

Reading

You are going to read an excerpt from an article about the history of the humanitarian aid movement. For questions 1-5, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.



The roots of humanitarian aid

The international humanitarian aid movement we see today began from a desire to provide relief and comfort for human beings injured in war. It has since expanded to assist those suffering in other dire circumstances such as natural disasters, disease outbreaks and famines. The movement is a surprisingly new phenomenon, considering the millennia of conflict marking our history. Its importance cannot be overstated since a minimum level of dignity must be established and maintained throughout any given tragedy, especially for nations not capable of helping their own people.

The first – and likely most well-known – international aid organisation is the Red Cross, founded in 1863 by Swiss businessman Henri Dunant. While in Italy in 1859 to discuss the difficulties of doing business in war-torn Algeria with then-French emperor Napoleon III, Dunant by chance saw tens of thousands of dead and dying soldiers who had been fighting in the Second Italian War of Independence against Austria lying in a battlefield. Dismayed by what he saw, Dunant immediately abandoned his original intentions and tended to the wounded. He was able to quickly organise a small relief party with the aid of nearby villagers, who were willing to help any of the soldiers regardless of which side they were fighting on.

On returning home, Dunant sat down to write a memoir of his time on the Italian peninsula, and his finished book, which he published with his own funds, led to the establishment of the International Committee for Relief to the Wounded, later to become the International Committee of the Red Cross. A Geneva-based lawyer, Gustave Moynier, who split his time between legal defence and local public welfare projects, had received a copy of the book and presented it to his welfare society. Having investigated whether or not Dunant's ideas were financially feasible, Moynier's committee decided to give it a go. The following rights were defined through their meetings: relief and protection for any and all wounded military personnel, the permitted use of volunteers on the battlefield, the introduction of international agreements to bind other countries to these rights, and the wearing of emblems – a symbol of a red cross on a white background – to be worn by medical personnel to ensure their safety in battle.

Dunant and Moynier's efforts quickly brought about the first Geneva Convention in 1864, which established the rules of engagement in conflicts and defined what constitutes a war crime. Although not all countries in attendance at the convention signed the treaty, the representatives of twelve European countries did, and branches of the Red Cross were immediately established in various states across Europe. No sooner had the establishment of the Red Cross taken place than its mandate was put to the test in an armed conflict between Prussia and Denmark. Today, the site of the battle is marked with a monument commemorating the first application of the Red Cross.

By the end of the 19th century nearly every European country had signed the Geneva Convention and established a local Red Cross headquarters. Regrettably along the way, Dunant had run into serious money problems due to the mismanagement of his business activities in Algeria, a result of his decision to focus on humanitarian efforts. Bankrupt, Dunant fled Geneva to escape arrest and never returned. In kind acknowledgement of his efforts that was in line with the very spirit of forgiveness embodied by the organisation he helped found, Dunant along with economist Frederic Passy were jointly awarded the first Nobel Peace Prize in 1901. Not only did this honour the work of the Red Cross, but it also served to restore his public image.

- 1 What does the article say about the origins of the international humanitarian aid movement?
 - A It is hard to believe that it has not been around for very long.
 - B It was initially intended to assist victims of natural disasters.
 - C It is surprising that the movement began in the first place.
 - D It has existed for as long as there has been conflict.

- 2 Dunant's objective for travelling to Italy was to
 - A help those in need during the Italian war.
 - B establish an aid programme in Algeria.
 - C persuade the French leader to end wars.
 - D improve his entrepreneurial interests.

- 3 Which of the following were likely NOT discussed at length in Moynier's committee?
 - A the costs of implementing Dunant's ideas
 - B the legal framework concerning international relief
 - C the nationalities eligible to receive aid
 - D how volunteers would be indentified

- 4 In the fourth paragraph, we learn that international relief efforts
 - A were set up throughout the world.
 - B met with considerable opposition.
 - C were harmed by war crimes.
 - D were quickly put into practice.

- 5 What are we told about Dunant in the final paragraph?
 - A He regretted neglecting his business.
 - B He continued his humanitarian work away from Geneva.
 - C He worked closely with a famous economist.
 - D His reputation was finally re-established.

Reading: ____ / 10

Use Your English

- 1 Read the article about an unusual charity and choose the correct answers.

Donors Choose

Teachers in state schools often spend ¹ ___ their own money on classroom materials such as magazines, books and art supplies. This situation led history teacher, Charles Best, ² ___ 'Donors Choose'. This award-winning charity helps to support teachers and schools who cannot implement their ideas ³ ___ lack of funds.

However, that's not what is ⁴ ___ about this organisation. Many people are wary of ⁵ ___ to charity when they don't know how effectively their donation ⁶ ___, and that's where the element of choice comes in. ⁷ ___ you can do is browse different proposals for classroom projects and choose which project you want to donate your money to. Donors can ⁸ ___ as little as one dollar to a project if they wish. Once the funds ⁹ ___ raised, the organisation purchases and sends the materials directly to the school. Children involved in the projects send thank-you notes to the donors as well as a breakdown of how the money ¹⁰ ___.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 a much | b a great deal of | c a whole | d very many |
| 2 a found | b to founding | c so as to found | d to found |
| 3 a due to | b for fear of | c despite | d in order to |
| 4 a therapeutic | b detrimental | c unique | d optional |
| 5 a giving | b handing | c fostering | d putting |
| 6 a will spent | b is to spend | c is spending | d is being spent |
| 7 a So as | b That | c What | d Whenever |
| 8 a sponsor | b contribute | c mentor | d fundraise |
| 9 a have been | b are being | c were | d will be |
| 10 a be used | b they used | c uses | d was used |

____ / 10



2 Read the text and use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line.

Coco Chanel

Gabrielle 'Coco' Chanel is thought to be the greatest fashion designer who ever lived, making her an ¹ _____ figure in the world of haute couture. She popularised a sporty, casual look which was nonetheless extremely ² _____.

**ICON
STYLE**

As the child of a single parent with four brothers and sisters, Chanel's ³ _____ was not a particularly happy one. She knew both poverty and ⁴ _____, and at the age of twelve she was sent to live in an institution after her mother's death. She did however learn to sew there. This early ⁵ _____ stood her in good stead when she opened her first hat shop in 1910 on Paris's Rue Cambon. She soon started selling clothes and accessories, too. However, for Coco Chanel, ⁶ _____ of one shop in Paris was not enough and she later opened stores in the fashionable resorts of Biarritz and Deauville. To these ⁷ _____ she added the creation of her famous 'Chanel No. 5' perfume.

**CHILD
HARD**

APPRENTICE

OWN

ACCOMPLISH

Chanel was a ⁸ _____ for her time. Her designs emphasised comfort and ⁹ _____ over the old-fashioned constraints of corsets and stiff fabrics. She favoured simplicity over fussy, overcomplicated designs and her clothes were expensive without being ¹⁰ _____. She once said, 'Luxury must be comfortable, otherwise it is not luxury.'

**TREND
ELEGANT**

OSTENTATION

___ / 10

3 Complete the second sentence so it has the same meaning as the first sentence, using the word in bold. You must use between three and six words, including the word given.

1 Even though she was depressed, she still came to my party.

DUMPS

Despite _____ she still came to my party.

2 Jerry mustn't eat salty foods because he has high blood pressure.

ACCOUNT

Jerry mustn't eat salty foods _____ high blood pressure.

3 'I want two biscuits and a cup of coffee,' said Leila.

COUPLE

Leila said she _____ biscuits and a cup of coffee.

4 She didn't know that the strange man was lying to her.

KNOW

Little _____ being lied to by the strange man.

5 She tiptoed up the stairs in case her parents woke up.

AS

She tiptoed up the stairs so _____ her parents.

6 Am I right in thinking that we're going to revise together?

BUDDY

You are my _____ you?

7 When is the dressmaker going to alter the garments for you?

HAVE

When are _____ the garments altered?

8 Evan talked me out of walking home alone.

NOT

Evan persuaded _____ home alone.

9 Phoebe couldn't enter the building because they hadn't given her a pass.

BEEN

Not _____ a pass, Phoebe couldn't enter the building.

___ / 20

10 Are these your sunglasses?

PAIR

_____ belong to you?

Use Your English: ___ / 40

Writing

Write one of the following writing tasks.

Task 1

Read this extract from an email you have received from an English friend.

On a recent trip to the big city, I noticed how hard life is for many people. I saw homeless people sleeping on the streets, children living in poor neighbourhoods and elderly people with no friends or family. I've got three months until I start college in the autumn and I would really like to make a difference. I know that you've been involved in a lot of volunteer work. Have you got any ideas as to how I could do something practical to help those in need?

Write your email. (220–260 words)

Task 2

Write an essay summarising and evaluating the key points from Texts A and B. Use your own words throughout as far as possible, and include your own ideas in your answer.

A: What is anorexia?

It's only natural for people to think about their appearance and maybe wish they could change something about themselves – maybe their teeth are a bit crooked or they wish they were taller. And this is especially true for teenagers. But when people become obsessed with being thin, when mealtimes are a nightmare and they have to hide their eating habits from their family, then they have a serious problem. Anorexia nervosa can lead to anxiety, fear, lies, illness and in some cases, even death. When someone has this eating disorder, the desire to lose weight becomes more important than anything else and they lose the ability to see themselves as they truly are.

B: Magazines fuelling anorexia epidemic

Body image is how a person views their physical self and for those in their early teens, it is closely linked to self-esteem. One of the reasons for today's obsession with being thin and looking beautiful is the fact that the media are obsessed with women's and sometimes men's looks. We are bombarded with images of stick-thin, picture-perfect models and many people yearn to look the same. What we must realise is that these pictures have been digitally altered to create impossibly perfect images. Nobody, not even supermodels, look like that in real life.



Writing: ____ / 10

Mark: ____ / 60

Write your essay. (220–260 words)

Part 1

You will hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what you hear. There are two questions for each extract.

Extract One

You hear two friends discussing the topic of well-being.

- 1 What aspect of Tom has changed since he last spoke to his friend?
 - A He was laid-back before, but now he's constantly stressed.
 - B He was very unhappy, but now he's got a handle on things.
 - C He was feeling ambitious, but now he is disappointed.

- 2 The woman felt that what she heard from her bosses
 - A was sincere and uplifting.
 - B was lacking in sincerity.
 - C was unpleasant and hurtful.

Extract Two

You hear two friends talking about nutrition.

- 3 What concerns the woman as regards the government's assistance on dietary matters?
 - A their apparent lack of progress
 - B their complete lack of information
 - C their failure to study the issue

- 4 How does the woman respond to her friend's counter-argument?
 - A We haven't actually learnt what's in food.
 - B We can't trust those who have studied food.
 - C We still need better direction for a good diet.

Extract Three

You hear a man talking to a neighbour about how he made his house more environmentally friendly.

- 5 How would you characterise the woman's thoughts on home remodelling?
 - A The inconvenience of it is really just a minor concern.
 - B There's no point in doing it because it's too expensive.
 - C It's worthwhile, but has some notable drawbacks.

- 6 What was the man's least persuasive point in favour of home remodelling?
 - A the amount of money you save on bills
 - B the ability to deal with the construction work
 - C the resulting increased value of your home