

ENGLISH

GRADE 9

**MID OF 1ST SEMESTER CONSOLIDATION
MATERIAL 2021 – 2022**

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Read the text and answer the questions. Choose the correct answer a, b, c or d.

Boarding schools

Are you one of those students who want your school day to be shorter? Then, what about those students who go to boarding schools and spend 24 hours a day there, seven days a week?

Despite what many people believe, boarding schools are not just an easy way out for people who want to pay someone else to take care of their children. Parents who send their children to boarding schools do so either because it's a family tradition or because it's the best choice in their case. In some families, the parents live abroad or do a lot of travelling as part of their jobs and need to make sure that their children are looked after. This doesn't mean they are bad parents or that they believe the school will take their place. That is something a boarding school cannot do. That's why children are free to speak to their parents as often as they like.

Surprisingly, most people have the wrong idea about what life in boarding schools is like. Most of these schools are not the awful, strict places people imagine they are. They are modern, comfortable and make students feel at home. The children are free to make their rooms as personal as they want, putting up posters and things they like. They can also call home in private and choose whether they want to share their rooms or not. In fact, for most children, living in a boarding school is a great experience.

Emma Jenkins has been boarding for two years. Her dad's in the army and her parents move around all the time, so they decided that a boarding school was the best choice for their daughter. She admits that she found it scary and upsetting in the beginning. However, when she found out that she could talk to her mum every day, it made things much easier and she soon made a lot of friends. She still misses home but she believes that boarding school is a great place to socialise and help you become more independent. Now, she wouldn't change it for the world.

1. Why do some parents choose boarding schools for their children?

- a. They think they are not good enough at looking after their children.
- b. They like travelling and can't take their children with them.
- c. They are away most of the time.
- d. They think boarding schools are better than other schools.

2. Why are children given the opportunity to speak to their parents?

.....

3. Complete the following Statement:

Boarding schools help children feel more comfortable by

.....

4. correct the following Statement:

At first, Emma found that the boarding school she joined was comfortable.

.....

Reading 2

Read the text and answer the questions. Choose the correct answer *a, b, c* or *d*.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

What's the first thing that comes to mind when you think about winter sports? Skiing, of course. There is no doubt that downhill skiing is the world's most popular winter sport although it's one of the most expensive as well. Few people, however, know that cross-country skiing is much easier and less expensive than downhill skiing, and certainly equally enjoyable.

Cross-country skiing is not very well-known but it has been around for much longer than downhill skiing and it is probably the oldest winter sport. A long time before the snowmobile was invented, it was also the first means of transport, other than walking, that people used to move across the snow. In fact, the oldest ski ever found, which was in Sweden, is more than 4500 years old.

The great thing about cross-country skiing is that it's not difficult at all. Even people who aren't professional can have fun from the beginning without having to spend a long time or lots of money taking lessons. That's why it's very common to see people of all ages enjoying cross-country skiing together.

Although cross-country skiing may not get the same kind of media attention as downhill skiing, it also has its competitions. In fact, at the first Winter Olympics held in Chamonix in 1924, cross-country skiing was the only type of skiing in the competition. Nowadays, the most impressive event of the year is the Engadine Marathon, where more than 10,000 men, women and children meet in the Engadine Valley in Southeast Switzerland ski 42km across frozen lakes and past the town of St Moritz in Switzerland.

For cross-country skiers it's the excitement of the sport that counts. Fancy resorts and luxurious hotels are not important. They stay in small cabins and go skiing whenever they feel like it. Maybe they know how to appreciate snow more than anybody else!

1. Why do people prefer downhill skiing to cross-country skiing?

- a. It's cheaper than cross-country skiing.
- b. They aren't familiar with cross-country skiing.
- c. It's the most popular winter sport.
- d. It's more fun than cross-country skiing.

2. What means of transport did Swedish people use 4500 years ago?

.....

3. Why is it common to see people of all ages going cross-country skiing?

- a. It's cheap and easy for everyone.
- b. They don't have snowmobiles.
- c. The older skiers help the younger ones.
- d. It's not popular enough to have different age groups.

Correct the following Statement:

4. The Engadine Marathon takes place in the town of St Moritz.

.....

1. Complete the sentences with the correct form of Simple Present or Present Progressive

1. Joe and Dennis (be) best friends.
2. What (do / they) at the moment?
3. Joe (practise)with his father every weekend, but Dennis (not / play) football very often.
4. Look! The kids (play) over there. Go and play with them.

2. Fill in the spaces using words from the box. There are two extra words

normal / usual / speed / think / imagine / transatlantic / spend

- a) Milk should be your drink before going to bed.
- b) I can't life without my computer.
- c) Do you I should go to the university or get a job?
- d) Alcock and Brown took the first flight.
- e) The doctors said that my temperature should be back by tomorrow.

3. Write (yes/ no) questions in simple past

- a) Anna / the window / open?
- b) she / home / walk?

4. Complete the sentences with the past simple form of the verbs in brackets

- a) We really (enjoy) the game last Sunday.
- b) They (not play) very well yesterday. They lost the match.
- c) I (buy) a new baseball cap last week.

5. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below. There is one extra word.

wonder / massive / gadget / variety / polyester/ formal

- a. We have a few kinds of prepackaged sandwich meats, but there's a better at the counter.
- b. The man was huge. He placed his whole body across the table.
- c. The shirt is made of
- d. If you need accessories for your new like a case, you can get them there as well.
- e. People are starting to if you don't like them.

6. Rewrite the following sentences using “used to”.

- a. In the past I watched films featuring a lot of violence, but now I do not like them.
In the past I films featuring a lot of violence, but now I do not like them
(used to)
- b. As a child I didn't eat certain vegetables such carrots and onions.
As a child I certain vegetables such carrots and onions **(used to)**

7. Write the verbs in simple past.

- a. The University of Oxford **(be)** the first British university.
- b. Rowan Atkinson (Mr Bean) **(study)** electrical engineering at Oxford.
- c. When **(go)** he to the Italian restaurant?

8. Fill in the spaces using words from the box.

Shoot / place / pose / embarrass / improve

- a) You shouldn't other people while giving your advice.
- b) If you want to your English, you should practice it more and more.
- c) Don't any medicine within the reach of children.
- d) When taking the photo after saying” Chimpanzee”.
- e) You had better move normally than just in front of the camera.

9. Rewrite the following sentences using the words in brackets.

- a. I haven't visited my uncle for three years. **(use: since)**
.....
- b. Ali has played football since 2015 . **(use: for)**
.....

10. Complete the sentences with the past simple or present perfect simple form of the verbs in brackets

- a) What you (buy) last Friday?
- b) I (not/ see) my best friend since last year.
- c) My father never (be) to Mexico.

11. Fill in the spaces using words from the box. There is one extra word.

mates / strangers / evolve / distant / encourage / communication

- a) My parents always me to study early in the morning.
- b) We have had no with our relatives since we moved to our new town.
- c) My ideas from my own experience and discoveries.
- d) Suzan has gone out with her

12. Complete the following sentences with (for or since)

- a) My best friend hasn't called me days.
- b) We have been friends 2010.

13. Complete the sentences with present perfect simple form of the verbs in brackets

- a) you (see) Hamad yet?
- b) Mary already (do) her homework.
- c) My father never (visit) Japan.

14. Fill in the spaces using words from the box. There is one extra word.

moody unemployed reply confidence turned get along with

- a) My flat mate is a little One moment he is cheerful and the next he is sad.
- b) My uncle has been since he left his previous job.
- c) Fahad is very nice. It is very easy to him.
- d) I emailed my friend Hamad but I never received a
- e) One of my classmates is unable to give a speech in front of our class. He lacks

15. Choose a, b, or c to complete each of the following sentences.

- a) Have you seen this movie _____?
a- before b-never c-ago
- b) I haven't met the doctor _____. Where is he?
b- already b-never c-yet
- c) A: Good to see you again.
B: Yeah. _____
c- a-Tell me about it b-Long time no see c-It was nice talking to you

16. Complete the sentences with present perfect simple or past simple of the verbs in brackets

- a) you (ever/take) a photography class?
- b) My grandpa (teach) me some tricks during my last visit.
- c) I (not go) to the beach since last summer.
- d) When you heat water, it (boil) at 100 degrees Celsius.

17. Circle the correct answer

a)is moving the boat on the surface of water using the wind.

- A. Sailing
- B. Skydiving
- C. Scuba diving

b) **The Nile is (long) river in the world.**

- A. the longer
- B. the longest
- C. the long

c) **My favorite hobby is _____ because I like to have the money other people use.**

- A. blogging
- B. model car making
- C. coin collecting

d) means to sit or stand in a particular position.

- A. Place
- B. Pose
- C. Shoot

e) **If you want to your skills in English language, you have to practise it more and more.**

- A. improve
- B. imagine
- C. wonder

Writing 1



When you're writing **an account of a true event**, try to narrate what happened according to the plan below.



INTRODUCTION

Describe the setting (time, place, weather, etc.) and introduce the main character(s).



MAIN PART (2-3 PARAGRAPHS)

Mention:

- what happened and what the main character(s) did. Use linking words/phrases to join your sentences.

TIME:

before, when, as soon as, while, as, during, after that, later, soon, then, in the beginning, finally, by the time, at that moment, since, just as, in the meantime, until, immediately

CONTRAST:

however, but, while, nevertheless

RESULT - CONSEQUENCE:

so... that, such... that, so, therefore, for this reason, as a consequence, as a result

CAUSE - REASON:

because, because of + noun, as

EMPHASIS:

in fact, actually

- how the main character(s) felt. Use adjectives and adverbs.

▶ *Terry was so surprised that ...*

▶ *They were waiting nervously outside.*



CONCLUSION

Describe what happened in the end and make a short comment on the event.

Describing meaningful events

- 1 Read the following passage and complete the gaps using the correct tense of the verb in brackets.

I remember very clearly the day that my youngest brother was born. I (1) _____ (be) eight at the time and I (2) _____ (look) forward to helping my mum with the new baby. It (3) _____ (snow) very heavily when my mum (4) _____ (leave) for the hospital. We (5) _____ (stay) at home with our grandmother, and had great fun playing in the snow outside. We (6) _____ (make) a snowman, and (7) _____ (call) it baby! Our grandmother (8) _____ (cook) us some homemade soup while we (9) _____ (tidy) the house ready for the new baby. We (10) _____ (have) a bath when the phone (11) _____ (ring) with the news of the baby. He (12) _____ (be) a beautiful baby boy called Cameron, and he (13) _____ (cry) loudly at that moment! Whilst my grandmother (14) _____ (read) us our bedtime story, I (15) _____ (keep) interrupting her to ask questions about the new baby!

Writing 2

Plan

A description of a person

INTRODUCTION
Give some general information about the person (name, how you know each other).

MAIN PART (2 PARAGRAPHS)

1. Describe the person's character and try to give some examples.
2. Say what influence the person has had on you and/or other people.

CONCLUSION
Make a general comment about the person and say how you feel about him/her.

Fill the gaps with the correct word from the box

Patient/ brother / London / successful / creative / young / hard-working / hair /
better / dream / fit / moves

The person I admire is my David. He is seven years older than me, so he is 23 now. He has recently moved to for his new job. He is very friendly, and he has a good sense of humor. He is tall and has short blond

David has loved computer games since he was a child. Now he designs new computer games, so he is very He can also speak Chinese very well and his is to work in China in the future.

David is also very because he loves to play sports, especially football. When I visit him in London, he often takes me to watch live football! It's great. When we were, we used to play football in the garden. But he was than!

David doesn't have a lot of free time these days because he works so hard. I really admire how he is and how he has been in his career. I always look forward to visiting him, but I will be sad if he to China.