Functional Skills English Level 2

Mock Test 5 — Answer Key & Mark Scheme

Q1 (1 mark)

Answer: A — 35%

Text 1: '35% of graduates are employed in non-graduate roles five years after finishing.'

Q2 (2 marks)

Answer: A — Parents grew up in an era when apprenticeships meant manual trades only

Dr Okonkwo: 'parents who grew up in an era when apprenticeships meant manual trades only.'

Q3 (2 marks)

Answer: A — Intellectual breadth, critical thinking, and independent research skills

Professor Ashworth lists these three skills as university's distinctive offering.

Q4 (2 marks)

Answer: A — A Master's degree (Level 7)

Text 2: 'A Level 7 Accountancy Apprenticeship (equivalent to a Master's degree).'

Q5 (2 marks)

Answer: A — A peer support network of 45 apprentices and quarterly progress reviews

Text 2 lists peer support network, quarterly progress reviews, fast-track promotion, and guaranteed interview.

Q6 (2 marks)

Answer: A — It uses irony and humour to highlight the practical value of trade skills over academic qualifications

The irony of graduates needing a tradesperson undermines the assumption university always means superior capability.

Q7 (2 marks)

Answer: A — It elevates trade skills by emphasising their essential societal role, contrasting importance with lack of recognition

Listing trades then calling them 'the things that actually keep society functioning' frames them as essential infrastructure.

Q8 (3 marks)

Answer: A — Text 1 uses research evidence (Sutton Trust data, expert quotes) objectively; Text 3 uses personal anecdote and emotive examples ('wall of pride,' head of year's comment)

Text 1: institutional evidence. Text 3: personal experience and emotive anecdote.

Q9 (2 marks)

Answer: A — Parallel structure with contrasting content — the repeated pattern forces comparison between two motivations

Parallel structure ('It's not about... It's about...') creates direct contrast between student welfare and league tables.

Q10 (3 marks)

Answer: A — Text 1 is a balanced news report for a general audience; Text 2 is a promotional prospectus designed to attract applicants

Text 1: news report, statistics, expert debate. Text 2: promotional prospectus, positive language, persuasive structure.

Q11 (3 marks)

Answer: A — Apprenticeships offer strong outcomes (Text 2) but barriers remain: social inequality (Text 1: Sutton Trust), institutional bias (Text 3: league tables), and cultural snobbery (Text 3: 'wall of pride'). Genuine alternative in theory but not yet equal in practice

Text 2 proves outcomes. Text 1 reveals access barriers. Text 3 exposes institutional bias and cultural snobbery.

Total: 64 marks | Pass mark: 38/64