

**Use of English 2:**

FCE Part 1

**Multiple-choice cloze**

For Questions 1–12, read the text below and underline which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Before you do the task, make sure you read the whole text through first. As you read, answer the following question:

How does Roger Press feel about his decision to change career?

**A more commercial tune**

Roger Press, 40, has (0) \_\_\_\_\_ his career. After spending five years (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a concert pianist he has gone into business, recently (2) \_\_\_\_\_ up his own company.

'After leaving university I decided to (3) \_\_\_\_\_ myself to a career in music. I loved performing but it was very hard (4) \_\_\_\_\_. I played at concerts in Europe and America, made recordings and got good (5) \_\_\_\_\_. But after a while I felt I had gone as (6) \_\_\_\_\_ as I could. Unless you're one of the world's top pianists, it's difficult to earn a good (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and I wasn't one of the greatest.

When I (8) \_\_\_\_\_ up my performing career, people around me were more sad and disappointed than I was. But I felt free and (9) \_\_\_\_\_ I knew I was getting serious about life. After getting a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in business administration I joined the recording company EMI and started their classical video division, producing programmes about famous artists. A year ago I left EMI and formed a new company, New Media Systems, which (11) \_\_\_\_\_ in multimedia programmes.

Now that I run my own business I am in control of my life and I can feel proud of my achievements. Although the stress is high and I work (12) \_\_\_\_\_ hours, the stress involved in piano playing was much worse. It took physical, emotional and mental skills. I prefer the pressures I live with now.'

- |                    |                  |                |             |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| 0 A moved          | <u>B changed</u> | C adjusted     | D stopped   |
| 1 A like           | B working        | C how          | D as        |
| 2 A giving         | B setting        | C forming      | D bringing  |
| 3 A devote         | B take           | C assign       | D employ    |
| 4 A job            | B effort         | C work         | D career    |
| 5 A reviews        | B critics        | C reports      | D praise    |
| 6 A soon           | B often          | C far          | D much      |
| 7 A life           | B living         | C money        | D payment   |
| 8 A took           | B brought        | C gave         | D put       |
| 9 A lastly         | B at last        | C at the end   | D lately    |
| 10 A qualification | B title          | C graduate     | D grade     |
| 11 A specializes   | B focuses        | C concentrates | D dedicates |
| 12 A overtime      | B large          | C long         | D bonus     |

**Use of English:**

FCE Part 2

**Open cloze: Prepositions**

For questions 1–12 read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one** word in each gap. In this exercise, each missing word is a preposition. There is an example at the beginning (0).

**Don't forget!**

- Always read the text through once before you start to fill the gaps in order to gain an overall understanding of the passage. For this text, answer the following two questions:

How does talking to babies and young children benefit them?

What is one of the main obstacles to a child's progress, according to the text?

**Gift of the gab**

Chatting to babies in a particular way boosts their intelligence and gives them a head start (0) in life, a new study has found. Speech and language therapist Dr Sally Ward selected 140 nine-month-old children from Manchester. She then gave 70 of the parents detailed advice (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the best way to communicate (2) \_\_\_\_\_ their child and left the other 70 without guidance. The 'communicating' parents were told to spend at least 30 minutes every day talking to their child, (3) \_\_\_\_\_ any background noise, about subjects which their infant might take an interest (4) \_\_\_\_\_. More than six years later, and after regular checks had been kept (5) \_\_\_\_\_ their progress, the children had IQ tests. Those in the talking group were, (6) \_\_\_\_\_ average, a year and three months ahead (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the other group. Nine children had IQs in the gifted category, whereas none in the non-talking group was as bright.

In a separate study at the American Academy of Paediatrics, experts have warned (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the dangers of children under the age of two watching television. Research has shown that exposure to television is responsible (9) \_\_\_\_\_ anything from delayed speech to Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The problem (10) \_\_\_\_\_ television is that it confuses infants, who block out the background noise coming from it. They consequently learn to ignore all noise, and this includes speech. Paediatric and language specialists also disapprove (11) \_\_\_\_\_ radio, which has much the same effect (12) \_\_\_\_\_ a child's language development.