

Newsbrowsing Competition 2026

Online Round – Answer Key

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How to use this key: answers in regular type are the official key answers; a slash (/) separates key answers that are equally accepted. **Answers in bold** are additional acceptable answers (spoken and written usage).

Spelling: both British and American spelling are accepted. Contractions (e.g. they'd have) are accepted where marked.

Task 1

Financial Pressures and Festive Spirit at Notting Hill Carnival – True / False

No.	Answer
1	True
2	True
3	False
4	True
5	True
6	True
7	False
8	True
9	True
10	True

Task 2

Sentence transformation – missing part of the sentence

No.	Key
1	dropped/ given a hint that he no longer
2	were six candidates in contention for
3	financial knowledge I am no match
4	so wrapped up in their work
5	didn’t put Mia off in the
6	was of (no) consolation (to him) as winning
7	of efficiency reflects badly on
8	(some) reluctance that she put/ wrote her signature
9	was dismissed as nothing/ no more/ nothing other
10	to find out what the cause of

Task 3

London’s Historic Arcades: Elegance, Commerce and Culture – word formation

No.	Key
1	afoot
2	lordship’s
3	discarded
4	enforce
5	picturesqueness
6	ceremonial
7	entrance / **entry**
8	primarily
9	clientele
10	heraldic
11	chocolatiers / **chocolatier**
12	immersion
13	spectacularly
14	architectural
15	delectably

Notes for markers

- Not accepted: ceremonious (6) – it means formal or over-polite in manner, not “connected with a ceremony”.
- Not recommended: heraldical (10) – a rare, archaic variant; accept only at the marker’s discretion.

Task 4

Sun, Sand and Tradition: Exploring Britain's Seafront Escapes – open cloze (one word per gap)

No.	Key
1	for
2	own
3	However / **Nevertheless / Nonetheless / Yet / Still**
4	on / **upon**
5	as
6	unlike
7	upon / **on**
8	that / which
9	among / of / **amongst**
10	still / **now**
11	to
12	dating / originating / **hailing**
13	perhaps / possibly / maybe / **either**
14	been
15	up / **in**

Notes for markers

- Gap 4: "under" (acting under medical advice) is possible but less common; accept at the marker's discretion.
- Gap 10: "now" is accepted, although slightly redundant because of "today" later in the sentence.

Task 5

From Hooves to Horsepower: Mechanisation and the British Countryside – verb forms

No.	Key
1	would have instantly recognised / **would instantly have recognised** / **would have recognised instantly** / **they'd have instantly recognised** / **recognized** (US spelling)
2	losing / **having lost**
3	could still be found / **could be found still**
4	operating
5	had been largely superseded / **had largely been superseded** / **was largely superseded**
6	had grown up / **grew up** / **who'd grown up**
7	to be mounted
8	did this innovation make
9	could be attached / **can be attached**
10	did Land Rovers gain

Notes for markers

- Gap 1: "might / could have instantly recognised" is not accepted – the meaning is weaker than the certainty of "would".
- Gap 3: "could be still found" is grammatically possible but less natural than "could still be found"; accept at the marker's discretion.
- Gap 8: "has this innovation made" is not accepted – the second clause ("it also greatly expanded") is in the past simple.
- Gap 9: "can be attached" is acceptable as a general present-tense statement, but "could be attached" fits the past context better.