

**A****Strategy:** Scan the questions to decide which to answer next

This unit follows on from Unit 7.1 and focuses on vocabulary, main idea and inference questions. Doing the questions in order of the easiest to the most difficult lets you make the most efficient use of your time.

**Test tip**

The context of the passage can give clues to vocabulary meaning

Read the sentences around the target word to try to guess the meaning.

**Test tip**

These questions intentionally use challenging vocabulary

If you don't know all of the words, ignore the ones you do know that don't answer the question. This will increase your chances of a successful guess.

**1 Test tactic: Use context to answer vocabulary questions**

- A** Look at vocabulary question 1 below. Find the word in the passage and cross it out. Brainstorm other words that might fit in the sentence and discuss your ideas with a partner.

**1,** The word “constitute” in (paragraph 2,) line 2, is closest in meaning to ...

If there is a medical reason for the request, it must be received prior to the mid-point of the program. Refunds for sports and fitness programs will NOT be processed until ALL gym and pool passes have been returned.

Please note that advising an instructor or not attending a program will not constitute a notice of withdrawal.

Cash/check remittances will be refunded by check. Please allow our office 4 to 6 weeks to process your refund. Credit card refunds will go back on the original card.

- B** Look at the answer choices and choose the one that seems closest to your idea.

- (A) begin  
(B) indicate  
(C) remove  
(D) understand

If you aren't familiar with some of the words and can't see an obvious answer, ignore any words you do know and make a guess with the remaining choices. Read the sentence (silently) with each remaining choice and choose the one that “sounds” the best.

- C** Do the same for the following question.

The word “remittances” in (paragraph 3,) line 1, is closest in meaning to

- (A) requirements  
(B) costs  
(C) payments  
(D) bills

## Test tip

Use what you've learned to answer main idea questions

Doing the other questions should help you to answer these ones. If not, skim the passage to confirm the most likely answer choice.

## 2 Test tactic: Answering main idea and inference questions

A Underline the key words in the answer choices. Choice (A) is done for you.

2. What is this notice mainly about?

- (A) The costs of summer college programs
- (B) The way to obtain refunds for unattended courses
- (C) Details of payment for summer programs
- (D) Common reasons for withdrawal from college courses

*Follow up:* Compare your choices with a partner.

B Now answer the question. You should already have enough understanding of the passage to make a choice (it is the same one you used with specific information questions in Unit 7.1). If you still aren't sure, skim the passage and choose the one that seems closest to the overall meaning.

### Summer program refund policy

The effective date of the withdrawal/cancellation is the date the withdrawal notice is received by the center, regardless of the date the participant stopped attending the class.

Withdrawal requests from all registered courses must be made before the second class is held. If the request is received 5 business days prior to the first class, the amount refunded will be the full amount, less the refund administration fee (\$25.00). If the request is received after the first class, but before the second class, the amount refunded will be the full amount, less the cost of the first class and less the administration fee (\$25.00). From the second lesson onwards, no refunds/credits will be issued.

If there is a medical reason for the request, it must be received prior to the mid-point of the program. Refunds for sports and fitness programs will NOT be processed until ALL gym and pool passes have been returned. Please note that advising an instructor or not attending a program will not constitute a notice of withdrawal.

Cash/check remittances will be refunded by check. Please allow our office 4 to 6 weeks to process your refund. Credit card refunds will go back on the original card.

C Both main idea and inference questions require you to look for vocabulary and ideas related to the choices. Write the letter of the answer choice above the related words it best matches in the chart on page 71. Choice (A) is done for you.

3. Where might you see this notice?

- (A) A student alumni magazine
- (B) An insurance policy
- (C) A medical journal
- (D) A community services bulletin

## Test tip

Inference questions use words related to the correct answer choice

Use your knowledge of related vocabulary to choose the correct option.

			<b>A</b>
Things that are insured and things that aren't covered	Profile of a famous doctor	Upcoming courses, services, or events	Profiles of famous ex-students
Monthly payments	Research on diseases	Details of costs and schedules for community services	Fund-raising information
The insurance company name	Descriptions of new medical techniques	Available facilities	Information on student admission
Policy number/date	Ads for health services		Upcoming special events at the university

### 3 Tactic practice

#### Tactics checklist

- Use context to answer vocabulary questions.
- Use what you've learned to answer main idea questions.
- For inference questions, look for words or ideas in the passage related to the things noted in each answer choice.

Use the tactics you have practiced to answer the following questions. First, number the questions in the order they should be done, then answer them as quickly as you can.

1. What is the purpose of this letter?
  - (A) To set up a meeting
  - (B) To confirm the launch dates for the New Health product line
  - (C) To outline the marketing strategy for the product
  - (D) All of the above
2. What can be inferred about the New Health product line?
  - (A) It is aimed at women.
  - (B) It is going to be expensive to buy.
  - (C) It will sell well.
  - (D) It is a cosmetic.
3. The word "anticipated" in paragraph 1, line 2 is closest in meaning to
  - (A) expected
  - (B) promised
  - (C) required
  - (D) confirmed

Questions 1–3 refer to the following letter.

Roger,

It was a great pleasure to speak with you last week regarding our new product line that we will be introducing next year in Europe. Unfortunately, at that time, I was unable to confirm the anticipated launch date for the New Health line and the expected level of marketing support this product will receive.

I am now able to confirm that the launch date for our new range in our non-U.S. markets will be April 1. Prior to this date we will be launching a major marketing campaign for our new products which will include the placing of two-page spreads in leading health care and fashion magazines, and TV advertisements. We are expecting to confirm a well-known model as the face for the campaign shortly.

I will be coming to London early next month and I was wondering if we could meet to discuss our products and pricing strategies in more detail? I will be able to supply you with more information about not only the New Health line, but also the other skincare products that we offer.

I look forward to meeting you and discussing this sales opportunity with you further.

Regards,  
Lewis



Now apply the *Test tactics* at the actual test speed with questions 1–9.



You have 9 minutes to complete 9 items.

Questions 1–2 refer to the following memo.

### Memorandum

To: Sales Department Staff  
 From: P.B. Anderson, Office Administrator  
 Subject: Garbage disposal

We received a complaint last Wednesday about improper garbage disposal by your department. Despite the recent guidelines, several bags of garbage were found in black plastic bags. We would therefore like to remind you of the following:

- Ensure that the new transparent garbage bags are used for all garbage.

Also note for future reference that:

- Burnable and non-burnable items should be separated as previously advised.
- All garbage must be taken out before 6 p.m. on Tuesday and Friday evenings. If garbage is not out by this time, the collection will be missed.
- All glass and metal waste should be placed in the separate receptacle near the rear gate for pickup on Monday morning before noon.

1. When must burnable garbage be taken out?
  - (A) Every Monday
  - (B) Before noon
  - (C) On Tuesdays and Fridays
  - (D) After 6 p.m.
2. Which of the following has the sales staff failed to do?
  - (A) Always use the new garbage bags
  - (B) Separate the garbage
  - (C) Place metal waste in the correct receptacle
  - (D) Take out the garbage at the correct time

Questions 3–5 refer to the following advertisement.

### Muscles Gym

Add power to your dreams

Opening campaign

Muscles Gym is the place for serious fitness, with over 50 multi-purpose gyms nationwide. We are pleased to announce that a new Muscles Gym is set to open in January in your area next to Main Street Station. This new Muscles Gym features a fully stocked workout gym including free weights, machines and a range of cardiovascular equipment. There is also an exercise studio, which will offer a comprehensive program of dance, aerobic and martial arts classes. Membership in the Main Street branch also allows full use of the pool and aquatics programs in either the Central or Lansdowne branches.

We are now open for membership applications, so please visit us, take a tour of our wonderful facilities and see how we can truly add power to your dreams!

- Monthly membership rates from as little as \$60
- Family packages available from \$100
- 20% discount for group membership (min. of 4 members)
- Many other membership rates and packages
- Bonus discount for all new members signing by December 31

Membership inquiries:

Reception open 12–6 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Sat/Sun

3. What is the main purpose of this advertisement?
  - (A) To announce the opening of a new gym
  - (B) To give details of membership rates
  - (C) To describe the benefits of exercise
  - (D) To describe the facilities programs that will be available
4. What do people who apply for group membership before the end of the year get?
  - (A) A \$60 membership rate
  - (B) A 20% discount
  - (C) A bonus discount
  - (D) A 20% discount and a bonus discount
5. Which of the following is true of this new branch?
  - (A) People may sign up from 9–6 all week.
  - (B) Joining will be more expensive after the new year.
  - (C) Children are not able to use this gym.
  - (D) It is convenient for swimmers.

Questions 6–9 refer to the following news story.

People think that hurricanes just do not occur in northern Europe, but in October 1987 there was a ‘storm’ during the night in the south of England that caused unprecedented damage to this usually hurricane free part of the globe. By the time most people went to bed, exceptionally strong winds had not even been mentioned in national radio and TV weather broadcasts.

Rescue workers faced an unprecedented number of emergency calls as winds hit 94 mph in the capital and over 110 mph in the Channel Islands. Along the south coast, damage to yachts and boat yards was extensive and a famous pier was even reduced to driftwood. Many houses were also damaged by the hurricane.

The hurricane resulted in an estimated 1.7 billion dollars in repairs and clear-up costs. The insurance industry faced huge payouts. Most household policies cover storm damage, and thousands of homeowners made claims.

Weather forecasters soon faced criticism for failing to predict the severity of the weather. The stormy weather was first predicted at the beginning of the week but forecasters incorrectly assumed that the weather system would track along the English Channel, but instead it cut a swathe right across the south of the country.

6. What is this article mainly about?
  - (A) The difficulties rescue workers face during hurricanes
  - (B) The limited chance of hurricanes occurring in northern Europe
  - (C) The impact of a hurricane on southern England
  - (D) The inaccuracy of some weather forecasts
7. The word “swathe” which appears in paragraph 4, line 4 is closest in meaning to
  - (A) current
  - (B) path
  - (C) command
  - (D) collision
8. According to the article, why were people NOT warned about the hurricane?
  - (A) It wasn’t expected to hit land.
  - (B) Severe damage wasn’t anticipated.
  - (C) The news didn’t mention the impending storm.
  - (D) Hurricanes don’t occur in Europe.
9. What do most household insurance policies cover?
  - (A) Damage caused by freak natural occurrences
  - (B) Damage caused by strong winds
  - (C) Damage to cars
  - (D) Damage to yachts



**Role play**

You bought a watch (a Seimex Accuron) a month ago. Last night you were relaxing in your Jacuzzi when you realized your watch wasn't working. You noticed there was some water inside the face. The watch is clearly labeled as "water-resistant" and is almost brand new!

Read the warranty below and note:

1. How long is the warranty good for?
2. What two things may the company do if it is broken?
3. What situations does the warranty not cover?
4. What should you do if you want to make a warranty claim?

#### SEIMEX INTERNATIONAL WARRANTY

Your SEIMEX watch is warranted against manufacturing defects by Seimex Corporation for a period of ONE YEAR from the original purchase date. Please note that Seimex may, at its option, repair your watch or replace it with an identical or similar model.

**IMPORTANT — PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT COVER DEFECTS OR DAMAGES TO YOUR WATCH:**

- 1) if the watch was not originally purchased from an authorized Seimex retailer.
- 2) from repair services not performed by Seimex.
- 3) from accidents, or use for purposes outside of those specified in the users manual.

Report all warranty claims to your local authorized SEIMEX dealer for prompt service.

**Task**

With your partner write a complaint letter to the local Seimex dealer where you bought the watch and:

- Tell them when you bought the watch (note the model).
- Explain what happened.
- Point out that the watch hasn't been bumped or dropped and because it is supposed to be water-resistant there must be a problem with the watch.
- Since it is still under warranty, find out how soon they can repair or replace the watch.

**Culture note**

When making complaints, try not to sound rude or personal, e.g. *You must fix the problem you caused ...*

It is better to say, *The problem must be fixed ...*

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to complain about a Seimex \_\_\_\_\_ watch I purchased  
\_\_\_\_\_ in your shop. I was quite happy with it until last night,  
after coming out of the Jacuzzi, \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ inside the face.

During the time I have owned it, it hasn't been \_\_\_\_\_ and since it is  
clearly labeled as water-resistant there is obviously a \_\_\_\_\_

Since it is still under warranty I would like to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

## D

### Further study

Using your completed letter, write two Part 7 type questions to test a partner in the next lesson.

Go to word list and quiz page 170.