

## Synonyms – achievement and difficulty

## 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) mission/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/undertaking, 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/mission 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

## Word formation 1 – prefixes

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

- |                      |                     |                      |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 .....<br>effective | 2 .....<br>legal    | 3 .....<br>approve   |
| experienced          | legitimate          | qualify              |
| formal               | literate            |                      |
| 4 .....<br>relevant  | 5 .....<br>bearable | 6 .....<br>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

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

- I think it was ..... of him to leave the child unattended at the swimming pool.
- Some of her decisions seem to be completely ..... They don't make any sense to me.
- It was really ..... that you couldn't attend the tutorial. It was very informative.
- The team's new strategy was ..... and they lost the match.
- Although he'll be 16 next month, he's still quite .....
- 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.

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

/ 25 points

## 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 mission              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