



## I. Reading Section (15 marks)

Read the newspaper article.

### Wife's sweet tone hid alleged murder plot

SANTA FE, N.M. Wednesday July 22 (Reuters) - Robert Sumser says he knew **something was up** when his wife started treating him nicely, even cooking him dinner.

But **he could barely believe it** when police in the northern New Mexico town of Los Lunas told him his wife, Vickie Gillmore, had offered an undercover agent \$750 to have him killed.

"I knew something was up, but not murder," Sumser told a television station late on Tuesday.

"She wanted me shot, to suffer? For me to die slow or what?" he asked. "That's not right. **To squeal like a pig?**"

Gillmore was arrested last weekend and faces charges of attempted murder and conspiracy.

Sumser said he and his wife have had some rough times and that he became suspicious in the last few weeks when she started treating him well and fixing him dinner.

Police allege Gillmore had been looking for someone to kill her husband when she met an undercover detective and offered him \$750 **to carry out the hit**, handing over a \$250 down payment.

Thinking the man had carried out the hit, 33-year-old Gillmore allegedly asked if her husband had "squealed like a pig" in his final moments.

Article © 1998 Reuters Limited. Lesson ©1999 www.english-to-go.com

Are the following statements true or false? If they are false, re-write them so that they are true.

(5 marks) Example: The article was written on Tuesday. *False. The article was written on Wednesday.*

1. Vickie Gillmore had always cooked her husband dinner.
2. Robert Sumser thought his wife's behaviour was normal.
3. Vickie wanted her husband to suffer.
4. The undercover agent didn't kill her husband.
5. Vickie has been convicted of attempted murder.

What do the following phrases from the article mean? Choose the correct answer. (2 marks)

6. ... he knew **something was up** ... (paragraphs 1 and 3)

- a. things were improving
- b. something was wrong
- c. there was a lot of resentment
- d. she was planning to commit a crime

7. But **he could barely believe it** when ... (paragraph 2)

- a. he thought it was true
- b. he didn't believe it
- c. he found it easy to believe
- d. he found it very difficult to believe

8. **To squeal like a pig?** (paragraph 4)

- a. to make a high-pitched noise
- b. to shout angrily
- c. to laugh out loud
- d. to run away

9. ... she met an undercover detective and offered him \$750 **to carry out the hit** ... (paragraph 7)

- a. to rob her husband
- b. to murder her husband
- c. to kidnap her husband
- d. to mug her husband

Read the newspaper article.

## Feeling Forgetful? Blame Stress, Study Suggests

WASHINGTON Tuesday March 21 (Reuters) - **Flunk** an exam? Forget important facts during an interview? A new study gives the perfect excuse -- stress **impairs** memory and learning.

Researchers found that when volunteers were given cortisol, a hormone released during stress, they were less able to remember things they had recently learned.

They said their findings show why people quickly forget things they learned while "cramming" for exams, but also may shed doubt on testimony given in court, or concerning stressful events such as war.

Dominique de Quervain of the University of Zurich in Switzerland and colleagues at the University of California at Irvine tested 18 women and 18 men aged 20 to 40.

They asked them to memorize 60 German nouns, which they got to look at for four seconds each. Either immediately after memorizing the list or one day later, the volunteers were tested for free recall -- writing down as many words as they could remember -- and for whether they could recognize the nouns they had learned on a longer list.

The researchers then gave their volunteers tablets of cortisone that would simulate the effects of stress in people.

The tablets, which the body processes into cortisol, did not affect the volunteers' ability to **recall** in a test given immediately after memorization. And when given immediately before the 24-hour-later test, the tablets had no effect on recognition.

But they did impair recall a day later, the researchers found.

"On the basis of our results, it seems probable that elevated glucocorticoid levels may induce retrieval impairments in such stressful situations as examinations, job interviews, combat and courtroom testimony," they wrote in their report, published in the journal Nature Neuroscience.

Article © 2000 Reuters Limited. Lesson © 2000 www.english-to-go.com

### Complete the following summary of the article. (6 marks)

Researchers decided to test the effects of (10) \_\_\_\_\_ on memory. They asked a group of men and women to learn 60 German nouns, and then tested them. After that, they gave the volunteers cortisone, in the form of (11) \_\_\_\_\_, from which the body produces cortisol - a (12) \_\_\_\_\_ that the body releases when under stress. The researchers repeated the tests and found that the cortisol affected the volunteers' ability to (13) \_\_\_\_\_ information a day after memorizing it. As well as influencing examination and job interview results, the research has serious implications for soldiers at (14) \_\_\_\_\_ or people who (15) \_\_\_\_\_ in court.

### Match the verbs from the article (16-19) with the correct definitions (a-d). (2 marks)

16. flunk	a. say something is the cause
17. impair	b. remember
18. recall	c. prevent or damage
19. blame	d. fail

## II. Use of English Section (20 marks)

Write these words and phrases connected to education. (5 marks)

Example: a place where people study for qualifications after leaving school: a college

20. the amount of money you pay to go to a private school or a university: f \_\_\_\_\_
21. the land and buildings of a university or college: a c \_\_\_\_\_
22. somebody who has a first degree from a university or college: a g \_\_\_\_\_
23. a teacher who works with one student or a small group of students: a t \_\_\_\_\_
24. a talk on a subject, especially at university or college: a l \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. (3 marks)

Example: She loves going (go) to the cinema.

25. I think you'd better \_\_\_\_\_ (get) some sleep.
26. My dad made me \_\_\_\_\_ (choose) this course.
27. We avoided \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) to them.
28. I forced him \_\_\_\_\_ (tell) me his name.
29. My older brother \_\_\_\_\_ (teach) me to drive.
30. Julie finished \_\_\_\_\_ (do) her homework.

Look at these sentences. Are both verb forms possible? If they are possible, tick the sentence. If not, choose the correct option. (3 marks)

Example: When I was young, I used to be/d be very shy.

31. Once I used to try/tried to write a novel, but I never finished it.
32. Uncle Harry never used to like/liked gardening.
33. My mother is always complaining/always complains about how much everything costs.
34. My neighbours will park/are always parking their car in front of my house!
35. What did you use to/used to do during the school holidays?
36. Every day when I get home, I'll have/m having a packet of biscuits.

Complete these second conditional sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets. (4 marks)

37. Imagine you \_\_\_\_\_ (have) the chance to travel for six months, where \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (go)?
38. John \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) himself a sports car if he \_\_\_\_\_ (have) enough money.
39. Assuming I \_\_\_\_\_ (be able to) go wherever I wanted, I \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to Spain.
40. If you \_\_\_\_\_ (be) really hungry, \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (steal) some food?

Fill in the gaps in the conversation with these words/phrases. (5 marks)

<del>Let me</del>	would you like me to
be a great help	wouldn't mind
Why don't I	you don't mind
What if I	be wonderful if you could
Would it help if	if you like can manage

- IAN What's the matter, Jo? You look awful?
- JO I'm not feeling well and I've got people coming to stay.
- IAN Oh dear, poor you. Let me help you get ready.
- JO Are you sure you (41) \_\_\_\_\_?
- IAN No, not at all. (42) \_\_\_\_\_ I tidied the living room?
- JO Well, it'd (43) \_\_\_\_\_.
- IAN Then (44) \_\_\_\_\_ go to the supermarket for you?
- JO Thanks, that'd (45) \_\_\_\_\_.
- IAN Have you got a list of the stuff you need?
- JO Yes, it's over there on the fridge.
- IAN Oh yeah. I see. (46) \_\_\_\_\_ cook dinner when I get back?
- JO No, that's OK. I (47) \_\_\_\_\_.
- IAN What about the kids? I'll look after them this evening, (48) \_\_\_\_\_.
- JO That'd be fantastic. They'd love that - as long as (49) \_\_\_\_\_.
- IAN No, of course not. (50) \_\_\_\_\_ collected them from school first?
- JO No, Fiona's doing that on her way home from college, but thanks for offering.

Listen to this extract from a radio interview with a university professor. Are the statements true or false? If they are false, correct the sentences so that they are true. (7 marks)

- Listen to three people talking about their eating habits. Choose the best answers. (8 marks)

- #### IV. Writing Section (15 marks)

**Question Two:** Choose ONE of the following topics and write a letter to a newspaper giving your opinion. (Write approximately 100 words.)

- Should parents immigrate to other countries and leave their children in Ecuador?
- Should we send criminals to prison for more time?
- Should we force children to learn English from an early age?

## VI. Homework and Tests (20 marks)