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YEREVAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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**LEARN ENGLISH AND
CULTURE THROUGH MEDIA**

ANSWER KEY

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The given answer key guide is intended for university students using the *Learn English and Culture through Media* handbook (Yerevan, 2023). Its primary aim is to enhance learning effectiveness and improve outcomes by providing structured guidance, comprehensive answer keys, and practical strategies for completing the tasks included in the handbook. It serves as a valuable resource for students engaging with the material through self-study.

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*Հրատարակության և էրաշխավորել
ԵՊՀ գիտական խորհուրդը:*

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Գրախոսներ՝ Ա. Խաչատրյան
Ս. Ղալթախչյան

Հարությունյան Ն., Գրիգորյան Ս.

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PREFACE

Learn English and Culture through Media: Answer Key accompanies the handbook *Learn English and Culture through Media* and is designed to serve as a practical, comprehensive resource for students engaged in self-study. It equips learners with the necessary tools to independently deepen their understanding and enhance their overall language learning experience.

Structured into five sections, the guide provides detailed learning support, including both accurate and suggested answers to the exercises featured in the handbook. In addition, it provides supplementary activities and materials aimed at reinforcing knowledge, broadening comprehension, and encouraging further engagement with the content.

A comprehensive reference section is included at the end of the guide, offering additional study resources to assist students in their continued exploration of English language and culture through media.

PART I

LESSON 1: We're all teenagers

- Look up the adjectives in your dictionaries, then decide which words describe young people, and which ones describe older people.

Suggested answers

Young people: adolescent, rebellious, dynamic, innovative, shallow

Older people: wise, serious, knowledgeable, skeptical

Exercises 4

Read the newspaper article and decide which is the best summary.

Answers: Summary 1 is the best.

Exercise 5

Read the passage again and complete the sentences with the correct ending.

Answers: 1b, 2a, 3b, 4b, 5a

Exercise 6

Choose the correct definition for the words from the article.

Answers: 1b, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5b, 6a, 7b, 8a, 9b, 10a

LESSON 2: English butler leads China's latest cultural revolution

Key Expressions

The Cultural Revolution – class traitor; state; communist

butler – etiquette; hotels; luxury; service industry

Exercise 7

1974 – The year Robert Watson entered service / became a butler.

2008 – The year of the Beijing Olympics in China.

160,000 – The amount in \$US that the top manservants (butlers) can earn in a year.

3,500 to 10,000 – The amount (range) in \$US that a one-week course with Robert Watson can cost.

2020 – The year by which China will become the World's leading tourist destination.

460 billion – The amount of income in \$US that this tourism will generate.

25 – The age of Frankle Guo a reception manager.

Exercise 8

Answers: a) T b) F – he used to c) F – he isn't cheap d) T e) T f) F g) T h) T

Exercise 9

Find the words in the text and choose the correct meaning.

Answers: 1) a 2) b 3) a 4) b 5) a 6) a 7) a 8) b 9) b 10) a

LESSON 3: Beware the Shopocalypse

Exercise 3

Answers:

Queens = a borough of New York with a large immigrant population

Broadway = the theatre district in Manhattan

East Village = an area of Manhattan which is historically bohemian and rebellious

Manhattan = actually an island, and the historical centre of New York where most of the

famous parts are, (5th Avenue, Central Park, Broadway, etc.)

Times Square = a brightly-lit square at the heart of the city

Disney = major Hollywood film maker – famous for its animated films and wholesome

image

Wal-Mart = largest supermarket chain in the USA

Starbucks = chain of coffee shops

Nike = manufacturer of sports clothes and sneakers (trainers)

Exercise 5

Answers:

1. False
2. true
3. false
4. false
5. true
6. true

Exercise 6

Answers:

1. a combination of 'shop' and 'apocalypse' – meaning that corporate shops are causing an apocalypse (the end of the world)
2. a riot caused by the fact that people are fighting over buying sneakers.
3. Cleaned up and made pretty and wholesome – like the Disney version of America. In other words, Times Square is no longer real – it's just pretty for tourists.
4. A spoof copies something in a funny way to make it seem silly – here, preaching on TV is being ridiculed.
5. space in New York which belonged to ordinary people is now owned and controlled by big business

Exercise 7

Find the words in the passage, then match them to the correct synonym.

Answers: 1a, 2a, 3b, 4b, 5a, 6b, 7a

LESSON 4: American dominance in the West End

Exercise 4

Answers:

- 1 T
- 2 F
- 3 T
- 4 F
- 5 F
- 6 F
- 7 F
- 8 T

Exercise 5

Look back at the passage again and match the summaries to the paragraphs.

Answers:

A3

B1

C4

D2

Exercise 6

Find the verbs in the text then match them to the definitions.

Answers:

- erode – make less
- set – put in place
- stifle – stop from expressing
- nurture – help to grow and develop
- stimulate – encourage
- neglect – ignore
- articulate – put into words

Exercise 7

Answers:

1. erode
2. stifle
3. articulate
4. set
5. nurture
6. stimulate
7. neglect

LESSON 5: London's Millennium bridge

Exercise 3

Read the passage and decide which sentences are true and which are false.

Answers:

- It's a suspension bridge. T
- It's a road bridge for cars. F
- It's a walkway for pedestrians. T
- It's a traditional structure. F
- It's an original design. T
- It's attractive. T
- It's long. T
- It's strong. T
- It's heavy. F
- It's dangerous. F
- It cost a lot. T
- It's still wobbly. F

LESSON 6: Covent Garden

Exercise 2

Answers:

1. a. A **snob** is someone who thinks and behaves as if they are better than other people, usually because of their social class. This word shows that you do not like people like this.

b. A **slacker** is a lazy person – someone who tries to avoid working or dresses badly.

Riffraff is an insulting or humorous word for people of a lower social class.

The **elite** are a small group of people who have a lot of power or advantages.

c. The **general public** are ordinary people in society.

Corporate guests are guests of companies – people who have been given free tickets because they are important clients of major companies.

2. It depends on the your own culture, but typically, in Britain at least, one would expect a bow tie, a suit, a dress, a pearl necklace.

Exercise 5

Answer:

The audience is less well-dressed, newer – more people are attending for the first time, poorer, younger.

The performances are not just major operas. There are more cheap seats, pop concerts, big names, opera road shows, and big screen relays of performances to the rest of London.

Exercise 6

Read the passage again and decide whether the sentences are true or false.

Answers:

1. True
2. False
3. True
4. False
5. True
6. False

Exercise 7

Use the context of the sentences below to guess the meaning of the word.

Answers:

1. Stalls
2. Storming the barricades
3. Provoked a furore
4. Redevelopment
5. Launching a season

LESSON 7: *Royal gaffe*

- Look up for the definition of ‘gaffe’ from the Macmillan English Dictionary for Advanced Learners.
- **Cultural note:** Prince Harry is the youngest son of the late Princess Diana, and Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales. Prince Charles is the oldest son of Queen Elizabeth II, and heir to the British crown. Harry’s older brother is Prince William, next in line to the throne after Charles, which makes Harry, currently, third in line to be king. Harry has regularly been in the newspapers as a result of allegedly drunken or inappropriate behavior.

Exercise 3

Read the passage and answer the questions.

Answers: a)

1. A uniform of the Nazi Afrika Korps with a swastika armband.
2. At a fancy dress party in Gloucestershire – at the home of Olympic sportsman, Richard Meade.
3. Because many people, particularly in the Jewish community, think it is inappropriate and insensitive for members of the Royal family to wear Nazi insignia.

Answers: b)

1. Politicians and Jewish leaders; Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the US-based Simon Wiesenthal Centre; the Israeli foreign minister, Silvan Shalom; the head of foreign policy for the EU, Javier Solana, some MPs; Labour backbencher Doug Henderson.
2. Should be told to accompany the British delegation to Auschwitz; should make a public appearance to say sorry; should not be allowed to go to Sandhurst.
3. He has given him a dressing down/telling-off; he has made a statement of apology; he may make a private visit to Auschwitz.

Exercise 4

Match the sets of words in 1 – 4 to their definitions in a – b.

Answers: 1d, 2a, 3b, 4c.

LESSON 8: *Hollywood*

Exercise 3: Matching jobs to what they do

Answers:

- a) Director → 3. tells the actors what to do
- b) Actor → 2. says the lines
- c) Screenwriter → 1. writes the words
- d) Studio chief → 4. the boss at MGM or Paramount
- e) Producer → 6. gets the money and people together to make the film
- f) Designer → 5. decides what the set should look like
- g) Film-maker → 8. another word for director
- h) Cinematographer → 7. controls the camera, and decides on how the film will look

Exercise 4: Matching verbs to nouns

Answers:

- 1. direct → a film
- 2. play → a role
- 3. write → a screenplay
- 4. star in → a film
- 5. win → an Oscar
- 6. make → a film

Exercise 8:

Answers:

- 1. **A celluloid ceiling** – A metaphor similar to the “glass ceiling,” referring to the barriers women face in the film industry, preventing them from reaching top positions as directors, producers, or studio heads.
- 2. **A fear factor** – The hesitation or reluctance of Hollywood executives to take risks on female-led projects due to perceived financial or audience concerns.
- 3. **A grossing film** – A film that earns a significant amount of money at the box office. The term is often used in phrases like “highest-grossing film,” referring to movies that make the most revenue.

4. **The status quo** – The existing state of affairs, particularly in Hollywood, where male dominance in directing, producing, and writing is maintained.
5. **Mainstream Hollywood** – The dominant film industry, producing big-budget, widely distributed films that cater to a general audience.
6. **A chick flick** – A film primarily aimed at female audiences, often romantic or emotional in nature, such as romantic comedies or dramas.
7. **The \$20 million barrier** – A reference to the pay gap in Hollywood, where only a few female actors or directors manage to command salaries equal to their male counterparts, particularly the benchmark of \$20 million per film.

LESSON 9: Australian Constitution

Exercise 2: True (T) or False (F)?

Answers:

1. T – It used to be a British colony.
2. T – It is now an independent country.
3. F – It is not a republic; Australia is a constitutional monarchy.
4. T – It is made up of six states and two territories.
5. T – It is part of the British Commonwealth.
6. F – It did not secede after World War II; Australia became independent progressively, with the final legal ties cut in 1986 (Australia Act).
7. T – The head of state is Queen Elizabeth II (or the reigning British monarch).
8. T – A Governor-General is appointed to represent the Queen's interests in Australia.

Exercise 3: Match the words to definitions

Answers:

1. Kingdom – A country ruled by a king or queen. The people in the country are subjects.
2. Principality – A country ruled by a prince.

3. Republic – A country ruled by an elected leader – a president. The people are citizens.
4. Nation – A country with its own land and government, or a people with its own culture and language.
5. Empire – A number of countries ruled by one person or government.
6. Territory – An area of land that is officially part of a country but does not have the status of a state.
7. Commonwealth – A group of countries or states with the same political or economic interests.
8. State – A region of a federal country that has its own government for some matters.
9. Colony – A country that is being controlled by another country.

Exercise 4: Constitutional status of the countries below

Answers:

- Spain – Kingdom (A constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system)
- South Africa – Republic (A country with an elected president as head of state)
- Wales – Principality/Territory (Part of the United Kingdom but not fully independent)
- The United States – Republic/Federal State (A federal republic with elected leaders)

Exercise 5:

Matching words in A to definitions in B

Answers:

1. A moat → Water around a castle or palace
2. Self-proclaimed → Announced by yourself
3. A fad → A short-term fashion
4. Seedy → Dirty and unpleasant
5. Comprises → Is made up of
6. Afflicted → Affected

LESSON 10: New York noise

Exercise 6

Answers:

Violent action: militants revolutionaries

Non-violent protest: campaigners environmentalists

1. Activists could be in either category. An activist is someone who takes action because they have strong political views – but this action need not be violent.

militant extremists: take direct action, fire bomb the police, throw eggs, go on a demonstration, start a riot

non-violent campaigners: sign a petition, lobby the government, go on a demonstration, organise a peaceful protest

- Write a **haiku**
- **Note: Haiku** is a Japanese poem of seventeen syllables, in three lines of five, seven, and five. Today the term haiku is used to describe all poems that use the three-line 17-syllable structure.

PART II

LESSON 1: Protest against cuts

Exercise 1

Answers:

Thousands of protesters **packed** the streets of London's financial district on Saturday to demonstrate against the newly reelected conservative government's plans for public spending cuts. Protesters gathered outside the Bank of England to listen to speeches before marching through central London towards Parliament.

"I think there's a **genuine** need to stop **austerity** and cuts to the **vulnerable**, particularly the disabled, the elderly, and the young, the young... The government seems to be very interested, almost obsessed with cutting benefits for young people who are looking for work."

"I just don't think the poor should have to suffer for the mistakes of the rich. It's affecting the vulnerable, the disabled, the mentally ill, people who just want to make it, perhaps who don't have the best start in the life, and they don't want to be suffering from the mistakes of the few, the few at the top."

Since winning the election, Conservative Finance Minister George Osborne has said he wants government departments to make extra cuts this year to commit future governments to run **budget surpluses** during normal economic times.

"You know, at the election night, they always say the Tories got a majority, but they only got about 800 or 600,000 more votes than they did in 2010, so you know, they didn't really, they didn't get a big **mandate** for their full **manifesto**, which is what they're claiming. 25% of people voted Tory, you know, that's nothing. So I think a lot of people from up and down the country are here cause they've just had enough. They've had enough of austerity, of cuts, of privatisation. They don't agree with that."

The protest was organised by the People's Assembly Against Austerity, an **umbrella group** with support from trade unions, antiwar protesters, and some Labour and Green party politicians.

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. **pack** — to stand close together
2. **genuine** — true
3. **austerity** — when a government spends less money
4. **vulnerable** — people who are easily harmed or hurt
5. **budget surplus** — when you have more money than you spend

mandate — authority to make the decisions

manifesto — a statement by a political party about their plans

umbrella group — a bigger organization that coordinates activities of smaller organizations

LESSON 2: The Confederate flag in South Carolina

Exercise 1

Answers: Level 3

South Carolina has voted to take down the Confederate flag after 16 hours of debate and weeks of **controversy**. In a move considered unthinkable by many just a month ago, the flag, which has flown above the **statehouse** for more than 50 years, will now be removed.

After the House passed the bill, in a surprise **landslide** by 93 to 27 votes, there were hugs, tears and high fives in the chamber. South Carolina's governor Nikki Haley signed the bill after a long and **rowdy** legislative session.

The move comes as Republican leaders in Congress called for talks on the flying of the flag across the US. A vote on a measure to defend the flying of the banner in cemeteries operated by the National Park Service was cancelled on Thursday.

The backlash against the emblem was sparked when a gunman Dylan Roof killed nine black people at a Charleston church last month. The 21-year-old was pictured **brandishing** the flag.

The Confederate battle flag is a very controversial banner in South Carolina. For some, it's a symbol of their **heritage** and history. For others, it's simply a reminder of slavery, racism and **white supremacy**.

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. **controversy** — a serious argument about something
2. **statehouse** (the building where people who make laws in a US state do their work),
3. **landslide** (a great victory),
4. **rowdy** (noisy and rough),
5. **brandish** (to wave something around),
6. **heritage** (traditional beliefs, values and customs),
7. **white supremacy** (a form of racism).

LESSON 3: Long Wave in China

Exercise 2

Answers:

Thousands of people lined the banks of the Qiantang River in China on Monday to watch the world famous **tidal bore**.

Locals and tourists **gathered** along the banks of the river in the cities of Haining and Hangzhou early in the morning to witness the amazing **phenomenon**, with some staying until late at night.

“Wow!”

Coinciding with China’s traditional Mid-Autumn Festival, the “one-line tide”, which is a special form of tidal bore that rolls forward at the same speed to form a straight line, travelled up the river.

The phenomenon usually starts at the beginning of the eighth lunar month and reaches its peak on the 18th day, three days after the Mid-Autumn Festival.

The natural wonder also attracts many surfers looking to challenge themselves by riding the waves of the tidal bore up the river.

Exercise 4

Answers:

tidal (relating to a tide which the rising and falling of the sea), bore (wave caused by the meeting of two tides), phenomenon (something which happens in the nature), coincide (happen at the same time as something else).

LESSON 4: Racism in the USA

Exercise 1

Answers:

Barack Obama says the United States has not yet overcome its history of racism and he used the **n word**, an offensive racial **slur** to highlight his point. He commented in an interview on a US podcast while speaking about the debate over race and guns after the racially motivated murder of nine churchgoers in Charleston South Carolina last week.

Mr. Obama told the comedian mark Marc Maron, “We’re not cured of racism and it’s not just a matter of it not being polite to use the n word in public. It’s not a measure of whether racism exists or not. Societies don’t **overnight** completely erase everything that happened 200 to 300 years **prior**.”

The US President also added while he thinks attitudes towards race have changed in his lifetime, the **legacy** of slavery casts a long shadow that’s still part of our DNA that’s passed on. He expressed his frustration of the strong **grip** the National Rifle Association has on congress after the Sandy Hook **massacre** where 20 children and six teachers were killed in a school in Connecticut three years ago.

The **alleged** 21-year-old gunman Dylann Storm Roof faces nine counts of murder in connection with the Charleston shooting.

Exercise 3

Answers:

word (– a very offensive term for an American black person, **do not** use this word), **slur** (insult – something rude), **overnight** (quickly), **prior** (before), **legacy** (something which exists as a result of things which happened in the past), **grip** (to have effective control over something), **massacre** (when someone kills a lot of people), **alleged** (when people believe something to be true).

LESSON 5: Church is attacked in Israel

Exercise 1

Answers:

A fire has **gutt**ed part of the church where Christians believe Jesus performed the miracle of feeding the 5,000. The Israeli fire brigade has **ruled** this **arson** following the results of a **preliminary** investigation that showed the fire broke out in several places inside the church.

An eyewitness describes his memory of the scene.

“Early in this morning, I think 3:15 I heard a big loudly tone and I ran out from my room and I saw the main entrance for the monastery was burnt and I smelled it is benzine.”

Since 2009, there have been 43 hate crime attacks reported against churches, mosques and monasteries in Israel and the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.

Staff at the monastery has **vowed** to repair the damage including the graffiti written in Hebrew script that reads “**eradicate** false Gods”.

“The residents of the monastery believe that we are not **obliged** to live together. We want to live together and we will not **permit** a small group of fanatics to disturb this peaceful life between the two peoples of this country. We will repair the place, and it will perhaps look better.”

The **limestone** Church of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes is on the northwest shore of the Sea of Galilee. It was constructed in the 1980s and was built on the site of the 4th and 5th century churches that commemorates what Christians **revere** as one of Jesus’s miracle.

No damage was reported to the 5th century mosaic floors that had been restored in the church.

Exercise 3

Answers: **gut** (to destroy completely the internal parts of a building), **rule** (to say officially that something is the case), **arson** (the crime of setting something on fire), **preliminary** (first), **vow** (to promise), **eradicate** (to destroy completely), **be obliged to do something** (to have to do something), **permit** (to let), **limestone** (a type of rock), **revere** (to respect).

LESSON 6: Charleston mayor: “We are still a work in progress in America”

Suggested answers to the warm up questions:

1 What is a hate crime? What is terrorism?

A hate crime is a criminal act, such as assault, vandalism, or threats, that is motivated by prejudice or bias against a person or group based on their race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. The purpose of a hate crime is not only to harm the individual victim but also to send a message of fear and exclusion to the wider community that shares the same identity.

Terrorism is the unlawful use of violence or threats intended to intimidate or coerce a population or government, usually for political, religious, or ideological reasons. Terrorist acts often target civilians and public places to create widespread fear, disrupt social order, and force changes in policy or leadership. Terrorism can be carried out by individuals, groups, or even state actors, and it is considered a serious threat to national and international security.

2 What do you know about the city of Charleston, South Carolina?

Charleston, South Carolina, is one of the oldest cities in the United States. Founded in 1670, it played a major role in colonial trade and later in the American Civil War as the site where the first shots were fired at Fort Sumter. The city became wealthy through rice and cotton plantations that depended on enslaved African labor.

Its rich cultural heritage includes strong African American and Gullah-Geechee influences, visible in its food, music, and art. Charleston is known for its well-preserved historic architecture, especially in the downtown Historic District. Tourism is a key part of the economy, attracting millions of visitors each year with its museums, waterfronts, and cultural events.

The city also faces modern challenges like rapid urban growth, gentrification, and the need for climate resilience due to flooding and sea-level rise. Educational institutions like the College of Charleston and The

Citadel are important parts of the community. Charleston continues to balance its deep historical legacy with contemporary development.

Sample responses to the critical thinking questions:

1 What are some of the underlying historical roots of racism in the U.S. South?

Some of the underlying historical roots of racism in the U.S. South include the legacy of slavery, which was central to the region's economy from the 1600s to the 1800s; laws known as slave codes that legally enforced racial inequality; and the development of white supremacist ideologies to justify the enslavement and mistreatment of Black people.

After the Civil War, the emergence of Jim Crow laws mandated segregation and discrimination, while violent groups like the Ku Klux Klan used terror to maintain white control. These systems shaped institutions, education, and social norms, creating long-lasting racial inequalities.

2 How were race relations different in 1975 from today? Are there any similarities?

In 1975, race relations were marked by the recent gains of the Civil Rights Movement, but many schools, neighborhoods, and workplaces remained largely segregated. Discrimination was more openly accepted, and legal protections for minorities were still being tested.

Today, overt racism is less socially acceptable, and there is greater representation of minorities in politics, media, and education.

3 How do you think courts should determine whether or not a crime qualifies as a hate crime or a terrorist act?

Courts should determine whether a crime qualifies as a hate crime or a terrorist act by examining the intent and motivation behind the act. They should look at evidence such as statements made by the offender, symbols used, targets chosen, and any connections to extremist groups or ideologies.

If the crime was committed to intimidate or harm someone because of their identity—such as race, religion, or gender—it may be classified as a hate crime. If it was meant to cause fear, influence government policy, or promote a political or religious cause, it may be considered terrorism. The court must also consider applicable laws and ensure that due process is followed.

LESSON 7: Flood of war refugees tests Greek hospitality

Suggested answers to the warm up questions:

1 What is a refugee?

A refugee is someone who leaves their home country due to a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group. They are unable or unwilling to return home because it is not safe and seek protection in another country under international law.

2 What are some reasons someone would leave their home country?

People leave their home country for many reasons, including war or conflict, persecution due to religion, race, or politics, violence or human rights abuse, natural disasters, poverty or lack of jobs, family reunification, and the pursuit of education or better opportunities.

3 What is happening in the Middle East to cause a refugee crisis?

The refugee crisis in the Middle East is caused by ongoing wars, violence, and instability. Syria's civil war has forced millions to flee their homes, and Yemen's conflict has led to widespread displacement and humanitarian disaster. The war in Gaza has destroyed homes and infrastructure, pushing nearly two million people to leave. Rising tensions between Iran and Israel create further fear and insecurity, forcing more people to escape violence.

Economic collapse, food shortages, and lack of healthcare in many areas make life unsafe and unlivable. All of these factors combined have created one of the largest refugee crises in the world.

Sample responses to the critical thinking questions:

1 Why are so many people seeking refuge in Greece?

Many people seek refuge in Greece because it is close to countries in conflict like Syria, Afghanistan, and Sudan, making it a natural entry point into Europe. Greece's islands are near Turkey, which is a major

transit country for refugees. Many travel by sea, often in dangerous conditions, hoping to reach safety.

Greece is also part of the European Union, so refugees see it as a place where they might get protection or better opportunities. Although many originally intended to move further into Europe, strict border rules have left thousands stuck in Greece. Despite its economic struggles, it is still safer and more stable than the countries people are fleeing from.

2 What are the effects of a large influx of immigrants in Greece?

A large influx of immigrants in Greece has several effects. It puts pressure on housing, healthcare, and education systems, especially in small island communities. It can strain public resources and create tensions with local populations over jobs and services.

However, it also brings cultural diversity and, in some cases, supports the economy through labor in sectors like agriculture and tourism. The situation challenges the government to balance border control with human rights and to ensure proper integration for those granted asylum.

3 How can countries in the region address the thousands of refugees who are seeking shelter?

Countries in the region can address the thousands of refugees seeking shelter by improving coordination and sharing responsibility, providing safe and legal entry routes, offering temporary housing, healthcare, and education, and supporting integration through language and job programs. They can also work with international organizations to fund relief efforts. Additionally, addressing the root causes of displacement by promoting peace and stability in conflict zones is essential for long-term solutions.

4 What would happen in your community if thousands of refugees suddenly appeared needing food, medical care and shelter?

If thousands of refugees suddenly arrived in my community needing food, medical care, and shelter, local services would be overwhelmed. Hospitals, schools, and housing would face shortages, and emergency aid and volunteer support would be needed immediately. The community might experience tension, but also acts of solidarity and cooperation. Long-term planning would be required to support integration and ensure that resources are shared fairly.

LESSON 8: Greek parliament approves controversial bailout deal

Suggested answers to the warm up questions:

1 What is the European Union?

The European Union (EU) is a political and economic union of 27 European countries that work together to promote peace, stability, and prosperity in the region. Member countries share common laws in areas such as trade, the environment, and human rights. Many of them use a common currency called the euro and allow the free movement of people, goods, services, and capital across borders. The EU has its own institutions, such as the European Parliament and the European Commission, which are responsible for making and enforcing policies.

2 What do you know about Greece's financial situation?

Greece's financial situation has improved since the debt crisis of the 2010s. The country is now experiencing moderate economic growth, lower unemployment, and more stable public finances. It has reduced its national debt and strengthened its banking sector. Tourism and foreign investment continue to support the economy.

However, challenges remain, including high debt levels, rising living costs, low productivity, and social inequality. Although the economy is more stable than before, many citizens still face pressure from low wages and limited public services. Greece is working to balance growth with long-term reforms.

3 What does it mean to go bankrupt?

To go bankrupt means that a person or a business is legally declared unable to pay their debts. It usually involves a court process where assets may be sold to repay creditors, and the person or company is given a chance to reorganize or be released from some financial obligations. It is a way to deal with serious financial trouble and get a fresh start under the law.

4 What would happen if the banks in your community shut down?

If the banks in my community shut down, people would not be able to access their money easily. ATMs and online banking would stop working, businesses would struggle to pay employees and accept payments, and loans and mortgages would be delayed or canceled. Overall trust in the financial system would decrease, which could lead to panic, increased unemployment, and a slowdown in the local economy.

Sample responses to the critical thinking questions:

1 Why does Greece want to remain in the Eurozone?

Greece wants to remain in the Eurozone because it provides economic stability, access to financial support from the European Central Bank, and stronger investor confidence. Being part of the euro also allows easier trade and travel with other European countries.

Leaving the Eurozone could lead to financial uncertainty, higher inflation, and a loss of trust in the economy. Staying in the euro helps Greece stay connected to Europe and supports its long-term recovery and growth.

2 Why do the other European nations want to help Greece avoid bankruptcy?

Other European nations want to help Greece avoid bankruptcy to protect the stability of the Eurozone and the European Union as a whole. If Greece went bankrupt, it could harm other EU economies, cause financial markets to panic, and weaken the value of the euro.

Supporting Greece also helps maintain political unity and shows solidarity among member states. Preventing bankruptcy avoids a larger crisis that could spread across Europe and affect global financial systems.

Lesson 9: Gunman shoots nine people at Charleston church

Suggested answers to the warm up questions:

1. What is a hate crime?

A hate crime is a criminal act motivated by bias or prejudice against a person or group because of their race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or other protected characteristic. It targets not just the individual but also aims to intimidate the entire community they belong to.

2. Where is Charleston, South Carolina?

Charleston is a city located in the southeastern part of the United States, in the state of South Carolina. It sits on the Atlantic coast, where the Ashley and Cooper rivers meet, and is known for its historic architecture, coastal charm, and cultural heritage.

Sample responses to the critical thinking questions:

1 What sorts of groups or messages most likely motivated the shooter?

The shooter was most likely motivated by extremist groups or messages that promote racism, white supremacy, or hatred toward a particular racial, religious, or cultural group. Such messages often come from online forums, hate groups, or ideologies that view certain communities as threats. These influences can fuel fear, anger, and a desire for violent action, especially in individuals who already hold biased beliefs or feel socially isolated.

2 How should the Charleston AME community and broader community of Charleston respond to what happened?

The Charleston AME community and the broader Charleston community should respond with unity, compassion, and a commitment to healing. The AME church can lead by promoting peace, remembrance, and spiritual support, while the broader community can show solidarity through public support, interfaith dialogue, and rejecting hate.

The response should also include efforts to address racism and violence through education, community programs, and policy change. Coming together in the face of tragedy can strengthen community bonds and promote long-term healing and justice.

LESSON 10: How will robots affect your career options?

Suggested answers to the warm up questions:

1 What is artificial intelligence?

Artificial intelligence is the ability of machines or computer systems to perform tasks that usually require human intelligence, such as learning, reasoning, problem-solving, understanding language, and recognizing images or sounds. It allows technology to make decisions or predictions based on data.

2 How do you interact with A.I. in your daily life?

You interact with A.I. in daily life through tools like voice assistants such as Siri or Alexa, recommendation systems on Netflix, YouTube, or Spotify, navigation apps like Google Maps, spam filters in email, social media feeds, and even smart home devices. A.I. helps personalize experiences, make tasks easier, and provide quick answers or suggestions.

Sample responses to the critical thinking questions:

1 Do you think robots and computers can perform jobs as well as humans? Why or why not?

Robots and computers can perform some jobs as well as, or even better than, humans—especially tasks that are repetitive, precise, or data-driven, like manufacturing, calculations, or sorting information. They work faster, make fewer errors, and don't get tired. However, they struggle with jobs that require creativity, emotional intelligence, or complex decision-making, such as teaching, counseling, or leadership. So, while A.I. can replace certain tasks, it cannot fully replace the human touch in many professions.

There are several risks associated with machines performing more everyday jobs. One major risk is job loss, especially in industries like manufacturing, transportation, and customer service, which can lead to economic hardship for many people. Another risk is increased inequality, as those with access to technology benefit more than others. There's also the risk of overdependence on machines, making people less skilled and more vulnerable if systems fail. In addition, issues like privacy loss, bias in algorithms, and lack of accountability can arise if A.I. is not carefully designed and regulated.

2 Will robots ever be able to reason and adapt as well as human brains? Explain your answer.

Robots may become better at certain types of reasoning and adaptation, especially in solving complex problems or learning from large amounts of data. However, they are unlikely to fully match the flexibility, creativity, and emotional understanding of the human brain. The human brain can adapt to new situations with limited information, understand feelings and context, and make moral decisions—things that artificial intelligence still struggles to do. While A.I. can simulate reasoning, it lacks true consciousness and human experience, which are key parts of how we think and adapt.

LESSON 11: Iran nuclear deal met with hope and anger

Suggested answers to the warm up questions:

1 Where is Iran?

Iran is a large country located in the Middle East, in the region known as Western Asia. It is bordered by Iraq and Turkey to the west, Armenia and Azerbaijan to the northwest, Turkmenistan to the northeast, and Afghanistan and Pakistan to the east. To the south, Iran has long coastlines along the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman, and to the north, it borders the Caspian Sea.

Iran's capital is Tehran, a major cultural, political, and economic center. The country has a rich history that dates back thousands of years, with ancient civilizations like the Persian Empire originating there. Iran plays an important role in the region due to its size, resources (especially oil and gas), and strategic location between Asia, Europe, and the Arab world.

2 What do you know about Iran's reputation as a country?

Iran has a complex reputation shaped by its history, politics, and global relations. It is known for its rich cultural heritage dating back to ancient Persia, including achievements in art, literature, science, and architecture. Its international image is often influenced by its political system, its nuclear program, and its tense relationships with Western countries.

LESSON 12: The doctor will see you now... online

Suggested answers to the warm up questions:

1 How has technology affected medicine and health?

Technology has greatly affected medicine and health by improving diagnosis, treatment, and patient care. Advanced machines like MRI and CT scanners help doctors detect diseases earlier. Electronic health records make it easier to share patient information between providers. Telemedicine allows patients to consult doctors remotely. Wearable devices track heart rate, sleep, and activity, helping people monitor their own health. Overall, technology has made healthcare faster, more accurate, and more accessible.

2 What is telemedicine?

Telemedicine is the use of technology to provide medical care and consultation from a distance. It allows doctors and healthcare professionals to communicate with patients through video calls, phone calls, or messaging without needing an in-person visit. Telemedicine is especially useful for people in remote areas, those with limited mobility, or during times when visiting a clinic is difficult, such as during a pandemic.

3 Why is it sometimes difficult to get a doctor's appointment?

It is sometimes difficult to get a doctor's appointment because there may be a shortage of doctors, especially in rural or busy areas. High demand, limited office hours, and long waiting lists can also make scheduling harder. In some cases, insurance or referral requirements can delay the process. Additionally, during public health crises like a pandemic, medical services may become overwhelmed, making it even harder to get timely care.

Sample responses to the critical thinking questions:

1 Why might it be difficult for patients to access healthcare in certain situations?

It might be difficult for patients to access healthcare in certain situations due to factors like living in remote or rural areas where there are few doctors or hospitals, lacking health insurance or the money to pay for treatment, facing long wait times, or having limited transportation options. Language barriers, fear of discrimination, or lack of knowledge about available services can also prevent people from getting the care they need. In emergencies or during crises like natural disasters or pandemics, healthcare systems can become overwhelmed, making access even harder.

2 Why might examining a patient via teleconference not reveal the same insights as an in-person visit?

Examining a patient via teleconference might not reveal the same insights as an in-person visit because the doctor cannot physically examine the patient, check vital signs, or observe certain symptoms closely. Important clues like skin texture, swelling, or unusual sounds in the heart or lungs might be missed. The quality of video or sound may also limit what the doctor can see or hear. In-person visits allow for a fuller physical assessment and better use of medical tools, which can lead to a more accurate diagnosis.

3 Beyond doctor visits, what other ways can you see technology one day advancing the medical industry?

Beyond doctor visits, technology could advance the medical industry in many ways. Artificial intelligence could help doctors diagnose diseases more accurately and quickly. Robotics might assist in performing

complex surgeries with more precision. 3D printing could be used to create custom implants or even human tissue. Wearable devices and smart sensors could monitor patients' health in real time and alert doctors to problems early. Virtual reality could help train medical students or be used in therapy for mental health. Overall, technology has the potential to make healthcare more personalized, efficient, and accessible.

***LESSON 13: While Muslims celebrate Ramadan,
Islamic State steps up attacks***

Suggested answers to the warm up questions:

1 What is Ramadan?

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and is considered the holiest month for Muslims. During Ramadan, Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset, meaning they do not eat or drink during daylight hours. It is a time for spiritual reflection, prayer, self-discipline, and helping those in need. The fast is broken each evening with a meal called *iftar*. Ramadan ends with a celebration called Eid al-Fitr, a holiday marked by communal prayers, feasting, and giving to charity.

2 How do Muslims observe Ramadan?

Muslims observe Ramadan by fasting from sunrise to sunset each day, which means they do not eat, drink, smoke, or engage in certain behaviors during daylight hours. They also spend more time in prayer, reading the Quran, giving to charity, and performing good deeds. The fast is broken each evening with a meal called *iftar*, and the pre-dawn meal is called *suhoor*. Ramadan is also a time for self-reflection, self-control, and strengthening one's relationship with God.

Sample responses to the critical thinking questions:

1 Why does the Quran stipulate that certain people may avoid fasting during Ramadan?

The Quran allows certain people to avoid fasting during Ramadan to protect their health and well-being. This includes the sick, the elderly,

pregnant or breastfeeding women, travelers, and young children. Islam emphasizes mercy and does not require fasting if it would cause harm. Those who cannot fast are encouraged to make it up later or give charity if they are unable to fast at all.

***LESSON 14: What can we learn from Cuba's
organic farms?***

Suggested answers to the warm up questions:

1. *Where do you usually see the word “organic”?*

You usually see the word “organic” on food labels in grocery stores, at farmers' markets, and in restaurants. It often appears on fruits, vegetables, meats, and packaged products that are grown or produced without synthetic chemicals, pesticides, or genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

2. *What do you know about pesticides?*

Pesticides are chemicals used to kill or control pests, such as insects, weeds, or fungi, that can damage crops. While they help increase food production, overuse can harm the environment, pollute water and soil, and pose health risks to humans and animals.

3. *Where is Cuba?*

Cuba is an island country located in the Caribbean Sea, just south of Florida in the United States. It lies between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean, and its capital city is Havana.

4. *What do you know about Cuba's history and relationship with the U.S.?*

Cuba had a close relationship with the U.S. until the 1959 Cuban Revolution, when Fidel Castro came to power and established a communist government. The U.S. responded with economic sanctions and a trade embargo, leading to decades of political tension. In recent years, there have been efforts to improve relations, including diplomatic talks and eased travel restrictions, though tensions still exist.

Sample responses to the critical thinking questions:

1 How did the fall of the Soviet Union impact Cuba's economy?

The fall of the Soviet Union in 1991 severely impacted Cuba's economy because the USSR had been Cuba's main trading partner and source of financial support. When that support ended, Cuba experienced a major economic crisis known as the "Special Period," marked by shortages of fuel, food, and other essential goods.

2 Why did Cuba turn to organic farming? What could their approach teach us about how other countries could be compelled to farm organically?

Cuba turned to organic farming out of necessity after losing access to chemical fertilizers and pesticides due to the Soviet collapse and trade restrictions. The country developed alternative methods like composting and crop rotation. Their approach shows that organic farming can grow from crisis and that with the right support and education, countries can adopt sustainable practices even without high-tech resources.

3 How do you think more open relations with the U.S. will affect Cuban farming practices?

More open relations with the U.S. could lead to greater access to modern equipment, seeds, and fertilizers, improving efficiency and crop yields.

LESSON 15: Politicians rethink criminal justice

Suggested answers to the warm up questions:

1 What does the term "criminal justice" mean?

Criminal justice refers to the system of laws, institutions, and practices used by a society to maintain order, enforce laws, and administer penalties to those who break them. It includes law enforcement, courts, and corrections.

3 What is the role of jails in our society?

Jails are used to detain individuals who are awaiting trial or serving short sentences. They are intended to protect the public, punish wrongdoing,

and in some cases, rehabilitate offenders before they return to the community.

3. How does the size of the U.S. prison population compare to other countries?

The U.S. has one of the largest prison populations in the world and the highest incarceration rate. Although it has less than 5% of the world's population, it holds about 20% of the world's prisoners.

Sample responses to the critical thinking questions:

1. What socio-economic factors contribute to the high number of incarcerated minorities in the U.S.?

Factors include poverty, lack of access to quality education and jobs, racial profiling, over-policing in minority communities, and systemic inequality in the legal system. These conditions increase the likelihood of contact with the criminal justice system.

2. How do prison education and not requiring ex-convicts to state prior convictions on job applications contribute to the reform movement?

Prison education helps inmates gain skills and knowledge, reducing the chances of reoffending. Not requiring applicants to disclose past convictions (known as "Ban the Box") allows former inmates a fairer chance at employment, helping them reintegrate and avoid returning to crime.

3. What other ways could we address crime, other than jailing criminals?

Other approaches include community-based rehabilitation programs, mental health and addiction treatment, restorative justice practices, job training, education, and youth mentorship. These alternatives focus on prevention and reintegration rather than punishment alone.

PART III

LESSON 1: China's philanthropist

Philanthropist -a rich person who helps the poor and those in need.

Exercise 2

Answers: a entrepreneur b sceptic c donor d passerby e environmentalist
f sibling g descendant

While reading

Answers:

1a N oxygen masks - cans of fresh air

b Y

c Y

d N bicycles - cars

e Y

f Y

g N some of the students at his village school - his neighbour

h Y

Exercise 2

Answers:

a There are a number of indications of his ebullient personality: shaking hands, signing autographs, shouting out to passersby, having his photo taken with them. He also does the physical stunt of lifting a bike with his teeth.

b Buying cars for people whose vehicles were destroyed. This was done at the same time as promoting a cycling initiative.

c He gives a number of reasons. He wants to record his name in history. He also wants to wake people up so that they take action together and do good things.

d He comes from a very poor background. He made his money recycling materials from demolished buildings.

- e Other philanthropists are far ahead of him in lists of charitable donations,
- f Sceptics say that it is impossible to identify how much he has given to charity because it is often in kind. Admirers say most millionaires do little for others.
- They also say that Chen gets people talking about philanthropy and the environment.

After reading

Exercise 1

Answers:

a poverty b fortune c donations d stunts e awareness f initiatives g drawbacks h responsibility.

LESSON 2: Berlin Wall

Before watching, listening, reading

Exercise 1

Answers:

1c 2d 3d 4a 5b 6 c

Exercise 2

Answers:

anarchic, colourful, political, radical, revolutionary, subversive, thought-provoking

While reading

Exercise 1

Answers:

1a East Side Gallery b luxury flats (and offices) c gaping hole d Living Levels e opponents of the plan f under threat g freedom h cyclists and pedestrians

Exercise 2

Answers:

a The passionate clench between Brezhnev and Honecker. It is a shocking and thought-provoking image which reminds people of the political past behind the wall. b That older, poorer parts of Berlin are being improved' by property developers in a determined and aggressive way, which is possibly unsympathetic to the history of c There was a big difference between how the outdoor gallery was described in her guidebook and how it actually appears. There was no mention of a gaping hole in her book. e They are both artists who have painted on the wall. It will be a missed opportunity to preserve what was once a death strip. It will destroy the authenticity of the place. g It can help her to understand what it was like to live in a divided city.

After watching, listening, reading

Exercise 1

Answers:

1a is known b is described c are attracted d reflect e was built f are planning g to be dismantled h say i is threatened / will be threatened j argue k be kept

Exercise 2

Answers:

- a Berlin's famous East Gallery lost some of its original paintings 10 years ago.
- b Protestors against changes to the wall say that it's one of the city's key tourist sites.
- c The main protestors' names are Kani Alvi and Thierry Noir.
- d Thierry Noir's giant paintings show a number of people's faces.
- e This painting is particularly famous and its in many visitors' photographs.

LESSON 3: *Che Guevara*

Before reading

1 **Ernesto "Che" Guevara** (1928-67) was an Argentine revolutionary and guerilla who followed Marxist principles. He was a key figure in the 1959 Cuban revolution and held government posts there. He was shot dead in Bolivia. His portrait by a famous photographer shows his good looks and intense stare. This image has appeared on T-shirts and helped to create a myth around him.

Exercise 2

Answers:

a brand b Korda c pride d spirit

While reading

Exercise 1

Answers:

1 a Where - In student bedrooms. It captures his stare and good looks. b Why - It's the subject of bitter legal battles. c When - After the collapse of the Soviet Union. d How many - 41 years. e What - She funds her legal battles. f Who - Her half-siblings.

Exercise 2

Answers:

Korda might have said: b, c, f, g.

After watching, listening, reading

Exercise 1

Answers:

a (advertising) campaign b (political) rally c (quick) shot d (brooding) good looks e illegal) use f (similar) tactic g (legal) battle

Exercise 2

Answers:

a legal battle b illegal use c political rally d quick shot e advertising campaign similar tactic g brooding good looks.

LESSON 4: Ibiza

Before watching, listening, reading

Exercise 2

Answers:

Verbs and expressions from the article – Complete the definitions

- If people **flock** somewhere, they go there in large numbers.
- If you try to **tackle** a problem or situation, you make a big effort to deal with it.
- If people **gather** somewhere, they come together in one place to form a group.
- If you **lure** a person to a place, you persuade them to come by offering a reward.
- If you decide to **downgrade**, you choose to do something cheaper or at a lower level.
- If you **take** someone **for granted**, you don't recognize their true value because you are used to them.

While reading

Exercise 1

Answers:

Complete the questions using the words provided (what, when, where, who, why):

- Who** used to flock to Ibiza every summer? Why?
- Why** was the closure of Manumission so significant?
- What** are many tourists expected to do this year? Why?
- Where** did music promoters go recently? What did they discuss?
- When** was dance music at its most popular?

After watching, listening, reading

Exercise 2

Complete the summary with the words below:

(drop, grip, healthy, numbers, punters, responding, climate, discounts, testing)

Answers:

The holiday island of Ibiza faces (a) **testing** times with an estimated 10% (b) **drop** in tourist numbers due to the global economic (c) **climate**.

With many of the world's largest economies in the (d) **grip** of recession, people are simply choosing to stay at home this summer.

Although there will be a dip in visitor (e) **numbers** this year, experts believe that the island's tourist industry is still in a fairly (f) **healthy** state.

Many of Ibiza's nightclubs are (g) **responding** to the new economic challenges by offering sweeteners to their (h) **punters** in the form of (i) **discounts** on tickets or free bus transfers.

LESSON 5: Boxing

Before watching, listening, reading**Exercise 1****Answers:**

The article is about Jack Johnson, who was one of America's "boxing greats".

This expression means that he was a:

- a. ☐ big heavyweight fighter.
- b. ☐ powerful boxing referee.
- c. ☒ famous and successful boxer.

Exercise 3: Verb and noun collocations from the article

- a. **Issue a pardon** → Barack Obama (as a president, he had the power to grant pardons).
- b. **Compose a tribute** → Miles Davis (as a musician, he could have composed a musical tribute).
- c. **Floor an opponent** → Jack Johnson / Muhammad Ali (as boxers, they knocked down opponents).
- d. **Sentence a man to prison** → A white judge from 1913 (as judges have the authority to sentence people to prison, and Jack Johnson was unjustly imprisoned during that time).

- e. **Launch a search for a new fighter** → Boxing promoters (as they are responsible for finding and promoting new boxing talent).
- f. **Claim Johnson as an inspiration** → Muhammad Ali (as a legendary boxer, Ali was known for acknowledging Johnson's influence on his career and activism).

After watching, listening, reading

Exercise 2

Answers:

Although Jack Johnson **(a) was killed** in a car crash over 60 years ago, his name **(b) is not forgotten**, and since his death in 1946, many African Americans **(c) have been inspired** by his example.

Last month, a resolution in Congress **(d) was sponsored** by John McCain calling for a pardon for Johnson.

Currently, the details of this issue **(e) are being discussed** in the US media, and the question of a pardon **(f) is being considered** by the president.

PART IV

LESSON 1: Cross-cultural dimensions of Working Hours

Exercise 2

Answers:

1. disloyalty
2. ingrained
3. be entitled
4. quota
5. inalienable
6. height
7. nap
8. unforgiving
9. succumb
10. ostracized
11. punishing
12. beatify

Exercise 4 Comprehension check

Answers:

1. that they are disloyal
2. making it a legal requirement that workers take at least five days' paid holiday a year
3. nine
4. Couples don't have time to start a family so the birth rate is low and the population is in decline.
5. about 22%
6. They are falling ill from stress, dying early and even committing suicide.
7. Not a very good one as they also do a lot of overtime and do not take long holidays.

Exercise 5 Key expressions

Answers:

1. carte blanche
2. corporate foot soldiers
3. to the exclusion of
4. nursing a collective hangover
5. bubble years
6. in the lurch
7. volunteer spirit
8. stay afloat

Exercise 6 Work expressions

1. to leave work
2. to decide it is time to end something
3. to be in the process of leaving a place
4. to finish your work for the day and prepare to leave

LESSON 2: Charity program spreads worldwide

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. challenge
2. bracing
3. backlash
4. narcissistic
5. nominate
6. butt
7. windfall
8. debilitating
9. drought
10. anchorman

Exercise 4

Answers

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. T
5. F
6. T

Exercise 6 Comprehension check

Answers

1. c
2. b
3. b
4. a

Exercise 7

Answers: notch up

1. come under fire
2. mainstream
3. overheads
4. douse
6. pick up on
7. heartbreaking
8. priceless

Exercise 8 Verb + noun collocations

Answers:

1. c
2. e
3. f
4. b
5. d
6. a

Exercise 9: Word-building

Answers:

1. criticism(s)/critics
2. experimentation
3. shortage
4. applications
5. ultimately
6. Environmentalists

LESSON 3: Fast food conquers the world

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. emblem
2. tarnished
3. atrocious
4. plunge
5. desert
6. mistrust
7. outreach
8. slime
9. tricky
10. sceptical

Exercise 4

Answers:

1. T
2. F
3. F
4. F
5. T
6. F

Exercise 6 Comprehension check

Answers:

1. b
2. a
3. b
4. c

Exercise 7 Find the word

Answers:

1. pile up
2. in droves
3. lose your edge
4. much-hyped
5. a bright spot
6. custom-made
7. square the circle
8. write off

Exercise 8 Verb + noun collocations

1. c
2. e
3. f
4. a
5. b
6. d

Exercise 9 Word-building

1. expansion
2. politically
3. unjustified/unjustifiable
4. competitive
5. globally
6. controversial

LESSON 4: Changing the world through yoga

Look up some yoga poses (asanas) on the internet, for example here:
[www.yogajournal.com/ category/poses/](http://www.yogajournal.com/category/poses/).

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. scores
2. credentials
3. ascetic
4. practitioner
5. holistic
6. discipline
7. hardline
8. subtle
9. coercion
10. teeming
11. devoid of
12. trappings

Exercise 5 Comprehension check

Answers:

1. the grass near the India Gate monument in Delhi, the capital of India
2. His name is Narendra Modi. He is 64 years old. He is the leader of the BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party). He is a vegetarian, an ascetic and an enthusiastic yoga practitioner.
3. India's police officers
4. school children; civil servants and their families; Air India also plans to introduce yoga for trainee pilots.
5. He says it is not about exercise but discovering the sense of oneness with yourself, the world and nature.
6. It is associated with religious traditions, including Buddhism, Jainism and Hinduism.
7. It is not always linked to religion.
8. for between 3,000 and 6,000 years

Exercise 6 Expressions

Answers:

1. far from alone
2. round up volunteers
3. landslide election victory
4. timed to coincide with
5. out-of-shape
6. hale and hearty (old fashioned)

Exercise 7

Answers:

noun	verb	adjective	adverb
harmony disharmony	harmonize	harmonious disharmonious	harmoniously disharmoniously
meditation meditator	meditate	meditative	meditatively
enthusiasm enthusiast	enthuse	enthusiastic unenthusiastic	enthusiastically unenthusiastically
controversy	—	controversial uncontroversial	controversially uncontroversially

LESSON 5: Round- the- World Trip

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. namesake
2. dismay
3. blossom
4. globetrotter
5. explicitly

6. platonic
7. mutual
8. groundswell
9. abrupt
10. viral

3 Find the information

1. the charity started by Axani
2. Toronto, Canada
3. on Twitter and Instagram
4. as a little sister
5. Quinn
6. Prague

Exercise 6 Comprehension check

Answers:

1. b
2. b
3. c
4. a

Exercise 7 Find the word

Answers:

1. spring to fame
2. jaunt
3. endeavour
4. have a blast
5. come to an abrupt halt
6. suffice to say
7. per se

Exercise 8 Phrasal verbs

Answers:

1. c
2. f
3. a
4. e
5. b
6. d

Exercise 9 Word-building

Answers:

1. developer
2. hopeful
3. romantically
4. survivors
5. strictly
6. entirely

LESSON 6: Music as a Cultural Bridge

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. dire
2. peaked
3. headline
4. hone
5. pervades
6. circumference
7. impresario
8. paralysing
9. shoved
10. chord
11. heritage
12. pinnacle

Exercise 5 Comprehension check

Answers:

1. a leading rock promoter, manager and impresario; he produces and works with musicians and bands and puts on concerts
2. The reason Elvis Presley never performed outside North America was because his manager, Colonel Tom Parker, was unsure of his own immigration status and so didn't want to risk leaving the US.

John Lennon was paralysed with stage fright at Madison Square Gardens and had to be shoved onto the stage.

He calls Coldplay the last (most recent) big act to come anywhere near the standard and calibre of past acts like Queen, the Who and the Rolling Stones.

3. It's peaked and its best times are over.
4. There are too many festivals and not enough big acts to headline them. And, there are no big new acts coming up to replace the old ones.
5. He's working on theatre adaptations of *The Hunger Games* and the Anne Frank story.
6. Freddie Mercury
7. The way Freddie Mercury went out onto the stage at Live Aid and grabbed the audience
8. the Hay Festival of Literature and Arts in Powys, Wales

***LESSON 7: Swedish women's beverage revolution
spreads the world***

(example answer)

... a yellow or brown alcoholic drink made from malt (=grain that has been left in water and then dried) and hops (=a type of plant). You **make** or **brew** beer.

Exercise 2

Answers:

1. like-minded
2. ale
3. take
4. propaganda
5. bloat
6. tastings
7. brainchild
8. snobs
9. concocted

10. malt
11. hop
12. opt for
13. stout
14. craft ale
15. on draught

Exercise 4 Comprehension check

Answers:

1. because they are like-minded drinkers; to launch Sweden's first beer made by women
2. a bottled pale ale; a beer brewed by women; the brewery's hoppiest beer; with a bitterness level of 65 and an alcohol content of 4.6%
3. because they don't know enough about beer to be able to order it
4. bearded beer snobs
5. They are running women-only tastings.
6. 1,600 litres; It sold out almost immediately and other breweries now want to work with FemAle.
7. It's a beer made by women, not specifically for them. It is not lighter, flavoured or bloat-resistant.

Exercise 5 Language tasks

Answers:

- a.
 1. brewed
 2. (micro-)brewery
 3. brewer
 4. brew
- b.
 1. for – used to express, with annoyance, that it has happened many times
 2. up – think of something such as an idea or a plan
 3. against – be in a very difficult situation or with a serious problem to deal with
 4. up – be annoyed or bored with something that you feel you have accepted for too long

Note: ‘pink it and shrink it’ – This refers to the sexist marketing strategy of packaging something in pink and making it smaller so that it appeals more to women.

LESSON 8: Movies unite cultures

Exercise 2

Answers:

1. Retro
2. nostalgic
3. high-calibre
4. complacent
5. slick
6. quirk
7. orchestrate
8. stunt
9. reinvigorate
10. spin-off

Exercise 5 Comprehension check

Answers:

1. b
2. c
3. a
4. b

Exercise 6 Find the word

Answers:

1. high water mark
2. do your utmost
3. ebb and flow
4. eclipse
5. hair's breadth
6. reckoning

7. surge
8. grind to a halt

Exercise 7

Answers:

1. d
2. c
3. f
4. a
5. b
6. e

Exercise 8

Answers:

1. announcement
2. staleness
3. resemblance
4. popularity
5. ownership
6. renewal

LESSON 9: World needs nature sound

Exercise 2

Answers:

1. tranquil
2. screen out
3. oblivious to
4. exacerbated
5. conditioning
6. amnesia
7. acuity
8. impromptu
9. interspersed

10. speculates
11. predator
12. cluttered

Exercise 4 Comprehension check

Answers:

1. the US National Park Service; at 600 sites across the US; over ten years
2. Yosemite; Yellowstone; Denali
3. No.
4. rising levels of background noise; the use of earphones to listen to music, for example; a 'learned deafness' in which we condition ourselves to ignore certain sounds
5. The gift of being able to hear things that are hundreds of metres away.
6. that they will grow up without experiencing peace and quiet
7. They help people feel calm.
8. They help people recover from stressful events.
9. go to protected areas (such as natural parks) and experience what they are missing

Exercise 5 Collocations

Answers:

1. f
2. e
3. g
4. j
5. i
6. c
7. h
8. d
9. a
10. b

Exercise 6 Onomatopoeia

Answers:

1. trickling; rustling

2. (possible answers) cheep, bark, quack (animal sounds); pitter patter (rain); rumble (thunder); crash (waves); howl (wind)

***LESSON 10: Proper names under the issue of
cultural identity***

Exercise 1

Answers:

1. reluctant
2. understatement
3. registry
4. impasse
5. barely
6. subscriber
7. offspring
8. saga
9. orthography
10. violation

Exercise 2

Answers:

1. a little over 320,000
2. about 5,000
3. 1,853
4. 32
5. in 2000
6. Icelandic

Exercise 4 Comprehension check

Answers:

1. b
2. c
3. a
4. c

Exercise 5

Answers:

1. appeal against
2. on the grounds
3. the letter of the law
4. reportedly
5. accommodate
6. turn down
7. come under fire
8. get round

Exercise 6 Verb + noun collocations

Answers:

1. c
2. f
3. e
4. a
5. d
6. b

Exercise 7 Word-building

Answers:

1. approval
2. grammatical
3. routinely
4. creativity
5. barely
6. subscribers

PART V

LESSON 1: China growth slows

Answers:

The Chinese economy grew by 6.9% last year.

It's the slowest **rate of growth** for the world's second largest economy in 25 years.

Concerns about the health of the Chinese economy, including **shrinking** foreign and domestic demand and the **depreciation** of its currency, has contributed to sharp falls on global markets.

Exercise 3

Answers:

rate of growth

speed at which something increases in size

shrinking

getting smaller

depreciation

process in which something becomes less valuable

LESSON 2: News Report Germany's plan for migrants

Answers:

The German government has announced a \$6bn action plan **to cope with** a record influx of migrants.

The measures include speeding up **asylum** procedures and building homes for new arrivals. The government says that by temporarily relaxing EU migration laws over the weekend it's **averted** a humanitarian **crisis**.

The flow of people heading for Europe shows no sign of **easing**. A Greek ferry carrying about 2,000 migrants from the island of Lesbos has arrived at the port of Piraeus near Athens.

Exercise 3

Answers:

to cope with

to deal with a difficult situation

asylum

procedures legal steps that governments take in order to offer shelter to people who are forced to leave their own countries

averted

stopped a bad situation from happening

humanitarian crisis

an event such as war that threatens the health and safety of a large number of people

easing

making a bad situation get better

LESSON 3: News report Greek finance minister resigns after 'no' vote

Answers:

Within hours after the people of Greece voted against the terms of a financial **bailout**, the country's combative finance minister, Yanis Varoufakis, has **resigned**.

He said he'd been made aware that some Eurozone members didn't want him at ministerial meetings and, because of that, the Greek Prime Minister, Alexi Tsipras, felt his resignation would help secure a new deal. Eurozone ministers have been giving their reaction to the Greek vote. The German economy minister, Sigmar Gabriel, accused the government in Athens of leading the Greek people down a path of **abandonment** and hopelessness. The French finance minister, Michel Sapin, called on the Greek government to make new proposals for a deal with **creditors**.

Chancellor Merkel of Germany will meet the French president, Francois Hollande, later today to discuss the crisis, and there'll be a **summit** of Eurozone leaders on Tuesday.

Exercise 3

Answers:

bailout

help or a loan that is given when someone is in a very difficult situation that they cannot solve by themselves

resigned

officially stopped doing his job

abandonment

being left alone

creditors

people or companies who are owed money

summit

an important meeting (between government leaders from different countries)

LESSON 4: US gun law

Answers:

The White House has given details of President Obama's plans to tighten gun controls in the US.

It says all gun sellers will have to be registered and must carry out **background checks** on buyers.

After years of fierce opposition, President Obama has decided to **bypass** Congress and introduce the measures through a series of **executive orders**.

Exercise 3

Answers:

background checks

checks on the things a person has done in their past

bypass

to go around something in order to avoid it

executive order

an order given by the president or the governor of a state in the US which is like a law

LESSON 5: Recycling light

Answers:

Researchers in the United States say they've developed a technique that can **significantly** improve the efficiency of the traditional **incandescent** lightbulb. They say they've built **prototypes** that are already three times more efficient than standard incandescent bulbs.

Exercise 3

Answers:

significantly

by a large or noticeable amount

incandescent

producing light from a heated part

prototype

the first example of a new product

LESSON 6: EU and Africa heads discuss migrant crisis; Russia's weapons threat; Rare diamond sells for more than \$28m

Answers:

Today's Headlines:

EU and Africa heads discuss migrant crisis

Russia's weapons threat

Rare diamond sells for more than \$28m

More than 60 leaders from Europe and Africa are in Malta for a two-day summit on how to **stem** the flow of migrants into the European Union. The European Commission is offering €1.8bn to start a trust fund for development in Africa. President Putin has declared that Russia is working on weapon systems that can penetrate any anti- missile **shields**: relations with the West, it seems, still **deteriorating**. Moscow has repeatedly expressed concern over the expansion of an American ballistic

missile defence system into Eastern Europe. At a meeting of Russian defence chiefs, he said his country would take all necessary **retaliatory** steps.

A rare pink diamond – the largest of its kind ever to appear at auction – has sold for \$28.5m. The cushion-shaped diamond weighing 16 carats and graded vivid fancy pink was the **star lot** at a Christie's jewellery sale in Geneva. The price narrowly **beat** its pre-sale estimate that was \$23m to \$28m. The diamond, owned by an American family, has been bought by an unidentified Hong Kong buyer who is said to have named it 'The Sweet Josephine'. Words and phrases and definitions: stem the flow stop the movement deteriorating becoming worse retaliatory steps action to harm someone because they have harmed you star lot (here) most popular item in an auction.

Exercise 2

Answers:

stem the flow

stop the movement

deteriorating

becoming worse

retaliatory steps

action to harm someone because they have harmed you

star lot (here)

most popular item in an auction

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. We decided not to walk up the mountain when we saw the weather was deteriorating.
2. There was so much rain that we had to use blankets and towels to try to stem the flow of water coming under the door.
3. I decided to bid for the star lot but someone else offered a much higher price.
4. I told my lawyer to take retaliatory steps against the newspaper that published false stories about me.

LESSON 7: India's domestic workers law; Fighting online crime; E-cigarettes less damaging says study

Answers:

These women are part of India's **vast army** of domestic workers. Despite the numbers, it's a sector with few rules. But that might change – there are plans for laws giving workers a minimum wage and compulsory leave – and there would be social security cover too their employers would have to fund, at least in part.

This is not science fiction. This is our world, now in the 21st Century. Here in California they're at the **cutting edge** of cyber security, using this virtual reality map of millions of computers to **hunt** hackers.

Vaping – in less than a decade, it's gone from nowhere to a habit for more than two and half million British people. Now after claims and counterclaims about the risks of e-cigarettes an official health organisation says they're good news. That's because former smokers like Elaine, have been helped to kick the habit – in her case 40 years – encouraged by a clinic she switched to e-cigs which do contain nicotine but not the damaging tobacco smoke.

Exercise 2

Answers:

vast army

large group of people organised and trained to do a task

cutting edge

most modern and advanced point in the development of something

vaping

using an electronic cigarette

kick the habit

stop doing something that you have been doing regularly

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. Since Rob started **vaping**, his clothes smell a lot fresher.

2. I've tried to stop having sugar in my tea but I just can't seem to **kick the habit**.

3. A **vast army** of supporters turned up at the stadium for the big match but there weren't enough tickets so some of them couldn't get in.
4. The company was at the **cutting edge** of design and had won many awards.

***LESSON 8: Dengue fever outbreak in Delhi; Drugs
raid in the Caribbean Sea; UK starts womb
transplant***

Answers:

Thousands of patients arrive every morning at Delhi's hospitals suffering the high fever and terrible joint pain that have earned dengue its alternative name – break bone fever. Tempers are **running high**. 25,000 people in India have been infected so far this year, according to the official figures. But the real number is reckoned to be hundreds of times higher.

Operation Martillo in action – moving 1,100 kilograms of cocaine and over 2,000 kilograms of marijuana. And then offloaded to a **human conveyor belt** on Miami Beach. The **haul** makes it a record year for the US coastguard.

This is Vincent – the world's first baby born from a transplanted womb. It happened in Sweden a year ago. His mother, who preferred not to be identified, said she wanted her success **to inspire** other women. Now a team at London's Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital hopes to repeat that success here. Around one in 5,000 women is born without a uterus and already more than 100 potential transplant recipients have been identified by the UK team.

Exercise 2

Answers:

running high

(here) getting extreme

human conveyor belt

line of people passing objects from one place to another

haul

large amount of illegal items such as drugs or weapons

to inspire

to make people feel they can do the same thing

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. When the cargo ship hit the rocks, people formed a **human conveyor belt** to take all the boxes of whisky ashore.
2. Police found the **haul** hidden under the engine of the car.
3. Tensions on the ship were **running high** after the captain announced there was no more food left.
4. The boxer hoped **to inspire** young people to take up the sport, just as he had done several years earlier.

LESSON 9: US investigates Volkswagen; Europe's migrant plan; The art of Pele

Answers:

Reports from the United States say the Justice Department has launched a criminal **probe** into Volkswagen's **rigging** of its emission tests. Volkswagen has admitted that 11m of its diesel vehicles contained software to evade emissions tests. Central European states have reacted angrily to plans to use **compulsory quotas** to relocate 120,000 refugees across the continent. The idea was voted through despite objections from several countries including Hungary and the Czech Republic.

The renowned pop artist Andy Warhol predicted that one day everyone would be famous for 15 minutes but it would be Pele whose fame would last for 15 centuries. **Immortalized** in room after room of artwork, it's easy to believe that he may always be the gold standard against which all footballers are judged.

Exercise 2

Answers:

probe

(here) attempt to discover the real facts about a problem or issue

rigging

acting in a dishonest way to achieve a certain result

compulsory quotas

fixed quantities required by law (here, the number of refugees that each country is required to accept)

immortalized

made famous for a very long time

Exercise 3**Answers:**

1. The views of Yosemite National Park were **immortalized** through the work of photographer, Ansel Adams.
2. The police launched a full-scale **probe** into the claims that the businessman had stolen all the money.
3. The election had to be held again after it was found the result was **rigged**.
4. The Paris radio station had to play a **compulsory quota** of music sung in the French language.

LESSON 10: Obama's final State of the Union address; Counting Africa's elephants from the sky; Australia celebrates Elvis

Answers:

President Obama has set out the vision he hopes will define his legacy in his final State of the Union address. He **vowed** to continue targeting terrorist networks, accelerate the switch from fossil fuels and also launch a new drive to cure cancer. He called for Congress to be less **partisan** in order to make real progress.

The elephant population in Africa is continuing to decline despite an international ban on the trade of ivory tusks. Counting the remaining animals is certainly a difficult task – they roam through vast areas, across 20 countries but that is the **bold ambition** of the great elephant **census**. It's a continent-wide initiative started by the co-founder of Microsoft, Paul Allen, to keep an account of Africa's elephants and to do it from the sky.

Thousands of Elvis Presley fans descended on a town in Australia over the weekend for an annual outback festival dedicated to the **iconic** US singer. The celebrations in Parkes coincided with what would have been Elvis's 81st birthday. The festival was first held in 1993 and includes lookalike competitions, an Elvis-themed gospel service and large street parades as well.

Exercise 2

Answers:

vowed

promised (to do something)

partisan

supporting the political views of just one party

bold ambition

big or difficult aim, requiring lots of effort

census

official count and collection of information about a population

iconic

famous person or object which is thought to represent an idea or style from a particular time

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. The latest **census** shows that there are more people living in London than ever before.
2. Staff at the factory weren't convinced by the manager's **vow** to improve working conditions and improve wages.
3. One of the world's most **iconic** railway locomotives, the Flying Scotsman, has taken its first public test run after ten years of repairs and rebuilding work.
4. Some people thought John's **bold ambition** to row across the Pacific Ocean in one month as completely mad.
5. The prime minister thought **partisan** differences got in the way of real progress.

LESSON 11: Puppet carnival in Thailand

Answers:

They've come **in droves** to Bangkok.

Glove puppets, puppets on strings and even the odd **wannabe** celebrity puppet.

The Harmony World Puppet Carnival in Thailand has brought together more than 160**puppeteers** from 80 countries.

The organisers are hoping to **put on** the most entertaining of events, with only **a few strings attached**.

Exercise 2

Answers:

in droves

in great numbers

wannabe

someone who hopes to be famous

puppeteers

artists who control dolls which perform in shows

put on

produce

a few strings attached

a few conditions

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. Locog have put together a creative team of British talent to oversee the ceremonies, with Oscar-winning film director Danny Boyle as artistic director for the Olympics opening ceremony and Take That's creative director Kim Gavin as artistic director for the Olympic and Paralympic closing ceremonies.
Mr Boyle and the opening ceremony's executive producer Stephen Daldry have been talking about the task of **putting on** a show with a 20,000 strong cast.
2. But it's not just geographical proximity that connects Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Millennia of migration - most famously in the 17th Century, when the plantation of Ulster saw English and Scottish Protestants move over **in droves** to what is now Northern Ireland - has intertwined their history, culture and language.

3. Beverly Hills has long had the reputation of being the plastic surgery capital of the world. Tummy tucks and nose jobs are a way of life for the well-heeled showbiz community.
But now, even the **wannabe** stars are turning to cosmetic contouring to further their careers.
4. Puppetry and magic have been popular forms of traditional entertainment in India for long, but in recent years, the **puppeteers** have been desperately trying to preserve their dying art form.
5. The deal is valid through Thanksgiving Day, though there are **a few strings attached**. Shoppers are limited to one turkey per shopping trip and you must spend an additional \$35 in groceries to get the 79-cent per pound price. Alcohol, tobacco, fuel and prescriptions are excluded.

LESSON 12: Don't look down!

Answers:

The wonderful sight of Zimbabwe's Victoria Falls.

Two **daredevils** trained for two years to make the 100-metre-long crossing on a slack line. German student Lukas Irmeler and Austrian journalist Reinhard Kleindl are the first people ever to cross the **gorge** walking upright.

It might be a **daring** walk for many, but it's just a **hobby** for these two and they managed to **take it in their stride**.

Exercise 2

Answers:

daredevils

people who enjoy the excitement of doing dangerous activities

gorge

a geographical feature which is made of a narrow passage with steep walls, usually with a stream running through it

daring

adventurous

hobby

a free-time activity that people do regularly

take (it) in their stride

to deal with problems and difficulties calmly

Exercise 3**Answers:**

1. Lifeguards who were involved in a **daring** rescue of two surfers stranded on rocks at sea have been honoured for their heroism.
2. One at a time, the extreme sports enthusiasts jumped off the 330m-high Kuala Lumpur tower and parachuted towards a nearby skyscraper rooftop.
The **daredevils** landed in the pool where they were met by cheers from fellow extreme sports enthusiasts.
3. The work, which will involve drilling and grouting old mine workings and strengthening slopes and the river banks, will take four years, the council said.
A spokesman said land instability in the **gorge** "is nothing new" with reports of ground movement being recorded over the past 235 years.
4. A new record of trainspotting has been discovered from 1861, 80 years earlier than the **hobby** was first thought to have begun.
5. Young said: 'Though it is a big occasion we will be treating it as just another game.
'It isn't very often that you get the opportunity to play live on the television but I am sure the lads will go out there and **take it in their stride**.'

LESSON 13: A joke gone wrong

Answers:

It seems like an ordinary motorsport event at Britain's former Grand Prix track, Brands Hatch. But all is not as it should be...

(Commentary: "Why is there a Volkswagen Golf on the track?")

As a **prank**, 22-year-old Jack Cottle drove his girlfriend's car onto the circuit while a race was in progress.

Egged on by a friend, Cottle did one lap before **pulling over**.

Over two million people have watched it on YouTube.

But it's **no laughing matter**: the judge sentenced Jack to eight months in prison **to deter** others.

Exercise 2

Answers:

prank

a trick that is supposed to be funny

egged on

encouraged

pulling over

a vehicle moving over to the side of the road and stopping

no laughing matter

very serious

to deter

to stop people from doing something by explaining the possible bad results

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. A spokeswoman for bus operator PW Jones Coaches said children claimed a lorry involved in the accident did not stop.
"The coach had **pulled over** to stop on the grass verge and it gave way," she said.
2. Not that Candy Crush Saga was perfect from the first iteration. "We had an early theme based around the French Art Deco Style,

- Knutsson explains. That included an over-the-top French voice **egging on** players when they made good moves.
3. Det Sgt Steve Hall said it was a miracle she was not seriously injured.
He said the stone-throwing "might have seemed like a good laugh at the time but this **is no laughing matter**".
 4. In Victoria, tourism and local governments have protected a population of penguins by introducing a pair of Maremma guardian dogs, a breed whose natural territorial behaviour **deters** local foxes that had previously devastated the colony.
 5. A Gwynedd man who edited a webpage and named himself the founder of Everton Football Club as a childhood **prank** has come clean nine years on.

LESSON 14: Return of the lynx

Answers:

Elusive, shy and an excellent **predator**... but the lynx was hunted to extinction in Britain over 1,000 years ago.

Now, a conservation group plans to reintroduce the species to the wild. They say they aren't dangerous to humans, and claim that with an overpopulation of deer, the lynx will help rebalance the **ecosystem**.

But first, they'll have to convince farmers who think the animal would **pose a threat to livestock**.

Exercise 2

Answers:

elusive

difficult to find

predator

animal that hunts and eats other animals

ecosystem

all plants and animals in an area

pose a threat

could cause harm

livestock
farm animals

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. Lions are among the fiercest modern **predators**.
2. Prof Stephen Hawking, one of Britain's pre-eminent scientists, has said that efforts to create thinking machines **pose a threat** to our very existence.
3. A new study suggests that the production of beef is around 10 times more damaging to the environment than any other form of **livestock**.
4. The huts, and the luxury items inside, belong to Dairo Antonio Usuga David, better known as Otoniel, one of the most wanted men in Colombia.
Currently some 1,200 members of the security forces are chasing the **elusive** gang leader.
5. The Sundarbans mangrove forests along the coastline of India and Bangladesh - a delicately balanced **ecosystem** that protects the densely populated Bay of Bengal from the worst extremes of nature - is home to the endangered royal Bengal tiger.

LESSON 15: New York view from the top

Answers:

The Freedom Tower in New York. The tallest building in the western **hemisphere** is now open to visitors.

The history of the city **flashes by** on the 100-floor journey to the top.

The skyscraper replaces the World Trade Center, and many visitors will **inevitably** think of September 11th, 2001.

New York still feels the **trauma** of those events. But the opening of this **landmark** is part of the city's ongoing recovery.

Exercise 2

Answers:

hemisphere

(here) half of the Earth

flashes by

appears for a short time and then disappears

inevitably

unavoidably

trauma

(here) shock caused by a deeply disturbing experience

landmark

a building or site which helps to identify a place

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. His injuries were so severe he lost his right leg, but he says the psychological **trauma** has been harder to deal with.
2. The princess, who is fourth in line to the throne, was delivered at 08:34 BST on Saturday at St Mary's Hospital in London, and weighed 8lbs 3oz (3.7kg).
Tower Bridge was among several London **landmarks** lit up in pink in her honour.
3. Haiti is the poorest country in the western **hemisphere** and has suffered a number of recent disasters, including four hurricanes and storms in 2008 that killed hundreds.
4. Mr Chisolm said: "With hundreds of thousands of people seeing the film around the world, some will undoubtedly get hooked on Hardy and will **inevitably** come and visit the places and his houses."
5. Going deeper into the Javanese countryside, names of small towns and villages **flash by**: Kebumen, Gombong, Purwokerto. Deep in Indonesia's interior, the ubiquitous Indomaret convenience chain outlets are replaced by traditional family shops, a relic of the old ways. It is a world away from big city life.

LESSON 16: The secret of giraffes' long legs

Answers:

Sticking their necks out for scientific research.

These giraffes at a zoo near London are helping researchers find out just how their **spindly** legs work.

Experts are using special technology to measure the animals' leg movements. They want to see if being tall is a help or a **hindrance** to moving around.

The scientists also hope to solve the **evolutionary** mystery of how these animals developed from their more **modestly proportioned** ancestors.

Exercise 2

Answers:

sticking their necks out

(idiom) taking a risk

spindly

long and thin

hindrance

something that can make it difficult for you to do something else

evolutionary

gradual process of change and development

modestly proportioned

smaller sized

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. Scientists have used CT scans to make 3D models of fossil harvestmen, revealing just how little these **spindly** invertebrates have changed in 300 million years.
2. Suddenly, campaign ads, which had previously been **modestly-proportioned** fly-poster style efforts became 48 sheet billboards displayed in prominent High Street locations, where they could compete for eyeballs with major consumer brands.

3. A machine that runs an artificial finger across different types of surface is being used to investigate the **evolutionary** origins of the pattern of ridges on the ends of our digits.
4. Doran revealed it was the first time the Shakespeare comedies Love's Labour's Lost and Much Ado About Nothing had been paired. "It's always struck me that these plays belong together and so strong is my sense that I am **sticking my neck out** to say that Much Ado About Nothing may also have been known as Love's Labour's Won in Shakespeare's lifetime," said Doran.
5. Divya Arora, a scriptwriter with cerebral palsy, thinks that disability is no **hindrance** to achieving her dream of making it big in Bollywood.

LESSON 17: Snakes in a cafe

Answers:

A relaxing place for a coffee... Or is it?

This cafe, which has just opened in Tokyo, is **not for the faint-hearted**.

Here you sip your drink in the company of 35 snakes.

None of them are **venomous**, meaning customers can **get up close and personal** with the reptiles.

The cafe's owner says he's interested in **conservation**, and hopes customers will realise the animals are worth saving, even though they often have a bad **reputation**.

Exercise 2

Answers:

not for the faint-hearted

not suitable for people who are not brave or do not like to take risks

venomous

contains poison

get up close and personal

be intimate with something

conservation

(here) the act of protecting wildlife

reputation

opinion people have of someone or something

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. Drilling for oil in the Arctic may harm Shell's **reputation** and cost it dear, the former BP boss Lord Browne has said.
Shell has just started preliminary drilling in Alaska's Chukchi Sea after several setbacks.
2. A **venomous** centipede which climbed into a woman's suitcase during her Caribbean holiday has been given a new home at Bristol Zoo.
3. This would put at least 15 carnivores, 8 primates and 21 bat species at risk of extinction by 2080, almost doubling the proportion of threatened mammals on the island, according to the research.
But there is hope that better forestry management for **conservation** outside existing reserves could curb this loss, said lead researcher Dr Matthew Struebig.
4. There are pearls of all shapes, sizes and colours here, including the world's largest, a 276-carat whopper fashioned into a ring. Most of these pieces are not for sale but the price tags for those collector pieces that are available are **not for the faint-hearted**. I offer quiet thanks my wife is not with me to see these amazingly opulent jewels.
5. As footballing history is made at Hampden, Scots fans are being offered the chance to **get up close and personal** with the oldest football in the world.
Made from cow leather and a pigs bladder, it was found behind panelling of the Queen's chamber in Stirling Castle, which was decorated in the 1540s.

LESSON 18: Plastic art

Answers:

An art studio with no brushes or paint.

Mbongeni Buthelezi uses strips of plastic **melted** and glued to the **canvas** for his portraits.

When the South African studied art he couldn't **afford** to buy expensive materials. So he found an alternative and now produces this **unique** kind of art.

He collects plastic bags from the streets around his Johannesburg studio and has turned **recycling** into an art form.

Exercise 2

Answers:

melted

made soft or made into a liquid

canvas

thick and strong cotton cloth that artists paint on with oil paints

afford

have enough money

unique

(here) unusual and not made anywhere else

recycling

using waste materials again

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. Many of Kolkata's old buildings reflect diverse European architectural styles that in time became imbued with Bengali and Marwari (or classical Rajasthani) influences, creating a blend of Indo-European design, **unique** to the city.
2. Stronger powers to fine people for not **recycling** may be the only way to hit a zero landfill waste target by 2050, the body representing Welsh councils said.
3. A portrait artist has been working on an unusual **canvas** - his pregnant wife's bump. Alex Makwana's labour of love has seen him

create 11 designs on Jo's stomach, including Toy Story's Buzz Lightyear and a mocked-up ultrasound scan.

4. Thousands of guns are seized in the UK every year. Most are destroyed by police, but a new project in the north of England, Guns to Goods, is trying to put them to good use.

The idea is to **melt** the guns down to make metal tags for T-shirts and also create artworks to be sold to the public.

5. Kenya's Supreme Court has said that the government should abide by a lower court's decision to give teachers a pay rise of at least 50%. The teachers' pay body had argued that it cannot **afford** the increase awarded by the industrial court.

LESSON 19: Notting Hill Carnival

Answers:

One of the world's largest street music festivals has taken place in London.

Around sixty bands in colourful **costumes** took part in the Notting Hill Carnival. Thirty-eight **sound systems** entertained the crowds.

Revellers at the annual event **donned** raincoats and held umbrellas as west London was hit by **downpours**.

More than a million people are believed to have attended the event across its two days.

Vocabulary

costumes

clothes worn for a certain type of activity

sound systems

electrical equipment used to play music, recordings and announcements

revellers

people at a party or celebration

donned

put on (clothes)

downpours

heavy rain showers

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. It was the impressive **sound system** and cutting edge DJs such as Larry Levan that kept the clubbers coming back night after night.
2. Hundreds of tents and piles of rubbish were left behind by **revellers** after the two day music festival.
3. Motorists across the South East were warned to keep their speeds down amid further **downpours** and expected flooding.
4. Halloween is weeks away but some costumes are already causing controversy online.
5. But of course I have watched the West Ham men's team on television and it was like a dream come true when I **donned** their jersey with the same logo.

LESSON 20: Monuments in Nepal reopen

Answers:

The scene is one of **devastation**. But these monuments are now open again to the public.

According to the UN's **heritage** body, Unesco, their state is **precarious**. But the **cash-strapped** Nepalese government feels the need to **kick-start** tourism.

At least 740 monuments were damaged by two earthquakes less than two months ago, including centuries-old temples, monasteries and palaces.

Exercise 2

Answers:

devastation

large scale destruction, damage

heritage

something created in the past that still has historical importance to a particular society

precarious

unstable, in a state that can cause danger

cash-strapped

without enough money

kick-start

to activate

Exercise 3

Answers:

1. When acquired in 1998 the roof at Gelli Iago had already collapsed and its chimney and external walls were in a **precarious** state, said the trust.
2. The latest eurozone inflation figures showed inflation turned negative in December, with prices down 0.2% from a year earlier, but the data means the European Central Bank may be forced to try fresh stimulus measures to **kick-start** the economy.
3. **Cash-strapped** Greece is trying to reach a deal that will unlock bailout funds. It is seeking to avoid defaulting on a €1.5bn debt repayment to the IMF.
4. Brazil now has five cultural art forms which have been given Unesco cultural **heritage** status.
They include several dance and music forms, indigenous rituals and art.
5. A lorry driver has been arrested after a crash involving up to 13 vehicles near Tunbridge Wells left "a scene of carnage and **devastation**".

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