

Success International English Skills for Cambridge IGCSE

Unit 1: Happiness and Success

1 Quick language check

Choose the correct word or phrase from each pair in italics.

- George ran his own business *during* / *for* a year.
- The illness made me *realise* / *to realise* how important good health is.
- If I *pass* / *I'll pass* the test, I'll get a present from my parents.
- You must *pay* / *to pay* for things before taking them out of the shop.
- You should *eating* / *eat* more fruit and vegetables.
- I *am* / *have* already finished the book you lent me.
- This medicine might not help your cold but it will *make* / *do* you no harm.
- We got off the bus and continued our journey *by* / *on* foot.
- Lizzie told me why *she was* / *was she* feeling miserable.

2 Formal and informal styles

SB Unit 1: 1.1 What is happiness?

Replace each informal word or phrase in italics with a more formal one. Choose from those in the box.

expensive newspaper dismissed enthusiastic about bored or unhappy children prefer glasses

- They took the *kids* to an adventure playground.
- He was *sacked* for constantly taking time off work.
- If I feel *fed up*, I go for a long walk across the hills.
- Mona's *into* pop music but I *go for* classical.
- Ashraf made a lot of money by selling computers and moved to a *posh* area of town.
- Have you got today's *paper*?
- Has anyone seen my *specs*?

3 Adjective suffixes: *-ful* and *-less*

Complete each sentence by choosing a word from the box and adding *-ful* or *-less* to make an adjective. The first one has been done for you.

speech motion colour harm friend help point heart thank thought

- A newborn baby is completely helpless.
- Gregory chose a bright, _____ wallpaper for his bedroom.
- It was _____ trying to find our way in a strange town without a map.
- It was _____ of her to send me flowers when I was ill.
- Bill has no feeling for anyone; people say he is _____.
- People sometimes say they feel lonely, but being completely _____ is very rare.

- 7 When I was told I had won the lottery, I was _____ with delight.
- 8 Adult medicine can be _____ to children.
- 9 Let's be _____ for the good things in our lives.
- 10 The small sailing boat was _____ on the calm sea.

4 Job suffixes: *-ant, -er, -ist, -or*

SB Unit 1: 1.2 Happy not to be a high-flyer

Make each word in brackets into a noun to fill the gap, by adding the correct suffix. Be careful – you may need to make spelling changes too.

- 1 Luke is a _____ in a pop group and his brother is a _____. (*drum, football*)
- 2 My aunt is a _____ of a multinational company. (*direct*)
- 3 I'd like to speak to the project _____, please. (*supervise*)
- 4 Miguel used to work as a _____ and _____. (*paint, decorate*)
- 5 I'd love to be an _____ in a television studio. (*assist*)
- 6 Angela is training to become a _____ helping people with relationship difficulties. (*psychology*)
- 7 He has a high-powered job as an _____. It wouldn't appeal to me. (*account*)
- 8 Hussein is an _____ and is very interested in ways to protect the environment. (*ecology*)
- 9 I asked the telephone _____ to check the number for me. (*operate*)
- 10 Her job as a _____ involves translating instruction booklets from English into other languages. (*translate*)

5 Text completion

Read this text about the search for happiness and choose a word from the box to fill each space. You will need to change the form of some of the verbs.

Adjectives	Nouns	Verbs	
happier	loneliness	afford	predict
miserable	pressure	believe	replace
vital	wealth	blame	
	youth		

The search for happiness

Everyone wants to be happy, but people rarely agree on what happiness is or what the (1) _____ ingredients for happiness are. Money certainly seems to play a part, and studies have shown that people on low incomes struggling to (2) _____ basic things like food and housing are less happy than those who are comfortably off. However, once an adequate income has been achieved, increasing (3) _____ does not seem to make us more content. The super rich are no more satisfied with life than those on a modest income.

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People in their twenties and fifties are said to be (4) _____ than those in their thirties and forties, perhaps because the latter two groups are under the most (5) _____ to build careers and bring up families. If (6) _____ and a high income are not crucial to happiness, then what is essential? Ancient philosophers (7) _____ that freedom, thought and friendship were the key elements.

It is impossible to say whether people were more (8) _____ centuries ago than they are today. Despite rising levels of affluence, however, the World Health Organization (9) _____ that the second biggest illness in the developed world this century will be depression. Psychologists (10) _____ the problems of community breakdown, (11) _____ and isolation on the stresses of modern life and the way technology is (12) _____ human contact.

6 Figurative language

SB Unit 1: 1.2 Happy not to be a high-flyer

Replace the figurative language in italics with expressions from the box.

very sad very noisy very proud disappeared very soft reminders based on complex trap

- 1 Danielle was *bursting with pride* when she talked about the prize she had won.
- 2 We got a *heart-rending* letter giving an account of my grandmother's illness.
- 3 My beliefs about life after death are not *rooted in* any particular philosophy.
- 4 Her anger *melted away* when she saw how sorry the little boy was.
- 5 There were *echoes* of her own childhood in the novel she wrote about a poor family who emigrated to the USA.
- 6 He didn't realise that telling the first lie would create a *tangled web* of deceit.
- 7 Lovingly, she stroked the baby's *velvety* skin.
- 8 There was a *howling* wind all night.

7 Homophones

SB Unit 1: 1.2 Happy not to be a high-flyer

Choose the correct word from each pair in italics.

- 1 Did you *worn* / *warn* her about the storm that is forecast for tonight?
- 2 My grandfather *fought* / *fort* in the Second World *Wore* / *War*.
- 3 Matthew *ate* / *eight* all the food in the fridge.
- 4 The curtains I bought in the sale were reduced because there was a *floor* / *flaw* in the material.
- 5 *Wrote* / *Rote* learning is a good way to remember arithmetic tables.
- 6 'Haven't you *groan* / *grown*!' said Grandma when the children came to visit.
- 7 Magda is extremely *frank* / *franc* and will always give her truthful opinion.
- 8 The wedding cake had three *tiers* / *tears*.

Choose three of the words which you crossed out and use them in sentences of your own.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

8 Text completion

SB Unit 1: 1.3 The price of greatness

Read this text about Albert Einstein and choose the correct word from each pair in italics.

A great thinker

Scientists used to think that matter could not be created nor destroyed. They also believed that the same principles applied to energy. However, in the first few years of the twentieth century, the German scientist Albert Einstein came *out / up* with a different idea. He predicted that it should be possible to change mass into energy. Einstein's idea – his Theory of Relativity – was first proved *by / in* 1932. Einstein showed that a small amount of matter could be changed into a vast amount of energy. This made the development of nuclear energy *happen / possible*.

Born in 1879, Einstein was an unusual child who did not speak until he was three years old. Early photographs show a serious and intense-looking little boy. When he was twelve, he *learned / taught* himself Euclidean geometry. He hated school, however, and at the age of fifteen he used the fact that the family had moved house as an *excuse / explain* for not going to school for a year. He finally graduated in 1900 by studying the lecture notes of a classmate.

Einstein grew into a brilliant and *imaginative / imagining* young man who was *passionately / perfectly* interested in science. He was also a very lively correspondent and *did / made* a point of replying to any letters he received from children. His intelligent, amiable-looking face with its untidy mop of silvery hair is well known, *apart / yet* as a young man he had short, coal-black hair and a serious, thoughtful appearance. The face of the Jedi Master Yoda in the Star Wars films was *copied / inspired* by Einstein's wise expression.

Sadly, Einstein's theories were used to develop nuclear weapons and ultimately the atomic bomb which was dropped on Japan during the Second World War. Einstein never *forgave / upset* himself for the uses to which his discoveries were put. Shortly before he died in 1955, he wrote a letter to the newspapers urging scientists to unite to *end / prevent* the possibility of another nuclear war in the future.

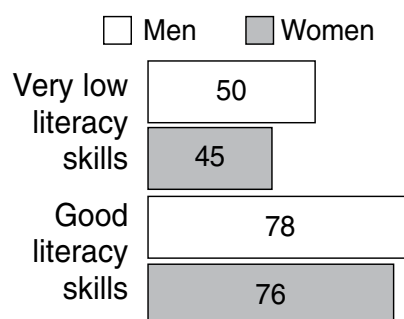
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9 Comparing information in charts

Study the bar chart showing the connection between literacy and happiness in a European country. Then answer the questions below.

Feelgood factor

Percentage of 37-year-olds satisfied with life so far



True or false?

- 1 Less than half the women who had low literacy skills were happy with their lives.
- 2 Men, overall, were more satisfied with their lives than women.
- 3 More than three-quarters of men and women who had a good standard of literacy said they were happy with their lives.

10 Sentence correction

In each of the following sentences a word has been left out. Read the sentence carefully and add the missing word in the right place. The first one has been done for you.

- 1 I went ^{to} bed early last night because I was tired.
- 2 The doctor told Monika to give smoking.
- 3 I listened to a programme about happiness the radio.
- 4 What time you finish work this evening?
- 5 When all the work been done, we went to see a film.
- 6 She was very surprised when Yannis asked her marry him.
- 7 England is not big as Spain.
- 8 The school breaks for the holidays next Thursday.
- 9 I have appointment with the doctor at eleven tomorrow morning.
- 10 The kitchen smells of fresh bread because I been baking all morning.

11 Apostrophes: Omission of letters

SB Unit 1: 1.3 The price of greatness

Add apostrophes in these sentences where necessary.

- 1 I havent decided what to wear to the party yet.
- 2 I wish youd be more careful. Youre always breaking things.

- 3 Shes got a son, Rory, whos nine.
- 4 Dont you think youd better wear a coat as its raining?
- 5 Lets meet soon for a drink. Its ages since Ive seen you.
- 6 He doesnt know where theyve gone, does he?
- 7 Arent you hot in that thick sweater?
- 8 This coffees lost its flavour.

12 How important is literacy?

SB Unit 1: 1.4 Obstacles and challenges

A student wrote this letter to the newspaper about improving literacy standards in her country. Build up a complete letter from the prompts.

Dear Editor,

Literacy be / very important / people's happiness / and development / country. Studies show / people / unable / read or write / more likely / be dissatisfied / their lives. They lack confidence / find / difficult / get / job. In addition / they not help / their children / schoolwork / or play active part / their community. They find / difficult / do ordinary things / like read newspapers / fill in forms. Some / feel ashamed. They cover up / problems / and pretend / can read.

I think / it be very important / that people / can't read or write / get help. In our area / there be / literacy scheme / help adults / improve / skills in reading and writing. Schemes like this / help / government / achieve goal / 100% literacy / our country.

Yours faithfully,

Vicki Sansa

13 Would and used to

Would is similar to *used to*. Both can refer to repeated past actions, but only *used to* can refer to past states.

Example: *He used to own a shop in the town centre. (NOT would)*

Read these pairs of sentences about the past. If one is incorrect, cross it out.

- 1 I used to get up early and feed the hens. / I would get up early and feed the hens.
- 2 He used to have a dog called Sophie. / He would have a dog called Sophie.
- 3 I used to visit my grandma on Sunday. / I would visit my grandma on Sunday.
- 4 They used to live in a beautiful villa. / They would live in a beautiful villa.
- 5 Dena used to have black curly hair. / Dena would have black curly hair.
- 6 Mario used to be my best friend. / Mario would be my best friend.