

Reading

Five paragraphs have been removed from the article. Choose from the paragraphs A-F the one which fits each gap (1-5). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.



The Invention of Television

An endless array of electronic devices influence us today, from mobile phones to laptops, all with web capabilities. But by far one of the greatest inventions is the television, both in the scope of its impact and the duration of its existence.

1 ☐

This may seem like an astonishingly high figure, but price, availability and the importance of owning a television set make this a reality. Not simply for entertainment, television conveys vital information that citizens need to know for local, regional and international affairs.

2 ☐

Television's roots can be found in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when a great number of engineers worked simultaneously to create devices that could display images and transmit data through signals. Perhaps the one man who is most widely credited for 'inventing' television is John Logie Baird.

3 ☐

Baird's first television was known as a mechanical television because in order to produce the

televised image, the user had to turn a crank. The crank caused a scanning disc with holes to spin, and light from an illuminated image would pass through and be transmitted to another device. The second device also contained a scanning disc, which would spin accordingly and display the transmitted, greyscale image.

4 ☐

All was not entirely successful in this collaboration, though. The company became dissatisfied with Baird's bulky equipment and, in 1937, decided to cease broadcasting with his mechanical television system, opting for electrical television instead. Still, the technology for television broadcasts had been born, and innovations in equipment, including the invention of the electrical television, helped sustain momentum.

5 ☐

Naturally, the train of progress has not ceased for television, with newer, wider, lighter, better quality – and, as it turns out, flatter – television systems constantly appearing in electronics shops. Baird's wondrous influence continues to inform and delight billions of viewers today.

- A Storm reports, incidents of crime, emergency broadcasts and the like allow citizens to plan their lives. Naturally, in today's world, people can obtain this information from a variety of sources, but there is great comfort in sitting in front of the TV and watching news and entertainment programmes. This is why television remains so well-liked today, but just how did this technology get started?
- B His ambitious plan was to contribute to the effort to rebuild Britain after World War II. Baird proposed a system capable of broadcasting images with a quality similar to the high-quality broadcasts we see today. Due to the numerous difficulties involved with rebuilding the country, however, the plan was abandoned.
- C Although Baird was not directly involved in inventing this improved device, he certainly contributed to its later development. He was the first to utilise the cathode ray tube in electric television systems, a device found in all televisions from the 1940s and in models still used today.
- D On 26th January 1926, this Scottish innovator successfully demonstrated the first working television system to an audience of scientists and one single reporter from The Times. This momentous event marked the beginning of the era of television, although perhaps not exactly how one might imagine. Televisions in those days were a far cry from today, especially as regards their operation.
- E Over the past 100 years, television sets have made it into nearly every household on the planet. According to one estimate, out of the world's 1.59 billion households, 89% of them have at least one TV set, which puts the world's viewing audience at roughly 4.2 billion people.
- F Baird sought to improve upon his invention, and on 3rd July 1928, he demonstrated the world's first colour television transmission. Soon enough, Baird opened a television company which started broadcasting television programmes, including the first one for the BBC.

Use Your English

1 Read the article about child labour and choose the correct answers.

Child labour: when will it end?

Child labour is not a modern phenomenon. It ¹ ___ for thousands of years, but during the ² ___ Revolution it reached epic proportions in Europe and North America. It is only in the modern era that it has finally been recognised as a terrible practice which ³ ___ be eliminated at all costs.

In the 19th and 20th centuries, children as young as five ⁴ ___ on farms, in factories and in mines. In 1833, the UK parliament ⁵ ___ The Factory Act, which was a series of laws banning children under nine from working. The conditions were still horrendous, but it was the beginning of a move away from the exploitation of children.

Sadly, child labour is still ⁶ ___ in many developing countries ⁷ ___ extreme poverty and the absence of schooling opportunities force children into work.

The good news is that the incidence of child labour ⁸ ___ steadily. Since 2000 the number of children forced ⁹ ___ has declined from 246 million to 168 million. Nevertheless, the total number of child labourers remains high and it is the goal of organisations throughout the world to ¹⁰ ___ say that child labour has been confined to the history books.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1 a is existing | b exists | c has existed | d did exist |
| 2 a Industrial | b Mass | c Automatic | d Machine |
| 3 a was allowed to | b needed | c must | d was able to |
| 4 a have worked | b had worked | c are working | d used to work |
| 5 a drove | b passed | c affected | d adapted |
| 6 a widespread | b conceived | c committed | d significant |
| 7 a whose | b where there | c where | d which |
| 8 a will decrease | b decreased | c decreases | d is decreasing |
| 9 a to work | b working | c work | d for to work |
| 10 a have to | b had to | c be able to | d could |

___ / 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.

Engineering – a man's world?

Engineering is the discipline of applying ¹ ___, scientific, and mathematical knowledge to the design and ² ___ of materials, structures and systems. To put it simply, engineering is the application of ³ ___ science to the needs of humanity.

Historically, engineering was always a male-dominated world. For example, you have ⁴ ___ heard of Alexander Graham Bell, the electrical engineer. But did you know that the Chief Engineer of the Brooklyn Bridge – the iconic work of modern engineering – was a woman?

The bridge, which used a ⁵ ___ system of steel cables was conceived and designed by John Roebling. His son, Washington, who was also his ⁶ ___, took over as Chief Engineer on his father's death in 1869. Unfortunately, he suffered ⁷ ___ damage to his health during the construction of the bridge and his wife, Emily, was called upon to relay information from her husband to the ⁸ ___ who were constructing the bridge. Not only was she responsible for the day-to-day work on the bridge, but she developed a ⁹ ___ knowledge of material strengths, stress analysis and cable construction. For fourteen years, Emily was essentially Chief Engineer on the project.

Visitors to the bridge can see a plaque in ¹⁰ ___ of Emily's work inscribed with these words 'Back of every great work we can find the self-sacrificing devotion of a woman'.

TECHNOLOGY
PRODUCE

INNOVATE

DOUBT

REVOLUTION

ASSIST
REVERSE

TECHNICAL

SIGNIFY

COMMEMORATE

___ / 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 I regret mentioning the subject of unemployment.

BROUGHT

If only _____ the subject of unemployment.

2 I feel like I don't have anyone I can turn to.

NOBODY

I feel as if _____ I can turn.

3 Eating at your workstation is prohibited.

ALLOWED

You _____ at your workstation.

4 I can finish the project in time if you take over the rest of my workload.

DEADLINE

I can _____ as you take over the rest of my workload.

5 I'm afraid you can do nothing but embrace the changes.

ALTERNATIVE

I'm afraid _____ but to embrace the changes.

6 It wasn't a good idea to rely on Jerry.

OUGHT

You _____ on Jerry.

7 The plan was for Tom to complete the agreement yesterday.

MEANT

Tom _____ the deal yesterday.

8 I was surprised at how accurate his predictions were.

BEEN

His predictions _____ accurate.

9 They are looking for someone to replace Jenny before next week.

HAVE

By next week, they _____ for Jenny.

10 The other children bullied her because she was so short.

USED

The other children _____ around because she was so short.

____ / 20

Use Your English: ____ / 40

Writing

Write one of the following writing tasks.

- A** Your English class recently watched a documentary about space exploration and the search for intelligent life in space. You have made the notes below:

Space exploration

- finding a new planet
- searching for intelligent life outside the galaxy
- cost of space exploration

Some opinions expressed in the discussion:

‘If our food and water run out, humans will need find a new place to live.’

‘Stephen Hawking thinks that an alien civilisation may be hostile and try to destroy us.’

‘This is such a waste of money when people right here on Earth are starving!’

Write an essay discussing two of the ideas in your notes. You should state whether you are in favour of space exploration. Give reasons to support your opinion. You may, if you wish, make use of the opinions expressed in the discussion, but you should use your own words as far as possible.

Write your essay. (220–260 words)

- B** Last term, your school started a ‘study skills’ programme to help students with memory techniques and exam performance. Skills included note-taking, creating mind-maps, concentration techniques, as well as timetabling and sensible eating and sleep patterns. The head teacher has now asked you to write a report assessing the success of the programme and recommending any additional ways of improving students’ performance in exams.

Write your report. (220–260 words)

Writing: ____ / 10

Mark: ____ / 60

