



Centros de Idiomas

PROFICIENCY C2

SUMMER HOMEWORK

NAME: _____

Test 1

SUCCEED IN
PROFICIENCY

Reading

PART 1 Reading

Questions 1-8

For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example 0 A had B even C been D done

0	A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---	---

The Invention of Television

Few inventions have (0) had more scorn and praise (1)..... them at the same time than television. And few have done so much to unite the world into one vast audience for news, sport, information and entertainment. Television must be (2)..... alongside printing as one of the most significant inventions of all time in the (3)..... of communications. In just a few decades it has reached (4)..... every home in the developed world and an ever-increasing proportion of homes in developing countries. It took over half a century from the first suggestion that television might be possible before the first (5)..... pictures were produced in laboratories in Britain and America.

In 1926 John Logie Baird's genius for publicity brought television to the (6)..... of a British audience. It has since (7)..... such heights of success and taken on such a pivotal function that it is difficult to imagine a world (8)..... of this groundbreaking invention.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. A taken over | B heaped upon | C picked on | D given over |
| 2. A awarded | B rated | C graduated | D assembled |
| 3. A location | B site | C post | D field |
| 4. A simultaneously | B actually | C virtually | D substantially |
| 5. A flaring | B glimmering | C sparkling | D flickering |
| 6. A attention | B concentration | C initiation | D surveillance |
| 7. A found | B left | C gained | D reached |
| 8. A without | B shallow | C bereft | D lacking |

PART 2 Reading

Questions 9-16

For questions 9-16 read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each space. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

0

LIKE

The Subconscious and the Human Mind

The human mind is (0) ^{like}..... an onion with many layers. The outer layer is our conscious mind, which helps with our daily decision-making processes working (9)..... to the reality principle. It is intelligent, realistic, logical and proactive, (10)..... in new situations where we have to employ rational thought processes to (11)..... out what to do and how to do it. However, it can only deal with (12)..... five and nine things at any one time and is easily overloaded.

The subconscious or main hidden layer of the onion works (13)..... "auto pilot" i.e. reacting according to the pleasure principle in (14)..... it seeks to avoid pain and obtain pleasure and survival, (15)..... of external considerations. It is concerned with our emotions, imagination, and memories as well as our autonomic nervous system, which controls our internal organs automatically. (16)..... four main functions are very closely interlinked; in other words, the mind affects. It is powerful and very clever at dealing with many complex instructions simultaneously, but is not 'intelligent' as such.

PART 3 Reading

Questions 17-24

For questions 17-24, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of the lines to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet.

Example:

0

international

Battle to Save the Amazon

As the Brazilian (0) *international* plane banked over the Amazonian rainforest, (17)..... Ghilean Prance gazed at the dark-green canopy below: an expanse of trees almost (18)..... for 2.5 million square miles, with more (19)..... of plant and animal life than any other place on earth.

Few (20)..... knew more about the rainforest and its ecosystem than Prance. He had just been appointed (21)..... of postgraduate studies at the National Amazonian Research Institute in Manaus, the Amazonian region's capital. Before that, as research assistant at and latterly a curator of the (22)..... New York Botanical Garden, he had spent almost ten years studying the forest. In his search for new plant specimens he was more used to travelling on foot or by boat. But now, Brazilian (23)..... documents show that a road had been constructed through the Amazon basin. On this bright November morning he was flying out with two other course tutors and 14 botany (24)..... to make sure its impact on the surrounding habitat was not as serious as he thought.

NATION

BOTANY

BREAK

VARY

OUT

DIRECT

PRESTIGE

GOVERN

STUDY

PART 4. Reading

Questions 25-30

For questions 25-30, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and eight words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

Example:

- 0 Mick will give you lots of excuses for being late but don't believe any of them.

matter

No Mick gives you for being late, don't believe any of them.

Write only the missing words on the separate answer sheet.

0

matter how many excuses

25. His argument was irrelevant to the case being discussed.

nothing

His argument the case being discussed.

26. Karen sometimes appears very silly.

apt

Karen very silly sometimes.

27. His aggressive attitude shocked me.

aback

I his aggressive attitude.

28. I did my best to arrive here on time.

effort

I get here on time.

29. The meal was delicious apart from the chicken.

exception

....., the meal was delicious.

30. The match had to be cancelled due to the bad weather.

called

The match of the bad weather.

PART 5 Reading

Questions 31-36

You are going to read an extract from an article. For questions 31-36, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Taming the Wildcat

Now, I have had, at one time or another, a fair amount of experience in trying to get frightened, irritated or just plain stupid animals to feed from a bottle, and I thought that I knew most of the tricks. The wildcat kitten I had, proceeded to show me that, as far as it was concerned, I was a mere tyro at the game. It was so lithe, quick and strong for its size that after half an hour struggling, I felt a total failure. I was covered in milk and blood and thoroughly exhausted, whereas the kitten regarded me with blazing eyes and seemed quite ready to continue the fight for the next few days if necessary. The thing that really irritated me was that the kitten had — as I knew to my cost — very well developed teeth, and there seemed no reason why it should not eat and drink of its own accord, but, in this stubborn mood, I knew that it was capable of quite literally starving itself to death.

I decided to try another tack. Perhaps it would eat if I had a companion to show it how. I chose a fat, placid female tabby cat and carried it back to the garage. Now most wild animals have a very strong sense of territory. In the wild state, they have their own particular bit of forest or grassland which they consider 'their' preserve, and which they will defend against any other member of their own species that tries to encroach. When you put wild animals into cages, cages become, as far as they are concerned, their territory, too. So if you introduce another animal into the cage, the first inmate will, in all probability, defend it vigorously, and you may easily have a fight to the death on your hands. So you generally have to employ low cunning. Suppose, for example, you have a large spirited creature and you get a second animal of the same species, and you want to confine them together. The best thing to do is build an entirely new cage, and into this you introduce the weaker of the two animals. When it has settled down, you then put the stronger one in as well. The stronger one will, of course, still remain the dominant animal, but as far as it is concerned it has been introduced into someone else's territory, and this takes the edge off any potential viciousness.

In this case I was sure that the baby wildcat was quite capable of killing the domestic kitten, if I introduced the kitten to it instead of the other way round. So, once the tabby had settled down, I seized the wildcat and pushed it, snarling and raving, into the cage, and stood back to see what would happen. The tabby was delighted. It came forward to the angry intruder and started to rub itself against its neck, purring loudly. The wildcat, taken aback by this greeting, merely spat rudely and retreated to a corner. I covered the front of the cage with a piece of sacking and left them to settle down.

That evening, when I lifted the sacking, I found them side by side, and the wildcat, instead of spitting at me as it had done up until now, contented itself with merely lifting its lips in a warning manner. I carefully inserted a large bowl of milk into the cage, and a plate of finely chopped meat and raw egg, which I wanted the wildcat to eat. This was the crucial test.

line 60

The tabby, purring like an ancient outboard engine, flung itself at the bowl of milk, took a long drink then settled down to the meat and egg. To begin with, the wildcat took no interest at all, lying there with half-closed eyes. But eventually the noise the tabby was making over the meat and egg — it was rather a messy feeder — attracted its attention. It rose cautiously and approached the plate, as I watched with bated breath. Delicately it sniffed around the edge of the plate, while the tabby lifted a face that was dripping with raw egg and gave a mew of encouragement, slightly muffled by the portion of meat it had in its mouth. The wildcat stood pondering for a moment and then, to my delight, sank down by the plate and started to eat. In spite of the fact that it must have been extremely hungry, it ate daintily, lapping a little raw egg, and then picking up a morsel of meat, which it chewed thoroughly before swallowing. I knew my battle with the wildcat was won.

31. **How did the wildcat make the writer feel?**
- A. anxious
 - B. inadequate
 - C. cunning
 - D. stubborn
32. **The wildcat**
- A. was injured.
 - B. couldn't eat because it had problems with its teeth.
 - C. was dying of starvation.
 - D. was capable of starving but wasn't yet in a state of starvation.
33. **Why did the writer put the tabby cat in the cage first?**
- A. to make it aggressive.
 - B. the stronger animal will still remain dominant
 - C. to give it a chance to eat
 - D. to make it the dominant animal
34. **How did the wildcat originally react to the tabby?**
- A. it welcomed it
 - B. it attacked it viciously
 - C. it made contented noises
 - D. it rejected it
35. **Why was the test "crucial" in line 60?**
- A. Because the tabby might have prevented the wildcat from eating.
 - B. The wildcat might have attacked the tabby.
 - C. It was the moment that would determine the outcome of the attempt.
 - D. The wildcat might have attacked the writer.
36. **What can be assumed from the fact that the wildcat ate "daintily"?**
- A. It wasn't as hungry as the writer had thought.
 - B. It didn't like the food.
 - C. It felt at ease.
 - D. It felt self-conscious

PART 6 Reading Questions 37-43

You are going to read an article about media coverage of the weather. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap (37-43). There is one extra paragraph you do not need to use. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Getting up early on the morning of January 24th, I thought the city seemed oddly quiet, but it wasn't until I looked out the window that I saw the snow. The "Surprise Storm" that had hit the East Coast of the United States that morning was making earnest headway, having dumped as much as twenty inches of snow on Raleigh, eight and a half on Philadelphia, and six on New York. This was a big shock considering the unusually mild weather that had been settled over New York as recently as just a day ago.

37

Forecasters had seen a low-pressure system moving toward the southeast on the National Weather Service's satellite pictures, but all the major computer models indicated the storm would head back out to sea. As Elliot Abrams, the chief forecaster and senior vice-president of the State College, Pennsylvania, forecasting company Accu-Weather, told me later, "Who am I to say the numerical guidance is wrong?"

38

Ever since widespread weather-data collection began, shortly after the invention of the telegraph, in the 1840s, accurate forecasting has been the goal of the weather report. But in recent years TV weather has given increasing time and emphasis to live pictures of weather, usually in the viewing area, but sometimes elsewhere if the weather is atrocious and the pictures dramatic enough – and this is transforming the modern-day weather report.

39

The Weather Channel acknowledged this in a recent ad created by Chiat/Day which depicted weather enthusiasts in the guise of sports fanatics, their faces painted like weather maps, rooting for lows and highs in a fictional "weather bar" known as the *Front*. At the same time, the news, which once stuck to human affairs, now includes an ever-growing number of weather-related stories.

40

And the weather's upward climb in the newsworthiness stakes has also coincided with another trend; wild weather is also now a standard component of reality-based programming on Fox and the Discovery Channel. And in book publishing recent best-sellers like *"The Perfect Storm"*, *"Into Thin Air"*, and *"Isaac's Storm"* have helped create a hot market for weather-related disaster stories.

41

This newsier approach to weather, with its focus on weather events to help boost ratings, means certain kinds of weather get overblown while less telegenic but no less significant weather is overlooked. Take heat, for example. Eight out of the ten warmest years on record occurred in the nineteen-nineties, the two others in the eighties. (If the planet continues to warm at the present rate, some climatologists predict an increase in global surface temperatures of between 2.5 and 6 degrees by the year 2100.)

42

This is an old complaint – that ratings-driven, storm-of-the-century-style coverage makes it harder to get accurate information about the weather – and it has been heard here in New York at least as far back as when the over-hyped Hurricane Gloria struck in 1985.

43

However grateful we may be for this lack of danger, through war and bloodshed, it creates a psychological need for some kind of real-life drama on our TV screens. So, when a big storm comes along, you can almost feel the nation girding its loins as people gratefully turn their attention away from "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?"

A

But heat doesn't do particularly well on television. You can track down a blizzard on Doppler radar as it moves up a map of the East coast, but you can't watch heat. And drought, as Robert Henson, a writer at the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research and the author of a book about TV weather-casting, told me recently, "is the ultimate non-event. You usually hear about drought only when some rain event comes along to end it."

B

From 1989 to 1995, according to the Centre for Media and Public Affairs, weather coverage wasn't among the top-ten topics on the nightly network news. In 1996, it was eighth, and in 1998 it was fourth – more than eleven hundred weather-related stories ran together.

C

For the previous three weeks, unreasonably balmy conditions had been the topic of small talk everywhere: Why was it so warm? Wasn't it weird that there was no snow? Was it another sign of global warming? Then, wouldn't you know, the first big storm of the season comes along, and the National Weather Service, the federal government's agency, doesn't put out an advisory until ten o'clock the night before. (The N.W.S. had been on the network news just a week earlier, announcing new weather super computers, which are supposed to make forecasts even more accurate.)

D

Opinions concerning the causes of global warming remain highly contentious. But many climatologists now believe that rising temperatures produce more extreme weather – not just more frequent heatwaves and droughts but also more storms and floods.

E

But it's not only the broadcaster's doing: the public's fascination with wild weather is apparently inexhaustible. We live in peaceful, prosperous times, when the only tangible external threat to home and hearth is weather.

F

This is not so much a new market, though, as a revival of one of the oldest genres in publishing. This increased in Mather's 1684 book *Remarkable Providences*, which includes several chapters on extreme weather around New England and was one of the early thrillers of the New World.

G

In some respects, these broadcasts seem more like news than like "weather" in the traditional sense. Weather "events" are hyped, covered, and analyzed, just like politics and sports.

H

I turned on the Weather Channel, as I always do for big storms. The forecast may have been inadequate, but the live coverage was superb. In New York City, the Weather Channel was out in force, filming cars driving through slushy puddles and reporters sticking rulers into the snow in Central Park. I settled in for a little voyeuristic weather-watching, an experience that has become a condition of modern life.

PART 7 Reading

Questions 44-53

You are going to read an extract from an article on two books. For questions 44-53, choose from the sections (A-E). The sections may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

In which section are the following mentioned?

the feeling of being responsible for a death

44

the problem of putting literature into categories

45

another novel referred to in the novel

46

using language in different ways

47

characters who don't easily accept change

48

the refusal to embrace the way of life of either of two elders

49

different types of colonies

50

one of the novels being made into a film

51

death playing a role to help a community

52

the difficulty in defining the sub-genre of certain publications

53

A

Both *Purple Hibiscus* and *Once Were Warriors* are post-colonial novels, in the sense that they were written, and deal with subjects of the position of independence as opposed to the colonial state of being in both a universalising sense and a personal one. *Purple Hibiscus* was published in 2004 and is set in Nigeria, the author Chinamanada Ngozi Adichie's homeland. *Once Were Warriors* was written by a Maori New Zealander, Alan Duff, in 1990 and has since met with international acclaim through the silver screen. But, what has contributed to making this is another lengthy tale. Both books sit happily on the shelf labelled "postcolonial literature," but such careless sweeps of the categorising tongue are exactly what such authors are attempting to avoid. Their works don't reinforce the boundaries, leaving readers feeling warm and cosy. Colonialism, precolonialism and a whole set of other blunt "isms" can be argued as being explored by these authors.

B

That remnants of colonialism and pre-colonialism are present in each text indicates the boundaries between pre-colonial and colonial states of being are not as established, in a post-colonial existence, as the frame of the words denote. What are the implications of depicting, potential pre-colonial situations within the colonial tongue? Both *Once Were Warriors* and *Purple Hibiscus*, potentially present colonial and pre-colonial notions of history or histories, but from different post-colonial positions. With Nigeria having been a colony of occupation, as opposed to the settler colony of New Zealand, relations between the coloniser and the colonised differ greatly between the two cultural entities. With the coloniser, potentially, obscuring and abstracting the area between pre-colonial and postcolonial existences, any pre-colonial notions must always be partly located within a colonial perspective. Nonetheless, the pre-colonial uttered in the colonial tongue renders that colonial tongue as being somewhat altered in the process. The colonial tongue both makes and unmakes itself by using the same tools for different ends. The dragging of heels back and forth over the hot coals of second-hand languages renders the happy branding of "post-colonial" of those who dare to make the colonial tongue their own seem like an unrefined broad-brushes attempt to depict the hairline cracks in a china doll.

C

Both texts deal with the uncertainties of the formation and reformation of identities. Working with, yet at the same time questioning and unsettling, the bildungsroman format, *Once Were Warriors* and *Purple Hibiscus* present identities snaking through notions of pre-colonial identities alongside colonial and postcolonial ones. The certainty of the very survival of Kambili and Beth in *Once Were Warriors* seems, to an extent, to be staked on pre-colonial notions of identity formation. The chief at Beth's funeral articulates this in sorrow for the young girl's death; 'we are what we are only because of our past [...] we should never forget our past or our future is lost'. The death of Grace directly influences Beth to address her situation and that of the individuals in Pine Block. Although Grace's death is linked to the rape, Beth, who is unaware of this, questions her involvement in the death of her daughter. 'Could I have prevented it?' echoes out from every movement Beth makes after this. Why does the young girl have to die? Is it to highlight injustices in the Maori community, to make the community, to an extent, stand up and demand to be heard?

D

Indeed, it is death that stalks the corridors of these two novels. It is the death of Eugene, the 'colonial product' in *Purple Hibiscus* alongside the death of Papa-Nnukwu the 'pre-colonial product' that lead to questions of where to turn in terms of identity formation. The colonial figure is dead; he doesn't present ways of being to his children that seem acceptable to them; he is too violent, too dominating for their generation. But, as well, Papa-Nnukwu, who is adored by his grandchildren, seems like an inadequate role model to wholly guide the younger generation into futures that are still in the making.

E

By introducing *Purple Hibiscus* with the sentence 'Things fall apart', Adichie is immediately paying homage to Chinua Achebe's same-named novel published in the mid-twentieth century, which depicted a hamlet in Africa on the eve of nineteenth-century colonialism. Everyday lives and everyday disputes fill page after page. The reader is with the hamlet when its inhabitants are devastated. We are invited to sit in another seat. To see how it might have felt to be utterly subjugated by foreigners. The beauty of comparing the two Nigerian novels is in their dealings with Christianity. Indeed, in *Things Fall Apart*, church missionaries come to the hamlet to 'save them from hell and damnation' and Okonkwo, the head of the hamlet, is immediately distrustful. He is closed to change as is the Catholic 'colonial product' of Eugene in *Purple Hibiscus*. The stubbornness each character shows, but towards different ends, demonstrates the meaninglessness of assertions of power for the sake of assertions of power.

Test 2

SUCCEED IN
PROFICIENCY

Reading

PART 1 Reading

Questions 1-8

For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example 0 A that B which C discover D wrote

0	A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---	---

Pregnancy – a time to forget

Anecdotal reports (0) that heavily-pregnant women are more (1)..... have been (2)..... up by a study that has found that the ability to memorise information drops significantly in the last three months of pregnancy.

The findings of the study were reported yesterday to the Society for Neuroscience annual meeting in New Orleans by Dr Pamela Keenan, assistant professor of psychiatry at Wayne State University and Detroit Medical Centre.

In a study into the “benign encephalopathy of pregnancy”, Dr Keenan (3)..... memory tests on 19 pregnant women and found that the ability to (4)..... information declined during pregnancy. Expressed in (5)..... of the amount of information that could be remembered, it declined from 49 percent in the first trimester, to 47 percent in the second, to 39 percent in the third. Shortly, after birth the study participants were able to recall 52 percent of the information.

It was noted that after a period of approximately three months, the studied revealed that new mums' memories return to a relative (6)..... of normality. Other studies have since been carried out on more subjects revealing more (7)..... evidence that pregnancy does indeed contribute to memory-loss. But, then again, there are also health (8)..... to life with a bun in the oven.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. A resentful | B memorable | C forgetful | D oblivious |
| 2. A backed | B suppressed | C assumed | D persevered |
| 3. A carried over | B carried away | C carried on | D carried out |
| 4. A restore | B acknowledge | C allocate | D recall |
| 5. A times | B terms | C conditions | D references |
| 6. A state | B way | C behaviour | D situation |
| 7. A heavy | B understandable | C concrete | D weighed |
| 8. A advantages | B aid | C paths | D benefits |

PART 2 Reading

Questions 9-16

For questions 9-16 read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only one word in each space. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

0

CENTURY

Early Calendars

Dennis the Small, a 6th (0) *century* expert on canon law, has had an enduring, if unsung, (9)..... on the affairs of the modern world. It was (10)..... to his calculations that the precise timing of the 2000th anniversary of Christ's birth was recently confirmed beyond (11)..... Dionysius Exiguus, as he was then (12)....., was charged in 525 by Pope John I with setting dates in the Christian calendar. Though he was a good mathematician, the accuracy of Dennis' calculations was limited by the information (13)..... at the time.

Establishing the exact (14)..... of Christ's crucifixion – and therefore that of Easter – (15)..... an especially difficult challenge. Theologians had decreed that Easter should be marked on the Sunday after the first full (16)..... after the vernal equinox, but without accurate solar and lunar calendars how could the church fathers predict the dates in the future?

PART 3 Reading

Questions 17-24

For questions 17-24, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of the text to form a word that fits the space

Example:

0

difference

A Trip Back in Time

Let's do the time warp and head back to 1973. What is the biggest (0) *difference*, you notice between life now and 40 years ago? Probably nothing more startling than the men's (17)..... bouffant hairstyles.

In terms of the (18)..... and pleasure offered by (19)..... of the time, 1973 would provide a soft landing for Millennium Man. A trip back to 1973 would certainly not be a return to the Dark Ages. That said, in some ways, of course, 1973 does seem like a world away. In that year computer pioneers like Apple's (20)....., Steve Jobs, were still working out of garages and were entirely (21)..... to the public; DVD was a meaningless combination of letters, with (22)..... home video recording not set to appear for another two years.

One of the less (23)..... developments in 1973 was ABS – one of the earliest consumer (24)..... of computer micro-processors, which the Intel company in the States – long before it became a household name – had developed in 1970.

DIFFER
RIDICULE

CONVENIENT
TECHNICAL

FOUND
KNOW
PRACTICE
SPECTACLE
APPLY

PART 4 Reading

Questions 25-30

For questions 25-30, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and eight words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

Example:

0 Mick will give you lots of excuses for being late but don't believe any of them.

matter

No Mick gives you for being late, don't believe any of them.

Write only the missing words on the separate answer sheet.

0

matter how many excuses

25. It's impossible to say how he will react to your news.

telling

There react to your news.

26. He looks very similar to his brother.

bears

He to his brother.

27. You are not the only person to fail this exam.

alone

You this exam.

28. We can't promise that we'll be back in time.

guarantee

There we'll be back in time.

29. He was really jealous when he saw his brother's new car.

green

He was see his brother's new car.

30. This new bar is much better than the old one.

improvement

This new bar the old one.

PART 5 Reading

Questions 31-36

You are going to read an article concerning the role of literature as an art form. For questions 31-36, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Making a Living

It is my opinion that literature is at the same time and at once the most intimate and the most articulate of all the art forms. It is impossible for it to impart its effect through the senses or the nerves as can other forms of art; it is beautiful only through the intelligence of both the reader and writer; it is the mind speaking to the mind; until it has been put into absolute terms, of an invariable significance, it does not exist at all. It is able to awaken one emotion in one person and a totally different emotion in another; if it fails to convey precisely the meaning of the author, if it isn't an expression of him or her, it says nothing, and thus it is nothing. So that when a poet has put their heart and soul, more or less, into a poem, and has sold it to a magazine, the scandal is far greater than when a painter has sold a picture to a paying patron, or a sculptor has modelled a statue to order, or a photographer has produced a landscape photograph for a popular magazine. These are artists less articulate and less intimate than the scribe; they are more removed from the work they produce; they are often less personally involved in their work; they part with less of themselves.

That Tennyson, Longfellow and Emerson sold their poems and essays – works in which they had couched the most mystical messages their genius was charged to bequeath to mankind – does not, however, diminish the virtuosity of their achievements. They submitted to the conditions which no one can escape, which are nonetheless the conditions of hucksters because they are generally imposed upon poets and writers. If it will serve to make my meaning clearer, we will suppose that a poet has been crossed in love, or has suffered some bad fortune or some real sorrow, like the loss of a wife or child. He pours out his broken heart in verse that shall bring tears of scared sympathy from his readers, and an editor pays him a hundred pounds for the right of bringing his verse to their notice and for allowing them to print it in their publica-

tions. It is perfectly true that the real reason that the poem was written was not for the monetary benefit, but it is also perfectly true that it was sold for it. The poet is forced into using his emotions to pay his bills; he has no other means of making a living; society does not propose to pay his bills, for him, after all, so what choice does he really have? Yet, at the end of the day, the unsophisticated witness finds the transaction ridiculous, repulsive, and, to a great extent, exploitative. Yet deep down they are perfectly aware that if our huckster civilisation did not at every moment violate the relationships we undertake in the world, the poet's song wouldn't have been given to it, and the scribe wouldn't have been extolled by the whole of humanity, as any human should be who does the duty that every human owes it.

The instinctive sense of the dishonour which money brings to art is so strong that sometimes men and women of letters able to pay their bills, to pay their way through others means, refuse money for their work, as Lord Byron did, from a noble conscience. But Byron's publisher profited from a generosity which did not reach his readers; and the Countess Tolstoy collects the copyright royalties which her husband forgoes; so that these two instances of protest against business in literature may hardly be said to have shaken the world of commerce in literature to the core of its money basis. I know of no others but there may be many that exist of whom I am culpably ignorant. Still, I would very much doubt if there are enough to affect the fact that literature has become business as well as art. At present, business is the only human solidarity; we are all bound together with that chain, whatever the interests, tastes and principles that otherwise separate us.

31. **The author implies that writers**
- A. are not sufficiently paid for their work.
 - B. are incompetent in business.
 - C. profit against their will.
 - D. are greedy.
32. **What does the author lament about Tennyson, Longfellow and Emerson?**
- A. They wrote mystical poems.
 - B. They had to sell their poetry and essays.
 - C. They were not appreciated in their time.
 - D. They were prolific poets.
33. **What does the author propose that writers and artists should do?**
- A. Make the best of a bad situation.
 - B. Attempt to induce society to change its values.
 - C. Withhold their work until they gain recognition.
 - D. Produce purely commercial, rather than original work.
34. **What does the author say about creators accepting payment for their works of literature or art?**
- A. The works of art can be justified in terms of society's wants and desires.
 - B. They are part of the degeneration of the human condition.
 - C. They are writing and painting solely for monetary gain.
 - D. They share their life experiences with society.
35. **According to the author what did Lord Byron do?**
- A. He didn't financially gain from his literary pursuits.
 - B. He combined literature with business.
 - C. He copyrighted his work to help his wife.
 - D. He became well-known in the business community.
36. **The writer of the article seems to suggest that**
- A. writing literature is a good way to get rich quickly.
 - B. the integrity of works of literature is not greatly undermined by their commercialism.
 - C. literature is appreciated by businessmen and professionals generally.
 - D. literature causes divisions amongst people.

PART 6 Reading Questions 37-43

You are going to read an extract from an article. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap (37-43). There is one extra paragraph you do not need to use. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

For the world's population, access to an injection-programme and general good health shouldn't be a matter of the luck of the draw. Scientific advances have concentrated on diseases more prevalent in richer countries and appear to have neglected the plight of the poor - especially in third world countries - suffering from diseases that are routinely classified as easily preventable.

37

The good news is that we can save these lives. Measles, polio, whooping cough, yellow fever - diseases that debilitate, disfigure and kill millions of children can be prevented with existing vaccines. Parents in developing countries often walk miles, or pay high prices to get the shots. They know that their children need some vaccines that parents in developed countries take for granted.

38

When we first turned our attention to philanthropy, it seemed natural to extend technology to classrooms and libraries. Technology clearly can transform and empower its users. But our thinking crystallised as we learned of an even greater need - impoverished children stricken with preventable diseases. One man has already made a great difference in the world.

39

The power of vaccines - the most cost-effective medical intervention ever invented - lies in their ability to prevent rather than treat disease. It's often the case that it is not until we become parents that we fully appreciate the virtues of having a form of medical intervention that protects before limbs go limp or hearts stop beating. Today vaccines save the lives of some 3 million children each year - children who are fortunate enough to have been born in countries with effective health systems, adequate vaccination supplies and trained health personnel.

40

Access to safe, effective vaccines to such diseases should not be dictated by circumstance. That is why a commitment was made by the Global Fund for Children's Vaccines a year ago. The goal of the Global Fund, and the partners of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation, is to ensure that every child has access to lifesaving vaccines. An estimated 6 billion pounds over the next five years will cover the cost of fully immunising children in developing countries.

41

In the 1970s only 5% of the world's children could expect to be fully immunised. Today, thanks to these "rich" nations, alongside the work of countless dedicated health professionals worldwide, we can envision a time when 70, 80, and finally 100 percent of children are protected. And at a cost of 10 to 15 pounds per child, vaccines are a small investment for a very big return.

42

The dedication of resources to speed the discovery of new vaccines must also be a priority. Scientists and organisations like the International AIDs Vaccination Initiative are currently working to develop vaccines for the top three killer diseases - AIDs, Malaria, and tuberculosis. If they find them, perhaps the more daunting challenge will be to distribute them to those who need them most.

43

Ghandi once said that for him the Golden Rule meant that he could not enjoy things denied to other people. We should strive to ensure that health and freedom from these terrible diseases is something that no parent is denied.

A

A. But even the greatest of parental effort can't help if the vaccines aren't available. In the past it has taken up to 15 years for newly developed vaccines – including the relatively recent hepatitis B vaccine – to become available in poor countries. Those delays are measured in childhood fatalities. Our challenge is to provide every child, regardless of where they live or their family's economic status with access to lifesaving vaccines.

B

There has also been a concerted effort by governments and other organisations to raise sufficient funds to save children's lives through immunisation. Some governments should be applauded for their active support and substantial donations to the cause.

C

The new philanthropy blends 1960s social consciousness with the present financial model. SO far donations have topped eight and a half million pounds to help inoculate children in India against the three major killer childhood diseases.

D

Dr. Jonas Salk changed the world when he announced the discovery of the polio vaccine. His work started a vaccine revolution, and, as a result, millions of children have escaped the disease's crippling and often fatal effects. The last reported case of wild polio in the Western Hemisphere was in 1991. Who would have dreamt back in 1953 that within a generation – our generation – we would see polio almost eradicated from the face of the earth?

E

Vaccines cannot work their magic without a global effort. Parents, world leaders, and foundations can and should work together because we all want the same thing for our children, and this is something that great, humanitarian leaders have been aware of for a very long time.

F

Whether they live in Bangladesh, Botswana or Seattle, all parents want the best for their children. Providing a healthy start in life and through childhood is a priority for every family. Yet for all the amazing advances we have made so far in medicine, there are still far too many children who don't have access to even the most basic healthcare. More than 2 million die each year from vaccine-preventable diseases. This is a staggering statistic – a tragic reality we have ignored for too long. It is global news when an airline crashes, but rarely newsworthy that 228 children die from preventable illnesses every hour of every day. It's time to move this issue of immunisation to the top of our global agenda.

G

But there is more to do. First we need to redouble our efforts to introduce newer vaccines more quickly. It is heart-wrenching and unacceptable that children in the developing world may have to wait a decade or more to receive vaccines that are already saving lives in richer countries.

H

Yet tens of millions of people do not share in these benefits because of what they can afford or where they live. World-wide, more than 1 billion people live on less than 50p a day. Lack of safe water, poor sanitation and meagre food supplies are part of the grim reality of their daily lives. Their children weakened by malnutrition, and parasitic infections, are susceptible to childhood killers – whopping cough, measles and meningitis.

PART 7 Reading

Questions 44-53

You are going to read an extract from a book on the railway in India. For questions 44-53, choose from the sections (A-E). The sections may be chosen more than once. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet

In which section is the following mentioned?

an important Indian figure using the railway station for a meeting about the nation

44

the cutting up of land

45

two countries doing the same thing with their railway networks at the same time

46

violence in relation to the railway

47

the using of Indian workers to build railways in other countries

48

a totally new nation of the time

49

the railway playing a part in violence

50

the railway as a place on which to write messages

51

a physical feature of the currency of India

52

the railway wasn't built to be used as a tool for creating a nation

53

Nationing India through the Railway

A Within Raja Rao's *Kanthapura*, the railway is present in its supporting interactions between the village and the city, and the Congress Party and their village supporters, in delivering newspapers and directions of actions to take in the anti-imperial and nationalist movement. Notions of the railway delivering messages of anti-colonial sentiment can be found in it presenting a surface which is translatable as a canvas in nationalistic graffiti. As Kurt Iveson suggests, in relation to the railway in Australia, 'if the train' that carries graffiti 'runs' with the tag [or message] still on it, this gives the writer [or a movement] more recognition.' So, the railway can be seen to open the possibility of literally carrying intentions towards nationhood on its very surface. The railway, of course, was not built by the British with intentions towards independence, but can be seen to introduce a particular framework that comes to be appropriated in the movements towards nationhood.

B Not only can the railway be seen as a mobiliser of nationhood, but conterminously as a mobiliser of capitalism. As Ian Kerr suggests in *Building the Railways of the Raj*, the building of the railway in India introduced the framework of contractual employment - of the labour market - and, the knowledge of the saleability of that labour, arguably, lays the foundations for unions, The Congress Party and ultimately independence. Independence and the conceiving of the nation internationally can be further perceived in the participation of Indian construction workers in the building of railways throughout Africa. The knowledge of the saleability of labour internationally anticipates the falling of borders through globalisation before their construction. As Barrack Obama arrives at the old Nairobi train station in the post aspect of colonialism, he writes upon a railway line that had taken 'the lives of several hundred imported Indian workers' for the 'line of track that helped usher in Kenya's colonial history', inferring an interconnectivity within the Empire, and an interconnectivity within the constructing of railways and, furthermore, how that 'colonial history' relied upon the introduction of the railway.

C In Deepa Mehta's film, *Water* Chuyia is a child-widow, in an institution for women whose husbands have died. After living in this institution and witnessing the curtailing of happiness and freedom, she is taken to the railway station. Gandhi is reported to have been released from prison and is rumoured to be holding one of his 'prayer meetings' in the station. As Chuyia is carried to the station, the procession of people heading towards Gandhi has a slowness and a reverence similar to pilgrims entering a temple in anticipation of witnessing a god. Indeed, in post-colonial India, Gandhi's face is printed on the national currency of India, and he is referred to as the 'father of the nation.' The holding of a politico-religious meeting in the railway station further supports the proposition that the railway played a key role in nation building and independence. The final shot of the train proceeding into the future carrying the child-widow, Narayan the Gandhiist, and Gandhi himself invokes a positivist sense of 'inevitability' of 'progression' and nationhood.

D The scene set in the railway station in Deepa Mehta's *Earth* focuses upon Ice Candy Man crouching on a platform at Lahore railway station amongst others waiting for the train to arrive from the recently split Punjab, and the newly partitioned India. In breaking away from the British, the land and the railway is being reclaimed and rewritten upon; the process of cracking is entered into, revealing gaps and lapses in time and memory. As the train arrives twelve hours late, an uncanny silence draws up next to it; a silence that is echoed with the arrival of the 'ghost train' of Khushwant Singh's *Train to Pakistan*. In *Earth*, those waiting for the arrival of the train expect to meet family members and the one-day-old citizens of the newly formed nation of Pakistan; instead, the unnervingly silent carriages divulge death and dismemberment. The communicative aspect of the railway network becomes traumatically fulfilled; the railway carries the conflicting messages of renewal and relief, and bloodshed and war. The men are described as having been butchered and the women as having been dismembered with the 'members' filling gunny sacks. The witnessing of divided bodies echoes the land that has itself had incisions made upon it.

E Arriving in India in 1947, the train indeed shows its availability to both the colony and the nation. With its origins lying beyond the border of independence, and with its route having taken a course through the violent bordering in partition, the railway can be seen to have participated in narratives that have also been plastered on its tracks. In this, the railway network, once again, comes to inhabit a position of ambivalence; it balances precariously upon colonial narratives, partition narratives and post-colonial narratives without retaining a secure position in any. It is in this ambivalence that one can read the railway as analogous to the nation. If the railway network can be seen as contributing to movements towards nationhood, and, perhaps, even directly supporting nationhood, then the nationalising of the railway after the Second World War in both India and Britain demonstrates how important the railway was regarded in relation to the nation and, indeed, to power at that time.

Test 3

SUCCEED IN
PROFICIENCY

Reading

PART 1 Reading

Questions 1-8

For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example 0 A all B everything C one D nothing

0	A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---	---

The sinking of the Titanic

All in (0) all the Titanic had received six ice warnings; it was quite clear that the Titanic was steaming towards ice. At 11.40 pm many of the stewards were turning down the lights and cleaning the Titanic's public rooms and the last of the social (1)..... were now breaking up. Meanwhile in the crow's nest, Frederick Fleet and Reginald Lee struggled to (2)..... what was in the haze - for some (3)..... reason binoculars were not in the nest. Suddenly Fleet jerked the warning bell three times and telephoned the bridge and sputtered, "Iceberg dead (4)..... !" into the receiver. "Thank you", Sixth Officer Moody replied. The Titanic was on a collision (5)..... with a huge iceberg and the officers in the crow's nest (6)..... themselves for impact. The worst part is what happened to the people onboard. The ship was one of the most luxurious liners of all time, but it wasn't (7)..... with enough lifeboats for the passengers, so many died that night and in the (8)..... hours of the following morning.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1. A gatherings | B conferences | C summits | D congregations |
| 2. A see off | B look ahead | C keep out | D make out |
| 3. A A. insecure | B eccentric | C alien | D odd |
| 4. A A. before | B ahead | C beyond | D forward |
| 5. A A. crash | B way | C course | D track |
| 6. A A. rehearsed | B anticipated | C braced | D nurtured |
| 7. A A. built | B fitted | C carried | D floated |
| 8. A A. young | B low | C early | D starting |

PART 2 Reading

Questions 9-16

For questions 9-16 read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only one word in each space. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

0

COMES

"Winter in Madrid"

When winter (0) comes, I hurry to Madrid. I love the noisy, cosy winter bars and the restaurants where diners tuck (9)..... garlic soup.

No (10)..... it is a case of early imprinting – I lived and worked in Madrid when I was younger, teaching as so (11)..... of us do. Later, as a visiting journalist, I (12)..... a tiny role in chronicling the demise (13)..... the Franco dictatorship. And always, I loved the winter the best. Today, I nurture the belief that others will find it as exciting as I do when most of the tourists, save (14)..... the odd straggler, have gone home. I (15)..... to say it can rain in winter in Madrid – sometimes quite (16)..... – but the sun usually makes an appearance again within a matter of hours; the sky bright blue, as in a landscape by the Flemish master Joachim Patinir.

PART 3 Reading

Questions 17-24

For questions 17-24, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of the lines to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

0

recognition

What will we do for work?

I believe that 90% of white-collar jobs in the US will be altered; beyond (0) recognition in the next 10-15 years. That's a catastrophic (17)..... given that 90% of us are engaged in white-collar work. Even most manufacturing employees these days are connected to white-collar (18).....

In 1970 it took 108 men about five days to (19)..... the timber from one ship. Then came containerization. The (20)..... task today takes eight men one day. That is a 95.5% (21)..... in man-days.

Nowadays, new technology (22)..... companies to accept and easily (23)..... projects which would, in the past, have presented major headaches in order to bring them to (24).....

RECOGNISE
PREDICT

SERVE
LOAD
COMPARE
REDUCE

ABLE
TAKE
FRUIT

PART 4 Reading

Questions 25-30

For questions 25-30, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and eight words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

Example:

0 Mick will give you lots of excuses for being late but don't believe any of them.

matter

No Mick gives you for being late, don't believe any of them.

Write only the missing words on the separate answer sheet.

0

matter how many excuses

25. She is proud of being so fit.

prides

She so fit.

26. I phone her nearly every day.

goes

Hardly her.

27. I never intended to give him the job.

no

I him the job.

28. If you don't work harder, you'll fail the exam.

socks

You if you want to pass the exam.

29. I feel totally relaxed after a nice warm bath.

leaves

A nice warm bath totally relaxed.

30. I'm quite happy to go on holiday alone.

averse

I'm on holiday on my own.

PART 5 Reading

Questions 31-36

You are going to read a psychological report about survival at sea. For questions 31-36, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Survival at Sea

What happens psychologically when one is lost at sea? Why does one person survive while another perishes? Is there a personality type that makes one person better at handling the elements, fear and loneliness? Until recently, science has been completely in the dark about what makes a survivor. Now experts are intensifying their search to demystify the psychology of survival, analysing personality traits among people who triumph over life-threatening crises – and those who succumb.

In a life-threatening situation the brain immediately triggers a state of shock, sending alarms through the body. Your emergency response system shifts into gear. Blood pressure rises, muscles tense, adrenalin pumps. If you survive initially, you then shift mental gears to longer-term planning – whatever you have to do to survive. Next you go into the resistance phase; a chronic coping state, in which the body tries to maintain balance in the face of threat, danger and deprivation.

Later, one of two things happens: you enter an exhaustion phase, in which the coping mechanisms are overwhelmed, you lose strength, and die – as often happens – or you persevere long enough and get rescued or escape the situation. Who survives, it turns out, isn't determined by age, physical stamina, or experience. Although one would expect people who are fitter to be the best candidates to make it back alive, the mind, that great trickster, isn't ruled by logic.

Last summer, for example, a sailboat sank. It was being sailed by Nicholas Abbott, who often transported pleasure boats from the Caribbean to New York. With him was his friend, Janet Culver, a reserved woman, not a risk-taker, making her first long-distance cruise. If you worked for an insurance agency, you'd bet Abbott would be the one to return alive. Yet he's the one who died. After 10 days adrift in a tiny dinghy, battling 16-foot waves and thundershowers, Abbott – hungry, thirsty, and delirious – said he was going to swim home, jumped overboard and drowned. Culver, covered with sun blisters and too weak to sit, would not give up. "Each day I stayed alive was another chance to be res-

cued", she told me. "Something deep inside told me to hang on one more day." While Abbott let his depression get the better of him, Culver evaluated her situation in small, manageable increments. She kept her mind open. It is important to remain mentally active, dwelling on positive things. "Don't give up", say the experts. "Dive your thoughts to things that make you happy. Have fantasies." In other words, play games with your mind. Don't let it play tricks on you, which experts say it does.

The mind goes from hope for rescue, to isolation, to depression. These feelings come, go and vary in order. You have a better chance of survival with other people there. Just being able to say "I'm not going to do what he's doing" helps handle negative thinking. Highly destructive is the "last chance" phenomenon: rescue is visible, but they don't see you. You start thinking "that was my only chance; they won't be back again!" Then you feel doomed. In the end, long-term exposure causes delirium. You start drinking salt water, which causes more delusions. In the cold, people sometimes start shedding garments and a trail of clothes is found. Paradoxically, these people interpret their coldness as warmth.

Researchers studying people who triumph over life-threatening crises are finding survivors share common personality traits: high self-esteem and optimism. Often the difference in mental, rather than physical toughness determines who will endure. Survivors often have a strong belief system outside themselves, in family and religion. Once you give into the sense of abandonment, you give up. Survivors tend to be tenacious in a self-preserving way. They do the right things under pressure. Even though Culver was technically less skilled at sea, she didn't lose her head. Abbott panicked, left the safest position, and exposed himself to death. The experts attribute this fighting spirit to an immeasurable factor. They can measure weight, age, sex, swimming ability, flotation, quality of clothing – finite things. But they can't measure the will to live. The only true measure of it is who stares into the abyss and doesn't blink.

31. **Until recently, scientists**
- A. had no knowledge of why some people are less vulnerable.
 - B. had been experimenting with people in extreme situations.
 - C. believed that the personality of a survivor was defined by fear.
 - D. had not been interested in what makes a survivor.
32. **According to the writer,**
- A. the exhaustion phase is preceded by a failure of coping mechanisms.
 - B. survival depends on how healthy you are.
 - C. you need to be intelligent to survive a dangerous situation.
 - D. there are a number of phases in the survival process.
33. **Why is it surprising that Janet Culver survived?**
- A. She had never been sailing before.
 - B. She didn't take Abbott's advice.
 - C. She didn't appear to have a very strong character.
 - D. She was nervous of being at sea.
34. **What is one reason why the presence of other people with you in a survival situation can sometimes help you to survive?**
- A. They tell you not to give up.
 - B. You can play games with them to keep awake.
 - C. They can remind you of how not to behave.
 - D. They can help you look out for rescue vehicles.
35. **Why is near-rescue destructive?**
- A. It makes the person lose hope.
 - B. The person knows they will not get another chance.
 - C. It causes delirium.
 - D. People usually try to swim to the rescue vessel.
36. **Why can't scientists measure the will to live?**
- A. Because it is different in every person.
 - B. Because it is an abstract quality.
 - C. Because it changes throughout a person's life.
 - D. Because people are reluctant to be analysed in such a way.

PART 6 Reading

Questions 37-43

You are going to read an extract from an article. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap (37-43). There is one extra paragraph you do not need to use. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

A drive through a phobia

Motorways are the safest roads in Britain. I read that somewhere not long ago – and a fat lot of good it's done me. For I am slowly surrendering to a terror of motorway driving. Just a glimpse of the sign that warns "Motorway Traffic Only" and I feel as if I am about to fall off the edge of the Earth.

37

I will even convince myself that this makes more sense – that, really, the route through a strange town in rush hour is quicker, that there is bound to be a hold-up on the more obvious routes.

38

Until recently, the open road never used to be a problem. I have driven across America and back. I have driven across Malaysia. I have been a night-time minicab driver, speeding across London and the Home Counties in the hours before dawn. I have even negotiated North America's Long Island Expressway in hot summer rush hours. But now I cannot get myself onto the M25.

39

My GP was the obvious starting point, but the procedure involves a referral, a wait of weeks, possibly months, and then a month or two of weekly visits to a clinical psychologist. A friend suggested driving lessons might do the trick.

40

But that's nothing to do with the phobia – which left two or more esoteric American treatments to sample. First, I visited Frank Gerryts in Twickenham, west London, who uses the new "emotional freedom technique". "EFT is to do with releasing energy blocks", said Gerryts. "A phobia is a learnt response. At some stage, you have to learn to be scared of whatever it is. You learn quickly and remember forever. But you can also unlearn it."

41

"Your phobia is like a forest: each tree is an aspect of it," said Gerryts. "If you focus in on a tree and cut it down, eventually, you've cleared a space. Cut down enough of those trees and suddenly they aren't a problem." And that's all there is to it. It's quick, easy – and supporters claim a near-100% success rate. It would be marvellous: except, in my case, it did no good at all.

42

NLP started in the late 1970s in America. "It is outcome-orientated", said Bean. "It will give you a clear idea of what you want and help you achieve it. NLP can help us become who we want to be." I wanted to be a person who drives on motorways.

Bean made me imagine I was sitting in a cinema seat. Then I left my body in the seat and took my mind to the projectionist's booth, from where I watched a film of myself driving on a motorway, in colour and in black and white, forward and backward. After that, I felt I could handle Spaghetti Junction in a wet, dark rush hour. Sadly, when faced with the M40 in drizzle, I decided to leave it for another day. I did not really want to go to Banbury anyway.

43

As a life disrupter, a fear of driving on motorways doesn't come close to a fear of buttons or police officers. And driving phobias, says Blowers, are relatively simple to treat. So, once I have overcome my phobia about paying him 90 pounds an hour, for up to 10 sessions of 90 minutes or so, he's the man for me. Until then, I can always take a train. After all, it's better for the environment.

A

Next I tried the NLP (neurolinguistic programming) phobic cure. This, said Gary Bean, whom I visited in Teddington, southwest London, is "fast, so straightforward it can be taken up by anyone – and 100% successful."

B

These are all classic signs of a phobia: a usually irrational fear or hatred of some sort. My terror of the M-word certainly does not seem rational, even to me – you are three times as likely to get killed on an A-road, despite nearly 9,000 motorway crashes involving injury each year. Brampton wrote about her fear of driving in *Vogue* magazine. What a revelation! I tentatively mentioned.

C

This fear crept up slowly so I hardly noticed it happen. Then, a few months ago, a friend of mine, Sally, said the same thing had happened to her, and, suddenly, felt like everyone had the same problem – or knew somebody who did. So, like one in 10 of the population, I had a phobia. Nobody knows for sure how or why they start, but once I had acknowledged my condition, I was ready to go in search of a cure.

D

I suppose some people have a fear of driving abroad. That is a more logical phobia as one is unfamiliar with a foreign country. I personally have never tried driving abroad, but as long as it wasn't on a motorway, I suppose I'd cope.

E

Eventually, I rang the Priory, refuge of the confused, depressed and addicted, in Putney, London. Colin Blowers, a behavioural therapist, offered words of comfort and a "reasonably high success rate" through gradual exposure, starting by just sitting in a car or even, in severe cases, standing near one. Eventually he will follow people as they drive onto a motorway, or talk them through it by mobile phone.

F

The thought of trying to join that relentless stream of thundering traffic gives me the creeps – thumping heart, cold shivers, sweaty palms. My hands actually slip on the wheel before I bottle out at the last second, turning with relief back to the nice, safe A-road, with all its comforting delays and frustrations.

G

Bryan Lynn, the chief examiner of the Institute of Advanced Motorists, agreed, "People who aren't used to motorway driving can be a little intimidated by the speed and the volume of the traffic", he said. "They need to go out with someone who understands, to ease them through it." But this doesn't explain why it suddenly develops. I asked what sort of person is typically frightened of six-lane highways. "Ladies in later middle age", came the horrible reply. "Hubby has unfortunately passed away, and hubby has always driven the car."

H

Together, we chose an aspect of my fear (getting on the slip road) and then, while rubbing a spot on my chest, I had to repeat the following three times: "Even though I have this fear of slip roads, I deeply and completely accept myself." This concentrates the mind. Then you have to tap your face and your collarbone while repeating the bit about the slip road. If any emotional intensity remains, you repeat the whole lot before picking another aspect of the problem.

PART 7 Reading**Questions 44-53**

You are going to read an extract from an article on gender. For questions 44-53, choose from the sections (A-E). The sections may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

In which section are the following mentioned?

the details of a linguist's theory 44

Judith Butler's ideas around the distinction often made between gender and sex 45

the disagreeing of a philosopher with a linguist's theory 46

the possibility of using Judith Butler's work to improve a situation 47

sexism towards women by members of the same sex 48

the misinterpretation of a term in Judith Butler's work 49

the worst problems of gender-assignment 50

the difficulty in trying to summarize Judith Butler's ideas 51

the surrounding of human beings in language 52

that people today aren't that different from people of a different era 53

Neither this nor that

A Most of us sit happily within our binary categorised genders. We push the boundaries a little bit. We like to think we're being a bit alternative with our decisions in clothing, or even in attitude. It isn't difficult to find perfectly straight househusbands taking an interest in the decor of the family home and to find misogynistic women in boardrooms and on factory floors alike across the globe today. We might be able to do more within our assigned gender, but we're still very much pinned down by the borders of our gender – we're still only reacting against our strict Victorian predecessors – we've yet to step into the future of our possible selves.

B A difficult pill for us to swallow though is that we can't imagine ourselves without gender. Who are we without our box labels of "man" and "woman". As we ask ourselves this question, a beautiful songbird flies past our eyes and it dawns on us that we don't exist without these categories. Or, rather we cannot imagine – we are unintelligible to ourselves without these demarcations. This is one of the basic ideas of Judith Butler, a theorist on many aspects of identity, but who made her name in the public domain with her research upon gender. She works from within a number of perspectives and any cursory attempt at an introduction to her and her ideas would be to do unto her a great injustice, but for those who are unfamiliar with her work, she argues that gender is performative. This term has, indeed, caused some of the many problems and confusions with Butler's theory, but as a base from which to start, one who would like to understand should soon dispose of the theatrical notion hanging around in your connotational mind and turn towards the field of linguistics. More specifically towards a particular linguist and his work; J. L. Austin's *How To Do Things With Words*.

C J. L. Austin's work couldn't be further away from gender studies if it tried, but Judith Butler made use of his famous theory upon the performativity of certain types of speech or utterances. He argued that some utterance had no reference outside of the sentence, so these utterances are performative. Austin refers to the utterances in naming ceremonies and marriage ceremonies as instances of the performativity of language. It takes a while to get one's head around this, but essentially Austin argues that in certain cases utterances do not describe nor state the "doing" of an action, but rather the utterance itself is the action; the utterance performs the action. "I name this ship..." would be an example of a performative utterance. Judith Butler arrives at Austin's work through a critique of it by the French philosopher Jacques Derrida. Derrida takes issue with Austin's narrow usage of his theory.

D This is where Judith Butler picks up the thread. She argues that from the moment we are born, we are encased by language. We don't speak back for a year or so, but the people around us are already dressing us up in the finery of the language we will one day use to decorate ourselves – to create our identities with. But, further than this and more explicitly as Butler develops in her later work *Bodies That Matter*, the moment we are born the sentence is uttered "it's a girl" or "it's a boy" – this is the basis of her argument of gender being performative. I suppose a good way to imagine it is through Spiderman's web that he shoots from his wrist. The web is language and language that is inescapable. The implications of this though, are very serious for Butler. She often writes about children who are born with two sets of genitals or whose genitals are ambiguous. For these people, Butler argues, the "gendering" is most cruel. These human beings aren't left as the beautiful products that they are, but quite the opposite – they are mutilated as babies and find it very difficult to live sexually fulfilling lives as adults.

E Although never explicitly stated in Judith Butler's work, what her work might lead onto is the lessening of the gendering process. She would be incredibly sceptical about such an idea. She would suggest that this was impossible; that we cannot think outside of the gendered categories. She believes that the only way to make life more bearable in the gendering process is through subversion. One way she suggests is to overdo gender. She argues that the hyperbolically feminine and the hyperbolically masculine draw attention to the edges of the categories whilst at the same time undermining the categories by the very fact of their borders. Some would suggest you see, that man and woman, male and female (Butler has a very interesting perspective when it comes to the pop-science differentiation between "gender" and "sex" with the latter often being read as "biological" and the former as "cultural") are related to the notion of "nature". The househusband who takes an interest in the decor of the family home would probably complacently suggest that, in nature, women would usually do this and men would do that, but because we live in a society that allows for the reverse, we can do otherwise. Butler would have problems with this for a number of reasons including the unquestioning usage of the term "nature".

Test 4

SUCCEED IN
PROFICIENCY

Reading

PART 1 Reading

Questions 1-8

For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example 0 A traumatic B enigmatic C sporadic D aquatic

0	A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---	---

Brain Gel

A gel that helps brains recover from (0)..... injuries has been developed by scientists at the Clemson University in South Carolina. The gel, which is (1)..... in liquid form at the site where the injury was sustained, (2)..... stem cell growth in the affected area. In terms of circumstances in which it might be applied, the gel has the potential to treat a wide range of head injuries, including those arising from car accidents, falls and gunshot wounds.

Serious brain injuries are (3)..... difficult to recover from on account of the fact that the affected tissue can swell up considerably, which causes additional (4)..... damage to the surrounding cells. Existing treatments do little more than attempt to limit secondary damage and are relatively (5)....., certainly when it comes to repairing the damaged cells, so the discovery of a gel which stimulates cell repair is being (6)..... as revolutionary.

Despite the wave of excitement now running through medical circles, it is important to note that results so far are (7)..... solely on observations of the effects of the gel on laboratory rats. The development of the treatment is very much still in its (8)..... stages and human testing is expected to be some three years or more away yet.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. A implanted | B instilled | C injected | D imposed |
| 2. A motivates | B vitalises | C stimulates | D mobilises |
| 3. A notionally | B incidentally | C notoriously | D increasingly |
| 4. A corresponding | B collateral | C coincident | D dependent |
| 5. A integrated | B ineffective | C incompetent | D unproductive |
| 6. A heralded | B advertised | C promised | D ushered |
| 7. A based | B rested | C discovered | D stationed |
| 8. A penultimate | B preliminary | C concluding | D fundamental |

PART 2 Reading

Questions 9-16

For questions 9-16 read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each space. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

0

LITTLE

The Emergence of British Pop

Before 1960, the UK pop scene offered (0) *little* of substance. A faint shadow of its American counterpart, it could boast (9)..... the questionable talents of sanitised singers like Cliff Richard and Tommy Steele. But then along came the revolution; fizzing out of the teen-oriented coffee bars and the budding club circuit came the likes of Korner and Barber as R&B emerged. It was not long before 'bluephoria' had taken (10)..... and the blues and R&B circuit quickly evolved with bands of the calibre of the Rolling Stones and the Graham Bond Organization shaking things (11)..... in London.

But the capital did not have a monopoly as far as new talent was concerned - (12)..... from it. The north was awakening, too, and soon the Beat groups would arrive, taking the music world by (13)..... . Acts such as the Animals and the Beatles were formed, the latter needing no introduction, of course.

It wasn't long before the tables had (14)..... ; American pop was soon playing second fiddle to Brit-style bands.

The Beatles, championing the cause, took British popular music to new levels of success. Before (15)..... , the world couldn't get enough of this plucky quartet. 'Beatlemania' had taken hold. John, Paul, Ringo and George could do no (16)..... .

PART 3 Reading

Questions 17-24

For questions 17-24, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of the lines to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0). Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet.

Example:

0

inaccessible

The Antarctic Ice Marathon

There is no other race quite like it; no other race in a place so (0) *inaccessible*; no other race which puts the body through a(n) (17)..... test of such extremes. The Antarctic Ice Marathon was the brainchild of Richard Donovan, whose company, Polar Running Adventures, gives runners the opportunity to (18)..... in a race through the barren wasteland that is the snow-covered Union Glacier.

Last year, there were some 34 participants in the race, and, this time, the number of (19)..... is expected to be higher still; such has been the level of interest shown by members of the public, amateur and professional athletes and the media alike.

But, while the prospect of being part of as unique an experience as the Antarctic Ice Marathon is seems, on the face of it, a rather (20)..... notion, those considering putting their names in the mix would do well to be (21)..... of just how intense and demanding, both physically and psychologically, the event can be.

You will be cut off completely from civilization, with not even a penguin there to cheer you on, and you may have to face temperatures dipping considerably lower than the levels your body would be (22)..... to dealing with, not to mention the (23)..... of fine weather - think instead near whiteout conditions and zero (24)..... .

But, if you still fancy giving it a go, get in touch with Richard and he can make your dream (or nightmare) come true ...

ACCESS
ENDURE

TAKE
ENTER

AGREE
MIND

CUSTOM/
PROBABLE
VISIBLE

PART 4 Reading

Questions 25-30

For questions 25-30, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and eight words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

Example:

0 Mick will give you lots of excuses for being late but don't believe any of them.

matter

No Mick gives you for being late, don't believe any of them.

Write only the missing words on the separate answer sheet.

25. Do you mind if I change the channel?

objection

Do you the channel?

26. Give me a phone call when you arrive, even if it is after my bedtime.

whether

No when you arrive, give me a phone call.

27. A lack of match practice is threatening to ruin the player's chances of qualifying.

under

The player's a lack of match practice.

28. Her father made it clear that he would not be discussing the matter any further.

open

Her father made it clear that discussion.

29. The prisoner was led to the dock by an armed officer.

way

The prisoner under armed escort.

30. The lawyer for the defence suggested the witness was not telling the truth.

doubt

The defence lawyer version of events.

PART 5 Reading

Questions 31-36

You are going to read an article about the Dead Sea. For questions 31-36, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

The Devil's Sea

Although, in modern history, we have been slow to recognise the exceptionality of the Dead Sea area, that intensely salinated body of water separating Israel and Jordan, hostile to all forms of life bar a few microscopic species of bacteria and a smattering of miniscule fungi, we seem, today at least, far more aware and appreciative of its, well, usefulness, not to mention the very uniqueness that defines the place, being, as it is, both the lowest land elevation on the planet and the deepest hypersaline lake or inland sea of its kind.

In fact, it was not until 1848 that the 'Sea of the Devil', as it was then popularly known, piqued the curiosity of Westerners, when a group of US navy officers exploring the area were at once fascinated and perplexed by the phenomenon that lay before them. Their passing interest aside, however, the first real exploitation of the area did not begin until more than seventy years later when, under the British Mandate for Palestine, Britain began to tap into the area's abundant mineral wealth for the first time, leading to, at one point, nearly half of the entire potash needs of the British Commonwealth being sourced from the region.

That the Dead Sea region was ignored for so much of modern history is best explained by its reputation; after all, people reasoned, if its waters were hostile to all forms of life (as was presumed until the presence of diminutive bacterial and fungal life was confirmed by scientists in the last twenty years), it was surely an area best avoided; an area unfit for mankind to venture into and explore. Besides, the name itself is hardly reassuring, nor are the other variants by which it has, at one time or another, been known – 'The Devil's Sea', 'The Stinking Sea' and so on. Of course, other factors also delayed the area's exploitation, not least of which, the harsh climes of the Middle East, where, in summer, temperatures in the mid- to high-30s are not uncommon, nor is it so rare to see the thermometer registering above 40. Another factor was the barren, rocky terrain. However, the luxuries of modern roads and air-conditioned vehicles have since put paid to these concerns.

Still, it is odd to reflect on for just how long the region was left in splendid isolation, particularly given the fact that in ancient times, as far back as the 4th century BC, it was not by any means ignored. Indeed, the great Greek philosopher Aristotle is known to have made mention of the sea's physical properties, as are other luminaries of the period, such as Galen and Pliny. The Nabataeans, an ancient North Arabian tribe, were not slow to recognise the area's potential either, collecting bitumen from the surface of the water and selling it to the Egyptians, for whom it was a vital ingredient in the process of embalming. This particular Dead Sea industry continued well into Roman times. The area was also a favoured retreat for religious ascetics and political fugitives, and figures such as the future King David, King Herod, John the Baptist and Jesus are all thought to have taken refuge along its shoreline. Nevertheless, from classical times up until the US Navy's visit little more than a century and a half ago, the Dead Sea region was by and large shunned.

But perhaps this was just as well, for ever since our attention has turned to this inland sea, and we have begun to grasp the extent of its healing properties and the sheer abundance of mineral wealth it bequeaths, as is our wont as humans when it comes to our treatment of all the gifts Mother Earth bestows perhaps, we have been none too kind to the region, and indeed, some would say, have treated it with outright and careless disdain.

Though supplemented by several smaller rivers and streams, the Dead Sea is fed in the main by the Jordan River. The inflow, of course, having nowhere to go, were it not for the intense heat of the sun, which produces a high rate of evaporation, the sea itself would rise in perpetuum, swallowing up large swathes of the surrounding coastline. But, as it is, the evaporation rate keeps the volume of water in the sea fairly constant and also gives it its uniquely saline character. Water which flows into the sea is not dissimilar in terms of mineral concentration to any waterflow, but the intense evaporation results in the concentration levels of minerals within the lake-water itself climbing sharply, which explains why the Dead Sea, with salt levels of around 30%, is ten times more saline than the ocean. Here, in the case of the Dead Sea, as in so many instances, nature is in perfect balance, the water cycle ensuring the status quo is maintained, and that enough water is fed into the Dead Sea to maintain its water level, while enough escapes so as to preserve the coastline. Or at least that was the case – until man interfered.

Today, however, the future of the Dead Sea is in jeopardy. Together, Jordan, Syria and Israel divert more than 1.3 billion cubic metres of water from the Jordan River annually to satisfy their needs for domestic consumption purposes, as well as for irrigation and other water-guzzling activities, and, while it is true that the people must eat and drink – so no one denies the importance of water used for consumption and crops – what is also becoming more and more apparent is that the Dead Sea is being starved of liquid replenishment, and, as it starves, it is slowly but surely disappearing.

In the last 30 years, the sea's surface area has shrunk by almost one-third, and its depth has fallen by 25 metres. The receding shoreline is also exposing rock and soil high in brine deposits to rainwater and freshwater runoff, and these brine deposits are gradually being dissolved, causing a phenomenon whereby thousands of sinkholes are appearing along the western shore. In what has been termed The Dead Sea's Revenge, a number of these openings have resulted in fatalities, and the main road linking Ein Gedi – one of Israel's most attractive oases, known for its spas offering packages of mud treatments and Dead Sea bathing – with the rest of the country is now dangerously close to some of the sinkhole openings, which suggests its days of car-ferrying may be numbered.

Perhaps, The Devil's Sea would have done well to have kept its inglorious reputation, for, having rediscovered this natural wonder in recent years, mankind now, sadly, seems hell-bent on destroying it.

31. **What do we learn in the first two paragraphs?**
- A. Throughout modern history right up into present times, people have always been slow to appreciate how exceptional an area the Dead Sea is.
 - B. The Dead Sea is home to virulent strains of bacteria and fungi that are extremely hostile to all other forms of life.
 - C. The first time in modern history a sustained interest in the Dead Sea was shown was when the U.S. Navy began to exploit the area.
 - D. The Dead Sea is only home to a few diminutive life forms and was largely spared any significant human interference until the early part of the twentieth century.
32. **Which of the following was NOT a factor which contributed to the Dead Sea being ignored for a significant part of modern history?**
- A. the generally-held belief that the absence of living creatures in the area was a sign that it should be steered clear of
 - B. the various unflattering titles by which the sea has been known
 - C. the features of the rocky landscape which made travel difficult
 - D. the infrequency with which temperatures in the region reached the mid-to-high 30s or above
33. **In classical history, the Dead Sea**
- A. was a site of great religious and political significance.
 - B. was occupied by a naval force for more than a century and a half.
 - C. provided a place of refuge for devoutly religious people and fleeing political figures.
 - D. was a favoured holiday retreat for both political and religious figures alike.
34. **The intensity of the sun's heat**
- A. serves to stabilise the level of the Dead Sea and give it its salty character.
 - B. produces a high rate of evaporation in the rivers that feed the Dead Sea.
 - C. causes the Dead Sea to expand and swallow up huge areas of coastline.
 - D. keeps the volume of water in the Dead Sea fairly constant and the mineral concentration similar to that of most other waterflows.
35. **What does the writer say about the activities of Israel, Jordan and Syria?**
- A. He accuses them of pumping over a billion cubic metres of water out of the lake every year.
 - B. He questions their right to divert water away from the Dead Sea to use for consumption and crop irrigation.
 - C. They are diverting huge quantities of water from the sea's main water supply source, which is having a marked effect on the water level of the sea itself.
 - D. They are pumping water from the Dead Sea into the Jordan River for consumption and crop purposes, which is causing the sea itself to reduce in size.
36. **What does the writer imply in the second last paragraph?**
- A. The main road to Ein Gedi will not be in use much longer.
 - B. The surface area of the sea is likely to shrink and its depth fall dramatically over the coming 30 years.
 - C. Rainwater is the cause of the sinkhole phenomenon as it produces large deposits of brine.
 - D. Ein Gedi is perilously close to being destroyed by sink holes.

PART 6 Reading

Questions 37-43

You are going to read an extract from a newspaper article. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap (37-43). There is one extra paragraph you do not need to use. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Land on Fire

Sj Haughton takes us on a journey through a land of spectacular geology where the raw power of nature is evident most everywhere you look.

Iceland is, in many respects, a forgotten land as far as the tourist trade goes. Location wise, it can't make up its mind whether it wants to be near America or Europe, and ends up a fair distance away from both – just far enough, in fact, to put off many would-be travellers who balk at the idea of five hours or more spent on a budget flight from the UK, manoeuvring into all sorts of contorted positions in an effort to get comfortable, on the way to its capital, Reykjavik. In any case, most reason, there can't be altogether much of anything to do there, right?

37

But, be warned, do the latter and you will soon conclude that your money could well have been much better spent had you only had the patience to endure the slightly more cramped and ordinary surrounds of a budget carrier for what is, at the end of the day, but a few hours – the trip to Iceland is hardly long-haul now, is it?

38

Sure, the bright lights of the city are a tad invasive, but they do not spoil the horizon. There! Now you've spotted that rather peculiar-looking piece of land in the top right-hand corner of your view; a black expanse that seems to have no end. And how it rises up in the centre; a permanent white-powder gracing its craterous peak.

Welcome to the lava fields. Lava? Yes. Or didn't you know? Well, better get used to it; you're only on one of the most geologically temperamental land masses this planet of ours has ever dreamt up; ever changing, Iceland's terrain is truly unique; no other European country has such an abundance of geological features of this kind; you will soon find yourself exploring deep craters, lava fields reminiscent in their barrenness of JR Tolkien's doom-filled Mordor, land of the devil-creature Sauron, and cone-shaped mountains whose chimneys bellow smoke on a disturbingly regular basis – often enough to keep you on your toes and patently aware of the fact that things could kick off at any moment.

39

It is said that 60% of Icelanders believe in elves; well, it is not hard to see why – you half expect one to pop up in front of you any minute, emerging from the steamy horizon.

40

Iceland is no one-trick pony when it comes to natural features. What you saw in that first glance at the horizon was but one section of this patchwork quilt. The gods have sown on many more which you will soon discover. But put your hankering for adventure to one side a moment, and cast your gaze a little closer to where you are now standing; the capital is but a stone's throw away and is deserving of at least a little of your attention.

41

The first stop on your journey, then, is about 50 km away – roughly half an hour in your newly-acquired wagon. The historic midtown and harbour area is quaint and atmospheric. Park your car, and get out and walk; this is one of the few times you won't really need it. Visit the National Gallery and Culture House, and the National Museum, too, if you've time to fit all that in, but allow yourself just one afternoon to do so; you're not here for the museums or to admire the traditional architecture; these are only momentary distractions, albeit very nice ones. Museums we can find anywhere, but volcanoes and the like we cannot.

42

Bed down in the lodgings of your choice – there is something for every budget – for a cosy night's sleep, but pry yourself away from that soft down-feather pillow as early as your strength can muster your limbs into action once the sun is up; now the adventure begins.

43

But at least it's organised chaos, and the locals have everything well in hand, even managing to harness her fiery creations to serve their own purposes; almost 80% of the country's energy needs are sourced from the natural forces at work on the land itself.

To be continued in next week's travel supplement.

A

Well, that largely depends on one's perspective, as I discovered on a recent visit. And it turns out that, for the outdoorsy type of person, the Atlantic island offers a wealth of opportunities to explore. Sure, either you suck it up and endure the dreaded cost-cutter flight to get there, and disembark from the plane a little on the sore side but none really the worse for wear, or you pay top dollar for that semblance of travel chic you are looking for.

B

Heading inland, just north of the capital, you will come to Þingvellir National Park, a broad rift valley where the effects of opposing tectonic plates pulling away from each other are immediately visible and provide one with a real sense of the geological mayhem playing out underfoot. Here in Iceland, the Earth's crust is thinner than anywhere else; this land is brand-new in geological terms, and is still being shaped and remodelled by that most unpredictable of artists, Mother Nature herself, who seems intent on taking out her fury on the young land, and whipping it up into a firestorm of volcanic and geothermal bedlam.

C

But whether you emerge penny savvy or penniless, take a moment to pat yourself on the back; you'll have made a good choice of destination either way. And, in that same moment, if you are not pushed and hustled into returning to the grim reality of making your way towards customs prematurely by those eager beaver types disembarking behind you, pause and take in your surrounds. Already, it seems to me, you will be starting to grasp what lies in store on this gem of an island.

D

Or perhaps, on second thoughts, stay put for now. Tomorrow is, after all, another day. Though there is much still to do, you have factored this in - haven't you? You are, of course, here for at least another eight to ten days, right? I should certainly hope so, for we have yet but barely scratched the surface of this splendid isle.

E

But there are no foul creatures here - well, unless you have the misfortune to run into a lone roaming polar bear - rare visitors to Iceland, but probably best avoided. And nor is Iceland the grim cauldron of hate and fear that it superficially resembles; barren though the lava fields may be, their beauty is inescapable. The black rock, contrasted against the lying snow, is a sight to behold. And the deep holes in the ground venting sulphur - steamy chasms scattered about the countryside for miles around - combine with the snowy lava fields to create an almost mystical landscape.

F

End your sojourn with a delightful sea-food dinner at one of the city's excellent fish restaurants. This is an island after all, and they have been cooking lobster and all varieties of fruits de mer for a very, very long time; there may be no Michelin stars hanging over the doorway, but a good meal here is the equal of any served in the over-priced and pretentious haunts of Europe's great capitals; in fact, the celebrity chefs of Paris and London could even learn a thing or two from their Icelandic cousins, if they weren't so busy listening in self-congratulatory mode to the sounds of their own voices interminably playing on re-runs of cooking shows on cable T.V.

G

A nudge from behind ... back to the now with you, quickly; you can't dawdle too long. Having allowed yourself to get lost in the moment, you awaken from your daydream to realise that there are still steps to manoeuvre and still a plane to be disembarked; there is a holiday to begin. That you have been so enraptured by the sight of the lava fields from afar is a good sign because believe me, if you thought that was impressive, you are going to be truly wowed by what lies ahead.

H

So turn the key and start up the engine of your rental car - and if you haven't pre-booked one in advance of your arrival, then trust me, now is no time for thriftiness; fork out the extra few quid required to secure a decent motor; there is only one way to explore this island, and it is with pedal underfoot - unless you fancy embarking on a journey as epic as Scott's Antarctic quest (and good luck with that by the way...).

PART 7 Reading

Questions 44-53

You are going to read an article about some popular outdoor tourist destinations in Canada. For questions 44-53, choose from the destinations (A-E). Each destination may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

To which destination does each statement relate?

Although this area is rich in natural beauty, the majority of tourists only come to visit during three specific months of the year for an unrelated reason.

44

In this area, visitors only have the opportunity to play a particular sport during one season each year.

45

A spectacle which takes place in this region is only known to the few people who thoroughly research the area.

46

This area sees a huge influx of people at a particular time each year.

47

This area affords visitors an excellent opportunity to partake in a variety of water sports and activities.

48

This place is known to attract visitors who are on a romantic vacation.

49

This destination, or a large part thereof, straddles two separate countries.

50

51

This area offers a variety of terrain such that it is suitable for people of different levels of ability.

52

53

Confront your fears and face your challenges

Churchill A

Churchill, Manitoba, has much to offer in the way of sightseeing, and its natural surrounds are truly spectacular, but its beauty is nothing but a side-show; the polar bears are the main event in these parts, Churchill being the unofficial polar bear capital of the world. Every year, from October to early December, these giant carnivores gather at the mouth of the Churchill River in Hudson Bay and wait patiently until the sea freezes over to enable them to resume seal-hunting again. The town of Churchill has a mere 900 permanent residents, but, during peak bear-spotting season, the population swells to more than 10,000, as visitors from near and far come to see the estimated 1,200 of these cuddly-looking but decidedly lethal beasts that gather around the town each year. Sadly though, most of the visitors, once they have seen their share of bears and taken the obligatory been-there-done-it photo, head home without even pausing to scan the horizon for the other spectacular creature that can be seen in relative abundance here, the Beluga, whose sleek profile is frequently spotted breaking the surface of the water in the bay, offering up a perfect opportunity for whale-watching that only those who have really done their homework will ever get to take advantage of.

Banff B

Banff was designated Canada's first national park way back in 1885 in recognition of the fact that it is an area of truly outstanding natural beauty. Its jagged peaks set against the never-ending light-blue skyline exemplify what the wild and rugged, and remarkably vast range that is the Canadian Rockies is all about. Every year, the park attracts around four million visitors, lured there by the promise of postcard views and abundant wildlife. Banff is home to some 54 mammalian species, from the impressive but harmless moose and elk, to the more lethal cougar, black bear and grizzly bear. The park is also home to a thriving adventure sports industry, and offers first-rate hiking trails with sufficient variety of terrain so as to ensure that both the novice and experienced trekker are kept satisfied.

Niagara Falls C

A raging torrent whose fame is such that little if any introduction is necessary, there is a very good reason why Niagara Falls, or, be more precise, Canadian Falls, the horseshoe-shaped section of the gorge this side of the border, is visited by such large numbers of tourists every year, and that is the simple truth that the scene which greets you on arrival is one of the few genuinely awe-inspiring spectacles you are ever likely to have the privilege to behold. The falls have proved an irresistible temptation for many a daredevil over the years, too, with tightrope walker Nik Wallenda being the most recent case in point - his successful crossing in June 2012 was reported widely in the international media. But for those of us who aren't inclined towards acts of such reckless insanity, there is an alternative to the perilous rope-walk which offers an equally noteworthy view; the river-boat ride, which takes you just close enough beneath the gushing torrent to be momentarily deafened by its roar - and you get a free shower into the bargain! A honeymooner's as well as nature-lover's paradise, Niagara should form part of every visitor's itinerary.

The Laurentians D

Just north of Montreal, the distinctly Gallic feel of Mont-Tremblant, a European-style resort in the heart of the Laurentian Mountains, is typical of the villages of the region. The range itself is an all-season paradise which is at its best perhaps during late autumn when the forests explode into a symphony of colour. The area attracts nature- and adventure-lovers alike because, as well as the resplendence of its natural canvass, it can also boast some of the best ski terrain in North America (with slopes to cater for every level of enthusiast) and excellent golf - the main attraction of which is playing against this stunning backdrop no doubt, though the courses are not too shabby either - in the summer season.

The Great Lakes E

Known for their diversity and beauty, and for their disproportionately large contribution to the Earth's ecology, the five great lakes combined comprise the largest body of freshwater on the planet. Their volume is distributed more or less equally between the States and Canada, with the exception of Lake Michigan which is completely contained within the former country. Their combined surface area is larger than that of England, Scotland and Wales put together. All five lakes are interconnected with their primary outlet being the Saint Lawrence River, which flows through Quebec and eventually empties out into the North Atlantic. Bearing in mind the sheer size of these bodies of water, few visitors can afford themselves the time required to see all five, but a stop at any of the various national parks dotted along their shores is very worthwhile, and an excellent excuse to take in some water-based activities, too, with yachting, canoeing, scuba diving and much more to choose from.

Succeed in Cambridge Proficie

TEST 1

Reading

1.b 2.b 3.d 4.c 5.d 6.a 7.d 8.c
 9.up/according 10.so/especially 11.work/find 12.between 13.on 14.that
 15.in spite/regardless 16.the/all/these/its
 17.botanist 18.unbroken 19.varieties/-ty 20.outsiders
 21.director 22.prestigious 23.governmental 24.students
 25.had nothing to do with 26.is apt to be/appear 27.was taken aback by
 28.made every (possible) effort to 29.with the exception of the chicken
 30.had to be called off because/on account of 31.b 32.d 33.b 34.d
 35.c 36.d 37.h 38.c 39.g 40.b 41.f 42.a 43.e
 44.c 45.a 46.e 47.b 48.e 49.d 50.b 51.a 52.c 53.a

Listening

1.c 2.c 3.b 4.c 5.a 6.c 7.wrecks 8.host 9.journey north 10.internship
 11.in Ancient History 12.twenty-five years 13.treasure 14.knowledge
 15.offer/(new) proposal 16.c 17.c 18.d 19.d 20.a
 21.f 22.b 23.h 24.d 25.g 26.a 27.d 28.f 29.e 30.g

TEST 2

Reading

1.c 2.a 3.d 4.d 5.b 6.a 7.c 8.d 9.influence 10.due 11.doubt 12.known
 13.available 14.date 15.posed 16.moon 17.ridiculous 18.convenience
 19.technology 20.founder 21.unknown 22.practical 23.spectacular
 24.applications 25.is/'s no telling how he will 26.bears a close resemblance
 27.are not alone in failing 28.is no guarantee that 29.green with envy to
 30.is a great improvement on
 31.c 32.b 33.a 34.d 35.a 36.b 37.f 38.a 39.d 40.h 41.b 42.g 43.e
 44.c 45.d 46.e 47.d 48.b 49.d 50.d 51.a 52.c 53.a

Listening

1.c 2.b 3.b 4.c 5.a 6.a 7.100 billion 8.electrical pulses
 9.characteristics/functions 10.fingerprint 11.limit our abilities 12.right
 front 13.our emotions 14.muscles 15.attention to detail/discipline
 16.d 17.c 18.b 19.b 20.d
 21.f 22.g 23.e 24.h 25.c 26.c 27.d 28.e 29.a 30.g

TEST 3

Reading

1.a 2.d 3.d 4.b 5.c 6.c 7.b 8.c 9.into 10.doubt 11.many 12.had/played
 13.of 14.but 15.have 16.heavily 17.prediction 18.services 19.unload
 20.comparative 21.reduction 22.enables 23.undertake 24.fruition
 25.prides herself on being 26.a day goes by that/when I don't call
 27.had no intention of giving 28.need to pull your socks up 29.leaves me
 feeling 30.not averse to going
 31.a 32.d 33.a 34.c 35.a 36.d 37.f 38.b 39.c 40.e 41.g 42.a 43.h
 44.c 45.e 46.c 47.e 48.a 49.b 50.d 51.b 52.d 53.a

Listening

1.b 2.a 3.a 4.a 5.c 6.b 7.ocean liner 8.Interstate Highway 405
 9.(the) four-car tram 10.architecture buffs 11.fifteen years 12.school
 13.European painting 14.the desert and mountains 15.underground
 16.c 17.d 18.c 19.c 20.a
 21.d 22.b 23.f 24.h 25.e 26.a 27.g 28.b 29.e 30.d

TEST 4

Reading

1.c 2.c 3.c 4.b 5.b 6.a 7.a 8.b
 9.only 10.hold 11.up 12.far 13.storm 14.turned 15.long 16.wrong 17.en-
 durance 18.partake 19.entrants 20.agreeable 21.mindful 22.accus-
 tomed 23.improbability 24.visibility
 25.have any objection to my changing 26.matter whether it is after my
 bedtime 27.chances of qualifying are under threat due to 28.the matter
 was no longer open to 29.made his way to the dock 30.called into doubt
 the witness'/cast doubt on the witness'
 31.d 32.d 33.c 34.a 35.c 36.a
 37.a 38.c 39.e 40.g 41.h 42.f 43.b
 44.a 45.d 46.a 47.a 48.e 49.c 50.c/e 51.e/c 52.b/d 53.d/b

Listening

1.c 2.c 3.a 4.c 5.b 6.a
 7.gave birth to/spawned 8.Physiology and Medicine 9.information
 10.other researchers/scientists 11.foregone conclusion
 12.qualifications/complimentary/expertise/experience
 13.sugar groups 14.model building 15.breakthrough 16.c 17.b 18.c
 19.b 20.d 21.h 22.g 23.c 24.e 25.d 26.a 27.b 28.f 29.h 30.g