

Student Name: Celeste Di Micoli

Final Mark 72/100

Level: B2

Company: Merck

## Vocabulary (10pts total) 10/10

Read the text and choose the correct option (A, B or C) for each gap

1. After years of study, she managed to A in her career faster than her colleagues.

- A) Proper yourself forward
- B) push herself ahead professionally
- C) move upward in ranking systems

2. In modern companies, employees often A across departments instead of staying in one role.

- A) Move horizontally (roles, work)
- B) shift vertically within hierarchies only
- C) stay fixed in their original position

3. You must B unfair treatment, even if it's difficult.

- A) Stand up to
- B) Stand up for
- C) adapt silently to

4. It's important to C your friends when they are being criticized unfairly.

- A) Remain neutral about
- B) Stand up to

C) Stand up for

**5. The projects usually faces a lot of problems with media and \_\_\_C\_\_\_**

A) whatnot

B) whatsoever

C) whatever

**6. They had to \_\_\_B\_\_\_ a new marketing strategy after the old one failed.**

A) copy from competitors

B) come up with

C) adjust slightly

**7. He is very careful about \_\_\_C\_\_\_ influential people in the industry.**

A) competing against

B) avoiding contact with

C) keeping in with

**8. It's important to \_\_\_B\_\_\_ last relationships**

A) do

B) build

C) form

**9. She is very \_\_\_A\_\_\_, she always says exactly what she thinks.**

A) outspoken

B) socially reserved

C) overly cautious

**10. He is very \_\_\_C\_\_\_, despite his success he remains simple and approachable.**

A) socially detached

B) overly ambitious



C) down to earth

## Grammar (20pts total) 13/20

**Part I: Read through each sentence and determine whether the verb is transitive or intransitive. (5 pts) 3/5**

1. The vase broke suddenly. ~~Transitive~~ <intransitive>
2. Paul brought a bottle of champagne for the celebration. Transitive
3. Jack and Jill love hiking in the mountains. ~~Intransitive~~ <transitive. Love "something">
4. The books and notebooks are in the backpack. Intransitive (cop v)
5. They bought a new car. Transitive

## Part II: Tag Questions (5 pts) 5/5

Complete the sentences with the correct question tags

1. The car isn't in the garage \_\_ is it? \_\_ ✓
2. I'm smart \_\_ ~~don't you?~~ \_\_ <aren't I?>
3. She went to the library yesterday \_\_ didn't she? \_\_ ✓
4. He didn't recognize me \_\_ did he? \_\_ ✓
5. Cars pollute the environment \_\_ ~~is it?~~ \_\_ <don't they?>

## Part III: Passive Voice (5 pts) 4.5/5

**Transform the following sentences into passive voice**

1. Someone stole my bike. The bike was stolen by someone ✓
2. They built this house in 1990. This house was built in 1990 by them ✓

3. People speak English all over the world. English is speaking **<spoken>** all over the world by people
4. The teacher praised the student. The student was praised by the teacher ✓
5. Someone broke the window last night. The window was broken last night by someone. ✓

#### Part IV

**Rephrase the following sentences into indirect questions (5 pts)**  
**2.5/5**

1. How does it work?  
Could you tell me how ~~the work is it/about?~~ <it works?>
2. Where are you from?  
Could you tell me where are you from?  
<you are>
3. Could you lend me 50 euros?  
I'm wondering if you <could> lend me 50 euros
4. Does Susana know about the current issue?  
~~Do you know if the current issue knows by Susana?~~  
<Do you know if Susana knows about the current issue?" or "Do you know if the  
Current issue is known by Susana?"> if you want to keep the passive voice>
5. Do you have any problem with that?  
Could you please confirm if you have any problem with that? ✓

#### Reading 10/15 (15pts total)

**Read the following text and answer either true or false the questions down below and account for your choice.**


##### The Benefits and Risks of Over-the-Counter Medicines

I often rely on over-the-counter (OTC) medicines to treat minor ailments like headaches, colds, or allergies. They offer a quick and affordable solution, allowing me to deal with common symptoms without visiting a doctor. Since these medications have been tested for safety and effectiveness, I might assume they are entirely risk-free if used

correctly. In many cases, they help me recover faster and avoid unnecessary medical appointments, which could otherwise take up valuable time and resources.

However, just because a medicine is available without a prescription doesn't mean it is completely harmless. I may think that taking a higher dose will speed up recovery, but in reality, it could lead to dangerous side effects. For instance, I couldn't possibly ignore the risks of overusing painkillers, as excessive consumption of ibuprofen or acetaminophen might harm my liver or kidneys. Similarly, combining multiple medications without checking for interactions may cause unexpected complications, something I should always be cautious about.

To stay safe, I know I must use OTC medicines responsibly. Reading labels carefully and following dosage instructions may seem like silly steps, but they could prevent serious health issues. When I have doubts, consulting a pharmacist is a precaution I couldn't really overlook. While OTC medicines are undoubtedly useful, I believe they should be taken with awareness and care to avoid unintended harm.

- 
1. The author believes over-the-counter medicines are always completely risk-free when used correctly. T  
< The text says they are not completely harmless.>
  2. The text suggests that taking a higher dose of painkillers can speed up recovery without any danger. F – Because it might cause side effects/complications
  3. Overusing medications like ibuprofen or acetaminophen may cause damage to organs such as the liver or kidneys. T (if excessive)
  4. The author states that combining different medications without checking interactions is always safe. F – it may cause unexpected complications.
  5. The text recommends reading labels and consulting a pharmacist when in doubt about OTC medicines. T

Part II: Write a short summary highlighting the main ideas. Make use of proper grammar, tenses, and register. Limit: 150 words.

Some benefits about uses < sounds unnatural. "use" is also being overused. More natural combinations: "benefits of OTC medicines" or "advantages of using OTC medicines"> of OTC medicines should be availability of medicine < Missing article/plural consistency. Examples: "availability of medicines" or "availability of medication"> without any prescription, quick solution to treat the pain < The article "the" in "the pain" is too specific here. Better collocations: "a quick solution for treating pain" or "a quick way to relieve headaches"> like headaches, allergies or colds and avoid visit to a doctor in a lot of opportunities. < False friend from Spanish (oportunidades). In English: "in many cases" "many times"> Also, we know that this type of medicine has already tested to use safety. < "safety" should be "safely" or "for safety." Examples: "has already been tested" "has been tested for safety"> Although, is necessary assume < Missing subject. "assume" is not the best verb here. Examples: "Although it is necessary to understand..." or "However, it is important to understand..."> that mixed painkillers should be cause < In this sentence structure, "mixed painkillers" is unclear. Examples: "Combining painkillers can cause..." or "combining medicines may cause..."> different body or health complications. < Unnatural collocation. "health complications", "physical complications" or "problems in the body"> So, we must be careful, read label and dossier instructions < Missing plural article. "dossier" is not natural here. Better: "read the labels and dosage instructions"> to be safe. If we have a doubt, we could ask to a doctor or pharmacist about how must it take it. < Word order problem. Modal structure incorrect. Examples: "about how to take it" or "about how it should be taken"> We understand that this type of medicines < "this type of medicines is" Agreement problem. Either: "this type of medicine is" or "these types of medicines are"> is a quick option to be healthy but we can't ignore the side effects or negative consequences.

## Listening (15pts total) 12/15

Part I: Choose the right answer. (7.5 pts) 6/7.5

1. The pitch drop experiment is ...

A) the oldest experiment in history.

B) the oldest experiment that is still running today. X ✓

C) the longest experiment in 1927.

2. The creator of the experiment wanted to ...

A) have an experiment that lasted a long time.

B) show the dangers of everyday materials.

C) show that common substances have extraordinary properties. X ✓

3. Pitch is a substance ...

A) that looks solid but is actually liquid. X ✓

B) that looks liquid but is actually solid.

C) that doesn't appear to be liquid or solid.

4. The first time a drop of pitch fell was ...

A) eight years after the experiment began.

B) three years after the experiment began.

C) forty years after the experiment began.

5. Which of the following sentences is not true about Professor John Mainstone?

A) He never saw the pitch drop.

B) ~~He was responsible for the experiment for over fifty years.~~ X

C) He took over the experiment in 1927.

### Part II: Complete the sentences (7.5 pts) 6/7.5

Complete the sentences with one to three words and/or numbers.



1. When pitch is at room temperature, you can break it with a \_\_GEMMA\_\_  
<hammer>
2. Professor Parnell put pitch into a glass funnel, let it cool, then turned it  
\_UPSIDE DOWN\_\_\_\_\_ and cut off the top.
3. In total, only \_\_9\_\_drops\_ have fallen from the funnel.
4. The next pitch drop is expected to fall in \_\_2020\_\_
5. In 1988, the scientist responsible for the experiment missed seeing the  
pitch drop by \_5\_\_ minutes

## Writing 13/20 (20pts total)

### Rewrite the text in reported speech.

"Over the past year, we have seen significant changes in our market," said the CEO. "We are facing increasing pressure from competitors, and our clients expect faster delivery, lower costs, and more flexible solutions. Although we have invested heavily in new technology, the results are not visible yet. Some departments are still struggling to adapt to these changes, and this is affecting our overall performance.

If we don't respond quickly, we will lose market share and weaken our position in the industry. We must rethink our strategy, streamline our processes, and focus more on long-term sustainability. At the same time, we cannot ignore short-term results, as our stakeholders are expecting immediate improvements.

////////////////////////////////////

<The> CEO pointed out that "Over the past year, we have seen significant changes in our market" <quotation marks are unnecessary in reported speech>. Also, he said that they were facing increasing pressure by <from> competitors, and their clients expected faster delivery, lower costs, and more flexible solutions. The company had invested heavily In new technology and he said that the result <Original says "results" (plural). Therefore, it should stay plural: "the results were not visible..."> was not visible up to now <up to now" Sounds awkward with backshifted past. "yet" fits better in reported speech here.>. CEO claimed that some departments were struggling to adapt to those changes and it was affecting their overall performance.

He explained <that> if they didn't respond quickly, they would lose market share and woken <Wrong verb. Should be: "weaken their position"> their position in the industry. <He> Also said that they have to rethink < Tense inconsistency. Since the text is backshifted: "they had to rethink..."> their strategy, streamline their processes, and focus more on long-term sustainability. At the same time, he



confirms **<confirmed>** that they couldn't ignore short-term results, as their stakeholders was expecting **<Subject-verb agreement. "stakeholders" → plural: "were expecting">** immediate improvements.

Pros:

You managed to decently maintain the meaning of the original text. *Most* reporting verbs are used correctly. Conditional back shifting was attempted correctly: "If we don't respond" → "if they didn't respond". In addition to this, pronoun adaptation is *mostly* accurate.

Main area to improve:

- consistency of tense after reporting verbs
- avoiding direct speech punctuation in indirect speech
- subject-verb agreement
- verb choice/collocations ("pressure from," "weaken," etc.)

## Speaking 14/20 (20pts total)

**1) Part II: Pick one of these topics and elaborate. Make proper use of tenses, vocabulary, and grammar. (10 pts) 6/10**

A: Career Choice. Should passion really guide your decisions?

B: Networking. How do professional connections help your career?

C: Leadership Style. Should leaders be more assertive or more collaborative?

D: Stability vs Growth. Is it better to stay in one company or move to advance faster?

E: Risk-Taking. Is it worth taking bold decisions early in your career?

**2)Part I: Weak forms (10) 8/10**

**Read the following text. Remember to keep clear contrast between a content word and a function word.**

I'm the one who writes your name in black marker on your Starbucks cup. I probably write around five hundred customers' names every day. Recently, it has come to my attention that people aren't always satisfied with the names I've written in an atrocious. In fact, many people say the names are often wildly inaccurate.

They wanna know why I can never get it right. Allow me to explain why: I am messing with you. I didn't mishear your name. I am deliberately misspelling your name to confuse and annoy you. It's the best part of my job and I will never stop.

