



II. Grammar

Participle Clauses

<u>Knowing she loved</u> reading, she got her friend a book. <u>Having bought tickets</u> , we got on the plane to start our vacation.	
Meaning	She already knew that her friend loves reading so she got her a book. They bought tickets and then got on the plane to go on vacation.
Grammatical structure	Clauses and phrases: participle clauses present participle (verb -ing) reduced clause, main clause
Usage	The correlative conjunction ' <u>not only ... but also</u> ' adds information to a sentence. It can be used to connect two similar words or phrases in a sentence. It emphasises that both things happened or are true.
Other examples	<u>Having walked</u> in the park, he was tired. <u>Having finished</u> her workout, she left the gym. <u>Standing in line</u> , I realized I forgot my wallet. <u>Running late</u> , she quickly grabbed her bag and rushed out the door. <u>Exhausted from the long journey</u> , they decided to take a nap before exploring the city. <u>Having finished his work</u> , he went for a walk in the park. <u>Surprised by the news</u> , she couldn't contain her excitement. <u>Written by a renowned author</u> , the book became an instant bestseller.

Choose the best option (a, b or c) to fill each blank.

1. _____ by the changing information, they thought the plane was cancelled

- a) Confusing
- b) Confused
- c) Having confused

2. _____ at a low temperature, this costume will keep its original color for a long time.

- a) Washing
- b) Washed
- c) Having washed

3. _____ the paper, he saw the news about his hometown.

- a) Reading

- b) Read
- c) Having read

4. _____ by a local architect and artist, the theater combines traditional materials with original design.

- a) Building
- b) Build
- c) Having built

5. _____ in India for two years, the main actor could speak some Hindi

- a) Living
- b) Lived
- c) Having lived

6. _____ in prisons throughout her twenties, she wrote her first play about life behind bars

- a) After working
- b) Work
- c) Having been worked

7. _____ through the woods, they found a bird with a broken wing.

- a) Walking
- b) Walked
- c) Having walked

8. _____ for the final interview, the candidates were asked to prepare a short presentation.

- a) Selecting
- b) Selected
- c) Having selected

Complete the sentences using the Present participle (base form + ing), Past participle or Having + past participle of the verbs in parentheses.

1. The songby the singer herself, is the best on the album. (compose)

2. The band.....tonight will sign a new record deal.
(perform)
3. piano lessons as a child, I can play the
keyboard quite well. (take)
4. The prima ballerina.....tonight is my sister. (dance)
5.my novel, I will now try to get it published. (finish)
6. There are many people at the park.....the free concert.
(enjoy)
7. The competition will feature dancers.....traditional costumes. (wear)
8.for the play, I went home to relax. (audition)
9. The seats.....in the price of the four-night pack were not very
comfortable. (include)
10. She was wearing a long red dress specially.....for the occasion.
(design)

Relative Pronouns & Relative clauses

We use relative pronouns to introduce relative clauses. Relative clauses tell us more about people and things.

Subject	Object	Possessive
who	who/whom	whose
which	which	whose
that	that	-

	1. We use relative clauses to make clear which person or thing we are
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Use	<p>talking about:</p> <p>-Marie Curie is the woman who discovered radium.</p> <p>-This is the house which Jack built.</p> <p>-Marie Curie is the woman that discovered radium.</p> <p>-This is the house that Jack built.</p> <p>In this kind of relative clause, we can use that instead of <i>who</i> or <i>which</i></p> <p>2-We use relative clauses to give more information about a person, thing or situation:</p> <p>Lord Thompson, <i>who is 76</i>, has just retired.</p> <p>We had fish and chips, <i>which I always enjoy</i>.</p>
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Whose and whom

whose & whom	<p>We use whose as the possessive form of <i>who</i>:</p> <p><i>This is George, whose brother went to school with me.</i></p> <p>Ex.</p> <p>We sometimes use whom as the object of a verb or preposition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>This is George, whom you met at our house last year.</i> (whom is the object of met) - <i>This is George's brother, with whom I went to school.</i> (whom is the object of with)
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When and where

when & where	<p>We can use <i>when</i> with times and <i>where</i> with places to make it clear which time or place we are talking about:</p> <p>Ex.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>England won the World Cup in 1966. It was the year when we got married.</i> - <i>I remember my twentieth birthday. It was the day when the tsunami happened.</i> - <i>Do you remember the place where we caught the train?</i> - <i>Stratford-upon-Avon is the town where Shakespeare was born.</i>
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Practice

1. Neil Armstrong was the man _____ was the first human on the moon.
a- who b- whose c- which d- where

2. The man _____ father was sent to prison lives in my hometown.
a- who b- whose c- which d- where

3. The story, _____ was written by Najeeb, will probably win an award.

a- who b- whose c- which d- where

4. The pilot _____ is flying the plane is very clever.

a- who b- whose c- which d- where

5. Ali is the student _____ can answer these questions.

a- who b- whose c- which d- where

6. This is the house in _____ I live.

a- who b- whose c- which

7. I saw a sick old man _____ could not walk.

a- who b- whose c- which

8. This is the bus _____ I came on.

a- who b- whose c- which

9. The pupil _____ is clever succeeds every year.

a- who b- whose c- which

10. Fatima, _____ mother makes lovely cakes, has invited us to tea.

a- who b- whose c- which

Future perfect continuous tense

Form	The future perfect continuous, also sometimes called the future perfect progressive, is a verb tense that describes actions that will continue up until a point in the future. The future perfect continuous consists of: will + have + been + the verb's present participle (verb root + -ing).
Usage	When we describe an action in the future perfect continuous tense , we are projecting ourselves forward in time and looking back at the duration of that activity. The activity will have begun sometime in the past, present, or in the future, and is expected to continue in the future.
Examples	In November, <u>I will have been working</u> at my company for three years. At five o'clock, <u>I will have been waiting</u> for thirty minutes. When I turn thirty, <u>I will have been playing</u> piano for twenty-one years.

Put the verbs into the correct form

1. By the end of the week I (work) here for four months.

2. By the end of this month we (live) together for six years.

3. By the end of the term she (study) for nine years.

4. By midnight we (play) this computer game for 48 hours.

Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating Conjunctions are words or word phrases that connect an independent clause to a dependent clause, creating a complex sentence.

Dependent clauses add details to the independent clause and emphasize the idea in the independent clause. They also cannot stand alone, because they don't convey a complete thought – they depend on the independent clause

Subordinating conjunctions showing cause and effect

Examples	<p>as, since, though, due to, provided that, because of, and unless</p> <p>Ex:</p> <p>-As Sherri blew out the candles on top of her birthday cake, she caught her hair on fire.</p> <p>-He could not go to the party because his homework was not finished.</p> <p>-Due to his fear of sharks, the boy refused to swim in the ocean.</p>
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Subordinating conjunctions signalling relationships of time or place

once, while, when, whenever, where, wherever, before, and after.

<p>Example s</p>	<p>once, while, when, whenever, where, wherever, before, and after.</p> <p>Ex:</p> <p><i>-This is the house where I grew up.</i></p> <p><i>-<u>Everywhere I go</u>, you always seem to be nearby.</i></p> <p><i>-The dog needs to go out as soon as you get home.</i></p> <p><i>-Before you leave, I need you to take this survey of your experience.</i></p>
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Conditional Relationships

<p>Example s</p>	<p>If, Unless, Assuming that</p> <p>Ex:</p> <p><i>This is the house where I grew up.</i></p> <p><i>Everywhere I go, you always seem to be nearby</i></p> <p><i>We can go to the park if you clean your room.</i></p> <p><i>Assuming that everyone is free this weekend, we can get together for dinner.</i></p>
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Concession/Contrasting Relationships

<p>Example s</p>	<p>Although, Though, Whether, While, Even though.</p> <p><i>The underlined portion of the sentence shows the dependent clause, starting with the subordinating conjunction:</i></p> <p><i>-That man is one of the greediest people <u>though he is far wealthier than others.</u></i></p> <p><i>-<u>While they are highly intelligent</u>, those children have little common sense.</i></p>
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More examples :

- Due to unforeseen circumstances, the shop is closed.
- The cause of the damage was a fire in the forest.
- The marine life was destroyed as a consequence of pollution in the rivers.

Choose the correct answer:

1. _____ the basement flooded, we spent all day cleaning up.

- a. After c. Before
b. Although d. Even if
2. I don't want to go to the movies _____ I hate the smell of popcorn.
a. Although. c. Whenever
b. So that d. Because
3. I paid Larry, _____ garden design work is top-notch.
a. Whenever c. Whose
b. After d. If
4. _____ spring arrives, we have to be prepared for more snow.
a. Because c. Until
b. Although d. Now that
5. _____ the alarm goes off, I hit the snooze button.
a. As soon as c. Because
b. Before d. Now that
6. Sam had no reason to take a taxi to work _____ his apartment was near enough to walk there.
a) although b) since c) as if
7. I like tennis _____ it's fun.
a) because b) whereas c) even though
8. _____ her husband hated holidays so much, she decided to go with her sister.
a) although b) since c) as if
9. I'll go swimming _____ I finish school
a) since b) if c) as soon as
10. _____ fast food is so accessible, people have forgotten traditional cooking methods.
a) Since b) If c) Despite
11. I like football , _____ my brother doesn't.
b) although b) whereas c) since
12. I 'll call you _____ I need to ask you something.
a) in spite of b) if c) however
13. I am going to go to the beach _____ it's very hot.
a) even though b) whereas c) as soon as
14. _____ he's a poor man but he's always happy.
c) Since b) Because c) Although

15. I'll brush my teeth I've finished my breakfast.
a) since b) as soon as c) whereas

Correlative Conjunctions

I <u>not only</u> ran in the marathon, <u>but I also</u> competed in the long jump event.	
Meaning	The speaker is saying that they took part in more than one event during a sports competition.
Grammatical structure	Conjunctions: correlative 'not only' + 'but also'
Usage	The correlative conjunction ' not only ... but also ' adds information to a sentence. It can be used to connect two similar words or phrases in a sentence. It emphasises that both things happened or are true.
Other examples	The information is <u>not only</u> well presented, <u>but also</u> accurate. The children <u>not only</u> like cakes and chocolates, <u>but they also</u> like healthy foods too. Sabeena <u>not only</u> paints beautiful pictures, <u>but also</u> plays the piano brilliantly.

Chose the correct answer from A,B,C or D :

1. She is neither polite _____ funny.
A. or
B. nor
C. not
D. yet
2. _____ that is the case, _____ I'm not surprised about what's happening.
A. If / then
B. No sooner / than
C. Scarcely / when
D. Whether / or
3. Have you made a decision about _____ to go to the movies _____ not?
A. If / then

B. Either / or

C. Whether / or

D. What with / and

4. _____ had I put my umbrella away, _____ it started raining.

A. No sooner / than

B. If / then

C. What with / and

D. Neither / nor

5. This salad is _____ delicious _____ healthy.

A. Whether / or

B. Both / and

C. Scarcely / when

D. Rather / than

6. I like _____ to sing opera, _____ to spend my spare time practicing ballroom dances.

A. not only / but also

B. whether / or

C. neither / nor

D. not / but

7. The test was _____ very short _____ quite easy.

A. not / but

B. both / and

C. whether / or

D. scarcely / when

8. _____ Joe _____ his sisters could understand what their parents were saying when they spoke French.

A. Whether / or

B. No sooner / than

C. Rather / than

D. Neither / nor

Active & Passive Voice

What is the difference ?	<p>The active voice is the typical word order. We put the subject (the topic or the theme) first. The subject is the ‘doer’ or agent of the verb:</p> <p><i>Edward Barnes designed these houses in the 1880s.</i> (active)</p> <p>In the passive, the person or thing that the action was done to becomes the topic or theme. We can leave out the ‘doer’ or agent, or we can place the ‘doer’ in a prepositional phrase (<i>by</i> + ‘doer’):</p> <p><i>These houses were designed in the 1880s.</i> (passive without agent)</p> <p><i>These houses were designed in the 1880s by Edward Barnes.</i> (passive + <i>by</i> + doer)</p>
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The table gives examples of the most common forms in the passive.

tense	be form	examples
present simple	<i>am</i> <i>are</i> <i>is</i>	<i>Am I invited too?</i> <i>One or two new types of insect are found in Britain each year.</i> <i>It's not made in China.</i>

present continuous	am are is	being
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Am I being recorded?

*We're already **being served**, thanks.*

*That computer **isn't being used** any more.*

past simple	was were	
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*The story **was reported** in yesterday's paper.*

*We didn't know what was in the boxes. They **weren't labelled**.*

past simple	was were	
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*The story **was reported** in yesterday's paper.*

*We didn't know what was in the boxes. They **weren't labelled**.*

past continuous	was were	being
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Was he being examined?

*They **were being watched** carefully.*

present perfect simple	have has	been	+ -ed form	<p>Haven't they been asked to the wedding?</p> <p>He's been hurt.</p>
past perfect simple	had	been		<p>An important discovery had been made.</p> <p>Had he been injured in the war?</p>

modal simple	can will might	be		<p>Reservations can be accepted up to 24 hours before arrival.</p> <p>I don't think I'll ever be paid.</p> <p>Might we not be allowed to go in?</p>
modal continuous	could may must	be being		<p>She couldn't still be being interviewed.</p> <p>The photocopier may be being repaired.</p> <p>It must be being done now.</p>

modal perfect simple	<i>could</i> <i>must</i>	<i>have</i> <i>been</i>	<p>Do you think we could have been heard?</p> <p>The document must have been written when they sold the house.</p>
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Usage	<p>Verbs with two objects When verbs have two objects, either object can be the theme or subject of the passive structure, depending on what we want to focus on:</p> <p>Her mother gave each child a present. (active) <i>A present was given to each child (by her mother). (passive)</i> <i>Each child was given a present (by her mother). (passive)</i></p>
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• Change active into passive:

- The dog chased the cat.
The cat was chased (by the dog)
- Miss Mary teaches us English.
English is taught to us by Miss Mary.
- Shiva was flying a kite.
A kite was being flown by Shiva.
- My sister has drawn this portrait.
This portrait has been drawn by my sister.
- The people were helping the wounded woman.
The wounded woman was being helped by the people
- Sam had taken the medicines
The medicines had been taken by Sam.
- The player is taking extra time.
Extra time is being taken by the player
- The lion attacked the zebra.
The zebra was attacked by the lion

Reported Speech

Knowing she loved reading, she got her friend a book. Having bought tickets, we got on the plane to start our vacation.	
Meaning	Reported speech or indirect speech is the form of speech used to convey what was said by someone at some point of time.
Grammatical structure	Subject said that (report whatever the speaker said)
Other examples	-Sara said that she would be auditioning for the lead role in <i>Funny Girl</i> . -Ali requested us to help him with the algebraic equations. -Hind asked me if I knew where her car keys were. -Saeed told me that he would help me out after lunch. -The police ordered everyone to leave from the bus stop immediately. -Hamad said that he was drawing a caricature.

Reported Speech: change of tense

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
Simple Present Example: Preethi said, "I cook pasta."	Simple Past Example: Preethi said that she cooked pasta.
Present Continuous Example: Preethi said, "I am cooking pasta."	Past Continuous Example: Preethi said that she was cooking pasta.
Present Perfect Example: Preethi said, "I have cooked pasta."	Past Perfect Example: Preethi said that she had cooked pasta.
Present Perfect Continuous Example: Preethi said, "I have been cooking pasta."	Past Perfect Continuous Example: Preethi said that she had been cooking pasta.

Simple Past Example: Preethi said, "I cooked pasta."	Past Perfect Example: Preethi said that she had cooked pasta.
Past Continuous Example: Preethi said, "I was cooking pasta."	Past Perfect Continuous Example: Preethi said that she had been cooking pasta.
Past Perfect Example: Preethi said, "I had cooked pasta."	Past Perfect (No change) Example: Preethi said that she had cooked pasta.
Past Perfect Continuous Example: Preethi said, "I had been cooking pasta."	Past Perfect Continuous (No change) Example: Preethi said that she had been cooking pasta.

Reported Speech: change of modals

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
Will	Would
May	Might
Can	Could
Shall	Should
Has/Have	Had

* Transform the following sentences into reported speech by making the necessary changes.

- Rachel said, "I have an interview tomorrow."
Rachel said that she had an interview the next day.
- Anna said, "I look forward to meeting you."
Anna said that she looked forward to meeting me.
- The teacher said, "Make sure you complete the homework before tomorrow."
The teacher told us to make sure we completed the homework before the next day.
- Jade said, "My sister is moving to Los Angeles."
Jade said that his sister was moving to Los Angeles.

Reported Speech: pronouns

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
I	He, she
Me	Him, her
We	They
Us	Them
You	He, she, they
You	Him, her, them
My	His, her
Mine	His, hers
Our	Their
Ours	Theirs
Your	His, her, their
Yours	His, hers, theirs

Reported Speech: change of Adverbs of

Adverbs of Time	
Now	Then
Today	That day
Tomorrow	The next day / The following day
Yesterday	The previous day
Tonight	That night
Last week	The week before
Next week	The week after
Last month	The previous month
Next month	The following month
Last year	The previous year
Next year	The following year

Reading Comprehension

Alshoruq Private School
Englis Department



Academic Year 2022/2023
Grade : 11 Adv

1. Life after school

After years of hard work and dedication, the day finally arrives when you graduate from school. The world stands before you, filled with opportunities and possibilities. Life after school can be an exciting and transformative journey. Let's explore what lies ahead.

Life after school is like a blank canvas waiting to be painted with your dreams. It's a time of self-discovery and growth, where you have the freedom to choose your path. Some may decide to pursue higher education, digging deeper into their fields of interest. Others may choose to enter the workforce, eager to apply their knowledge and skills in practical settings.

Regardless of the chosen path, life after school often comes with newfound responsibilities and challenges. It's a time when you must navigate the complexities of adulthood, making important decisions about careers, finances, and relationships. It may require determination and flexibility to overcome obstacles and find your place in the world.

Life after school also offers opportunities for personal and professional development. You have the chance to explore your passions, sharpen your talents, and continue learning beyond the confines of the classroom. It's a time to broaden your horizons, embrace new experiences, and embrace lifelong learning.

Q. Read the text then choose the correct answers

1. What is the main idea of the passage?



- Life after school is filled with responsibilities and challenges.
- Life after school is the end of opportunities and possibilities.
- Life after school is a time for rest and relaxation.

2. What does the phrase "blank canvas" in the passage mean?



- A time to pursue higher education.
- A time to start a new job.
- A time to shape one's future.

3. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a possible option after school?



- Pursuing higher education.
- Entering the workforce.
- Traveling the world.

4. What does the passage say about the challenges of life after school?

There are no challenges; life is easy.

✓ Challenges may require determination and adaptability.

Challenges are only present in the classroom.

5. According to the passage, what opportunities does life after school offer?

✓ Opportunities for personal and professional development.

Opportunities to escape responsibilities.

Opportunities to forget what was learned in school.

6. What is the tone of the passage?

Depressing

✓ Encouraging

Disinterested

7. What phrase best describes the feeling of life after school?

✓ A time of inactivity and disappointment.

A time of joy and excitement.

A time of isolation and loneliness.

8. What does the passage suggest about lifelong learning?

It is unnecessary after completing school.

✓ It is limited to the classroom.

It is an essential and a connected part of life after school.

9. What can be inferred about the author's perspective on life after school?

The author believes life after school is difficult to navigate.

✓ The author believes life after school offers limited opportunities.

The author believes life after school is an exciting and transformative journey.

10. How would you summarize the main message of the passage?

Life after school is filled with hardships and regrets.

✓ Life after school is a time to relax and take a break.

Life after school is an opportunity for growth and exploration.

2. A Healthy Life

A healthy mind and a healthy body are interconnected and vital for overall well-being. When we prioritize mental and physical health, we can lead fulfilling and balanced lives.

Having a healthy mind involves maintaining good mental health. This includes managing stress, practicing self-care, nurturing positive relationships, and engaging in activities that promote emotional well-being. Taking time for relaxation, practicing mindfulness, and seeking support when needed are all essential aspects of maintaining a healthy mind.

A healthy body, on the other hand, relies on regular physical activity, proper nutrition, and adequate rest. Engaging in exercise not only strengthens our muscles and improves cardiovascular health but also releases endorphins, promoting a positive mood. Eating a balanced diet rich in nutrients fuels our bodies, supporting overall health and immune function. Prioritizing sufficient sleep allows our bodies and minds to recharge, promoting optimal functioning.

The connection between a healthy mind and body is equal. Engaging in physical activity boosts our mental well-being by reducing stress, improving cognitive function, and enhancing self-esteem. Similarly, when we prioritize our mental health, we are more likely to make choices that support our physical well-being, such as adopting healthier habits and seeking proper medical care when needed.

By nurturing a healthy mind and body, we can experience improved resilience, increased energy levels, and a greater sense of happiness and performance in our lives. Taking care of ourselves allows us to thrive and better manage the challenges that come our way.

Q. Read the text then choose the correct answers

1. What is the relationship between a healthy mind and a healthy body?

- a) They have no relationship
- b) They are completely independent of each other
- c)** They are interconnected and important for overall well-being

2. What are some aspects of maintaining a healthy mind?

- a) Regular physical activity and proper nutrition
- b)** Managing stress and practicing self-care
- c) Engaging in relaxation techniques and seeking medical care

3. What are the benefits of regular physical activity?

- a) Strengthening muscles and improving cardiovascular health
- b) Enhancing cognitive function and reducing stress
- c) Promoting positive mood and releasing endorphins
- d) All of the above**

4. How does a balanced diet contribute to a healthy body?

- a) It supports overall health and immune function**
- b) It promotes positive mental well-being
- c) It helps manage stress and improve self-esteem

5. How does prioritizing mental health impact physical well-being?

- a) It reduces stress and improves cardiovascular health
- b) It promotes a positive mood and encourages relaxation
- c) It leads to healthier habits and better medical care choices**
- d) It strengthens muscles and increases energy levels

6. What are the potential benefits of nurturing a healthy mind and body?

- a) Improved resilience and increased energy levels
- b) Reduced cognitive function and weakened immune system**
- c) None of the above

7. How can physical activity affect mental well-being?

- a) It increases stress levels and reduces self-esteem
- b) It promotes a positive mood and enhances cognitive function**
- c) It has no impact on mental well-being

8. What is the importance of sufficient sleep for overall well-being?

- a) It allows the mind and body to recharge and function optimally**

- b) It promotes positive relationships and emotional well-being
- c) It releases endorphins and strengthens the immune system

9. How does practicing mindfulness contribute to a healthy mind?

- a) It strengthens muscles and improves cardiovascular health
- b) It reduces stress and enhances self-esteem**
- c) It promotes positive relationships and social activities

10. What are some benefits of a healthy mind and body?

- a) Increased stress levels and decreased energy levels
- b) Weakened immune function and reduced resilience
- c) Improved resilience and increased happiness and fulfillment**

Earth's Temperatures

The world is now warmer than at almost any time since the end of the last ice age and, on present trends, will continue to reach a record high for the entire period since the dawn of civilisation, a study has found.

The study published in the journal Science, aims to give a global overview of Earth's temperatures over the past 11,300 years - a relatively balmy period known as the Holocene that began after the last major ice age ended and encompasses all of recorded human civilization.

Their data (compiled by studying such things as ice cores, fossils and ocean sediment) looked back over a much longer era than previous research, which went back 1,500 years.

Scientists say it is further evidence that modern-day global warming isn't natural, but the result of rising carbon dioxide emissions that have rapidly grown since the Industrial Revolution began roughly 250 years ago. Scientists say that if natural factors were still governing the climate, the Northern Hemisphere would probably be destined to freeze over again in several thousand years. Instead, scientists believe the enormous increase in greenhouse gases caused by industrialization will almost certainly prevent that.

Shaun Marcott, a geologist at Oregon State University, says "global temperatures are warmer than about 75 percent of anything we've seen over the last 11,000 years or so." The other way to look at that is, 25 percent of the time since the last ice age, it's been warmer than now.

It's taken just 100 years for the average temperature to change by 1.3 degrees, when it took 5,000 years to do that before. By the end of the century, climate warming models predict an additional increase of 2 to 11.5 degrees, due largely to carbon emissions, the study noted.

Now answer these questions:

1 - 'Dawn' in this text means: Earth

- a) Sunrise b) Beginning c) Heat

2 - 'Balmy' means:

- a) Cold b) Hot c) Warm d) Cool

3 - True or false: this study looks at a longer than usual time-period.

- a) True b) False

4 - The Earth's temperature has increased quickly since: 1,500 years ago

- a) The Holocene b) The Northern Hemisphere c) The Industrial Revolution

5 - 'Prevent' means: Complete

- a) Stop b) Slow c) Encourage

6 - True or false: Scientist predict the earth will freeze over because of increased greenhouse gases.

- a) True b) False

7 - True or false: The temperature will increase by 1.3 degrees in the next 100 years.

- a) True b) False

8 - This article could be described as a ____ look at the future.

- a) Optimistic b) Pessimistic

Are some shower curtains dangerous?

As part of an ongoing campaign against polyvinyl chloride, a Virginia-based environmental advocacy group today called on manufacturers and retailers to phase out its use in shower curtains. To buttress its case, the group, the Center for Health, Environment and Justice, released the results of a small study indicating that PVC-containing shower curtains are capable of emitting scores of volatile organic compounds, as well as phthalates, lead, and other potentially harmful materials, into people's bathrooms. A previous study, conducted by Environmental Protection Agency researchers, also found that plastic shower curtains can emit toxic compounds into the air.

There's still debate among scientists about just how serious the health effects are that have been associated with exposure to some of the chemicals highlighted as dangerous, especially at low doses. However, CHEJ, which has particularly strong concerns about the

environmental and health toll in communities with factories that manufacture PVC, urges consumers to avoid using PVC shower curtains, as well as many other PVC products, particularly those that are flexible.

For people who are concerned about their shower curtains, there are alternatives. IKEA phased out PVC shower curtains 11 years ago, switching to ethylene vinyl acetate. Target, the country's fifth-largest retailer, has also committed to replacing many of its shower curtains with EVA. The company has said that 88 percent of its shower curtains would be PVC free by spring of 2008. Bed Bath and Beyond, JCPenney, and Macy's are shifting toward PVC-free shower curtains, according to the report, but have not set goals or a time frame for completely eliminating the products.

Manufacturers are not required to label shower curtains, but some do list "PVC" or "vinyl" on the packaging. The recycling code "3" or sometimes "V" also indicates the presence of polyvinyl chloride. Numerous online retailers, such as EcoChoices, Pristine Planet, and Greenfeet, sell shower curtains-- primarily cotton or hemp--that are free of PVC. Without good ventilation, however, mildew can be a problem with cotton and hemp products. In response to such problems, Healthgoods sells a recycled polyester plastic shower curtain that it claims is superior to the fabric options.

Answer these questions (choose the best answer):

1. What did the study released by the Center for Health, Environment and Justice show?

- a) That PVC stands for polyvinyl chloride.
- b) That most shower curtains sold at IKEA are made from PVC.
- c) That PVC shower curtains may release potentially harmful materials into your bathroom.

2. What material are the shower curtains sold at IKEA made from?

- a) Ethylene vinyl acetate
- b) Polyvinyl chloride
- c) Hemp

3. What's the biggest problem with hemp and cotton shower curtains?

- a) They are see-through.
- b) They are too expensive.
- c) They may cause mildew.

4. When do JCPenney and Macy's plan to switch to more environmentally-friendly shower curtains?

- a) Spring 2008
- b) It hasn't specified a date
- c) Yes

5. Is it easy for consumers to tell that a shower curtain is made from PVC?

- a) Yes, that information is always on the shower curtain label.

- b) Not always, because shower curtains don't have to be labelled.
- c) Yes, but only if they're made in China