

MOCK ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

SESSION I / PART A:

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

A

Regulations:

1. **During this session of the exam, you are not permitted to have with you or use any electronic devices.** Electronic devices include but are not limited to cellular phones, pagers, cameras, recorders, MP3 players, radios, translators, stopwatches, watch alarms, personal data assistants (PDAs), and other electronic or photographic devices of any kind.
2. **You are not to refer to or use any testing aids.** Testing aids include but are not limited to books, pamphlets, notes, dictionaries, thesauri or potential aids of any kind.
3. **You are to abide by the rules and regulations orally announced by the proctor before the exam starts.**
4. **The rules and regulations in this section of the exam pertain to the *Reading Comprehension* section of the exam as well.**

Please write the following statement and sign your name where indicated:

“I agree to the conditions printed above by the test administrator. I understand that in the event of a reported violation of any of these regulations, my test score will be cancelled.”

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Instructions:

1. Do not open the test booklet until you are told to do so.
2. Write your name and put your signature on the lines provided above.
3. All marks on the answer sheet must be made in soft pencil.
4. As you listen, mark your answers in the question booklet. You will be given time to transfer your answers to the answer sheet which will be provided after you listen to the recording.
5. In the Booklet Serial No. section of your answer sheet, write the serial number which is in the box at the top of this page.
6. In the Booklet Code section of your answer sheet, mark the letter A in the following way:

BOOKLET CODE	●	B
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7. In the Test Type section of your answer sheet, mark the number 1 in the following way:

TEST TYPE	●	2
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8. This stage of the exam consists of 30 questions. (1 pt. each)



PART A: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

SECTION I: STATEMENTS

For items 1-8 in this section, you will hear a statement for each item and a question related to it. Before you listen to each statement and the related question, you will be given 15 seconds to look at the four alternative answers to the question. Each statement will be spoken **only once**. Please listen to each statement carefully and mark the alternative which best answers the question that follows.

Now, listen to the following example:

Sample item:

What do we learn about Sally's son?

- a) He majored in law.
- b) He took his mother's advice.
- c) He preferred to study medicine.
- d) He chose neither medicine nor law.

The correct answer is a because Sally's son studied law.

1. What has caused the problem?

- a) Fewer graduate programmes
- b) The poor quality of applicants
- c) Recent reports on business life
- d) The economic situation worldwide

2. What does the speaker mean?

- a) Tea may cause some people to develop cancer.
- b) There is no relationship between tea and cancer.
- c) People suffering from cancer should drink more tea.
- d) It is not yet known if tea has a role in preventing cancer.

3. Which problem does the speaker draw attention to?

- a) The frequency of plane crashes
- b) Child deaths caused by unclean water
- c) Widespread illnesses in poor countries
- d) The high number of child casualties in accidents

4. What is expected of art conservationists?

- a) To use surgical techniques
- b) To be precise in their work
- c) To follow a specific process
- d) To employ different techniques

5. What is true about pre-school music lessons?

- a) They clearly improve mathematical ability.
- b) They are as important as mathematics classes.
- c) They are especially effective for that age group.
- d) They are more challenging than computer lessons.

6. What can be said about sportsmen's performance?

- a) It depends on personal effort.
- b) It falls if they weigh too much.
- c) It improves with heavy practice.
- d) It is affected by negative factors.

7. What is the similarity between the Internet and Aladdin's lamp?

- a) They answer all questions.
- b) They are equally intelligent.
- c) They obey the user's commands.
- d) They educate as well as entertain children.

8. What is expected of managers?

- a) To treat people in a friendly manner
- b) To take care of the people who work for them
- c) To make use of their employees' strengths
- d) To bring together the best workers for the best results



SECTION II: DIALOGUES

For items 9-14 in this section, you will hear a dialogue for each item and a question related to it. Before you listen to each dialogue and the related question, you will be given 15 seconds to look at the four alternative answers to the question. Each dialogue will be spoken **only once**. Please listen to each dialogue carefully and mark the alternative which best answers the question that follows.

Now, listen to the following example:

Sample item:

When can the student study?

- a) Every morning
- b) In the afternoons and at weekends
- c) When she is in class
- d) On weekdays

The correct answer is b because the student has classes till noon every day and she is free at weekends.

9. What does the man criticise his wife for?

- a) Letting their child watch TV
- b) Choosing the wrong programmes
- c) Being unable to entertain their child
- d) Spending too much time watching TV

10. What has Ann just learned about the Globe Theatre?

- a) The building was twenty-sided.
- b) It was referred to as the 'Wooden O'.
- c) It was built at the time of Queen Elizabeth I.
- d) Shakespeare's play *Henry V* was performed there.

11. According to the man, what can lessen the effects of jet lag?

- a) Having a good night's sleep
- b) Having drinks with caffeine
- c) Eating sweets during the flight
- d) Going for a brief walk after landing

12. Which one is true about Jim's flat-mate?

- a) He is very quiet.
- b) He comes home late.
- c) He is a bit too noisy.
- d) He doesn't leave Jim alone.

13. Where did the men stay in Dubai?

- a) In a tent
- b) In a cheap hotel downtown
- c) In a hostel
- d) In the Burj-al-Arab

14. Which idea has changed the man's mind?

- a) Visiting the City Hall
- b) Doing something different
- c) Learning about modern art
- d) Going to a gallery with a friend



SECTION III: MINI TALKS

For items 15-20 in this section, you will hear a mini talk for each item. However, the last sentence of each mini talk is incomplete. Before you listen to each one, you will be given 15 seconds to look at the four alternatives which may complete the last sentence. Each mini talk will be spoken **only once**. Please listen to each one carefully. After you hear the BEEP sound, mark the alternative which best completes the sentence.

Now, listen to the following example:

Sample item:

- a) call for a more balanced diet.
- b) exercise different parts of the body.
- c) appeal to different people.
- d) require different kinds of nutrition.

The correct answer is b because it gives the reason why one should do different kinds of sport.

- 15.** a) study harder.
b) enjoy your life fully.
c) have a balanced diet.
d) get the most out of your brain.
- 16.** a) real artists will appreciate them.
b) they will become artists themselves.
c) a piece of art will mean more to them.
d) they can be an example for onlookers.
- 17.** a) enjoy great biodiversity.
b) receive no protection at all.
c) haven't been fully explored.
d) are home to thousands of species.
- 18.** a) lose his sight.
b) use antibiotics.
c) reject treatment.
d) ignore his poor vision.
- 19.** a) a sophisticated product.
b) something that deserves punishment.
c) the outcome of an expected behaviour.
d) a kind of work which needs correcting.
- 20.** a) use more oil.
b) enjoy modern life.
c) find alternative energies.
d) preserve the environment.



SECTION IV: INTERVIEW

For items 21-25, you will listen to an interview with Michael White, a National Champion and Olympic Games competitor in figure skating. You will hear the interview **only once**. As you listen, mark the alternative which best answers each question or completes each statement. Now, you have one minute to look at the questions and the alternatives.

- 21. In his early years, Michael wrongly believed that to become a better skater one needed to _____.**
- a) get a coach's attention
 - b) be motivated by others
 - c) be different from others
 - d) skate with the best skaters
- 22. For Michael, what is the way to succeed?**
- a) Trying to beat his rivals
 - b) Keeping the position he has
 - c) Joining World Championships
 - d) Reading a lot about his profession
- 23. How does Michael's wife contribute to his success?**
- a) She gives him encouragement.
 - b) She reminds him of his weaknesses.
 - c) She acts as his partner during practice.
 - d) She teaches him how to do his moves.
- 24. Those who start skating later in life _____.**
- a) should not force their limits
 - b) are discouraged from coaching others
 - c) may become skating judges in the future
 - d) are allowed to compete in the normal system
- 25. Michael gets over difficulties by _____.**
- a) setting a fixed goal
 - b) building self-confidence
 - c) exercising every single day
 - d) warming up before a competition

You have 15 seconds to check your answers.

SECTION V: LECTURE

For items 26-30, you will hear a lecture on 'the history of the clock'. You will hear the lecture **only once**. As you listen to the lecture, mark the alternative which best answers each question or completes each statement. Now, you have one minute to look at the questions and the alternatives.

26. What was an obelisk's most important feature as a 'clock'?

- a) It had hour lines at the base.
- b) It showed the length of days.
- c) It cast a long shadow on the ground.
- d) It brought the concept of a two-part day.

27. What made a water clock impractical to use?

- a) It could not be used at night.
- b) It let the water flow out too fast.
- c) It was affected by temperature changes.
- d) It was too heavy as it was made of stone.

28. In order to have an accurate sand clock, _____.

- a) fine sand should be used
- b) the neck should be narrow
- c) some moisture should be let in it
- d) the glass should be of good quality

29. The disadvantage of a pendulum clock was that _____.

- a) it was not accurate
- b) its pendulum needed to be reset to function
- c) its wheel failed to run properly
- d) it could not work on batteries

30. Quartz clocks are still popular because of their _____.

- a) price
- b) design
- c) material
- d) precision

You have 15 seconds to check your answers.

This is the end of Part A, the Listening Section. Now, your proctor will hand out your answer sheets. You will have 10 minutes to transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.



**MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

NAME: _____

STUDENT ID NUMBER: _____

EXAM PLACE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

MOCK ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

SESSION II LANGUAGE USE 1 CLOZE TEST

DO NOT WRITE ANYTHING HERE

TOTAL GRADE: _____ / 10

RATER 1: _____

Signature:

RATER 2: _____

Signature:

PART C / SECTION I: CLOZE TEST (10 pts. / 0.5 pt. each)

In the following texts, ONE WORD is missing in each space. Find the word which is missing and write it in the box provided. (Words like can't, isn't count as ONE WORD.)

TEXT 1 (5 pts. / 0.5 pt. each)

According to research, happy people have four basic characteristics. First of all, they have self-esteem. A healthy self-esteem should (1) positive and realistic. People occasionally do feel inferior, especially when comparing themselves with those (2) have higher status, better looks, or income. The deeper and more frequently they have such feelings, the more unhappy they (3). Therefore, it is preferable to have modest, realistic ideals. Second, happy people are optimistic. That is, they see the glass of life as half-full (4) than half-empty. Optimists are also healthier and (5) likely to enjoy greater success because they view setbacks as chances for a new approach, not as signs of their incompetence. Third, they are extroverted, that is, outgoing. Extroverts are simply more cheerful and high-spirited. They like themselves, so they are confident that others will like them (6). Such attitudes also tend to lead extroverts to experience more positive events. Compared to introverts, extroverts more easily get married, find good jobs, and (7) new friends. They experience more affection and enjoy greater social support. Finally, happy people feel in control of their lives and believe (8) choose their destinies. Such attitudes toward life can noticeably improve their health and morale as well. They also manage their time effectively. In other (9), their time is filled and planned; they are punctual and efficient. Establishing pre-set deadlines and then meeting them can bring about the delicious, confident feeling of personal control (10) eventually leads to happiness.



TEXT 2 (5 pts. / 0.5 pt. each)

Money is one of the most powerful factors that control our lives today. It is first and foremost a medium of exchange, but (11) invented it? Actually, no one — it simply developed. As human societies became increasingly more complex, it became inconvenient for humans to exchange one commodity or service for (12). In (13) to make exchanges easier, the most marketable goods acquired the function of money. In the cultures (14) we are familiar with, money took the form of precise weights of such metals (15) gold and silver. In this sense, money acquired both a social and an economic convenience. It (16) complicated economic exchanges easier. Money also became an important social institution. A complex society simply could not function without some kind of common medium of exchange. Moreover, money allowed people to specialize in their jobs and thus increased their efficiency in ways that benefitted both themselves and others. People (17) longer had to produce everything they needed in the way of food, clothes, and housing. They could now concentrate on (18) they did best, and exchanged goods or service for money. As people specialized in this way, their productivity increased. As (19) as its use as a medium of exchange, money acquired several secondary functions. For (20), when a farmer went to buy a new truck or tractor, he didn't have to think in terms of the number of cattle he would have to exchange. He could think solely in terms of the monetary cost. Obviously, it became easier and more efficient to handle such transactions with money.

NAME: _____

STUDENT ID NUMBER: _____

EXAM PLACE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

MOCK ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

June, 2012

SESSION II

LANGUAGE USE 2

DIALOGUE COMPLETION & RESPONSE TO A SITUATION

DO NOT WRITE ANYTHING HERE

TOTAL GRADE: _____ / 10

RATER 1: _____

Signature:

RATER 2: _____

Signature:



PART C / SECTION II: DIALOGUE COMPLETION (5 pts. / 1 pt. each)

In questions 1 – 5, complete each dialogue with ONE statement or question. Write your answer in the box provided.

Hakan : I'm supposed to prepare a power point presentation, but I have never done that before.

Yoko : ____**(1)**____

Hakan : Oh, yes please. I'd really appreciate your help.

(1)

Clerk : Next please. How can I help you?

Dina : I'd like to open a bank account. ____**(2)**____

Clerk : Only a copy of your ID card.

Dina : I only have my student ID card with me. Is it OK?

Clerk : Sure. And please fill in this form while I'm photocopying your ID card.

(2)

Doctor : Hello, Cenk. ____**(3)**____

Cenk : I'm not sure. I was in the middle of a pop-quiz when I suddenly felt dizzy and nauseous.
I thought I was going to faint. My teacher insisted that I see a doctor.

Doctor : Has this happened before?

Cenk : Hmm, yes. As a matter of fact, I almost always feel terrible during an exam.

(3)

Teacher : So, light travels faster than anything else. ____**(4)**____

Tony : Yes, 186,000 per second.

Teacher: : That's right. Can you imagine what an amazing speed it is?

(4)

Teacher : ____**(5)**____

Pablo : But sir, I know nothing about tsunamis. How can I write an essay on their causes?

Teacher : Had you attended classes regularly, you would know their causes and effects. We studied them in detail just two days ago.

(5)



PART C / SECTION III: RESPONSE TO A SITUATION (5 pts. / 1 pt. each)

In questions 6 – 10, respond to the situation provided in ONE statement or question. Write your response in the box provided on the answer sheet. (5 pts. / 1 pt. each)

You are throwing a party for your graduation next Saturday and you want to **invite** a friend. **You say:**

___6___

(6)

Your friend is supposed to pick you up from the station and you know that he is waiting for you now, but you have missed the train and you will be one hour late. So you call your friend to **apologize** and explain the situation. **You say:** ___7___

(7)

Your friend wants to borrow some money as he has spent all the money his parents sent. You **reject his request** and explain why. **You say:** ___8___

(8)

Your teacher is speaking so fast that you cannot take notes properly. You **make a request** explaining the situation. **You say:** ___9___

(9)

Your friend has difficulty reading small print. She seems to have problems with her eyesight so you give her a piece of **advice**. **You say:** ___10___

(10)

SECTION I: CLOZE TEST (0.5 pt. each; 10 pts.)

1. both	11. who
2. who / that	12. another
3. become / are / get / feel	13. order
4. rather	14. which / that
5. more	15. as
6. too	16. made
7. make	17. no
8. they	18. what
9. words	19. well
10. which	20. example / instance

PART C / SECTION II: DIALOGUE COMPLETION (5 pts. / 1 pt. each)

(1 pt. each: 0.5 pt. for the function/meaning; 0.5 pt. for linguistic accuracy)

Suggested Answers

1. Would you like some help? / Can I give you a hand? / Do you need a hand? / May I offer my assistance? / Would you like me to help you? / (Do) you need help? / Can I help you? / Could I help you?
2. What documents are required? / What are the necessary documents? / What documents am I supposed to submit? / What documents do you need? / What is required? / What do you need? / What do I have to give you? / What do I need for this?
3. What is the problem? / What seems to be the problem? / What is wrong? / What's the matter (with you)?
4. Do you know how fast light travels? / Does anyone (of you) know how fast light travels? / Does anyone know the speed of light? / Do you know the speed of light? / Does anyone know how fast it goes?
5. Your assignment is to write an essay on the causes of tsunamis. / I'd like you an essay on the causes of tsunamis. / I want you to write an essay on the causes of tsunamis. / Write an essay on the causes of tsunamis.

PART C / SECTION III: RESPONSE TO A SITUATION (5 pts. / 1 pt. each)

(1 pt. each: 0.5 pt. for the function/meaning; 0.5 pt. for linguistic accuracy)

Suggested Answers

6. Would you like to come to my graduation party next Saturday? / I'm throwing a party for my graduation next Saturday and I'd really like you to come. / Please come to my graduation party next Saturday. / Will you come to my graduation party next Saturday? / I hope you can come and celebrate my graduation with me next Saturday.
7. I am really sorry (to keep you waiting), (but I will be one hour late because) I have missed the train. / I do apologize for making you wait so long, but I've missed the train. / Listen, I've missed the train and I'll be an hour late, I'm really sorry.
8. I'm afraid can't lend you any money because I'm broke. / I'm sorry I can't lend you any money because I have to pay my tuition fee (and it seems I will barely make it till the end of the month.) / Sorry, but I am broke. / I regret I cannot give you a loan right now since I have only enough money for my own expenses.
9. Miss / Sir, could you speak (a bit) more slowly, please (I cannot take notes properly) (I cannot follow you). / Could you please slow down?



10. You should see a doctor / You should see an optician. / If I were you, I'd have my eyes checked. / You ought to wear glasses. / You ought to have your eyes checked. / Why don't you see an optician?

MOCK ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

SESSION I

Answer Key

PART A Listening Comprehension (1 point each; 30 points)	PART B Reading Comprehension (1 point each; 30 points)
1. D	31. D
2. D	32. B
3. B	33. C
4. B	34. D
5. A	35. A
6. D	36. A
7. C	37. B
8. C	38. B
9. A	39. A
10. B	40. B
11. D	41. A
12. A	42. B
13. C	43. C
14. B	44. B
15. D	45. C
16. C	46. C
17. B	47. D
18. A	48. B
19. A	49. A
20. C	50. D
21. B	51. D
22. A	52. C
23. A	53. B
24. C	54. B
25. A	55. C
26. D	56. B
27. C	57. B
28. A	58. D
29. B	59. D
30. D	60. C

STUDENT ID NUMBER: _____

EXAM PLACE: _____

MOCK ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

SESSION II

LISTENING & NOTE-TAKING SHEET

Regulations:

5. **During this session of the exam, you are not permitted to have with you or use any electronic devices.** Electronic devices include but are not limited to cellular phones, pagers, cameras, recorders, MP3 players, radios, translators, stopwatches, watch alarms, personal data assistants (PDAs), and other electronic or photographic devices of any kind.
6. **You are not to refer to or use any testing aids.** Testing aids include but are not limited to books, pamphlets, notes, dictionaries, thesauri or potential aids of any kind.
7. **You are to abide by the rules and regulations orally announced by the proctor before the exam starts.**
8. **The rules and regulations in this section of the exam pertain to the *Writing & Language Use* sections of the exam as well.**

Please write the following statement and sign your name where indicated:

“I agree to the conditions printed above by the test administrator. I understand that in the event of a reported violation of any of these regulations, my test score will be cancelled.”

Name: _____ Signature: _____



SESSION II / PART A: LISTENING AND NOTE-TAKING

In this section, you will hear a talk on the positive effects of piracy on the music industry. As you listen to the talk, take notes on the speaker's views on this issue. You will answer a question in 3-4 sentences using your notes. You will hear the talk only ONCE. Your notes will not be graded.

You may also use your notes in fulfilling the related writing task.

NAME: _____

STUDENT ID NUMBER: _____

EXAM PLACE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

MOCK ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

June, 2012

SESSION II

NOTE-TAKING & WRITING

DO NOT WRITE ANYTHING HERE

NOTE-TAKING GRADE: _____ / 5

WRITING GRADE: _____ / 15

RATER 1: _____

RATER 2: _____

Signature: Signature:



SESSION II / PART A: LISTENING AND NOTE-TAKING

Answer the following question by referring to your notes. (5 pts.)

What positive effects may piracy have on musicians and/or the music industry? Explain two of them in 3-4 sentences.

Should pirated products be used or not?

- ✓ Make sure that you write a well-organized paragraph; that all your ideas are relevant to the topic; and that you stay within the word limit of 180-220, or else you will lose points.
- ✓ Your paragraph will be graded according to **content**, **organization**, and **accuracy of language**.

[illegible]

Now, count the number of words in your paragraph. Number of words: _____

Name: _____

MOCK ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

SESSION I / PART B: READING COMPREHENSION

A

SESSION I
PART B
READING COMPREHENSION
(1 pt. each; 30 pts.)

SECTION I: PARAGRAPH COMPLETION

Questions 31-33

On your answer sheet, mark the alternative which best completes each paragraph.

31. The fox is a member of the dog family, but unlike a dog it does not depend on its sense of smell when hunting. _____. When it detects the sound of a mouse, its main prey, the fox jumps up high. When it lands, it grabs the prey with its front paws, biting it at the same time. If it misses, it jumps again, time after time, until it catches the mouse.
- a) The main food source of the fox is wild mice
 - b) It may become as aggressive as a dog when irritated
 - c) Its hunting method is not much different from that of a dog
 - d) Its ears are remarkably good at locating the food source
32. _____. Archaeologists have uncovered rubbish heaps from very early settlements that contain animal bones. From later periods, there are lists, written on papyrus, about the foods given to soldiers and workmen. Inscriptions in temples record the foods offered to the gods. Finally, tombs contain the real thing: from baskets of grain and loaves of bread to jars of wine and beer, all intended to sustain the dead in the afterlife.
- a) Ancient Egyptians developed tools for hunting and preparing food
 - b) There is a wealth of information about the foods people ate in ancient Egypt
 - c) Most ancient Egyptians were vegetarian, but kings had a plentiful supply of beef
 - d) By the time of the first pharaoh, Egyptians were raising animals like cows and sheep
33. The linear motor train (linimo) has no wheels. Electromagnets levitate the train 6 mm above the guideway and move it forward. _____. However, operating costs can be kept down because it is unmanned and completely automatic. Moreover, there is almost no wear-and-tear because the train does not touch the guideway.
- a) The train can reach a speed of 150 km per hour
 - b) A three-car linimo train is designed to carry up to 370 passengers
 - c) A linimo train is a little more expensive to build than a conventional one
 - d) The system could one day be a good candidate to replace railway trains

SECTION II: SENTENCE COMPLETION

Questions 34-37

On your answer sheet, mark the alternative which best completes each sentence or thought.

34. Not all forms of alternative medicine are considered an effective remedy. For example, whereas the Chinese method of acupuncture is known to provide relief for chronic pain, _____.
- a) modern medicine treats the body as if it were a machine which is made up of many separate parts
 - b) some researchers are testing other forms of alternative medicine for the possible treatment of cancer
 - c) the use of biofeedback has been successful in treating headaches, muscle pain and even drug addiction
 - d) there is little proof that the practice of reflexology, which uses foot massage for healing, works
35. While playing a computer game, one must evaluate the whole state of the game every second, and make quick and accurate decisions. That is why _____.
- a) computer games improve one's ability to take in a lot of data and immediately figure out the best move forward
 - b) some computer games contain a theory of how the world works and players find this information complicated
 - c) one's social intelligence does not get a lot of enhancement from computer game experiences
 - d) especially young players have the ability to understand the rules of computer games in a short time
36. The ideal engine, an engine made entirely of ceramic parts, is not yet a reality, but _____.
- a) some engines already have components made from shock-resistant fine ceramics
 - b) ceramic parts increase combustion efficiency in engines, thereby reducing fuel consumption
 - c) ceramic parts are more costly to produce and add to the overall cost of engines
 - d) car manufacturers have widely adopted aluminium in the production of engines
37. People do not remember much from a TV documentary beyond how good it was. In fact, _____.
- a) we all find that some TV programmes are not easily forgettable
 - b) only those who already know something about the subject retain the information
 - c) all viewers, including children, know the difference between TV and real life
 - d) we are well informed by TV about other cultures or about the origins of life on Earth

SECTION III: SUPPORTING IDEAS

Questions 38-40

In the following items, three of the alternatives support the main statement or idea and one does not. Mark the alternative that DOES NOT support the given topic statement.

38. Industry officials often neglect the psychological and mental state of factory workers.

- a) Factories are built without any concern for the nature of the human beings who will run the machines.
- b) Employees who work in hazardous or stressful jobs are given longer breaks.
- c) No consideration is paid to the effects produced on the individuals by frequent shift changes.
- d) Modern industry is mostly concerned with maximum production at the lowest cost.

39. There are precautions you can take to avoid the damage gardening can do to your back and joints.

- a) Wear a long-sleeved shirt to cover your back and arms.
- b) Before you start digging, do a five-minute warm-up exercise.
- c) Reduce the risk of strain by avoiding bending as much as possible.
- d) Use long-handled tools to limit excessive stretching of your muscles.

40. How pagodas, the traditional five-storey buildings in Japan, resist earthquakes is no longer a secret.

- a) Pagodas are made of wood, whose flexibility makes possible the absorption of seismic stresses.
- b) The earthquake-resistant structural features in some tall buildings today were, in fact, originally taken from the pagoda.
- c) The way the layers of pagodas are fastened together helps prevent the seismic energy from traveling upwards.
- d) A thick central pillar running from bottom to top secures the pagoda vertically during an earthquake.

SECTION IV: TEXT COMPREHENSION

Questions 41-60

On your answer sheet, mark the alternative which best answers the question or completes the statement about the text.

(1) With more people spending more recreational time in the water, the number of shark attacks has risen steadily, with 78 attacks and 11 deaths this year alone. Whenever a shark-caused human fatality occurs, it makes headline news. But the real story is not the rare threat that sharks pose to us, it is the profound harm we are doing to them. Decades of commercial fishing have devastated shark populations in every quarter of the globe. Before too much longer, we may reduce many shark species' once-teeming numbers to a remnant few.

(2) According to the World Conservation Union, a scientific and governmental consortium that keeps tabs on endangered plants and animals, nearly two dozen shark species have been driven to the brink of extinction. "They are in such distress," says biologist George Burgess, "that even if all fishing and killing stopped right now, we're still talking about a recovery that would take decades." And if those species don't bounce back? There will be "serious and unforeseen consequences," he says. He warns that the loss of one of the ocean's top predators could throw the entire marine ecosystem out of whack.

Adapted from: *Smithsonian*, August 2005

41. What is the main idea of the first paragraph?

- a) There is a dramatic drop in the number of sharks.
- b) Shark attacks often have fatal results for individuals.
- c) It is commercial fishing that balances shark populations.
- d) Shark attacks will continue to increase in this decade.

42. According to biologist George Burgess, attempts to increase shark populations will _____.

- a) result in even more shark attacks on humans
- b) fail to yield the desired result in the short term
- c) have serious consequences on the ecosystem
- d) lead to the loss of some other top predators

(1) Living things—including you and me—and diamonds are made of the same substance: the element carbon. The carbon atoms in our bodies are bound to other atoms, such as hydrogen and oxygen, to form organic molecules. However, those in a diamond are bound to other carbon atoms to form an extremely hard, nearly colourless, three-dimensional pure crystalline structure. Another form of pure carbon, like diamond, is graphite. The two-dimensional way in which carbon atoms in graphite are bound to one another gives graphite its sheet form rather than the three-dimensional crystal one. Hence, graphite is soft and slippery—carbon sheets slipping on top of each other—, black in colour, and breakable, while diamonds are the hardest natural material on Earth.

(2) Scientists estimate that the transformation of carbon into diamonds began about three and a half billion years ago, with the combination of extremely high temperatures and pressures, about 200 km deep inside the Earth. “They have to be deeper than 150 km, otherwise the carbon will not crystallize into diamonds”, says Jack Robey, a research geologist for the diamond manufacturer De Beers. At the same temperatures, graphite only needs a third or a quarter of that pressure to form. As a result, graphite does not require extreme depths to form and is easily mined. So, how do we extract diamonds? Do we dig mines 150 km deep? Fortunately, we don't have to. Carbon deposits far below ground that have been slowly heated and pressured for ages get embedded in crumbly, black volcanic rock called kimberlite. These deposits move closer to the Earth's surface as the tension from a forming volcano forces the soft rock up through the Earth's face. In other words, diamonds get carried up to the surface of the Earth by volcanic eruptions while still embedded in kimberlite. These volcanic eruptions travel upwards at speeds anywhere between 20 to 200 km/hr. If they travelled much slower, diamonds would be converted to graphite on the way up. We would never have known about diamonds, and engagements would have had a whole different feel to them....a slippery and black one.

Adapted from: www.sciencelQ.com

43. Which is a shared feature of diamond and graphite?

- a) Their colour
- b) Their texture
- c) Their atomic content
- d) The way carbon atoms bind

44. The reason why graphite is easier to mine than diamonds is that it _____.

- a) is not a hard element
- b) forms much closer to the Earth's surface
- c) can be extracted using only a small pressure
- d) has a colour which makes it easily noticeable

45. We wouldn't be able to extract diamonds if _____.

- a) the kimberlite hadn't heated them
- b) it took them longer to get crystallized
- c) volcanic eruptions didn't carry them upwards rapidly
- d) we didn't have the means to dig 150 km deep inside the Earth

(1) “If you want one year of prosperity, grow grain. If you want ten years of prosperity, grow trees. If you want 100 years of prosperity, grow people.” This old Chinese proverb sums up how the entry of China’s massive labour force into the global economy may prove to be the biggest change for 50, and perhaps even for 100, years. China, along with the other rising giants, India, Brazil and the former Soviet Union, has doubled the global labour force, hugely boosting the world’s productivity and, in this way, its future prosperity. China’s growth rate is not exceptional compared with currently rising economies in Asia, but China is having a more dramatic effect on the world economy not only because it has a huge, cheap workforce, but also its economy is unusually open to trade.

(2) However, China’s growing influence on the rest of the world stretches much deeper than its cheap workforce and its exports of cheap goods. It is revolutionizing the prices of labour, capital, goods, and assets in a way that has never happened before. In fact, China’s pervasive impact on the world economy explains various surprising situations that are currently observed in economy.

(3) Let us take, for instance, the price of oil. Since the beginning of last year, oil prices have doubled, yet in contrast to previous oil shocks, inflation rates remain low and global growth healthy. The answer to this riddle is China. In the past, oil prices increased as a result of interruptions in supply. Today, however, they are largely driven by a strong demand from China, so they are less likely to hurt global growth. In addition, the impact of higher oil prices on inflation has been counterbalanced by falling prices of all sorts of goods from cameras and computers to microwaves and bicycles – thanks to China.

(4) Over the coming years, developed countries’ inflation, wages, profits, oil and even house prices could increasingly be “Made in China”. How should the world’s policymakers respond to China’s growing economic influence? Trying to stop China’s growth through protectionist measures, as many American congressmen would like to do, would be a disaster, for it would close off a powerful source of future global prosperity. A better way to deal with China’s growing power would be to give the country a bigger share in global economic stability. China should be a full member of international economic policy forums, such as the G7 and the OECD. Western policymakers would be wise to remember another Chinese proverb: “What you cannot avoid, welcome.”

Adapted from: *The Economist*, July 2005

46. What makes China remarkable compared with other rising economies?

- a) It has a much higher growth rate.
- b) It has a highly qualified workforce.
- c) Its economy is more open to commerce.
- d) It rose before the other giants in the world.

47. What has been unusual about oil prices is that they have _____.

- a) remained unaffected by the shortage in oil supply
- b) got balanced by low-cost products
- c) become stable owing to China's strong demand for oil
- d) increased without any negative effect on inflation

48. What is meant by the first sentence of paragraph 4?

- a) Developed countries will have all their goods made in China.
- b) China will set the economic trends for the developed countries.
- c) Developed countries will be more willing to do business with China.
- d) China's economic growth will be a good model for developed countries.

49. In the writer's opinion, policymakers should deal with China by _____.

- a) involving it in the process of making global economic decisions
- b) promising it a bigger share provided it does not threaten stability
- c) inviting it to economic forums and persuading it to change its policies
- d) taking some protectionist measures to decrease its influence

(1) Energy efficiency is the idea of using improved technologies to get more energy out of coal, uranium or wind, and persuading consumers to use energy less extravagantly. Today, the idea is at the heart of the UK government's plans to cut carbon emissions and thus fight global warming.

(2) Economists, however, are not convinced that millions of people and companies cutting their energy consumption will have a positive impact at the national level. Why? It is because the world works in peculiar ways. A company that saves on energy, for example, will not necessarily bank the money. It is likely to expand and increase its energy use. Householders' actions also have unexpected results. Because microwave ovens are more efficient than traditional ovens, you might expect the increased use of microwaves to slash national energy bills. Not so. Microwave ovens have fuelled the growth of prepared meals and frozen foods, both highly energy-intensive industries.

(3) The government seems to have no single definition of energy efficiency or how it should be measured. The new pricing schemes seem to push consumers to use more energy rather than save it. Energy efficiency standards for new buildings are not enforced. Efficiency ratings on household goods, such as fridges, are below those in the US and Far East, making the country a dumping ground for inefficient models. Research into energy is also a shambles; in 2005, investment in energy research fell to just 5 per cent of its 1974 level. The UK even seems to be resisting European moves to fit smart meters in homes, which have helped people make informed decisions about energy use.

(4) The UK government has become a global champion in uttering the need to cut carbon emissions, but it seems that it is time the UK put its own house in order.

Adapted from: *New Scientist*, July 2005

50. According to economists, The UK government's 'energy efficiency' policy will _____.

- a) benefit the banking sector
- b) affect companies negatively
- c) help decrease energy consumption
- d) fail to have much effect

11 A

51. The writer has given the microwave oven example to _____.
- a) encourage people to use energy-efficient microwave ovens
 - b) emphasize the technological progress that has been made so far
 - c) reveal that household goods have a big share in energy bills
 - d) show that energy-efficient goods may still lead to increased energy use
52. As part of its 'energy efficiency' policy, the UK government has _____.
- a) enforced new standards for buildings
 - b) decided to allocate more funds to energy research
 - c) introduced different pricing schemes to consumers
 - d) increased efficiency ratings on household goods
53. "shambles" (par.3) probably means _____.
- a) motive
 - b) failure
 - c) alternative
 - d) drawback
54. We learn from the passage that smart meters _____.
- a) were not welcome in Europe
 - b) are not yet so popular in the UK
 - c) have long been in use in the US and Far East
 - d) form the basis of the 'energy efficiency' policy in the UK

(1) Belgium likes to think of itself as the home of the finest chocolates in the world. If that is true, then Brussels must count as the centre of the chocolate world. It has the most internationally renowned Belgian chocolate chains like Neuhaus and Godiva. Since the beginning of this year, the new headquarters of Marcolini, unquestionably the trendiest chocolate-maker in Belgium, has also been added to the list. The designers of the new Marcolini store have evidently been taking tips from fashion stores nearby. The shop has textured black walls, glossy white stone floors, and staff in collarless black shirts who look more like models than sales clerks. As for the chocolates, they are artistically displayed in glass cases. Moreover, anyone bold enough to approach the counter in order to buy something gets close to a flowing fountain of melted chocolate.

(2) Belgium takes chocolate very seriously indeed. For a small country with a rather unattractive image, having the title of the world's greatest chocolate-maker is an important step to fame. The Belgians excel at chocolate for the same reasons that the Germans are good at making cars or the Italians at cashmere sweaters: they have a tradition of expertise that is enthusiastically nurtured and passed down from generation to generation. What's more, as neighbours of the French, Belgians are in fact strongly influenced by its renowned cuisine. However, if it hadn't been for the colonies they had in the right places—namely, in the cocoa bean producing regions of Africa, which still account for 70 per cent of world production—they wouldn't be the world's greatest chocolate-makers today.

(3) But can the Belgians really justify their claim of making the best chocolate in the world? Some doubt it. The Swiss would certainly dispute the title, and the French would argue passionately against it. Recently, to try to settle the argument, a small, semi-scientific test was organized: a blind-tasting of chocolate bars from around the world. Blind tastings, in which people are asked to rate a series of unlabelled samples, are most often carried out to rate wine. Yet the same idea can easily, and enjoyably, be translated to the world of chocolate.

(4) In the interests of a fair contest, all the chocolates selected for the test were truffles—a creation which generally has a shell of hard chocolate, and a soft filling of chocolate mixed with cream; the whole item is then often lightly covered with cocoa dust, and some variants add alcohol or nuts to the filling. The tasting took place in London at a cocktail party. All seven tasters set gamely about their task, with the truffles served in random order. Every guest was asked to give each a mark out of ten, which were then added up and tallied. Belgian pride was justified as Marcolini came out on top. Narrowly behind came the French and Swiss firms, leaving the English in last place. A couple of days later, to ensure that this experiment had not been influenced by the alcohol consumed in any way, another tasting was held in Brussels. This time the tasters were seven different people who were entirely sober. Satisfyingly, the result was exactly the same as in London.

(5) So, what is it that sets aside a superb truffle from a merely excellent one? Artisanship and invention do matter, but so does the purity of the ingredients—even more than the former. The very top chocolates contain a high level of pure cocoa beans and contain no preservatives that ensure long life. By contrast, the English truffles contain long-life milk and vegetable fat. Eaten on their own, they are still delicious. But put beside the creations of a Marcolini, they pale, quite literally, by comparison.

Adapted from: *The Economist*, June 2005

55. The new Marcolini store in Brussels _____.

- a) hires only black models
- b) is the most expensive of the chain
- c) has an impressive interior
- d) has added new kinds of chocolate to its list

56. Belgium's fame as the world's greatest chocolate-maker is mainly due to _____.

- a) the influence of their French neighbours
- b) the historical bonds with their African colonies
- c) their traditional way of living for generations
- d) the expert knowledge they shared with the Germans

57. "the same idea" (par.3) refers to the idea of _____.

- a) rating wine
- b) blind tastings
- c) unlabelling chocolate samples
- d) asking people to carry out a test

58. The chocolate blind-tasting was limited to truffles so that _____.

- a) the soft filling could be different
- b) alcohol could be added if wanted
- c) they could be served in random order
- d) all samples would be fairly rated

59. Why was blind-tasting repeated?

- a) The seven tasters in London were not real professionals.
- b) Participants in the second one had a stronger sense of taste.
- c) Consumption of many truffles at a time might have made the task difficult.
- d) The alcohol taken during the cocktail party might have affected the tasters' choice.

60. What makes Belgian truffles the best is that their _____.

- a) design is artistic
- b) colour is appealing
- c) ingredients are pure
- d) proportion of milk and fat is high

Marking Scheme

Part A: Note-Taking (5 pts.)

- The students are expected to mention two of the following points.
- Accept any answer to the same effect as the reasons given below.

Positive effects of piracy on musicians and the music industry:

- Music piracy creates devout music fans (especially among teens). / It creates a love of music... (which in the long run results in an increase in album sales)
- Music downloading is great for lesser known artists to get known. / Music piracy allows people to experiment with unknown artists.
- Music piracy helps songs to survive. / Music piracy enables people to have access to “dead” songs.

LISTENING COMPREHENSION & TASK FULFILMENT		ABILITY TO EXPRESS ONESELF IN WRITING	
2 – 2.5	full comprehension of the spoken text total fulfilment of the task	2.5	variety in sentence structure and proper word choice almost full accuracy in sentence structure
1 – 1.5	partial comprehension of the spoken text partial fulfilment of the task	1.5 – 2	some variety in sentence structure and range of vocabulary occasional errors in sentence structure which do not interfere with meaning
0.5	very limited comprehension of the spoken text limited fulfilment of the task	1	mostly improper choice of words or word forms numerous errors in sentence structure and/or usage
0	no comprehension of the spoken text no fulfilment of the task	0 – 0.5	language level so low that it is difficult to derive meaning
NO CREDIT FOR ABILITY TO EXPRESS ONESELF IN WRITING IF THERE IS NO COMPREHENSION			

IMPORTANT: If the answer deserves no credit for content, do not give any credit for language.