

Olympk de Inglês 2026 — 1º Edição

Nível Livre — PRO

30 Questões — Nível Avançado

olympk.app.br

Elaborado com base no gabarito Olympk 2025.2

Fácil	11	9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29
Média	8	1, 5, 7, 15, 18, 19, 20, 26
Difícil	11	2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 11, 14, 17, 22, 25, 30
Total	30	

Gabarito Rápido

01. D	02. A	03. E	04. E	05. D	06. B
07. D	08. B	09. A	10. E	11. B	12. C
13. B	14. A	15. D	16. C	17. A	18. D
19. A	20. E	21. A	22. E	23. A	24. C
25. C	26. C	27. D	28. C	29. A	30. E



**OLIMPIADA
DE INGLÊS**
EXCELLENCE • KNOWLEDGE • ACHIEVEMENT
★ ★ ★

Questão 01

Média

Gabarito: D

Abbreviations

#00000118

Comentário: No contexto da comunicação digital, 'PS' significa 'postscript' (acréscimo após o encerramento de uma mensagem), 'FYI' vem de 'for your information' (para seu conhecimento), e 'TBC' significa 'to be confirmed' (a confirmar). Essas abreviações aparecem tanto em contextos informais quanto profissionais e são amplamente reconhecidas em comunicação escrita em inglês.

Read the email exchange below:

From: event@schoolcouncil.org
To: all-students@school.edu
Subject: End-of-year ceremony — update

Hi everyone,

The ceremony will take place in the main hall on Friday at 6 PM. Dress code is smart casual.

FYI, the guest speaker has changed — details to follow.
Arrival time: TBC, but please aim to be seated by 5:45 PM.

Best,
Student Council

PS: Parents are welcome — no registration needed.

Source: Adapted school communication example for language learning.

What do the abbreviations 'FYI', 'TBC', and 'PS' mean in the context of this email?

- A) 'FYI' = follow your instincts; 'TBC' = to be cancelled; 'PS' = please send
- B) 'FYI' = for your interest; 'TBC' = time before check-in; 'PS' = personal summary
- C) 'FYI' = from your inbox; 'TBC' = to be considered; 'PS' = prior statement
- D) 'FYI' = for your information; 'TBC' = to be confirmed; 'PS' = postscript — an addition after the main message
- E) 'FYI' = fill your inbox; 'TBC' = total budget cost; 'PS' = please schedule



**OLIMPIÁDA
DE INGLÊS**
EXCELLENCE • KNOWLEDGE • ACHIEVEMENT
★ ★ ★

Questão 02

Difícil

Gabarito: A

Communicative Purpose

#00000119

Comentário: O texto tem como objetivo central persuadir o leitor de que a crise climática exige uma resposta política urgente e coordenada, usando testemunhos científicos, analogias históricas e linguagem moralmente carregada para pressionar à ação. O autor não apenas informa — ele argumenta com urgência.

Read the academic opinion piece below:

The scientific consensus on climate change has never been clearer: we are on track to exceed 1.5°C of warming within the next decade. This is not a projection from a fringe model — it is the median estimate of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, endorsed by the world's leading atmospheric scientists. James Hansen, whose congressional testimony in 1988 first brought global warming to public attention, has since stated that our collective inaction constitutes a form of intergenerational crime.

We have the technology. Solar and wind energy are now cheaper than fossil fuels in most markets. Battery storage has improved by orders of magnitude. What we lack is political will — and the window in which political will can still make a difference is closing. The history of civilisations that chose comfort over survival is short, because they are no longer here to tell it.

The question is not whether we can afford to act. It is whether we can afford to wait.

Adapted from: Kolbert, E. The Sixth Extinction, updated commentary, 2025.

What is the communicative purpose of this academic opinion piece?

- A) To urgently persuade readers that the climate crisis demands immediate political action, using scientific authority, historical analogy, and moral framing to argue that inaction is no longer a defensible position.
- B) To objectively present both sides of the climate debate, giving equal weight to pro-fossil-fuel and renewable-energy perspectives.
- C) To compare the careers of James Hansen and other climate scientists and evaluate their contributions to public policy.
- D) To entertain readers with speculative scenarios about what civilisation will look like after 2°C of warming.
- E) To critique the renewable energy industry for overstating the efficiency of solar and wind technology.



Questão 03

Difícil

Gabarito: E

Advanced Connectors

#00000120

Comentário: A citação de Simone de Beauvoir funciona como âncora filosófica que valida o argumento central do texto: que a identidade de gênero é socialmente construída, não biologicamente determinada. A citação não apresenta contrargumento nem introduz nova ideia — ela legitima e aprofunda a tese já estabelecida pelo autor.

Read the cultural studies commentary below:

Gender, as scholars have long argued, is not a fixed biological category but a set of learned behaviours, expectations, and performances shaped by culture and repeated over time. Children do not arrive in the world with pre-formed gender identities; those identities are assigned, reinforced, and policed by social institutions from the moment of birth. As Simone de Beauvoir famously observed, 'One is not born, but rather becomes, a woman.' This insight, first published in 1949, anticipated decades of feminist scholarship and remains foundational to contemporary gender theory — its endurance a testament to how profoundly it captured something that experience confirms but convention resists.

Adapted from theoretical cultural studies literature for language analysis.

What function does the de Beauvoir quotation serve within the argument of the text?

- A) It introduces a counterargument that the author immediately refutes, demonstrating that biological determinism has merit.
- B) It provides historical background to feminism, replacing the need for further theoretical analysis.
- C) It is a methodological reference explaining the research tools the author uses to study gender.
- D) It positions de Beauvoir's view as outdated compared to more recent intersectional theories of gender.
- E) It functions as a philosophical authority that endorses the author's central claim — that gender is socially constructed — lending historical credibility and scholarly legitimacy to a position already established in the text.

Questão 04

Difícil

Gabarito: E

Analogies

#00000121

Comentário: A analogia central explora a tensão entre pertencimento e autenticidade. A protagonista questiona se adaptar-se completamente a um novo ambiente significa perder quem se é — ou se identidade é suficientemente resiliente para sobreviver à transformação. O conto usa isso para levantar uma questão filosófica sobre o que constitui o self em contextos de deslocamento cultural.

Read the short story excerpt below:

After two years in the city, Yara had become fluent in its rhythms. She knew which metro line ran late, which bakeries opened before six, which silences meant warmth and which meant dismissal. She had learned to dress differently, to laugh at different things, to want different things. People sometimes forgot she had come from somewhere else.

She wasn't sure if that was an achievement or a loss.

At a dinner one evening, a man asked where she was from. She gave her usual answer — the city, now — and watched something flicker in his face. Not disbelief. Curiosity.

'But where are you from originally?' he pressed.

She found, to her surprise, that she had to think about it. Not because she had forgotten. But because the question felt, for the first time, genuinely complicated.

She was both places. She was neither. She was the distance between them.

Original short story for language analysis, 2025.

Which item presents the most accurate interpretation of the analogy in the story involving belonging and identity?

- A) The story suggests Yara was wrong to adapt and that maintaining her original culture is morally necessary.
- B) The analogy implies that cultural assimilation is always a violent erasure of identity, and Yara's discomfort confirms this.
- C) The story uses Yara's journey as a metaphor for language learning, suggesting that fluency in a foreign language erases the mother tongue.
- D) The analogy shows that cities are inherently hostile to migrants and that belonging is always conditional on performance.
- E) The story uses Yara's difficulty answering a simple question to explore whether identity can withstand transformation — suggesting that the self is neither fixed nor erased, but reshaped into something that carries both origins and destinations simultaneously.

Questão 05

Média

Gabarito: D

Linguistic variations in
digital contexts

#00000122

Comentário: O texto usa a forma de escrita comprimida típica de mensagens de texto e redes sociais — sem maiúsculas, com pontuação mínima e frases truncadas — para transmitir uma queixa sobre uma situação frustrante. O contraste entre a informalidade extrema da forma e a seriedade do conteúdo (burocracia hospitalar) cria um efeito de exasperação comunicada de modo irônico.

Read the digital message below:

"waited 3 hrs at the clinic
they had my appointment wrong
rescheduled me for next month
next. month.
healthcare is something else i swear"

Source: Adapted everyday social media post for language analysis.

What is the message being communicated, and what effect does the informal written format create?

- A) The message is a positive review of a clinic visit, and the compressed format reflects how quickly the appointment went.
- B) The message promotes the benefits of public healthcare, and the format reflects the efficiency of digital communication.
- C) The message celebrates the writer's patience in a difficult situation, and the informal tone signals admiration for medical staff.
- D) The message expresses deep frustration with a wasted hospital visit due to an administrative error, using fragmented sentences, lowercase, and the repetition of 'next. month.' to dramatise the absurdity — the stripped-down format amplifying the sense of exhaustion and disbelief.
- E) The message describes a technical problem with an online booking system, and the format is typical of automated error notifications.



OLIMPIÁDA
DE INGLÊS
EXCELLENCE • KNOWLEDGE • ACHIEVEMENT
★ ★ ★

Questão 06

Difícil

Gabarito: B

Communicative Purpose

#00000123

Comentário: A narração evidencia como o personagem constrói uma identidade pública curada nas redes sociais que contradiz sua experiência privada. O título 'Highlights' é irônico — o que se exhibe como vida plena é uma sequência de momentos fabricados para consumo alheio. A mensagem central é uma crítica à distância entre a versão digital e a realidade vivida.

Read the short story excerpt below:

Daniel had been to the concert — technically. He'd arrived, found his spot near the back, taken the photos from three different angles, posted the best one with the caption 'living for nights like this ■', and then stood for another twenty minutes feeling strangely empty before deciding to leave early.

His phone showed forty-seven likes by the time he was on the subway home. He scrolled through them on the platform, waiting for something to shift inside him. It didn't.

At work the next morning, a colleague said: 'Saw your post — looked amazing.' Daniel nodded. 'It really was,' he said.

He wasn't sure if he was lying. He had been there. Something had happened. Whether it counted as living was a different question.

Original short story 'Highlights' for language analysis, 2025.

Considering the title 'Highlights' and the events described, what is the central message of this story excerpt?

- A) The message is about the importance of photography skills and how anyone can capture meaningful moments with a smartphone.
- B) The story uses the gap between Daniel's curated online post and his private emptiness to critique how social media encourages people to perform experience rather than live it — raising the question of whether documented life and lived life are the same thing.
- C) The story celebrates Daniel's creativity and his ability to find beauty in ordinary situations through the lens of social media.
- D) The message is that concerts are overrated social events, and Daniel's experience reflects a broader cultural disillusionment with live music.
- E) The story suggests that online validation through likes is a healthy and meaningful form of social connection for modern urban dwellers.

Questão 07

Média

Gabarito: D

Conditionals

#00000124

Comentário: A fala da personagem usa o terceiro condicional para refletir sobre uma escolha passada irreal. Para convertê-la para o primeiro condicional (situação futura e real), usa-se 'if + simple present' + 'will + base verb'. A alternativa D é a única que aplica corretamente essa estrutura sem erros modais.

Read the dialogue below:

Mentor: "You turned down the scholarship. How are you feeling about that now?"

Student: "Honestly? I regret it. If I had accepted it, I would have had two years to focus entirely on research without financial stress."

Mentor: "There's another scholarship cycle opening next year. Are you going to apply?"

Student: "Absolutely. I'll apply the moment applications open and prepare my documents properly this time."

Which option correctly rewrites the student's final statement as a first conditional sentence?

- A) If I had applied properly, I would have received the scholarship the first time.
- B) If I were preparing better, I would apply for the scholarship now.
- C) Unless I would apply earlier, I cannot receive the scholarship next year.
- D) If I prepare my documents thoroughly and apply as soon as the cycle opens, I will significantly improve my chances.
- E) I will receive the scholarship if I had started preparing earlier this time.

Questão 08

Difícil

Gabarito: B

Culture & Communication
Influence

#00000125

Comentário: O texto descreve três transformações na história da comunicação humana em ordem cronológica: a invenção da imprensa no século XV democratizou o acesso à informação; o telégrafo no século XIX permitiu comunicação de longa distância quase instantânea; e a internet no final do século XX criou comunicação global simultânea em escala massiva.

Read the historical communication and society text below:

Long before the internet reshaped how we share and consume information, the history of human communication had already passed through profound transformations: Gutenberg's printing press in the 15th century democratised access to written knowledge, breaking the monopoly of scribes and clergy; the electrical telegraph of the 19th century compressed geographical distance, enabling near-instantaneous long-distance communication for the first time; and the World Wide Web of the late 20th century dissolved the barriers between production and consumption of information entirely, transforming every connected individual into a potential broadcaster.

Source: Adapted cultural history text for language analysis.

What is the correct chronological order of the three communication transformations mentioned in the text, from oldest to most recent?

- A) World Wide Web → Printing press → Electrical telegraph
- B) Printing press → Electrical telegraph → World Wide Web
- C) Electrical telegraph → World Wide Web → Printing press
- D) Printing press → World Wide Web → Electrical telegraph
- E) Electrical telegraph → Printing press → World Wide Web



Questão 09

Fácil

Gabarito: A

Language Adequacy

#00000126

Comentário: A opção A é a mais adequada para uma carta formal de solicitação acadêmica porque usa linguagem precisa, tom respeitoso e estrutura clara: apresenta o contexto, expõe o pedido com fundamentação e encerra de forma cortês. Evita informalidades, excessos emocionais e linguagem vaga.

Read the context below and choose the most appropriate formal letter:

Context: A university student missed their final exam due to a documented medical emergency (hospital admission). The exam board's policy allows re-sits in exceptional circumstances with official documentation. The student needs to formally request a re-sit opportunity.

Source: Adapted academic communication scenario for language learning.

Choose the most formal and appropriate option for this letter.

- A) 'Dear Examinations Board, I am writing to formally request a re-sit opportunity for the final examination in Contemporary Literature (Module Code: LIT3042), which I was unable to attend on 14 March 2026 due to a medical emergency requiring hospital admission. I have enclosed the supporting documentation from my treating physician. I would be grateful for your consideration of this request in accordance with the board's exceptional circumstances policy. Yours sincerely, [Name]'
- B) 'Hi, I missed my exam because I was in hospital. I have a doctor's note. Can I please sit it again? Thanks so much for understanding.'
- C) 'To the Board, I could not attend my exam. I was ill. I want to re-sit it. Here is my documentation. Please reply soon. Regards, [Name]'
- D) 'Hello, I just wanted to let you know I missed the Literature exam due to a personal situation. Would it be possible to arrange another chance? I really need to pass this module. Many thanks.'
- E) 'Dear Team, I missed the exam because of a medical issue and I have proof. The policy allows re-sits so I am applying for one. Please let me know what to do next. Best, [Name]'

Questão 10

Fácil

Gabarito: E

Meme Language

#00000127

Comentário: O humor do meme depende de um jogo de palavras com 'light' — que em inglês pode significar tanto 'leve' (de peso) quanto 'luz'. A imagem de uma pessoa correndo sob luz solar intensa com a legenda 'running light this morning' cria a ambiguidade cômica entre correr levemente e correr sob luz forte, sendo que o contexto visual sugere o oposto de leve.

Read the meme description below:

Image: A person running on a beach under extremely bright midday sun, visibly sweating.
Text overlay: "just a light run this morning ■"
Caption: "me, genuinely believing this while my heart rate hits 180"

Source: Adapted fitness humour meme for language analysis.

How does the meme create humour, and what is the wordplay it relies on?

- A) The humour comes from the absurdity of running at the beach, with no linguistic wordplay involved beyond the physical setting.
- B) The meme uses alliteration in 'light' and 'laps' to create a rhythmic punchline about exercise culture.
- C) The humour relies on the visual contrast between the calm beach environment and the implied difficulty of running in it.
- D) The meme parodies fitness influencers by replacing inspiring imagery with realistic depictions of exercise.
- E) The meme plays on the double meaning of 'light' — both 'not intense' and literal brightness/sunlight — to humorously contrast the speaker's self-perception of taking it easy with the visually apparent intensity of the run.



Questão 11

Difícil

Gabarito: B

Mixed Conditionals

#00000128

Comentário: A questão pede uma reformulação que use condicionais mistos: condição passada (had + past participle) com resultado presente (would + base verb). 'If she had taken the job offer, she wouldn't be looking for work now' é a estrutura clássica de mixed conditional. A alternativa B apresenta corretamente essa reformulação preservando o sentido original do poema.

Read the poem excerpt below:

She turned the letter over twice,
read the words she would not say yes to —
a door left open, then quietly closed.

Now she walks the same street every morning,
past the office where her answer still lives,
wearing the weight of what she chose
like a coat that never quite fits.

— Original poem: 'The Letter' by C. Reyes (2024)

What would the central idea of the poem look like if rewritten as a mixed conditional sentence, preserving the original meaning?

- A) If things had been different, she would have chosen a different street to walk every morning.
- B) If she had accepted the offer in the letter, she would not be carrying the weight of that unanswered choice every morning now.
- C) She would walk a different street if things were different, but they weren't, so she keeps moving.
- D) Unless she had refused the letter, things might be different, but the choice she made defines her present.
- E) She might still be walking the same street, depending on whether the offer had been different.

Questão 12

Fácil

Gabarito: C

Punctuation

#00000129

Comentário: A frase contém dois erros: falta de vírgula após a conjunção temporal 'When the results came in' (oração subordinada adverbial anteposta ao verbo principal) e ausência de vírgula antes da conjunção coordenativa 'yet', que introduz uma oração independente. Em inglês formal, ambas as vírgulas são obrigatórias nesse contexto.

Read the sentence below, which contains punctuation errors:

"When the results came in the team celebrated immediately yet the lead researcher remained cautious about drawing any firm conclusions."

Source: Adapted academic writing example for grammar analysis.

What are the punctuation errors in the sentence, and what would the corrected version look like?

- A) The only error is the missing period at the end; the rest of the sentence is correctly punctuated.
- B) The error is the use of 'yet' as a coordinating conjunction; it should be replaced with 'however' followed by a semicolon.
- C) There are two errors: a missing comma after the introductory subordinate clause 'When the results came in', and a missing comma before 'yet'. Corrected: 'When the results came in, the team celebrated immediately, yet the lead researcher remained cautious about drawing any firm conclusions.'
- D) The error is the phrase 'drawing any firm conclusions', which should be replaced with 'to draw firm conclusions' for grammatical correctness.
- E) There are no punctuation errors; the sentence is grammatically complete as written.



Questão 13

Fácil

Gabarito: B

Reading – Analyse Ads

#00000130

Comentário: No contexto do anúncio de tecnologia, 'seamless' tem sentido figurado de 'sem fricção, fluido, integrado' — uma experiência que não apresenta obstáculos ou interrupções. O sinônimo que melhor mantém esse sentido é 'frictionless' ou 'effortless', que preservam a ideia de continuidade e facilidade de uso sem alterar o argumento do texto.

Read the technology advertisement text below:

"SEAMLESS BY DESIGN.
Every device. Every platform. Every moment.
NovaBridge connects your world without the gaps.
No cables. No delays. No compromises.
The technology you need, exactly when you need it.
NovaBridge — Because friction is a thing of the past."

Source: Adapted technology advertising copy for language analysis.

Identify the item that replaces the word 'seamless' with another word or expression that maintains the original meaning of the advertisement.

- A) 'Seamless' can be replaced by 'invisible', as both suggest the technology is hidden from the user.
- B) 'Seamless' can be replaced by 'frictionless' or 'effortless', as both convey the idea of an experience with no interruptions, gaps, or unnecessary obstacles — consistent with the ad's promise of smooth, uninterrupted connectivity.
- C) 'Seamless' can be replaced by 'expensive', as premium products are always described as seamless in advertising.
- D) 'Seamless' can be replaced by 'wireless', since the advertisement specifically mentions the absence of cables.
- E) 'Seamless' can be replaced by 'automatic', suggesting the device performs all tasks without any user input.

Questão 14

Difícil

Gabarito: A

Reading – Media Bias
Evaluation

#00000131

Comentário: Os dois textos cobrem o mesmo evento — uma reforma educacional — mas com enquadramentos opostos. A escolha de quais grupos são citados (ministério e especialistas em inovação vs. professores e sindicatos), o vocabulário ('modernisation' vs. 'privatisation by stealth') e a estrutura narrativa revelam posicionamentos ideológicos distintos sobre quem se beneficia da política.

Read the two news reports about the same education policy:

SOURCE A (government-aligned outlet):

Headline: "Education Ministry Launches Historic Curriculum Modernisation"

Opening: "The government unveiled a sweeping overhaul of the national curriculum Monday, introducing digital literacy and entrepreneurship as core subjects. Innovation specialists praised the reforms as long overdue, noting that neighbouring countries adopted similar frameworks over a decade ago."

SOURCE B (independent teachers' union publication):

Headline: "Teachers Warn New Curriculum Is Privatisation by Stealth"

Opening: "Union representatives voiced alarm Monday over curriculum changes critics describe as designed to serve corporate interests rather than students' needs. Several schools flagged that implementation would require purchasing new digital platforms from private vendors — at cost to already underfunded institutions."

Source: Adapted journalism bias analysis examples.

Which option best describes how media bias operates in these two reports?

- A) Media bias operates through framing and source selection: Source A foregrounds government voices and innovation language implying progress, while Source B centres teachers and union concerns, using 'privatisation by stealth' to signal scepticism — both cover the same announcement but construct opposing narratives through whose perspective is privileged and what vocabulary is chosen.
- B) Source A is unbiased because it uses factual data and quotes experts, while Source B is entirely fabricated and has no journalistic merit.
- C) Both sources are equally biased because they both quote multiple parties, suggesting they are each using sources selectively to advance an agenda.
- D) Bias only occurs in Source B, because emotional language like 'alarm' and 'stealth' is present, while Source A uses entirely neutral and objective terminology.
- E) The bias in both articles is identical because they are reporting on the same event from the same ideological starting point.

Questão 15

Média

Gabarito: D

Conjunctions

#00000132

Comentário: A primeira lacuna exige uma conjunção concessiva que introduza contraste — 'apesar de o fato X ser verdade, Y acontece de forma contrária'. 'Even though' ou 'Although' são as únicas opções corretas. A segunda lacuna introduz uma conclusão que decorre logicamente das evidências apresentadas — 'as a result' ou 'consequently' são as mais adequadas.

Read the academic text below and fill in the blanks with the correct conjunctions:

"_____ smartphone ownership among teenagers has reached near-universal levels in most OECD countries, digital literacy — defined as the ability to critically evaluate online information and use technology purposefully — remains alarmingly low. Studies consistently show that adolescents who use social media daily struggle to distinguish sponsored content from editorial journalism and are more susceptible to misinformation. _____, researchers are calling for digital literacy to be integrated into national curricula as a compulsory subject rather than an optional module."

Source: Adapted educational policy analysis for language learning.

Which pair of conjunctions correctly fills the two blanks in the text?

- A) Because / However
- B) Since / Moreover
- C) If / Therefore
- D) Even though / As a result
- E) Despite / Nevertheless

Questão 16

Fácil

Gabarito: C

Vocabulary

#00000133

Comentário: A questão testa vocabulário temático relacionado a categorias do sistema jurídico. A classificação correta agrupa: pessoas e papéis no tribunal, documentos e instrumentos legais, e procedimentos e etapas processuais — de acordo com sua função dentro do sistema.

Read the legal vocabulary items below:

Items to classify: verdict, plaintiff, subpoena, acquittal, defendant, affidavit, cross-examination, injunction, barrister, indictment

CATEGORIES:

- People / Roles: individuals who participate in or conduct legal proceedings
- Documents / Legal Instruments: written materials with formal legal force
- Procedures / Outcomes: actions, stages, or results within a legal process

Which option correctly classifies ALL items into their appropriate categories?

- A) People/Roles: plaintiff, defendant, barrister, verdict. Documents: subpoena, affidavit, indictment. Procedures: acquittal, cross-examination, injunction.
- B) People/Roles: plaintiff, defendant, barrister, injunction. Documents: subpoena, affidavit, acquittal. Procedures: verdict, cross-examination, indictment.
- C) People/Roles: plaintiff, defendant, barrister. Documents: subpoena, affidavit, indictment. Procedures/Outcomes: verdict, acquittal, cross-examination, injunction.
- D) People/Roles: plaintiff, defendant, barrister, indictment. Documents: subpoena, affidavit, verdict. Procedures: acquittal, cross-examination, injunction.
- E) People/Roles: plaintiff, defendant, barrister, cross-examination. Documents: subpoena, affidavit, acquittal. Procedures: verdict, indictment, injunction.



OLIMPIADA
DE INGLÊS
EXCELLENCE • KNOWLEDGE • ACHIEVEMENT

Questão 17

Difícil

Gabarito: A

Writing – Idiomatic
Expressions

#00000134

Comentário: A expressão 'burning bridges' significa destruir relacionamentos ou oportunidades de forma irreversível — geralmente por agir impulsivamente ou com hostilidade. Vem da imagem militar de queimar pontes ao recuar, impossibilitando o retorno. No contexto corporativo descrito, indica que o profissional tomou atitudes que comprometeram permanentemente suas relações de trabalho. O antônimo contextual seria 'building bridges' — construindo relações e conexões.

Read the workplace email excerpt below:

"I've had several conversations with former colleagues who worked with you at Meridian & Co., and a consistent theme has emerged. It appears that when the restructuring announcement was made, you responded publicly in a way that left a number of people feeling blindsided and unfairly criticised. I want to be direct with you: you have been burning bridges at a stage in your career where those bridges are your most valuable asset. Before we proceed with the mentoring programme, I'd like to understand your perspective on what happened."

Source: Adapted professional communication for language analysis.

Choose the item that correctly identifies the meaning of 'burning bridges' in this context and provides an appropriate expression that would convey the opposite situation.

- A) 'Burning bridges' means irreversibly damaging professional relationships through impulsive or hostile behaviour — in this case, public criticism during a sensitive restructuring. The opposite would be 'building bridges', meaning the person is actively creating connections, repairing relationships, and fostering goodwill.
- B) 'Burning bridges' refers to excessive travel for work, and the opposite would be 'staying local', suggesting the person should maintain a more stable base.
- C) 'Burning bridges' means the person has too many simultaneous professional relationships and needs to simplify their network. The opposite would be 'crossing bridges', implying readiness to take on new challenges.
- D) 'Burning bridges' is a literal reference to the destruction of company property during the restructuring, and the opposite would be 'maintaining infrastructure', meaning preserving physical assets.
- E) 'Burning bridges' means the employee's performance reviews are consistently poor, and the opposite would be 'building a record', suggesting a strong portfolio of achievements.

Questão 18

Média

Gabarito: D

Vocabulary – Social Issues

#00000135

Comentário: O texto aborda o fenômeno da 'gentrificação' — o processo de transformação de bairros populares por investimentos imobiliários que elevam os preços e deslocam os moradores originais. O vocabulário de impacto social urbano é central para compreender textos sobre desigualdade, planejamento urbano e justiça habitacional.

Read the urban sociology article below:

Over the past two decades, the neighbourhood of Eastfield has undergone a dramatic transformation. What was once a working-class enclave of affordable housing, independent businesses, and multigenerational families has been reshaped by sustained property investment, rising rents, and the arrival of upscale restaurants, design studios, and co-working spaces. Long-term residents who cannot absorb the escalating costs have been progressively displaced to the urban periphery. Community advocates argue that this process — widely described as gentrification — is not organic development but a policy failure: the predictable result of prioritising property value over people. Several residents' associations are now pursuing legal challenges to protect tenants' rights and preserve what remains of the neighbourhood's social fabric.

Source: Adapted urban sociology text, 2025.

Based on the article, which statement best explains why residents' associations are taking legal action?

- A) They are pursuing legal challenges to attract more investment to the area and accelerate the neighbourhood's economic transformation.
- B) They are seeking to sue the restaurants and co-working spaces for disrupting the cultural character of the neighbourhood.
- C) They are taking legal action to prevent any further construction in the neighbourhood, preserving its original architectural character.
- D) They are responding to the displacement of long-term residents caused by rising property costs and the prioritisation of property value over community welfare, seeking legal protections for tenants against a process they describe as a policy failure rather than natural development.
- E) They are documenting the gentrification process to publish academic reports that will influence national housing statistics.



Questão 19

Média

Gabarito: A

Writing – Professional
Profiles

#00000136

Comentário: O trecho em destaque serve como recomendação profissional detalhada e baseada em evidências: descreve capacidades específicas com exemplos concretos (gestão de crise multilateral, tomada de decisão sob pressão) e menciona resultados mensuráveis. Sua função é validar a profissional para futuras posições com credibilidade verificável, não com elogios genéricos.

Read the LinkedIn recommendation below:

From: Prof. Marcus Webb | Director of Policy, Centre for International Governance

"I have worked with Nia in high-stakes policy environments for three years. [What set her apart immediately was her capacity to operate effectively under sustained institutional pressure — she managed a multilateral crisis response involving six government delegations without losing either composure or analytical precision. Her written briefings are models of clarity: dense with evidence, free of jargon, and invariably actionable. On three separate occasions, her recommendations were adopted verbatim by senior leadership. I have referred her to two other organisations and received only the strongest feedback in return.]"

Source: Adapted LinkedIn recommendation for language analysis.

What is the function of the highlighted section of Prof. Webb's recommendation?

- A) A specific and evidence-based professional testimonial that documents Nia's capacity to perform under pressure, her communication precision, and her concrete institutional impact — functioning to establish her credibility through verifiable examples rather than generic praise.
- B) A summary of Prof. Webb's own institutional authority, used to establish his credibility as a reference rather than to speak to Nia's qualities.
- C) A general endorsement applicable to any competent policy professional, lacking the specificity needed to differentiate Nia from other candidates.
- D) A formal critique of Nia's early career performance, noting limitations that 'high-stakes environments' ultimately exposed.
- E) A recommendation written for a specific vacancy, addressing that role's selection criteria rather than Nia's broader professional character.



Questão 20

Média

Gabarito: E

Language Adequacy and
Tone

#00000137

Comentário: A versão informal e persuasiva deve combinar: linguagem acessível, segunda pessoa direta, chamada para ação emocional, benefício explícito e tom conversacional. A alternativa E usa todos esses elementos mantendo fidelidade ao conteúdo original sobre os efeitos neurológicos da leitura.

Read the academic neuroscience text below:

"Habitual reading has been associated with measurable structural changes in the brain, particularly in regions responsible for language processing, empathy, and sustained attention. Neuroimaging studies demonstrate that individuals who read literary fiction regularly show enhanced connectivity in the default mode network — a system implicated in perspective-taking and social cognition. Furthermore, longitudinal data suggests that reading for as little as six minutes can reduce physiological stress markers by up to 68%, outperforming other relaxation strategies including music and tea consumption."

Source: Adapted from cognitive neuroscience research literature.

What would this information look like rewritten in a more informal and persuasive tone for a social media post?

- A) Reading has positive neurological effects and should be maintained at adequate levels throughout the week according to research guidelines.
- B) It is recommended that individuals engage with literary fiction regularly in order to maintain the neural conditions required for social and emotional competence.
- C) Regular reading affects the brain. It improves language processing. Six minutes reduces stress by 68%. Read more fiction.
- D) You must read books every day because not doing so causes serious cognitive problems that affect your empathy and stress levels significantly.
- E) Did you know that reading for just 6 minutes can cut your stress by up to 68% — more effectively than music or even a cup of tea? Regular fiction readers also show stronger empathy and better focus. Your brain literally reshapes itself when you read. So maybe put down the scroll and pick up a book tonight?



Questão 21

Fácil

Gabarito: A

Speaking – Cautioning

#00000138

Comentário: O aviso alerta sobre os riscos da exposição prolongada ao sol sem proteção adequada. A gravidade é reforçada por estatísticas específicas: o melanoma é o câncer de crescimento mais rápido entre adultos jovens, e uma única queimadura bolhosa na infância duplica o risco ao longo da vida. O texto usa linguagem de consequência e chamada à ação clara.

Read the public health notice below:

SUN SAFETY: THE FACTS YOU NEED

Melanoma is the fastest-growing cancer diagnosis among adults under 40. A single blistering sunburn in childhood doubles your lifetime risk of developing it. UV radiation causes DNA damage that accumulates over years — damage that is invisible until it isn't.

SPF 30 blocks 97% of UVB rays. Reapplying every two hours is not optional — it is the difference between protection and false security. Protective clothing, shade, and avoiding peak UV hours (10am–4pm) remain the most effective combined strategy.

Your skin remembers every exposure. Make sure today's choices are ones you can live with.

Source: Adapted public health campaign material.

What is the caution being given and what justifications does the notice use to reinforce the seriousness of the message?

- A) The notice warns against unprotected sun exposure, justifying the severity through melanoma growth statistics among young adults, the doubled lifetime risk from a single childhood sunburn, the cumulative invisible nature of UV damage, specific SPF efficacy data, and a recommendation to combine multiple protective strategies.
- B) The notice warns swimmers to apply waterproof sunscreen, arguing through data about UV penetration below the water's surface.
- C) The caution is about tanning beds specifically, arguing that artificial UV sources are more dangerous than natural sunlight.
- D) The notice advises against outdoor exercise in summer months, using statistics about heat exhaustion to justify reduced physical activity during peak hours.
- E) The warning is directed at parents of young children, recommending regular dermatological screening for those under the age of twelve.



Questão 22

Difícil

Gabarito: E

Speaking – Mediate Conflicts

#00000139

Comentário: A estratégia de mediação usada pela diretora foi: (1) nomear o conflito estrutural sem tomar partido, (2) validar ambas as perspectivas com evidências concretas, (3) propor solução sistêmica que aborda as causas e não apenas os sintomas, e (4) estabelecer um processo de acompanhamento. A solução pareceu justa porque ambas as partes concordaram voluntariamente.

Read the workplace conflict mediation dialogue below:

Director: "I've reviewed both your accounts and the project data. Let me name what I'm seeing: the design team is producing work that the development team keeps revising after handoff — and both of you are absorbing the cost of a process gap. Is that accurate?"

Design Lead: "Yes. We're delivering exactly what was briefed, but the requirements keep changing post-handoff."

Dev Lead: "And we're getting specs that work visually but not technically. We need constraints built into the brief."

Director: "Here's my proposal: we introduce a joint sign-off checkpoint at the wireframe stage — both teams review before final design begins. I'll also commission a process audit for the brief template. Monthly cross-team check-ins for the next two months.

Does that address the root cause rather than just the symptoms?"

[Both agree — Design Lead notes it should have been in place already; Dev Lead acknowledges the design quality was never the issue.]

Source: Adapted workplace mediation dialogue for language learning.

What conflict mediation strategy does the director use, and did it appear fair to those involved?

- A) The director used an authoritarian strategy, imposing a process change without consulting either team. The outcome was not fair because neither side had genuine input.
- B) The director favoured the development team's perspective, ensuring technical constraints were addressed while the design team's brief process remained unchanged.
- C) The director avoided taking any structural position and left the conflict unresolved, simply acknowledging both perspectives without proposing action.
- D) The director proposed a solution that only addressed the development team's technical concerns, making the outcome unfair to the design team.
- E) The director diagnosed the conflict as systemic rather than interpersonal, validated both teams with evidence, and proposed a structural solution addressing root causes — including a process audit and shared checkpoint. The outcome appeared fair: both parties agreed voluntarily and acknowledged each other's legitimate concerns.



Questão 23

Fácil

Gabarito: A

Speaking – Problem-Solve

#00000140

Comentário: O texto descreve o problema da procrastinação em estudantes universitários e suas consequências acadêmicas e emocionais. A abordagem recomendada pelos especialistas combina estratégias cognitivas (reframing de tarefas) com técnicas comportamentais (time-blocking, eliminação de distrações) e apoio social.

Read the academic wellbeing article below:

Procrastination is one of the most reported challenges among university students, contributing to academic underperformance, increased anxiety, and a cycle of avoidance that reinforces itself over time. Research suggests that procrastination is rarely about laziness — it is more often a response to negative emotions associated with a task: fear of failure, perfectionism, or feeling overwhelmed by scale. Academic psychologists consistently recommend a multi-strategy approach: breaking large tasks into smaller, specific actions; scheduling focused work blocks with defined start and end times; removing digital distractions during those periods; and identifying a study partner or accountability group to maintain commitment.

Source: Adapted academic wellbeing guide for language learning.

What problem is described in the article, and what is the recommended approach for dealing with it effectively?

- A) The problem is procrastination among university students, which is primarily driven by negative emotional responses to tasks rather than laziness. The recommended approach combines breaking tasks into specific smaller steps, time-blocking focused work sessions, eliminating digital distractions, and using social accountability through study partners or groups.
- B) The problem is academic overload, and the solution is to reduce the number of modules students enrol in each semester.
- C) The problem is poor study environment, and the article recommends that universities invest in better physical library facilities.
- D) The problem is perfectionism, and the article suggests that students should lower their standards to reduce the emotional pressure associated with academic work.
- E) The problem is digital distraction, and the article recommends that students avoid all technology during university study to improve their focus entirely.



Questão 24

Fácil

Gabarito: C

Speaking – Medical
Consultation Role-Plays

#00000141

Comentário: O diálogo mostra uma paciente apresentando sintomas de dor de cabeça recorrente e visão turva. O médico descarta causas urgentes através de perguntas dirigidas e decide investigar antes de prescrever. A abordagem inclui escuta ativa, triagem de sintomas de alerta, solicitação de exames e encaminhamento especializado — sem medicação imediata.

Read the medical consultation dialogue below:

Patient: "I've been getting really bad headaches — almost every day for the past three weeks. And sometimes my vision goes blurry for a few minutes when they're at their worst."

Doctor: "Does the blurring affect one eye or both? And do you get any nausea or sensitivity to light?"

Patient: "Both eyes, I think. And yes, bright light makes it worse."

Doctor: "Any recent head injury, changes in medication, or significant stress?"

Patient: "No injury. But work has been extremely stressful the last month."

Doctor: "The visual symptoms alongside the headaches mean I want to rule out a few things before we talk about treatment. I'm going to arrange a referral to neurology and request an eye pressure check today. In the meantime, I'd like you to keep a headache diary — "when it starts, duration, triggers, severity on a scale of one to ten."

Patient: "Is it something serious?"

Doctor: "It's important we investigate thoroughly rather than assume. Most causes of this pattern are manageable — but I want the full picture before drawing conclusions."

Source: Adapted medical dialogue for language comprehension.

How did the doctor manage the consultation, and what does their approach reveal about their clinical reasoning?

- A) The doctor immediately prescribed medication for tension headaches and dismissed the visual symptoms as stress-related without investigation.
- B) The doctor confirmed a neurological diagnosis immediately and explained it to the patient before referring to a specialist.
- C) The doctor listened actively, asked targeted questions to assess symptom severity and potential red flags, resisted premature diagnosis, arranged specialist investigation and a diagnostic test, and recommended a monitoring tool — demonstrating cautious, evidence-gathering clinical reasoning that prioritises thorough investigation over immediate treatment.
- D) The doctor focused exclusively on the stress-related cause and recommended a lifestyle intervention without ordering any further tests.
- E) The doctor referred the patient without conducting any initial assessment, indicating the symptoms were beyond the scope of a general consultation.

Questão 25

Difícil

Gabarito: C

Speaking – Ethical Dilemma
Debates

#00000142

Comentário: O dilema ético central envolve a tensão entre lealdade institucional e responsabilidade pública. Denunciar pode proteger o interesse coletivo mas destruir a carreira de alguém e comprometer uma organização que faz bem real. O silêncio pode perpetuar dano sistêmico. A complexidade reside no fato de que nenhuma escolha é sem custo moral.

Read the ethical dilemma scenario below:

"A senior auditor at a large international NGO has discovered that her organisation has been systematically overstating the number of beneficiaries reached by its flagship education programme for three years. The overstatement was used to secure continued donor funding. No money has been misappropriated — it has all been spent on genuine programming — but the numbers presented to donors are significantly higher than reality. The NGO genuinely helps tens of thousands of children annually. Whistleblowing would almost certainly trigger a donor withdrawal that would shut the programme down entirely."

Source: Adapted ethics case study for language learning.

What is the ethical dilemma presented, and what layers contribute to its long-term complexity?

- A) The dilemma is whether to report financial fraud to law enforcement. The complexity lies in the auditor's professional obligations under accounting law.
- B) The dilemma is whether to continue investigating before acting. The complexity lies in the time pressure of an upcoming donor review cycle.
- C) The dilemma is whether to report proven institutional deception that, while not involving financial misappropriation, undermines donor trust and informed consent — with the whistleblowing likely to destroy a programme that provides genuine benefit. The long-term complexity includes: the precedent of tolerating deception for consequentialist reasons, the donors' right to accurate information about where their funds go, the risk that normalised misreporting eventually attracts worse misconduct, and the programme's demonstrable positive impact on real children.
- D) The dilemma is about personal loyalty to colleagues who participated in the misreporting. The complexity lies in balancing professional duty with workplace relationships.
- E) The dilemma is whether the overstatement constitutes fraud under NGO governance law. The complexity lies in determining the legal threshold for donor misrepresentation.



Questão 26

Média

Gabarito: C

Speaking – Contract
Negotiation

#00000143

Comentário: A negociação no texto é distributiva com elementos colaborativos. Ambas as partes têm posições iniciais fixas mas estão dispostas a concessões graduais. O fornecedor reduz o prazo de exclusividade e oferece garantias adicionais; o comprador aceita um preço ligeiramente superior ao previsto em troca de flexibilidade contratual e cobertura de risco.

Read the contract negotiation dialogue below:

Supplier: "Our standard licence for the analytics platform is a 36-month exclusive agreement at \$42,000 per year."

Client: "We're not comfortable with a 36-month lock-in. Our budget ceiling is \$35,000 annually."

Supplier: "I understand the concern about commitment length. Could we explore a 24-month term? That gives us both a viable relationship without overexposing you."

Client: "The shorter term helps. But \$42,000 is still above our ceiling."

Supplier: "If you commit to the 24-month term today, I can bring it to \$38,000 annually — and I'll include a service-level guarantee with financial penalties if uptime drops below 99.5%."

Client: "The SLA matters to us. We'll need that in writing, and we'd want a 90-day exit clause after month 12 if the platform underperforms."

Supplier: "I can accept the 90-day exit clause contingent on a formal performance review at month 12. Agreed?"

Source: Adapted business negotiation dialogue for language learning.

What is the main conflict in this negotiation and how are the parties moving toward resolution?

- A) The main conflict is the supplier's inflexibility about platform features. Resolution comes because the client agrees to pay the full original rate in exchange for customisation.
- B) The main conflict is the client's insufficient budget preparation. Resolution comes when the supplier agrees to work for the originally proposed \$35,000.
- C) The main conflict is the gap between the supplier's terms (36-month lock-in, \$42,000/year) and the client's constraints (shorter commitment, \$35,000 ceiling). Resolution comes through mutual concessions — the supplier reduces both term length and price while adding service guarantees; the client accepts a higher rate than budgeted in exchange for contractual protections and an exit clause.
- D) The main conflict is a misunderstanding about platform capabilities. The parties resolve it through a technical demonstration arranged by the supplier.
- E) The main conflict is the client's desire to recover losses from a previous failed software contract. The supplier agrees to apply a credit toward the new agreement.



Questão 27

Fácil

Gabarito: D

Listening – Main Points in
Announcements

#00000144

Comentário: O anúncio é sobre como a inteligência artificial generativa está transformando o setor criativo ao permitir produção de conteúdo em escala sem precedentes — ao mesmo tempo que levanta questões sobre autoria, originalidade e o futuro dos trabalhadores criativos. O impacto principal é a tensão entre eficiência tecnológica e valorização humana.

Read the technology news announcement below:

"Generative AI tools capable of producing professional-quality text, images, music, and video are now accessible to anyone with an internet connection. Platforms such as Midjourney, Sora, and Claude have enabled individuals and organisations to produce in hours what previously required weeks of specialist labour. The advertising, publishing, and entertainment industries are already reporting significant workflow transformations. However, professional associations for writers, illustrators, and musicians have raised urgent concerns about intellectual property, fair compensation, and the long-term viability of creative careers. Analysts estimate that the creative industries will face more structural disruption from generative AI in the next five years than from any previous technological shift."

Source: Adapted technology and creative industries news for language learning.

According to the announcement, in what ways is generative AI changing the creative industries, and why is this shift particularly significant?

- A) Generative AI is replacing human creativity entirely, and the shift is significant because it means all artistic work will soon be produced by machines with no human involvement.
- B) Generative AI is primarily used for advertising, and the shift is significant only for that sector since publishing and music remain unaffected.
- C) Generative AI is changing how products are manufactured, and it is becoming necessary because consumers demand content that traditional creative work cannot produce fast enough.
- D) Generative AI is enabling content production at unprecedented scale and speed, transforming workflows across creative industries — but raising urgent structural questions about authorship, intellectual property, and the economic viability of creative professions, making it a more disruptive shift than any previous technology in the sector.
- E) Generative AI is primarily changing the legal sector by automating contract drafting, making it irrelevant to creative professionals outside of publishing.

Questão 28

Fácil

Gabarito: C

Grammar – Verb Tenses

#00000145

Comentário: O texto usa principalmente o past simple para narrar a sequência de eventos históricos da expedição científica. O past simple é apropriado porque descreve ações completas em um ponto definido no passado, com marcos temporais específicos ('in 1912', 'three weeks later'). Não há relevância presente — os eventos são historicamente encerrados.

Read the historical science news summary below:

"In 1912, a British Antarctic expedition led by Robert Falcon Scott reached the South Pole on 17 January, only to discover that Roald Amundsen's Norwegian team had arrived thirty-four days earlier. Scott and his four companions began the 1,500-kilometre return journey in deteriorating conditions. Three weeks later, Scott recorded his final diary entry. The rescue party found the tent eight months after the expedition left base camp. The journals Scott left behind became some of the most widely read documents in the history of polar exploration."

Source: Adapted historical science communication text for grammar analysis.

Which verb tense is predominantly used in the text to describe the historical events, and why is this tense appropriate?

- A) The present perfect is predominantly used to connect the historical events to ongoing relevance in modern polar exploration.
- B) The past continuous is used to describe events that were ongoing at specific moments during the expedition.
- C) The past simple tense is predominantly used because it describes completed actions at specific points in a defined historical timeline — events that are fully concluded in the past with no ongoing relevance to the present moment.
- D) The future perfect is used to indicate outcomes that were anticipated but not yet confirmed when Scott wrote his diary.
- E) The simple present is used throughout to create narrative immediacy, placing the reader inside the historical events as they unfold.

Questão 29

Fácil

Gabarito: A

Listening – Recognising Instructions

#00000146

Comentário: As instruções para conduzir uma entrevista de pesquisa qualitativa seguem a ordem: (1) preparar o roteiro de perguntas abertas, (2) garantir o consentimento informado do participante, (3) iniciar com perguntas de aquecimento, (4) usar silêncio estratégico e sondagens, (5) encerrar dando ao participante espaço para acrescentar algo.

Read the qualitative research guide below:

"Conducting effective qualitative interviews requires deliberate preparation and technique. Begin by developing an open-ended question guide — not a fixed script, but a thematic framework that allows organic conversation. Before starting, obtain explicit informed consent from the participant, explaining how data will be used and stored. Open the interview with low-stakes warm-up questions that establish comfort before moving to core themes. During the interview, resist the urge to fill silences immediately — pauses often produce the most revealing responses. Use probing follow-ups such as 'Can you tell me more about that?' rather than leading questions. Close by inviting the participant to add anything they feel was not covered: this final space frequently yields unexpected insights."

Source: Adapted qualitative research methodology guide for language learning.

What is the correct order of steps for conducting a qualitative interview according to the guide?

- A) Prepare open-ended question guide → Obtain informed consent → Ask warm-up questions → Use strategic silence and probing follow-ups → Close by inviting participant to add anything uncovered
- B) Obtain consent → Close the interview → Prepare question guide → Ask warm-up questions → Use probing follow-ups
- C) Prepare questions → Ask core theme questions immediately → Use silence → Obtain consent → Close
- D) Ask warm-up questions → Obtain consent → Prepare question guide → Close → Use probing follow-ups
- E) Close the interview → Prepare question guide → Obtain consent → Ask warm-up questions → Use silence



**OLIMPIÁDA
DE INGLÊS**
EXCELLENCE • KNOWLEDGE • ACHIEVEMENT
★ ★ ★

Questão 30

Difícil

Gabarito: E

Listening – Gist of Songs

#00000147

Comentário: A expressão 'paper crown' na música tem sentido figurado de autoridade ilegítima ou poder frágil — uma coroa feita de papel que parece real mas não resiste ao menor teste. No contexto da canção, o narrador usa isso para criticar figuras que ostentam poder sem a substância que o justifica. Os elementos que sustentam essa interpretação são o contraste entre aparência ('gold from a distance') e fragilidade ('dissolves in rain').

Read the song lyrics excerpt below:

You wear your paper crown like it was forged in fire,
like history chose you and not circumstance.
It looks like gold from a distance —
until the rain.

I've watched you give your speeches from the steps
of buildings you didn't build,
collecting debts on promises you never meant
to honour in the daylight.

But paper dissolves.
And the crowd eventually looks up.

— Original song: "Paper Crown" by O. Mendes (2024)

What does the expression 'paper crown' mean in the context of this song, and what elements of the lyrics support this interpretation?

- A) 'Paper crown' refers literally to a prop used in a theatrical performance, supported by references to 'speeches' and 'steps' as elements of staged drama.
- B) The expression refers to academic credentials obtained without merit, supported by 'buildings you didn't build' as a metaphor for unearned qualifications.
- C) 'Paper crown' describes fragile mental health, supported by 'dissolves in rain' as a metaphor for emotional breakdown under pressure.
- D) The expression refers to political isolation from democratic accountability, supported by 'debts on promises' and 'crowd eventually looks up' as symbols of electoral reckoning.
- E) 'Paper crown' represents illegitimate or hollow authority — power that appears real but lacks genuine foundation — supported by the contrast between 'looks like gold from a distance' (the illusion of legitimacy) and 'dissolves in rain' (its ultimate fragility), the 'buildings you didn't build' (unearned position), and the 'crowd eventually looks up' (the inevitable moment when the performance fails to hold).