

1. Put the bracketed verbs in the correct tense, voice and mood forms.

Steven Spielberg 1) _____ (become) the most commercially successful director of all time. At the age of 29 in 1975, he 2) _____ (gain) a reputation as a master entertainer for his shark attack thriller *Jaws*. At the time opinion 3) _____ (divide), though. Certain reviewers 4) _____ (constantly make) unfavorable remarks about “That shark movie”.

Steven Spielberg 5) _____ (produce) a whole lot of films since he 6) _____ (begin) using his father’s movie camera to record family events. By the age of 12, he 7) _____ (make) his first movie. He already 8) _____ (make) movies for ten years by the time he 9) _____ (receive) attention for his 1968 short *Ambling’*.

Spielberg 10) _____ (leave) something of himself behind in all his films. His parents’ divorce 11) _____ (famously be) the inspiration behind *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *Indiana Jones* and *The Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*. Later an older Spielberg 12) _____ (say) that, 13) _____ (be) he a father at the time, he 14) _____ (think) twice about having the main character in *Close Encounters* abandon his family so quickly.

Spielberg 15) _____ (credit) (rightfully so) with revolutionising filmmaking and the classic Hollywood genres. His career 16) _____ (be) a long one, and there 17) _____ (be) no sign that he 18) _____ (think) of retirement from filmmaking. Now, at age 75, he 19) _____ (make) *The Fabelmans*, a film he 20) _____ (call) semi-autobiographical, thereby having offered a magnificent gift to his admirers. He 21) _____ (nominate) for 19 Oscars to date and 22) _____ (expect) to add to that tally at next year’s Academy Awards with *The Fabelmans*. Undoubtedly, he 23) _____ (nominate) for at least 20 Oscars by the year 2025.

2. Use the right article by writing ‘a’, ‘an’, ‘the’ or ‘-’ in the gaps.

On 7 April 1912, seven days before 1) ___ Titanic sank, 2) ___ New York’s *Popular Magazine* published ‘The White Ghost of Disaster’, 3) ___ sea story by 4) ___ Captain Mayn Clew Garnett, which betrays 5) ___ marvellous similarity to 6) ___ disaster that fell upon 7) ___ ill-fated Titanic. When 8) ___ world’s largest ship in its day sank in 9) ___ mid-Atlantic on her maiden voyage, because 10) ___ great iceberg struck her in 11) ___ dead of 12) ___ night, 13) ___ Garnett’s story about 14) ___ gigantic liner struck by 15) ___ monstrous iceberg in 16) ___ broad daylight, on 17) ___ calm sea, became 18) ___ sensation.

3. Complete this letter with an appropriate particle.

Dear Sam,

I received your kind letter on Friday the 12th March and was glad to hear that you were all quite well, as I am glad to say we are quite well here now.

We have had a long winter here this year, a great deal of snow and very cold. When I sit near the fire, I sometimes think I am completely cut 1) ___ from the busy modern world. Although in the local news they say it should warm 2) ___ over the next few days.

Here's more good news! After weighing 3) ___ the pros and cons, William has managed to quit smoking this year! He didn't feel too good for the first few weeks but that's all worn 4) ___ now. He stuck 5) ___ his new regime and now he feels fitter than he has for ages.

Also, he talked me 6) ___ going jogging every day before work! I find it helps me to work 7) ___ the stress of work.

I've been offered a chance to go to New Zealand next year. At last I will be able to get 8) ___ from all the hassles of city life for a month's holiday! So I've started saving 9) ___ already. I'm trying to set 10) ___ a fixed amount each month so that we'll have enough.

Florence works as a nurse. She loves her work but her hospital is understaffed and she hates to always be pressed 11) ___ time. She finds it almost impossible to fit 12) ___ time to talk to the patients. She can chat for a few minutes but then she has to press 13) ___ with her other duties. I do hope that her very hard work, dedication and commitment will, in the end, pay 14) ___.

It is snowing now very hard. I think I must now close with our kindest love to yourself and your dear family.

Take care,
Margaret.

4. Read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

CHEESY FACTS

The origins of cheese making have been lost in the 0) ___C___ of time, as cheese consumption pre-dates recorded history. Still, there are plenty of facts we do know and some of them, like cheese itself, could 1) _____ your socks off.

The ancient Greeks were the first to turn cheese making into an art 2) _____, using different techniques to create an array of different varieties of cheese. Nowadays, though, most people, if asked, 'who in the world produces the greatest variety of cheeses?' would jump to answer – 'The French'. But they'd soon find out that the French, and Italians, are lagging 3) _____ the British, who produce 700 distinctive varieties, while their Gallic

cousins across the channel produce only a scant 400. The French don't even top the record for cheese consumption, as that particular 4) _____ goes to the Greeks, who 5) _____ up more than 27 kilos each year thanks to their 6) _____ for feta cheese with everything. And, finally, the country that produces the largest amount of cheese is the USA but most of that is 7) _____ cheese classed under the generic name of 'cheddar type' cheese.

- | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| 0 | A clouds | B haze | C mists | D smog |
| 1 | A shoot | B blow | C explode | D pull |
| 2 | A style | B kind | C form | D type |
| 3 | A behind | B after | C below | D under |
| 4 | A compliment | B sobriquet | C testimonial | D credit |
| 5 | A bolt | B gobble | C slurp | D chomp |
| 6 | A vulnerability | B aptitude | C leaning | D fondness |
| 7 | A processed | B fake | C fabricated | D manufactured |

5. Use the words in brackets to form new suitable words in the provided spaces.

HEALING FLOWERS

From time 1) _____ (**MEMORY**), flowers have cast a spell on mankind, as the human senses are powerfully affected by beauty and fragrance. Although we primarily appreciate flowers for the 2) _____ (**LIFT**) effects they have on our psyche, many contain compounds that can influence our physical state. The bright yellow star-shaped flowers of St. John's wort, for example, have been used for centuries to treat cuts and burns, as they contain compounds with 3) _____ (**BACTERIA**) properties. Likewise, calendula blossoms have been used since Roman times to heal wounds because they contain substances that reduce 4) _____ (**FLAME**). Marigold is a good all-purpose healer, especially potent for skin problems, throat disorders and poor 5) _____ (**CIRCLE**); and echinacea flowers are known to help fight off certain viral infections, especially the common cold. In recent studies, the pink and white flowers of the hawthorn tree have been shown to improve the symptoms of heart disease, including shortness of breath, fluid 6) _____ (**RETAIN**) and fatigue. And tea made from chamomile flowers is a favourite to help to ease indigestion and other gastrointestinal complaints. The incredible 7) _____ (**CURE**) properties of flowers have been exploited by humans for millennia. As mankind continues to investigate the healing powers of flowers, doubtless many more will make their way into our medicine.

6. Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

HOW HUMANS EVOLVED LANGUAGE

A Thanks to the field of linguistics we know much about the development of the 5,000 plus languages in existence today. We can describe their grammar and pronunciation and see how their spoken and written forms have changed over time. For example, we understand the origins of the Indo-European group of languages, which includes Norwegian, Hindi and English, and can trace them back to tribes in eastern Europe in about 3000 BC. So, we have mapped out a great deal of the history of language, but there are still areas we know little about. Experts are beginning to look to the field of evolutionary biology to find out how the human species developed to be able to use language. So far, there are far more questions and half-theories than answers.

B We know that human language is far more complex than that of even our nearest and most intelligent relatives like chimpanzees. We can express complex thoughts, convey subtle emotions and communicate about abstract concepts such as past and future. And we do this following a set of structural rules, known as grammar. Do only humans use an innate system of rules to govern the order of words? Perhaps not, as some research may suggest dolphins share this capability because they are able to recognise when these rules are broken.

C If we want to know where our capability for complex language came from, we need to look at how our brains are different from other animals. This relates to more than just brain size; it is important what other things our brains can do and when and why they evolved that way. And for this there are very few physical clues; artefacts left by our ancestors don't tell us what speech they were capable of making. One thing we can see in the remains of early humans, however, is the development of the mouth, throat and tongue. By about 100,000 years ago, humans had evolved the ability to create complex sounds. Before that, evolutionary biologists can only guess whether or not early humans communicated using more basic sounds.

D Another question is what is it about human brains that allowed language to evolve in a way that it did not in other primates? At some point, our brains became able to make our mouths produce vowel and consonant sounds, and we developed the capacity to invent words to name things around us. These were the basic ingredients for complex language. The next change would have been to put those words into sentences, similar to the 'protolanguage' children use when they first learn to speak. No one knows if the next step – adding grammar to signal past, present and future, for example, or plurals and relative clauses – required a further development in the human brain or was simply a response to our increasingly civilised way of living together. Between 100,000 and 50,000 years ago, though, we start to see the evidence of early human civilisation, through cave paintings for example; no one knows the connection between this and language. Brains didn't suddenly get bigger, yet humans did become more complex and more intelligent. Was it using language that caused their brains to develop? Or did their more complex brains start producing language?

E More questions lie in looking at the influence of genetics on brain and language development. Are there genes that mutated and gave us language ability? Researchers have found a gene mutation that occurred between 200,000 and 100,000 years ago, which seems to have a connection with speaking and how our brains control our mouths and face. Monkeys have a similar gene, but it did not undergo this mutation. It's too early to say how much influence genes have on language, but one day the answers might be found in our DNA.

✓ **Task 6.1 Match the headings with the parts of the text (A–E).**

1.	What we know	?	A
2.	How linguistic capacity evolved	?	B
3.	How unique are we?	?	C
4.	The physical evidence	?	D
5.	The tiny change that may separate us from monkeys	?	E

✓ **Task 6.2 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?**

1. ___ Experts fully understand how the Hindi language developed.
2. ___ The grammar of dolphin language follows the same rules as human language.
3. ___ Brain size is not the only factor in determining language capability.
4. ___ The language of very young children has something in common with the way our prehistoric ancestors may have spoken.
5. ___ When people started using complex language, their brains got bigger.
6. ___ The role of genetics in language capacity is not yet clear.