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MODULE 4: Achievements

Pushing the limits

Key words

clamber, manned, set a record, submerged

Reading

1 Before you read the article about Steve Fossett, complete the chart below with your own ideas. Students' own answers

Record-breaking attempts

Pros	Cons
Amazing achievement	Extremely dangerous

Steve Fossett – a record-breaker

In 2002, Steve Fossett became the first person to travel solo round the world in a hot air balloon. His balloon, The Spirit of Freedom, used a mixture of helium and hot air and was 42 metres tall by 18 metres wide. To keep it at a ***constant altitude***, the balloon used a sophisticated autopilot system controlled by a computer.

Fossett commenced his journey in Western Australia, travelled east to South America, over the Southern Atlantic Ocean towards South Africa, then over the Indian Ocean to reach Australia. This record-breaking solo journey took 14 days, 19 hours and 50 minutes. Fossett only slept for four hours in every twenty-four hour period and never slept for more than 45 minutes at one time. He frequently had to leave his tiny cabin for the sub-zero exterior in order to check that the balloon's burners were working properly. By the time he arrived in Australia, he had travelled 33,195.10 km and broken the world speed record for a manned balloon flight, achieving at one point a speed of 322.2 kmh. Steve Fossett was especially pleased with this successful round-the-world journey as it was his sixth attempt. His first attempt had been six years earlier, in 1996.

One previous attempt, in August 1998, had almost ended in disaster when Fossett's balloon was sucked into a thunderstorm off Australia's Northeast coast. The capsule plummeted 30,000 feet into the sea but also caught fire, igniting the balloon's propane burners. Fossett managed to escape through a ***submerged hatch*** and ***clambered aboard*** his life raft. He was rescued by a boat 10 hours later.

Steve Fossett held four other world records for non-stop journeys round the world as a sailor and as a solo air pilot. Before Steve Fossett's record attempts, no pilot held world records in more than one class of aircraft. Fossett held them in four. His other achievements include the Absolute Altitude Record for Gliders when he flew at 50,727 feet. For the attempt he and and his co-pilot wore full pressure suits. Before his death, Fossett had succeeded in setting 116 records in five different sports. Fossett was declared legally dead on 14th February, 2008 just over five months after a plane he was flying crashed.

2 Read the article and choose the correct answer to the following questions.

a Steve Fossett was declared legally dead in ...
1 September, 2008.
2 February, 2008.
3 September, 2007.
4 November, 2007.

b Why did Fossett wear a full pressure suit during his Absolute Altitude Record for Gliders attempt?
1 to cope with the psychological stress of the record attempt
2 to cope with the reduction in atmosphere
3 to show his sponsorship
4 to keep warm

c What is the main message of the text?
1 Steve Fossett escaped a downed balloon
2 Steve Fossett died in a plane crash
3 Steve Fossett set many impressive records
4 Steve Fossett was a rich man

3 What do the following phrases taken from the article mean?

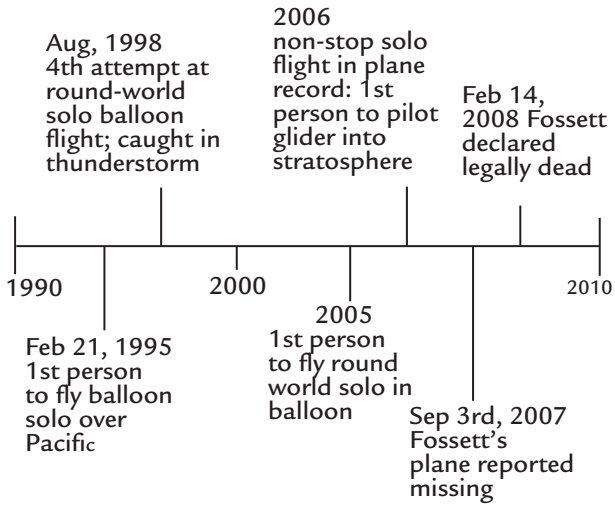
a constant altitude
1 unchanging temperature
2 inconsistent prices
3 sustained height
4 perpetual motion

b submerged hatch
1 small door which is underwater
2 broken window
3 propeller system
4 aquatic incubation

c clambered aboard
1 to inflate something
2 to jump from
3 to get on or into something awkwardly
4 a plank of wood covered in shellfish

4 Look at the timeline of Steve Fossett's records. What do you think are the most important dates? Summarise in full sentences. Students' own answers





Over to you

5 Why do you think people push themselves to extreme limits? Students' own answers

Language practice

1 Complete these sentences with the correct word. There are two extra words.

alight alive asleep burning
similar sleeping

a The dark night was illuminated by the burning logs at the centre of the clearing.

b He was exhausted and his eyelids looked heavy. Despite my best efforts, I couldn't stop him from sleeping .

c He's a very famous man and always seems to be wearing the same clothes. That's not true though; he just owns many similar things.

d Police reports say that it was a freak accident and a marvel that every one involved was still alive .

2 Replace the underlined words with the correct form of the phrasal verbs from the box to make complete sentences. There is one extra phrasal verb.

come out get away come to an end
come up against come forward
come in handy come away come after

a The robber thought he had escaped got away unnoticed and was surprised to see the police chasing him. coming after

b Despite the importance of the task, few people volunteered to help. came forward

c Don't throw that away. You never know; it might be useful someday. come in handy

d The novel was released recently to came out critical success, despite the author being faced with some problems whilst writing. coming up against

e I'd had such a great time that I was really upset when my holiday finished. came to an end

3 Give one-word synonyms for the following definitions.

a extreme tiredness
fatigue

b the best part or moment
highlight

c the top of a mountain
summit

d go up or climb
ascend

e full of danger and risk
perilous

4 What would you say in the following situations? Write complete sentences.

a A friend wants to start an extreme sport. You think it is too dangerous.
I think that's too dangerous. I'm worried you'll get hurt.

b You are hiking and one of your companions falls and injures himself / herself.
Quick! Someone call mountain rescue.

c You want to start an extreme sport but your parents don't think you should.
It's really not that dangerous.

5 Complete the missing parts of the dialogue with your own sentences. Make sure the conversation makes sense.

A What are you doing this weekend?

B I'm going snowboarding with some friends.

A Wow, that sounds amazing, but isn't it dangerous?

B No, it's really safe as long as you take proper precautions

A Ah, ok. Still, even if it's safe, I think I'd be scared.

Yeah , I get scared sometimes, but that's part of the fun.

You're right. Maybe I can come too?

B Sure. It would be really nice if you did.

6 Read the following sentences. Are the underlined verbs correct? Tick the correct sentences and rewrite the incorrect sentences.

a Omar passed all his exams. He has been revising for a month. ☐

☺

b They finished making Reem's dress a week before the wedding. They had made it for over a month. ☐

They finished making Reem's dress a week before the wedding. They had been making it for over a month.

c I went to the hospital to see Fahad. He had been breaking his leg during a football match. ☐

I went to the hospital to see Fahad. He had broken his leg during a football match

d Everyone enjoyed the family celebrations. Amal had been making all the food herself. ☐

Everyone enjoyed the family celebrations. Amal had made all the food herself

e I received a letter from Tahini yesterday. She had been promising to write since last year. ☐

☺

7 Using the cues, write sentences using *such… that* or *so…. that*.

a Parachuting / dangerous sport / scared to try

Parachuting is such a dangerous sport that people are scared to try it.

b I / scared / couldn't move

I was so scared that I couldn't move.

c Her room / mess / not find anything

Her room is such a mess that she can't find anything.

d He / strong man / lift a car

He's such a strong man that he can lift a car.

e Computer / complex / can't understand it

The computer is so complex that I can't understand it.

Grammar assistant

Past perfect simple and continuous

- The past perfect simple and continuous can be used to clarify which of two past actions happened first, to talk about things that happened or were felt in the past, or to provide background to a past event.
- To form the past perfect simple use ***had*** + the past participle of the verb.
  *He **had looked** everywhere for his coat.*
- To form the past perfect continuous use ***had been*** + main verb + ***ing***
  *Laura **had been feeling** sick for most of the day.*

8 Choose the correct phrasal verb with *come* to complete these sentences.

a When my brother ***came round*** / ***came up*** after his operation, he felt fine.

b Why don't you ***come across*** / ***come over*** after school? We could go to the park.

c It was cloudy all morning, but in the afternoon the sun ***came across*** / ***came out***.

d I've lost my watch. Can you let me know if you ***come across*** / ***come over*** it?

e Since I bought my new camera the price has ***come down*** / ***come up*** by 50%. I should have waited.

Self-assessment

Writing An interview

1 Read this interview and answer the following questions.

a Is Dave Stokes upset about his injuries? What advice does he give?

No, he's not. He advises the reader to be prepared, take a medical kit and a mobile phone, tell people where he she is going and not to push himself I herself too much.

b Can you think of any other ways to stay safe whilst doing extreme sports?

Students' own answers

Interviewer: Hi everyone, and welcome to another edition of XTreme Sports Weekly. Today, we're interviewing extreme sports enthusiast Dave Stokes from his hospital bed. Hi Dave, and thank you for agreeing to do this interview.

Dave: No problem.

Interviewer: Well, I guess the question everyone wants to ask is: how did you do this to yourself?

Dave: I was climbing in the Alps with a friend but unfortunately I slipped and fell. Although I didn't fall too far, I landed badly and broke my leg and wrist.

Interviewer: Ouch, that sounds painful!

Dave: Yes, it was, really. But it's part of the territory when you're into extreme sports.

Interviewer: What do you mean?

Dave: Well, all of the activities I love, such as snowboarding, parachuting and mountain climbing, have an element of danger to them. You always run the risk of getting hurt, or worse.

Interviewer: Will this injury make you reconsider your chosen sport?

Dave: No, definitely not. It'll take me a while to recover but, as soon as I'm fit and able, I'll be back on the mountain. I may be just a little bit wiser, though.

Interviewer: In what way?

Dave: I think I'll be more safety-conscious in the future, possibly take fewer risks and spend more time preparing.

Interviewer: Can you give our viewers any advice about the dangers of extreme sports?

Dave: Sure. Firstly, make sure you are prepared. You'll always run the risk of injury, so always take a medical kit and a mobile phone with you. Secondly, tell people where you are going in case anything bad happens. Most importantly, don't push yourself till you're ready. I've seen lots of people hurt because they've tried something that's much too difficult for them.

Interviewer: Thanks a lot for talking to us, Dave. I hope you recover soon.

Dave: Thanks. I'm sure I'll be scaling mountains again in no time.

2 Make a note of the following.

a Phrases used to make suggestions

Firstly, make sure.. . / always take... / secondly, tell. .. / Most importantly, don't..

b Informal words and phrases

No problem / I guess the question ... / it's part of the territory when you're into... I You'll always run the risk...

3 Write your own interview about the dangers of extreme sports. It could be with an extreme sports enthusiast, an injured sportsperson or a worried safety expert. Students' own answer

- Decide what dangers the interviewee will mention.
- Suggest two or three ways to stay safe.
- Use a similar style to the interview on page **74**.
- Write about 200-220 words.

صفوة معلمي الكويت

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MODULE 4: **Achievements**

The final frontier

Key words

approximately, dispatch, obscure, perceivable, scrutinise

Reading

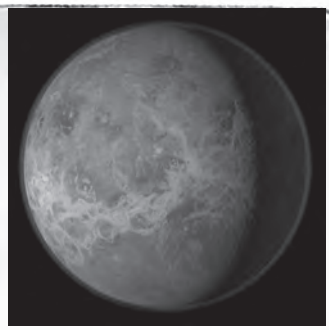
1 Before reading the article about Venus, answer the following questions.

a Venus is called 'the morning star' or 'the evening star'. What would you call the Earth?

Students' own answer

b Do you think that someday human beings will be able to live on the planet Venus? Why or why not?

The Morning Star



A Venus is the brightest object in the sky with the exception of the Sun and the Moon. However, it is only perceivable from the Earth three hours before sunrise and three hours after sunset. For this reason people have given Venus the epithets 'the morning star' and 'the evening star'. It is the second planet from the Sun.

B Because the surface of the planet is completely obscured by clouds, it is very difficult for scientists to study Venus from the Earth, so the vast majority of our information about this planet comes from spacecraft. The first flight to investigate Venus was by Mariner 2, which the Americans launched in 1962. The most significant information comes from probes, ***which*** the spacecraft dispatches to scrutinise the surface of the planet. A probe is a small spacecraft that documents information and transmits it back to Earth. The Russians have also sent spacecraft and probes to Venus.

C Some people contend that Venus is the Earth's sister planet because there are many similarities between the two. They are comparable in size and are approximately the same age. However, there is also much contrast between Venus and the Earth. Venus is devoid of oceans and has a very heavy atmosphere, 96.5% of which is composed of carbon dioxide. Because the atmosphere is so heavy, Venus has an extremely high surface temperature (459 ^{0}C). A Venusian day is equal to 243 Earth days. This is longer than its year, which is equivalent to 225 Earth days.

D On June 8, 2004, Venus passed between the Sun and the Earth. People witnessed a large black spot moving across the Sun. The previous time this occurred was in 1882.

2 Read the article and choose the correct answer.

a The article *The Morning Star* is
1 scientific.
2 fiction.
3 non-fiction.

b It is difficult for scientists to study Venus because
1 it is too far away.
2 it is obscured by clouds.
3 it is not always perceivable.

c The pronoun *which* in line 12 refers to
1 probes.
2 the spacecraft.
3 the information.

d A week on Venus is
1 longer than that on Earth.
2 shorter than that on Earth.
3 equal to that on Earth.

e Venus will possibly pass between the Sun and the Earth in the
1 2050s.
2 2080s.
3 2120s.

3 Define these words from the article. You may use a dictionary or the glossary at the end of your Student's Book.

a investigate
to carry out a systematic or formal inquiry in an attempt to discover facts

b similarity
alike; resembling without being identical

c document (v)
to record information

d atmosphere
The layer of gases which surround a planet.

e comparable
able to be likened to something else; similar

f epithet
an adjective or short phrase used to express a quality characteristic of a person of thing

g devoid
completely lacking in something.

4 Are these statements True (T) or False (F)? Justify your answers.

a Only one planet is closer to the Sun than Venus. ☐
True . Venus is the second planet from the Sun .

b Venus is visible for 6 hours every day. ☐
True. Venus is visible for 6 hours every day.

c The Russians launched the first mission to Venus in 1962. ☐
False. The Americans launched the first mission to Venus in 1962.

d Venus is much larger than the Earth and much older. ☐
False. Venus is about the same size and age as the Earth

e Scientists use probes to make the study of Venus easier. ☐
True. It is too difficult to study Venus without using probes.

f Because of its light atmosphere Venus has a surface temperature of 459^{0}C. ☐
False. Because of its heavy atmosphere Venus has a surface temperature of 459 0 C

g Venus is the third brightest object in the sky. ☐
True. Only the Sun and the Moon are brighter than Venus.

5 Complete the following table with the necessary information from the article.

Paragraph	Main idea	Supporting ideas
	Students' own answers	

Over to you

6 Are you for or against space tourism? Why? Students' own answers

Language practice

1 Complete sentences a–e with nouns related to the words in capital letters.

a The exploration of space began in the 1950s. (EXPLORE)

b Space technology has been used in the production of food. (PRODUCE)

c Scientists have made discoveries about Venus by using probes. (DISCOVER)

d Many people have great admiration for astronauts. (ADMIRE)

e One of the qualities people who travel in space need is bravery. (BRAVE)

2 Complete sentences a–f with one of these phrases.

space mission space shuttle space station
space suit space walk space race

a The space shuttle takes off from the Earth like a rocket but lands like a plane.

b When astronauts are in space they have to wear special space suits.

c Some astronauts spend several months living and working on a space station.

d If they need to do repairs in space, astronauts have to leave their rockets and do a space walk.

e A space mission is a journey into space for a particular purpose.

f The space race is the name given to the competition between nations to explore the galaxy.

3 Choose the correct word for each definition.

a causing respect and admiration
1 exceptionally
2 awe-inspiring
3 opportunity

b an example would be the Moon
1 orbit
2 sentient
3 natural satellite

c extremely large
1 astronomical
2 solar system
3 detriment

4 Match the sentences a-f with the gaps to complete the dialogue.

a Yes, I think you have.

b That surprises me.

c I think you're misinformed.

d Not at all.

e I think it's stupid and dangerous.

f Oh, I didn't know that.

A What do you think of space travel?
B I'm completely against it.
(1) e
A Really?
(2) b
I thought you'd be supportive of the idea.
B (3) d
Space travel is a complete waste of money. I mean, what do we get from it?
A (4) c
There are lots of inventions that were inspired by space travel.
B (5) f
Maybe I've judged space travel too harshly.
A (6) a

Grammar assistant

Passive with modal verbs

- To change a sentence that includes one or two modal verbs from the active to the passive, we add the verb **to be** in its correct form before the main verb.
- The main verb may also change:
  *The children **could leave** their books here.*
  *The books **could be left** here.*
  *The man **should have cleaned** the room.*
  *The room **should have been cleaned**.*

5 Change passive sentences into active sentences and vice versa.

a People have given Venus the epithets 'the morning star' and 'the evening star.'
The epithets 'the morning star' and 'the evening star' have been given to Venus.

b The Russians have also sent spacecraft and probes to Venus.
Spacecraft and probes have also been sent to Venus by the Russians.

c This report from the meeting can be typed up next week.
I can type up this report from the meeting next week.

d The news from Kuwait has to be delivered today.
We have to deliver the news from Kuwait today.

6 Join the sentences together using the words in brackets.

a I thought the TV programme about space was dramatic. I thought the TV programme about space was fascinating. (*both*)
I thought the TV programme about space was both dramatic and fascinating .

b I am not curious about space travel. I am not curious about deep-sea diving. (*neither / nor*)
I am curious about neither space travel nor deep-sea diving.

c You can watch TV. You can read a book. You can't do both. (*either / or*)
You can either watch TV or read a book.

d There were three crew members on the International Space Station. They weren't wearing spacesuits. (*none*)
None of the three crew members on the International Space Station were wearing a spacesuit.

7 Read the following sentences and check whether the verbs are in the correct tenses. Tick correct sentences and rewrite incorrect ones.

a On holiday next week, I will have sailed in the Bahamas with my family. ☐
will be sailing

b By next month, I will have finished my exams. ☐
☺

c If I finish this meal, I will be eating too much. ☐
will have eaten

d I can't come out later. I will have done homework. ☐
will be doing

8 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct verb tense.

a That morning, I went to the market as soon as I had finished (finish) my breakfast.
b Please meet (meet) me at the museum this afternoon.
c I can't talk to you now because I am doing (do) my homework.
d I was looking / ~~had been looking~~ (look) for my key when the door suddenly burst open.
e I hope I go /will go / can go (go) to university next year, when I have finished my schooling.

Self-assessment

Writing

1 Read these notes for a presentation about life in space.

Life In Space Students' own answers

- Space is not just a huge adventure.
- Much time is spent on surviving and mundane tasks.
- Scientists make inventions to help.
- Machines remove carbon dioxide, making breathable atmosphere.
- No shower. Use ethanol cloths and shampoo that doesn't need water or make foam.
- Food in containers, water added to make edible.
- Drinks in sealed containers; drink through straw.
- Astronauts exercise two hours a day; muscles / bones weaken in low gravity.
- All help clean / maintain equipment, etc.

a Can you think of any other activities that astronauts could do in their free time in space?

---

b Can you think of any inventions that would help astronauts in space?

---

2 Look at the scientific notes again. Using them as a basis, turn the notes into full sentences. Add full sentences about your own ideas.

Space is not just a huge adventure. = The time astronauts spend in space is not just a huge adventure.

Students' own answers

صفوة معلمي الكويت

3 Write an essay discussing one of the themes below. Students' own answers

*Space exploration is **important** / **a waste of time and money.***
*Space tourism is **exciting** / **boring.***
*Star gazing tells us **a lot about our universe** / **nothing about ourselves.***

You should argue for one side of the argument but acknowledge both potential positions.
Whilst some may think space exploration is a pointless waste of money, I believe that it is vital for the advancement of the human race. I believe this because …

Answers should be 200–220 words.

صفوة معلمي الكويت

12

MODULE 4: Achievements

Geniuses

Key words

acquire, attire, deputy, electrochemical, forum, medallist, reactor, sewage, sponsor, unprecedented

Reading

1 Read this article and then fill in the chart with the necessary information.

Inventor	Invention
Ahmed Al-Hashash	Airbag Equipped Attire for Motorcycle Riders
Sadeq Ahmed AlQassem	Light Indicator System
Abdullah.AlYateem	electrochemical reactor to produce energy

Kuwaiti inventors return from award ceremony in Geneva



Director of the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science (KFAS), Ali Al-Shamlan, applauded on Monday the achievement of the Kuwaiti inventors at Geneva's International Fair for Inventions. He said their winning the Oscar of the Fair was a historic and unprecedented achievement for Kuwait.

The Kuwaiti inventor, Ahmed Al-Hashash, received the Oscar of Geneva Invention Salon for his Airbag Equipped Attire for Motorcycle Riders. Al-Hashash, in addition, received the gold Medal of Honour.

A second Kuwaiti inventor, Sadeq Ahmed Al-Qassem, received a gold medal for his Light Indicator System (LIS), ***which*** alerts drivers as to exactly how close they are to other drivers ahead of them.

Deputy Chairman of the Science Club of Kuwait, Eyad Jassem Al-Kharafi, praised the achievement of Kuwaiti scientists in the Geneva Invention Salon and noted that this achievement was the result of encouraging young people in Kuwait to be creative. He noted that the recipient of the Oscar and gold medallist were sponsored since the age of 10 by the Kuwaiti Science Club, and acquired their skills through years of training there. Al-Kharafi thanked the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science for its support of Kuwaiti inventors participating in the Geneva Salon of Inventors.

In addition to the two inventions, Kuwait presented a third invention for Kuwaiti inventor Abdullah Al-Yateem, made up of an electrochemical reactor which could make use of sewage water to produce electrical energy.

The 33rd Geneva Invention Salon is a leading invention forum ***where*** 42 countries sent 1,000 inventors to display their inventions this year.

By Imad Al–Askar KUWAIT, April 11 (KUNA)

2 Choose the correct ending to the following sentence beginnings.

a Ali Al-Shamlan believed that the achievements of the Kuwaiti inventors were ...
1 unremarkable.
2 groundbreaking.
3 expected.

b Ali Al-Shamlan said that winning the Oscar of the Fair is
1 an achievement that has never been attained before.
2 a great achievement.
3 an achievement that will never be attained again.

c The pronoun *which* in line 10 refers to
1 the Light Indicator System.
2 the medal.
3 the inventor.

d The pronoun *where* in line 22 refers to
1 Geneva.
2 Geneva Invention Salon.
3 42 countries.

3 Are these statements True (T) or False (F)? Justify your answers.

a Eyad Jassem Al-Kharafi is the chairman of the Science Club of Kuwait. ☐
False. He is the deputy chairman of the Science Club of Kuwait.

b The Light Indicator System prevents car accidents. ☐
False. It alerts drivers how close they are from other drivers.

c Abdullah Al-Yateem intended to use sewage water to produce electric energy. ☐
True. He hoped to do this with an electrochemical reactor.

d Kuwaiti inventors were supported in their participation in the Geneva Salon of Inventors by Al-Kharafi. ☐
False. They were supported by the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science.

4 Complete these sentences with one word from the article.

a Al-Hashash received the gold Medal of Honour for his invention.
b Al-Kharafi praised the Kuwaiti inventors' achievement in the Geneva Salon of Inventors.
c Al-Kharafi believes that this event encourages the creativity of young people in Kuwait.
d The Kuwait Science Club has sponsored the inventors who won the Oscar and the gold medal since they were very young.
e Al-Kharafi appreciated the support that has been provided to Kuwaiti inventors in the Geneva Salon of Inventors.
f Abdullah Al-Yateem invented an electrochemical reactor which could produce electric energy out of sewage water.

5 Make a summary of the article on page 82. Try to avoid unnecessary details.

Students' own answers

Over to you

6 In which discipline would you wish to be a genius? Students' own answers

Language practice

1 Complete the gaps in these texts with words related to the words in capitals.

a My brother is **(1)** talented (TALENT) in many different ways. He is a **(2)** mathematical (MATHEMATICS) genius but also has great **(3)** musical (MUSIC) ability. The whole family was **(4)** astonished (ASTONISH) when he won the first prize in a competition for young composers.

b My sister was never **(1)** able (ABILITY) to paint or draw well until a new and very **(2)** skilful skilled (SKILL) teacher arrived at the school. Since then, my sister's progress has been **(3)** amazing (AMAZE), and art has grown in **(4)** popularity (POPULAR) throughout the school.

2 Choose the correct preposition in the following conversation.

A Weren't you present **(1)** (*in* / *at*) the Conference of Science Geniuses?

B Of course I was, but I was sitting **(2)** (*in* / *at*) the front row, so I couldn't see any **(3)** (*of* / *from*) our classmates.

A I was really impressed **(4)** (*of* / *with*) the big number of geniuses we have **(5)** (*from* / *in*) our country!

B Yeah! Did you see that man who could work out the multiplication **(6)** (*for* / *of*) two eight-digit numbers **(7)** (*in* / *with*) a matter of seconds?

A I almost couldn't believe it, and the numbers were chosen **(8)** (*by* / *of*) a computer.

B And do you remember that woman who said that she wasn't very satisfied **(9)** (*about* / *with*) being a genius? I thought she was very ungrateful **(10)** (*against* / *for*) the talent she had been given.

A No, I think she's quite right **(11)** (*with* / *in*) what she said. I mean it is definitely very stressful to live **(12)** (*under* / *over*) the pressure **(13)** (*from* / *of*) everyone expecting the best **(14)** (*with* / *from*) you.

B Well, I still think she was a bit too outspoken. After all, this isn't what the conference was **(15)** (*around* / *about*).

3 Complete the following text with words from the box. You may not use all the words and some may need to be made plural.

master appeal researcher arbitrarily gifted genius ability prodigy precocious extravagantly

A **(1)** prodigy is a child who is exceptionally good at something. Prodigies are usually **(2)** gifted, but not always: they may be **(3)** precocious rather than gifted because some of them lose their special **(4)** ability when they become adults.

Some **(5)** researchers believe that a prodigious talent is not innate and does not emerge **(6)** arbitrarily. Rather, the environment plays the dominant role, many times in obvious ways. For example, Laszlo Polgar set out to raise his children to be chess players, and all three of his daughters went on to **(7)** master the game and become world class players, showing that **(8)** genius can be developed through suitable training.

4 Rewrite the following sentences using the instructions in brackets.

a If you don't have enough general knowledge, you won't make it to the end of the contest. (Use *unless*.)

Unless you have enough general knowledge, you won't make it to the end of the contest.

b Our school library is very rich in valuable books. So is the public library. (Use ... *as* ... *as* ...)

Our school library is as rich in valuable books as the public library

c I have tried several methods to prevent this student's failure, but all have been in vain. (Report what the teacher explained.)

The teacher explained that he had tried several methods to deal with that student's failure, but that it had been in vain .

d The researchers have proved some interesting theories concerning human genes. (Change into the passive voice.)

Some interesting theories have been proved by the researchers concerning human genes.

5 Rewrite the following as single sentences, using a verb in the *-ing* form.

a An Indian man correctly calculated the square root of a six-digit number. He took 1 minute 3.8 seconds.

An Indian man correctly calculated the square root of a six-digit number, taking 1 minute 3.8 seconds.

b An American holds the world record for sending a text message. He typed a text of 160 letters on his mobile phone in less than a minute.



An American holds the world record for sending a text message, typing a text of 160 letters on his mobile phone in less than a minute.

c A 38-year-old Swede set a unicycle speed record for 100m. He completed the distance in 12.11 seconds.

A 38-year-old Swede set a unicycle speed record for 100m, completing the distance in 12.11 seconds.

d In December 1998, a young British man broke the record for the most books balanced on the head. To do this, he used skills he had developed as a builder.

In December 1998, a young British man broke the record for the most books balanced on the head , using skills he had developed as a builder.

e He actually succeeded in carrying 62 books. The books weighed 98.4 kg.

He actually succeeded in carrying 62 books weighing 98.4 kg.

6 What would you say in the following situations?

a You meet an old friend whom you haven't seen for a long time.

Hello! It's been a long time!

b You're amazed with your friend's musical talent.

You have an amazing musical talent!

c You are apologising to the teacher for being late; your dad's car had a flat tyre.

Sorry for being late; my dad 's car had a flat tyre.

d You are suggesting to your friend that you study together.

Why don 't we study together?

e You buy a watch from a shop; it turns out to be faulty.

I think I should return it to the shop owner.

Writing a personal statement

1 Imagine you are applying to a university. Here's an application form for you to fill in with your personal details.

Students' own answers

Please complete all sections of this form. Failure to do so may delay your application.

Full year (Oct – June) ☐

Autumn term (Oct – Dec) ☐

Spring term (Jan – June) ☐

First name ---------- **Surname** ----------

Gender

Male ☐ Female ☐

Permanent address ----------

Date of birth ---------- Citizenship ----------

E-mail ----------

Home address ----------

Telephone number ---------- Mobile number ----------

Name of parent / next of kin (specify which) ----------

Contact details of parent / next of kin ----------

Degree applied for ----------

Course title	Course term

Personal statement attached

Yes ☐ No ☐

Signature of applicant ----------

Date ----------

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2 Write a personal statement for the university you have applied to, to accompany the application form you have just completed. You may wish to include comments on your academic career, your future hopes and plans, your main interests and activities and your reasons for wishing to study at that particular university.
Your personal statement should be 200-220 words long.

Students' own answers

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Progress test 4

Reading

1 Complete the article below with words from this list. Use each word only once.

at be by had in not on than the them to were

The final challenge

Until 1953, nobody **(1)** had climbed Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world. Then in 1953, the British mountaineer Edmund Hillary and the Nepalese guide Tenzing Norgay succeeded **(2)** in reaching the summit. In the next thirty years there were other Everest 'firsts', including the first solo climb, and the first climb **(3)** by a woman.

All these people had taken bottles of oxygen **(4)** to help them climb, but many mountaineers wanted to climb using their natural ability, without oxygen. Two of these **(5)** were Reinhold Messner and Peter Habeler. In 1975, they amazed people by climbing Gasherbrum, the 11th highest mountain in **(6)** the world, without oxygen.

When Messner and Habeler started planning to climb Everest without oxygen, other climbers called **(7)** them foolish. They warned that the oxygen levels **(8)** at the top of Everest were so low that breathing would **(9)** be difficult, and that the men would risk brain damage if they did this climb. However, Messner and Habeler did **(10)** not listen, and made their first attempts in April 1978. After two failures, they nearly gave up, but decided to make a final attempt.

At these very high altitudes, with little oxygen in the air, everything the men did took much longer **(11)** than normal. Every few metres, they fell down exhausted and had to rest. Eventually, at about 2 p.m. **(12)** on May 8th 1978, Messner and Habeler became the first men to reach the summit of Everest without oxygen.

2 Read the article again. Are these statements True (T) or False (F) ? Justify your answers.

a The first woman climbed Everest before 1953. ☐
False. The first woman cl imbed Everest between 1953 and 1975.

b Until the mid-1970s all mountaineers had used oxygen when they were climbing. ☐
True. In 1975 two men were the first to climb a mountain without oxygen.

c Other climbers advised Messner and Habeler not to risk climbing Everest without oxygen. ☐
True. Other climbers considered it foolish to climb without oxygen

3 Answer the following questions.

a What was Messner and Habeler's first achievement in mountain climbing?
Messner and Habeler's first achievement was climbing Gasherbrum without oxygen

b How many times did they try to climb Everest?
They attempted to climb Everest 3 times.

c Why did it take Messner and Habeler a lot of time to reach the summit?
It took Messner and Habeler a lot of time to reach the summit because the lack of oxygen meant they kept falling down in exhaustion.

Language practice

1 Choose the correct verb to complete these sentences.

a Before Hillary and Tenzing succeeded in 1953, people ***had tried / had been trying*** to reach the summit of Everest for many years.

b Before Messner and Habeler, no one ***had attempted / had been attempting*** to climb Everest without oxygen.

c Messner and Habeler ignored the warnings that other climbers ***had given / had been giving*** them.

d In May 1978 Messner and Habeler ***had already made / had already been making*** two unsuccessful attempts to reach the summit.

e Just before they reached the summit they ***had fallen down / had been falling down*** every few metres.

f Three years earlier they ***had successfully climbed / had successfully been climbing*** Gasherbrum without oxygen.

2 Complete these conversations using the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Choose the best tense and decide whether to use the active or the passive.

a
A How is your car after the accident?
B Well, it still goes all right, but it's badly scratched. It (*have to / repaint*).
It will have to be repainted / It has to be repainted.
A How about the other car?
B Unfortunately, it was so badly damaged it (*could / not repair*).
It couldn't be repaired.

b
A (*you / fill in*) the application form for that job yet?
Have you filled in the application form for that job yet?
B Yes, I did it yesterday.
A Don't forget, it (*have to / post*) before next Tuesday.
It has to be posted / It posted before next Tuesday.

c
A Why do these photos look so terrible?
B Because you (*take*) them facing the sun. Photos (*should / always take*) with the sun behind you.
You took them facing the sun. Photos should always be taken with the sun behind you.

d
A Were you expecting a letter?
B Yes, but it (*could / send*) to the wrong address.
It could have been sent to the wrong address.

e
A Have you played this new computer game?
B I would like to, but my computer is too old. It (*have to / upgrade*).
It will have to be upgraded.

f
A Why did that driver not slow down?
B He's crazy. He (*must / seen*) the signs.
He must have seen the signs.

3 Rewrite the following as single sentences, using a verb in the *-ing* form.

a Ali trained hard for the competition. He ran 3000 metres every evening for 6 months.
Ali trained hard for the competition, running 3000 metres every evening for 6 months.

b He was careful about his diet. He ate only healthy food.
He was careful about his diet, eating only healthy food.

c As a result he became slimmer and fitter. He lost 10 kg while he was training.
As a result he became slimmer and fitter, losing 10 kg while he was training.

d He managed to get plenty of rest. He slept for eight hours every night.
He managed to get plenty of rest, sleeping for eight hours every night.

e On the day of the race he felt very confident. He got up at six o'clock in the morning.
On the day of the race he felt very confident, getting up at six o'clock in the morning.

f Unfortunately he was second in the race. He came in 0.5 of a second behind the winner.
Unfortunately he was second in the race, coming in 0.5 ofa second behind the winner.

4 Complete these sentences with words formed from the words in capitals.

a My brother is a very talented basketball player. (TALENT) His greatest strength is his ability to change direction quickly. (ABLE)

b Only certain kinds of people have mathematical brains. (MATHEMATICS)

c The earthquake caused terrible destruction across the country. (DESTROY)

d Water sports are increasing in popularity every year. (POPULAR)

e Many important historical events have taken place here in the last 500 years. (HISTORY)

f She's very skilful / skilled at drawing and painting. (SKILL)

Writing

1 Write an essay in answer to the question below. Write 200–220 words.

What do you think about people who risk their lives climbing mountains?

Follow this paragraph plan. Students' own answer

1 Introduce the topic of mountaineering.
2 Give some different opinions about mountaineering: the ideas of mountaineers themselves and of non-mountaineers.
3 Describe your own theory as to why people risk their lives climbing mountains.
4 End by giving your own opinions on the subject.

Learning log

1. **Look at the outcomes on page 77 of the Student's Book.**

How did you find:	easy?	difficult?	useful?	not useful?	interesting?	not interesting?
solving logical problems?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
talking about past and present actions and experiences?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
listening for specific information?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
making difficult choices - desert survival?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
using formal language?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
presenting ideas and suggestions?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
writing a report about technological changes?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
reading an article about 'Zeddy' Al Refai?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
reading an article about space technology?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

2. **Was the reading** in this module
easy? ☐ difficult? ☐
interesting? ☐ not interesting? ☐
What was your favourite passage in this module?----------

3. **Was the listening** in this module
easy? ☐ difficult? ☐
interesting? ☐ not interesting? ☐
What was your favourite passage in this module?----------

4. **Was the writing** in this module
easy? ☐ difficult? ☐
What did you do to plan your writing? How can you improve?
---

5. **Was the vocabulary** in this module
easy? ☐ difficult? ☐
Are there any words or sounds that you have difficulty with?----------
---

6. Write your result from your Progress test ----------
What did you do well in?----------

What do you need to revise?---------
---

7. **Was the grammar** in this module
easy? ☐ difficult? ☐

Literature time!

Henry V

Before Reading

Look at the title. What do you think the play is about? Why do you think Shakespeare is telling this story?

Episode One

1 What is the reason King Henry gives for waging war on France?

2 What did the French try to do in order to avoid war? Did they succeed?

Episode Two

Did the Dauphin and the King of France have the same attitude towards King Henry? What did they disagree about?

Episode Three

What was keeping the French party's hope of winning the war alive?

Episode Four

1 How many casualties did the English suffer? Why?

2 Why did the French consider the English irresponsible?

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Episode Five

1 How did Henry decide to observe his soldiers? Why?

2 According to King Henry, what is the difference between a king and a common man?

Episode six

Are the following statements True (T) or False (F)? Justify your answers.

1 The English were disadvantaged at the Battle of Agincourt. ☐

2 King Henry was dissatisfied with his soldiers and did not really trust them. ☐

3 The French lost the war. ☐

4 Henry gave the credit for his victory to his father. ☐

5 Henry's most important request was to marry Katherine. ☐

6 The two parties did not agree and war broke out again. ☐

Short story analysis

1 What is the main theme of the text? What are the underlying themes?

2 Why do you think this play continues to be read although it is over 400 years old?

3 Imagine a different ending to the story.

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Great Expectations

Before Reading

1 Read the title. What do you think the story will be about?

---

2 Do you know anything about the author, Charles Dickens?

Episode One

1 Choose the most appropriate ending to each sentence.

a Pip's sister is ...

1 kind and gentle.
2 married to Mr Pumblechook.
3 tough on Pip and Joe.
4 attentive and fair.

b The first convict is ...

1 shocked to learn the second convict has escaped.
2 happy that the second convict has escaped.
3 escaping from the second convict.
4 afraid of the second convict.

c Pip feels ...

1 happy to help the convict.
2 angry with his sister.
3 guilty for stealing from Joe and Mrs Gargery.
4 glad to see soldiers.

2 Do you think Pip was right to help the man on the marshes? Why or why not?

Episode Two

Why do you think Miss Havisham paid for Pip's apprenticeship? Is Pip grateful for this gift?

Episode Three

1 How does Pip feel about his new-found wealth? Do you think Miss Havisham is really his benefactor?

---

2 Why does Pip treat Joe so badly? Who do you think is to blame?

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Episode Four

1 For what reasons does Pip feel remorse? Do you think his feelings are genuine?

2 Why is it dangerous for Magwitch to remain in England? Can you think of any ways in which he could protect himself?

Episode Five

Are the following statements True (T) or False (F)? Justify your answers.

a It wasn't long until Herbert came back from his travels. ☐

b Compeyson was a well-respected gentleman. ☐

c Magwitch was tricked by Compeyson. ☐

d Wemmick warned Pip that people were searching for Herbert. ☐

e Pip wanted to get Magwich out of England as soon as possible. ☐

Episode six

1 How does Magwitch react to being caught? Why?

2 Why do you think Joe left so soon after helping Pip?

3 What do you think Pip has learnt from his experiences? Justify your answers.

Short story analysis

1 What do you think is the most important event in the story? Why?

2 In episode 4 you learnt that Magwitch lived in the New World for several years and made his fortune. Write a brief paragraph about what you think happened to him in this time.

Self-assessment answer key

Module 1: page 7, exercise 8

a A have you been doing
B 've passed / had *or* have been having
b A Have you ever done
B have just carried out / was
c A have you ever broken
B threw / happened / have never been

Module 1: page 19, exercise 6

a impolitely
b skilfully
c gently / peacefully
d spectacularly / dangerously
e rapidly / professionally
f compassionately / regularly

Module 2: page 34, exercise 3

a I wish you'd stop wasting paper.
b I wish she (my sister) wouldn't / didn't spend so long talking on the phone.
c I wish I wasn't so shy about speaking in public.
d I wish / She wishes she hadn't wasted so much time on computer games.
e I wish newspapers and magazines didn't contain so many adverts.
f I wish I had listened to my teacher.

Module 2: page 40, exercise 2

a on
b for / from
c in / on
d of

Module 3: page 51, exercise 7

a do without
b made up
c do up
d make up for
e do away with

Module 3: page 63, exercise 7

a calligraphy / traditional
b Exhibitions / director
c Craftsmen / pottery
d artists / contemporary

Module 4: page 73, exercise 8

a came round
b come over
c came out
d come across
e come down

Module 4: page 79, exercise 8

a had finished / finished
b meet
c am doing
d was looking / had been looking
e will go / can go

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