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# Introduction to Exam Skills

**1**

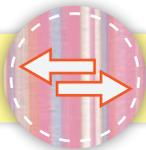
## Understanding connection between ideas

To find the relationship (e.g. cause and effect) between one thing in the question and another thing in the text.

**2**

## Interpreting data from charts

To find the relationship between the x-axis and y-axis in a chart and look for related information from the chart.

**3**

## Making a reference

To find out what a specific word ( usually a pronoun like 'me' and 'his') refers to in the text.

**4**

## Guessing the meaning of unfamiliar words

To guess the meaning of unfamiliar words in the text by paying attention to words around them.

**5**

## Identifying the main idea

To find the general idea of the text and summarise it in a few words.



# 4 Funny world records

Guessing the meaning of unfamiliar words

sample

## A. Reading Trial

Read the text quickly and choose the best answer.

1

### Funny world records

Did you know that the world's longest hair belongs to a Chinese woman? It is 5.6 m long. Have you dreamed of **setting a world record** too? There are many people in the world who do **unusual** things in order to be the 'best' in the world.

5

For example, in Hong Kong, participants designed and made a beautiful wall art **mosaic** with 20,647 pieces of sushi. The picture showed the number '10' and was mostly orange because of the salmon.

Q: In line 4, what does '**unusual**' mean?

A. strange

B. international

C. beautiful

D. best

## B. Exam Skill Revealed

Read below and learn more about the exam skill.

The exam skill you use here is

### Guessing the meaning of unfamiliar words

#### How?

- In the text, read nearby sentences and look for keywords or examples that can give you hints.
- Replace the unfamiliar words in the text with each option to see if the meaning fits.
- If a dictionary extract is given, pay attention to the part of speech (e.g. noun, verb). Get the meaning by reading the example sentences.

Here, the keywords are '**unusual**' and '**mean**'.



**sample**

Now, try to use the exam skill step by step and answer the questions below.

1. In line 3, if you '**set a world record**', you \_\_\_\_\_.

**Try the exam skill : Guessing the meaning of unfamiliar words**

(a) What are the keywords in this question? \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Read the nearby sentences.

(c) Some people do \_\_\_\_\_ things so that they can be the  
\_\_\_\_\_ in the world.

- A. have very long hair
- B. are the best in the world at something
- C. are good at designing wall art
- D. can eat a lot of sushi

2. In line 6, what does '**mosaic**' mean?

**Try the exam skill : Guessing the meaning of unfamiliar words**

(a) What are the keywords in this question? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Read the nearby sentences.

(c) Which word did the writer use to replace 'mosaic'? \_\_\_\_\_

- A. a picture
- B. a designer
- C. a piece of sushi
- D. a record

## C. Reading with Exam Skill



How much time do you need to finish this exercise?  
Compare it with the suggested time on p.56!

Read the whole article. Answer the questions on the following page.

### Funny world records

Did you know that the world's longest hair belongs to a Chinese woman? It is 5.6 m long. Have you dreamed of setting a world record too? There are many people in the world who do unusual things in order to be the 'best' in the world. For example, in Hong Kong, **participants** designed and made a beautiful wall art **mosaic** with 20,647 pieces of sushi. The picture showed the number '10' and was mostly orange because of the salmon.

You can find this information in the Book of Records. You will discover that a man built a tower out of 75,000 playing cards. It took him 120 hours.

A group of **energetic** people broke the previous **record** by **hula-hooping** when 4,483 of them did it together for seven minutes. It was organised to promote exercise and healthy living.

Imagine cooking the biggest omelette in the world! Some chefs cooked **one** with 145,000 eggs. While we are talking about eggs, how about the man who could balance 900 eggs on their ends? He aims to break the current record for the fastest time to stand up 12 eggs at the same time!

Find these funny? Why not research a record that you can break? You could be famous and have your name in the Book of Records with all other world record holders from all around the world.



#### Check it up!

Check the meanings of the words in **blue** in Vocabulary Index on p.54-55!

1. In line 10, what does '**record**' mean?

**record** *noun*.

1. a flat plastic disc on which music is stored

◆ *He spends a lot of time listening to records.*

2. sum of the past performance of someone or something

◆ *Don't fly with this airline, it has a bad safety record.*

3. the best or fastest ever done

◆ *She set a new record for the long jump.*

**record** *verb*.

4. to keep information for the future

◆ *Mum records her daily expense in a notebook.*

A. 1

B. 2

C. 3

D. 4

**Use the exam skill!**

What part of speech is the word in the text?

2. In line 14, what does '**one**' refer to?

A. a chef

B. an omelette

C. an egg

D. a man

3. In paragraph 3, a man could balance eggs on their ends. It means the eggs

\_\_\_\_\_.

A. stood up

B. were cooked

C. broke

D. were eaten

**Use the exam skill!**

Read nearby sentences to find clues.

4. Which of the following records is **NOT** true?

A. The longest hair recorded was over 5 m.

B. About 4,500 people hula-hooped for seven minutes together.

C. A man built a tower with playing cards in 120 hours.

D. The biggest sushi mosaic was made in Japan.

5. What did the sushi mosaic look like?

\_\_\_\_\_

# Assessment 1

Read the story. Answer the questions on the following page.

(10 marks @2 marks)

1 Joe loved food. He liked food so much that he could not stop eating. He was becoming **obese**. At breakfast time, he ate more food than his elder brother. 'Don't be **greedy**, Joe!' his brother shouted.

5 At lunchtime, he ate more food than his friends at school. 'Don't be greedy, Joe!' his friends all shouted.

At dinner time, he ate more food than his dad! 'Don't be greedy!' his dad shouted.

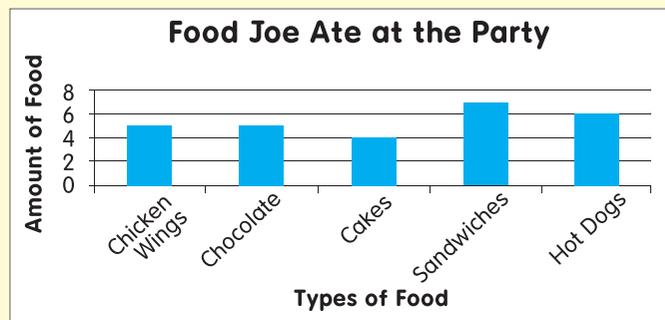
10 Everybody was worried about Joe. They knew that Joe would become very ill if he kept eating so much food. Joe's parents decided to ask the wise woman in their village for help.

'**You** must hold a party with lots and lots of food,' the wise woman **whispered**. 'The only way to help Joe is to let him eat until he feels sick. Then he will learn that eating too much food is bad for him.'

15 When Joe arrived at the party the next day, he was very excited because he had never seen so much food. He dived into the **piles** of cakes and sandwiches. He ate and ate, then ate some more. Joe's school friends recorded how much food Joe had eaten and made a chart.

20 Suddenly, Joe stopped eating. 'I don't feel very well,' he said softly.

'It is because you have eaten too much!' everyone shouted at once.



How much time do you need to finish this exercise?  
Compare it with the suggested time on p.56!

### Check it up!

Check the meanings of the words in **blue** in Vocabulary Index on p.54-55!

Marks: \_\_\_\_\_ /10

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. In line 2, what does '**obese**' mean?
 

<input type="radio"/> A. hungry	<input type="radio"/> B. naughty
<input type="radio"/> C. very fat	<input type="radio"/> D. strong
  
2. In line 11, what does '**you**' refer to?
  - A. Joe
  - B. Joe's mum and dad
  - C. The wise woman
  - D. Joe's brother
  
3. Why was Joe excited at the party?
  - A. He saw piles of food.
  - B. Many of his friends came.
  - C. There was food he had never tried before.
  - D. He got lots of presents.
  
4. What kind of food did Joe eat second most?
 

<input type="radio"/> A. chicken wings	<input type="radio"/> B. sandwiches
<input type="radio"/> C. cakes	<input type="radio"/> D. hot dogs
  
5. What can we learn from this story?
  - A. Wise people can help us.
  - B. Do not eat more than enough.
  - C. Good friends should share food.
  - D. We should record what we eat with a chart.



Which skill did you use for each question? Fill in the question numbers.

Understanding connection between ideas	Interpreting data from charts	Making a reference	Guessing the meaning of unfamiliar words	Identifying the main idea



# Quick Match

You can quickly link up with these exam skills when you see these question types. The highlighted words are indicators.

Which of the following is **TRUE** about all three tours?

- A. They are at least half an hour.
- B. They are available every day.
- C. They are charged per person.
- D. They may be cancelled due to bad weather.



**Analysing the information**

There are \_\_\_\_\_ books at Kiki Bookshop.

- A. **1000**
- B. **2000**
- C. **3000**
- D. **4000**



**Calculating**

**When** does Tommy usually go on vacations?

- A. in spring
- B. in summer
- C. in autumn
- D. in winter



**Categorising**

In line 4, what does '**unusual**' mean?

- A. strange
- B. international
- C. beautiful
- D. best



**Guessing the meaning of unfamiliar words**