

TEST 6

PART 3

You are going to read a newspaper article about a painter. Eight sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A-I the one which fits each gap (14-20). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use. There is an example at the beginning (0).

A Rebel Artist

The papers had forecast a temperature of four degrees above normal for the time of year, yet Beijing was still grey and icy. **0** **E** The temperature was only a fraction higher in the studio of Liu Wei, who is a painter in his twenties.

He was born in Beijing in 1965, which makes him too young to remember the Cultural Revolution. He graduated from the Central Institute of Fine Art with a degree in metal painting and lithography. **14**

To get to this studio you have to go down an alley full of cars and turn into a courtyard surrounded by damaged buildings, then pick your way between planks and debris to an old staircase. This is where he works. **15** The other third of the place is taken up by a sofa, a television set, a white garden chair, two telephones that never stop ringing, bottles, jars of paint and piles of magazines.

My visit had been arranged the previous day, after a brief conversation through an interpreter. He tried hard to explain that the only thing he and his colleagues shared was the studio. They did not form a group or a movement and they shared no common doctrine. **16**

As for trying to define his painting, he was right to refuse to do it because it is impossible to explain what it is like. His work as a whole has a certain sense of satire. **17**

In the Chinese context his subjects are blasphemous, anti-religious, rude and depressing. For example, a life-size young woman wearing Western clothes grimaces against a background of the Niagara Falls dotted with red roses. **18**

Liu Wei's answers are short and sometimes evasive, possibly because of the presence of an interpreter. All he gave away were details of his career.

19 His shows have been either half secret or tolerated by the authorities. Collectors and gallery owners from Hong Kong and Europe have become enthusiastic about his pictures. **20**

Outside China, Liu Wei is one of the most highly regarded contemporary Chinese painters.

- A** He differs from many artists of his generation in that he has preferred to be independent whereas the others have mostly taken up posts as teachers in official art schools and other educational establishments.
- B** Other graduates of that institute who went into business rather than take up an artistic career, bought a disused factory and now rent it to Liu Wei and some colleagues in return for one painting a year.
- C** His use of bright colours gives life to canvases whose style would be difficult to put into words.
- D** There are many other examples of his work, such as a gigantic baby with the face of an old man that sits screaming in a bath.
- E** Its lakes and most of the Forbidden City had frozen over.
- F** So far Liu Wei has exhibited little in China, because art shows are regulated according to the wishes of the government.
- G** Two thirds of the place is occupied by paintings which are stacked against the wall.
- H** One of his works was recently on show in London, and it will shortly be possible to view others in Paris.
- I** One thing is clear: Liu Wei is not an artist who enjoys any official protection or favours.

PART 4

You are going to read some information about dictionaries. For questions 21-35, choose from the dictionaries (A-H). Some of the dictionaries may be chosen more than once. When more than one answer is required, these may be given in any order. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Which type of dictionary would you recommend for someone who wants:

- to find out about words that cause difficulties? **0** **C**
- to find different options for a particular word? **21**
- to learn the meanings of multi-word verbs? **22**
- Which type(s) of dictionary:
- sells the most? **23**
- deliberately doesn't use specialist words? **24**
- are the most suitable for people in business? **25** **26**
- help writers improve their style? **27** **28**
- are the best for people with little money and space? **29** **30**
- contain illustrations? **31** **32**
- has two specific/separate uses? **33**
- is particularly useful for spelling problems? **34**
- has a special section about people and places? **35**

Types of Dictionaries

Mini dictionaries **A**

The instant answer: Mini dictionaries are the quickest, most convenient way to look up the spellings and meanings of words that arise in everyday English. These little books are such good value that it makes sense at work, school or college to carry one around in your pocket or handbag. In recent years, mini-dictionaries have been revised to make them more user-friendly. For instance, in the updated and expanded Collins Gem all irregular forms of words are shown in bold type.

Small dictionaries **B**

Perfectly informed: A step up from a mini dictionary but still reasonably priced, these user-friendly word-finders help you with pronunciation, and give clear examples of how words are used in sentences. To make them a manageable size, the compilers tend to avoid specialist technical, scientific and literary terms. However, the Oxford dictionaries do include many commonly-used modern expressions such as "buyout", "human shield" and even "pit bull terrier".

Concise dictionaries **C**

Getting technical: If you're looking for a bookshelf dictionary with authority that also gives authentic examples of the way words actually work, then a concise dictionary could be the answer for you. Many people find these dictionaries the easiest to use at home or the office, which explains why they are bestsellers. Yet the inclusion of language from specialised technical fields also makes them ideal for students and people in business. The Collins includes a very useful language supplement which deals with problematic words and controversial usages, while the Chambers features an appendix on people and places.

Thesaurus dictionaries **D**

Two books in one: If you're keen to boost your word-power, you could get a dictionary with a built-in thesaurus. A thesaurus is a special kind of dictionary which, instead of giving meanings for words, provides alternative words. It comes in useful when you're writing and find that you're struggling to express a particular idea. For example, by looking up "smell" you might discover a word that's softer, such as "aroma", "odour" or "fragrance". For quick reference, the easiest thesauruses to use are those where the synonym entries are presented on the same page as the dictionary definitions.

Large dictionaries **E**

The last word: These single-volume dictionaries have more

of everything: more words, more complete definitions, more examples, more scientific language, more words from the past, more words for the future. The Collins is especially detailed and helpful in specialised areas, such as technology and business, while the Chambers has a clarity and characteristically witty style which makes it the preferred choice of many writers and broadcasters.

Encyclopaedic dictionaries **F**

Mines of information: Sometimes, traditional multi-volume encyclopaedias are just too detailed! For a reference source that's faster, these all-in-one reference books combine a dictionary of current English with the most useful entries of a concise encyclopaedia. They are now more topical than ever before. For example, the Oxford Encyclopaedic Dictionary is ideal for students because it contains a complete chronology of world events, right up to the crisis in Bosnia, together with a 16-page full-colour map section which shows the reorganisation of Europe.

Children's dictionaries **G**

Words made fun: The National Curriculum places a strong emphasis on correct English throughout all subjects at school. One way you can help your children improve their spelling and grammar, and help with all their school work, is by investing in a good dictionary. The Oxford Primary School Dictionary is based on the recommended vocabulary for National Curriculum Key Stage 2. The Dorling Kindersley Dictionary, also for this age range, has simple text and informative illustrations. A step up, the Usborne dictionary offers stunning illustrations and help with writing, and is very accessible. The Oxford School Dictionary, ideal for secondary schools, contains essential guidance on English usage.

Phrasal Verb dictionaries **H**

An indispensable reference tool: The Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs is the most complete and up-to-date guide to the meaning, grammar and typical use of over 12,000 phrasal verbs. Phrasal verbs - like *break down*, *let out*, *look after*, and *put up with* - are very common in English, but can cause difficulty even for advanced learners. Their meanings are often different from the meanings of the base verb; their grammatical behaviour may be complex; and in many cases there are stylistic or contextual limitations on the way they can be used. The Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs provides all the information the learner needs in order to understand phrasal verbs and use them successfully and appropriately. With its detailed analysis of over 12,000 phrasal verbs, the Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs provides the advanced learner with an indispensable reference tool.