

1 You will hear people talking in 8 different situations. For questions 1-8 choose the best answer.

You hear a student talking about her college course. What does she say about it?

- 1 She wants to know more about an aspect of the course
- 2 She is sure she'd like to work in a related field
- 3 She enjoys seeing how things work in practice

2 You hear a conversation between a customer and a florist. What does the customer decide to?

- 1 research a new species of rose
- 2 buy an expensive bunch of flowers
- 3 take the florist's advice

3 You hear two students discussing their maths class. What do they agree about?

- 1 how useful the maths phone app is
- 2 how difficult the maths topic is
- 3 how helpful their maths teacher is

4 You hear a weather forecast on the radio. Where are violent storm expected?

- 1 the south coast
- 2 the west coast
- 3 the east coast

5 You hear a woman leaving a message for a plumber. The woman wants him to

- 1 correct an error he has made
- 2 discover the source of a problem
- 3 call her when he finished work

6 You hear a man talking about his travel plans. What is he doing?

- 1 confirming a hotel reservation
- 2 making a request of someone
- 3 complaining about train timetables

7 You hear two friends talking about the football team they support. How does the man feel?

- 1 annoyed by the referee's decision-making
- 2 optimistic about the team's prospects
- 3 surprised by the goalkeeper's ability

8 You hear part of an interview with a student who wants to become a volunteer. What does the student say about it?

- 1 He is keen to pass on his knowledge
- 2 He wants to replay the people who helped him
- 3 He regrets not getting involved earlier

9 You are going to read a text. For questions 9-14, choose the answer, which you think fits best according to the test.

The wrestler who became an author

Pete Watson looks like the biggest, sweetest teddy bear you ever saw. It is only he opens his mouth that you notice the missing front teeth. Watson is a three-time world champion wrestler turned author. He was adored by fans because he was different. While other wrestlers were supreme athletes, he was just a hulk who knew how to take a hit. You could throw as many chairs as you liked at Pete Watson, you could smack him repeatedly, but he wouldn't down. After two biographies and series of children's stories, he has just written a brilliant first novel: a work of immense power and subtlety, likely to gain a wide readership. At its simplest, it is about a boy and his dad getting together after a lifetime apart, though there is far more to it than that. Was he inspired by anyone he knew? The father, he says, is based on guys he met on the road – wrestlers, friends of his, who appeared to be leading exciting lives, but deep down were pretty miserable.

Watson does not come from traditional wrestling stock. He grew up in Long Island, New York. His father was an athletics director with a PhD, his mother a physical education teacher with two master's degrees – one in literature, the other in Russian history. He was a big boy, bullied for his size. One day his neighbour had a go at him, and for the first time Watson realized he could use his weight and size instead of feeling awkward about it. It was a turning point. At college, he did a degree in communication studies. Meanwhile, he was learning the ropes of professional wrestling. Did his parents try to dissuade him? 'No. They were just really insistent that I finished college. I am pretty sure they thought I'd get hurt and quit wrestling.' But he didn't. He looks in remarkably good condition for someone who spent 20 years in the ring. His skin is smooth and firm; there are few visible scars. 'It's amazing what retirement can do for you. I looked really rough five years ago, and now I think I look a good deal younger,' he says. People are surprised by the softness of his handshake. 'Yeah, that's the wrestler's handshake,' he says.

Do you have to be a good actor to be a good wrestler? 'I used to really resent the acting label, but it *is* acting. When it's really good, when you're feeling it and letting that real emotion fly, it comes closer to being real.' What did his children think when they saw him getting hurt? 'Well, they used to think I never got hurt because that's what I told them. When they got old enough to realise I did, they stopped enjoying it. That was, in part, what led to my decision to get out.'

Nowadays, his time is dedicated to family and books – his next novel is about boy wrestlers living on the same block, and he is also writing more children's stories. He does not think this life is so different from wrestling. 'Wrestling is all about characters,' he says. 'So when my fans hear I've written a novel, I don't get the sense that they feel I've abandoned them.'

It is suggested that Watson's first novel

- 1 will not only appeal to his fans
- 2 is not much more than a simple story
- 3 is based on his own autobiography
- 4 will be popular with those who liked his autobiographies

- 10 What does 'traditional wrestling stock' refer to?
 1 Watson's childhood 2 Watson's educational background
 3 Watson's background in athletics 4 Watson's family background

- 11 What Watson's parents feel about his interest in wrestling?
 1 They thought he would abandon the sport quite soon
 2 They were afraid he would get hurt
 3 They insisted that he should have proper training at college
 4 They wanted him to give up wrestling

- 12 How does Watson regard the idea that wrestling is like acting?
 1 He has come to accept it 2 He thinks wrestlers aren't good actors
 3 He resents the suggestion
 4 He doesn't think wrestling can compare to acting

- 13 Watson's present life is not so different from his past profession because
 1 His fans still follow his career with interest
 2 his work is still connected with characters
 3 his family are still more important than anything else
 4 he is writing about wrestling, his previous profession

14 **Read the text and decide which answer best fits each space (14-21). Old and active.**

It is a well-known fact that Japanese people have a longer life expectancy than the population of most other countries. They also expect to remain healthier for longer.

Scientists are trying to work (14) ... what keeps elderly Japanese people so healthy, and whether there is a lesson to be (15) ... from their lifestyles. Should we (16) ... any changes to our eating habits, for instance? Is there some secret (17) ... in the Japanese diet that is particularly (18) ... for the human body? Although the (19) ... of a longer, healthier life is a good thing for the individual, it can (20) ... create a social problem. The number of people over the age of 65 in the population has doubled in the last 50 years. Japan could soon be (21) ... an economic problem: there are more elderly people who need to be looked after, and relatively fewer younger people working and paying taxes to support them.

- (14)
 1 out 2 for 3 in 4 off

- 15 (15)
 1 understood 2 learnt 3 gathered 4 gained

- 16 (16)
 1 make 2 set 3 do 4 give

- 17 (17)
 1 helping 2 ingredient 3 component 4 portion

- 18 (18)
 1 caring 2 beneficial 3 positive 4 supportive

- 19 (19)
 1 view 2 outlook 3 prospect 4 wish

- 20 (20)
 1 even 2 therefore 3 actually 4 as well

- 21 (21)
 1 obtaining 2 meeting 3 adopting 4 facing

22 **Read the text and decide which answer A, B, C or D best fits each space (22-30).**

The bobcat.

Native to North America, the bobcat, sometimes called 'wildcat', is a (22) ... and nocturnal animal and is (23) ... seen by people. Bobcats are (24) ... twice the size of the average domestic cat. Most have a grey to brown coat and a short, black-tipped tail, which seems to be cut off or 'bobbed', hence its name. They have long legs, large paws, and tufted ears (25) ... to those of their large relative, the Canada lynx.

Bobcats roam (26) ... much of North America and are able to adapt to such (27) ... habitats as deserts, forests, swamps, and have even been seen in suburban areas. On the rare occasion that these solitary animals, are spotted, they are usually (28) Females tend to find quiet, undisturbed dens to (29) ... a litter of one to six kittens, which will stay with their mother for between nine months and a year, when they will learn to hunt before finally (30) ... out on their own.

- (22)
 1 mysterious 2 confidential 3 hidden 4 secret

- 23 (23)
 1 rarely 2 slightly 3 almost 4 little

- 24 (24)
 1 roughly 2 greatly 3 relatively 4 considerably

25

(25)

1 same 2 similar 3 like 4 as

26

(26)

1 among 2 during 3 near 4 throughout

27

(27)

1 diverse 2 mixed 3 various 4 many

28

(28)

1 lonely 2 separate 3 alone 4 individual

29

(29)

1 raise 2 grow 3 rise 4 provide

30

(30)

1 entering 2 being 3 leaving 4 setting