

A. Read the text below and respond to tasks A1 and A2.

Writing a diary is a great way to honestly express your thoughts and feelings –and, if memory fails, it's a wonderful window to the past! Maybe the practice of keeping a diary strikes some people as strange or old-fashioned. It often feels trivial to record things as they happen, but later they may prove useful, instructive or even amusing.

Keeping a diary maintains the illusion of doing worthy things in a careful and thorough way every day –that you're not just spending your days without a real purpose. Which brings us to the next question: who are you writing for? Ultimately, it's yourself. Diary writing is the most private form of literary creation because you are both the author and (for the present at least) the sole reader.

There are great advantages to this. The first is the benefit to your mental health. The diary is a safety-valve in the age of social media. There is no fear of being trolled or cancelled when you only write for yourself and you won't have to live out your regret in public.

The second advantage has more to do with existential curiosity: the long perspective of diary-writing furnishes a picture not just of what you did but of who you were. To read past diary notes helps you chart the progression of the self as it changes through time. Throughout the years we evolve, we get rid of our old selves and acquire new ones. Memory will play us false about our past, will blur the small changes or miscarry the meaning; a diary, while not always correct, can at least claim: "I was there at the time".

A third important advantage of the diary is its function as a work reminder. History does the broad sweep of years and decades. Biography does the intricate detail of character and incident. Diaries do both of these jobs and can prove a valuable tool when you need to determine things about past circumstances and events.

So, a diary gives you peace of mind and a place to order your thoughts or as a writer once said "Diary writing gives us insights into who we are, who we were, and who we can become".

> Adapted from https://www.theguardian.com (2021)

ΤΕΛΟΣ 2ΗΣ ΑΠΟ 6 ΣΕΛΙΔΕΣ

(30 points

(6 x 3 points = 18 points

C. The general publi

C. an annoying habit.

C. get organized at work

C. their purpose in life.

C. doubtful.

C. can ask social media users to send them comments.

Α. ΚΑΤΑΝΟΗΣΗ ΓΡΑΠΤΟΥ ΛΟΓΟΥ

- A1. Answer questions 1-3, based on information from the text (max. 30 words each). (3 x 4 points = 12 points)
 - 1. What would be a suitable title for this text? Reasons to Keep a Diary (or similar)
 - 2. What is the purpose of the text? To inform readers about three advantages of diary keeping. (or similar)
 - 3. According to the text, how can diary writing offer people a window to the past? Justify your answer. Diaries can help us to recall information and trace our development as personalities, whilst they provide details about past events and circumstances, allowing us to draw useful conclusions about them. (or similar)

A2. Choose the correct answer (A, B or C) for items 4-9, based on information from the text

- 4. Who would be most interested in reading this text?
- A. Book publishers.
- B. Professional writers.

5. Some people might find diary writing

- A. a meaningless habit.
- **B.** a good habit.

6. Keeping a diary helps people

A. communicate with others. B. exp

B. express their emotions.

7. Writing a diary is beneficial to people's mental health because they

A. can improve their publicB. don't have their ideasspeaking skills.criticized by others.

- 8. Diary notes can help people learn more things about
- A. themselves. B. the others.

 $\boldsymbol{9.}$ In this text, the writer's attitude towards diary writing is

A. favourable.

B. negative.

ΤΕΛΟΣ 3ΗΣ ΑΠΟ 6 ΣΕΛΙΔΕΣ

Β. ΓΛΩΣΣΙΚΗ ΕΠΙΓΝΩΣΗ

B1. Use the correct form of the following words (A-H) to complete the gaps (10-14) in the following text, as in the example. There are TWO words you do not need.

(5 x 2 points = 10 poi

(30 poin

Α.	attend	В.	biology	C.	predict	D.	intelligent (example)
Ε.	judge	F.	possible	G.	believe	Н.	able

The example is in **bold** and *italics*.

Will robots ever think like humans?

Artificial (ex.) *intelligence* keeps getting smarter but it can never imitate human (10) judg(e)ment and reasoning. Computer models based on the human neural networks in our brains are trained on vast amounts of data using huge clusters of processors, whereas (11) <u>biological</u> creatures like us are not trained on a static pool of data. We require years of experience before we can understand our world. Research has shown that, if we're trying to focus on an object, our brains are not fully developed to pay (12) <u>attention</u> and filter out any visual distractions until the age of 17. We are prebuilt to learn, while robots use highly simplified ideas of learning, mostly doing little more than data (13) <u>prediction(s)</u> based on guessing algorithms. Robots do not still have the (14) <u>ability</u> to handle changing scenarios in the way humans can because they do not understand cause and effect.

B2. Fill in the gaps with TWO words in the statements of column B, so that they are similar in meaning to the statements (15-19) of column A, as in the example.

(5 x 2 points = 10 points

	mple: A charity concert was held last month elp children in need.	A charity concert <u>took place</u> last month to help children in need.		
	COLUMN A			
15.	The police are investigating the matter of the stolen painting from the National Gallery in central London.	The police are <u>looking / probing</u> into the matter of the stolen painting from the National Gallery in central London.		
16.	l am against keeping animals in zoos; l think it's cruel.	I don't <u>approve of / agree with</u> keeping animals in zoos; I think it's cruel.		
17.	You must not talk during the exam.	You are not supposed / allowed / permitted to talk during the exam.		
18.	Kelly admitted that she was not in the mood to go out that night.	Kelly admitted that she did not feel like going out that night.		
19.	Many marathon runners did not manage to finish the race.	Many marathon runners did not succeed in finishing the race.		

ΤΕΛΟΣ 4ΗΣ ΑΠΟ 6 ΣΕΛΙΔΕΣ

B3. Choose the best option A-F (Column B-headings) for items 20-24 (Column A-paragraphs). There is ONE option you do not need.

(5 x 2 points = 10 points)

Vienna's unpredictable Vegetable Orchestra

	COLUMN A	
20. C	It is three hours before showtime and members of an orchestra are seated onstage in the garden of an old monastery outside Cologne, Germany. On cue, the smartly dressed musicians slowly raise their instruments, purse their lips and begin playing. Just then, a sound technician abruptly cuts them off. The carrot flutes were too strong and he couldn't hear the pumpkin drum.	
21. D	This is Vienna's Vegetable Orchestra: a 10-piece ensemble that plays music with instruments made entirely from fresh produce. Over the past 21 years, the group has played nearly 300 shows at packed venues around the globe. The group has also been listed in the Guinness World Records for 'Most concerts by a vegetable orchestra' and has inspired a few other biodegradable ensembles to sprout up around the world.	B. ALWAYS FRESH
22. A	The orchestra has invented more than 150 instruments over the years –and for many members, that's half the fun. Some are ready-made items from the market: crunching dried onion skin in your fist sounds like a rainstorm while thumping a pumpkin with your palm resembles a bass drum. Courgettes and peppers make good wind and brass instruments. The most complex are transformer-like hybrids that combine two or more vegetables.	C. THE FINAL REHEARSAL
23. B	Unlike traditional instruments, which can last for hundreds of years, vegetable instruments quickly go bad, so the orchestra has to create new ones each time it plays. The morning of every show, the group goes to the local market with a detailed shopping list. Whatever is not used, it gets boiled down into a soup that is served to the audience after the show.	D. WORLD RECOGNITION
24. F	"One of the most fascinating things about touring is learning how food differs around the world and coming up with completely new instruments", said Jiirgen Berlakovich. In South-East Asia, the group discovered an elastic garlic grass that made a great bass string. In the US, they found markets that sell giant leaves, which can be used like a maraca.	E. THE WAY FORWARD
		F. SONIC POTENTIAL IN VEGETABLES

ΤΕΛΟΣ 5ΗΣ ΑΠΟ 6 ΣΕΛΙΔΕΣ

(40 points)

n,

Γ. ΠΑΡΑΓΩΓΗ ΓΡΑΠΤΟΥ ΛΟΓΟΥ

TASK: A European Youth magazine is asking teenagers to express their views on the following topic: "Good friends are like stars: you don't always see them, but you know they're always there".

Write an article (180-200 words) to submit to the magazine in which you:

a) give two reasons why friends are important in our

life and

b) describe a significant life experience with a friend that supported you.

Do not mention your name anywhere in the text.



ΤΕΛΟΣ 6ΗΣ ΑΠΟ 6 ΣΕΛΙΔΕΣ

Sample answer

Why we Need Friends

It is often said that friends are the family we choose. Why are they so important as to be conside almost as relatives?

Firstly, friends help us cope with difficult situations. As they are people of trust, we confide our most intimate secrets and fears in them and, in turn, they offer advice. Even merely listening and expressing sympathy to our problems is helpful, as some of the burden we have is taken away. Personally, I experienced a negative period last year with my parents' divorce. I needed to talk to someone, and my friend Laura was there, by my side, listening to my expression of accumulated feelings. This helped my gradually steam off and accept my parents' decision.

Moreover, friends can exert a positive influence upon us. For example, they can be assistive in our effort to become more extroverted, by accompanying us to various social occasions. Alternatively marks can be improved if sessions are organised, in which we study together and help each other

All in all, I believe that friends are a valuable part of our lives, as they can not only stand by o but they can also affect us in a positive way.

Κέντρο Αγγλικής Γλώσσας Γιώργος Κουμεντάκης

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