Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 1 & 2

READING

1 Read the article. Match the people, Victoria (V), Duncan (D), and John (J) to the ideas.

Are you the smartest person you know?

In job interviews, managers may ask "Who is the smartest person you know?" Most people answer by talking about someone they think is special. By doing this, the managers find out who you would like to be. However, the boss of Oracle, a big computer technology company in California, started asking a different question: "Are you the smartest person you know?" Only people who answered "yes" got the job.

So, what about you? Imagine that someone asks "Are you the smartest person you know?" in an interview. How do you answer?

1 VICTORIA

Who says "yes" to this question? I guess it's only people who think they're smart, but that doesn't mean they are the smartest. You might get someone who is really laid-back and confident saying "yes," but really, they aren't good at anything except saying great things about themselves. Is that really the kind of person they want working for them?

2 DUNCAN

I don't want to say "yes," but I am always the smartest person in the room. Sorry, but it's true. I realized I was smart when I was young. I won lots of prizes as a child – and all the teachers recognized that I was really intelligent. I believe it's important that smart people like me get all the best jobs, and it's good that people are starting to ask the right questions in interviews.

3 JOHN

Maybe I'm smart. But the smartest?! I think it's important to be positive and happy in interviews. Saying "yes, I'm smart" and explaining why isn't a bad thing. But, what is "smart?" Good at computers, math, or art? People have different skills. I know lots of people who are talented at one thing but not another. For example, I have a degree in music, but my 15-year-old brother is great with computers. So he has taught me lots about computers, and that's good. The more I learn from other people, the better I get.

This person …

0 was good at school. D

1 thinks smart people don't say "yes" to questions like this. ☐

2 believes that he should get a good job. ☐

3 thinks it's important to be cheerful in interviews. ☐

4 isn't sure what "smart" means. ☐

5 thinks "Are you the smartest person you know?" is a good question. ☐

6 says that people who think they're the smartest probably aren't. ☐

7 thinks that different people are good at different things. ☐

☐ 7

2 Read the article again. Mark these sentences T (true), F (false), or DS (doesn't say).

0 Some job interviewers want to find out who you admire. T

1 The boss of Oracle only wanted people who thought they were the smartest. ☐

2 Victoria thinks that people who say "yes" to this question are always smart. ☐

3 She knows a lot of people who are too laid-back and positive about themselves. ☐

4 Duncan thinks he is the smartest person he knows. ☐

5 He didn't think he was smart when he was young. ☐

6 He has a great job. ☐

7 John doesn't think that everyone can be good at everything. ☐

8 His brother doesn't know anything about music. ☐

☐ 8

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SKILLS TEST 1 & 2

LISTENING

3 **Listen to two teenagers talking about photos for a school yearbook. Mark [✓] the seven things they talk about.**

They talk about:

1 Mark was preparing a cake for a party. ☐
2 There's a funny picture of Mark. ☐
3 The weather was bad at a tennis match. ☐
4 A friend won a soccer game. ☐
5 Allison was an important player on her team. ☐
6 Allison was dancing. ☐
7 Someone wore a funny costume. ☐
8 They ate a lot of pizza. ☐
9 Mark is late for a meeting. ☐

☐ 7

4 **Listen again. Complete the notes with one word or number in each space.**

0 Mark has a big pile of *photos*.
1 Mark had flour all over his _____ .
2 He was carrying the cake across the kitchen when he _____ .
3 Mark has a photo of the soccer _____ .
4 It was _____ , and people were leaving the game.
5 Allison was in a volleyball _____ .
6 Allison won a prize at the _____ .
7 She gives Mark _____ to use the photo.
8 Mark has a meeting at _____ o'clock.

☐ 8

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SKILLS TEST 1 & 2

WRITING

5 Write a short passage (100–125 words) about yourself. Describe your personality and your experiences. Use the ideas below to help you.

- What kind of personality do you have?
- Have you had any interesting or unusual life experiences? Explain.
- What interesting things have you done recently?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

20

SPEAKING

6 Talk about a sports figure or celebrity you admire. Answer the questions.

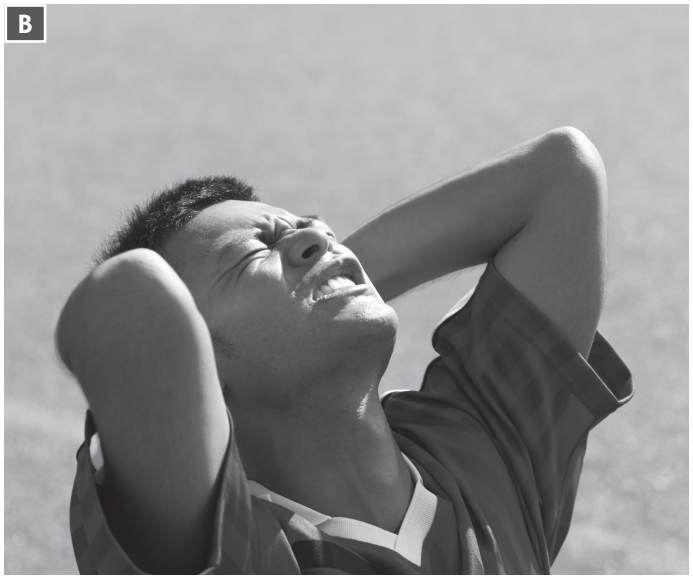
1 What does he or she do?
2 What is he or she like?
3 What do you like about him or her?
4 What amazing things has he or she done?

7 Work in pairs, A and B. Look at your photo. What has just happened? How did the people feel? Take turns asking each other, "How do you feel?" about the situations in the photos.

A



B



20

TOTAL SCORE 70

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