

## Theme-based Exercise

Your teacher gave you this article about good friends. Read the article and answer the questions. Choose the best answer for each question and blacken the circle.

### A Really Good Friend

#### I got what I deserved

5 Yesterday, some of my friends were very mean to me and it made me realize how special my friend Jessica is. From now on, I will always treasure her friendship as it is extremely important to me.

10 For two weeks I have been eating my lunch with a different group of friends and not with Jessica. She kept asking me why I was not eating lunch with her and so I told her that I liked my new group of friends more. However, yesterday, they were very mean to me and laughed at my new hair cut. I was really upset and started crying, but they did not stop laughing.

#### Lucky girl

15 A few minutes later, Jessica came over and told them to stop laughing at me. She comforted me and told me that my new hair style was amazing. I apologized to her for not eating lunch with her and asked her if she would forgive me. She said of course she would because we were best friends.

I was so happy! I will never forget Jessica or leave her out again. She is extremely special and important to me. I am lucky to have such a good friend.



### Vocabulary Highlight

#### Words about friendship:

**treasure (v)** – to value something or someone highly

**comfort (v)** – to make someone feel better and more easy

**special (adj)** – very good and pleasant

1. From the title, we know that the article is about \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. how to be a real friend
  - B. how to make real friends
  - C. remembering who your true friends are
  - D. finding new friends
  
2. In paragraph 3, line 14, 'She comforted me' means that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. people with a large social network have a lot of real friends
  - B. friendships matter when one comes to the end of their life
  - C. companions and real friends are not necessarily the same
  - D. real friendships take a life time to explore
  
3. From the heading of paragraph 1, we know that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. something good happened to the writer
  - B. something bad happened to the writer
  - C. something strange happened to the writer
  - D. the writer was excited
  
4. In paragraph 2, the writer thinks that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. her new friends are better than Jessica
  - B. her haircut is ugly
  - C. she needs to have lunch with Jessica
  - D. she should stop having lunch with her new friends
  
5. In paragraph 4, line 18, 'leave her out' means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. to leave someone outside
  - B. when you forget about someone
  - C. when you do not invite someone to join in
  - D. when you make a new group of friends
  
6. From the first and last sentences of paragraph 4, we know that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. the writer does not want to see her new friends again
  - B. the writer is a very happy and lucky person
  - C. the writer realizes how important Jessica is
  - D. the writer will eat lunch without Jessica tomorrow

# Writing

## Leisure Activities with My Friends

### Skill Focus: Writing a personal letter

- **Purposes:** A personal letter is a private way of communication between two people. It has no fixed length and is written to:
  1. tell others something,
  2. get information from others,
  3. express gratitude (e.g. *Thank you for ...*) or an apology (e.g. *Sorry for ...*)
- **Language and tone:** The tone can be **formal** or **semi-formal** depending on the **subject** and **content**. You may use contracted forms, idioms and colloquial language.

### Grammar Focus: Simple present tense

Form	Use	Example
1. <b>First and second person:</b> simple present form of the verb	To tell a general truth	Friends <b>give</b> you support when you are in difficulties.
	To tell a repeated action	I <b>play</b> football with my friends every day.
2. <b>Third person:</b> simple present form of the verb + -s or -es	To tell a scheduled event in the near future	Our gathering <b>starts</b> at 7.00 p.m. this evening.

### Get Set

Fill in each blank in the letter with the verb in brackets in the suitable form.

Dear Mary,

Morris and I are good friends and we (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the same school. He (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (like) Physics but I (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (like) Music. I (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) all the time in the café during lunch, but he (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) quietly at his seat.



#### Exam Tip

A personal letter should express the **personality** of the person who writes it. Adjectives and adverbs can be used to enrich the expressions.

However, we also (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (share) something in common. We (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (enjoy) playing football and we are on the same team. People (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (say) that we are a dream match. We (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (think) that football (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (require) cooperation and trust, like every friendship.

Best wishes,

Tom

### Theme-based Exercise

You are writing a short personal letter to tell your pen friend, Anna, in Canada about the leisure activities you do with your friends. Write the letter in about 120 words. You can use some ideas from the following mind map and / or your own ideas in your writing.



#### Exam Tip

##### Planning:

1. Begin your letter with a simple **greeting**, e.g. 'How are you?'
2. Introduce the **reason** of writing this letter to her.
3. Describe the **activities** you do with your friends during recess or lunchtime, after school, or on holidays.
4. You may also express your **feelings** towards the time spent with your friends.

#### Useful Expression

- May I share with you ...
- During recess, we usually ...
- Sometimes we ... if ...
- When school is over, we ...
- On holidays, we ... because we want to ...

# Speaking

## A Study Tour



### Skill Focus:

### Starting a discussion

There are four steps to give an organized beginning for a discussion:

#### Step 1: Give a simple greeting and initiate the discussion

e.g. *Good morning / afternoon, everyone.*  
*All right, let's start.*  
*Let's talk about ... I think ...*

#### Step 2: State the aim of the discussion

e.g. *We have to plan / tell ...*  
*Today, we need to discuss ...*

#### Step 3: Raise the first point

e.g. *Let's decide ... first.*  
*In my opinion, ...*  
*Can I make a point first? My idea is ...*

#### Step 4: Ask for others' opinions

e.g. *What do you think?*  
*What's your idea / opinion / viewpoint?*



#### Exam Tip

Take the opportunity to be the **starter**. Having a good start can boost your confidence and leave a good impression.



### Get Set

Put the following sentences in the correct order to make an organized beginning.

- What do you think?
- Let's get started, shall we?
- My idea is to take them to the Avenue of Stars in Tsim Sha Tsui and Ngong Ping 360 on Lantau Island.
- Some students from Canada are visiting Hong Kong. Let's talk about what we are going to do together.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ → 2. \_\_\_\_\_ → 3. \_\_\_\_\_ → 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 1**

 **Track 16**

*Your local community church is going to organize a Christmas celebration. You are one of the team leaders. Make the best choices for the following questions.*

You have 30 seconds to read this part.

The conversation and questions will be played **twice**.

When you hear a beep, answer the question.

1. What is the main purpose of the event? It \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. gives the church a chance for fundraising
  - B. helps spread religious messages to the community
  - C. brings out the message of love and sharing during the holiday season
  - D. gives the community a chance to experience the festive fun
  
2. Which of the following dates and times are correct for the celebration?
  - A. 18 December (Tuesday), 8.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.
  - B. 18 December (Monday), 10.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.
  - C. 22 December (Saturday), 10.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.
  - D. 22 December (Sunday), 1.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.
  
3. Which one of the following is TRUE about the celebration?
  - A. Refreshments will be sponsored by local supermarkets.
  - B. Lights and decorations will begin one week before the event.
  - C. Admission fee will be waived for children from single-parent families.
  - D. Refreshments, lights and decorations will be sponsored.
  
4. Which of the following groups of activities is included in the celebration?
  - A. visit from Santa Claus; telling stories; making Christmas decorations
  - B. making Christmas decorations; playing group games; cooking and baking
  - C. playing group games; cooking and baking; telling stories
  - D. cooking and baking; playing group games; visit from Santa Claus
  
5. How many team leaders were appointed for the celebration?
  - A. three
  - B. four
  - C. five
  - D. uncertain