

## Part 1

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:

A branch	B item	C piece	<u>D part</u>
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### Checking your mobile phone

How often do you check your phone? For many of us, our phone is an essential **0** \_\_\_\_\_ of everyday life, but apparently we are spending an increasing amount of time checking it for information without being **1** \_\_\_\_\_ of doing so.

Research in Helsinki shows that phone checking **2** \_\_\_\_\_ lasts less than 30 seconds on each occasion, and usually **3** \_\_\_\_\_ of opening a single application such as social media. The study also found many users check their mobiles throughout the **4** \_\_\_\_\_ day, and that what they check is often **5** \_\_\_\_\_ with particular contexts. For instance, when travelling to work or college, people tend to check their email; if they are bored, they get a quick **6** \_\_\_\_\_ on the latest news.

Checking this frequently can easily become a habit, which some say can **7** \_\_\_\_\_ us from more important things. Others, though, believe that being able to **8** \_\_\_\_\_ so much new information so quickly makes life far more interesting.

<b>1</b>	A sensitive	B cautious	C sensible	D conscious
<b>2</b>	A virtually	B typically	C widely	D suitably
<b>3</b>	A consists	B composes	C involves	D includes
<b>4</b>	A complete	B total	C normal	D entire
<b>5</b>	A attached	B assumed	C associated	D accompanied
<b>6</b>	A update	B revision	C review	D upgrade
<b>7</b>	A disturb	B distract	C disrupt	D distribute
<b>8</b>	A capture	B import	C obtain	D seize

## Part 2

For questions 9-16, 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). In the exam, write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

Example: **THE**

### The Australian city of Perth

Perth, **0** \_\_\_\_\_ capital of the state of Western Australia, has been described as one of the most remote cities **9** \_\_\_\_\_ Earth. Founded in 1829 and named after Perth in Scotland, it grew rapidly in the late nineteenth century **10** \_\_\_\_\_ a result of the discovery of gold in the state. Nowadays it has a population of around two million people, and many of **11** \_\_\_\_\_ were born outside Australia. This has led **12** \_\_\_\_\_ Perth becoming a culturally diverse city, in **13** \_\_\_\_\_ of the fact that the nearest large town is over 2,000 kilometres away, with well-established communities from southern Europe and South-East Asia **14** \_\_\_\_\_ particular. The city’s five universities have also attracted students from **15**

\_\_\_\_\_ over the world. Young people find much to enjoy in and around Perth on **16** \_\_\_\_\_ of its outdoor lifestyle, which offers a wide range of activities including swimming at its many beaches, cycling both in town and countryside, and visiting nearby nature reserves.

### Part 3

For questions **17-24**, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (**0**).

In the exam, write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

**Example:** GROWTH

### Advertising in schools

In certain countries, there has been rapid **0** \_\_\_\_\_ in the spending power of teenagers. Realising this, firms are aiming even more of their **17** \_\_\_\_\_ at young people, and **18** \_\_\_\_\_ they are doing this by advertising directly in schools. These companies see children as the **19** \_\_\_\_\_ of the future, and hope that when they become adults they will maintain their **20** \_\_\_\_\_ to brands they first started buying in their youth.

As a result, many **21** \_\_\_\_\_ are keen to supply equipment to schools, sponsor sports activities or provide students with kit that carries their logo. Other firms install machines selling snacks and drinks, and these are often highly **22** \_\_\_\_\_ for both the companies and the schools.

There is, however, considerable **23** \_\_\_\_\_ about whether this is a good idea. Some claim these firms provide a useful service, but others argue that these machines encourage **24** \_\_\_\_\_ eating habits at a time when many doctors are concerned about the diet of the young.

- 0.GROW
- 17.PRODUCE
- 18.INCREASE
- 19.CONSUME
- 20.LOYAL
- 21.MANUFACTURE
- 22.PROFIT
- 23.AGREE
- 24.HEALTH

### Part 4

For questions **25-30**, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use **between two and five words**, including the word given. Here is an example (**0**).

**Example:**

**0.**Nobody had ever done my hair like that before.

**HAD**

I'd \_\_\_\_\_ like that before.

**Example: 0. NEVER HAD MY HAIR DONE**

**25.** The storm left very few trees standing.

**WERE**

Hardly \_\_\_\_\_ after the storm.

26. 'What's the height of that building?' I asked the guide.

**HOW**

I asked the guide \_\_\_\_\_ was.

27. The new printer is very similar to the old model.

**MUCH**

There is not \_\_\_\_\_ the new printer and the old model.

28. Simon wouldn't apologise for being so rude.

**WAS**

Simon refused to \_\_\_\_\_ for being so rude.

29. What attracts people so much to this city is its nightlife.

**FIND**

What people \_\_\_\_\_ this city is its nightlife.

30. It's unlikely our firm will manage to win the contract.

**SUCCEED**

Our firm is unlikely \_\_\_\_\_ the contract.

## Part 5

*You are going to read an extract from a novel. For questions 31-36, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.*

Alex North felt uncomfortable. With little time to pack, she'd forgotten her professional suit jacket. So she was wearing flat black boots, dark denim jeans, a long-sleeve white T shirt and fawn shawl; she looked more like a protestor than a journalist. Tiredness added to her misery. As she made her way home last night, she had expected to be enjoying a Saturday morning lie-in. But after a panicky 2 a.m. phone call from her editor Gerome, a tense cab ride to the hospital and then an 8 a.m. plane from Heathrow to Prague, her day was far off course. She'd had little rest on the plane; after embarrassing herself by flinging out an arm in her sleep and hitting the crew-cut young American sitting next to her, she sat awake and rigid for the rest of the flight.

Bernie was meant to be in Prague covering this story. 'It all boils down to this, my dear,' he had said last night during their evening out with the others from the office. 'If I can get a really good story at the international conference, I might actually retire. Job done. Go home. It's that important.'

Bernie left earlier than Alex, keen to go over his notes and finish packing. Alex stayed out with the rest of her colleagues, and she'd barely made it into bed when Gerome had called to pass on the terrible news. Bernie was in hospital. His wife said he collapsed when he got home. The doctors diagnosed a stroke. Alex was so horrified that the Prague conference, and the large number of protestors expected to turn up there, was the last thing on her mind. But Gerome insisted she go in Bernie's place. He told her to get a good night's sleep, knowing full well she would get dressed and rush to visit Bernie.

Bernie Cook and his wife Laura had been like parents to Alex since she arrived in London from Australia four years ago. 'Aren't you a bit old to be a trainee?' was the first of many questions Bernie asked. Alex explained that journalism wasn't her first career choice. She tried her hand at accounting, but found her office job was torture. Her three-year communications degree was far more satisfying, but left her jobless and penniless at age 28. So off to London it was, with a traineeship at the UK's best investigative daily newspaper, living in the city's smallest, cheapest flat and sustained by a weekly roast dinner at Bernie and Laura's.

Anyone overhearing Alex and Bernie talking would never think there was a 30-year age difference. Bernie's passion for political debate - and conspiracy theories - kept Alex enthralled for hours. And his talent for journalism had rubbed off. Seeing him lying there unconscious, so still and frail, was a shock to Alex. Laura looked visibly withered, leaning over Bernie's face as if frightened she might miss something if she glanced away. She barely looked up long enough to give Bernie's iPad to Alex so she could study his notes for the assignment.

Alex pretended to feel confident as she hurried across Charles Bridge towards the conference venue - Prague Castle. She was staying near the Old Town Square, in the predictably modest hotel booked by Bernie. Alex had politely endured the hotelier's gossip; Bernie always said the people were the best thing about Prague. But Alex loved the pastel feel of the city, the swans on the river and the winding cobbled streets. She knew her way around, having visited once before with a forgettable ex-boyfriend. She recalled being more impressed with Prague than with him. It was no wonder the relationship petered out like all the others.

**31.** In the first paragraph, what do we learn about Alex?

- A She was excited at the prospect of working in Prague.
- B She was feeling better after sleeping on the plane.
- C She was worried her clothes were unsuitable for work.
- D She had known it was going to be a busy night.

**32.** What does 'it all boils down to this' mean? (Paragraph Two, underlined)

- A as far as I am aware
- B this is the only problem
- C what annoys me is this
- D to sum up the situation

**33.** When Alex's boss rang her

- A he expected her to do everything he said.
- B he told her to go to the airport immediately.
- C he said she had to cover the story in Prague.
- D he wanted her to go to Bernie and Laura's house.

**34.** Why did Alex become a journalist?

- A She was an unemployed graduate looking for work.
- B She was attracted by the high salaries in London.
- C Bernie had encouraged her to do the same job as him.
- D That was what she had always wanted to be.

**35.** What upset Alex at the hospital?

- A Laura's attitude towards her.
- B Bernie's notes about the conference.
- C What Bernie said when she arrived there.
- D The contrast with how Bernie usually was.

**36.** How did Alex feel when she arrived in Prague?

- A She was sad her ex-boyfriend wasn't there with her.
- B She was glad to be there again.
- C She was sure she would do a good job there.
- D She liked the luxury accommodation she had there

## Part 6

You are going to read a magazine article about outdoor ice skating. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A-G the one which fits each gap (37-42). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

### Go skating in Sweden this winter

*Forget crowded indoor ice rinks. Once you've skated on natural ice, there's no going back.*

It was the question on all of our minds, but I asked it: 'How do you know when the ice isn't safe to skate on?' Niklas, our calm Swedish guide, rubbed his chin, thought for a moment, then offered up the wisdom of a lifetime spent playing around on frozen water. 'When it breaks,' he said with a broad smile.

The comment wasn't exactly reassuring, but his easy confidence was. As long as it was just jokes being cracked, maybe we'd be all right after all. Niklas, a maths teacher when having breaks from pursuing hobby, was not entirely joking about his attitude to ice. **37** \_\_. The fact that strong ice makes a deeper sound under one's feet than thin ice does is a useful clue.

Our group of beginners was feeling rather nervous as we stood at the edge of a vast frozen bay that first day. Niklas tried his best to persuade us to move forward but, like hesitating penguins on an iceberg, no-one wanted to take the first step. **38** \_\_. 'Look at your faces,' shouted Niklas to the happily smiling group, racing along behind him.

Our expressions had been far less joyful the previous evening on being told that a five-hour drive would follow our flights into Sweden's Arlanda airport. That hadn't been the plan; but then, in the world of natural ice skating, no-one expects very much from plans. With its 100,000 lakes and continuous sub zero winter temperatures, Sweden has no shortage of ice. **39** \_\_. For instance, too much overlying snow and you get a bumpy, uncomfortable ride; a sudden thaw and vast areas become unusable.

Perfect conditions must be sought out, and don't last. **40** \_\_. Niklas had received a message via social media about Stigfjorden, a shallow, island-studded bay around 50 kilometres north of Gothenburg on the west coast.

There we quickly discovered skating in the open air is a wonderfully leisurely activity. Push off with one skate and you can go 10 metres with ease. Two or three quick kicks at the surface and you accelerate like a top-class sprinter. **41** \_\_. We weren't yet ready to skate that kind of distance, but we certainly had a wonderful sense of freedom.

Our best day was at Vattern, one of Europe's biggest lakes and also one of its clearest. In ideal conditions, this clarity creates a phenomenon known as 'glass ice'. The rocky lake bottom stretched beneath us, three metres below a surface so perfect it was unseen. My tentative first steps left scratches; it felt like vandalising a classical sculpture. As my confidence grew, so did my speed. The sensation as I raced across the invisible ice was astonishing, somewhere between floating, falling and flying. Then there was a sharp noise from all around us. **42** \_\_. No one had to say it. We were skating on very thin ice.

- A.** That was the reason for our unscheduled journey from one side of the country to the other.
- B.** Ten minutes later we laughed at our earlier caution as we slid across the smooth surface, our joy as limitless as our surroundings.
- C.** The skates consisted of removable blades that fastened to the toes of our specialist boots like cross-country skis.
- D.** At first I ignored it, but when thin cracks began to appear I thought it wise to return to solid ground.
- E.** After our first session on the ice had ended, we were not surprised to be told that covering 250 kilometres in a single day is quite possible.

F. The Swedes adopt a common-sense approach: they are cautious, they test as they go, and they use ears - as well as eyes - to check it.

G. This is not always suited to skating, however.

## Part 7

You are going to read an article about the effects of tourism on local people. For questions 43-52, choose from the people (A-E). The people may be chosen more than once.

### Which section...

43. misses a place they used to go to as a child? \_\_\_
44. states that tourism provides a considerable number of jobs for local people? \_\_\_
45. wishes local people had opposed the construction of certain holiday homes? \_\_\_
46. claims that tourism has destroyed a traditional industry? \_\_\_
47. blames the tourist industry for spoiling the local countryside? \_\_\_
48. feels that the presence of people from other cultures benefits the local community? \_\_\_
49. criticises the behaviour of tourists in their town? \_\_\_
50. says the town is wealthier than it was before it became a tourist resort? \_\_\_
51. believes that most of the profits from the local tourist industry go abroad? \_\_\_
52. is not convinced that so-called green tourism actually benefits the environment? \_\_\_

## Living with tourism

Five people describe how tourism has affected their home town.

### A Leonor Sousa

It can't be denied that tourism has attracted investment, which has certainly raised living standards here, but the cost in other respects has been extremely high. Take the effect on the environment, for instance. When my parents were young this used to be an area of fields and woods, but now everything is covered in concrete. The tourists themselves aren't responsible for this, - it's the construction companies, property developers and estate agents who are to blame because they're the ones making all the money. They're all based in the big cities and bring in their own people, so they hardly create any employment at all for local residents.

### B Yusuf Demir

When I was growing up in my home town there was a path I used to walk along to go to school, and last summer I went to see if it was still there. It was, but the view from it had changed completely. Now there is a vast shopping mall, with a cinema and cafes alongside. I don't actually mind that, because it means there are lots more things to do, and I also like the fact that it has a really international atmosphere. It's good for local people to meet visitors from other parts of the world, try new kinds of food and hear about different ways of living.

### C Matt Walker

Tourism has changed this town so much, even in the years since I was at junior school. In those days there was a football pitch near the harbour where we would kick a ball around, but it's gone now, which is a pity. In the harbour itself luxury yachts owned by people from richer parts of the country have replaced the fishing boats, to the extent that there is now no sign of what used to be the main source of income and employment locally. In the evenings the town is certainly a lot livelier, but sometimes people start doing things they would never think of doing back in their own home towns, and then the police have to be called.

**D** Trisha Chandra

I was just a child when tourism first took off here and those incredibly ugly houses were built for summer visitors. The residents really should have protested about that. It was all the fault of the town council, who only ever thought in the short term and seemed to give planning permission to anyone who applied to build anything. Nowadays there's talk of ecological tourism, but that's just a way of making people feel less guilty about the harm they are doing by making a few insignificant changes, such as re using towels in their hotel rooms.

**E** Daniela Navarro

I know some of the new hotels and holiday apartment blocks are unattractive, and that the bars, restaurants and nightclubs that cater for tourists have changed the nature of the town, but without them unemployment - particularly among the young - would be far worse than it currently is. That, though, is as far as the economic benefits to the town go, as the only ones making any real money out of all this are the big tour operators and the owners of hotel chains, none of whom are actually based in this country. Also, very few tourists learn our language. I know it must be difficult for them because most of them are quite old, but it means there's little communication between us and them.

## Answer Keys

### Part 1

1. **D - conscious.** To be conscious of something is to be aware of it, to realise and understand what you do.
2. **B - typically.** Normally, usually, as a rule. 'Virtually' is normally used to mean 'almost all' or 'almost none'.
3. **A - consists.** The only verb here that forms a strong collocation with the 'of' preposition.
4. **D - entire.** Whole, all day. A 'normal day' could work grammatically, but it would require rearranging the sentence, which is not allowed in FCE Use of English Part 1.
5. **C - associated.** Associated with here means 'connected with, related to'; 'accompanied with' shouldn't be used because the meaning would change to 'joined by'.
6. **A - update.** This is the only noun that takes the preposition 'on'. The others commonly take the preposition 'of'.
7. **B - distract.** To distract is to take somebody's attention away from something.
8. **C - obtain.** You can obtain information, but you can't capture, import or seize it. 'To obtain' basically is the same as 'to get'.

### Part 2

9. **on.** 'on Earth' - on the surface of our planet. Prepositions of place can be tricky, so make sure to revise them before the exam.
10. **as.** 'As a result' is used in the meaning 'because, due to'.
11. **them/these/those.** Any of the determiners can be used with virtually no change to the meaning of the sentence.
12. **to.** 'lead to something/to doing something' - to cause something, to make something happen.
13. **spite.** 'In spite' is spelled in two words and followed by the 'of' preposition. Not to be confused with 'despite' which is one word and takes no prepositions: 'In spite of his success, he was never truly happy'; 'Despite the poor weather, we still enjoyed the weekend'.
14. **in.** 'In particular' here has the meaning 'especially, specifically'.
15. **all.** 'From all over the world' - from everywhere, from all parts of the planet.
16. **account.** 'On account of something' - due to, because of something.

## Part 3

17. **products.** Plural form of the noun is required here, as suggested by the context.
18. **increasingly.** To do something in a certain manner - an adverb is required here, formed by adding '-ly' ending to the word.
19. **consumers.** 'Children' is plural here and so should be 'consumers' - people who consume a product.
20. **loyalty.** 'Loyalty to something' (in this case, certain commercial products) means choosing that particular brand in favour of all others because you've used it and liked it in the past.
21. **manufacturers.** Another plural form of the word suggested by the determiner 'many'.
22. **profitable.** A common adverb + adjective combination, the adjective formed by adding the '-able' suffix.
23. **disagreement.** The context of the last paragraph suggests using the word in the negative, so we form a noun by adding a negative prefix 'dis-' and an ending '-ment'.
24. **unhealthy.** Another negative word, this time an adjective, formed by adding a negative prefix 'un-'.

## Part 4

25. **any trees were left/still standing.** Inversion is used here, making the sentence a bit more difficult to get right. 'Hardly any' is the paraphrase of 'very few'.
26. **how high that building.** Even though we're using reported speech, 'that' isn't changed, as there is nothing to change it to.
27. **much difference between.** A comparison between two things is made, using the construction 'there is (not) much difference between'.
28. **say (that) he was sorry.** 'That' is optional here and can be left out.
29. **find (so) attractive about.** 'Attractive' should be used with 'about' and not 'in', a common mistake.
30. **to succeed in winning.** 'To succeed in doing something'.

## Part 5

31. **C.** The first few sentences of the text give us the idea of how uncomfortable she was with her current choice of clothing. Answer A is not mentioned in the text. Answer B is wrong, as the opposite is meant - she didn't sleep much at home or on the plane. The opposite of Answer D is said - she expected to have a 'lie-in' the following day - to stay in her bed longer than usual.
32. **D.** 'It all boils down to this' is an idiomatic expression meaning 'when everything is considered, this is the essential point.' Bernie is summarising the situation and identifying what matters most to him — getting a strong story at the conference.
33. **C.** Paragraph Three, bottom half: '*But Gerome insisted she go in Bernie's place*'. Gerome, her boss, wanted Alex to go instead of Bernie, who had had a stroke.
34. **A.** She was 'jobless and penniless', so she decided to go to London. Answers B and C are not mentioned. The opposite of answer D is stated -journalist 'wasn't her first choice'.
35. **D.** Paragraph Five, in the middle: '*Seeing him lying there unconscious, so still and frail, was a shock to Alex*'. Answers A and B are not mentioned in the text. Answer C is false - Bernie couldn't have said anything.
36. **B.** Last paragraph, in the middle: '... Alex loved the pastel feel of the city...' The opposite of Answer A can be found in the text - she found the city more exciting than her ex-boyfriend. Answer C is not mentioned. Answer D is wrong as the hotel Bernie had booked was 'predictably modest' - not luxurious at all.

## Part 6

- 37.F. The previous sentence mentions Niklas's attitude to ice, and then further explanation is given in Sentence F on how the Swedes perceive danger, how they take risks and their approach to it.
- 38.B. The author is referring to his first careful attempt at skating on natural ice - cautious at first, but then filled with joy as he tries it with the rest of the group.
- 39.G. Ice skating surfaces vary in quality, and both Sentence G and the next one talk about it.
- 40.A. The reason for their 'unscheduled' (not planned) trip was to find the perfect ice, suitable for skating.
- 41.E. The speed and ease of skating mentioned previously allow to travel incredible distances over time - like the one mentioned in Sentence E.
- 42.D. The 'sharp noise' mentioned in the previous sentence refers to the ice cracking slowly - the event mentioned in Sentence D.

## Part 7

- 43.C. The author mentions missing the football pitch (football field). 'It's a pity' he says.
- 44.E. Unemployment would've been higher if it wasn't for the tourism and the jobs it creates.
- 45.D. First two sentences talk about 'really ugly houses' that should not have been built and how the local residents should have protested.
- 46.C. Fishing used to be the main source of income and a strong industry, now replaced by luxurious yachts of the rich.
- 47.A. The effect on the environment is mentioned, how there used to be vast areas of woods, now turned into concrete - roads and pavements.
- 48.B. Last sentence talks about how it can be beneficial to learn from other cultures, using food and ways of living as the examples.
- 49.C. Last sentence of C mentions tourists doing things they would never have thought about doing in their hometowns and how law enforcement has to get involved.
- 50.A. First sentence talks about the money attracted by the tourist industry and the improvement to local infrastructure it brought about.
- 51.E. The profits go to the companies that are based in other countries - the tour operators and the big hotel chains.
- 52.D. According to the author, the measures taken to make the tourism more eco-friendly are not enough and only make people feel better about themselves.

## Vocabulary

The vocabulary below is meant to help you with the more difficult words. If the word isn't on the list then you are either supposed to know it or it is too specific to be worth learning and you don't have to know it to answer the question. Symbols in brackets mean part of speech (see bottom of the list). Sentences in italics give examples of usage for some more complex words and phrases.

**And remember — you are not given a vocabulary list (or a dictionary) at your real exam.**

### Part 1

**Essential** (adj) - extremely important, integral. *Exercising is an essential part of one's daily routine. At least it should be.*

**Apparently** (adv) - judging by the facts or something you have heard of, but you are not sure of it yourself.

*Apparently, Canada is the second biggest country but I've never bothered to look this up!*

**Application** (n) - (here) a mobile program or software such as Instagram or Chrome. *There are many applications on my phone that I never use and I don't even know how I got them to begin with.*

## Part 2

**Remote** (adj) - located far away from something, usually far from populated areas. *We lived in a remote village away from the loud urban centres.*

**Diverse** (adj) - offering variety. *The shop offers a diverse range of products - from phones and laptops to books and magazines.*

**Nature reserves** - areas of wild land where all species are protected by the government. No development is allowed in such areas.

## Part 3

**Advertising** (n) - promoting a product or a service to make it better known and thus make it more likely for others to buy. *Advertising was probably the quickest growing industry of the twentieth century.*

**Argue** (v) - to have an opinion and to try and defend it by providing arguments. *Some doctors argue that too much exercise can prevent youngsters from developing naturally.*

**Encourage** (v) - to promote, to welcome some activity. *Students are encouraged to attend additional classes, but they are not required to by law.*

## Part 5

**Fawn** (adj) - a grey-brown colour.

**Lie-in** (n) - to have a lie-in is to stay in bed longer than usual in the morning. *Having slept for only three hours, I treated myself to having a 15 minute lie-in, even though I couldn't risk falling back asleep.*

**Tense** (adj) - stressful and nervous. *The meeting was going to be rather tense - after all nobody expected chief editor to resign like that - out of the blue with no prior warnings.*

**Off course** (adj) - not going in the intended direction; not proceeding as planned.

**Rigid** (adj) - stiff because of being shocked or afraid, uneasy.

**Boil down to something** (phr) - this is how it is, this is what the problem or the situation is. *The crisis at school boils down to the fact that one of the teachers had romantic relationships with one of their students, and the dean believes this has ruined everybody's reputation.*

**Go over something** (phr v) - to review something, to give something another look or read to make sure there are no mistakes or inaccuracies.

**Stroke** (n) - a medical condition when the brain doesn't get enough blood flow. Has serious, usually permanent negative health consequences.

**Torture** (n) - (used figuratively here) something extremely unpleasant, causing discomfort. *Having to do homework every day was a real torture to him.*

**Sustain** (v) - to maintain, to support something. *The family budget had to be sustained by my salary and the odd weekend jobs I would take.*

**Enthralled** (adj) - extremely interested, fascinated to a point when you ignore everything else.

**Withered** (adj) - dry, old, lacking life in it. *The withered vegetation of a house that hadn't been looked after for some time.*

**Peter out** (phr v) - to end gradually rather than at once.

**Part 6**

**Reassuring** (adj) - providing or encouraging confidence. *Doctor's words sounded quite reassuring when he said that 80% of patients recover within the first month of treatment.*

**Clue** (n) - a hint, a detail that provides information indirectly.

**Overlying** (adj) - lying in multiple layers on top of one another.

**Thaw** (n) - a period of unusually warm weather during winter that leads to snow and ice melting to water.

**Seek out** (phr v) - to search for something, especially something not easy to find.

**Clarity** (n) - the quality of being clear, easy to see through.

**Tentative** (adj) - careful, without certainty, done as a first attempt. *Mary's tentative attempts at public speaking weren't particularly successful, but eventually she got the hang of it.*

**Unscheduled** (adj) - unplanned, spontaneous.

**Part 7**

**Oppose** (v) - to be against something or to protest it. Local activists oppose the council's idea to turn a local park into a new shopping centre.

**Blame** (v) - to say that somebody is responsible for a mistake, a crime or any other wrongdoing. *Natalie blamed her parents for her career failures - she believed it all had to do with her useless degree.*

**Football pitch** (n) - special place used to play football, also known as a football field.

**Harbour** (n) - a place next to a river or the sea where ships are serviced, loaded and unloaded. *The local harbour was a pretty nice place to hang out with your friends back in the day.*

**Take off** (phr v) - (here) to become popular, successful or to get in demand. It took years of hard work to finally see our family business take off.

**Cater for** (phr v) - to care for, to provide what is needed or required for a particular group.