

GRAMMAR

Read the article below. For each question 1–15, write ONE word in the space provided below the text.

Then and now

What was life (0) _____ sixty years ago? My grandad (1) _____ always fascinated me with his stories. He was my age in (2) _____ 1940s. Until 1948 he had been living in a quiet village but when his dad found (3) _____ job in the city, the family moved. He hadn't wanted to leave but in time he loved his new life. He went to a bigger school (4) _____ soon found friends. Some had come from other countries and could speak different languages. They did (5) _____ play computer games or watch TV like we do (6) _____ went out more to the cinema and theatre. He said the worst thing was the food. Most (7) _____ the time there wasn't enough of it and they couldn't always buy nice things (8) _____ eat. Nowadays, I can't imagine going to the kitchen and (9) _____ finding a biscuit! Grandpa loved music, and before they moved to the city, his dad (10) _____ given him a trumpet. He learnt how to play and started busking in the city centre. He played in the street and people gave him money. After he had left school, he found work in clubs and a (11) _____ years later he became (12) _____ professional musician. (13) _____ November he will be 82 and he still plays great jazz! My Grandad and I get (14) _____ well and often talk (15) _____ each other.

0 _____ *like* _____

8 _____

1 _____

9 _____

2 _____

10 _____

3 _____

11 _____

4 _____

12 _____

5 _____

13 _____

6 _____

14 _____

7 _____

15 _____

Total ____/15pts

VOCABULARY

Read the text below. Choose the best answer (a, b or c).

The weather is perfect so the theme park where I work has been really busy (0) recently. Hundreds of (1) _____ pour through the gates each day. Today was another (2) _____ day. As usual, several noisy and excited groups of schoolchildren were shrieking and (3) _____ to each other all the time. (4) _____, I spotted a small child who was (5) _____ because he had lost his mother. When we found his mother, she was (6) _____ because she was cross with him for running off. She said she'd prefer to go home rather than chase him around!

I was working on the roller coaster this afternoon. One grandfather had a (7) _____ ride. First his grandson was sick over him, then he realised that his false teeth had fallen (8) _____ at the top of the roller coaster. It was hard to understand what he was saying because he was (9) _____. Luckily, we found his teeth for him but they were really dirty. Yuck! Life is never (10) _____ at the theme park!

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--------------|------------|
| 0/ | a finally | b certainly | c recently |
| 1/ | a visitors | b clients | c patients |
| 2/ | a dangerous | b terrifying | c hectic |
| 3/ | a whispering | b yelling | c sobbing |
| 4/ | a Later | b After | c Further |
| 5/ | a talking | b telling | c sobbing |
| 6/ | a grumbling | b chatting | c calling |
| 7/ | a fascinating | b terrible | c risky |
| 8/ | a away | b out | c over |
| 9/ | a mumbling | b gossiping | c speaking |
| 10/ | a dull | b dim | c pale |

Total ___ / 10 pts

READING COMPREHENSION (1)

Read the text carefully and choose the robots A, B or C for questions 1-10.

A AIBO THE ROBOT DOG

Aibo the robot dog was “born” in 1999 and many children loved it like a pet. Aibo is equipped with a camera, sensors, a computer chip and the ability to walk. It can also be trained, like a real dog. Although Aibo was not designed as a research tool, scientists were also attracted to it. Aibo had all the things they needed to test Artificial Intelligence programmes. Robotics scientists entered teams of Aibos for the “World Cup” of robot football: the Robot Cup Challenge. They used the competition to develop and improve their programs. For example, speed is essential in football, so scientists developed programs to make the robot dogs faster. So it wasn’t only children who were disappointed by Sony’s decision to stop producing Aibo. Scientists urgently needed another inexpensive, programmable robot to fill Aibo’s shoes – or football boots.

B ROBOSAPIEN

One possibility is Robosapien, a humanoid commercial robot. It was invented by Mark Tilden and is built by WowWee. The first Robosapien did not have as much power or as many sensors as Aibo. However, scientists were pleased to discover that it was designed so that it could be improved. Two Robosapiens that have been improved have already played in the RoboCup competition. With radar vision, Robosapien v2’s “eyes” can detect, recognize and remember objects, but Robosapien isn’t a great football player. Although it can control a football, it can’t do a powerful kick for penalties without falling over!

C ROBORAPTOR THE DINOSAUR

The Roboraptor, another robot created by Mark Tilden, is popular with children but probably won’t replace Aibo in the RoboCup. Roboraptor is a remote-controlled robotic dinosaur that is so intelligent it looks alive! Roboraptor has different moods, so it can be friendly or aggressive. It is controlled by a PlayStation-style joypad. Like Aibo, Roboraptor has been fitted with sensors so that it can see, hear and feel its environment. It has touch sensors in its head and tail and sonic sensors to detect sound and direction. Roboraptor can hold objects in its powerful jaws, too, which is clever but not very useful for playing football. Roboraptor’s football career will be limited by another problem, too – it’s hard to control its long tail and stop it scoring an own goal!

D AN EDUCATIONAL ROBOT

One possible solution is a special robot for researchers that is being developed at the University of Pennsylvania. It’s called EduBot and unfortunately it looks as dull as its name! It is shaped like a brick with six short “legs”. However, when it moves, it’s amazing. It can leap, run and jump straight up in the air. It is much faster than Aibo, but it can’t control a football very well because its legs are so short. EduBot is being tested as a research tool and there is a useful website where scientists can compare results from their experiments. If researchers work together to design their own robots, they won’t be dependent on commercial companies in the future.

READING COMPREHENSION (2)**Match questions 1 – 10 with the robots described in paragraphs A - D.**

- | | | |
|-----------|--|--------------|
| 0 | Which robot can be extremely emotional? | <u> C </u> |
| 1 | Which robot is most similar to a person? | _____ |
| 2 | Which robot was often used by scientists? | _____ |
| 3 | Which robot has not yet been used by researchers? | _____ |
| 4 | Which robot is no longer being made? | _____ |
| 5 | Which robot has a site on the internet especially for researchers? | _____ |
| 6 | Which robot has been improved? | _____ |
| 7 | Which robot could play football very well? | _____ |
| 8 | Which robot has been designed for scientific purposes only? | _____ |
| 9 | Which robot can carry things in its mouth? | _____ |
| 10 | Which robot doesn't look interesting? | _____ |

Total ___/10

LISTENING

Read through the statements (A-F). Then listen to the whole text. Choose from the list (A-F) what each speaker says. Use the letters only once. There is one extra letter which you do not need to use.

A – I am prepared to try reading books that seem difficult.

B – I think that some of what I read is a waste of time.

C – I like reading books that are part of a series.

D – I find that reading is a way of relaxing.

E – I enjoy reading books that have been made into films.

F – I choose books connected with the career I want to follow.

Speaker 1 _____

Speaker 2 _____

Speaker 3 _____

Speaker 4 _____

Speaker 5 _____

Total ___/5

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Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – okresné kolo 2019/2020

Vydal: IUVENTA – Slovenský inštitút mládeže, Bratislava 2020