

Unit 1

Advice for Teenagers

Reading Express



Riley is reading the advice column of a newspaper. Read the following advice column and complete the exercises.

Understanding the Text Type

Advice column



Advice columns are popular in newspapers and magazines. Readers write about their questions and problems to columnists, who give information and advice in return. To help readers rethink their problems, columnists often use questions. To encourage readers to take action, they use imperatives such as 'Be careful!'

Dear Unsure,

Choosing the right apps can be daunting and time-consuming. Of the thousands of apps available, which ones should you install? A useful tip is balance.

Ask Susan



5 Game, music and video apps could be good time-fillers and boredom killers when you are waiting for transport or when you need a break. Entertainment, however, is not everything, although it prevents you from developing into a dull man.

It's also important to learn something new every day. Why don't you
10 check out the top picks for apps which allow you to read newspapers, magazines and books? Designated apps for world-renowned newspapers like *New York Times* and *The Guardian* not only keep you abreast of the latest world issues, but also expose you to some of the best English in use. As for books, try Kindle, which boasts a collection of over two million volumes.

Productivity and utility apps like calendars and to-do lists are a must, too! Just set the dates for
15 appointments and due dates for assignments, and then relax. Reminders will automatically pop up in due course. You will never fail to keep track of your schedule or submit your work late!

I don't think I need to persuade you to put social networking and communication apps on your phone, but I have to remind you that while some users of these apps are looking for pals, others

ABC Vocabulary

- daunting (adj) 令人氣餒的
- time-fillers (n) 用來打發時間的事
- designated (adj) 特定的
- keep you abreast of (phr) 讓你掌握
- boasts (v) 以擁有...而自豪
- keep track of (phr) 記錄
- persuade (v) 說服
- pals (n) 好友
- prey (n) 獵物
- vigilant (adj) 警剔的

are hunting for prey. So, be vigilant! Don't disclose personal information to people you don't really know.

Susan

A. Choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only.

1. Unsure _____.

- A. wasted a lot of time on smartphones
- B. has difficulties selecting applications
- C. installed the wrong applications
- D. does not know how to install applications

A B C D

2. Which of the following is true, according to Susan?

- A. Information apps are good time-fillers.
- B. Entertainment apps are useful.
- C. Calendars are utility apps.
- D. Kindle is a book.

A B C D

3. Susan thinks social networking apps are _____.

- A. dangerous
- B. thoughtless
- C. unnecessary
- D. friendly

A B C D

4. Susan mentions _____ types of apps.

- A. three
- B. four
- C. five
- D. six

A B C D

B. Which words in the blog entry mean the opposite of the following?

1. interest / excitement (lines 5–8)

2. unknown (lines 9–13)

3. careless (lines 17–20)

Paul is listening to a talk about vocational training. Listen to the conversation and complete the information sheet below.

Information Sheet: Careers Talk

Speaker: Mr Wong (Hong Kong _____ College)

Aim of College: prepare students to find a _____

Alternative pathway: Diploma of _____

Years of study: _____

Requirement: Secondary _____

Specialities:

1. Business
2. _____ Technology
3. Beauty Care
4. _____ Engineering
5. Mechanical Engineering
6. _____
7. Construction

Tuition fee: _____

Progression: _____ Diploma of _____

Years of study: _____

A. Simple past and past perfect tenses (1)

Useful Tip

1. We use the simple past tense to talk about an action in the past.
e.g. I **borrowed** some books from the library yesterday.
2. We use the past perfect tense to talk about an action which took place before another past action or before a definite past time.
e.g. Lily **had left** when Joe arrived at the restaurant.
Peter **had never been** to an opera before last night.

Exercise 1

Jack fails to interview Eason, a singer, and his boss is angry with him. Complete their dialogue with the correct form of the given verbs.

Boss: Why didn't you interview Eason yesterday?

Jack: I (1) _____ (get) up late yesterday morning. When I (2) _____ (reach) the bus stop, the bus (3) _____ (leave) already.

Boss: Why didn't you take a taxi?

Jack: I (4) _____ (do). But I (5) _____ (wait) for half an hour before a taxi finally (6) _____ (come). When I (7) _____ (arrive) at the concert hall, Eason's concert (8) _____ (begin) already. So, I couldn't interview him.

Boss: What happened in the end?

Jack: I (9) _____ (have) a coffee at a café nearby, but when I (10) _____ (go) back, Eason (11) _____ (leave) already.

Boss: Listen! I (12) _____ (decide) to fire you before you (13) _____ (begin) to tell this story.

B. Simple past and past perfect tenses (2)

Useful Tip

In passive sentences, we use **had been** and the past participle of the verb.
e.g. The blackboard **had been cleaned** by Helen.

 **Express Yourself** 

Making arrangements on the phone



To make arrangements on the phone, we can use the following phrases:

When would be a good time?

What about / How about tomorrow?

Could we meet at 7pm?

When would be convenient to you?

Shall we say next Monday ?

Would 10am be good for you?



 **Talk Smart**

After you have made an arrangement with someone, you can end the call by saying 'Thank you. See you then.' or 'Thank you. Goodbye.'

Complete the following telephone conversation with the correct phrases.

- How about sometime next week?
- Would next Wednesday be alright?
- What about Friday?
- When would be a good time for you?
- Could I come tomorrow?

Amy: Hello, TDC Trading. Can I help you?

Ben: Hello, this is Ben Wong of *Hong Kong Weekly*. Could I do an interview with Miss Susan Chan?

Amy: Sure. (1) _____

Ben: (2) _____

Amy: Sorry. Miss Chan is fully occupied tomorrow. (3) _____

Ben: Sorry. I'm not available on Friday. (4) _____

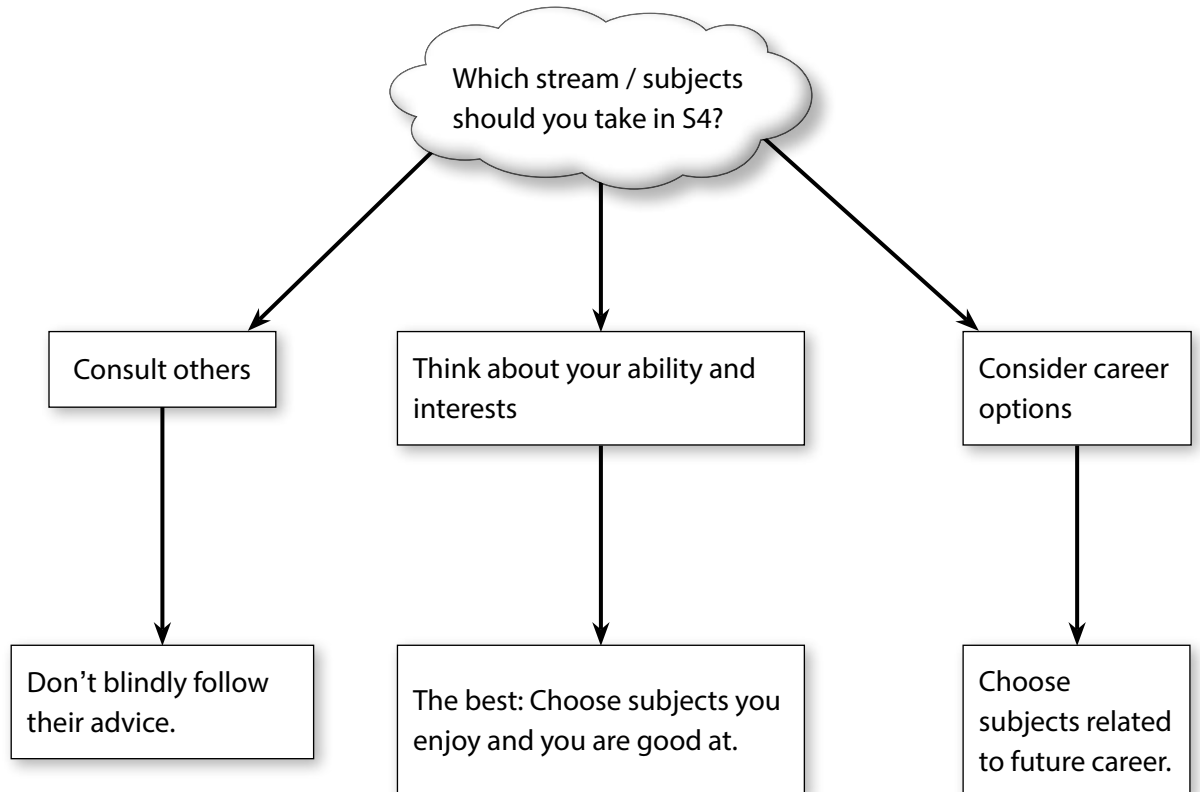
Amy: Next week? Let me see ... (5) _____

Ben: That would be fine. Thank you very much.

Write about 120 words on the following topic.

You are Margaret, columnist of your school magazine. You are going to give Angus some advice on how to choose subjects for his S4 year.

The mind map below may help you.



Word Box

- bother
- follow the crowd
- consideration
- achieve
- accomplishment
- pleasure

Fun Express

A. Giving advice

The following students are trying to decide which subjects to study for S4. Their school offers the following five elective subjects for all S4–S6 students:

Chemistry

Economics

Geography

History

Physics

What advice would you give them?

1. Mary: I want to learn more about urban development and rural development. I also like visiting historical sites.

I would advise Mary to choose _____ and _____.

2. Joe: I enjoy learning by doing experiments.

I would advise Joe to choose _____ and _____.

3. Sandy: I don't like to learn that 'O' stands for oxygen and 'Li' means lithium. I don't like memorizing Newton's equations. I am not interested in dates and causes of historical events either.

I would advise Sandy to choose _____ and _____.

4. Alex: I am interested in how the stock market works. I am also interested in knowing what caused the Great Depression in the 1930s.

I would advise Alex to choose _____ and _____.

B. New entries in dictionaries

The following are new entries in dictionaries. Choose the correct answers from the given words. Write the answers in the spaces provided.

1. _____ baby (pet / fur)

A person's dog, cat or other furry pet animal



2. _____ (hangry / hanger)

Feeling hungry and angry; bad-tempered as a result of hunger

3. beer o'clock or _____ o'clock (glass / wine)

Appropriate times of day for having your first glass of beer or wine



4. butt-dial or _____ -dial (pocket / mistake)

You dial someone's number by mistake while your phone is in your pocket.

5. _____ spreading (leg / man)

Sitting with legs wide apart on public transport in order to occupy an adjacent seat

