

PROGRESS TEST 2 (UNITS 5–8)

Name: _____

Total: _____ out of 50

A Multiple-choice cloze

For questions 1 – 8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

On the decline?

For years we have become used to hearing that crime is on the increase. This has been (1) ___ nearly everything from bad parenting and the influence of film and television to the availability of information, courtesy of the internet, about how to commit practically any crime under the sun. It therefore (2) ___ as a surprise to many to learn that in fact the crime (3) ___ is falling and has been doing so over the last twenty years. Is there a reason for this? Why should there be a reduction in crime during difficult economic times when experts would expect it to increase?

(4) ___, those in government insist that this is a result of improvements in policing, others say that smart phones and other electronic devices have (5) ___ the boredom that often drove young people to crime in the first place. Some experts (6) ___ that the crime rate has not actually fallen, it is simply that these days criminals engage in different types of crime that frequently go unreported such as online fraud. There are even some who believe that people are less prone to commit crime these days because of the reduction of lead in the atmosphere. Whatever the truth, there is a (7) ___ of hope that our perception of life being fraught with (8) ___ every time we leave our homes is just that – a perception.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1) A committed by | B charged with | C blamed on | D accused of |
| 2) A makes | B comes | C gives | D goes |
| 3) A level | B score | C scale | D rate |
| 4) A Unsurprisingly | B Coincidentally | C Undeniably | D Realistically |
| 5) A improved | B alleviated | C lightened | D compensated |
| 6) A address | B broach | C highlight | D maintain |
| 7) A twinkle | B glimmer | C glow | D sparkle |
| 8) A danger | B risk | C hazard | D warning |

[___/8]

B Word formation

For questions 1 – 8, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals below to form a word that fits in the space.

Look where you're going

Texting gets a bad press. Whether it's because some people are (1) _____ enough to attempt texting while they're driving and cause accidents or it's the perceived (2) _____ of some who continue texting while in the middle of a face-to-face conversation with someone else, texting frequently comes under fire. Even health magazines warn about the (3) _____ damage we can cause to our thumbs, wrists and necks while texting away. The (4) _____ on a recent radio phone-in programme gave an interesting insight into certain instances of apparently (5) _____ clumsiness and which, I am sure, caused moments of (6) _____ amongst some listeners. A stream of callers gave vivid accounts of walking into walls, lamp posts and even falling down the stairs while texting but I particularly enjoyed the story of one young girl who was so engrossed in her message that she failed to see the edge of a canal and walked straight into the water. She later insisted that she had thought the ice on the surface of the canal was an (7) _____ of the pavement. A passer-by hauled her to (8) _____ and staff at a nearby coffee shop gave her dry clothes but the high point of the rescue for the caller was the fact that she had managed to keep her phone out of the water.

- 1) FOOL
- 2) RUDE
- 3) REVERSE
- 4) REVEAL
- 5) EXPLAIN
- 6) HILARIOUS
- 7) EXTEND
- 8) SAFE

[__/8]

C Comprehension questions

1) Why does the writer use the word 'perceived' in line 2?

2) What is the implication of the phrase 'the high point of the rescue' in line 13?

D Key word transformations

For questions 1 – 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 three and eight words, including the word given.

1) It was a mistake not to check the weather forecast before attempting the climb.

without

We _____ the weather forecast.

2) The doctor advised her to start a new diet and this has had an impact on her lifestyle.

that

The new diet _____ has had an impact on her lifestyle.

3) The reality is that he's blackmailing you.

less

What he _____ blackmailing you.

4) Doctors are getting concerned because people are eating more and more saturated fats.

consumption

The increase _____ doctors.

5) Devices using the latest technology helped the police to find the suspect.

down

The police _____ of devices using the latest technology.

6) I asked my sister to look after my handbag while I tried on some clothes in the changing room.

eye

I asked my sister _____ while I tried on some clothes in the changing room.

[__/12]

E Writing

Write an answer to one of the following writing tasks.

1) You have read an article in a magazine about how parents today can overprotect their children from risks and dangers. You have decided to write a **letter** to the editor in which you say how you feel about the issue.

2) An international magazine is running a series of articles about how our lifestyles change at different stages in our lives because of our priorities and it has invited readers to submit articles for the series. Write an **article** about how your own lifestyle has changed as a result of different priorities.

Write your answer in 280 – 320 words.

[__/20]

TOTAL [__/50]