

EOI Ávila - Cloze tests

_____ of the Titanic on its 1, _____ people all
for a hundred years. It is _____ nded by mystery and
_____ en (3) _____ about
(2) _____ we answer the ques
the mos



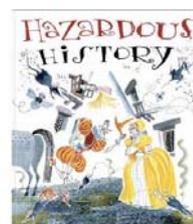
Intermediate level

Contents (Click in PDF, Ctrl + Click in Word to go to pages; click on  above the answer box to go from from Cloze to Key. Press  to go from Key back to Cloze)

Cloze: Hazardous History.....	3
Cloze: The Truth about the Titanic - Part 1	4
Cloze: The Truth about the Titanic - Part 2	5
Cloze: Let it be	6
Cloze: Woody Allen	7
Cloze: The Euro.....	8
Cloze: Do we really need to sleep?.....	9
Cloze: Flat-sharing.....	10
Cloze: Do you speak German?.....	11
Cloze: Doormen in New York	12
Key to Hazardous History	13
Key to The Truth about the Titanic - Part 1	14
Key to The Truth about the Titanic - Part 2	15
Key to Let it be	16
Key to Woody Allen.....	17
Key to The Euro	18
Key to Do we really need to sleep?	19
Key to Flat-sharing.....	20
Key to Flat-sharing.....	20
Key to Do you speak German?	21
Key to Do you speak German?	21
Key to Doormen in New York.....	22

Cloze: Hazardous History

Fill in the gaps with a word from the box. The first one has been done as an example. There are 4 words that you don't need (distracters). 20 x 0.5 = 10 marks



Three centuries (0) _____, people had much shorter lives. In 1700, insurance companies put the (1) _____ life expectancy of a new-born baby at only fourteen years! The average life expectancy in the world (2) _____ is sixty-six years, and in some (3) _____ it is much higher: in Japan or France, for (4) _____, the average is more than eighty. This is mainly because of better diet, better hygiene and better healthcare. Even in the olden days though, it is (5) _____ that if people survived to be an adult they often (6) _____ to be sixty or seventy.

Having children was much more dangerous in (7) _____ days: one in every nine women died in childbirth. Even so, women (8) _____ to have many more children than they do today: in 1800 the average (9) _____ family had seven children - today the average is (10) _____ than two. Perhaps the reason for this was that so many babies died: even a hundred years ago, 20% of children died (11) _____ they were five.

One reason that there were so many diseases was that people (12) _____ much less about hygiene: even rich people didn't use to wash much - many people thought that it was (13) _____ to take a bath, so they often bathed only once or twice (14) _____ year. Instead they used perfume to cover (15) _____ odours. Poor people didn't even have toilets or clean water and most had lice in (16) _____ hair, bodies, clothes and beds.

There was no toothpaste in those days (17) _____ and only rich people used toothbrushes. Of course, toothache was very (18) _____, but there were no professional dentists until the (19) _____ of the nineteenth century. Before that, if you had a toothache, you had to go to the barber's. He not only cut hair, but also used to take out (20) _____ and perform other small operations.

a	ago	American	average	before
body	change	common	contagious	countries
dangerous	either	example	interesting	knew
less	lived	middle	often	rats
teeth	their	those	today	used

0. ago	ago			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Cloze: The Truth about the Titanic - Part 1

This text is full of the third conditional. Example: *If he had come sooner, he would have saved the situation.* Fill in the gaps with a word from the box. There are 4 words that you don't need (distracters). 20 x 0.5 = 10 marks



The (0)_____ of the *Titanic* on its first voyage has (1)_____ people all over the world for a hundred years. It is a story surrounded by mystery and (2)_____. Here we answer the questions most often (3)_____ about the most famous of ships.

Why weren't there enough lifeboats?

The regulations controlling the number of lifeboats that a ship (4)_____ carry were terribly out of date. The *Titanic* only had to have 16 lifeboats, (5)_____ for 962 people. Nobody would have died on April 14th 1912 if the *Titanic* had had enough lifeboats for (6)_____ the passengers.

Was there another ship which could have helped the *Titanic*?

A small ship (7)_____ the *Californian* was only 20 kilometres away from the *Titanic*. It had (8)_____ for the night because of the icebergs. It was (9)_____ near that the two ships could see each other's (10)_____. The radio operator had just gone so he didn't hear the *Titanic*'s S.O.S. message. Later sailors saw the *Titanic*'s eight white rockets in the sky. They (11)_____ up their captain but he didn't do anything as he didn't think the rockets were (12)_____. if the *Californian* had known the *Titanic* was sinking, it would have rescued everybody. The captain of the *Californian* was later blamed for (13)_____ going to help the *Titanic* and his reputation was destroyed.

Was captain Smith to blame?

Although they had received (14)_____ warnings of icebergs from other ships in the (15)_____, the *Titanic* was (16)_____ at top speed. The captain of the *Titanic*, like other captains, was under great commercial pressure to make the Atlantic crossing as (17)_____ as possible. Also Bruce Ismay, the director of the White Star Line which owned the *Titanic*, was on board and he wanted his ship to beat the company (18)_____ for the fastest crossing. Another criticism of captain Smith is that he was not on the bridge at the (19)_____ of the collision. Perhaps if he had been there, his ship would not have (20)_____ the iceberg. Captain Smith and the ship's designer Thomas Andrews both drowned.

all	area	asked	called	cold
enough	fascinated	going	hit	icebergs
important	lights	not	quickly	record
several	should	sinking	slowly	so
speculation	stopped	time	weather	woke

0. <i>sinking</i>	→			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Cloze: The Truth about the Titanic - Part 2

This text is full of the third conditional. Example: *If he had come sooner, he would have saved the situation.* Fill in the gaps with a word from the box. There are 4 words that you don't need (distracters). 20 x 0.5 = 10 marks



Why didn't the lifeboats go (0) _____ to rescue survivors?

In the confusion of the evacuation, many lifeboats left the *Titanic* (1) _____ empty. This was partly because Captain Smith and his crew found it (2) _____ to persuade people to leave the 'unsinkable' *Titanic*. Many were terrified at the (3) _____ of being lowered down onto the sea in a (4) _____ lifeboat. When the *Titanic* finally sank, some of the passengers in the lifeboats wanted to go back and rescue some of the people (5) _____ in the freezing water. If they had gone back, many more people (6) _____ have been saved. But other people in the lifeboats (7) _____ that they had to put their own lives first and that if too many people in the water tried to get into the lifeboats, (8) _____ would overturn and everybody would drown. Finally, only one of the sixteen lifeboats went back to pick up survivors. They only (9) _____ to rescue five people. Everyone else was dead.

Did the orchestra really play until the end?

After the collision, the little group of musicians started playing in the first-class (10) _____ to keep the passengers (11) _____, but later they moved up onto the deck. Some survivors in the lifeboats said they could still (12) _____ the musicians playing a waltz called Autumn until just before the ship finally sank. If they hadn't continued playing until the (13) _____, there would have been much more panic on the ship. Not one of the orchestra (14) _____.

What happened to Bruce Ismay after the disaster?

The public were extremely (15) _____ about any of the 58 men who survived the disaster, especially (16) _____ about 150 women and children died (mostly from second and third class). But Bruce Ismay (17) _____ the most criticism. When his beautiful ship sank, Ismay, in one of the lifeboats, (18) _____ his head so as not to see it. Later, numerous articles were written in newspapers attacking him (19) _____ saving his own life. Nobody was ever allowed to mention the *Titanic* in his (20) _____.

allowed	argued	as	back	calm
difficult	easy	end	for	from
half	hear	idea	lounge	managed
might	presence	received	ship	survived
suspicious	swimming	they	tiny	turned

0. <i>back</i>	→			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Cloze: Let it be

Fill in the gaps with a word from the box. The first one has been done as an example. There are 4 words that you don't need (distracters). 20 x 0.5 = 10 marks



Sir Paul McCartney is probably (0)_____ most famous pop musician of the 20th century. (1)_____ with John Lennon he formed the Beatles, and since their break-up has had a long solo career. Altogether he has (2)_____ over 500 songs including *Yesterday*, the most played song of (3)_____ time. He has recently also written a classical piece called *Standing Stone* which was premièred in 1997. His wife Linda died of cancer in 1998. He has four children.

When did you and John Lennon meet? 'In 1957 when I was 15 and he was 16 and we were both still at school. We had a lot in common, we were both (4)_____ about music and we both lost our mothers when we were teenagers. My mother had died of cancer the year before and John's mum was run over by a (5)_____ a year after we'd met. So there was always that special bond (6)_____ us.'

When did you and John begin to write songs together? '(7)_____ was when I was still at school and John was at art college. We (8)_____ to write at my house in the afternoon when my dad was working. We had about three hours before my dad (9)_____ home. John had a second-hand guitar and I played a bit (10)_____ the piano. We had an old school notebook and I used to write at the top of the page *A Lennon and McCartney* original. We always said to each other that we'd be the (11)_____ songwriting team in the world, which is funny (12)_____ that's exactly what we became. We (13)_____ the Beatles in 1960.'

Are any of your lyrics about real people and events? 'Usually the Beatles' songs which were my (14)_____ weren't personal, but there were some (15)_____: for instance, I wrote *Let it be* about my mother, (16)_____ name was Mary. One night, when the Beatles were breaking up and I was feeling very depressed, I had a (17)_____ where I saw my mum, who had died when I was fourteen. It was great to see her again and in the dream she said, 'Don't worry. Everything will be (18)_____.' It was such a nice dream I woke up and I felt much (19)_____ and I started to write *Let it be*. Afterwards, thousands of people wrote to me saying that the song had helped them in (20)_____ times. Later, after the Beatles had broken up, I formed Wings and I wrote a lot of songs to my wife Linda, like *Silly Love songs* and *The Lovely Linda*.'

all	all right	because	become	better
between	car	difficult	dream	exceptions
formed	got	greatest	guitar	happy
idea	it	mad	on	other
the	together	used	whose	written

0. <i>the</i>	➔			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Cloze: Woody Allen

Fill in the gaps with a word from the box. The first one has been done as an example. There are 4 words that you don't need (distracters). 20 x 0.5 = 10 marks



Woody Allen, whose (0)_____ name is Allen Konigsberg, was born in 1935. He is an actor and director, and (1)_____ in adult comedies set in New York. Among his best known films are Annie Hall (1977), The Purple Rose of Cairo (1985) and Mighty Aphrodite (1995). (2)_____ from his films and his sense of humour, he's (3)_____ for his glasses and his marriage in 1997 to Soon Yi, the adopted daughter of Mia Farrow, his ex-partner. When he isn't making films, he plays the clarinet in a New York jazz club.

Most people are (4)_____ that the characters that Woody Allen plays, which tend to be very similar, are (5)_____ on his own personality. He has always denied this, but there is some (6)_____ to the contrary. Like many of the characters he plays, he is (7)_____ shy. 'For me the real pleasure is writing. Making the movie is this: you're out there in the cold and rain, you're freezing, the clock is ticking, you're spending thousands of dollars, and people (8)_____ saying, "Hurry up". The nicest feeling I know is that the film is opening in Chicago and that I'm not there - I'm in bed, relaxing, reading, playing my clarinet. All my life I've enjoyed not being at the opening night. I used to have a joke: "I don't mind (9)_____, but I don't want to be there when it happens." That really is about me. When I am invited to parties, I almost (10)_____ go. Sometimes I get to the door and I just can't go in. It's nothing to (11)_____ with being famous, I was like that before. Not being there, but knowing people like the film - that's perfect for me.' He stays (12)_____ from Hollywood, its romances and its glamorous lifestyle. 'I hate all that. I just want to make the film and go home.'

Woody Allen is also very insecure about his films. 'The idea in my (13)_____ is always superb, but by the (14)_____ the film's made, it's never exactly as I wanted it. I always want to say to people, "you don't realize what a great film I (15)_____ made here." In fact, he was (16)_____ disappointed with Manhattan that he tried to buy the movie back from United Artists, and promised that he would make (17)_____ film for free if they destroyed it for him or threw it away. They refused, and the film (18)_____ nominated for an Oscar.

The big question is, is he happy? 'What does that mean? My basic position is pessimism. Some people are naturally cheerful, (19)_____ aren't. I naturally expect the worst. It's just the (20)_____ I am.'

another	apart	away	based	clown
convinced	do	dying	evidence	famous
genuinely	good	keep	mind	nearly
never	people	real	so	some
specializes	time	was	way	working

0. <i>real</i>	→			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Cloze: The Euro



Fill in the gaps with a word from the box. The first one has been done as an example. There are 4 words that you don't need (distracters).

20 x 0.5 = 10 marks

The euro was (0)_____ in 12 countries on January 1st, 2002. The United Kingdom was not (1)_____ of them. The UK opted out of the part of the Maastricht Treaty that required it to adopt the common (2)_____. Ten years on, the Euro zone includes 17 nations, but (3)_____ to the crisis, it is unlikely that the UK will adopt the euro. In 2010, the coalition government pledged (4)_____ to join the euro for its lifetime. In fact, does the UK want to remain in the European Union (EU) at (5)_____?

Conservative Party rebels want a national referendum on UK membership. Conservative Prime Minister David Cameron says no. However, Cameron (6)_____ to recuperate constitutional powers from the European Parliament. The socialist Labour Party is pro-Europe, but decided not to adopt the euro. The Liberal Democrats are the (7)_____ major party that believes the euro is the future for the UK.

The anti-Europe movement in Britain has a (8)_____ history. The extreme right-wing - and racist - British National Front (9)_____ against UK membership in the 1970s. Today the British National Party is more popular. Another new party wants Britain to leave Europe: the United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP). The UKIP (10)_____, Nigel Farage, says: "We don't want the European flag. We don't want the anthem. And we don't want the euro." Ironically, the only major elections the British National Party and UKIP have (11)_____ are the European Parliament. Europe's proportional representation gives small (12)_____ power. The EU also offers them the chance to form influential groups with similar parties across Europe.

What do the British people think (13)_____ Europe? There is an old joke that demonstrates the traditional attitude: "Heavy fog over the English Channel, Continent isolated." So Britain isn't (14)_____ of Europe. Has Britain's attitude to Europe (15)_____ in recent years? No! European Commission research tells (16)_____ only 22 per cent of the British public wants to remain in the EU. 76 per cent do not (17)_____ the European Parliament. And 54 per cent say Britain has not benefitted from the membership.

But another (18)_____ reveals Britain is the worst place to live in Europe. One in 10 UK citizens would like to emigrate. What reasons do they give? The (19)_____ weather, the high cost of living and social problems. Where do they want to live? The EU's Spain, France and Italy are the (20)_____ destinations.

about	all	British	changed	currency
for	introduced	leader	long	money
not	one	only	part	parties
promises	protested	spent	survey	terrible
thanks	top	trust	us	won

0. <i>introduced</i>	→			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Cloze: Do we really need to sleep?

Fill in the gaps with a word from the box. The first one has been done as an example. There are 4 words that you don't need (distracters). 20 x 0.5 = 10 marks



Tonight between eleven o'clock and one o'clock (0)_____ of people will start yawning. Very soon, they will (1)_____ undressed, lie down, and close their eyes. A few minutes later, they will be (2)_____.

Sleep is a powerful (3)_____ on all our lives, and a 60-year-old person has (4)_____ almost twenty years asleep. The traditional theory about sleep is that our brain needs to (5)_____ for several hours to refresh itself and to 'file' in our memory everything that has happened to us (6)_____ the day. We can put off sleeping for a limited period, for instance if we go to an (7)_____ party, but sooner or later we have to sleep. If we are not allowed to sleep, we suffer hallucinations, and (8)_____ die.

However, Ray Meddis, a scientist at the Sleep Research Unit at Loughborough University, has a (9)_____ new theory. He suggests that we don't really (10)_____ to sleep at all. We sleep only (11)_____ our brain is 'programmed' to make us do so. He believes that the sleep instinct originates from prehistoric times; primitive man was 'programmed' to sleep to protect (12)_____ from the darkness with its many dangers. Animals appear to (13)_____ been similarly programmed. The number of hours that they sleep does not depend (14)_____ physical activity, but on how much time they need to eat. Horses, cows, sheep and elephants for example, which spend many (15)_____ eating, sleep only 2-3 hours. Cats, on the other hand, who have a lot of (16)_____ time, sleep for 14 hours a day, more than half of their lives.

According to Dr Meddis, the 'tiredness' we feel at the end of the day is (17)_____ by a chemical mechanism in the brain which makes us sleep. We are 'programmed' to feel 'tired' or 'sleepy' at midnight even if we have spent the day relaxing on the beach or (18)_____ nothing. He believes that if scientists could locate and 'turn off' the sleep mechanism in our brain that produces tiredness, we (19)_____ live completely normal and healthy lives without sleeping.

So is sleeping a waste of time? Well, even Dr Meddis does not (20)_____ the great psychological value of sleep, and he asks us, 'if scientists invented a pill which, if you took it, would keep you awake for ever, would you take it?'

all-night	asleep	because	bored	could
deny	doing	dream	during	eventually
fascinating	get	have	himself	hours
influence	millions	must	need	on
produced	rest	spare	spent	the

0. <i>millions</i>	→			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Cloze: Flat-sharing

Fill in the gaps with a word from the box. The first one has been done as an example. There are 4 words that you don't need (distracters). 20 x 0.5 = 10 marks



you've got a problem. You're going to go to university in a different town and you need somewhere to live. Or perhaps you just don't get on with your parents. What can you do? Have you ever thought of sharing a flat?

I know all about it because I've been sharing flats for the past four years, (0)_____ I moved to Edinburgh to study. I must admit my first experience was a (1)_____ of a disaster. I saw an advert in the newspaper from a girl who had a flat and was (2)_____ for a flatmate. When I met her, she seemed really nice, and I (3)_____ that she had lots of great CDs I wanted to hear and a big TV. However, I changed my (4)_____ about her a few days after I moved in. I came (5)_____ from college one day and threw my books and jacket onto the living room sofa. My flatmate looked at them, looked at me and shouted: 'I hope you're not going to leave (6)_____ there!' It was then I found (7)_____ that she was absolutely obsessive about being tidy. It was obvious that we were incompatible, (8)_____ I'm definitely not the world's tidiest person. I moved out after the first month.

I then decided to try sharing a house with several people. I rented a room in a big old house (9)_____ I shared with four other girls (two Brazilians, a Russian, and an Italian). It was great because the house was always full of young people from (10)_____ over the world and we had lots of parties. However, there were three problems. Firstly, it was impossible (11)_____ any work because the house was so noisy. Secondly, there was only one bathroom, and there was always someone in it, (12)_____ first thing in the morning when I was already (13)_____ for class. But the (14)_____ arguments we had were always the day the phone bill arrived!

After a year the foreign girls went home, and I decided to look for a new, (15)_____ quieter flat! This (16)_____ I decided to share with a friend, somebody I already knew well. We've been living here now for nearly a year and we get on really well - (17)_____ for her irritating habits of eating my yoghurts and finishing the coffee! But it's great having someone else to help pay the rent, to share their dinner with you when you're too (18)_____ to cook, and who, unlike your parents or your partner, doesn't mind what time you get up or if you've left your bedroom in a (19)_____. And best of all, when you've had a bad day or you've (20)_____ up with your boyfriend you know there's always someone to talk to.

all	as	biggest	bit	broken
clothes	especially	except	exhausted	home
hurried	late	looking	making	mess
mind	noticed	out	preferably	since
specific	them	time	to do	which

0. <i>since</i>	🔑			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Cloze: Do you speak German?

Fill in the gaps with a word from the box. The first one has been done as an example. There are 4 words that you don't need (distracters). 20 x 0.5 = 10 marks



After ten years of filing (0)_____ typing for the same company, Melanie was bored and depressed. So when a marketing company advertised for trainees, she (1)_____. And when they invited her to come for an interview, she was (2)_____ thrilled. At last, she thought, a chance to do (3)_____ that would be stimulating.

There was one small (4)_____ though. Melanie hadn't been entirely honest in her application, and had told one or two white (5)_____ about her present job. Nevertheless, she (6)_____ smartly for the interview and hoped they wouldn't (7)_____ the truth. Then halfway through, the interviewer said, 'As the advertisement stated, we are (8)_____ for someone who can speak good German.' Melanie's (9)_____ turned. She hadn't even noticed that part of the advertisement.

'I see you studied German at school,' the interviewer (10)_____ on. 'Have you kept it (11)_____?' 'Oh, yes,' nodded Melanie. 'It's like a (12)_____ language to me.' She suddenly felt her face (13)_____, but it was too late now. In fact she had studied German, but she was so awful (14)_____ it that her teacher told her to (15)_____ it up. One week later Melanie was offered the job. Should she tell the truth and (16)_____ losing it? She accepted the job and said nothing.

At first it was fine. There were only three scheduled (17)_____ to Germany and other trainees volunteered to go. Meanwhile, Melanie bought some books and tapes and started learning German on her (18)_____ in the evenings. It was no use though. She was still hopeless and got everything wrong.

The job itself was everything she had wanted. It was interesting and (19)_____ and she got on well with the rest of the team. Then last week, her boss called her into his office and told her she was going to Germany on a very important trip next month. 'Pleased?' he asked. Melanie produced a (20)_____ smile. Should she come clean and tell the truth?

and	applied	absolutely	something	problem
lies	dressed	discover	looking	stomach
risk	at	trips	own	challenging
weak	very	hands	interviews	taken
went	up	second	burning	give

0. <i>and</i>	☛			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Cloze: Doormen in New York

Fill in the gaps with a word from the box. The first one has been done as an example. There are 4 words that you don't need (distracters).

20 x 0.5 = 10 marks



It may not look like an exciting job, but it's well-paid and generally (0)_____. We're talking about doormen, the men in (1)_____ uniforms who greet you at the entrances to apartment buildings. They're usually (2)_____ with New York, but you also find (3)_____ in other major American cities such as Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, Houston and Austin

Doormen are polite and will (4)_____ "have a nice day" or "have a great night" to all the residents in their building. They will know their (5)_____ names and everything about their private lives, but they will (6)_____ professionally and discreetly.

In the (7)_____, doormen work in luxury apartments buildings, but you also find them in more (8)_____ ones. In fact you can judge a (9)_____ by the number of doormen: (10)_____ more there are, the higher the rent.

Doormen usually (11)_____ a smile on their faces as they take care (12)_____ the deliveries like parcels or flowers. They will call a resident (13)_____ someone shows up to see them. They will also get a (14)_____ for you and they must check that everything in the building is (15)_____ smoothly. As one of the doormen explains, 'Personality' is the (16)_____ job requirement.

All doormen have graduated from high school and some have a (17)_____ education. They are members of a union, the Service Employees International Union, and they have (18)_____ benefits. The salary is pretty good, too, (19)_____ from \$35,000 to \$50,000 a year. Many doormen hope to "move up the (20)_____ " and become a "super" or building supervisor. In this job they can make even more.

appreciated	associated	behave	building	cab
children's	college	ending	go	have
health	if	keys	ladder	main
modest	movies	of	ranging	running
say	smart	that	the	them

0. <i>appreciated</i>	→			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Key to Hazardous History

Source: Pearson/Longman's Cutting Edge - Embassy English Course book - level 2B pages 90/91

Three centuries **ago**, people had much shorter lives. In 1700, insurance companies put the **average** life expectancy of a new-born baby at only fourteen years! The average life expectancy in the world **today** is sixty-six years, and in some **countries** it is much higher: in Japan or France, for **example**, the average is more than eighty. This is mainly because of better diet, better hygiene and better healthcare. Even in the olden days though, it is **interesting** that if people survived to be an adult they often **lived** to be sixty or seventy.

Having children was much more dangerous in **those** days: one in every nine women died in childbirth. Even so, women **used** to have many more children than they do today: in 1800 the average **American** family had seven children - today the average is **less** than two. Perhaps the reason for this was that so many babies died: even a hundred years ago, 20% of children died **before** they were five.

One reason that there were so many diseases was that people **knew** much less about hygiene: even rich people didn't use to wash much - many people thought that it was **dangerous** to take a bath, so they often bathed only once or twice **a** year. Instead they used perfume to cover **body** odours. Poor people didn't even have toilets or clean water and most had lice in **their** hair, bodies, clothes and beds.

There was no toothpaste in those days **either** and only rich people used toothbrushes. Of course, toothache was very **common**, but there were no professional dentists until the **middle** of the nineteenth century. Before that, if you had a toothache, you had to go to the barber's. He not only cut hair, but also used to take out **teeth** and perform other small operations.

0. ago	↩			
1. average	2. today	3. countries	4. example	5. interesting
6. lived	7. those	8. used	9. American	10. less
11. before	12. knew	13. dangerous	14. a	15. body
16. their	17. either	18. common	19. middle	20. teeth

Distracters: *rats, often, change, contagious*

[To contents](#)

Key to The Truth about the Titanic - Part 1

Source: English File Intermediate. Student's book pages 106-107

The sinking of the *Titanic* on its first voyage has fascinated people all over the world for a hundred years. It is a story surrounded by mystery and speculation. Here we answer the questions most often asked about the most famous of ships.

Why weren't there enough lifeboats?

The regulations controlling the number of lifeboats that a ship should carry were terribly out of date. The *Titanic* only had to have 16 lifeboats, enough for 962 people. Nobody would have died on April 14th 1912 if the *Titanic* had had enough lifeboats for all the passengers.

Was there another ship which could have helped the Titanic?

A small ship called the *Californian* was only 20 kilometres away from the *Titanic*. It had stopped for the night because of the icebergs. It was so near that the two ships could see each other's lights. The radio operator had just gone so he didn't hear the *Titanic*'s S.O.S. message. Later sailors saw the *Titanic*'s eight white rockets in the sky. They woke up their captain but he didn't do anything as he didn't think the rockets were important. If the *Californian* had known the *Titanic* was sinking, it would have rescued everybody. The captain of the *Californian* was later blamed for not going to help the *Titanic* and his reputation was destroyed.

Was captain Smith to blame?

Although they had received several warnings of icebergs from other ships in the area, the *Titanic* was going at top speed. The captain of the *Titanic*, like other captains, was under great commercial pressure to make the Atlantic crossing as quickly as possible. Also Bruce Ismay, the director of the White Star Line which owned the *Titanic*, was on board and he wanted his ship to beat the company record for the fastest crossing. Another criticism of captain Smith is that he was not on the bridge at the time of the collision. Perhaps if he had been there, his ship would not have hit the iceberg. Captain Smith and the ship's designer Thomas Andrews both drowned.

0. sinking	↩			
1. fascinated	2. speculation	3. asked	4. should	5. enough
6. all	7. called	8. stopped	9. so	10. lights
11. woke	12. important	13. not	14. several	15. area
16. going	17. quickly	18. record	19. time	20. hit

Distracters: *cold, icebergs, slowly, weather*

[To contents](#)

Key to The Truth about the Titanic - Part 2

Source: English File Intermediate. Student's book pages 106-107

*Why didn't the lifeboats go (0) **back** to rescue survivors?*

In the confusion of the evacuation, many lifeboats left the *Titanic* (1) **half** empty. This was partly because Captain Smith and his crew found it (2) **difficult** to persuade people to leave the 'unsinkable' *Titanic*. Many were terrified at the (3) **idea** of being lowered down onto the sea in a (4) **tiny** lifeboat. When the *Titanic* finally sank, some of the passengers in the lifeboats wanted to go back and rescue some of the people (5) **swimming** in the freezing water. If they had gone back, many more people (6) **might** have been saved. But other people in the lifeboats (7) **argued** that they had to put their own lives first and that if too many people in the water tried to get into the lifeboats, (8) **they** would overturn and everybody would drown. Finally, only one of the sixteen lifeboats went back to pick up survivors. They only (9) **managed** to rescue five people. Everyone else was dead.

Did the orchestra really play until the end?

After the collision, the little group of musicians started playing in the first-class (10) **lounge** to keep the passengers (11) **calm**, but later they moved up onto the deck. Some survivors in the lifeboats said they could still (12) **hear** the musicians playing a waltz called Autumn until just before the ship finally sank. If they hadn't continued playing until the (13) **end**, there would have been much more panic on the ship. Not one of the orchestra (14) **survived**.

What happened to Bruce Ismay after the disaster?

The public were extremely (15) **suspicious** about any of the 58 men who survived the disaster, especially (16) **as** about 150 women and children died (mostly from second and third class). But Bruce Ismay (17) **received** the most criticism. When his beautiful ship sank, Ismay, in one of the lifeboats, (18) **turned** his head so as not to see it. Later, numerous articles were written in newspapers attacking him (19) **for** saving his own life. Nobody was ever allowed to mention the *Titanic* in his (20) **presence**.

0. back	↩			
1. half	2. difficult	3. idea	4. tiny	5. swimming
6. might	7. argued	8. they	9. managed	10. lounge
11. calm	12. hear	13. end	14. survived	15. suspicious
16. as	17. received	18. turned	19. for	20. presence

Distracters: *easy, allowed, ship, from*

[To contents](#)

Key to Let it be

Source: English File Intermediate Student's book pages 86-87

Sir Paul McCartney is probably **the** most famous pop musician of the 20th century. **Together** with John Lennon he formed the Beatles, and since their break-up has had a long solo career. Altogether he has **written** over 500 songs including *yesterday*, the most played song of **all** time. He has recently also written a classical piece called *Standing Stone* which was premièred in 1997. His wife Linda died of cancer in 1998. He has four children.

When did you and John Lennon meet? 'In 1957 when I was 15 and he was 16 and we were both still at school. We had a lot in common, we were both **mad** about music and we both lost our mothers when we were teenagers. My mother had died of cancer the year before and John's mum was run over by a **car** a year after we'd met. So there was always that special bond **between** us.'

When did you and John begin to write songs together? '**It** was when I was still at school and John was at art college. We **used** to write at my house in the afternoon when my dad was working. We had about three hours before my dad **got** home. John had a second-hand guitar and I played a bit **on** the piano. We had an old school notebook and I used to write at the top of the page A Lennon and McCartney original. We always said to each other that we'd be the **greatest** songwriting team in the world, which is funny **because** that's exactly what we became. We **formed** the Beatles in 1960.'

Are any of your lyrics about real people and events? 'Usually the Beatles' songs which were my **idea** weren't personal, but there were some **exceptions**: for instance, I wrote *Let it be* about my mother, **whose** name was Mary. One night, when the Beatles were breaking up and I was feeling very depressed, I had a **dream** where I saw my mum, who had died when I was fourteen. It was great to see her again and in the dream she said, 'Don't worry. Everything will be **all right**.' It was such a nice dream I woke up and I felt much **better** and I started to write *Let it be*. Afterwards, thousands of people wrote to me saying that the song had helped them in **difficult** times. Later, after the Beatles had broken up, I formed Wings and I wrote a lot of songs to my wife Linda, like *Silly Love songs* and *The Lovely Linda*.'

0. <i>the</i>	↩			
1. together	2. written	3. all	4. mad	5. car
6. between	7. it	8. used	9. got	10. on
11. greatest	12. because	13. formed	14. idea	15. exceptions
16. whose	17. dream	18. all right	19. better	20. difficult

distracters: *become, guitar, happy, other*

[To contents](#)

Key to Woody Allen

Source: English File Intermediate Student's book pages 80-81

Woody Allen, whose **real** name is Allen Konigsberg, was born in 1935. He is an actor and director, and **specializes** in adult comedies set in New York. Among his best known films are Annie Hall (1977), The Purple Rose of Cairo (1985) and Mighty Aphrodite (1995). **Apart** from his films and his sense of humour, he's **famous** for his glasses and his marriage in 1997 to Soon Yi, the adopted daughter of Mia Farrow, his ex-partner. When he isn't making films, he plays the clarinet in a New York jazz club.

Most people are **convinced** that the characters that Woody Allen plays, which tend to be very similar, are **based** on his own personality. He has always denied this, but there is some **evidence** to the contrary. Like many of the characters he plays, he is **genuinely** shy. 'For me the real pleasure is writing. Making the movie is this: you're out there in the cold and rain, you're freezing, the clock is ticking, you're spending thousands of dollars, and people **keep** saying, "Hurry up". The nicest feeling I know is that the film is opening in Chicago and that I'm not there - I'm in bed, relaxing, reading, playing my clarinet. All my life I've enjoyed **not** being at the opening night. I used to have a joke: "I don't mind **dying**, but I don't want to be there when it happens." That really is about me. When I am invited to parties, I almost **never** go. Sometimes I get to the door and I just can't go in. It's nothing to **do** with being famous, I was like that before. Not being there, but knowing people like the film - that's perfect for me.' He stays **away** from Hollywood, its romances and its glamorous lifestyle. 'I hate all that. I just want to make the film and go home.'

Woody Allen is also very insecure about his films. 'The idea in my **mind** is always superb, but by the **time** the film's made, it's never exactly as I wanted it. I always want to say to people, "you don't realize what a great film I **nearly** made here." In fact, he was **so** disappointed with Manhattan that he tried to buy the movie back from United Artists, and promised that he would make **another** film for free if they destroyed it for him or threw it away. They refused, and the film **was** nominated for an Oscar.

The big question is, is he happy? 'What does that mean? My basic position is pessimism. Some people are naturally cheerful, **some** aren't. I naturally expect the worst. It's just the **way** I am.'

0. real	↩			
1. specializes	2. apart	3. famous	4. convinced	5. based
6. evidence	7. genuinely	8. keep	9. dying	10. never
11. do	12. away	13. mind	14. time	15. nearly
16. so	17. another	18. was	19. some	20. way

Distracters: *clown, good, people, working*

[To contents](#)

Key to The Euro

Source: Speak Up magazine nr 320 page 4

The euro was **introduced** in 12 countries on January 1st, 2002. The United Kingdom was not **one** of them. The UK opted out of the part of the Maastricht Treaty that required it to adopt the common **currency**.

Ten years on, the Euro zone includes 17 nations, but **thanks** to the crisis, it is unlikely that the UK will adopt the euro. In 2010, the coalition government pledged **not** to join the euro for its lifetime. In fact, does the UK want to remain in the European Union (EU) at **all**?

Conservative Party rebels want a national referendum on UK membership. Conservative Prime Minister David Cameron says no. However, Cameron **promises** to recuperate constitutional powers from the European Parliament. The socialist Labour Party is pro-Europe, but decided not to adopt the euro. The Liberal Democrats are the **only** major party that believes the euro is the future for the UK.

The anti-Europe movement in Britain has a **long** history. The extreme right-wing - and racist - British National Front **protested** against UK membership in the 1970s. Today the British National Party is more popular. Another new party wants Britain to leave Europe: the United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP). The UKIP **leader**, Nigel Farage, says: "We don't want the European flag. We don't want the anthem. And we don't want the euro." Ironically, the only major elections the British National Party and UKIP have **won** are the European Parliament. Europe's proportional representation gives small **parties** power. The EU also offers them the chance to form influential groups with similar parties across Europe.

What do the British people think **about** Europe? There is an old joke that demonstrates the traditional attitude: "Heavy fog over the English Channel, Continent isolated." So Britain isn't **part** of Europe. Has Britain's attitude to Europe **changed** in recent years? No! European Commission research tells **us** only 22 per cent of the British public wants to remain in the EU. 76 per cent do not **trust** the European Parliament. And 54 per cent say Britain has not benefitted from the membership.

But another **survey** reveals Britain is the worst place to live in Europe. One in 10 UK citizens would like to emigrate. What reasons do they give? The **terrible** weather, the high cost of living and social problems. Where do they want to live? The EU's Spain, France and Italy are the **top** destinations.

0. <i>introduced</i>	↩			
1. one	2. currency	3. thanks	4. not	5. all
6. promises	7. only	8. long	9. protested	10. leader
11. won	12. parties	13. about	14. part	15. changed
16. us	17. trust	18. survey	19. terrible	20. top

Distracters: *British, for, money, spent*

[To contents](#)

Key to Do we really need to sleep?

Source: English File Intermediate Student's book page 32.

Tonight between eleven o'clock and one o'clock **millions** of people will start yawning. Very soon, they will **get** undressed, lie down, and close their eyes. A few minutes later, they will be **asleep**.

Sleep is a powerful **influence** on all our lives, and a 60-year-old person has **spent** almost twenty years asleep. The traditional theory about sleep is that our brain needs to **rest** for several hours to refresh itself and to 'file' in our memory everything that has happened to us **during** the day. We can put off sleeping for a limited period, for instance if we go to an **all-night** party, but sooner or later we have to sleep. If we are not allowed to sleep, we suffer hallucinations, and **eventually** die.

However, Ray Meddis, a scientist at the Sleep Research Unit at Loughborough University, has a **fascinating** new theory. He suggests that we don't really (10) **need** to sleep at all. We sleep only **because** our brain is 'programmed' to make us do so. He believes that the sleep instinct originates from prehistoric times; primitive man was 'programmed' to sleep to protect **himself** from the darkness with its many dangers. Animals appear to **have** been similarly programmed. The number of hours that they sleep does not depend **on** physical activity, but on how much time they need to eat. Horses, cows, sheep and elephants for example, which spend many **hours** eating, sleep only 2-3 hours. Cats, on the other hand, who have a lot of **spare** time, sleep for 14 hours a day, more than half of their lives.

According to Dr Meddis, the 'tiredness' we feel at the end of the day is **produced** by a chemical mechanism in the brain which makes us sleep. We are 'programmed' to feel 'tired' or 'sleepy' at midnight even if we have spent the day relaxing on the beach or **doing** nothing. He believes that if scientists could locate and 'turn off' the sleep mechanism in our brain that produces tiredness, we **could** live completely normal and healthy lives without sleeping.

So is sleeping a waste of time? Well, even Dr Meddis does not **deny** the great psychological value of sleep, and he asks us, 'if scientists invented a pill which, if you took it, would keep you awake for ever, would you take it?'

0. <i>millions</i>	↩			
1. get	2. asleep	3. influence	4. spent	5. rest
6. during	7. all-night	8. eventually	9. fascinating	10. need
11. because	12. himself	13. have	14. on	15. hours
16. spare	17. produced	18. doing	19. could	20. deny

Distracters: *bored, dream, must, the,*

[To contents](#)

Key to Flat-sharing

Source: English File intermediate Student's book page 14

you've got a problem. You're going to go to university in a different town and you need somewhere to live. Or perhaps you just don't get on with your parents. What can you do? Have you ever thought of sharing a flat?

I know all about it because I've been sharing flats for the past four years, **since** I moved to Edinburgh to study. I must admit my first experience was a **bit** of a disaster. I saw an advert in the newspaper from a girl who had a flat and was **looking** for a flatmate. When I met her, she seemed really nice, and I **noticed** that she had lots of great CDs I wanted to hear and a big TV. However, I changed my **mind** about her a few days after I moved in. I came **home** from college one day and threw my books and jacket onto the living room sofa. My flatmate looked at them, looked at me and shouted: 'I hope you're not going to leave **them** there!' It was then I found **out** that she was absolutely obsessive about being tidy. It was obvious that we were incompatible, **as** I'm definitely not the world's tidiest person. I moved out after the first month.

I then decided to try sharing a house with several people. I rented a room in a big old house **which** I shared with four other girls (two Brazilians, a Russian, and an Italian). It was great because the house was always full of young people from **all** over the world and we had lots of parties. However, there were three problems. Firstly, it was impossible **to do** any work because the house was so noisy. Secondly, there was only one bathroom, and there was always someone in it, **especially** first thing in the morning when I was already **late** for class. But the **biggest** arguments we had were always the day the phone bill arrived!

After a year the foreign girls went home, and I decided to look for a new, **preferably** quieter flat! This **time** I decided to share with a friend, somebody I already knew well. We've been living here now for nearly a year and we get on really well - **except** for her irritating habits of eating my yoghurts and finishing the coffee! But it's great having someone else to help pay the rent, to share their dinner with you when you're too **exhausted** to cook, and who, unlike your parents or your partner, doesn't mind what time you get up or if you've left your bedroom in a **mess**. And best of all, when you've had a bad day or you've **broken** up with your boyfriend you know there's always someone to talk to.

0. and	↩			
1. bit	2. looking	3. noticed	4. mind	5. home
6. them	7. out	8. as	9. which	10. all
11. to do	12. especially	13. late	14. biggest	15. preferably
16. time	17. except	18. exhausted	19. mess	20. broken

Distracters: *making, hurried, clothes, specific*

[To contents](#)

Key to Do you speak German?

Source: True to Life Intermediate Class book page 144

After ten years of filing **and** typing for the same company, Melanie was bored and depressed. So when a marketing company advertised for trainees, she **applied**. And when they invited her to come for an interview, she was **absolutely** thrilled. At last, she thought, a chance to do **something** that would be stimulating.

There was one small **problem** though. Melanie hadn't been entirely honest in her application, and had told one or two white **lies** about her present job. Nevertheless, she **dressed** smartly for the interview and hoped they wouldn't **discover** the truth. Then halfway through, the interviewer said, 'As the advertisement stated, we are **looking** for someone who can speak good German.' Melanie's **stomach** turned. She hadn't even noticed that part of the advertisement.

'I see you studied German at school,' the interviewer **went** on. 'Have you kept it **up**? 'Oh, yes,' nodded Melanie. 'It's like a **second** language to me.' She suddenly felt her face **burning**, but it was too late now. In fact she had studied German, but she was so awful **at** it that her teacher told her to **give** it up. One week later Melanie was offered the job. Should she tell the truth and **risk** losing it? She accepted the job and said nothing.

At first it was fine. There were only three scheduled **trips** to Germany and other trainees volunteered to go. Meanwhile, Melanie bought some books and tapes and started learning German on her **own** in the evenings. It was no use though. She was still hopeless and got everything wrong.

The job itself was everything she had wanted. It was interesting and **challenging** and she got on well with the rest of the team. Then last week, her boss called her into his office and told her she was going to Germany on a very important trip next month. 'Pleased?' he asked. Melanie produced a **weak** smile. Should she come clean and tell the truth?

0. <i>and</i>	↩			
1. applied	2. absolutely	3. something	4. problem	5. lies
6. dressed	7. discover	8. looking	9. stomach	10. went
11. up	12. second	13. burning	14. at	15. give
16. risk	17. trips	18. own	19. challenging	20. weak

Distracters: *very, hands, taken, interviews*

[To contents](#)

Key to Doormen in New York

Source: Speak Up magazine nr 316

It may not look like an exciting job, but it's well-paid and generally **appreciated**. We're talking about doormen, the men in **smart** uniforms who greet you at the entrances to apartment buildings. They're usually **associated** with New York, but you also find **them** in other major American cities such as Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, Houston and Austin

Doormen are polite and will **say** "have a nice day" or "have a great night" to all the residents in their building. They will know their **children's** names and everything about their private lives, but they will **behave** professionally and discreetly.

In the **movies**, doormen work in luxury apartments buildings, but you also find them in more **modest** ones. In fact you can judge a **building** by the number of doormen: **the** more there are, the higher the rent.

Doormen usually **have** a smile on their faces as they take care **of** the deliveries like parcels or flowers. They will call a resident **if** someone shows up to see them. They will also get a **cab** for you and they must check that everything in the building is **running** smoothly. As one of the doormen explains, 'Personality' is the **main** job requirement.

All doormen have graduated from high school and some have a **college** education. They are members of a union, the Service Employees International Union, and they have **health** benefits. The salary is pretty good, too, **ranging** from \$35,000 to \$50,000 a year. Many doormen hope to "move up the **ladder**" and become a "super" or building supervisor. In this job they can make even more.

0. <i>appreciated</i>	↩			
1. smart	2. associated	3. them	4. say	5. children's
6. behave	7. movies	8. modest	9. building	10. the
11. have	12. of	13. if	14. cab	15. running
16. main	17. college	18. health	19. ranging	20. ladder

Distracters: *ending, go, keys, that*

[To contents](#)

