

## Consolidation 8

### 202 Use only one word to fill in each of the numbered blanks.

According to a recent report (1) ..... by the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development, the problem of illiteracy is (2) ..... which poses a serious threat (3) ..... Europe's economy. Several million people are apparently (4) ..... to read or write adequately and this may prevent the (5) ..... of many supposedly advanced European countries.

The recent influx of immigrants (6) ..... countries such as France and Sweden has (7) ..... to misplaced ideas of (8) ..... the illiterate population is. The OECD report reveals (9) ..... that a fifth of military conscripts in France were unable to read a short passage (10) ..... and one hundred workers at a Swedish mill (11) ..... to achieve satisfactory levels of literacy. (12) ..... British attempts to deal (13) ..... the problem by organising schemes (14) ..... at adult illiterates, the re-allocation of funds (15) ..... the government doomed them (16) ..... failure.

Calls have been (17) ..... for more money to be directed (18) ..... improving standards across Europe in (19) ..... to promote international co-operation as (20) ..... as national economic progress.

#### Phrasal Verbs 1

**lay aside** : put aside

**lay into** : attack (with blows or words)

**lay off** : stop doing sth irritating

**lay out** : spend

**let down** : 1) disappoint, 2) lower sth

**let in for** : involve in trouble etc

**let in on** : allow sb to share a plan, secret etc

**let sb off** : not punish severely

**let on** : reveal a secret

**let out** : 1) make (a garment etc) looser or larger (opp.: let in), 2) utter a cry

**let sb through** : allow sb to pass an exam or a test

**let up** : become less strong

**let up on** : treat sb less severely

### 203 Fill in the correct preposition or adverb.

1. He **laid out** all his savings on that venture which fortunately succeeded.
2. He let his parents ..... by failing his exams.
3. Don't let ..... that they're planning to get married. Their parents don't know.
4. I wish you'd lay ..... telling me what to do all the time.
5. You should really let ..... the children. They can't be perfect all the time.
6. We'll let you ..... our plan but don't tell anybody else.
7. Her father laid ..... her when she came home two hours late from a party.
8. I let myself ..... a lot of trouble when I agreed to help her.
9. If the rain lets ....., we'll be able to play tennis.
10. For the last twenty years, he has been laying ..... 15% of his salary for his old age.
11. Your skirt needs letting .....; it's too short.
12. He was let ..... with a warning instead of being given a fine.
13. The child let ..... a cry of horror at the sight of the dog.
14. The examiner let me ..... although I hadn't answered all the questions.
15. This blouse is too tight for me. I'd better let it .....

What's the difference between "land in" and "land up"?

## Consolidation 8

### Phrasal Verbs 2

#### 204 Match the phrasal verbs in bold italics with the definitions given.

- If you **keep at** your French studies, you'll improve.
- If we **keep to** the plan exactly, we're certain to succeed.
- As I couldn't **keep up with** the rest of the class, I transferred to a lower class.
- Don't **keep on at** me about the door; I'll fix it.
- Keep up (with)** your work and you'll succeed eventually.
- The authorities managed to **keep down** rebellious factions with the use of force.
- Keep in with** the boss and you'll soon get a promotion.
- It's time we found out what he's **keeping back** from us.
- The student **was kept in** for an hour for cheating in the exam.
- Keep on** the diet and you'll soon begin to lose weight.

- to follow
- to progress at the same rate
- to continue doing sth
- to continue working at
- to repress
- to detain after normal hours as a punishment
- to hide
- to stay at an equal level with
- to continue to be friendly
- to continue talking in an irritating way

1. D 2. .... 3. .... 4. .... 5. .... 6. .... 7. .... 8. .... 9. .... 10. ....

### Idioms 1

**against all odds** : despite difficulties

**get the sack** : be dismissed

**in the offing** : likely to happen

**status symbol** : possession thought to show sb's high social rank, wealth, etc.

**once and for all** : for the last time

**white elephant** : useless possession

**short and sweet** : brief but pleasant (usu ironic)

**out in the open** : (of secrets) revealed

**golden opportunity** : the best chance

**out and out** : complete

**in public** : in the presence of other people

**get the wrong end of the stick** : misunderstand completely what has been said

**throw a party** : have a party

**take things to pieces** : dismantle things

**grease sb's palm** : bribe one

#### 205 Fill in the blanks with one of the idioms.

- This new job is a **golden opportunity** and far too good to turn down.
- ....., sit down and be quiet or I'll send you out!
- I always find it embarrassing when people argue .....
- ....., he won the national song contest and became quite well-known.
- What he promised was impossible - he was a(n) ..... liar.
- Being a mechanic, my boyfriend loves .....
- I'm afraid a war is .....
- Now that the scandal is ..... the Minister will have to resign.
- When the traffic warden gave me a parking ticket, I tried to ....., which only got me into more trouble.
- It's traditional to ..... when you move house.
- John ..... when he was found to be spending company funds to buy things for himself.
- If you think I'm criticising you, you've ..... I think you were perfectly right to do what you did.
- Even though it's a bit of a ..... my mother keeps that clock for sentimental reasons.
- I'm sure they bought that Rolls Royce as nothing but a ..... ; they certainly don't need such a big car.
- Let's keep this ..... - just tell me what you want and then get out.

## Idioms 2

**out of print** : (of books) not available any more

**past one's prime** : growing old

**come to the point** : reach the main point in a discussion

**be out of practice** : lacking practice

**off the point** : irrelevant

**pop the question** : make a proposal of marriage

**part and parcel of** : basic part of

**out of the frying pan into the fire** : from a bad situation to a worse

**a bitter pill to swallow** : a difficult fact to accept

**fall into place** : become clear

## Prepositions

**207** Look at Appendix 3 and fill in the blanks with the correct preposition.

1. Jam oozed **out of** the doughnut when she bit into it.
2. The driver was oblivious ..... the red light and went straight through it.
3. Prison officers are so overburdened ..... work that a crisis has arisen.
4. My mother has an obsession ..... cleanliness and is forever doing the housework.
5. The vicious onslaught ..... the enemy platoon claimed many lives.
6. My brother is so mean, he hates to part ..... a single penny!
7. The villagers left their homes in the valley and moved to higher grounds as a precaution ..... flooding.
8. The new policy is extremely pernicious ..... the welfare of the elderly.
9. He has a proclivity ..... dishonest business practices.
10. Mrs Heath pleaded ..... her husband not to take the car.
11. He takes pride ..... always doing his homework to a high standard.
12. He is proud ..... his new sports car.

**206** Fill in the blanks with one of the idioms.

1. My husband **popped the question** on Valentine's Day in 1978.
2. The book was published in the 1940's and is now .....
3. Moving from that house to this one was a case of ..... It's much worse here.
4. I'd love a game of tennis even though I'm .....
5. Failing the exam after so much hard work was .....
6. Everything ..... at the end of the film.
7. Since we were discussing unemployment, his comment about football was totally .....
8. I wish he'd ..... and stop wasting everyone's time.
9. You're no longer considered ..... until you're in your 60's.
10. Doing the washing is ..... of being a housewife.

**208** Look at Appendix 3 and fill in the blanks with the correct preposition.

1. **To** everyone's astonishment, she arrived at the party in a Rolls Royce.
2. Their school building is ..... repair, so they are having lessons in the old library.
3. She was ..... the point of leaving when the phone rang.
4. People were chosen ..... random to try the new product.
5. ..... answer to your question, the meeting will take place next Tuesday.
6. The painting shows a woman standing in a field ..... the nude.
7. ..... no account must you open your book during the test.
8. The police officer said, "You are ..... arrest for disturbing the peace."
9. ..... the whole, I think your work is quite satisfactory.
10. As there was little time left, he outlined his plans ..... brief.
11. Don't be so impatient ..... Sue. She's only 10.
12. Mary was impatient ..... the Christmas holidays to come.