

I. Read the text and accomplish the tasks below.

Decision-Making Process

Life isn't always simple. All sorts of decision-making confront us every day – from the big and life-changing to the small and mundane.

The value of decisions depends upon the courage required to render them. The great decisions, which served as the foundation of civilization, were reached by assuming great risks.

In the history of mankind there have been a lot of examples of great decisions. Lincoln's decision to issue his famous Proclamation of Emancipation, which gave freedom to the coloured people of America, was rendered with full understanding that his act would turn thousands of friends and political supporters against him. He knew, too, that the carrying out of that proclamation would mean death to thousands of men on the battlefield. In the end, it cost Lincoln his life. That required courage.

The decision of General Robert E. Lee, when he came to the parting of the way with the Union, and took up the cause of the South, was a decision of courage, for he well knew that it might cost him his own life, that it would surely cost the lives of others. Nelson Mandela had the courage to fight against the unjust system of apartheid. For his political activities, he was sentenced to 20 years in prison, but he was released to lead a free South Africa. Despite disability of both deafness and blindness, Helen Keller learned to read and write trying to improve the welfare of deaf people.

Effective and successful decisions require setting goals, gathering information, decision structuring, making a final choice and evaluating.

The idea of setting a goal is that the decision-maker takes stock in his or her plans for the future, with his or her values and priorities. This person needs to be able to answer, *What am I trying to accomplish?* Setting the goal enforces the decision-making process.

Before making a decision you should gather information because your decision-making is complex. If you want to know the various options available to you, ask yourself questions. Who is affected in each option, and how? Do the effects change over time? Will taking or not taking a particular course of action close off other options?

If there is a great number of options and numerous points, you must learn how to pull together all your information. You should determine a way to manage the information. After gathering all the information, the decision-maker needs to make a selection from the final set of options.

A helpful last phase of decision-making is the evaluation of the entire process. What went well about the process? What didn't go so well? The aim here is to reflect and identify the areas of the process that can stand improvement as well as those that ought to be used again in the future. The greatest success stories are told of people who recognized a problem and reversed it into an opportunity.

Only you can change your life. Only you can see the opportunity. Whether you're the head of a government agency or an everyday household, you constantly make decisions important to you and those immediately around you. You have the ability to learn from your mistakes, be able to approach and weigh individual choices more effectively, and start making smarter decisions-today.

| Nr | Items | Results | |
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| 1. | <p>Answer the question. <i>What do effective and successful decisions require?</i></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> | A 0 1 2 | A 0 1 2 |
| 2. | <p>Answer the question. <i>What does the idea of setting a goal mean?</i></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> | A 0 1 2 3 | A 0 1 2 3 |
| 3. | <p>Give another title to the text. Write your title in the form of a sentence.</p> <hr/> | A 0 1 2 | A 0 1 2 |
| 4. | <p>Match the parts together to get entire sentences.</p> <p>1. <i>Helen Keller learned to read and write</i></p> <p>2. <i>For his political activities Nelson Mandela</i></p> <p>3. <i>When General Robert E. Lee made his decision</i></p> <p><i>of deaf people.</i></p> <p>a) <i>was imprisoned for 20 years.</i></p> <p>b) <i>he was released to lead a free South Africa.</i></p> <p>c) <i>he knew that it might cost him his own life.</i></p> <p>d) <i>trying to improve the welfare</i></p> | A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 |
| 5. | <p>Identify the correct variant (True/False). Justify your choice.</p> <p>a) <i>If one cannot determine a way to manage the information he/she cannot make a valuable decision.</i> T F</p> <hr/> <hr/> <p>b) <i>Evaluation can help people identify weak and strong points of the decision-making process.</i> T F</p> <hr/> <hr/> | A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 |

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| 6. | <p>Express in your own words what the writer means by this sentence.</p> <p><i>The great decisions, which served as the foundation of civilization, were reached by assuming great risks.</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> | A 0 1 2 3 4 5 | A 0 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 7. | <p>What is the main idea of the text?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> | A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 |
| TOTAL | | 30 | 30 |
| II. | <p>Grammar. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Fill in the gaps with the suitable articles, prepositions, and a pronoun. Choose the correct form of the words in brackets. Form an adjective. Put an appropriate conjunction.</p> | | |
| | <p>Our lives 1. (<i>change</i>) _____ completely since the invention of the petrol-fuelled internal combustion engine. Although 2. _____ damaging effects of the motor car are now well-recognized, the number of cars on the road 3. (<i>continue</i>) _____ to grow every year. In 1950, there were 4. (<i>fewer/less</i>) _____ than 50 million cars 5. _____ use around the world, but as cars became more 6. (<i>widely/wide</i>) _____ available and relatively cheaper, this number grew to 650 7. (<i>million/millions</i>) _____ by 2012.</p> <p>We continue to drive cars even though we know 8. (<i>how/what</i>) _____ dangerous they are in every respect. People seem to accept the higher number of deaths and injuries as 9. _____ normal fact of life 10. _____ smaller risks in other areas of life seem to generate more publicity and fear. We accept the awful risk as if it is somehow justifiable. If any other activity 11. (<i>carry</i>) _____ with it such a risk, there would be 12. _____ huge public reaction.</p> <p>Since research into car emissions started, it has become clearer and clearer how 13. (<i>damaging/damaged</i>) _____ the emissions are to health and the environment. It seems that people are so attached 14. _____ their cars that they 15. (<i>not, give</i>) _____ them up for anything. To some people, their car is more important to them than 16. _____ else.</p> <p>One of the obvious answers to the problem is better public transport. If we could travel 17. (<i>wherever/whatever</i>) _____ we liked on cheap, 18. (<i>comfort</i>) _____ public transport, we would be less inclined to use the</p> | A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 | A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 |

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|--------------------|--|---|---|
| | <p>car. People will not stop using their cars unless 19. <i>(there is/there isn't)</i> _____ a good alternative. But we 20. <i>(need/must)</i> _____ to act now before it is too late. We must change our attitude and our priorities so that future generations can live in a cleaner world.</p> | | |
| <p>III.</p> | <p>Civilization. <i>Why is language considered to be the treasure of a nation? (10 lines)</i></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> | <p>A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> | <p>A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> |
| <p>IV.</p> | <p>Written production. <i>Holidays honour people or events. If you could create a new holiday, what person or event would it honour and how would you want people to celebrate it? (20 lines)</i></p> <p>Use the following plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make an introduction; - Express your personal opinion and reasons for it; - Draw a conclusion. <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> | <p>A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18</p> | <p>A 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18</p> |

