Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 9 & 10

READING

1 Read the article quickly. Match the opinions (1–7) to Amanda (A), Kara (K), or Lisa (L).

1 It's possible that aliens are making the crop circles. ☐
2 It's certain that farmers are making them. ☐
3 It's possible that animals make them. ☐
4 It's not possible that the weather is making them. ☐
5 Young people might be making them. ☐
6 Crop circles are making people rich. ☐
7 We don't understand what the circles are trying to communicate yet. ☐

☐ 7

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

1 Crop circles are a recent phenomenon. ☐
2 They have appeared all over the world. ☐
3 Amanda thinks that farmers benefit from the crop circles. ☐
4 She also thinks that aliens might exist. ☐
5 Kara doesn't agree with Amanda. ☐
6 She believes that we haven't understood the crop circles yet. ☐
7 Lisa says that people are studying the crop circles. ☐
8 She thinks there is a special energy everywhere under the earth. ☐

☐ 8

Crop circles: who makes them and why?

Crop circles – mysterious patterns that appear in fields each summer – have been puzzling people since the 1600s. After the 1970s, more and more of these odd circles have been reported globally. But, so far, they remain unexplained. Who, or what, is causing them? Do they have a natural cause? Or do people make them? Are they a message? If so, what are they trying to say to us?

AMANDA
It must have been the farmers making them all this time. I think some of them might be bored, and they go down to their fields in the middle of the night and make all these circles. It goes without saying that they get a lot of attention from the TV and newspapers, and then their farms become famous. And I'd go one step further. A lot of them may be getting a lot of extra money from tourists in the summer! It can't be aliens. What a ridiculous idea! If aliens exist, then there are better ways to communicate with us than leaving circles in a field in the middle of the countryside!

KARA
It's not the farmers. These crop circles have been appearing for centuries. Why would farmers damage their own crops? They must be really angry when they find out that their crops have been destroyed. And it can't be animals making them, or storms. The circles are too complex, and there are too many of them. I think it could be aliens. They might have a completely different language than we do, and we need to try and figure out what they're saying.

LISA
There have been thousands of crop circles for centuries, and yes, they are mysterious. They can't all have been created by the same thing. Some of them might have been caused by animals or the weather. Some of them could have been made by people – maybe students or farmers – wanting to play a joke on the rest of us. I think there could be another reason, which we don't know about yet. For example, there might be some kind of energy under the ground – like a magnetic energy – in special places. This could be causing the plants to move or bend, and that creates the circles.

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Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 9 & 10

LISTENING

3 **Listen to a conversation. Match the information (1–7) with the numbers (a–g).**

1 How much it costs to make a $0.01 coin. ☐
2 How much it costs to make a $1 banknote. ☐
3 The percentage of the world's money that is coins and banknotes. ☐
4 The number of trees used to make banknotes. ☐
5 The number of countries that use plastic banknotes. ☐
6 The percentage of banknotes that have some kind of bacteria on them. ☐
7 The number of days that one type of virus can exist on a banknote. ☐

a 2.4
b 7
c 94
d 8
e 17
f 0
g 5.7

☐ 7

4 **Listen again. Complete the notes with one word or number in each space. Use words or numbers that the speakers use.**

1 The smallest American _____ is the cent, which costs $0.024 to produce.
2 A U.S. dollar costs _____ as much to make as a cent.
3 Most of our money is just _____ on a computer.
4 People are using bank _____ more than cash, and this could increase in the future.
5 According to the quiz, money isn't made from _____, but from cotton and linen.
6 More people might use more money made from _____ in the future.
7 One banknote can pass between _____ of people over its lifetime.
8 The _____ virus can stay on a banknote for more than two weeks.

☐ 8

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Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 9 & 10

WRITING

5 Read this email from a friend. Write a reply (150–180 words). Use the questions below to help you.

Hello!

I went to Loch Ness last week with my parents. Of course, my father said that there was a famous monster living under the water, but I didn't believe him.

But, early one morning, I went out for a walk alone near Loch Ness. It was raining and windy, but for some reason I didn't want to go back to the house where we were staying. I felt like there was something in the water watching me!

Suddenly, I saw a big, black shape, about 200 meters away in the water. It was moving! I quickly took out my phone and called my parents to come and see it. Then the shape disappeared. What was it? Was it the monster?

I went back to the lake every day to check. The weather was perfect and clear, but I didn't see any sign of the monster again. Maybe it only comes out in bad weather.

See you soon,

Laura

- Do you think the black shape could have been the Loch Ness monster?
- What do you think Laura might have seen?
- Should Laura have used her phone to call her father?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

20

SPEAKING

6 Work in pairs, A and B. Look at the photos below. They show people buying things. Take turns to describe your photo, and say what you think is happening. Then decide why people go shopping in these situations.

A



B



7 Work in pairs. Imagine that these things happened to you. Take turns to tell your partner, deduce what might have happened, and sympathize with each other. Use the useful phrases below.

- **Student A:** You were on a bus yesterday. When you got off, you checked your pocket/bag, and realized that your purse/wallet was missing!
- **Student B:** A friend borrowed a lot money from you last week. Now, you need it back. You have tried to call and email your friend, but your friend never answers!

That's a shame.
Never mind.
How awful.
What a pity.
I'm really sorry.

It could have been …
He/She must be …
Someone might have …
You should/shouldn't have …

20

TOTAL SCORE 70

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