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To: IELTS Prep Group  
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### Lesson Objective

The student shall be able to use “power words” as part of their oral vocabulary, read and comprehend both social and business language and demonstrate effective oral communication skills

## Section One

### Vocabulary

#### Evaluation Criteria

- Ability to understand definitions of English vocabulary

#### MATCH THE WORD WITH THE CORRECT DEFINITION

VOCABULARY	DEFINITIONS
1. Perspective (Noun)	A. Doubtful; marked by or occasioning doubt.
2. Zoology (Noun)	B. the state of one's ideas, the facts known to one, etc., in having a meaningful interrelationship
3. Veterinarian (Noun)	C. Widely and unfavorably known.
4. Dubious (Adjective)	D. Something implied or suggested as naturally to be inferred or understood.
5. Notorious (Adjective)	E. The provision of additional or duplicate systems, equipment, etc., that function in case an operating part or system fails, as in a spacecraft.
6. Workaholic (Noun)	F. Having the power of producing; generative; creative.
7. Productive (Adjective)	G. A person who works compulsively at the expense of other pursuits.
8. Redundancy (Noun)	H. The science or branch of biology dealing with animals.

## Section Two

### Reading Comprehension and Pronunciation skills.

#### Evaluation Criteria

- Ability to effectively read and comprehend written English in a social or business environment.

### ARTICLE 1 (A)

#### Zoo Conservation Programs

- One of London Zoo's recent advertisements caused me some irritation, so patently did it distort reality. Headlined "Without zoos, you might as well tell these animals to get stuffed", it was bordered with illustrations of several endangered species and went on to extol the myth that without zoos like London Zoo these animals "will almost certainly disappear forever". With the zoo world's rather mediocre record on conservation, one might be forgiven for being slightly skeptical about such an advertisement.



Zoos were originally created as places of entertainment, and their suggested involvement with conservation didn't seriously arise until about 30 years ago, when the Zoological Society of London held the first formal international meeting on the subject. Eight years later, a series of world conferences took place, entitled "The Breeding of Endangered Species", and from this point onwards conservation became the zoo community's buzzword. This commitment has now been clear



defined in The World Zoo Conservation Strategy (WZGS, September 1993), which although an important and welcome document does seem to be based on an unrealistic optimism about the nature of the zoo industry.

2. The WZCS estimates that there are about 10,000 zoos in the world, of which around 1,000 represent a core of quality collections capable of participating in coordinated conservation programs. This is probably the document's first failing, as I believe that 10,000 is a serious underestimate of the total number of places masquerading as zoological establishments. Of course, it is difficult to get accurate data but, to put the issue into perspective; I have found that, in a year of working in Eastern Europe, I discover fresh zoos on almost a weekly basis.

The second flaw in the reasoning of the WZCS document is the naive faith it places in its 1,000 core zoos. One would assume that the caliber of these institutions would have been carefully examined, but it appears that the criterion for inclusion on this select list might merely be that the zoo is a member of a zoo federation or association. This might be a good starting point, working on the premise that members must meet certain standards, but again the facts don't support the theory. The greatly respected American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (AAZPA) has had extremely dubious members, and in the UK the Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland has

3. Occasionally had members that have been roundly censured in the national press. These include Robin Hill Adventure Park on the Isle of Wight, which many considered the most notorious collection of animals in the country. This establishment, which for years was protected by the Isle's local council (which viewed it as a tourist amenity), was finally closed down following a damning report by a veterinary inspector appointed under the terms of the Zoo Licensing Act 1981. As it was always a collection of dubious repute, one is obliged to reflect upon the standards that the Zoo Federation sets when granting membership. The situation is even worse in developing countries where little money is available for redevelopment and it is hard to see a way of incorporating collections into the overall scheme of the WZCS.

Even assuming that the WZCS's 1,000 core zoos are all of a high standard complete with scientific staff and research facilities, trained and dedicated keepers, accommodation that permits normal or natural behavior, and a policy of co-operating fully with one another what might be the potential for conservation? Colin Tudge, author of *Last Animals at the Zoo* (Oxford University Press, 1992), argues that "if the world's zoos worked together in co-operative breeding programs, then even without further expansion they could save around 2,000 species of endangered land vertebrates'. This seems an extremely optimistic proposition from a man who must be aware of the failings and weaknesses of the zoo industry the man who, when a member of the council of London Zoo, had to persuade the zoo to devote more of its activities to conservation. Moreover, where are the facts to support such optimism?

Today approximately 16 species might be said to have been "saved" by captive breeding programs, although a number of these can hardly be looked upon as resounding successes. Beyond that, about a further 20 species are being seriously considered for zoo conservation programs. Given that the international conference at London Zoo was held 30 years ago, this is pretty slow progress, and a long way off Tudge's target of 2,000.

### Answer

**Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer in Reading Passage 3? In boxes 16-22 write:**

- Y** if the statement agrees with the writer
- N** if the statement contradicts the writer
- NG** if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

16. London Zoo's advertisements are dishonest.
17. Zoos made an insignificant contribution to conservation up until 30 years ago.
18. The WZCS document is not known in Eastern Europe.
19. Zoos in the WZCS select list were carefully inspected.
20. No-one knew how the animals were being treated at Robin Hill Adventure Park.
21. Colin Tudge was dissatisfied with the treatment of animals at London Zoo.
22. The number of successful zoo conservation programs is unsatisfactory.

### Questions 23-25

Choose the appropriate letters A-D and write them in boxes 23-25 on your answer sheet.

#### 23 What were the objectives of the WZCS document?

- a) to improve the caliber of zoos worldwide
- b) to identify zoos suitable for conservation practice
- c) to provide funds for zoos in underdeveloped countries
- d) to list the endangered species of the world

#### 24 Why does the writer refer to Robin Hill Adventure Park?

- a) to support the Isle of Wight local council
- b) to criticize the 1981 Zoo Licensing Act
- c) to illustrate a weakness in the WZCS document
- d) to exemplify the standards in AAZPA zoos

#### 25 What word best describes the writer's response to Colin Tudges' prediction on captive breeding programs?

- a) Disbelieving
- b) impartial
- c) prejudiced
- d) accepting

### Questions 26-28

The writer mentions a number of factors which lead him to doubt the value of the WZCS document Which THREE of the following factors are mentioned? Write your answers (A-F) in boxes 26-28 on your answer sheet.

#### List of Factors:

- A. the number of unregistered zoos in the world
- B. the lack of money in developing countries
- C. the actions of the Isle of Wight local council
- D. the failure of the WZCS to examine the standards of the "core zoos"
- E. the unrealistic aim of the WZCS in view of the number of species "saved" to date
- F. the policies of WZCS zoo managers

## ARTICLE 2 (B)

### A Workaholic Economy

1. **For** the first century or so of the industrial revolution, increased productivity led to decreases in working hours. Employees who had been putting in 12-hour days, six days a week, found their time on the job shrinking to 10 hours daily, then finally to eight hours, five days a week. Only a generation ago social planners worried about what people would do with all this new-found free time. In the US, at least it seems they need not have bothered.



Although the output per hour of work has more than doubled since 1945, leisure seems reserved largely for the unemployed and underemployed. Those who work full-time spend as much time on the job as they did at the end of World War II. In fact, working hours have increased noticeably since 1970 — perhaps because real wages have stagnated since that year. Bookstores now abound with manuals describing how to manage time and cope with stress.

2. **There** are several reasons for lost leisure. Since 1979, companies have responded to improvements in the business climate by having employees work overtime rather than by hiring extra personnel, says economist Juliet B. Schor of Harvard University. Indeed, the current economic recovery has gained a certain amount of notoriety for its "jobless" nature: increased production has



been almost entirely decoupled from employment. Some firms are even downsizing as their profits climb. "All things being equal, we'd be better off spreading around the work," observes labor economist Ronald G. Ehrenberg of Cornell University.

Yet a host of factors pushes employers to hire fewer workers for more hours and at the same time compels workers to spend more time on the job. Most of those incentives involve what Ehrenberg calls the structure of compensation: quirks in the way salaries and benefits are organized that make it more profitable to ask 40 employees to labor an extra hour each than to hire one more worker to do the same 40-hour job.

3. **Professional** and managerial employees supply the most obvious lesson along these lines. Once people are on salary, their cost to a firm is the same whether they spend 35 hours a week in the office or 70. Diminishing returns may eventually set in as overworked employees lose efficiency or leave for more arable pastures. But in the short run, the employer's incentive is clear. Even hourly employees receive benefits - such as pension contributions and medical insurance - that are not tied to the number of hours they work. Therefore, it is more profitable for employers to work their existing employees harder. For all that employees complain about long hours, they too have reasons not to trade money for leisure. "People who work reduced hours pay a huge penalty in career terms," Schor maintains. "It's taken as a negative signal' about their commitment to the firm.' [Lotte] Bailyn [of Massachusetts Institute of Technology] adds that many corporate managers find it difficult to measure the contribution of their underlings to a firm's well-being, so they use the number of hours worked as a proxy for output. "Employees know this," she says, and they adjust their behavior accordingly.
4. **"Although** the image of the good worker is the one whose life belongs to the company," Bailyn says, "it doesn't fit the facts.' She cites both quantitative and qualitative studies that show increased productivity for part-time workers: they make better use of the time they have and they are less likely to succumb to fatigue in stressful jobs. Companies that employ more workers for less time also gain from the resulting redundancy, she asserts. "The extra people can cover the contingencies that you know are going to happen, such as when crises take people away from the workplace." Positive experiences with reduced hours have begun to change the more-is-better culture at some companies, Schor reports. Larger firms, in particular, appear to be more willing to experiment with flexible working arrangements...

It may take even more than changes in the financial and cultural structures of employment for workers successfully to trade increased productivity and money for leisure time, Schor contends. She says the U.S. market for goods has become skewed by the assumption of full-time, two-career households. Automobile makers no longer manufacture cheap models, and developers do not build the tiny bungalows that served the first postwar generation of home buyers. Not even the humblest household object is made without a microprocessor. As Schor notes, the situation is a curious inversion of the "appropriate technology" vision that designers have had for developing countries: U.S. goods are appropriate only for high incomes and long hours. - **Paul Walluh**

### Questions 27-32

Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer in reading passage 4? In boxes 27-32 on your answer sheet write:

**YES)** if the statement agrees with the writer

**NO)** if the statement contradicts the writer

**NOT GIVEN)** if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

Example	Answer
<i>During the industrial revolution, people worked harder</i>	<i>NOT GIVEN</i>

- 27 Today, employees are facing a reduction in working hours.
- 28 Social planners have been consulted about US employment figures.
- 29 Salaries have not risen significantly since the 1970s.
- 30 The economic recovery created more jobs.
- 31 Bailyn's research shows that part-time employees work more efficiently.
- 32 Increased leisure time would benefit two-career households.

### Questions 33-34

choose the appropriate letters **A-D** and write them in boxes **33** and **34** on your answer sheet.

#### 33 Bailyn argues that it is better for a company to employ more workers because

- a) It is easy to make excess staff redundant.
- b) Crises occur if you are under-staffed.
- c) People are available to substitute for absent staff.
- d) They can project a positive image at work.

#### 34 Schor thinks it will be difficult for workers in the US to reduce their working hours because

- a) They would not be able to afford cars or homes.
- b) Employers are offering high incomes for long hours.
- c) The future is dependent on technological advances.
- d) They do not wish to return to the humble post-war era.

### Questions 35-38

The writer mentions a number of factors that have resulted, in employees working longer hours. Which **FOUR** of the following factors are mentioned? Write your answers (**A-H**) in boxes **35-38** on your answer sheet.

#### List of Factors

- A. Books are available to help employees cope with stress.
- B. Extra work is offered to existing employees.
- C. Increased production has led to joblessness.
- D. Benefits and hours spent on the job are not linked.
- E. Overworked employees require longer to do their work.
- F. Longer hours indicate a greater commitment to the firm.
- G. Managers estimate staff productivity in terms of hours worked.
- H. Employees value a career more than a family.