**Appendix A**: A sample of the items on the pre- and posttests

**Pretest**

Directions: *For each of the questions there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice to complete each sentence.*

1. I can't remember \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ made the teacher give Mary the permission to leave the class earlier.  
A. that it was what B. what it was that C. what was it that D. that was it what

2. He let out an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cry, "we've won!"  
A. excited B. exciting C. excite D. excites

3. -Is football John's favourite sport?  
 -Yes. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ football, baseball is his greatest love.  
A. Near to B. Except C. Beside D. Next to

4. Do you think regular exercise \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ good health?  
A. benefit from B. reach for C. make for D. go for

5. Have you applied \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mr Black \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the post? It's worth a try.  
A. for; to B. with; for C. with; about D. to; for

6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the loud noise going on in the workshop, I can hardly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on my lessons.  
A. As; put B. As; concentrate C. With; rely D. With; concentrate

7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I've never seen anyone who's as capable as Kate.  
A. As long as I have travelled B. Now that I have travelled so much

C. As I have travelled much D. Much as I have travelled

8. The big fire lasted as long as 24 hours \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it was brought under control.  
A. after B. before C. since D. while

9. The discovery of new evidence led to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the thief having been caught B. the thief to be caught

C. catch the thief D. the thief being caught

10. -Would you have helped her had it been possible?  
 -Yes, but I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ busy with my work.  
A. was B. had been C. have been D. am

**Posttest**

Directions: *For each of the questions there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice to complete each sentence.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the small island, the tower has been seriously damaged by the sea water?  
A. Being lain B. Lain C. Being located D. Located

2. In this workshop, the output of July was three times \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of January.  
A. that B. this C. one D. it

3. -Well, where did you spend your night that day?  
　 -At \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  
A. where it is called Grand Hotel B. what is called Grand Hotel

C. which is called Grand Hotel D. that is called Grand Hotel

4. The thief was brought in, his hands \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ behind his back.  
A. tying B. tied C. being tied D. having tied

5. The journey around the world took the old sailor nine months, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the sailing time was 226 days.  
A. of which B. during which C. from which D. for which

6. She stood on a brick to make herself \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a bit taller.  
A. looking B. looked C. to look D. look

7. Did your speech \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the audience?  
A. get through to B. get across to C. get through D. get across

8. Du's unique voice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ especially to young people.  
A. attracts B. draws C. catches D. appeals

9. The old woman stood still with her eyes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the picture.  
A. fixing in B. fixing on C. fixed in D. fixed upon

10. I feel it is you who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the accident.  
A. is to blame B. is to be blamed C. are to blame D. are to be blamed