

Unit 9

1 Reading

B

She seems pessimistic about current developments in children's play because she feels there is less and less play, and more and more structure in children's lives, and that this will limit their development.

C

- | | |
|-----|-----|
| 1 d | 4 c |
| 2 b | 5 f |
| 3 e | 6 a |

D

The writer's intent is to ...

- c persuade the reader that we need to encourage creative play for children.

Possible answers:

Paragraph 1 helps the writer achieve her purpose by telling the reader that she knows what she's talking about, because she's been working with children for over 30 years.

Paragraph 2 explains how types of play affect children's development and that play is very important in children's development.

Paragraph 3 shows that young children now spend more time on academic subjects than playing.

Paragraph 4 states a concern about the effects of a lack of play.

Paragraph 5 explains what the negative consequences will be if children no longer play.

Paragraph 6 explains that the problem is worldwide and says that there is a need for change.

E

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1 outcomes | 5 engage in |
| 2 emerge | 6 imitate |
| 3 outlet | 7 open-ended |
| 4 numeracy | 8 literacy |

2 Listening

B

- ✓ I understand why the way children play has changed.
- ✓ Children used to engage in more imaginative play.

C

Becky, 38:

Children play different types of games now because of new technology, and some of the games are very good for numeracy and literacy. The basic way that children play hasn't changed that much.

Pedro, 25:

Parents used to leave their children to play on their own. Now parents organize their children's time and take them to play centers.

3 Grammar

A

They think the employees will be more productive.

NOTICE!

Jeff is a software designer at a small software company. He is playing table tennis at work, but that's not a problem because his company insists that he spend part of his work day playing! His boss asks that he take a break every couple of hours to do something fun. Many psychologists now recommend that people spend more time playing and less time working. They say it is essential that people relax and have fun in order to be more productive. They also say it is important that a person not work too many hours without taking a break. Also, it is recommended that everyone play a sport or game during at least some of those breaks. Of course, most companies don't *demand* that their employees take time off to play. Some simply suggest that workers not spend the whole day at their desk. Some final advice from Jeff, though: "Just don't spend too long playing and forget to work. It definitely isn't recommended that you play all the time!"

The verbs are in the base form.

Verbs: insist, ask, recommend, demand, suggest

Adjectives: essential, important, recommended

B

Form

- 1 His boss asks that he take a break every couple of hours to do something fun.
- 2 Of course, most companies don't *demand* that their employees take time off to play.
- 3 Some simply suggest that workers not spend the whole day at their desk.
- 4 They say it is essential that people relax and have fun in order to be more productive.
- 5 It definitely isn't recommended that you play *all* the time!
- 6 They also say it is important that a person not work too many hours without taking a break.

Function

- 1 T
- 2 T

C

- 1 check
- 2 is
- 3 not take
- 4 allow
- 5 be
- 6 to work
- 7 not work
- 8 be

4 Speaking

A

Invitation 1: Informal, Accepted
 Invitation 2: Formal, Paul: Accepted, Olivia: Declined
 Invitation 3: Informal, Declined

B

- 1 up for
- 2 Want to
- 3 I'd like to invite
- 4 Would you like
- 5 Sounds great
- 6 'd love
- 7 Sorry, can't
- 8 Can I take
- 9 Maybe
- 10 won't be able to

5 Grammar

NOTICE!

- 1 The fast pace of life today demands that your brain function at its top capacity.
- 2 Some researchers recommend increasing brain function by playing video games of the type that require you to think and react very quickly.
- 3 ... if your job requires sitting in front of a computer screen for hours.
- 4 Furthermore, it's important for you to include games that are specifically designed to increase brain function.

Only the first one is followed by the subjunctive.

B

Form

- 1 The fast pace of life today demands that your brain function at its top capacity.
- 2 ...video games of the type that require you to think and react very quickly.
- 3 Some researchers recommend increasing brain function by ...
- 4 ... if your job requires sitting in front of a computer screen ...
- 5 ... it's important for you to include games ...

Function

The alternatives to the subjunctive in the table above have the same meaning as the subjunctive.

C

- 1 It is vital for us to exercise our brains as well as our bodies.
- 2 The company recommends learning to play at least one video game.
- 3 It is essential for you to keep your brain active.
- 4 I propose giving the employees free video games.
- 5 Our boss is asking us to attend a brain training workshop.

7 Writing

A

an opinion article on a controversial subject

B

- 1 F
- 2 T
- 3 T

lifeSkills

A

- 1 c
- 2 a
- 3 d
- 4 b

B

Quote 1:

"My daughter spends about an hour each day playing video games and at least an hour playing outside with friends. I make sure she plays properly and doesn't just waste time. I think play is an important part of children's lives because it helps their mental and social development. They learn to make their own decisions, and they learn how to socialize with other children. Play is an essential part of childhood in my opinion."

Quote 2:

"I didn't like traditional games when I was a kid, and I spent most of my time playing computer and video games. A lot of people say that those games have negative effects on kids, but they haven't affected me. The games taught me a lot of skills, like following maps or planning ahead. They also taught me about technology, and I work with computers now. The only problem I can see is that children can become pretty isolated playing those games. I know as an adult, I'm a little uncomfortable in social gatherings, and I prefer to do things on my own, but I'm good at my job."

C

Possible answers:

Three main points:

- 1 Video games can be addictive.
- 2 Video gaming can cause anti-social behaviour because it often leads to spending less time with people in the real world.
- 3 Spending too much time playing video games limits time spent doing other activities.

D

- 1 In some countries, young people are sent to special clinics to cure them of their addiction even though there is no real evidence that it is actually a physical or psychological condition.
- 2 Gamers these days often play games that take place online and that involve interacting with a wide range of people.

Language wrap-up

1 Vocabulary

A

- 1 outlet
- 2 outcomes
- 3 engage in
- 4 open-ended
- 5 imitate

B

- 1 up for
- 2 a rain check
- 3 want to
- 4 sounds great
- 5 sorry

2 Grammar

- 1 is
- 2 to play
- 3 not
- 4 to let
- 5 having
- 6 help
- 7 that
- 8 interrupt
- 9 give
- 10 letting

Writing workshop

A

- 1 T
- 2 F
- 3 T
- 4 T

B

Paragraph 1: Introduction

Topic sentence: In my opinion, dominoes is a game that has many advantages and no disadvantages.

Paragraph 2: Advantages of dominoes

Topic sentence: Here is why dominoes is much more than just a game, and why it is definitely not a waste of time.

Also develops analytical skills

Paragraph 3: Conclusion

Topic sentence: In conclusion, dominoes requires thinking and planning, so it is a good way to train your brain.

Also fun, and doesn't cost money