Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 9 & 10

READING

1 Read the article quickly. Match the summaries (a–g) to the tips (1–7).

Things I wish I had known

Occasionally I remember my younger years, and wish I had done some things differently. Here are seven things I really wish I'd known when I was a teenager. My life might have worked out very differently.

1 If only I hadn't worried so much about what other people thought. I always wanted to be part of the group, and I tried hard to live up to other people's expectations. I spent so much time wanting other people to like me that it took me a long time to really discover who 'I' was.

2 I was a good student, but I usually chose classes just so I could be with my friends. If only I'd known how useful it would be to study French, or Spanish or …! There have been so many times in my life when I wish I was able to speak to someone from another country. Now, at the age of 40, it's probably a bit late to learn …

3 I loved sugar. I didn't think it was bad for me at all. Interestingly, I never put on weight, but let's just say I don't have a confident smile these days. Why? It's because of all that sugar I had two decades ago. I wish I'd known how expensive dentist bills are, too.

4 I wish I'd known that my parents weren't just annoying people who criticised me all the time. Now I'm a parent, I understand how difficult it is to be one, and how many things you have to give up. I was often really mean towards my parents. I never told them anything about myself, and I couldn't wait to leave them. If only I'd known how difficult that must have been, because they were always great, and did nothing wrong.

5 I could be a millionaire by now if I'd started saving earlier. Well, maybe not, but if I'd saved 5% of the money I got from part-time jobs, or full-time jobs when I was in my 20s, things would have been a lot easier later in life. When I was a teenager, I didn't understand what emergencies are, and that you have to be ready for them.

6 When you're young, you think the people you hang out with will be there forever. They won't. And nothing lasts forever. Some people will disappear, and you won't even have a chance to say goodbye. I wish I'd known that if you want to keep people in your life, you sometimes have to work hard.

7 Finally, I wish I'd known that life in TV and films isn't real. From watching them, you might think that being a teenager is amazing all the time, and all your friends are having a great time. They are probably having the same problems as you. They just aren't being honest about showing it. So, don't dwell on your problems, and remember that things will get better!

a I wish I'd been myself. ☐

b I wish I'd learned about money. ☐

c I wish I'd known that being a teenager is hard. ☐

d I wish I'd learned another language. ☐

e I wish I'd had a different attitude towards my family. ☐

f I wish I'd looked after my teeth. ☐

g I wish I'd kept in touch with people. ☐

☐ 7

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

1 The writer is a teenager. ☐

2 The writer didn't care about what other people thought of her. ☐

3 She didn't study languages at school. ☐

4 The writer doesn't like her teeth now. ☐

5 Now, she blames her parents for why she was unhappy. ☐

6 She is very poor now. ☐

7 She has kept in touch with all her friends from school. ☐

8 She watched too much TV when she was younger. ☐

☐ 8

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Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 9 & 10

LISTENING

3 **Listen to an interview about social media. Tick [✓] the seven topics which are mentioned.**

1 A warning that Japanese people got on their phones. ☐
2 The reason why there are so many earthquakes in Japan. ☐
3 Why trains stopped in Japan. ☐
4 The number of people who post on social media like Twitter every day. ☐
5 Some people created a false story about the US president. ☐
6 The reason why the American economy went down a few years ago. ☐
7 How some politicians spread incorrect information. ☐
8 The type of people who create fake social media accounts. ☐
9 Why politicians never admit that they lie. ☐
10 What people need to do in the future, to understand information online. ☐

☐ 7

4 **Listen again. Choose the correct options.**

1 People in Japan got messages on their phones because
A people were sending joke stories about earthquakes.
B the government thought there was going to be an earthquake.
C a serious earthquake had happened.

2 Trains and mobile networks stopped working because
A people were panicking too much.
B they were damaged by the earthquake.
C the news about the earthquake was false.

3 Social media made the news about the earthquake worse because
A there wasn't enough information.
B people couldn't share the information quickly enough.
C no one could check if it was true or not.

4 Some people hacked into the account of a big US news organisation because they wanted to
A create a false news story.
B hurt the US president.
C get into the White House in Washington.

5 The fake news about the US president
A had no effect on the country.
B spread very fast.
C was obviously false, and no one believed it.

6 Eva says that politicians seem to be lying more because
A they want to stop people using social media.
B social media makes it easier for them to do so.
C no one will ever find out that they were wrong.

7 Eva says that 'trolls' are people who
A hide their real identity.
B want to control governments.
C write important news articles.

8 Eva also says that we have to
A learn to read more quickly.
B create our own information online.
C think more carefully about what we are reading online.

☐ 8

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SKILLS TEST 9 & 10

WRITING

5 Write an article (190–220 words) answering one of the statements below. Use the plan to help you.

1 It's better to learn real skills at work, than to study subjects at university.

2 Most of the information we can find online is not reliable.

- Write an introduction, explaining what you are going to write about.
- Write a second paragraph, arguing *for* the statement.
- Write another paragraph, arguing *against* the statement.
- Write a conclusion, summarising both arguments, and giving your position.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

20

SPEAKING

6 Work in pairs. Look at the photos below. They show situations in which people learn. Take turns to describe your photo, and say what you think the people are learning.

A



B



7 Now decide together what you think is the best type of learning environment. Use the language below if you want to try and make a point.

I'm against …

There's no way that …

My mind's made up.

This is exactly the kind of … (that people need).

This is definitely …

And that's final.

20

TOTAL SCORE 70

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