

There are **6 questions** in this test.  
Give yourself **10 minutes** to read the text and answer the questions.

*A town council is considering introducing a new graffiti wall in a skate park.  
The following text has been written by a local councillor.*

## **Should we install a graffiti wall?**

Graffiti (writing or drawing illegally in a public place) can be anything from a simple squiggle to complicated, beautifully drawn images. Some people feel it should be highly regarded. Others find it messy, unwanted and criminal. It is important to discuss both sides of this argument, now that we are considering installing a wall for people to graffiti on in the skate park.

On the one hand, since graffiti is often found on derelict buildings, it can be associated with areas that are run-down and maybe even dangerous; which is not an image we want for our skate park. Sometimes the message is unpleasant; sometimes the language used is offensive, or even violent — this is not something we want on display in a public place. Additionally, graffiti can damage property and it is difficult and costly to remove; our council doesn't have the money or the staff to clean it up. As a result, many people see graffiti only as deliberately destroying someone else's property — in other words, vandalism.

However, graffiti can also be a way for people, especially young people, to express their personality: a simple 'tag' (the artist's signature) can be creative and colourful. Some graffiti takes months of hard work and can brighten up a neglected area. A graffiti wall may also allow our young people to view modern art — which they may not otherwise come across — and to embrace freedom of speech.

It has been proposed that establishing special areas for graffiti — such as our skate park, which is already popular with young people — would prevent people from defacing local buildings. Some people disagree with this idea: they feel that any graffiti encourages criminal behaviour and that a legal graffiti wall will not prevent the spread of graffiti somewhere else.

Overall, despite the potential risks, it is likely that a dedicated graffiti wall in an otherwise dull skate park will encourage people in our town to express themselves artistically and safely.

1. Read each statement and **tick** to show whether it is fact or opinion.

	<b>Fact</b>	<b>Opinion</b>
An illegal drawing in a public place is called graffiti.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Graffiti is messy and unwanted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The artist's signature is called a tag.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Graffiti encourages criminal behaviour.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 mark

2. Give **two** reasons why the town council cannot remove graffiti.

- 1).....
- 2).....

1 mark

3. Give one reason why some people see graffiti as *vandalism*.

- .....
- .....

1 mark

4. Why might the skate park be a good location for the graffiti wall?  
Mention **two** things.

- 1).....
- 2).....

2 marks

5. ...would prevent people from defacing local buildings.  
What does the word *defacing* mean in this phrase?

Tick **one** box.

- |               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| improving     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| decaying      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| spoiling      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| destabilising | <input type="checkbox"/> |

\_\_\_\_\_   
1 mark

6. Using your own words, summarise what the author thinks about having a graffiti wall in the town.

.....

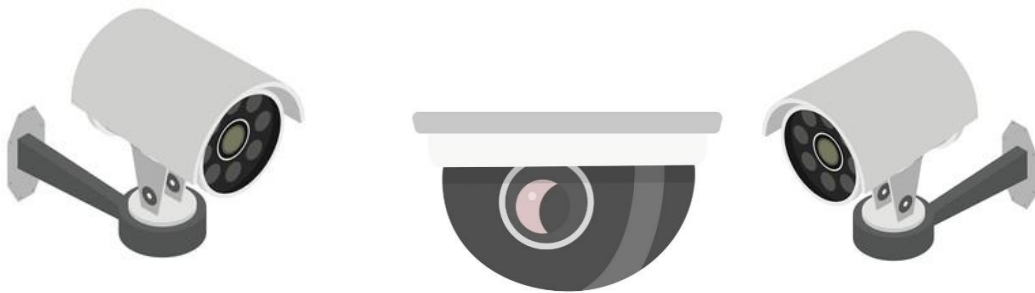
.....

.....

\_\_\_\_\_   
2 marks

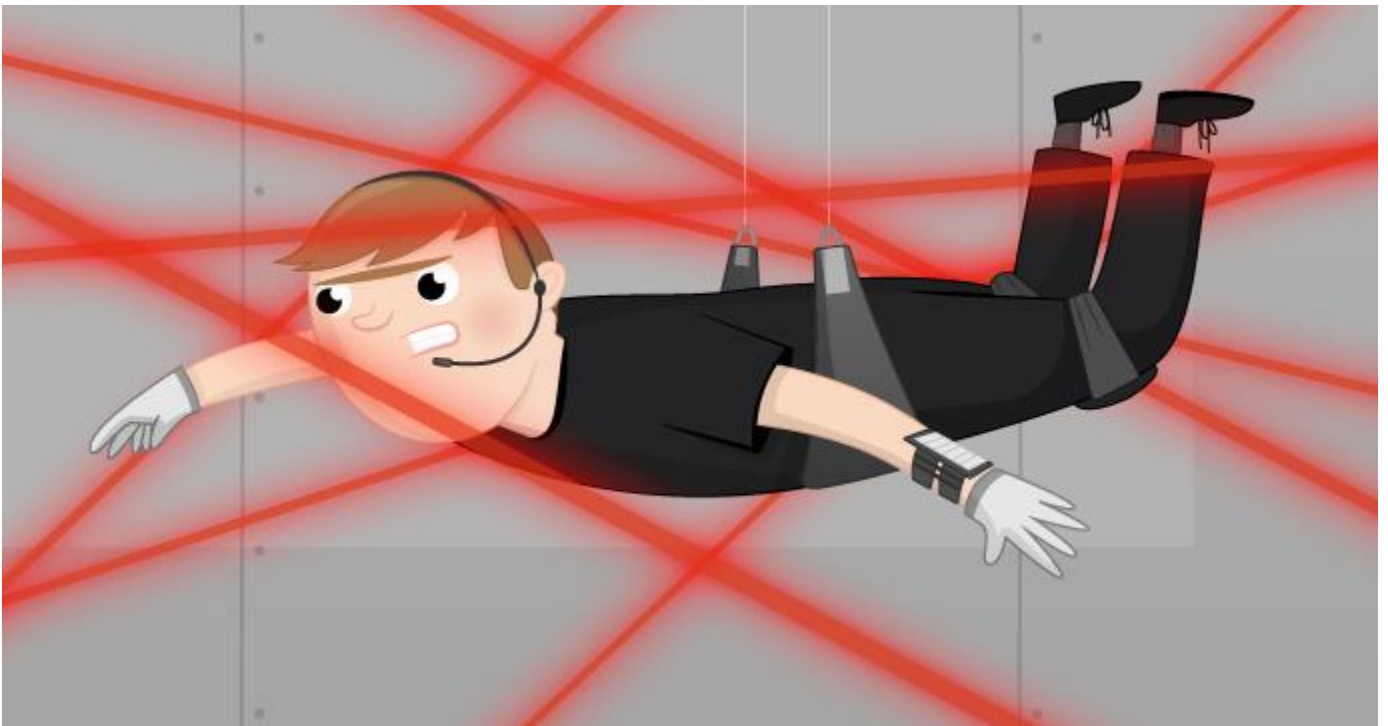


*Only Scroll down if you have finished your homework.*





Answers to be revealed on the next page!



## Test 5 — Pages 33-35

### **1. 1 mark for all four correct**

*An illegal drawing in a public place is called graffiti. — Fact*

*Graffiti is messy and unwanted. — Opinion*

*The artist's signature is called a tag. — Fact*

*Graffiti encourages criminal behaviour. — Opinion*

*(2d)*

### **2. 1 mark for both correct**

*They don't have enough money.*

*They don't have enough staff.*

*(2b)*

### **3. 1 mark for an answer that is based on the text, and shows an understanding of 'vandalism', e.g.**

*"Because it can destroy someone else's property."*

*(2d)*

### **4. 1 mark for one correct**

#### **2 marks for both correct**

*It is dull.*

*It is already popular with young people.*

*(2d)*

### **5. 1 mark**

*spoiling*

*(2a)*

### **6. 1 mark for a simple comment, e.g.**

*"The councillor thinks that it would be a good idea."*

#### **2 marks for an answer that covers the conclusion and the drawback, e.g.**

*"The councillor thinks that it would be a good idea, even though there are some risks."*

*(2c)*