



LANGUAGE COMPETENCE

ENTRANCE TEST

IB DP

PART I: Reading

TASK 1

Read the text and for questions 1-6 choose the correct option A, B or C.

(1 point per answer)

Curriculum Vitae: Tips that can Help

Six out of ten CV's which are prepared by Information Technology professionals fail to meet the basic standards and are turned down without even being read fully, according to a recruitment company. As a consequence, thousands of candidates are excluding themselves from attractive job opportunities.

Although the company handles over 60,000 CV's per year, it estimates that at least 60% would not be admitted if they were sent directly to potential clients due to basic errors.

The company Marketing Director said, "Sadly it's often the most highly qualified candidates whose CV's are so poorly constructed that they are literally dead on arrival. Attractive job opportunities in the IT industry often generate intense competition and there is often little to choose between the candidates".

"Advice on the presentation format of CV's in relation to the requirements that they are being submitted for should be an Industry standard so as to add real value to the candidates that you are representing and indeed to fulfil your professional obligations to your clients".

"Writing a CV can be extremely difficult and too often a CV turns out to be a generic overview including a lot of information that is irrelevant. People should remember that an employer typically spends between 15 and 30 seconds scanning each CV and you have that one chance to make an impression".

"A good CV is more than just documentation of your career path; it is a marketing tool designed to present your professional career experience according to the new job specification. It should also include details of past professional successes that effectively demonstrate your ability to undertake the job responsibilities outlined"

Adapted from: <https://test-english.com/reading/b1/>

1. Recruitment companies say that potential clients

- A. make basic mistakes
- B. only get 60% of CV's
- C. reject CV's with mistakes

2. The Marketing Director said that the best candidates

- A. are the most affected
- B. do not send CV's
- C. write the best CV's

3. The Marketing Director suggests that candidates ought to pay attention to

- A. CV's presentation
- B. other companies
- C. other competitors

4. The Marketing Director says that very often CV's include

- A. necessary details
- B. unimportant information
- C. very little information

5. Candidates should remember that employers

- A. are typical people
- B. are very busy people
- C. make an impression on people

6. A good curriculum should show

- A. the new job specifications
- B. your marketing tools
- C. your overall skills

TASK 2

Read the text on millennials in the workplace below and decide if the statements (1-6) are true (T) or false (F). (1 point per answer)

Millennials in the workplace

Background

Millennials (those born between the early 1980s and the early 1990s) make up a huge part of our workforce but they seem to lack loyalty to the companies and the leaders they work for. Multinational companies are noticing larger turnover rates of millennials as employee retention rates fall. This report looks at the findings of two large-scale surveys on the mindset of the millennial generation and explores how organisations can strive to address these needs, increase employee engagement and encourage retention.

Research

In a global survey conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), more than 40,000 millennial (born between 1983 and 1993) and non-millennial responses were collected on the topics of workplace culture, communication and working styles, pay structure, career development, work–life balance, etc. In a separate global survey conducted by Deloitte, more than 10,000 millennials participated in a study about their perceptions of the threats and opportunities in the complex world of work.

Key findings

- Millennials are as committed to their work as their more senior colleagues.
- Millennials value interesting work and a good work–life balance. They do not believe that excessive work demands are worth sacrifices in their personal lives.
- Millennials want flexibility in their working hours and are willing to give up pay increases and promotions for a flexible working schedule. They believe that success should be measured by productivity and not by the number of hours they are seen in an office.
- Millennials want to feel supported and appreciated by their company and their superiors.
- Millennials want more opportunities to develop their skills. These include technological skills, teamwork and interpersonal skills.
- Millennials believe that businesses and business leaders should contribute to the improvement of society and they are more likely to be loyal to a company with strong ethics.

Recommendations

Organisations and managers wanting to retain millennials should consider:

- monitoring their workload and satisfaction levels with their work–life balance

- creating a flexible work culture where employees have more control over their working hours and their work location
- providing meaningful work and interesting opportunities
- offering help and support in continuing professional development
- changing the organisation's goals from being mainly about profit-making to motives that address social concerns and solve wider societal problems.

Adapted from: <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/reading/b2-reading>

1) This report is based on surveys that only questioned people born between 1983 and 1994.	T / F
2) The surveys were conducted in several different countries.	T / F
3) Millennials are less loyal to their companies than non-millennials.	T / F
4) Millennials believe that their technological skills are sufficiently advanced.	T / F
5) Managers should be aware of how happy their staff are with the amount of work they have been given.	T / F
6) Managers should worry about their own work–life balance and not concern themselves with problems in society.	T / F

SCORE ____ / 6

TASK 3

Read the text on millennials in the workplace again and for questions 1-3 choose the correct answer A, B, C or D. (1 point per answer)

- This report was done for organisations that want to ...
 - get rid of millennial employees.
 - have higher turnover rates.
 - prove that millennials are more difficult than non-millennials.
 - increase the job satisfaction of the millennials who are working for them.
- According to the report, which of the following would millennials be happy to do?
 - give up family time on weekends to finish a work project

PART II: Use of English

- B. sacrifice pay so that they can work shorter hours
- C. be left to find their own developmental opportunities
- D. be committed to their companies' profit-making motives

3. If managers want to keep their millennial employees happy, they should ...

- A. have them develop the technological skills of the non-millennials.
- B. promote the importance of remaining loyal to the company.
- C. avoid giving them feedback on the work they're doing.
- D. give them options to work from home.

SCORE ____ / 3

TASK 4

For questions 1-10 choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). (1 point per answer)

1. "A tennis match starts at 8 am, ____ it?" "Yes, that's right."
A isn't it C doesn't it
B hasn't it D won't it
2. Tom always wears a cap and sunglasses to avoid ____ by his fans.
A being recognised C to be recognised
B recognising D to recognise
3. It is only the third time I ____ the car.
A drive C drove
B have driven D am driving
4. Riding a bike is ____ more environmentally friendly than driving a car.
A doubtful C undoubtedly
B doubtfully D doubt
5. I felt exhausted last night. I suppose it's because I ____ too much time studying.
A have spent C had spent
B spent D was spending
6. If the government ____ a proposal banning all hunting, there would be fewer endangered species.
A will adopt C would adopt
B have adopted D adopted

7. Luis was afraid other kids would laugh ____ him because he couldn't speak English.
 A to C of
 B in D at
8. Is Mr Simpson ____ the hotel reservations for us?
 A to be made C to be making
 B being made D going to make
9. He can borrow this book ____ he gives it back to me by Wednesday.
 A provided C as long
 B in case D unless
10. Would you happen to know which platform ____ from?
 A does the train leave C the train leaves
 B leaves the train D is leaving the train

SCORE ____ / 10

TASK 5

For questions 1-10 choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). (1 point per answer)

1. You can ____ me to support you tomorrow. Don't worry!
 A look for C take over
 B stick to D count on
2. Some medicines are available only on ____.
 A recipe C bill
 B prescription D receipt
3. No one won the match; the final result was a(an) ____.
 A equal C drawing
 B draw D score
4. They're working overtime as their team has a very ____ deadline.
 A close C tight
 B stiff D tense
5. Kate tried to ____ Mark, but he was driving far too fast for her.
 A join in with C look up to
 B catch up with D take down with
6. How did the thieves gain ____ into the gallery?
 A admission C access

B entrance

D pass

7. It was her first performance in the theatre. We saw she was suffering from stage ____.

A fright

C panic

B fear

D threat

8. They are planning to build a new basketball ____ in our town.

A court

C ground

B pitch

D track

9. Studying abroad can help young people _____ their horizons.

A broaden

C enlarge

B lengthen

D deepen

10. It's generally ____ to smoke in public.

A useless

C unimpressive

B unacceptable

D unavoidable

SCORE ____ / 10

TASK 6

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. (2 points per answer)

1. There is no need for you to mow the lawn today.

DON'T

You _____ mow the lawn today.

2. When I was in primary school, I always took a bus, but now I don't do it.

TO

In primary school I _____, but now I don't do it.

3. My mum regrets she doesn't know any foreign languages.

WISHES

My mum _____ some foreign languages.

4. Helen started to work as a vet twelve years ago and she is does it.

HAS

Helen _____ as a vet for twelve years.

5. His joke was so funny that I simply had to laugh.

HELP

His joke was so funny that I _____ .

6. When I entered the classroom, the students were doing the third exercise.

ALREADY

When I entered the classroom, the students _____ two exercises.

7. The editor should write this note today.

BE

This note _____ by the editor today.

8. My family owns a holiday home so we spend holidays there.

NOT

If my family _____ a holiday home, we wouldn't spend holidays there.

9. I didn't expect Eva to be such a good player.

TURNE

Eva _____ a really good player.

10. 'You can borrow my book,' Barbara said to me.

HER

Barbara told _____ book.

SCORE _____ / 20

TASK 7

Read the text and complete each sentence with the correct word, transforming the word given in capitals to get a logical and grammatically correct text. (1 point per answer)

NECESSITY OR LUXURY?

Today's higher salaries and 1_____ (GREAT) spending power have led to the problem of our buying things which are completely 2_____ (NECESSARY), simply for the sake of it. Now that more people have the 3_____ (FINANCE) means to do this, shopping has almost become a 4_____ (NATION) pastime. We pay a small fortune on clothes with 5_____ (DESIGN) labels, even though there are high quality, cheaper 6_____ (ALTERNATE). We want 'timesaving'

7_____ (**ELECTRIC**) appliances, but in fact we usually have the 8_____ (**ABLE**) to do the same chores just as quickly by hand. Let's get rid of these useless 9_____ (**POSSESS**)! Take all your old clothes, children's toys and so on, and give them to a deserving charity 10_____
(**ORGANISE**). Ridding yourself of unwanted goods gives a sense of 11_____
(**FREE**) which is a 12_____ (**JOY**) experience! Thus why don't you take it into 13_____ (**CONSIDER**) next time on a shopping spree.

SCORE ____ / 13

TASK 8

Read the texts below and fill in **ONE** word in each gap to get logical and grammatically correct texts. (1 point per answer)

TEXT 1

A DREAM CAMPSITE

I can't imagine a summer holiday without spending at least a couple of weeks camping in Northern Ireland. Every single year I look **1**_____ to escaping problems at work and other everyday troubles.

I usually stay on a small campsite **2**_____ is run by my friend's parents. The charm of this place is not that it provides all kinds **3**_____ tourist attractions. It doesn't actually. **4**_____ the contrary, the local way of life is authentically simple and relaxing. As soon as you arrive, you feel as **5**_____ you're far away from the hectic city life and you would like to stay there forever.

The campsite is set in a picturesque rural setting. It has its **6**_____ fishing lake and easy access to the woods. The owners are truly outgoing and they always give newcomers a very warm welcome.

TEXT 2

HITTING THE JACKPOT

A couple of years ago a dear friend of **7**_____ won the lottery. As it happened, we had bought our lottery tickets together but I wasn't as lucky **8**_____ Susan. As soon as I found out that she had hit the jackpot, I rang Susan to congratulate her **9**_____ winning quite a large amount of money.

At first, she didn't want anybody to know about it and she insisted **10**_____ me accompanying her to pick up the cheque. When we arrived, there were loads of reporters and she agreed to **11**_____ her photo taken, which later appeared in all the tabloids. Since then, she has received hundreds of begging letters which really get her down. Her life is a bit easier now but I know she

still **12** _____ she had kept her privacy.

SCORE ____ / **12**

PART III: Writing

TASK 9

Choose one of the topics below and write a composition in an appropriate style. Use between 100 – 150 words.

- 1)** Your class has been doing a project on healthy lifestyle. As a part of this project, your teacher has asked you to write **an essay** discussing advantages and disadvantages of keeping fit.

- 2)** You took part in a language camp last summer but you were not happy with it. Write **a letter** to the organisers, explaining why you are not happy with the camp and telling them what you expect.

Assessment criteria	
Content	0 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5
Structure	0 – 1 – 2 – 3
Coherence & cohesion	0 – 1 – 2
Language	0 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5
Grammar range and accuracy	0 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5

SCORE _____ / 20

PART IV: Listening