

English in Mind Second edition

Level 5 Unit 9

Worksheet**THE**  **INDEPENDENT****Finals countdown: How to avoid meltdown during exam season****Lead-in****1 What do you know about the university system in the UK? Ask your teacher to explain the following:**

- A-levels
- a modular degree
- continuous assessment
- finals
- a first; a 2:1
- a Students' Union

Reading comprehension**2 Read the text through quickly. Which paragraphs cover the following topics?****Para(s)**

- 1 6, 11 _____ What to do just before the exam.
- 2 _____ The importance of degree results for future employment.
- 3 _____ How to write a good exam question.
- 4 _____ Expert counselling and advice services offered at some universities.
- 5 _____ How to relax during the revision period.
- 6 _____ How to manage your time during the exam.

3 Decide whether, according to the views expressed in the text, the following statements are true (T), false (F) or not given (N).

- 1 Final exams are not the only means by which British university students are assessed. (T)
- 2 Some students cope well with exam stress.
- 3 It is only the less able students who have not worked hard who suffer from exam stress.
- 4 Some students set themselves very high standards.
- 5 It's best not to go out or see your friends during the revision period.
- 6 Prepare for the exam by studying previous exam papers.
- 7 Try to guess which questions you'll be asked and concentrate on revising for them.
- 8 In the exam write down everything you know about the subject.
- 9 It's not a good idea to write answers in note form.
- 10 Getting a first-class degree will not necessarily secure you a top job.

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Finals countdown: How to avoid meltdown during exam season



Vocabulary: words in context

4 The following words are printed in *italics* in the article. Find them and decide whether they are being used as **adjectives (a)**, **nouns (n)** or **verbs (v)** before matching them to the definitions below.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1 <i>meltdown</i> | a) difficult and worrying |
| 2 <i>trepidation</i> | b) repeating without thinking |
| 3 <i>abject</i> | c) construct in a skilful way |
| 4 <i>trying</i> | d) someone who delays doing things |
| 5 <i>set-up</i> | e) total collapse |
| 6 <i>craft</i> | f) state of nervous uncertainty |
| 7 <i>procrastinator</i> | g) wretched, miserable |
| 8 <i>regurgitating</i> | h) treating as a whole, not separate parts |
| 9 <i>holistic</i> | i) way in which things are organised |
- 1 (n) e 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____

5 The article contains some informal vocabulary. Find words and phrases which mean the same as the following:

- | | | |
|--|----------------------|-----------|
| 1 relax | _____ | (para 3) |
| 2 comforting, reassuring | _____ | (para 3) |
| 3 work so hard that you collapse | _____ out | (para 5) |
| 4 the last effort the | _____ | (para 7) |
| 5 write down carelessly | _____ | (para 7) |
| 6 adding extra material to make
something look more substantial | _____ out | (para 9) |
| 7 the only important thing | be _____ and _____ | (para 11) |
| 8 concentrating hard on your work
without being distracted | _____ -to-the- _____ | (para 12) |

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THE  INDEPENDENT

Grammar: prepositions

6 Which prepositions from the box go with the verbs and adjective below? Find them in the text to check your answers. Underline the word, phrase or clause which forms the object of the preposition.

of	into	on	from	in
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- 1 depend _____ (para 1)
- 2 suffer _____ (para 5)
- 3 engage _____ (para 6)
- 4 concentrate _____ (para 7)
- 5 focus _____ (para 7)
- 6 fall _____ the trap (para 8)
- 7 regardless _____ (para 14)
- 8 get _____ a university (para 15)

7 Complete the following sentences with the correct prepositions. Underline the word, phrase or clause which forms the object of the preposition.

- 1 Alice needs to concentrate more on what is going on in the classroom.
- 2 Don't fall _____ the trap of thinking you can do it all at the last minute.
- 3 I may go out later. It depends _____ how much work I still have to do.
- 4 If you wish to get _____ Oxford or Cambridge University, you will need to have very good A-level results.
- 5 I still seem to be tired all the time, regardless _____ how many hours I sleep.
- 6 Time passes quickly when you are fully engaged _____ what you are doing.
- 7 In today's class we will be focusing _____ the events leading up to the First World War.
- 8 I've been suffering a lot _____ headaches recently.

Discussion

8 Discuss the following questions in groups.

- 1 What are the most difficult tests or exams you have taken so far? What other important exams will you have to take in the future?
- 2 How do you deal with exam stress?
- 3 Do you think exams are the best way to test a student's ability? What alternatives are there?

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