

Directions: *There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 2** with a single line through the centre.*

Passage Two

Questions 51 to 55 are based on the following passage.

With those born with natural talents, it feels as if they excel without really trying. But what about those of us who don't have a natural talent? We've been told all our lives that if you work hard, you too can succeed. But with the release of Angela Duckworth's *Grit*, we are given a new key to success.

"As much as talent counts, effort counts twice," says Duckworth in *Grit*. She introduces a new concept that talent may be overrated, and if you want real success, what you need is grit, the perfect combination of passion and persistence. Even if you have natural talent, it's nothing without grit.

Duckworth says grit is the difference between success and failure. A person who has grit is more likely to succeed than a person who does not. When we think about attaining success—whether it's landing that job or learning that new skill—our thoughts are immediately burdened by all the things we must first learn. If you want that new job, you have to learn the job skills, then the interview skills, then the dress part—and you must be perfect at all of them. Grit is different because it tells us that perfection isn't the goal.

Grit lifts the unreasonable expectations off our shoulders. Grit tells us that the door is open wider than we first thought possible. Grit allows us to redefine our goals. Think about it: what's something you've always wanted to do, but gave up because you "don't have the skills for it"? What's something you love but aren't good at?

The real workings of grit are to have sustainable passion and continue to try. Effort means more than your natural ability. Even if you haven't mastered a skill, grit tells you that you can still succeed if you can transform your passion into action. In a way, Duckworth is giving new hope to people who have shut the doors on their dreams. She is saying it is possible that you can accomplish anything. If at first you fail, then try one more time with grit.

51. What does the passage say about people born with natural talents?

- A) They seem to outdo others without hard work.
- B) They appear to know all the secrets to success.
- C) They feel it only too logical to succeed.
- D) They are bound to excel effortlessly.

52. What does Duckworth say about talent?

- A) It is a new concept much too overrated.
- B) It proves necessary for big achievements.
- C) It plays a lesser role in one's success.
- D) It is a guarantee for real success in life.

53. What does the passage say about people thinking of attaining success?

- A) They are puzzled how to present their best to the employer.
- B) They are burdened by their expectation of perfection.
- C) They will try hard to land a job that fits their skills best.
- D) They will find themselves lacking in all the skills they need.

54. How does the author think grit can be helpful to us?

- A) It allows us to know what we are good at.
- B) It opens our eyes to new opportunities.
- C) It focuses our attention on what we do.
- D) It lets us reconsider the goals to achieve.

55. What message does Duckworth try to convey in her book Grit?

- A) We should perfect ourselves to ensure success.
- B) We should stay persistent even in face of failures.
- C) We can never master a skill without constant practice.
- D) We can never expect to reach our goals without passion.