

**Synonyms: challenges and achievement**

**1 Circle the correct alternative.**

**Superstar Swimmer**

Natalie du Toit's swimming career is a remarkable story of overcoming (1) obstacles/exploits and never giving up hope. Natalie was a teenage swimming star who achieved the amazing (2) trial/feat of representing South Africa aged just 14. However, at the age of 17 her career seemed to be over when she was involved in a scooter accident which resulted in her left leg being amputated at the knee. Her physical recovery was a huge (3) adventure/battle, but Natalie eventually went on to win five gold medals at the Athens Paralympic Games. Four years later, in the Beijing Olympics, Natalie achieved her greatest (4) accomplishment/hurdle when she became the first female amputee swimmer in history to compete in the able-bodied Olympics. Among those to recognise her feats in overcoming sporting (5) hurdles/trials was former president Nelson Mandela.

/ 5 points

- 5 I think it was ..... of him to leave the child unattended at the swimming pool.
- 6 Some of her decisions seem to be completely ....., They don't make any sense to me.
- 7 It was really ..... that you couldn't attend the tutorial. It was very informative.
- 8 The team's new strategy was ..... and they lost the match.
- 9 Although he'll be 16 next month, he's still quite .....
- 10 Even though Maria had a very slim chance of winning, it was highly .....

**3 Are these sentences True (T) or False (F)? Correct the false sentences.**

- 1 If you **underestimate** someone's abilities, you think they are more talented than they really are. T/F
- 2 An **anti-social** person prefers spending time alone and does not make friends easily. T/F
- 3 The **subconscious** refers to operations of our mind that are in our conscious state. T/F
- 4 When someone is **misunderstood**, their actions are not being correctly interpreted. T/F
- 5 When you are recovering from injury, you shouldn't **overdo** weightlifting and stretching. T/F
- 6 If the police decide to **reconsider** the evidence, it means they will study the evidence for the first time. T/F
- 7 A **co-worker** is a person that you work for. T/F
- 8 An **international sports event** is one in which different countries compete between each other. T/F
- 9 If someone has **supernatural** powers, their abilities are considered to be below those of ordinary people. T/F

/ 25 points

**Word formation: prefixes**

**2a Look at the wordlists. Complete 1–6 with the correct prefix.**

- |             |            |           |
|-------------|------------|-----------|
| 1 .....     | 2 .....    | 3 .....   |
| effective   | legal      | approve   |
| experienced | legitimate | qualify   |
| formal      | literate   |           |
| 4 .....     | 5 .....    | 6 .....   |
| relevant    | bearable   | practical |
| resistible  | natural    | probable  |
|             | reliable   |           |

**2b Complete the sentences with these words and an appropriate prefix.**

adequate • advantage • effective • fortunate  
legible • mature • probable • rational  
reliable • responsible

- 1 The amount of food at the party was ..... to feed all of the hungry children!
- 2 The teacher couldn't mark the student's essay because his writing was .....
- 3 One significant ..... of home schooling is that it is harder to socialise with people of your own age face to face.
- 4 My car has become very ....., It has broken down three times in the last month!

## Unit review

**4 Choose the best answer (a, b or c). In some cases this is a prefix to add to the word given.**

- 1 The documentary on the television last night was very .....informative.  
**a** il-                      **b** un-                      **c** im-
- 2 He didn't seem to have thought through his decision to quit school and sail around the world. It was really .....rational.  
**a** ir-                      **b** un-                      **c** mis-
- 3 It was a fantastic ..... to become the national chess champion at only 13 years old.  
**a** accomplishment   **b** mission        **c** undertaking
- 4 His lifestyle is so .....organised. I couldn't live in all that mess!  
**a** un-                      **b** mis-                      **c** dis-
- 5 It was .....fortunate that the market crashed just after Maria launched her new product.  
**a** mis-                      **b** un-                      **c** in-
- 6 The main problem Ahmed experienced was to .....estimate the strong competition he would face in the trial.  
**a** over-                      **b** un-                      **c** under-
- 7 Walking through the forest in the snow was unbearable. I was really glad when the ..... came to an end.  
**a** adventure            **b** obstacle        **c** ordeal
- 8 My brother is .....capable of thinking about anyone else. He only thinks about himself.  
**a** un-                      **b** in-                      **c** im-
- 9 The climbers kept in touch at all times while on their ..... to reach the top of the mountain.  
**a** battle                **b** accomplishment   **c** hurdle
- 10 I am trying to eat more healthily, but my mum keeps cooking .....resistible cakes and biscuits!  
**a** im-                      **b** ir-                      **c** un-

/ 10 points

Total: / 40 points