Unidad Educativa LEMAS
privilegiando los valores

TRYOUTS: READING

PROVIDED BY

Education First

UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
ESOL Examinations

Experts in Education
Promoting Innovation in
Language Learning and Assessment

Test of English efekta10

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Section 3: Reading Comprehension

Time: 20 minutes

Where can you see these notices?

61 **A** in a bookstore **B** in a library **C** in an airport

62 **A** at a school **B** in an office **C** at the theatre

Read the text about the London marathon.

Up close and personal with...a marathon runner

30,000 RUNNERS ON THE STREETS OF LONDON!

"This was my day. I, James White, was going to run the London marathon! Everyone was excited, waiting for the signal to start–and then we were off! The crowds were really big. People shouted at their friends to give them encouragement. There was music playing. TV and radio reporters were there.

After 12 miles we got to Tower Bridge. I was beginning to get tired and this wasn't even half way. But then I heard voices in the crowd shout, 'There he is, our boy.' My parents had seen me. I stopped to talk to them for a few minutes and then I started running again. I felt much better knowing that someone was watching out for me in particular.

I knew I had to be careful about getting tired and losing all my energy so I had liquid strawberry and banana (350 calories a shot). Children standing at the barriers offered chocolate and drinks but it was impossible to take them. I was getting so hungry, I felt sick. Then I saw a man with a cheeseburger. That was awful.

At last the finish was in sight. I could see Buckingham Palace. Then suddenly I saw lots of my friends waving, cheering and shouting my name. This gave me the last bit of energy I needed to finish. I'd made it! Other runners who had finished had dry salt on their faces from sweat, some were crying and others just had the widest smile imaginable on their faces. Complete strangers congratulated us, touched our backs and smiled. I loved the world and the world loved me."

63 What helped James when he started feeling tired?

- **A** hearing the shouts from the crowd
- **B** knowing his family had come to watch him
- **C** being part of the excitement of the marathon

64 James kept up his energy by

- **A** drinking fruit juice.
- **B** eating chocolate.
- **C** having a cheeseburger.

65 How did James feel at the end of the marathon?

- **A** He never wanted to do it again.
- **B** He was really proud of himself.
- **C** He had made a lot of new friends.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Read the text about choosing a holiday. First read the questions:

66 Why is choosing a vacation from a brochure time-consuming?

- **A** You often have to wait for brochures to arrive from travel agents.
- **B** Important information is located in different places in the brochure.
- **C** The photographs often give a false impression of the hotel.
- **D** The travel agent often has to be contacted to find out the prices.

67 Consumers often book their vacation over the phone rather than on the Internet because they

- **A** need to check separate components of their vacation first.
- **B** are not allowed to use the Internet at work for personal use.
- **C** want to book earlier than Internet booking allows.
- **D** are worried about computer fraud.

68 Travel agents prefer consumers not to use the Internet because they

- **A** have access to destinations not generally available to the public.
- **B** believe they can find the best deal for the consumer.
- **C** do not want people to be able to compare vacations and prices.
- **D** can offer a more individually tailored vacation.

69 What is the main disadvantage of vacation brochures on the Internet?

- **A.** Keeping them up-to-date is time-consuming.
- **B** They offer nothing which is not available in the 'paper' brochure.
- **C** The computer links are not always available.
- **D** They do not offer holidays at a range of prices

70 Which type of consumer will probably still use a travel agent to book a vacation?

- **A** The cost-conscious traveller
- **B** The inexperienced traveller
- **C** The short-of-time traveller
- **D** The well-off traveller

Have Internet, will travel

This used to be the time of year when we would collect a handful of glossy brochures from the travel agency to plan and book the annual summer vacation. The brochures, with their tiny photographs of hotels and villas, gave few clues to important questions such as how far it was to the beach, while the painstaking process of finding a vacation destination involved tiresome cross-referencing to the pricelists and small print.

But now, armed with only a credit card and an Internet connection, we can all be our own travel agents. Increasing numbers of people are purchasing transportation and accommodation components separately and putting together their own packages, a trend that has been driven by the Internet.

One thing hasn't changed, however. When it comes to securing the summer vacation of your choice, it pays to start looking and booking early in the year. Start today, at home, or, as is more likely, in the office – where the majority of people conduct their initial travel research, let's say during their lunch hour. Most will book from home, often via the telephone, because of a reluctance to divulge their credit card details online.

According to a recent survey, the Internet makes it easier to shop around for the best deals on each component of a vacation package. However, shopping around is something conventional travel agents would like to prevent. Of course, there are great deals to be had at the travel agent's but as more and more reservations systems are moved onto the Internet, most products will be available to most people.

Meanwhile, many of the big tour operators sell package tours over the Internet through what amounts to an online brochure. Unlike the paper version, these brochures are, in theory, updated regularly and can provide layers of information and links. Not all do, however, because providing information on this scale takes a lot of work. Sites such as www.goahead-vacations.com work efficiently and are ideal for consumers whose prime consideration is price.

Consumers increasingly expect to find late and cheap vacation deals on the Internet. But securing a low price usually involves a compromise. The consumer should be flexible about travel dates, which are usually linked to 7- and 14-day charter flight fares, and should not expect to stray too far from mass market destinations. One of the trends we are clearly experiencing is that the higher the cost of the vacation, the higher the likelihood that the non-virtual travel agent will be involved.

End of test.

LIVEWORKSHEETS