

## Part 5)

### Maze Test:

#### Choose the correct answer:

Celebrations worldwide exhibit remarkable diversity, 1- (resulting in – reflect by – because as) a rich structure of global cultures. If we 2- (look – looked – had looked) at India, we will find that Diwali brightly illuminates the nation with lively lights and fireworks, symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness. China's Spring Festival, 3-which (is preparing -is being prepared – had prepared) for now, is marked by elaborate dragon dances, red lanterns, and family reunions, creating a display that 4- (is reported- reports – reporting) to make a lot of financial profits. Brazil's Carnival, when 5- (compared to – comparing to – being compared to) other festivals, can be described as 6- (some of the most - among the most - one of the best) famous celebrations, featuring dazzling displays of samba, colourful costumes, and exuberant street parades that result in 7- (being captivated – captivating- have captivated) millions. In the United States, Independence Day is celebrated with patriotic displays of fireworks and barbecues, commemorating the nation's freedom. Germany's Oktoberfest 8-(are believed - is believed - is believing) to be 9- (some of the most -one of the best- one of the most), with its lively celebration of Bavarian culture, including traditional music and folk dancing. These diverse festivities must be recognized as **10-** (many more - much more than – much better) mere events; they showcase unique traditions and values, fostering a sense of unity and shared joy among communities worldwide.

## Part 6)

#### Read the text and choose the correct answer:

Today's grandparents are joining their grandchildren on social media, but the different generations' online habits couldn't be more different. In the UK the over-55s are joining Facebook in increasing numbers, meaning that they will soon be the site's second biggest user group, with 3.5 million users aged 55–64 and 2.9 million over-65s.

Sheila, aged 59, says, 'I joined to see what my grandchildren are doing, as my daughter posts videos and photos of them. It's a much better way to see what they're doing than waiting for letters and photos in the post. That's how we did it when I was a child, but I think I'm lucky I get to see so much more of their lives than my grandparents did.'

Ironically, Sheila's grandchildren are less likely to use Facebook themselves. Children under 17 in the UK are leaving the site – only 2.2 million users are under 17 – but they're not going far from their smartphones. Chloe, aged 15, even sleeps with her phone. 'It's my alarm clock so I have to,' she says. 'I look at it before I go to sleep and as soon as I wake up.'

Unlike her grandmother's generation, Chloe's age group is spending so much time on their phones at home that they are missing out on spending time with their friends in real life. Sheila, on the other hand, has made contact with old friends from school she hasn't heard from in forty years. 'We use Facebook to arrange to meet all over the country,' she says. 'It's changed my social life completely.'

Teenagers might have their parents to thank for their smartphone and social media addiction as their parents were the early adopters of the smartphone. Peter, 38 and father of two teenagers, reports that he used to be on his phone or laptop constantly. 'I was always connected, and I felt like I was always working,' he says. 'How could I tell my kids to get off their phones if I was always in front of a screen myself?' So, in the evenings and at weekends, he takes his SIM card out of his smartphone and puts it into an old-style mobile phone that can only make calls and send text messages. 'I'm not completely cut off from the world in case of emergencies, but the important thing is I'm setting a better example to my kids and spending more quality time with them.'

Is it only a matter of time until the generation above and below Peter catches up with the new trend for a less digital life?

Adapted from: https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/reading/b1-reading/digital-habits-across-generations

#### 1- What is the main reason Sheila, aged 59, joined Facebook?

- A) To connect with old friends from school
- B) To share her own photos and videos
- C) To be updated about her grandchildren

#### 2- It could be inferred from paragraph two that\_\_\_\_\_

- A) Facebook will be used more by younger generations in the future.
- B) Older generations find Facebook the least favourite platform.
- C) Grandparents may soon lose contact with their grandchildren through Facebook.

#### 3- How does Cloe, aged 15, justify sleeping with her phone?

- A) It's a habit she developed from her grandparents.
- B) She needs it to wake up in the morning.
- C) She enjoys scrolling through social media before bedtime.

#### 4- What impact does Sheila believe Facebook has had on her social life?

- A) It hasn't changed much.
- B) It has made her more isolated.
- C) It has made her much more sociable.

#### 5- What motivated Peter, a father of two teenagers, to limit his smartphone use?

- A) His smartphone made him feel overworked.
- B) His kids asked him to do so.
- C) He wanted to follow a new trend.

#### 6- What does Peter do to set a better example for his kids regarding digital use?

- A) He completely disconnects from the digital world.
- B) He uses an old-style mobile phone with limited features.
- C) He encourages his kids to use smartphones more often.

# Part 7)

#### Read the text and choose the correct answer:

In November 2019, I started at Lee Health as a social media coordinator. I had the coolest job ever. I interviewed families, took photos of patients whose journeys inspired us, and shared their good news with our community.

Part of my job also involved managing more than 26 social media accounts. I responded to people's comments, answered private messages, and shared important updates with the community.

I was on social media constantly during the worst of the pandemic, when hundreds of patients diagnosed with COVID-19 were being admitted to our hospitals, seemingly around the clock. Overachiever that I am, I couldn't go five minutes before refreshing our social media accounts yet again to make sure I hadn't missed something. I became addicted to checking my phone and felt my stress levels rise with each update.

On my non-work, private media accounts, my self-esteem began to wane. I became self-conscious about my personal photos and the number of "Likes" they received. I began deleting photos from years ago that I thought now embarrassed me: "My hair looks awful in that picture." "My body looks so bad in this one." And so on. I began to devalue myself in my comments, my pictures, and my postings.

Without realizing it, I was judging myself harshly, unfairly, and hurtfully.

It got to the point where I started feeling depressed and my anxiety would spike every time I got on social media. I started thinking I had to post in order to make my life more appealing and exciting than it was. I started prioritizing social media and getting the perfect photo instead of enjoying the moment in real life. On top of that? I felt more alone than ever before, even though I was receiving hundreds of likes.

I used to love social media as a way to immediately connect with my friends and family members, some of whom live thousands of miles away, even overseas.

But being on social media began to start feeling more like a competition of who could show they have the best life. I realized that I was done feeling this way and that it was time to figure out where I got my self-worth from. Was it really from social media? Dina Abouelkhair – Sample Exam – Term 1 – 2023/2024 – 12 Advanced – Reading Session

When I looked in the mirror during this time, I saw someone I didn't want to be. I knew it was because I got so caught up in comparing my life to others that I forgot to just LIVE.

Sometimes you just need to put your phone down and enjoy that beautiful sunset. Your friends and followers have seen a beautiful sunset before; they don't care about that sunset, not really.

If you're going to post something on social media, post it because YOU want to. Don't post it for someone else. Post it because it made you feel a certain way and if it gets 2 "likes," who cares! You posted because you liked it. You don't need anyone's validation but your own.

Adapted from: <u>https://www.leehealth.org/health-and-wellness/healthy-news-blog/mental-health/pressures-and-dangers-of-social-media-a-personal-story</u>

- 1- Why did the writer check social media every five minutes?
  - A) She was curious about the pandemic news.
  - B) It was a job requirement.
  - C) To send messages to her friends.
- 2- What impact did the constant use of social media have on the writer?
  - A) Increased self-esteem
  - B) Decreased stress levels
  - C) Rising anxiety and stress
- 3- What made the narrator more conscious about her private social media accounts?
  - A) Lack of engagement with followers.
  - B) Concerns about personal photo appearance and likes.
  - C) Positive feedback on posts.
- 4- What change is noticed in the private social media account of the writer?
  - A) Increased self-value in comments and pictures.
  - B) Prioritising authenticity over perfection.
  - C) Deletion of embarrassing photos from years ago.

#### 5- What does the narrator mean when she says, "my self-esteem began to wane"?

- A) I started to lose confidence.
- B) I had more confidence.
- C) My self-esteem was much better.
- 6- What did she believe would make her feel happy online?
  - A) Having more followers
  - B) Receiving positive comments
  - C) Posting more

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#### 7- How did the writer change her mind about social media?

- A) She realised that enjoying her life is more important.
- B) She decided to stop using social media.
- C) She decided to become a famous influencer to make more money.

#### 8- How can you describe the writer's personality?

- A) Lonely and antisocial
- B) Hardworking and competent
- C) Unconfident and lazy

#### 9- According to the writer, people who compare themselves to others, \_\_\_\_

- A) are not confident.
- B) should not use social media.
- C) do not enjoy life.

#### 10-What can be inferred bout the writer of the story?

- A) She likes her job but prefers not to use private social media.
- B) She believes her job is exhausting and wants to change her career.
- C) She thinks social media is an important tool to judge people's personalities.

#### 11-How did the mood of the writer change throughout the story?

- D) From bored to amused
- E) From excited to lonely
- F) From sad to insecure

## Part 8)

#### Read the text and identify topic sentences/ main topic in each paragraph:

A) In November 2019, I started at Lee Health as a social media coordinator. I had the coolest job ever. I interviewed families, took photos of patients whose journeys inspired us, and shared their good news with our community.

B) Part of my job also involved managing more than 26 social media accounts. I responded to people's comments, answered private messages, and shared important updates with the community.

C) I was on social media constantly during the worst of the pandemic, when hundreds of patients diagnosed with COVID-19 were being admitted to our hospitals, seemingly around the clock. Overachiever that I am, I couldn't go five minutes before refreshing our social media accounts yet again to make sure I hadn't missed something. I became addicted to checking my phone and felt my stress levels rise with each update.

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D) On my non-work, private media accounts, my self-esteem began to wane. I became self-conscious about my personal photos and the number of "Likes" they received. I began deleting photos from years ago that I thought now embarrassed me: "My hair looks awful in that picture." "My body looks so bad in this one." And so on. I began to devalue myself in my comments, my pictures, and my postings. Without realizing it, I was judging myself harshly, unfairly, and hurtfully.

E) It got to the point where I started feeling depressed and my anxiety would spike every time I got on social media. So, I started thinking I had to post in order to make my life more appealing and exciting than it was. I started prioritizing social media and getting the perfect photo instead of enjoying the moment in real life. On top of that? I felt more alone than ever before, even though I was receiving hundreds of likes.

F) I used to love social media as a way to immediately connect with my friends and family members, some of whom live thousands of miles away, even overseas.

G) But being on social media began to start feeling more like a competition of who could show they have the best life. I realized that I was done feeling this way and that it was time to figure out where I got my self-worth from. Was it really from social media?

When I looked in the mirror during this time, I saw someone I didn't want to be. I knew it was because I got so caught up in comparing my life to others that I forgot to just LIVE.

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Adapted from <u>https://www.leehealth.org/health-and-wellness/healthy-news-blog/mental-health/pressures-and-dangers-of-social-media-a-personal-story</u>

#### 1- The topic sentence in paragraph (A) is \_\_\_\_\_

- A) In November 2019, I started at Lee Health as a social media coordinator.
- B) I had the coolest job ever.
- C) I interviewed families, took photos of patients whose journeys inspired us, and shared their good news with our community.

#### Or

#### 1-What is the main topic / best heading of paragraph (A)?

- A) November 2019
- B) The Best Job
- C) My Daily Interviews

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#### 2- The topic sentence in paragraph (C) is \_\_\_\_\_

- A) I was on social media constantly during the worst of the pandemic, when hundreds of patients diagnosed with COVID-19 were being admitted to our hospitals, seemingly around the clock.
- B) Overachiever that I am, I couldn't go five minutes before refreshing our social media accounts *yet again* to make sure I hadn't missed something.
- C) I became addicted to checking my phone and felt my stress levels rise with each update.

#### Or

#### 2-What is the main topic/best heading of paragraph (C)?

- A) COVID-19 Pandemic
- B) How Often I Checked My Phone.
- C) How I Became a Phone Addict.

#### 3-The topic sentence in paragraph (D) is \_\_\_\_\_

- A) My self-esteem began to wane.
- B) I became self-conscious about my personal photos and the number of "Likes" they received.
- C) "My hair looks awful in that picture."

#### Or

#### 3-What is the main topic/ best heading of paragraph (D)?

- A) My Low Self-Esteem
- B) My Photos
- C) My Hair Style.

#### 4-The topic sentence in paragraph (E) is \_\_\_\_\_

- A) I started thinking I had to post in order to make my life more appealing.
- B) I was receiving hundreds of likes.
- C) I felt more alone than ever before.

#### Or

#### 4-What is the main topic/ best heading of paragraph (E)?

- A) More Posting
- B) Hundreds of Likes
- C) More Alone!