A ‘gap year’ is usually taken the year before the start of university life, between secondary school and higher education or employment, or between higher education and a job. You’ve probably been in full-time education for about 15 years, so you may welcome (1) a break. But that doesn't mean you should spend the time sitting on your backside doing nothing. You need to find out what's on offer, how long it may last, and how you are going to pay for it.

Many will desire the traditional option of going abroad, and there are various possibilities. Some schemes allow (2) you to go to another continent and work in a school or on an environmental project. These will vary in length from a month or so to the best part of a year, so check carefully. While your accommodation may be paid for, transport and other costs may not, so the big issue will be the amount of money you need to make it achievable (3).

Others will see a year out as a chance to work and save money for university. However, since finding full-time work may prove difficult at the moment, you should consider looking for a part-time job.

Now, is a gap year a good idea? The advantages are that you’ll gain (4) independence —personal, financial, maybe both— and will be better prepared for university life. It doesn't matter that you’ll be a year older than many of the other undergraduates —you’ll probably handle (5) the transition to university better.
1. Link each of the words/expressions below with a word/expression in the column (as numbered in the text). Copy the correct pair of words on your answer sheet. [1 mark]

- doable and ...
- cope with and ...
- feel like and ...
- enable and ...
- increase and ...

(1) *welcome* and ...
(2) *allow* and ...
(3) *achievable* and ...
(4) *gain* and ...
(5) *handle* and ...

2. Reading comprehension

2.1. Choose the best option. Copy the complete correct option on your answer sheet. [0.75 marks]

a) Students take a gap year because they are tired and do not wish to continue their education.
b) A gap year can be a good opportunity for personal development as well as for making some money.
c) Most students use their gap year to work on environmental or educational projects in another continent.
d) You need to be, at least, 15 years of age to be allowed to take a gap year from full-time education.

2.2. Choose the best option. Copy the complete correct option on your answer sheet. [0.75 marks]

a) The only problem with doing a gap year in another continent is that you do not get paid.
b) A gap year may not be a good idea as it means you will start university one year later than your classmates.
c) Other undergraduates will handle the transition to university better because they have not stopped studying.
d) Being a year older than your classmates at university is not necessarily a disadvantage.

3. Complete the sentences using information from the text. DO NOT COPY phrases from the text literally, unless this is unavoidable. [2 marks]

a) A gap year is not ...
b) Going abroad ...
c) Not all costs ...
d) Working and saving ...

4. Complete each gap with one or more adequate words. DO NOT COPY the complete text on your sheet, only letters (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) followed by the word(s) that you find suitable for the gap. [1.5 marks]

*My gap year: Volunteering in Cambodia*

Julie worked in the orphanage and community projects whilst living in a rural Cambodian town (a) __ breathtaking scenery and mysterious temples. "I really enjoyed my time at the project, getting (b) __ know the children at the orphanage; they were all (c) __ lovely and wanted to spend time with the volunteers. It was great that you were able to choose to be involved in many different aspects of the project. I thought that the project was very (d) __ run, and the fact that it is a community project, not (e) __ the orphanage, means that it helps support so many local children. They have also recently introduced lessons to teach English (f) __ the local police, so the project continues to grow.

5. What kind of things do young people do during their "gap year", according to the text? You are expected to draw information from the text, but please use your own words. (25-50 words) [2 marks]

6. If you had the opportunity to take a year out before university, what would you like to do? Please, use your own ideas and your own words. (25-50 words) [2 marks]
Fascinating facts about "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial"

... Steven Spielberg’s original concept for the movie was the story of a family that was terrorized in their home by aliens. He instead decided to go with a family-friendly movie and the family-in-jeopardy (1) concept was developed into Poltergeist.

... Most of the “E.T.” script¹ was written while filming Raiders of the Lost Ark. Spielberg dictated the story to screenwriter² Melissa Mathison, who was the then-girlfriend and future wife of Harrison Ford.

... Harrison Ford himself was initially intended to have a cameo role in the film as Elliot’s school principal, but the scene was cut. Spielberg felt that he would distract people from the film.

... Elliott was originally supposed to lure (2) E.T. into the house with M&Ms, but Mars, Inc. turned down the request to use their candy. Reese’s Pieces were used instead, and its placement resulted in a 65% surge (3) in sales.

... E.T.’s face was modeled after the poet Carl Sandburg, a pug³, and Albert Einstein.

... All the puppetry was performed by an 86cm tall stuntman⁴, except for the scenes in the kitchen, which were done by a 10-year-old boy who was born without legs but was an expert on walking on his hands.

... To ensure realistic responses from the actors, Spielberg shot (4) the film in chronological order (something that is rarely done). And it worked! All the emotional responses from the actors in the final scene are real.

... Spielberg came up with the concept for a sequel called E.T. II: Nocturnal Fears, where Elliott and his friends are kidnapped (5) by other aliens and E.T. would come to their rescue. It would also be revealed that E.T.’s real name is Zrek.

¹script: guión
²screenwriter: guionista
³pug: pug chino (un tipo de perro)
⁴stuntman: doble o especialista

PREGUNTAS (NO RESPONDER EN ESTA HOJA)

READ THE TEXT AND ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. BE CAREFUL TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR EACH QUESTION.
1. Link each of the words/expressions below with a word/expression in the column (as numbered in the text). Copy the correct pair of words on your answer sheet. [1 mark]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>increase</th>
<th>risk</th>
<th>film</th>
<th>capture</th>
<th>attract</th>
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<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>jeopardy and ...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>lure and ...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>surge and ...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>shoot and ...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kidnap and ...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Reading comprehension

2.1. Choose the best option. Copy the complete correct option on your answer sheet. [0.75 marks]

a) Spielberg shot “E.T.” after “Raiders of the Lost Ark”.
b) Spielberg wrote “E.T.” after filming “Raiders of the Lost Ark”.
c) Spielberg shot “Poltergeist” while writing “E.T.”.
d) “Poltergeist” was not originally conceived as a horror story.

2.2. Choose the best option. Copy the complete correct option on your answer sheet. [0.75 marks]

a) Mars, Inc. most likely regretted not having allowed Spielberg to use M&Ms in his movie.
b) Reese’s Pieces experienced a huge drop in their sales after appearing in “E.T.”.
c) An 86cm tall stuntman performed the entire puppetry in “E.T.”.
d) In “E.T. II: Nocturnal Fears”, Elliot has nightmares that he and his friends are kidnapped by aliens and E.T.

3. Complete the sentences using information from the text. Do not reproduce phrases from the text literally, unless this is unavoidable. [2 marks]

a) Originally, “E.T.” ...
b) Melissa Mathison, ...
c) Spielberg rejected Harrison Ford ...
d) E.T.’s ...

4. Complete each gap with one or more adequate words. Do not copy the complete text on your sheet, only letters (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) followed by the word(s) that you find suitable for the gap. [1.5 marks]

...The doctors and nurses who worked on E.T. were (a) __ actors; they were all real emergency-room technicians and were told (b) __ treat E.T. the same way they would treat a real person.
... The film (c) __ nominated for nine Oscars at the 55th Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director, (d) __ it lost both to Gandhi. Even the director of Gandhi, Sir R. Attenborough, (e) __ “ET” should have won the Oscar: “I was certain that not only would E.T. win, but that it (f) __ win. It was inventive, powerful, and wonderful. I make more mundane movies.”

5. Why did Spielberg decide to film the movie in chronological order? Was it a good idea? Explain. You are expected to draw information from the text, but please use your own words. (25-50 words) [2 marks]

6. What was your favorite movie when you were little? Explain what happened and why you like it so much. Please, use your own ideas and your own words. (25-50 words) [2 marks]