

Collins Checkpoint English

Stage 8: Student Book

Answer Key

Chapter 1

Topic 1.1

4

- a) to reflect on lessons to be learnt for future generations
- b) to record facts and information
- c) to present a particular point of view

Topic 1.2

1

- a) first moon landing, USA
- b) Abraham Lincoln, President of USA
- c) Jim Hines breaking the 10-second barrier for running 100 metres
- d) Mahatma Gandhi, civil rights activist

4

- a) miner
- b) Alexandria

5

A suggested order is:

- 1: because this was the very first website
- 2: because this was the foundation of a key internet starting point
- 4: his directorial role which was influential
- 5: his other role
- 3: factual information
- 6: factual information

7

It's about Bletchley Park, a Victorian country mansion in the small town of Bletchley, where the Government Code and Cypher School had been evacuated to.

8

It housed the Government Code and Cypher School.

9

A suggested order is:

1. It is a 'Victorian country mansion' (i.e. big enough to house a large team)
2. Bletchley is 'a small town of ordinary dullness', (i.e. inconspicuous and an unlikely centre for this activity)
3. 'It lay at the geometric centre of intellectual England', (i.e. it is accessible to Cambridge and Oxford University academics)
4. 'where the main railway from London to the north bisected the branch line from Oxford to Cambridge', (i.e. It's served by the railway line that goes to Cambridge and Oxford universities and also London, again, accessible to the sort of people who might work here)
5. 'graced by an ancient church', (possibly this shields it from view)

Topic 1.3

2

- a) incorrect statement
- b) opinion
- c) incorrect statement
- d) fact
- e) opinion

3

- a) Climbing Mount Everest is **exhausting!** (opinion)
It is the **tallest** mountain in the world at **8,848 metres high**. (fact)
- b) Climbing Mount Everest is exhausting! (frighten)
It is the tallest mountain in the world at 8,848 metres high. (impress/surprise)
- c) The facts in the text make it more authoritative and objective, while the opinions give a more personal feel and have an emotional effect on the reader. This mixing of facts and opinions has the effect of persuading the reader to embrace a particular point of view. For example, personal beliefs ('exhausting') are combined with factual information ('the tallest', '8,848 metres high'), which makes the reader trust the writer's point of view. This also has the effect of making personal opinions come across as facts themselves.

Topic 1.4

2

	Writer	District councillor
OPINIONS	' swelling Bletchley's population by 25%'	' no one on earth would have billeted and they did the wisest thing eventually to return to the hovels from whence they came '

	'In these circumstances, the arrival of a few select gentlemen for the Government Code and Cipher School would have caused little stir... '	
	'I'll read your secret writing mister!' in a most disconcerting way.	

4

A suggested order is:

1. **'no one on earth would have billeted'** Opinion: very strongly expressed and shocking
2. **'swelling Bletchley's population'** Opinion: creates visual image/town ready to 'explode'
3. **evacuation of 17,000 London children** Fact: surprisingly high number
4. **'I'll read your secret writing mister!'** Fact: surprising and humorous
5. **'gentlemen for the Government Code and Cipher School'** Fact: impressive

Topic 1.6

1

- a) simple sentence
- b) compound sentence
- c) simple sentence
- d) simple sentence
- e) compound sentence

2

- a) The Vikings, **who travelled from Scandinavia**, raided a lot of European countries. (relative clause)
- b) The Great Fire of London destroyed the church of St Paul's, **which took 32 years to rebuild**. (relative clause)
- c) **Unless more evidence is discovered**, we will never really know how the pyramids were built. (conditional clause)

Topic 1.7

3

Suggested connotations:

survivor: tough, strong, resilient, tenacious, powerful

globetrotter: adventurous, active, explorer, daredevil

daydreamer: happy, hopeful, optimistic, romantic

5

A suggested answer is:

To share her personal story and express her feelings. To say how she experienced this ordeal, and present her point of view.

11

'His limbs were in proportion, and I had selected his features. His skin covered the work of muscles and arteries; his hair was black; his teeth of a whiteness; but these luxuriences formed a contrast with his eyes, that seemed of the same colour as the sockets in which they were set, his complexion and lips.'

The text is neutral in tone and does not in any way arrest the reader's attention. It is far less vivid, having fewer visual details and therefore creates fewer images in the reader's head. Additionally, we do not gain as much insight into Frankenstein's state of mind as his feelings and thoughts about the creature he has created are not articulated.

12

Suggested answers:

- a) The creature **quickly** jumped from the **dangerous** wall.
- b) The **bald** head turned **slowly** around.
- c) A **terrified** mob of villagers **frantically** chased the **dangerous** creature.
- d) Masses of **dishevelled** children sat **wearily** on the wall.

13

Suggested answers:

- a) The creature **reluctantly** jumped from the **garden** wall.
- b) The **scary** head turned **unexpectedly** around.
- c) A **hostile** mob of villagers **cruelly** chased the **harmless** creature.
- d) Masses of **eager** children sat **excitedly** on the wall.

Chapter 2

Topic 2.1

1

- d) any child over 12

6

Suggested answers:

That there is a variety of robots and robot challenges for children to choose from, that the toy can be played in many different ways, and that it is fun.

10

d; b; c; a

Topic 2.2

2

‘Scientists have developed a ‘smart tooth’ that works out how much time someone spends chewing, drinking, eating, coughing and smoking.’ FACT

‘**They say it could** be used by doctors’ OPINION

‘to monitor respiratory problems or to check if dieters are telling the truth about why they can’t lose weight.’ FACT

‘Dentists **might** also find the device...**useful.**’ OPINION

‘...which looks like a normal tooth...’ FACT

‘The ‘smart tooth’ capitalises on the fact that activities from chewing to tooth grinding, all lead to the jaw moving in different ways.’ FACT

‘A computer program can crunch the information and work out what someone is doing from what their mouth is doing.’ FACT

3

‘**They say it could be used by doctors** to monitor respiratory problems or to check if dieters are telling the truth about why they can’t lose weight.’

‘**Dentists might also find the device,** which looks like a normal tooth, **useful.**’

4

‘The bag is filled with around 10kg of material...’

It ‘is lifted up towards the device.’

‘The bag then slowly descends due to gravity and, as it does so, gears inside the generator are turned, translating this movement into light energy.’

5

‘And although the initial price of the light was set at around \$10...’ – FACT

‘**no small fee...**’ – OPINION

‘**...for the impoverished areas in which it will be used most...**’ – STATEMENT that cannot be easily verified

'after three months of use, the GravityLight will have recouped the equivalent cost of running a kerosene lamp for the same period.' – STATEMENT that cannot be easily verified

Topic 2.3

1

a; c; e

4

- a) Par. 2 ('It then proceeds to make gum...digital file.')
- b) Par. 1 ('the most incredible things', 'the most obvious things', 'I believe')

Topic 2.6

1

'Robodriver will transform the way people travel because everyone in the car is able to enjoy being a passenger.' – INTRODUCES A REASON

'As a result, everyone arrives at their destination feeling rested.' – INTRODUCES A RESULT

'Robodriver could be used when people travel to school or work...' – EXPLAINS TIMING

'...so that, on arrival, they will be able to achieve their best.' – INTRODUCES A PURPOSE

'Using Robodriver would prevent those, since a robot never gets 'tired.' – INTRODUCES A REASON

2

- a) reason
- b) result
- c) purpose
- d) reason, purpose

3

- a) Elderly people will have happier lives **because/since/for/as** Robodriver can take them to the shops, doctors, friends – no matter how frail they have become.
- b) Robodriver can take young people to a destination without an adult being present **so/as a result/with the result that** family life will be easier.
- c) Vulnerable people will invest in Robodriver **so that** they can travel safely.
- d) **Because** of Robodriver, people could work on their journey **so that** they have to spend less time away from home.

Topic 2.7

2

Suggested answers:

Robodriver allows employees to travel long distances **but/and** feel ready to work as soon as they arrive. They can work during the journey **or/and** when they are in the office.

4

Suggested answers:

In tests, **carried out by independent experts**, Robodriver was 100% successful.

Robodriver's reaction time was (**up to 100 times**) faster than a racing driver.

Passengers – **of all ages** – reported feeling safe while being driven by Robodriver.

6

1. so that [this answer will be added in the grid in the next reprint]
2. for example/for instance
3. similar to
4. in contrast to

Topic 2.8

2

- a) The invention of the light bulb took many years: Thomas Edison made hundreds that did not work.

5

Suggested answers:

- a) Yes. These two sentences are related, the second idea following on from the first.
- b) No. These are two largely unconnected instructions.

Chapter 3

Topic 3.1

1

lush, golden, splendid, stunning

2

you, your

3

a, c

4

Suggested answers:

- a) the best, friendly, stunning, beautiful, fitter, healthier
[In this context *remote*, *hidden* are also considered positive]
- b) simply the best, access hidden corners, discover remote villages, friendly locals, stunning coastline, appreciate the beautiful vista
- c) you are able to access the hidden corners of destinations, discover remote villages and meet the friendly locals/Not only was I able to appreciate the beautiful vista, but I felt myself becoming fitter and healthier too!

Topic 3.2

2

Facts: c, d, e

Opinions: a, b, f

4

Statistics: d, e

9

- a) FACT (objective/factual information)
- b) OPINION (writer views it as challenging)
- c) FACT (objective/factual information)
- d) OPINION (writer thinks it is demanding)

Topic 3.3

2

b; d; e

3

The text should have been split into 2 paragraphs.

The 2nd paragraph begins, 'This time around...'

4

'Over his short illustrious career...China's Tianmen Mountain.'

'This time around...Mount Jianglang in China.'

5

b; a; c

Topic 3.4

4

- a) Background: par. 2
- b) Helped to succeed: par. 3
- c) Selection: par. 4
- d) Achievement: par. 1

Topic 3.6

1

Each has a different function:

- a) Interrogative
- b) Declarative
- c) Exclamatory
- d) Imperative

3

- a) Exclamatory
- b) Interrogative
- c) Declarative
- d) Interrogative
- e) Imperative
- f) Interrogative
- g) Declarative
- h) Interrogative
- i) Imperative
- j) Declarative
- k) Declarative
- l) Declarative

8

Suggested answers:

Under, over, around, before, after, following, inside, underneath, up

9

'During your visit...': WHEN

'Beneath the forest': WHERE

Topic 3.7

5

- a) picture
- b) proof
- c) promise
- d) push

Chapter 4

Topic 4.1

2

- a) Midas is greedy for gold.
- b) 'Gold' is repeated to emphasise his fascination or obsession
- c) The list of superlative adjectives helps to build up the idea that he wants the most or best that he can get.

3

leaves, stone, grass, corn

Topic 4.2

1

a, c, d make him seem polite and harmless

b, e, f make him seem strange and creepy

Topic 4.6

2

A: 2

B: 3

C: 4

D: 1

Topic 4.7

3

- a) The first description is more detailed and imaginative.
- b) Students should focus on the use of verbs ('stretched', 'crumble'), adverbs ('tightly'), adjectives ('light brown', 'rough', 'old'), and similes ('like old leaves').
- c) The sense of touch.

Topic 4.8

1

LANGUAGE FEATURE	EFFECT
long sentence	Allows you to include lots of descriptive detail and establish images for the reader.
short sentence	Makes one specific description stand out (to create, for example, fear or sympathy).
list	Helps build up a series of descriptive details

	about one thing.
exclamation mark (!)	Can be used to convey heightened emotion, such as anger or excitement.
question mark (?)	Important when asking questions and showing a character's curiosity or lack of knowledge.
colon (:)	Can create a dramatic pause before introducing some important information.

Chapter 5

Topic 5.2

4

statement 1 corresponds to extract 3

statement 2 corresponds to extract 1

statement 3 corresponds to extract 2

6

sentence (a) most appropriately introduces writing about the second extract; sentence (b) introduces the third, and sentence (c) the first.

Topic 5.3

7

- 'Was it laughing too?'
- 'as if staring down at him.' or 'like a face'.
- Sipho feels ashamed and as though he is being undeservedly badly treated by everything around him.

Topic 5.5

2

Suggested answers:

'Mon, Jan 26th': the date shows this is a diary entry

'I never knew', 'It hurt to get out of bed this morning', 'I only just made it out of the house', 'so I could get my bike out.': First person voice creates a personal tone

'cos', 'blah, blah': informal language shows that this is Laura's personal diary entry

Topic 5.6

1

Jabu is excited to see Sipho – he waves and looks as though he is dancing.

2

Before the meeting: we know that Siphos is upset (he has been crying).

During the meeting: he might feel awkward, as he has to avoid answering Jabu's question.

After the meeting: he probably feels anxious about whether he can trust Jabu.

3

Before the meeting: Jabu might be worried about where Siphos is.

During the meeting: he is excited and pleased to meet him.

After the meeting: he might start wondering why Siphos is looking so upset.

Topic 5.8

2

- a) Laura, like her father, writes a diary.
- b) The power went out, creating an eerie atmosphere, in the whole of South London.

4

A suggested paragraph is:

Laura is 15 years old; she has a brother and a sister. Laura, as she is worried about the environment, likes to go to college on her bike. Laura knows that global warming is harmful; she thinks that more people should care for the planet.

Topic 5.9

1

Beginning	The reader discovers information about the characters and their situation.	Saturday: '...arrived here in Arenal...'; '...with the other kids from the tour...'; 'Mum and Dad are all excited about the trip to the volcano...'
Rising action	A problem or obstacle is introduced.	Sunday: '...It's been so misty...'; '...an orange coal was glowing on the ground...burning my sandals.'
Climax	The main character has to make a difficult decision.	Monday: '...the volcano is going to explode...'; 'Mum says...we can't even go out...'; 'Jo...to meet her...'; '...we could go rafting...'
Falling action	We find out the effects of the difficult situation.	Wednesday: '...apologise to the guide who had to jump in and rescue Jo.'; '...massive rumbling noise and a cloud of ash blew across from the

		volcano.’, ‘...she went off the side of the raft.’
End	The obstacle is overcome and the problems are resolved.	Thursday: ‘...all evacuated back to San Jose.’, ‘Jo and I are grounded...’, ‘...I’ve had my share of adventures...’, ‘...until the zip wiring in Monteverde next week.’

Chapter 6

Topic 6.1

1

a

3

a

5

b

Topic 6.3

5

b

6

b

Topic 6.5

2

- a) To go down a steep bank towards a muddy canal below
- b) She doesn't want to do it
- c) She decides to do it ('I had to go')

3

- a) pretend
- b) jeers
- c) wavered
- d) wrath
- e) scorn

Topic 6.6

1

- a) Both
- b) In the same way/Similarly
- c) Like

3

- a) Although (at start)
- b) However (at start of second sentence)
- c) Although (at start)
- d) Although (at start), However (in middle)
- e) Unlike

*d & e appear only in Worksheet 6.6