The Big Challenge paper 2026

1^ Superiore

Answer key / Correction

1



In this photo, we can see some friends ... .

- running on a football pitch
- playing table tennis
- aiming at a basketball hoop
- **having fun in a bowling alley** ✓

2



Find the true sentence.

- The man on the left is sitting down.
- The woman in red has both hands in the air.
- **The woman in beige has just thrown a green ball.** ✓
- The man on the right is wearing white trousers.

3



Find the list of words associated with the sport and games.

- pool, flower, score
- **team, cards, compete** ✓
- winner, spoon, play
- board game, cloud, lose

4

The opposite of "dry" is "...".

- long
- quick
- heavy
- **wet** ✓

5

To ... an app means to replace the old version with the new one.

- undo
- renew
- **update** ✓
- delete

6 Complete the list: action, comedy, sci-fi, ...

- **horror** ✓
- popcorn
- ticket
- stage

7 "Are you going to Jane's party?" "Yes, I'm really ... forward to it"

- watching
- feeling
- jumping
- **looking** ✓

8 Joe wants a new guitar but he can't ... one - they're too expensive.

- cash
- **afford** ✓
- lend
- reach

9



What can you say about Jill's Diner?

- **It serves high-quality burgers.** ✓
- The vanilla milkshake isn't good.
- The music is modern pop.
- The ingredients are cheap.

10



The Happy Carrot... .

- is good value but the food isn't adventurous
- is known for its full English breakfasts
- serves meat from nearby farms
- **is the least expensive of the three restaurants** ✓

11



Who should eat at The Royal Oak?

- Anyone who likes delicious food on a small budget.
- A group of friends who want to eat spicy vegetable dishes.
- **A business person wishing to impress a foreign client.** ✓
- A family with two teenagers who like simple, tasty food.

12



Based on what we know, find the true sentence.

- More than one of restaurants is owned by a chef.
- There are leather seats in the vegetarian restaurant.
- **The food isn't the only thing to admire in The Royal Oak.** ✓
- The ingredients used in the diner come from all over the world.

13

"What are you doing this summer?" "We're ... Greece for two weeks."

- will go to
- **going to** ✓
- travel
- spend

14

"Sorry I didn't answer your call earlier - I ... a client." "No problem."

- spoke
- have chatted
- **was talking to** ✓
- were dealing with

15

"How long have you lived in your house?" "I've lived there... 2016."

- it's
- **since** ✓
- for
- already

16 I didn't enjoy the party very much because I didn't know who ...

- **anyone was** ✓
- were the other people there
- was anyone there
- any people there were

17 If I won the lottery, I ... .

- will give money to charity
- am buying houses for my family
- **would travel the world** ✓
- had a massive party

18



In this photo, the man is ... .

- putting something in the bag
- **stealing from the woman** ✓
- lending the woman some money
- taking the woman's phone

19



The woman ... .

- doesn't mind about the theft
- is aware of what's going on
- **hasn't noticed what's happening** ✓
- is concentrating on her purse

20



The man is a ... and the woman is a ... .

- **a pickpocket ... victim** ✓
- burglar ... defendant
- witness ... thief
- criminal ... robber

21



Find the list of words that are associated with crime and justice.

- **court, judge, defend** ✓
- police, edit, arrest
- prison, kitten, trial
- liver, evidence, prosecute

22

In the USA, people often eat turkey with … sauce at Thanksgiving.

- **cranberry** ✓
- blueberry
- mint
- peanut

23

Only one of these Canadian cities is on the west coast. Which is it?

- Toronto.
- Ottawa.
- Montreal.
- **Vancouver.** ✓

24

Mark Twain, John Steinbeck and Harper Lee are all American … .

- folk singers
- **writers** ✓
- astronauts
- politicians

25

In north-west England there's a World Heritage Site that's England's largest National Park. It's called … National Park.

- Yellowstone
- **the Lake District** ✓
- Cairngorms
- Kruger

26	Paul is meeting his girlfriend's parents for the first time. He says, “Hi, I'm Paul. ...”	**Pleased to meet you.** ✓
		Have a good day.
		Welcome home!
		Get well soon.
27	A man is at work. He says, "It looks like it'll have to come out. Just lean back and open wide." What's his job?	A firefighter.
		A dentist. ✓
		A photographer.
		A coal miner.
28	Tom asked Kate if he could be her boyfriend, but she said no. In other words, she ... him down.	put
		turned ✓
		set
		called
29	“Better safe than ... ,” is a common expression. Roger's mother uses it when she tells him he must wear a helmet when he's on his bike.	sad
		in danger
		sorry ✓
		hurt
30	Meryl is talking to Will. Suddenly, Meryl exclaims, "Don't you realise? Olivia was having you on!" Meryl obviously thinks that Olivia ...	was trying to borrow some money from Will
		wanted to go out with Will and was flirting
		was offering Will a job
		wanted Will to believe something that wasn't true ✓
31	A man says, “Judging by their record, they'll be lucky to get a draw.” What's he talking about?	A rock band who won't get a big audience for their concert.
		Olympic champions who will earn a lot of money.
		A shop whose prices are too high.
		A football team with little chance of winning its next game. ✓

32 Find the word that rhymes with "please"

- **seize** ✓
- grease
- piece
- peace

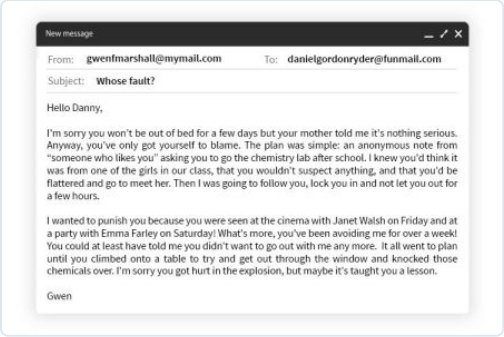
33 The first vowel sound in "shoulder" is the same as in "...".

- double
- round
- would
- **though** ✓

34 "Accommodate" = o O o o. "Diameter" = ...

- O o o o
- **o O o o** ✓
- o o O o
- o o o O

35



New message

From: gwenfmarshall@mymail.com To: danielgordonryder@funmail.com

Subject: Whose fault?

Hello Danny,

I'm sorry you won't be out of bed for a few days but your mother told me it's nothing serious. Anyway, you've only got yourself to blame. The plan was simple: an anonymous note from "someone who likes you" asking you to go the chemistry lab after school. I knew you'd think it was from one of the girls in our class, that you wouldn't suspect anything, and that you'd be flattered and go to meet her. Then I was going to follow you, lock you in and not let you out for a few hours.

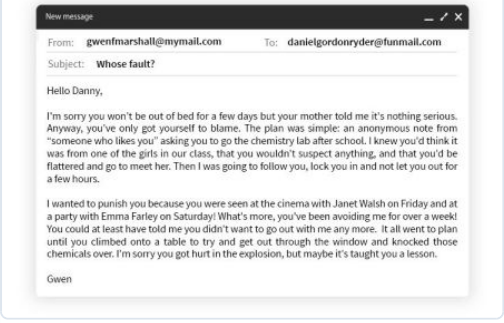
I wanted to punish you because you were seen at the cinema with Janet Walsh on Friday and at a party with Emma Farley on Saturday! What's more, you've been avoiding me for over a week! You could at least have told me you didn't want to go out with me any more. It all went to plan until you climbed onto a table to try and get out through the window and knocked those chemicals over. I'm sorry you got hurt in the explosion, but maybe it's taught you a lesson.

Gwen

What do we definitely know about Danny?

- He's seriously ill.
- He's going out with Gwen at the moment.
- **He hasn't been out with Gwen for several days.** ✓
- He's been out with three different girls in the last week.

36



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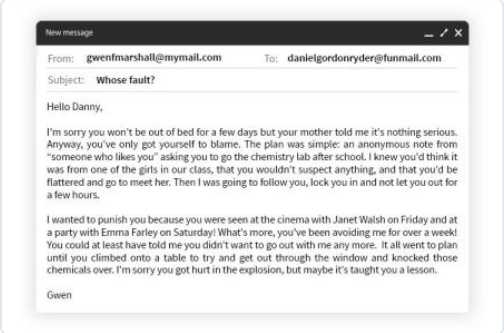
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Gwen

Gwen feels that ... .

- Danny didn't deserve what happened to him
- **she has been treated badly by Danny** ✓
- she has learned a lesson
- she did something very wrong

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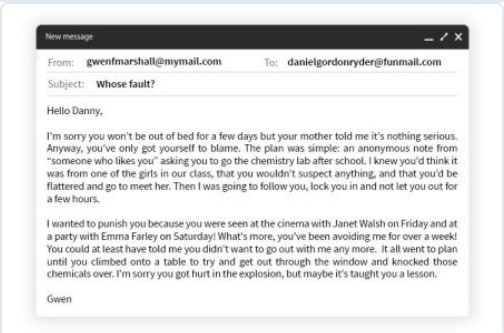
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Gwen

Find the sentence that we know is true.

- Gwen got a girl in Danny's class to write a note to him.
- **Danny thought he was going to the lab to meet a girl.** ✓
- The accident happened at the moment when Gwen locked Danny in the lab.
- Danny thought he knew exactly who had written the note.

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Gwen

Danny went to the lab ...

- even though he suspected something wasn't quite right
- **and found that he had walked into a trap set by Gwen** ✓
- because he wanted to punish the writer of the anonymous note
- but didn't get in because he couldn't open the door

39

Although he loved living in Japan, he... using chopsticks.

- hadn't used with
- **never got used to** ✓
- didn't use to
- wasn't used for

40

"Passport please, sir." "Oh no! I don't have it. I... left it at home!"

- have had
- **must have** ✓
- would have
- had to have

41

If her students misbehaved, the teacher ... them ... behind after school.

- **had ... stay** ✓
- made ... staying
- told ... that they stay
- got ... stayed

42	The ... for London tomorrow: cloudy with some rain in the afternoon.	outcome **outlook** ✓ outset outfit
43	The pilot probably ejected from the plane because no body ... from the wreckage.	recovered anyone **has been recovered** ✓ wasn't recovered at all has recovered anything
44	Leo's mother asks Jill, his babysitter, “Did Leo behave himself or was he naughty?” Jill answers, “Don't worry. He was as good as ... .”	a lamb a picture **gold** ✓ bread
45	... Friday is a public holiday in Britain. It's the Friday before Easter.	**Good** ✓ Cross Saintly Black