

PRUEBA: CELEBRITY NEWS

ANSWER KEY – including SMART TIPS

1. Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE. (2 points)

- a. Emma worries about breaking the law.
False. 'She does not think of herself as a criminal.'

SMART TIP: topic vocabulary

The words in a question may not be exactly the same as the words in the text, even though they mean similar things. Here, the expression *break the law* and the noun *criminal* both belong to the topic set 'crime'. Revising key topic sets will help you prepare more effectively for your exam.

SMART TIP: giving evidence

Remember to support your answers with evidence. It might seem obvious that a statement is true or false, but you have to *prove* it is wrong by giving evidence from the text. You will not get any points if you only write 'true' or 'false'.

- b. Broadsheet newspapers are only concerned with serious news, not celebrity news.
False. 'The broadsheet newspaper The Telegraph now has a regular gossip column ...'

SMART TIP: referring to the text

Make sure you always refer to the text when giving your answers. The text may not always give the answer you would expect!

For example, a broadsheet newspaper is usually defined as 'a serious newspaper, giving most coverage to news and key political issues.' However, the text states that broadsheet newspapers now cover celebrity news, too. An answer is only correct if it is stated in the text.

2. In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text. (2 points)

- a. How does our current interest in gossip compare with that of people in the sixteenth century?
Suggested answer: People in the sixteenth century could also read scandalous stories about the celebrities of the time, but we are even more obsessed by gossip today.

SMART TIP: making logical deductions

Some questions are not as straightforward as others. When a question looks difficult, do not panic. Read the sentence again then look carefully at the text for clues. At first, 'people in the sixteenth century' might seem confusing, as this time period is not directly mentioned in the text. However, a date is mentioned in paragraph 2: 1453. When we read the surrounding information carefully, we find out that people read scandalous stories 'only a century after the invention of the printing press'. A century (=100 years) + 1453 = 1553. 1553 is in *the sixteenth century*. Use the information in the text to make logical deductions.

- b. Why do some celebrities criticize gossip hunters?

Suggested answer: Some celebrities think that gossip writers do not allow them to have a private life and can stop them from enjoying their lives.

3. Find the words in the text that mean: (1 point: 0.25 points each)

- a. salary, wage (paragraph 1) *income*

Smart tip: looking for related words

When you first read a definition, think of words you know that are similar. You might remember that 'salary' and 'wage' relate to *money*, so it is a good idea to read the paragraph for other words and expressions relating to this topic. In one sentence, Emma uses the 'money' words *get paid* and *earn* which gives you a clue that this is a good place to look for the answer.

- b. follow, pursue (paragraph 1) *hunt*
c. increase (paragraph 2) *boost*

Smart tip: identifying the correct verb form

When you need to find a synonym for a verb, make sure that you search for the correct *form*. There is another verb in paragraph 2 which, in the infinitive form, also means 'increase': *escalate*. However, in the text this word appears in the past simple form, not the infinitive form: *escalated*. For this reason, the correct answer is *boost*, as the word and its synonym are BOTH in the infinitive form.

- d. in an unhappy manner (paragraph 3) *bitterly*

Smart tip: common suffixes

Revise common prefixes and suffixes before your examination. The definition in d. tells you that you need to find an adverb (many adverbs mean 'in an X manner'). If you remember that most adverbs end in *-ly*, this will help you in your search for the correct answer.

4. Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the words in brackets when given. (2 points: 0.5 points each)

- a. Ever since I *saw* (see) my first film, I *have been* (be) fascinated by the cinema.

SMART TIP: time expressions

Time expressions can help you decide what verb forms to use. The time expression 'ever since' is often used with the perfect tenses. We can assume that the speaker is still fascinated now, so we need to use the present perfect tense to describe his or her fascination. We need to use the past simple tense for the event which happened at a fixed time in the past (the speaker's first film).

- b. The celebrity, *who* became famous *for* her musical abilities, passed away last night.

SMART TIP: adjectives + prepositions

You may need to fill a gap with a preposition after an adjective. Different adjectives are matched with different prepositions, so you need to be careful to use the correct pair. Remember to revise prepositional collocations (adjective / verb / noun + preposition) before your final examination.

- c. I *will have finished* (finish) this gossip magazine by lunchtime, so you can *read* (read) it then.
d. Emma was *so* excited about meeting her favourite star that she couldn't stop *smiling* (smile).

SMART TIP: linkers

You may need to complete a gap with a suitable linker. The *meaning* and the *use* of the linker can give you clues. Here, the *meaning* of the sentence tells you that you need to use a linker of result (something happened as a result of something else). The word 'that' in the sentence gives you clues about the *use*: we know that this word appears as part of the linking expressions 'so ... that' and 'such ... that'. *So + adjective + clause* is correct, but *such + adjective + clause* is incorrect, so the correct answer must be 'so'.

5. Write about 150–200 words on the following topic. (3 points)

What are the advantages and disadvantages of being famous?

Suggested answer:

Many people want to be famous, but there are both advantages and disadvantages to fame.

On the one hand, celebrities are often pursued everywhere by reporters and photographers, which must be quite stressful. They have to look good all the time, and be careful about what they say. They probably worry a lot about what the press will write about them, and might have to read very unflattering articles about themselves.

On the other hand, famous people get to wear great clothes, meet other famous people, and go to exclusive parties. The media gives them publicity, which in turn increases their fame. As a consequence, they can become quite rich, and many of them could probably choose to retire if they really wanted to.

In my opinion, the advantages of being a celebrity outweigh the disadvantages. However, I agree that it is not always easy to be famous.

SMART TIP: using paragraphs

You will receive points for the way you organize your writing, as well as for the accuracy of your work. Each time you introduce a new subject, use a new paragraph. When you are asked to give advantages and disadvantages, or give reasons for or against a topic, use four paragraphs:

- 1) introduction;
- 2) negative OR positive reasons (not both);
- 3) positive OR negative reasons (the opposite to paragraph 2);
- 4) conclusion and your opinion.