

PRUEBA: CELEBRITY NEWS

ANSWER KEY – including SMART TIPS

1. Answer these questions about the text. Use your own words whenever possible. (2 points: 1 point each)

1. Why does Emma wear disguises and break into buildings?
Suggested answer: She behaves like this so that she can find and interview celebrities, before writing about them for a gossip magazine.
2. 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.

SMART TIP: using linkers and time expressions

You may need to include several ideas in your answer. Try to organize your ideas with linkers, such as *because* or *so that*, or time expressions, such as *before* or *after*. Read your answer carefully afterwards to make sure it has the correct grammar, spelling and punctuation.

2. Read the following statements, decide whether they are true or false and justify your answer by quoting evidence from the text. (2 points: 0.5 points each)

1. 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'.

2. Broadsheet newspapers are only concerned with serious news, not celebrity news.
False. 'The broadsheet newspaper The Telegraph now has a regular, salacious 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.



3. *Closer* is one of the most popular gossip magazines in Britain.
True. 'Last year, Heat and Closer, the two best-selling UK gossip magazines, sold over a million copies every week.'
4. One journalist is unhappy about our modern obsession with gossip.
True. '... according to a highly-regarded news reporter, "Our hunger for gossip means that there is less media coverage of more important issues, such as politics and the environment ... We need to stop taking this trivia so seriously!"'

3. Find in the text the words or groups of words which match these definitions: (1 point: 0.2 points each)

- a. salary, money that you earn
income (paragraph 1)
- b. rapidly grown
escalated (paragraph 2)

SMART TIP: number of words in your answer

Do not assume that because a definition contains more than one word, that the correct answer will also consist of more than one word. Here, the definition includes two words, but the correct answer is a single word. Similarly, a definition might include only one word, but the answer might consist of two words or more.

- c. insensitive, not concerned by what other people think
thick-skinned (paragraph 3)
- d. constantly, unchangingly
relentlessly (paragraph 3)

SMART TIP: suffixes

Thinking about suffixes and prefixes can sometimes help you find the correct answer. In *d*, the definitions are both adverbs. You know that *-ly* is a common adverb suffix, so it is easy to locate all the words ending in *-ly* in the text.

- e. a negative reaction to something which used to be viewed positively
backlash (paragraph 4)

4. Complete the text using the correct words from the box below. There are two words that you won't need. The word in gap (d) will need a capital letter. (2 points: 0.25 points each)

Why are we so interested (a) *in* celebrity scandal? It seems that we enjoy reading (b) *about* other people's problems and misfortunes. Perhaps this (c) *makes* us feel better about the fact that we are not rich or famous. (d) *Every* day we see adverts and television programmes featuring people (e) *who* are richer and (f) *more* successful than we are. Maybe we need (g) *to* read about celebrity problems in order to (h) *remind* ourselves that nobody's perfect.

about	does	every	in	makes	more	remember	remind	to	who
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SMART TIP: easily confused words

Sometimes, a question might ask you to make a choice between two words which are easily confused. For gap (h), you need to choose between the words *remind* and *remember*. It is helpful to remember that *remind* is always followed by an object, so *remind ourselves that ...* is correct, but *remember ourselves that ...* must be incorrect.

Make a note of easily confused words when you first read them and revise them before your exams.

5. Write a composition of between 150–200 words on ONE of the following topics. (3 points)

Many different answers are possible. Here are two suggested models.

1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of being a celebrity?

Many people want to be famous, but there are both advantages and disadvantages to being a celebrity.

On the one hand, celebrities are often pursued 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 celebrity press helps to give 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 talk about 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.



2. Imagine that you have just seen a famous celebrity. Write a narrative describing what you saw and heard.

An amazing thing happened to me today. While I was shopping in town, I saw the British pop star, Aimee Wildman!

When I saw her, Aimee was shopping in my local supermarket. At first, my friend and I followed her up and down the aisles, and we hid whenever she turned around. She did not look very glamorous, as she was wearing a tracksuit and trainers. In fact, she looked quite tired and scruffy.

When she was paying for her food, she dropped a carton of milk. It went everywhere! Then some photographers ran through the door and took pictures of her. Aimee looked embarrassed, and shouted at them to leave her alone.

After I had seen how upset Aimee was, I felt ashamed for following her. Everyone has a right to privacy, and I will try to respect that in future. Nevertheless, I am really glad I had the chance to see my favourite singer!

SMART TIP: using the correct tenses

Remember to use the correct tenses when writing your composition, especially when you have to write a narrative. Use a range of narrative tenses, including the past simple, past continuous, and the present and past perfect. Remember to use the correct time expressions for each tense. For example, *when* and *while* are often used when we want to describe one action (*present continuous*) being interrupted by another action (*past simple*).