

PROGRESS CHECK 5

1 Jonathan ha scritto la recensione di un film. Completala con l'alternativa corretta.

"The White Countess" has the **0** b characteristics that are automatically associated with Merchant-Ivory films. The company **1** _____ become famous for its costume dramas with their beautifully period settings and the **2** _____ talented actors that **3** _____ act nowadays. No surprises there then. Yet, the film is not as good **4** _____ we expected and it has some weak points. First of all the "problems" faced by the countess aren't **5** _____ serious as she thinks and consequently the more the film goes on, the **6** _____ involving the plot becomes. Then the characters are flat and they behave as **7** _____ nothing can affect them. Their dialogues and speeches are **8** _____ less exciting or interesting. Only the subplot, with the evolving friendship between Fiennes and Sanada, is fascinating but it develops late, only in **9** _____ part of the film. I think that the film could disappoint the fans of Merchant-Ivory dramas. It's the worst Merchant-Ivory's costume drama I have **10** _____ seen.

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 0 a. better | b. best | c. most good | d. more good |
| 1 a. has | b. is | c. had | d. was |
| 2 a. best | b. more | c. most | d. far |
| 3 a. are allowed to | b. succeed in | c. manage to | d. can |
| 4 a. like | b. such | c. as | d. the same |
| 5 a. more | b. so | c. such as | d. than |
| 6 a. more | b. less | c. far | d. better |
| 7 a. if | b. x | c. like | d. when |
| 8 a. by far | b. many | c. even | d. a few |
| 9 a. the latest | b. last | c. the latter | d. the last |
| 10 a. never | b. already | c. yet | d. ever |

2 Completa la seconda frase in modo che abbia lo stesso significato della prima. Non puoi usare più di tre parole.

0 The turtle is slower than the hare.
A hare isn't *as slow as* a turtle.

- 1** The museum re-opened two weeks ago and I managed to visit it.
The museum re-opened two weeks ago and I _____ visiting it.
- 2** I haven't ridden a horse for years.
It's years since I _____.
- 3** The Moon isn't as big as the Sun.
The Sun is _____ the Moon.
- 4** She last met her grandparents 2 years ago.
She _____ her grandparents for 2 years.
- 5** Michael hasn't ever played the guitar before.
It's the first time Michael _____ the guitar.
- 6** There isn't any month as cold as February.
February is _____ month of the year.

3 Completa la seconda frase in modo che abbia lo stesso significato della prima. Devi usare la parola data senza modificarla e per completare la frase puoi utilizzare da due a cinque parole.

0 The party wasn't as good as we had expected.

than: The party *was worse than* we had expected.

1 The hotel was near the station, therefore we didn't have to take a taxi.

need: The hotel was near the station, therefore we _____ take a taxi.

2 There were more tickets for the concert than for the match.

as: There weren't _____ for the match as for the concert.

3 It's more than a year since I stopped smoking.

for: I _____ more than a year.

4 It was Mary's first visit to England.

never: Mary _____ before.

5 My niece is only 3 but she can get dressed by herself.

capable: My niece is only 3 but she _____ dressed by herself.

6 I started to write this book last summer.

writing: I _____ this book since last summer.

4 Correggi le seguenti frasi solo se necessario. Se la frase è corretta, scrivi "correct".

0 You don't have to take the jacket. It's very hot.

correct

00 I'll can thank them when I meet them.

I'll be able to thank them when I meet them.

1 I can't help laughing when I see Mr Bean's films.

5 That bag is slightly bigger than this one.

2 They haven't written the article already.

6 The most I study History, the most I like it .

3 I don't drink as much milk as my sister.

7 Have you ever been able to tell a "white" lie?

4 There was no noise and I was able to hear everything.

8 Children don't have to touch electric plugs.

5 Lo scienziato James Lowell fa il punto sulle condizioni del nostro pianeta. Leggi il testo e nello spazio accanto a ogni riga scrivi "correct" se la riga non presenta errori, oppure scrivi la parola che dovrebbe essere eliminata dalla riga.

0 The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report was published in 2001 and it is

correct

00 one of the scariest documents you will ever ~~be~~ read in your life.

be

1 The report talks about changes to the Earth by the end of this century. These changes will be as

2 great or more greater than those that occurred between the end of the last Ice Age and the time

3 when humans started changing the atmosphere. That is to say it's really huge. First of all, the

4 elevated greenhouse gas levels will have an enormous impact on the sea level. The sea level

5 could to rise by 120m within not too many years and lots of cities could disappear forever.

6 In addition, as the world gets very hot, it will not be able to produce any longer so as much

7 food as it does now; so billions of us are going to suffer from starvation. Yet, climate change

8 isn't the our biggest problem. What is particularly serious is our behaviour. We are exploiting

9 the natural ecosystems for our own same purposes; we are denuding forests and acidifying the

10 oceans; we are destroying Earth's self-regulation and changing the Earth into a "dead planet".

6 L'economista inglese Gregory Colbert esprime la sua visione ottimista sul futuro del nostro pianeta. Completa il brano inserendo una parola in ogni spazio.

In 100 years' time there will be huge climatic changes but I think life will be **0** very pleasant. I imagine that people will **1** _____ migrating towards what will be **2** _____ comfortable parts of the Earth such **3** _____ the Arctic basin. Areas where very few people lived before, for example Siberia or northern Canada, **4** _____ flourish. The British Isles, I **5** _____ often felt, will be blessed, because our oceanic position means that the great heat that will hit Europe, won't affect us so **6** _____ as the continent and in a more positive way. Our weather will become drier and annoying phenomena, such as rain or fog, will be less and **7** _____ frequent. England, thanks to its mild weather, could become one of the **8** _____ important tourist resorts in Europe and our economy will have great benefits from it. Naturally, we will **9** _____ to improve the services and facilities in some areas to be **10** _____ to give hospitality to more tourists and make their journey really unforgettable but we have plenty of time and we'll do our best!

7 Completa il brano inserendo in ogni spazio una parola formata a partire da quella data a fianco. Non puoi utilizzare la parola così come ti viene assegnata, ma devi modificarla.

The reason why we age is not for any **0** biological purpose. In past times when life spans were so much **1** _____, our genes didn't evolve to make our bodies strong and keep us going **2** _____. When life was brutal and short, there were more possibilities of dying young because of wars, infection and accidents. There was no point in **3** _____ bodies that could last **4** _____. On the contrary, today, thanks to science and medicine, we can live much **5** _____ than in the past. New medicines and therapies can strengthen the fibres of protein that make our skin and artery walls elastic and preserve their **6** _____. It is possible to prevent the DNA strand inside our cells from getting damaged and make the cells' energy production systems become stronger and **7** _____ like the ones we had when we were younger. Some age-related diseases, such as Alzheimer's and osteoporosis will no longer be a problem, as the new scientific **8** _____ have just begun to defeat them.

BIOLOGY
SHORT
INDEFINITE
BUILD
EVER
LONG
FLEXIBLE

STRONG

DISCOVER

8 Lo sai che si può visitare l'America Latina senza muoversi dalla città di New York? Completa il brano inserendo le frasi mancanti al punto giusto.

You can take a tour of Latin America all in a day, **0** d. New York is 27 percent Hispanic and **1** _____, in northern Manhattan. Here, at La Plaza de las Americas, an outdoor market, **2** _____ that daily arrive from South America. Nearby, at Rancho Jubilee, both the food and the palm trees **3** _____ evoke the Dominican Republic. Now head to East Harlem, **4** _____. The best places to see are the Carlitos Cafe, to have a drink, and Casa Latina, **5** _____. But Queens is where the city's Latino flavours, sights and sounds really explode. Here, in Avenue of the Americas, **6** _____, Mexican or Ecuadorian stalls, Spanish language bookstores and listen to Argentine punk or rock bands. Your day is winding down, but you still have time to go dancing: Copacabana, Black Betty, Arka or LQ are just some of the best addresses. Now, it's up to you: **7** _____!

- a** you can look for bargains on products and specialities
- b** the shop that has been selling Latin music since 1930
- c** you must revise your salsa and merengue moves and have fun
- ✓ **d** without ever leaving New York City
- e** where Puerto Rican flags fly from many windows
- f** they have put at the entrance
- g** you can find Brazilian restaurants
- h** one of the most heavily Dominican areas is Washington Heights

9 La migliore amica di Louise si è trasferita all'estero. Completa la sua descrizione con le parole nel riquadro.

for • could • trips • biggest • been • never • best • just • much • crying • without • help

When I read about celebrities talking about their "new 0 best friend", someone they have been talking to 1 _____ ten minutes at a party, I can't 2 _____ laughing. They have no idea what a real best friend is. I know because I lost mine. Cali and I have 3 _____ friends literally all our lives. Cali's mum is a business lawyer and used to go on a lot of 4 _____ abroad. When she was away, Cali would come over and stay. We spent so 5 _____ time together. I was very shy while Cali was very popular and she was good at making me feel part of the group. But it wasn't going to last. One night I got the 6 _____ shock of my life. Cali phoned me. Her voice was strange. I knew she had been 7 _____. She told me: "I'm leaving school. My mum's got a new job and we're leaving Sheffield." I started crying. How 8 _____ someone take my best friend away from me? What I was going to do 9 _____ her? I asked her why she couldn't stay at my house during the week and go to her mum's at the weekends. I have 10 _____ forgotten her answer: "You don't understand. We aren't 11 _____ going to another town. We're moving to the USA. Forever."

10 Traduci le seguenti frasi.

1 "Albert mi ha prestato un libro la settimana scorsa ma non riesco a trovarlo. Lo cerco (*look for*) da più di due ore. Dove potrebbe essere?" "Sei la persona più disordinata (*untidy*) del mondo e non trovi mai niente!" 2 Da quando Robert è partito, voglio andare via da questa casa. Ci sono troppi ricordi dolorosi (*painful*). 3 Da un paio di mesi il lavoro di Sandra era diventato sempre più interessante anche se lei doveva lavorare molto. 4 David fuma troppo. Da quando è arrivato non ha fatto che fumare. Non può smettere (*give up*)? 5 Mia zia è davvero la persona più divertente (*funny*) del mondo. Sa raccontare delle storie su se stessa e sugli altri che (*that*) sono molto più divertenti delle barzellette (*jokes*). Più lei racconta, più io rido. 6 Tom aveva appena iniziato a leggere il giornale quando il suo amico Matt arrivò e gli disse che dovevano andare a scuola il prima possibile perché avevano pubblicato (*publish*) i risultati dell'esame. 7 Da' a Val meno soldi che a Tim. Val spende sempre molto più di Tim e deve imparare a risparmiare (*save*). 8 I Blackwood ci hanno invitato per il week-end, ma non voglio andare a casa loro perché sono le persone più noiose del paese (*village*)! 9 L'ultimo oratore (*speaker*) era molto emozionato perché non aveva mai parlato in pubblico prima. Il suo discorso (*speech*) è stato di gran lunga il più interessante di tutti. 10 Il prossimo giugno saranno quattro anni che ho il mio cane.

11 David Hanson, un ingegnere elettronico americano, sta creando dei robot simili a esseri umani. Traduci il breve articolo che li descrive.

Le loro teste e la loro pelle sono così realistiche (*lifelike*) che puoi davvero pensare che i robot di Hanson siano degli esseri umani!

Hanson, che ha iniziato la sua carriera come artista e ha lavorato al Disney's Imagineering Lab, sta lavorando sui robot realistici da molti anni. Egli pensa che questi robot siano una delle più grandi invenzioni tecnologiche della nostra era e che potranno conquistare (*win over*) il mercato.

Inoltre, Hanson sta rendendo (*make*) i suoi robot sempre più umani. Sanno camminare e possono cambiare l'espressione sul loro volto (*facial expressions*), ma dal collo in giù (*from the neck down*) non sembrano affatto (*at all*) umani.

Hanson iniziò con la testa di un robot (*robot head*) modellata (*modelled*) sulla propria, poi decise di progettare (*design*) robot di intrattenimento (*entertainment robots*). Ora vorrebbe fare dei robot che sanno parlare, danzare o giocare a carte e pensa che potrà venderli a circa 3.000 dollari l'uno. Infatti, Hanson ha già fatto (*carry out*) un'indagine di mercato (*market research*) e, tranne poche persone, la maggior parte della gente ha gradito (*like*) la sua idea e vuole comprare uno dei suoi robot.