LANGUAGE

Lesson 4.1 Vocabulary

1 Choose the correct option.

1 There is       demand to reduce food packaging in supermarkets.

a potential b extreme c sustainable d growing

2 Due to climate change many countries are experiencing more       weather.

a high b extreme c growing d potential

3 Many aspects of modern living pose a       to the environment.

a threat b change c solution d demand

4 Solar and wind power are examples of sustainable       for energy production.

a threats b failures c changes d solutions

5 The       atmosphere in the world’s rainforests increases biodiversity.

a extreme b high c humid d unstable

6 The       failure of crops is something farmers can face.

a unstable b potential c extreme d high

7 Last summer the very high       made daily life hard for elderly people.

a temperatures b weather c atmosphere d climate

8 Governments and citizens both have a responsibility to       the environment.

a face b predict c deal with d protect

9 A substantial number of plant species cannot survive in an unstable       .

a threat b solution c environment d atmosphere

10 Scientists all over the world are working on ways to       the challenge of climate change.

a deal with b pose c protect d damage

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Lesson 4.2 Grammar

2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the Present Perfect, Past Perfect or Future Perfect using the word(s) un brackets.

1 Our Office Manager                   
(introduce) a policy to reduce the amount of paper we use.

2 I lost some important documents because I                 (not backed up) my files on my laptop.

3 In five years’ time the way we use computers for work                 (change) completely.

4 Recently there                 (be) a lot of news about cyberattacks around the world.

5 After Tim  (finish) writing the report, he went for lunch.

6 By the time Olga got to the meeting it  
 (already start).

7 By this evening, the new software  
 (update).

8 Before yesterday I                 (never give) a presentation in front of the senior managers.

9 I                 (not write) this report by tomorrow morning.

10 The company                 (not improve) its security policy for over three years.

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Lesson 4.3 Functional language

3 Complete the sentences with one word in each gap.

1 There is no            we can meet that deadline.

2 To put it  , we need to move the launch date.

3 Let’s put our  together and see what we can do.

4 For one  , the costs are too high.

5 This puts us in a difficult  .

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Lesson 4.4 Functional language

4 [BP\_B2+\_Test\_04\_01.mp3] Complete the sentences with the words you hear.

**1** That                                  .

**2** Can we                      for a moment?

**3** I don’t think that’s a                      .

**4**                           , you mean that we need to extend the deadline.

**5** How can we work together                  ?

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Lesson 4.5 Functional language

B2 Business Vantage

5 Choose the correct option.

I would like to 1      that we change our interview process. A reasonable 2      would be to provide possibilities for video interviews as well as face to face. It would be 3      to look into the technology for this. In my opinion the company 4      invest more in people. It is 5      that we hire excellent staff.

1 a recommend b indicate c investigate d consider

2 a factor b opinion c approach d advice

3 a essential b possible c immediate d advisable

4 a should b would c may d like

5 a reasonable b possible c essential d immediate

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SKILLS

Short listening

B2 Business Vantage

6 [BP\_B2+\_Test\_04\_02.mp3] You will hear two telephone conversations. For each question, write one or two words or a number. You will hear each recording twice.

Listening 1

Look at the notes below. You will hear a new employee talking to another member of staff.

|  |
| --- |
| Intranet access process  **1st:** On staff page enter full name where it says 1‘          ’  2nd: Fill in department, birthday and employee number (located on 2          )  **3rd:** Password. Need to update this on  3           every month.  IMPORTANT = need to sign 4           policy |

Listening 2

Look at the notes below. You will hear two colleagues talking.

|  |
| --- |
| IT memo for staff  IT training starting next week. These are  5           for all staff, no exceptions.  Every Tues 10.00 a.m. in the boardroom on the  6           . Approx. 3 hrs long. Each session is for 7           people max.  Send 8           to all staff today (7th). |

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Reading

B2 Business Vantage / C1 Business Higher

7 Read the article and choose the correct answer.

What to do about e-waste?

According to a recent report from the United Nations, we are now creating more e-waste than ever before and it does not look like this trend is going to slow down any time soon. E-waste refers to the electronic rubbish we throw away including computers, mobile phones, printers and so on. According to the UN, we discard over fifty million tonnes of it annually, with the developed nations contributing far more to this figure than other countries.

Unfortunately, it seems that companies are only slightly aware of this problem. Their current environmental policies are much more centred on other things such as reducing the use of natural materials like paper as well as the war on plastic. It would appear that electronic gadgets are seen in a more positive light. If we take printing for example, there is a popular view that organisations should reduce the amount of paper they use. For many companies, issuing staff with personal tablets or laptops is a way to reduce paper usage and appear more environmentally friendly. However, while this may reduce their environmental footprint connected to wood, it is rapidly increasing the amount of   
e-waste in the world. In addition, companies tend to be more wasteful than the rest of us. Due to the fact they have large budgets, they often buy their staff new computers and mobile phones instead of repairing or upgrading the devices they already have.

The culture of replacing technology often can be blamed on large technology companies. Many of the modern electronic products are made to be difficult to fix. This is a deliberate business plan which aims to drive sales of new products. The logical conclusion for companies is that it becomes more financially sensible to replace electronic devices rather than repair them. As a direct consequence of this, some companies are emerging who want to tackle this problem. There are repair and reuse stores appearing in many cities such as Edinburgh and Stockholm. People can bring their broken gadgets to these stores and have them repaired, thus avoiding the need to replace them. Whilst this is itself a useful service, the ultimate goal is for people to learn how to do the repairs themselves in the future. Although these companies are mostly focused on local communities for now, they may well become more widespread.

It is also important to highlight that e-waste is associated with some serious environmental concerns. One of those is also the use of natural resources, but these resources are things that many people don’t know much about, chemicals such a cadmium and mercury. They are just as valuable as wood if we want to continue with our electronic lifestyle, yet they are also much more scarce and are not renewable. For example, the world has a very small supply of lithium which is currently used in most laptops. Unlike trees, we cannot just grow more lithium.

1 The United Nations report suggests that e-waste

a is a growing problem.

b is only caused by developed countries.

c will slow down in the near future.

d is impossible to reduce.

2 What is the attitude of many companies towards   
e-waste?

a They are working to reduce it.

b It is not a priority for them.

c They don’t understand it.

d It is too expensive to solve.

3 Reducing printing in offices

a is an excellent environmental policy.

b has no effect on the environment.

c has resulted in a new problem.

d makes staff more conscious of waste.

4 Companies create more e-waste than individuals because they

a are obliged to use less paper.

b replace technology more frequently.

c care less about the environment.

d buy more expensive computers.

**5** Why are modern devices hard to repair?

**a** The repairs require specialist tools.

**b** No one knows how to repair them.

**c** Replacement parts are expensive.

**d** To make consumers buy new ones.

**6** What is the main aim of repair and reuse stores?

**a** to recycle electronic devices in the community

**b** to reduce the profits of technology companies

**c** to upskill people in repairing techniques

**d** to provide a service for non-technical people

**7** The natural resources used in technology are

**a** not widely available.

**b** dangerous for our health.

**c** easy to reproduce.

**d** difficult to locate.

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Writing

B2 Business Vantage

8 Your manager has asked you to write a proposal on ways to make your office more environmentally friendly. Write a proposal based on these ideas:

* Ask staff to bring in cups – no more plastic or paper cups
* Increase number of plants to improve air quality and staff wellbeing
* Put more recycling bins in the office
* Ask staff for other suggestions at staff meetings

and any other ideas you think are important.

Write 180–200 words.

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