**Grade B**

**THE VALUE OF LEARNING ENGLISH**

1. **READING**

**Read the text below and do the task that follows**

English is the most commonly spoken language in the world. One out of five people can speak or at least understand English!

It is the language of science, of aviation, computers, diplomacy, and tourism. Knowing English increases your chances of getting a good job in your home country or abroad.

It is the official language of 53 countries. That means you have the opportunity to meet and speak to a lot of people.

English is spoken as a first language by around 400 million people around the world.

It is the language of the media industry. If you speak English, you won't need to rely on translations and subtitles anymore to enjoy your favourite books, songs, films and TV shows.

It is also the language of the Internet. Many websites are written in English – you will be able to understand them and take part in forums and discussions.

Since English is spoken in so many different countries there are thousands of schools around the world that offer programmes in English and there are plenty of opportunities for you to find an appropriate school and course to suit your academic needs.

Try to learn English because it's fun! It is not only useful – it gives you a lot of satisfaction and a chance to make progress. You will learn about other cultures. Few experiences will make you grow as a person more than learning the values, habits and way of life in a culture that is different from yours.

**Select the correct option according to the article**

**1. The article is about**

a. the importance of foreign languages

b. the advantages of speaking the English language

**2. The English language is**

a. is spoken in 53 countries

b. is spoken around the world

**3. According to the text, English gives you the opportunity**

a. to communicate with many people

b. to work with many people

**4. Many jobs require**

a. speakers of English

b. people who wish to live abroad

**5. If you speak English,**

a. you can enjoy reading without translation

b. you can find translations on the web

**6. If you want access to the Internet**

a. you need to speak a lot of languages

b. English is the main language for this

**7. English gives you the opportunity**

a. to find a nice educational programme abroad

b. to study in your country

**8. You may have education**

a. anywhere in the world

b. in Europe

**9. English offers you a nice opportunity to**

a. have a better understanding of different cultures.

b. set up a business

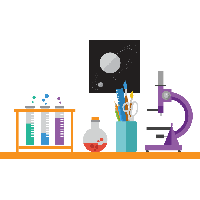
**10. English is**

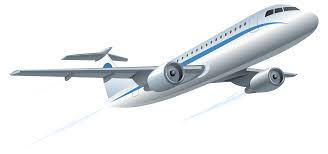
a. a funny language

b. a language that can give you fun and satisfaction

**B. Match the following words/phrases with the pictures**

science, aviation, information technology, diplomacy, tourism





\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**C. Put the following words in the right sentences:**

abroad, discussion, satisfaction, progress, translation, habit, useful

1. Enjoying the weekends with my family gives a lot of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the book took over a month to complete.
3. You can meet many interesting people when you travel \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Smoking is a bad \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5. We has an interesting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about cyberbullying today at school.
6. Your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Algebra is really impressive.
7. Thanks for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ information.

**D. Match the following words/phrases with their definitions:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. increase  2. first language  3. subtitles  4. course  5. media | a. a series of lessons about a subject  b. a person’s mother tongue  c. translation titles on the screen  d. to become greater  e. all the businesses that allow information to be shared (newspapers, websites, radio etc) |

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT - VOCABULARY

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| most commonly spoken = πιο κοινή ομιλούμενη  language = γλώσσα  at least = τουλάχιστον  understand = κατανοώ  science = επιστήμη, φυσική και χημεία  aviation = αεροπλοΐα  increase = αυξάνω  chances = ευκαιρίες, πιθανότητες  get a job = βρίσκω εργασία  home country = πατρίδα  abroad = εξωτερικό  official = επίσημος  have the opportunity to … = έχω την ευκαιρία να …  meet = συναντώ  speak = μιλώ  the media = τα μέσα  industry = βιομηχανία  rely on = βασίζομαι σε  translation = μετάφραση  subtitles = υπότιτλοι  website = ιστότοπος  be able to = είμαι ικανός να ..  take part in = συμμετέχω  forum = συνέδριο, συνάντηση, φόρουμ  discussion = συζήτηση  since = αφού  find = βρίσκω  appropriate = κατάλληλος  course – courses = μάθημα – μαθήματα  suit = ταιριάζω  fun = διασκέδαση, χαρά, κέφι  funny = αστείος  useful = χρήσιμος  satisfaction = ικανοποίηση  make progress = κάνω πρόοδο  learn = μαθαίνω  culture = κουλτούρα | few = πολύ λίγοι  experiences =εμπειρίες  grow = αναπτύσσομαι, μεγαλώνω  habits = συνήθειες  way of life = τρόπος ζωής  different from = διαφορετικός από  QUESTIONS  importance = σπουδαιότητα, σημασία  advantages = πλεονεκτήματα  foreign language = ξένη γλώσσα  according to = σύμφωνα με  require = απαιτώ, χρειάζομαι  wish = επιθυμώ, εύχομαι  access to = πρόσβαση σε  main = κύριος, βασικός  set up = ιδρύω  a business = επιχείρηση  offer = προσφέρω  understanding = κατανόηση |