

Task 1. For Items 1-7, read the article about four actors and answer the questions below.

An Actors' World

A Jake Armstrong

'I have a terrible problem reading through scripts,' admits Jake Armstrong. 'I find most of them very boring, although once in a while a script will really appeal to me and I am immediately attracted to the character the director has asked me to consider.'

Jake Armstrong was always going to end up doing something dramatic. His father and mother are both actors, and although neither of them pushed him into the profession, he feels his career path was inevitable as he saw so much theatre when he was a child. 'I would wait backstage until it was time to go home at the end of an evening performance. I met the most fantastic people. As a child you don't appreciate fame and I thought all these extraordinary people were really normal. But there was something fascinating about the whole business, why people dress up as different people and pretend to be other personalities. Unlike my parents, however, I am more interested in film work. The thing about filming is that you hang around for hours chatting away to people, then suddenly you've got to turn it on. I had to learn very quickly how to tone down for the camera, not to overact, whereas on stage in the theatre it's the exact opposite.'

B Laura Dyson

'I think I'm very lucky to have been noticed so early in my career. When I was at drama school I used to feel quite desperate meeting up with friends who had already graduated and who were out of work. I would listen to them talking about the temporary jobs they had, working in restaurants, supermarkets - whatever they could find, and going to one audition after the other. And they were only auditioning for really small parts in theatre or film and getting absolutely nowhere.'

Laura Dyson is just 21 and already a box office name. She was spotted whilst on stage in London and offered a film role by one of Hollywood's leading directors. 'It was unbelievable. I'd had hardly any experience and the play I was in was a walk-on role only. I didn't have to say a single word! Apparently the director was looking for someone who could play a 16-year-old schoolgirl, so I suppose I'm fortunate in that I don't look my age. The irony is that I used to spend hours making up my face so that I'd look older. I used to get so fed up with people refusing me entry to adult films because nobody believed me when I said I was over 18.'

C Emmy Mason

'My parents have always been interested in the arts and I remember being taken to the cinema and the theatre at a very early age. When I said I wanted to go to drama school they were horrified. In fact, my father refused to agree but he eventually gave in because I threatened to go off around the world on my own at 17 doing any old job just to pay my way.'

Emmy Mason was determined to succeed and although it has not been an easy ride to stardom she has finally achieved the kind of recognition that most actors can only dream about. 'My big break came quite by accident. I was an understudy at the National Theatre for months on end. It was such hard work, learning the lines and yet knowing that you were unlikely ever to say them in front of an audience. Don't get me wrong, though. I was glad to be earning some money and at least I got to see the famous names each night. Anyway, one day the leading lady went down with flu and in the afternoon I was told I would be on stage that evening. There wasn't time to be frightened. I had sat through all the rehearsals so I knew the moves by heart. And that was it. The critics loved my performance and I've never been out of work since.'

D Luke Domain

'I guess I ended up acting by accident. I wanted to go to university but couldn't decide what to study. So I thought I'd take a year out, do different things and give myself a breathing space before applying. But during that year I entered a local theatre group and suddenly realised I was happier than I'd ever been.'

Luke Domain has never looked back. Unusual in this day and age, he didn't go to drama school and

has had no formal training. Instead he found himself an agent who was willing to put him forward for auditions. 'To begin with I was mostly doing advertisements for TV and film, which was fine but not serious acting. Then one day my agent got a call from a film studio and the next day I was on the film set. There hadn't even been time to send me the script. Looking back I don't think I even asked what the film was about, it didn't matter. But I'm quite choosy now and turn down more scripts than I accept!'

Which of the actors

1. had intended to do something else?
2. was strongly influenced by their upbringing?
3. had little warning before going on stage?
4. comments on different acting techniques?
5. accepted work without hesitation?
6. was picked without having spoken?
7. used to worry about being unemployed?

Task 2. Read an extract from a novel. For questions 8-15, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Mobile phones: are they about to transform our lives?

We love them so much that some of us sleep with them under the pillow? Yet we are increasingly concerned that we cannot escape their electronic reach. We use them to convey our most intimate secrets, yet we worry that they are a threat to our privacy. We rely on them more than the Internet to cope with modern life, yet many of us don't believe advertisements saying we need more advanced services.

Research about users of mobile phones reveals that the mobile has already moved beyond being a mere communications tool to become the backbone of modern social life, from love affairs to friendship. The close relationship between user and phone is most pronounced among teenagers, the report says, who regard their mobiles as an expression of their identity. This is partly because mobiles are seen as being beyond the control of parents. But the researchers suggest that another reason may be that mobiles, especially text messaging, are seen as the way of overcoming shyness. 'Texting is often used for apologies, to excuse lateness or to communicate other things that make us uncomfortable', the report says. The impact of phones, however, has been local rather than global, supporting existing friendships and networks, rather than opening users to a new broader community. Even the language of texting in one area can be incomprehensible to anybody from another area.

Among the most important benefits of using mobile phones, the report claims, will be a vastly improved mobile infrastructure, providing gains throughout the economy, and the provision of the more sophisticated location-based services for users. The report calls on government to put more effort into the delivery of services by mobile phone, with suggestions including public transport and traffic information and doctors' text messages to remind patients of appointments. 'I love that idea', one user said in an interview, 'it would mean I don't have to write a hundred messages to myself'.

There are many other possibilities. At a recent trade fair in Sweden, a mobile navigation product was launched. When the user enters a destination, a route is automatically downloaded to their mobile and presented by voice, pictures and maps as they drive, in future. These devices will also be able to plan around congestion and road works in real time. Third generation phones will also allow for remote monitoring of

patients by doctors. In Britain scientists are developing an asthma management solution, using mobiles to detect early signs of an attack.

Mobile phones can be used in education. A group of researchers in Britain use third generation phones can provide fast Internet service to children who live beyond the reach of terrestrial broadband services and can have no access to online information. 'As the new generation of mobile technologies takes off, the social potential of the mobile will vastly increase', the report argues.

8. What does the writer suggest in the first paragraph about our attitudes to mobile phones?

- A. We can't live without them.
- B. We are worried about using them too much.
- C. We have contradictory feelings about them.
- D. We need them more than anything else to deal with modern life.

9. What is the connection between social life and mobile phones?

- A. Modern social life relies heavily on the use of mobile phones.
- B. Mobile phones make romantic communication easier.
- C. Mobile phones encourage people to make friends.
- D. Mobile phones enable people to communicate while moving around.

10. Why do teenagers have such a close relationship with their mobile phone?

- A. They use text messages more than any other group.
- B. They are more inclined to be late than older people.
- C. They feel independent when they use them.
- D. They tend to feel uncomfortable in many situations.

11. In what sense has the impact of phones been called 'local'?

- A. People tend to communicate with people they already know.
- B. Users generally phone people who live in the same neighbourhood.
- C. It depends on local dialects.
- D. The phone networks use different systems.

12. How might mobile phones be used in future?

- A. To give the address of the nearest doctor.
- B. To show bus and train timetables.
- C. To arrange deliveries.
- D. To cure diseases.

13. The navigation product launched in Sweden is helpful for drivers because

- A. it can suggest the best way to get to a place.
- B. it downloads the maps of the area.
- C. it tells them about the traffic jams.
- D. it shows them how to avoid road works.

14. Further developments of mobile phones will enable

- A. patients to contact their doctors immediately.
- B. people to call the ambulance at an early sign of an attack automatically.
- C. people to take measures to avoid asthma attack.
- D. doctors to arrive directly to their patients when needed.

15. What is the general attitude of the report described in the article?

- A. Manufacturers need to produce better equipment.
- B. The government should take over the mobile phone networks.
- C. There are problems with mobile phones that cannot be overcome.
- D. Mobile phones can have a variety of very useful applications.

Task 3 A mixed-up article.

Put the 10 parts of this article in the correct order (Answer sheet, numbers 16-25).

Million-dollar trial aborted on account of sudoku

- A) The trial, in which Andrew Daniel Lonsdale and Kane Holland were accused of conspiracy to manufacture a commercial quantity of amphetamines, had been running for over three months, involved 105 witnesses and cost over A\$1 million, and was scheduled to end soon with both parties prepared to deliver final statements this week.
- B) While giving evidence last week, Lonsdale noticed the jury forewoman apparently writing notes vertically rather than horizontally, in the manner of someone solving a sudoku.
- C) A drug trial in Sydney, Australia was aborted yesterday after several jurors were found to be playing sudoku puzzles during proceedings.
- D) Judge Peter Zahra of the Sydney District Court had earlier lauded the jury's apparent attentiveness and diligence, but following the revelation, he told the forewoman that she and her fellow sudoku players had let down everyone involved in the trial.
- E) The New South Wales sheriff's office will update its guidelines to instruct jurors not to play games during proceedings, and the co-accused will be facing a new trial at a later date.
- F) The co-accused, Holland, made the same observation, and their defence counsel lodged an appeal to the judge.
- G) The jury was discharged, but no penalty will be given to the sudoku players.
- H) She claimed it helped them concentrate on the proceedings.
- I) "It helps me keep my mind busy, and pay more attention," she said in her defence.
- J) Yesterday, the forewoman gave unsworn evidence to the judge confirming that she and several other jurors had been filling out the puzzles since the second week of the trial, comparing solutions during meal breaks.

Task 4. Can you refer the quotations 1-6 to these famous plays by Shakespeare (some plays take more than 1 quote)? What are the summaries of these plays?

Hamlet –

The Merchant of Venice –

As You Like It –

Henry V –

1. All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players
2. To be or not to be, that is the question
3. All that glitters is not gold
4. Neither a borrower nor a lender be
5. Men of few words are the best men
6. But love is blind and lovers cannot see

A	This play is about the idea that people usually get what they deserve in the end, good or bad. Antonio, a business man, borrows money from Shylock, a money lender. If he doesn't pay back this money in time, Shylock will cut off a piece of his body. Antonio loses all his business and must pay this terrible price... but is saved by love.
B	This play is about revenge and also about how difficult it is to take action sometimes, even when it is important. The main character's father is murdered by another man, who then marries the main character's mother. Everybody wants to see the main character dead. He must take revenge, but will he be able to?
C	This play is a comedy about romantic love. There is a battle between two evil brothers and two good brothers. People hide in a beautiful forest. They fall in love, women disguise themselves as men, and there are many jokes, songs and games.
D	This is a history play about a famous English king and a famous battle, Agincourt. We watch the preparations for the battle, the fighting, and the results. There are questions in this play: Why do men fight? What are wars? Are they glorious? Or terrible?

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

USE OF ENGLISH

Task 1. For questions 1-8, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap.

Agriculture in Ancient Britain

Professor Emma Thomas is an archaeologist who specializes in the study of Neolithic and Mesolithic periods, the Mesolithic period extended from 9,000 (1) _____ 5, 200 years ago, and the Neolithic period came after that, lasting until about 2,500 BC. Human beings were living in Britain during both of these periods.

Professor Thomas and her colleagues have been involved (2) _____ the analysis of stone age skeletons to discover more about (3) _____ way Ancient Britons lived. 'Studying bones can tell us (4) _____ great deal about our ancestors', says Professor Thomas. 'We know for a fact that Mesolithic people ate a seafood diet,

while Neolithic people had a preference (5) _____ plants and animals. We are what we eat, and the change from fish to meat recorded in the bones’.

It is still a mystery why people just gave (6) _____ eating fish. One explanation might be the influence of migrants from Europe who brought new ideas (7) _____ to Britain. Farm methods were imported from Europe. People would no longer rely (8) _____ wild woods; they could control what they ate and what they grew.

Task 2. For items 9-20, read the text below and decide which option (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Cat Flap

Patricia took a liking to the kitten the moment she (9) _____ an eye on it. The poor little creature was so helpless, so cute and so weak that it hardly had the (10) _____ to stand on its feet. Who could have been so (11) _____ as to leave a tiny animal like this outside on such a cold night? It was only early September, but the last few mornings there had been frost on the (12) _____ when Patricia walked to school, and the temperature during the week was only a few degrees (13) _____ zero.

Patricia decided to take the kitten home and face the (14) _____ argument with her mother. Mrs Stephens (15) _____ to let her daughter to have a cat. She was quite (16) _____ that pets were smelly, dirty and likely to carry diseases. Patricia had tried her most to explain that this simply wasn’t true, but all her efforts were in (17) _____. Whenever they discussed the (18) _____, Mrs Stephens got very upset and (19) _____ why Patricia needed a pet anyway, when she had such loving parents. Patricia had often tried to explain that this was beside the (20) _____. A pet would be a companion.

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|----|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 9 | A set | B put | C placed | D dropped |
| 10 | A ability | B strength | C force | D power |
| 11 | A cruel | B strict | C harsh | D severe |
| 12 | A soil | B earth | C floor | D ground |
| 13 | A higher | B over | C above | D after |
| 14 | A intentional | B inevitable | C essential | D invariable |
| 15 | A denied | B refused | C insisted | D declined |
| 16 | A persuaded | B confirmed | C convinced | D assured |
| 17 | A hopeless | B vain | C pointless | D inadequate |
| 18 | A theory | B subject | C theme | D issue |
| 19 | A request | B inquire | C wonder | D question |
| 20 | A reason | B cause | C point | D idea |

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

Answer sheet for 9-11 forms

NAME _____ Form _____

Reading

Tasks 1-2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7

8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

Task 3

16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

Task 4

Play	Quotation(s)	Summary
<i>Hamlet</i>		
<i>The Merchant of Venice</i>		
<i>As You Like It</i>		
<i>Henry V</i>		

Use of English

Part 1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Part 2

9		13		17	
10		14		18	
11		15		19	
12		16		20	