Exam Essentials



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PAPER 2	Writing	Part 3
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Essential tips

- Read the title and the whole text to get the general meaning.
- Some of the questions will ask you to choose a word from a set of words with similar meanings.
- The word you need may be part of a collocation, an idiom, an expression or fixed phrase. You may need a preposition, which is part of a phrasal verb or a linker.
- If you are not sure which of the options fits best, say the sentence to yourself and use the one that sounds best.
- When you have finished, read the text again to make sure it makes sense.

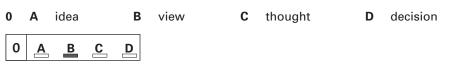
Question 3: The gapped word is part of a fixed phrase. Which verb best completes the phrase *when it ... to*?

Question 6: Sisters, brothers, grandparents are all ... of your family.

Question 8: The gapped word is part of a fixed expression. Which verb best completes the phrase ... the best for somebody? For questions **1–8**, read the text below and decide which answer (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (**0**).

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Example:



Working parents

Reliable studies have shown that children of parents who both go out to work have no more problems than children with one parent staying at home. My personal (0) is that both parents should go out to work if they wish.

Some parents invest so much in a career that they cannot (1) to give it up. Others have to work because of economic (2)

There are several options when it (3) to choosing childcare from child minders to the kind neighbour (4) the street.

No (5) how good the childcare may be, some children protest if their parents aren't around. Babies become dependent on parents and close family (6), so parents should make sure they allow (7) time to help their child settle in with their new carer.

Remember: if parents want to (8) the best for their children, it's not the quantity of time they spend with them, it's the quality that matters.

1	A bear	B decide	C hope	D expect
2	A reason	B duty	C necessity	D task
3	A refers	B concerns	C turns	D comes
4	A of	B opposite	C across	D next to
5	A way	B matter	C surprise	D exception
6	A people	B adults	C members	D grown-ups
7	A little	B no	C lots	D plenty of
8	A make	B give	C have	D do

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For questions **9–16**, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one** word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (**0**).

Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet.

Daniela: Skateboard champion

I've always (**0**) an outdoors kind of girl, and (**9**) a kid, I'd get up to all sorts of stuff with my friends – climbing trees and messing about in the woods. As we got older, my friends started doing other things (**10**) shopping and listening to music, but I still loved being outside and needed a new challenge.

(11) was my brother who first got me (12) skateboarding. I'd seen him practising on his board hour after hour, and to (13) honest, I used to think it was uncool. But when he showed me some amazing tricks he could do one day, I had to give it a go.

I've got a competitive streak, so I watched loads of skateboarding clips online and got out on my board whenever I could – even (14) it was dark – in order to compete (15) my brother. It obviously paid (16) because I beat him in a competition last month!

Essential tips

- Read the whole text to get the general meaning.
- Decide what kind of word is needed (verb, pronoun, article, determiner, quantifier, etc.).
- Remember you can only use one word in each gap.
- You cannot use contracted forms (*I've, he's, they're, mustn't,* etc.) to fill in the gaps.
- Say the phrase or sentence to yourself and see which word sounds right in each gap.
- Read the text when you have finished and check that it makes sense.

Question 10: Look at the context. The missing word means 'for example', or 'such as'. **Question 12:** This gap is part of a phrasal verb that means 'to become interested in' an activity.

Question 13: The missing word helps to complete a common expression. Which verb and form of the verb is needed?