1 THIS IS US

Reading and Use of English Part 6 Gapped text

1 D 2 H 3 F 4 B 5 E 6 G 7 A

Language focus

The present

- 1
- 1 I'm always finding 2 have to have seen
- 3 I'm understanding 4 we're hoping

2

- 1 steps, is/'s being watched, wonder, is/'s going, stands / is/'s standing, focuses / focusing, takes, leaps, twists, messes
- 2 wait, open, pull, take, wipe, put, remove, check, add, check, are/'re topping, means, is/'s being used
- **3** go, am/'m shrinking, says, is/'s examining, am/'m getting, yell, am/'m getting, says

3

1 a 2 b 3 b 4 a 5 b 6 a 7 a 8 b

4

- 1 forgive, warn 2 authorise 3 declare 4 quit
- 5 guarantee, second 6 acknowledge, refuse
- 7 challenge, bet

Vocabulary Feelings and emotions

1

Suggested answers (NB Other adverbs may also be possible.)

- 1 visibly elated
- 2 absolutely/completely/utterly repulsed / grossed out by
- 3 absolutely/completely/utterly flabbergasted/ dumbfounded
- **4** wholly engrossed in (NB The idiom 'glued to' is mainly used with screens, e.g. TVs and phones.)
- 5 absolutely/completely/utterly petrified
- 6 absolutely/completely/utterly dumbfounded/ flabbergasted
- 7 hopelessly/absolutely besotted with
- 8 literally glued to / wholly engrossed in
- 9 a bit despondent
- 10 absolutely/completely/utterly repulsed / grossed out

2

1 down 2 heels 3 in 4 out 5 bits

6 went (goes is possible) 7 rage

Suggested answer: The middle paragraph uses present tenses (present simple, continuous and perfect) to make the action feel more dramatic. In the final paragraph, the speaker reverts to past tenses to focus on the reactions, not the action.

Adjectives and nouns with self

1 e 2 f 3 b 4 c 5 g 6 a 7 h 8 d

2

1

+: self-actualisation, self-assurance, self-made, selfreliance, self-respecting, self-sacrificing, self-worth -: self-deception, self-delusion, self-indulgent

Reading and Use of English Part 1 Multiple-choice cloze 1 C 2 B 3 A 4 D 5 A 6 A 7 C 8 B

Listening Part 1 Three-option multiple choice 1 B 2 B 3 A 4 A 5 C 6 B

Writing Part 2 Article

1

Suggested answers

- 1 Fairly informal, not academic. This article is for a general audience.
- **2** Your own, plus those of other people of your age
- **3** The personal experiences should be used to support general points.

2

Suggested answers

- Paragraph 1 (I'm currently undergoing ...);
 2 (... who I might be now ...); 3 (the whole paragraph);
 4 (I'm a complex individual ...)
- 2 Paragraph 2 (Some of my former classmates ...)
- **3** Paragraph 1 (... the lack of constraints can feel utterly overwhelming); 4 (... these are mere labels)

3

- 1 go to school, study for exams, get into uni, study harder; as police officers, shop assistants, home owners, parents. They suggest that the lists go on for ever. This is a powerful technique but it should be used with care: the examiner may assume you have simply forgotten to include the conjunction.
- 2 But what happens when you reach the end of that production line? Rhetorical questions like this are useful for involving the reader in the article, i.e. encouraging him/her to think before reading on to find the answer.
- **3** Who exactly am I? Who do I want to be? What do strangers see ...? A young intellectual ...? This technique is useful for showing the writer has doubts, with no clear-cut answers. However, it shouldn't be overused.
- 4 mapped out (in minute detail); (reach the end of that) production line. Metaphors are a powerful way of making your arguments feel more vivid and memorable.
- 5 ... who I might be now if I had made different life choices in my teens. Advanced grammar structures like this always make a good impression in language exams.

C2 Proficiency Workbook Answer key

4

- 1 Like most twenty-somethings, ...
- 2 ... just like everybody else ...
- 3 I often wonder whether ... or whether ...
- 4 This also leads me to contemplate ...
- 5 Such introspection inevitably makes me question ...
- 6 I've come to realise that ...
- **7** ... and that's something I'm only now becoming comfortable with.

5

- 1 undergo, crisis 2 oyster 3 clear-cut
- 4 shape, recognition 5 cusp, glittering
- 6 haze, self-doubt 7 eyes 8 avid 9 end, day
- **10** mere, attach **11** nudge, direction

6

Sample answer

How our languages shape our identities

Like many language learners, when I embarked on my quest to master English, I assumed it would simply be a matter of acquiring a new skill to enable me to communicate in an international environment. Never in a million years did I expect that it would open formerly locked doors deep within my personality, allowing me to become a completely different person – at least when I'm speaking English.

This unexpected bonus of bilingualism has manifested itself in two phases. Firstly, during my early days as a learner, I'm sure I'm far from alone in having experienced the frustration of being unable to express myself clearly. Like many others in my situation, I was petrified of making a fool of myself, so my default setting was to say as little as possible. I had inadvertently assumed the identity of "the shy one", in sharp contrast to my flamboyant personality in my own language.

The second phase in the development of my multiple linguistic identities came after I had broken through my psychological barriers and begun to converse in English with some degree of fluency. I have adopted a considerably more informal personality in English than in my own language, which requires constant attention to issues of respect and deference to more senior interlocutors. In English, I've found myself using the same chatty style with close friends, elderly acquaintances and even complete strangers.

My experiences, and those of countless people in a similar situation, show that our identities, both in terms of how we see ourselves and how others see us, may be shaped by the languages we're speaking. However, I would not go as far as to say that our fundamental personalities are altered by our languages. Rather, when we flip between languages, we reveal sides of our character that already existed deep within ourselves, but which only emerge under the right conditions.

2 WANDERLUST

Reading and Use of English Part 5 Multiple choice 1 B 2 C 3 D 4 D 5 A 6 C

Language focus

Talking about the past

1

- 1 were always losing / always used to lose / would always lose
- 2 was meant to depart / is/was meant to have departed
- 3 was hoping to speak
- 4 used to say / would say
- 5 were (meant/supposed) to be given / to have been given
- 6 was / had been about to crash

2

1 always/constantly 2 l'd 3 not 4 were 5 wouldn't/didn't 6 had/l'd 7 about/going/ready/ planning, etc 8 hadn't 9 time 10 l'd 11 have 12 had 13 been 14 looking

Adverbs and adverbial phrases

1

Suggested answers (NB Possible but less natural positions are in square brackets)

- 1 Three or four: (Even) After such a near miss, (even) the captain of the ship was (even) visibly shaken [even].
- 2 Five or six: [Every now and then,] Although (every now and then) flying (every now and then) makes me nervous (every now and then), (every now and then) it's the only alternative (every now and then).
- **3** Six or seven: (Really,) I (really) don't (really) understand [really] why the tickets (really) aren't (really) a lot cheaper (, really).
- 4 Two or three: (Far away on the horizon,) I spotted [, far away on the horizon,] a ship (far away on the horizon).
- **5** Three: (Honestly,) I (honestly) believe they were acting (honestly).

2

- 1 high, highly 2 short, shortly 3 deeply, deep
- 4 widely, wide 5 finely, fine

Vocabulary Travel

1

Suggested answers (less likely possibilities or weaker collocations in brackets)

- 1 unacceptable/unforeseen, unavoidable, unforeseen
- 2 alternative, circuitous, scenic
- 3 impromptu, flying/fleeting, fleeting
- 4 perilous (arduous), uneventful, arduous (perilous)
- **5** long-haul (arduous), smooth (uneventful), bumpy

2

- 1 crowds 2 shock 3 traveller 4 villages
- 5 landmark 6 service

Word formation Adverbs

- 1 anticlockwise/counter-clockwise 2 considerately
- 3 thereby 4 onward(s) 5 purposefully 6 spaciously
- 7 regardless 8 knowledgeably 9 wherever