



Examination Practice

A. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given.

- I wrote down his telephone number because I didn't want to forget it. **THAT**
 I wrote down his telephone number _____ forget it.
- Someone has stolen my bag and now I'm very upset. **STOLEN**
 I _____ and now I'm very upset.
- The children hid the cake they had made because they wanted to surprise their mother. **ORDER**
 The children hid the cake they had made _____ their mother.
- The trip was cheap but Karen didn't go. **EVEN**
 Karen didn't go on the trip _____ cheap.
- A technician upgraded my computer last week. **UPGRADE**
 I _____ my computer last week.
- Please arrange for these parcels to be posted as soon as possible. **HAVE**
 Please _____ as soon as possible.

B. Read the text below and complete the gaps. Use only one word in each gap.

Ouija is a kind of board game that many people use to try to communicate (1) _____ the spirit world. To use the board, a spiritual communicator, called a medium, (2) _____ the board questions on the behalf of the 'sitters' who want to speak to the dead. The medium uses a small wooden heart-shaped tool to move around the board, carry out the questions and interpret the answers. The board has letters and numbers written on it (3) _____ that the 'spirit' can spell out words and answer 'yes' or 'no'. The Ouija board first became known in the western world in 1886. In a newspaper article printed early in that year, a local Ohioan recalls seeing a 'mysterious talking board'.

A few years later in 1890, two businessmen tried to obtain a patent on the 'talking board game' as a (4) _____ of its growing popularity. An apprentice of theirs, William Fuld, continued their work, coined the name 'Ouija' and (5) _____ a new design patented for the board. In 1999, the Parker Brothers game company (who, by that time, owned the rights to the game) decided to update the board. The Parker Brothers chose a newer design for the board, which (6) _____ smaller and even glowed in the dark. Today, Ouija boards are still a popular choice for parties, and people love (7) _____ together, turning down the lights and having a great deal (8) _____ fun while asking the Ouija all kinds of questions. After all, it's only a game..., isn't it?



Checkpoint 5 (modules 9-10)

Student's Book pp. 143-146

Reading

A. Read the text below and answer the questions 1-10 on page 73. Write A-E in the boxes.



What comes to mind when you think of birthdays? Perhaps you picture a party, a special kind of food or a song. Many cultures celebrate children's birthdays as they mark the child's journey to adulthood. Other cultures, however, focus on adults as the passage of years leaves people with greater wisdom and experience. Birthday parties are common everywhere, but you might be surprised at the variety of customs from around the globe.



A. According to legend, birthday parties came about as a way of keeping evil spirits away from people on the anniversary of their birth. On this day, people were considered to be vulnerable because it marked a change in their life. When surrounded by family and friends, however, the person was safe. Lighted candles were associated with prayer, a way of asking the gods for goodwill. Now it is common in many countries to have a birthday cake with candles on it. The birthday child makes a silent wish and then blows out all the candles at once. Parties are an excuse to have a good time and get presents. Guests may also sing 'Happy Birthday,' a song that was written by two teachers from the United States in 1893 and has now been translated into dozens of languages.

B. There are endless variations on the birthday party. In Egypt, many people attend birthday parties, so there are often two cakes, one with candles and one without! Other kinds of food include sesame sticks and sandwiches. In Australia, the weather is usually warm so parties are held outside. Children eat a sweet called 'fairy bread,' a piece of buttered bread covered with tiny sprinkles. South Korean children might get a bowl of seaweed soup instead of a cake.

C. Birthday presents are another theme with many variations. In many cultures, the birthday child is given the key to the house at a certain age. This symbolises their right to come and go as they please. Sometimes it is a real key, and sometimes it might be made out of pastry. At parties in Mexico, a piñata is filled with sweets and is broken open by the birthday child for everyone to enjoy. In Denmark, however, presents are placed around the children's beds, so that they see them when they wake up on their birthday.

D. Cultures differ in which birthdays they treat as most important. In the United States and other countries, children's birthdays are celebrated more than adults' birthdays. Exceptions are milestone birthdays such as 18, 30, or 40 years, which mark when people are old enough to vote and marry or reach a new level of maturity. In China, a child's one-year birthday is very important. The baby is surrounded by different objects, such as a doll, a coin or a book. The baby's future is predicted depending on which object it picks up. However, the Chinese do not celebrate birthdays much until they reach 60 years old, when a big celebration is held.

E. Not surprisingly, birthdays often mark when a child comes of age, though what that age is varies greatly. Girls from several countries in Latin America look forward to their 'quinceanera', a ball that is held when a girl turns fifteen. The girl wears a beautiful formal dress, usually pink or white. Her family may spend a lot of money on a lavish party and invite many guests. During the celebration, she changes her shoes from flat heels to high heels, symbolising the transition from adolescent to woman. Other birthday traditions are more humorous. If a German man turns 30 and is not married, his friends sprinkle rice on the steps of the city hall. He has to sweep the steps until he is kissed by a single woman. The task can be made harder by giving him only a toothbrush to sweep with.

Birthday celebrations are as unique as the cultures and individuals that follow them. For many people, a birthday is an excuse to enjoy themselves and do things that are out of the ordinary, while for others, a birthday is a very significant time. But each custom has its own story to tell about the culture it comes from.