmentally friendly football club called Forest Green Rovers.

Write a summary of what the football club is doing to help the environment.

Your summary should be about 80 words long (and no more than 90 words long). You should use your own words as far as possible.

You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your summary, and up to 6 marks for the style and accuracy of your language.

The world's most environmentally friendly football club

Professional football club Forest Green Rovers has become the world's most environmentally friendly football club. The club is based in the small town of Nailsworth, in the south west of England. With a population of around 6000, the town is the smallest place to have an English Football League team.

The club's green achievements have been attracting attention around the world for several years. It uses 100% green energy, which is provided by the company founded by the club's chairman and owner, Dale Vince. Vince has invested millions in the club since he bought it in 2010, transforming the club's image and enabling the team to become more successful. Helping the environment is very important to the club, so they have done things like putting solar panels onto the stadium roof. The club also provides free charging facilities for electric cars at the stadium for fans travelling to and from matches.

Another consideration is the pitch. The club doesn't use any harmful chemicals to maintain it. The grass is even cut using a solar-powered robot lawnmower, which uses satellite technology to find its way around the pitch. If anything gets in its way, the robot stops and goes off in a different direction, returning later in the day to cut the grass it missed first time around. The club also collects all rainwater to water the grass during dry periods.

Perhaps the most surprising environmental idea relates to the food. The club has actually become the first vegan football club in the world. This means they don't use any animal products at all in the food that is served at the stadium. The club decided to do this because of the environmental benefits, as well as to improve player performance and give fans healthier, tastier food on match days.

The club is also thinking about the future. It is making plans to move to a new stadium built entirely from wood, because it's the most environmentally friendly building material. But for the moment, they are happy to be a little bit different from anything the world of football has seen before.

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[Total: 12]

Exercise 5



13 You recently bought something, but there has been a problem with it.

Write an email to a friend about it.

In your email, you should:

- describe what you bought
- explain what the problem is with the thing that you bought
- say what you are going to do about the problem.

The pictures above may give you some ideas, and you can also use some ideas of your own.

Your email should be between 100 and 150 words long.

You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your email, and up to 6 marks for the language used.

Exercise 6

- 14 Teenagers often copy the appearance and behaviour of famous people.

Here are some comments from students about this topic:

My favourite star is a great actor – I really want to be like him.

I don't copy anyone – I like to do things my way!

Looking at pictures of famous people is a great way to get ideas about what to wear.

Sometimes, famous people do bad things to make us notice them - they shouldn't do that.

Write an article for your school magazine, giving your views.

The comments above may give you some ideas, and you can also use some ideas of your own.

Your article should be between 100 and 150 words long.

You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your article, and up to 6 marks for the language used.

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