

## SECTION 1 (FCE format)

### PART 1

For questions 1-12, read the text below and decide which answer A, B, C or D best fits each space. There is an example at the beginning (0).

➔ Example: 0

(A) heading

B counting

C increasing

D progressing

### POPULATION FACTS

According to the United Nations' population figures, the world's population will be (0) heading for 8.9 billion by the year 2050, (1) to 6.7 billion in 2009. This figure (2) into account that each woman on the planet will give birth to two children.

Eight billion, nine hundred million people may sound (3) an astronomical figure, yet statistics (4) that, throughout the world, the number of children being born is dropping. In Africa the birth rate has decreased from 6.6 to 5.1, in Asia from 5.1 to 2.6, in Latin America from 5.0 to 2.7 and with (5) to the European countries, the birth rate is below the replacement level. This means fewer people being born for every elderly person. For instance, by 2050, Spain risks being the oldest country in the world. The explanation (6) for this is the fact that women have become better educated and would rather (7) a career than enjoy motherhood. Therefore, they (8) bringing up many children and being out of work for long periods of time.

(9) , the world's population will continue to increase (10) the ageing population. This will happen because of an overall rise in life expectancy, especially in the developed countries. The main reason for this is that many diseases which were fatal in the past, can be (11) nowadays.

In view of these facts, experts argue that 8.9 billion people is more than our planet will be able to take. Others who have a more pessimistic outlook on life (12) that we are already on the point of not being able to sustain the current population.

1	A combined	B unlike	C competed	D compared
2	A brings	B has	C takes	D gives
3	A as	B alike	C likewise	D like
4	A reveal	B give away	C describe	D speak out
5	A connection	B view	C relation	D respect
6	A given	B made	C supported	D told
7	A chase	B create	C pursue	D advance
8	A prevent	B omit	C avoid	D prohibit
9	A All the same	B After all	C All in all	D Once and for all
10	A whereas	B although	C even though	D in spite of
11	A healed	B cured	C defeated	D beaten
12	A warn	B accuse	C threaten	D advise

## PART 2

For questions 13-24, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only one word in each space.

## FLOWER POWER

Flowers grow everywhere in the world but (0) *when* people think of tulips, they think of the Netherlands. The Dutch have a saying: "Flowers love people". (13) \_\_\_\_\_ this is true, then flowers really love the Dutch, as flowers have been cultivated in the Netherlands for hundreds of years. In fact, the flower industry has been (14) \_\_\_\_\_ profitable that it has been boosting the Dutch economy since the seventeenth century.

Recently, however, the Dutch flower growers have been (15) \_\_\_\_\_ difficulties in coping with the tough competition from abroad. The Colombians, for instance, have (16) \_\_\_\_\_ the Dutch by surprise. Their flowers are now (17) \_\_\_\_\_ demand all over the world (18) \_\_\_\_\_ to the simple fact that they are cheaper. Within a few short years, the Colombians have brought Holland's domination of the flower industry to an end.

(19) \_\_\_\_\_ this fact, the Netherlands is still in control of over sixty per cent of the world's flower market.

In (20) \_\_\_\_\_ to help the Dutch growers, the European Commission has decided to promote the flower industry, as (21) \_\_\_\_\_ as the growers themselves are willing to cut costs and become more competitive. All this in the hope of making people buy more flowers than they used to.

Today the average Dutchman buys 150 stems a year,

(22) \_\_\_\_\_ the Germans buy 80 stems and the English only 50 stems. These numbers are constantly declining.

(23) \_\_\_\_\_ this trend is reversed, many Dutch growers will soon be (24) \_\_\_\_\_ of business.

