Session 1

Warming up

Answer key

**3. Mock exam**

***I – Are the sentences below right or wrong, according to the text ?*** *Circle* ***R*** *(for "right") or* ***W*** *(for "wrong"). If the text does not give you the necessary information to decide, circle* ***?***

You get 2 points for each correct answer, - 1 point for each incorrect answer and 0 point if you don’t answer at all.

1. People find it difficult to take the idea of a surfing degree seriously.

**Right**

2. Dean Bennett regrets that the course has not been very useful for his current job.

**Wrong**

3. It remains difficult for surfing graduates to find good jobs.

**Wrong**

4.Finisterre is committed to the protection of animals.

**Right**

5. Over the past years, surfing has tended to become more and more popular.

**Right**

6. The course is attracting many students from abroad.

**Not mentioned**

7. Ernie Capbert’s job does not leave much time for surfing.

**Wrong**

**Justification: voir surlignages dans le texte reproduit ci-dessous.**

***II – Circle the correct synonym - in context - for the following words.***

You get 1 point for each correct answer, - 0.5 point for each incorrect answer and 0 point if you don’t answer at all.

1. confined to: **a) limited to** b) deteriorated by c) useless for
2. span: a) imitates **b) includes** c) protects
3. instrumental: **a) crucial**  b) hostile c) open-minded
4. mirth: a) anger b) indifference **c) hilarity**
5. slacker: **a) lazy person**  b) domesticated animal c) big wave
6. acknowledge: a) teach **b) recognize** c) permit

**Surfers ride into the boardroom**

**A surfing degree prepares you for a variety of careers, says Gary King.**

Gary King, *The Telegraph*, 15 April 2010

Long gone are the days when surfing was seen as the preserve of the **slacker** and the beach bum. **(5)** These days you are likely to see people of all ages and walks of life bobbing around in the water waiting for that next big wave. In recent years a plethora of surf schools has sprung up all over Britain and a new £3 million artificial reef has been built in Bournemouth to capitalise on the sport's ever-increasing popularity.

Surfing has become a significant global business, with an international industry that **spans** equipment, clothing, competitions and surf camps. **(1)** But when you tell someone you have a degree in surfing the response is all too often one of surprise, **mirth** and disbelief.

"People raise their eyebrows and ask what it was like hanging around on a beach for three years," says Ernie Capbert, 31. He graduated from the University of Plymouth's BSc in Surf Science and Technology in 2004.

"There was a lot of contention about the course when it first started in 2000," he says. "Some people called it a Mickey Mouse degree, but that couldn't have been further from the truth. It was very well put together and had elements that made it attractive for lots of different reasons."

The course combines the scientific, technical and business aspects of the international surfing industry, and has close ties with the British Surfing Association and the National Rescue Standard, which awards life-saving qualifications in the UK.

Capbert is marketing director for surfwear company Finisterre, which is based in St Agnes in Cornwall. **(4)** Last year the company won the RSPCA Good Business Award after they helped to save a rare breed of sheep from extinction in order to use the wool for one of their products. "I'm really proud of the RSPCA Award because it **acknowledges** that we're trying to make a difference," says Capbert. "I love what I do and the course introduced me to people who have been **instrumental** in helping me achieve my goals."

So does he still get much time to surf these days?

**(7)** "We practise what we preach at Finisterre and we wouldn't be a surf company if we couldn't get into the sea as much as possible. So I go at least three times a week."

Dean Bennett, 31, runs Coffin On Cake, a PR agency specialising in board sports and street fashion with offices in Plymouth and London. His clients include lifestyle brands such as Rip Curl and Alpinestars. He completed the course in 2004 **(2)** and he can directly correlate what he's doing now with what he studied for his degree.

During his second year Bennett undertook a work placement with surf company Quiksilver. "They were running a marketing campaign that involved sailing a ship from port to port highlighting environmental issues. I joined it for two weeks between Galicia in northern Spain and Biarritz in south-west France," he recalls. "When I graduated I started working for them as their marketing co-ordinator in the UK because of that placement. I set up Coffin On Cake with a business partner in 2006 and haven't looked back since."

**(3)** Other alumni have gone on to work as scientists, academics and lecturers. Many now play key roles in industry working for the major players. Others have continued their research, taking higher degrees and PhDs.

Clare Sherratt, 23, is a teacher at Eggbuckland Community College in Plymouth. She graduated from the course in 2008 and now teaches mathematics to 11- to 16-year-olds.

"I found the course really interesting and I use aspects of it in what I do every day," she says. "I've got a picture of a wave and two surfers on my wall at school with various equations to illustrate what happens when a wave breaks and the forces that are exerted on surfers when they are in the sea. They enable me to illustrate the fact that mathematics isn't **confined to** textbooks but has practical uses in the real world."

Dean Bennett is equally full of praise. "I've been surfing since I was eight years old and it has always been my true love," he says. "I wanted to make a career out of the sport but at a professional level I was never going to make the grade. The course helped me to have access to a career that I'm passionate about and for that I will be forever thankful."