

Reading

1 Read the text. Choose the best answers.

Ready...Steady...SHOP!

There is a new breed of shopper stalking today's supermarkets. She's the one you see checking out all the trolleys outside before choosing the perfect vehicle for the event – no sticky wheels, no sideways camber and easy to manoeuvre at the flick of a wrist.

And there she is, at the starting line, surveying the course before her with a dreadful anticipation and glee. Fresh flowers face her on either side of the first aisle and hint of accolades to come. She takes a deep breath, wets her lips and – she's off on the first stretch, getting into her stride as she gently pushes through the dairy products. She tosses butter, cheese and yoghurt into her trolley with the professionalism of a juggler. A quick turn at the end of the aisle with barely a glance at the delicatessen behind her and she's into the second, building up a comfortable speed as she glides past the fruit and vegetables on her right, totally ignoring the meat section to the left.

Her breathing starts to quicken and she's into a two-wheel turn at the baked beans. Her concentration is ferocious – a right hand snakes out to release a tin of prunes from the top shelf, her pace never faltering, and a packet of chicken soup is flipped into the moving trolley by her left. Ambidextrous! Is there no end to this woman's talents? Speeding past the baking products on her right she's approaching yet another turn. To get a good angle she nearly clips some jars of curry powder, but she makes it with ease and rounds the loaves of bread into the next aisle with the smell of fish behind her to speed her on.

If possible, her speed seems to pick up even more – she's in top gear, running true to form, no let-up now she's on the home straight and the finish line is in her sights. The trolley is hurtling now, burning rubber, obstruct her at your peril! A final dodge to the left to miss the guy filling shelves with cleaning products and a quick swerve to the right to avoid the old lady stocking up on cat food. They stare after her, wide eyed. Her eyes glaze over, she's panting slightly, the checkout is ahead.

A minor hesitation as she scans for the shortest queue and triumph when she sees that the middle one is empty. She's made it. Breathless, sweating but triumphant, the 'supermarket sprint' finalist punches the air. She's beaten her P.B. and this time no casualties!

- 1 What do you think is the function of the text?
 - A to advertise a new supermarket
 - B to report a competition
 - C to give a cynical look at today's modern shopper
- 2 The shopper is compared to
 - A an athlete.
 - B a fitness addict.
 - C an economist.
- 3 The shopper's tastes include
 - A fish.
 - B meat.
 - C canned food.
- 4 The supermarket is like
 - A an obstacle course.
 - B a circus.
 - C a showroom.
- 5 During her shopping sprees she
 - A saves time and money.
 - B challenges herself.
 - C feels slightly nauseous.

Mark /10

Vocabulary

2 Complete the sentences with the correct prepositions.

- 1 I just walked in _____ Frank and Alice having a private conversation. They looked very shifty.
- 2 The key _____ a good relationship is mutual trust.
- 3 Jack ran the idea _____ me last week and I was extremely impressed.
- 4 When I played _____ the message I recognised Dan's voice.
- 5 The manager hasn't sorted _____ the football fixtures for this season yet, but he's working on it.

6 We can always go _____ this together at a later date when both of us have more time.

Mark /6

3 Complete the sentences with the correct words.

1 Simon always _____ me for things he knows full well are his own mistakes.

A accuses B suggests C blames

2 The Diploma is _____ as the best qualification in this particular field of study.

A considered B seen C reported

3 We don't _____ them to arrive any later than 11.00.

A anticipate B expect C predict

4 We _____ all round the town in the freezing cold for two hours.

A strolled B strutted C traipsed

5 There was no way I could eat the steak – it was practically _____ .

A raw B tough C stale

6 Kate _____ about how good she was and it was quite a let-down when she came third!

A boasted B claimed C warned

7 The _____ of the discussion was that we agreed to take turns doing the dishes.

A due B rise C upshot

Mark /7

4 Complete the sentences with the correct words.

1 Helen let something _____ yesterday about when the results are going to be released.

2 The doctor gave me a _____ for painkillers to stop my migraines.

3 Running away is often considered a(n) _____ of guilt by the police.

4 Mr Brown didn't say so exactly, but he _____ that my work hasn't been up to standard recently.

5 Dave _____ refused to allow cameras into his classroom – and I don't blame him!

Mark /5

Grammar

5 Rewrite the sentences using the correct form of the words in brackets.

1 Scientists all round the world agree that Professor Taylor is the top expert on global warming. (acknowledge)

2 I think your idea about getting a takeaway is better. (rather)

3 He really wanted to avoid meeting his ex-girlfriend. (what)

4 The newspapers said we shouldn't drink tap water for at least three days. (warn)

5 They ran out of petrol because they didn't want to stop during the journey. (would)

6 It was the first time I had gone without sleep for two days. (never)

7 Any holiday company you go with is going to charge over £200 for the journey. (whichever)


Mark /7

6 Complete the sentences. Use up to four words.

- 1 That fish tasted strange. Where's the bathroom? I think I _____ sick.
- 2 Thanks for all the wine! But it's too generous – you _____ three bottles!
- 3 The issue _____ by the members at the moment. We'll let you know the result soon.
- 4 I'm sorry – I can't find my keys. I _____ them on the kitchen table!
- 5 It will be great to see you while we're on holiday. Meet us for a drink. We _____ at the Royal Hotel in Masters Street.

Mark /5

Listening

7  **5.12** Listen to part of a radio interview. Complete the sentences with up to three words from the interview.

- 1 The Indian conglomerate that produces the Nano has an excellent _____ with other makes of car.
- 2 An additional advantage of the Nano is that it will suit people who have _____ .
- 3 The Nano only comes in _____ .
- 4 At the moment the Indian roads are full of _____ .
- 5 As well as having low emissions the Nano has excellent _____ .

Mark /10

Writing

8 Write a letter of complaint to a manufacturer about something you have bought recently. Use the writing guide to help you. Write 200–250 words.

Paragraph 1: Say why you are writing.

Paragraph 2: Explain what you are unhappy about.

Paragraph 3: Describe any action you have already taken.

Paragraph 4: Explain what you would like the manufacturer to do now.

Mark /10

Total /60