

SKILLS TEST 3 & 4

READING

1 Read the article quickly. Match the information (1–7) to the sentences (a–g).

The Rumpelstiltskin Principle

You might know the story of *Rumpelstiltskin*. A young woman in trouble gets help from a strange man, who appears out of nowhere. After he helps, he asks for payment – the woman must give him something she loves.

The man appears again and again to help the woman. She gives him a ring, a necklace, and all her favourite things, until she has nothing more to give. He comes to a decision. He will take the woman's baby.

Of course, the woman is very upset. The man then says that if she can guess his name, he won't take anything more, and he'll go away.

The woman thinks long and hard, but there is no way she can guess

the name. Then, a friend tells her that he's seen a strange man in the forest, dancing and singing, 'Tomorrow I'll take the baby, no-one knows my name is Rumpelstiltskin!'

Soon, the man appears and tells the woman that she must give him her baby. She can have three guesses. The woman says two names, and the man laughs 'No!!' Finally, the woman says, 'Your name's Rumpelstiltskin!' The man is shocked and angry, and disappears.

The message of this story is clear – names are important. Think about it. How would you feel if someone made the decision to call you by a different name? It would feel strange, like they were taking something away from you. If people call each other names (as children and politicians, and people arguing

online do), it can be very upsetting, because they are trying to change who or what you are.

In the same way, knowing the name of something can be very powerful. Some scientists call this the *Rumpelstiltskin Principle*. For example, an ill person feels bad and goes to the doctor. An important part of the doctor's job is to find out what's wrong, give the problem a name and start making it better.

The same is true in many other areas in life. When you know the name of something or someone, you have more control over it. If your teacher or boss uses your name, you'll be happier to do what they say than if they don't. Research shows that people listen a lot more if they hear their name in conversation. Try it the next time you talk to a friend!

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 <i>Rumpelstiltskin</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 a baby | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 three guesses | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 calling other people names | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 the Rumpelstiltskin Principle | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 identifying an illness | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 using someone's name | <input type="checkbox"/> |
- a It was the number of chances to say someone's name.
- b It's the power of knowing someone or something's real name.
- c It can make people listen more.
- d It's a bad thing to do to someone else.
- e It can make people feel better.
- f It's a well-known children's story.
- g It was payment for some help.

2 Read the article again. Mark these sentences T (true) or F (false), or DS (the article doesn't say).

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 In the story of <i>Rumpelstiltskin</i> , the strange man doesn't want money from the woman. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 The man promises to leave, but the woman must say his name first. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 The woman collects all the strangest names she knows. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 The man takes her baby. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 The writer says the story is about the power of names. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 The writer thinks it's funny when people call each other names. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 Doctors usually know the name of an illness. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 People don't like it when other people use their name. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SKILLS TEST 3 & 4

LISTENING

3  Listen to a conversation. Tick [✓] the seven sentences that are true.

- 1 The two people are discussing something that didn't really happen.
- 2 The girl asks the boy to imagine that a man took a lot of money.
- 3 The man is a friend of the boy's parents.
- 4 There were lots of people in the street.
- 5 The boy sees the man's face.
- 6 The man who robbed the bank works for a hospital.
- 7 The hospital is for sick children.
- 8 The police might want to talk to the boy.
- 9 The hospital has a lot of money.
- 10 The boy doesn't know what he would do in the end.

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7

4  Listen again. Choose the correct answers.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 The girl wants the boy to | | |
| A think about a problem. | B tell the truth. | C say what he did in class today. |
| 2 She asks him to say what he | | |
| A did. | B would have done | C would do |
| 3 At first, the boy says he | | |
| A would stop the robber. | B wouldn't stop the robber. | C can't stop the robber. |
| 4 Next, he says he | | |
| A would stop the robber. | B wouldn't stop the robber. | C ought to stop the robber. |
| 5 The boy wouldn't want the | | |
| A hospital to get any money. | B man to work for a hospital. | C hospital to get no money. |
| 6 The boy wishes | | |
| A he'd seen the crime. | B he hadn't seen the crime. | C he'd caught the robber. |
| 7 Finally, the boy says he would | | |
| A hide the truth. | B tell the truth. | C be open about what happened. |
| 8 The girl would | | |
| A hide the truth. | B cheat. | C be open about what happened. |

8

SKILLS TEST 3 & 4

WRITING

- 5** Your friend has sent you this email. Write a reply (150–180 words), giving your friend some advice. Use the questions below to help you.

To: _____
✖ □ ◀

Subject: _____

Hi,

Something really strange happened yesterday. There is a boy in my class who has been really ill recently. I know he missed a lot of classes, and he couldn't come to school.

But yesterday, we had an exam. I think I saw him cheating. He was checking his phone, and he also had a little piece of paper under the desk. I didn't say anything to him, or to the teacher.

What should I do? If he fails his exam, then he will be in serious trouble. At the same time, I know he didn't have time to study enough.

Please help!

A.

- What do you think your friend should do?
- What would you have done in this situation?
- What would you do next?

20

SPEAKING

- 6** Work in pairs. Look at the photos below. They show situations in which someone needs to apologise. Take turns to describe your photo, and say why you think someone will need to apologise. Then, decide together which situation would be the most difficult to apologise for.



- 7** Work in pairs. Role play the two situations. Apologise, using the useful phrases below.

- **Student A:** You are meeting your friend at the cinema today. The film starts at 8:00, and you agreed to meet at 7:00. Unfortunately, you are late. It's now 7:45. Your friend was waiting for 45 minutes.
- **Student B:** You borrowed an important book from your friend last week, so you could do some homework. Unfortunately, you spilled water all over the book, and now lots of pages are stuck together.

I'm so sorry ...

I feel awful about this ...

I don't know what to say.

I'm ashamed.

That's OK.

Don't worry about it.

No worries.

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TOTAL SCORE

70