KYS Department of English

Quarter II Examination

Student's name:..... Teacher's name: .....

Sex: Male ○ Female ○ Date: ...../...../.....

Class:...../Grade:.....G6.....EF..... 40 Time allowance: 60mn

Reading

The transatlantic question

Charles Lindbergh's 33-hour flight from New York to Paris in 1927 made aviation history. Less known is the return flight to New York by two Frenchmen three years later. Taking just over three hours longer, Costes and Bellonte made an equally exciting journey from Paris to New York in their plane, the *Question Mark*. The first question they faced, Captain Costes remembered in an article at the time, was "Would the plane lift off the ground?" 'That was our greatest ***concern***. We had 5,200 litres of gasoline ***on board***.'

This fear passed quickly but was followed by other ***hazards***. They ***ran into*** three storms. The third, and worst of all, was over Nova Scotia, in Canada. 'In order to avoid it we had to fly 100 miles ***out of our way***. Time was passing and every minute meant the loss of more of our ***precious*** fuel.'

They had another problem: 'The sky was ***overcast***, it was raining and we had to fly below those rain clouds. Sometimes they were extremely low which meant they had to fly as close to the water as ten metres.

'There were many exciting moments during our trip, but I think the greatest ***thrill*** came when we first saw the coast of North America,' said Costes. He decided that three was their lucky number. They had survived three storms – and at 3 a.m. French time, they saw land. But their adventures weren't over.

Suddenly, a mountain appeared out of the mist. 'We were between the steep banks of a river. It was a tight place. Bellonte was at the controls at that time and he had to think fast. Fortunately, having flown thousands of miles, the plane was light.' Bellonte managed to turn the plane just in time. But Costes said, 'It is not pleasant to think how close we came to those cruel, ***jagged*** rocks.'

Fortunately, they succeeded where many others before them had failed, and the ***graceful*** landing at the airport in New York was greeted by 10,000 cheering people. Among them was Colonel Charles Lindbergh who said 'I congratulate you!' as he shook the hands of the two heroes.

I. Read the article and circle the correct answer A, B, or C.

1. Costes and Bellonte flew to New York from Paris in _____.

   A/ 1933 **B/** 1930 **C/** 1927

2. Their flight to New York took _____.

   A/ just over 35 hours **B/** just over 33 hours **C/** just over 36 hours

3. They were very worried because the plane was carrying a lot of _____.

   A/ people **B/** luggage **C/** fuel

4. The _____ of the three storms was the worst they experienced.

   A/ first **B/** second **C/** third

5. Costes and Bellonte _____ the storm in Nova Scotia.

   A/ flew around **B/** flew through **C/** flew over

6. They _____ flew above the clouds when it rained.

   A/ always **B/** sometimes **C/** never

7. They saw the American coast when it was _____ in France.

   A/ midnight **B/** mid-afternoon **C/** early morning

8. Costes thought that they were going to _____.

   A/ fly into a storm **B/** crash into a mountain **C/** fly into the river

9. _____ five thousand people were waiting for them at the airport.

   A/ Fewer than **B/** More than **C/** About

10. Colonel Lindbergh congratulated them _____.

    A/ in a letter **B/** at the airport **C/** on the phone

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II. Match five of the underline words and phrases with the definitions.

11. _____on the plane
12. _____dangers
13. _____experienced (difficulties)
14. _____important
15. _____rough with pointed edges

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Face recognition

We now upload over four billion photos a month onto *Facebook*, and anyone who uses the site is familiar with the idea of face recognition software, which can tell you who is (or might be) in your photo.

Face recognition is being used in many different areas, especially to help the police identify criminals. Computers are not able to read faces like humans can, but they can be trained to compare a face with a photo that is stored in a database. They do this by noting certain features, or, for example, measuring the distance between the eyes. A 'smart' surveillance system – cameras which record our movements in public spaces – has now been developed by a Japanese company which can look through 36 million faces in one second to find a matching one. Many people say they feel safer if there are cameras to protect them in public places, but others are not comfortable with the fact that so many images of us are stored in a database.

The technology is not yet perfect (people who have had plastic surgery can especially confuse the system!), but it is now often preferred to other forms of conventional identification. This is partly because it can be used without us knowing. Face recognition is being improved all the time. Other new technology has been designed which can predict how a face might look as it gets older or which can fill in missing parts of an image. It can even identify someone from video taken in very low light.

In the future, face recognition might also inspire many more good business ideas. There is already an app for smartphones to tell how many people are at a club, and the ratio of men to women. Sony has also designed a camera that waits for you to smile before it takes a picture.

Finally, facial recognition doesn't just recognize humans now – tests have been carried out which show that individual chimpanzees can be recognized, a development that could be used to protect wildlife in the future.

III. Read the article and circle the correct answer A, B, or C.

16. Every month people upload _____ photos onto *Facebook*.

A/ more than four billion **B/** 36 million **C/**fewer than four billion

17. It is now possible for computers to _____.

A/ recognize faces like people can **B/** record the differences between two images

C/ measure the distance between two people

18. It takes _____ one second to search 36 million images.

A/ a computer **B/** a surveillance system **C/** the police

19. A lot of people don't mind cameras in public places because _____.

A/ they feel safer **B/** they aren't criminals **C/** they like being filmed

20. Face recognition technology _____.

A/ is likely to make mistakes **B/** is 100 per cent accurate

C/ occasionally makes mistakes

21. One of the new kinds of technology can _____.

A/ complete missing parts of a photo **B/** improve how we look

C/ make us look younger

22. A smartphone app can _____ in a club.

A/ identify people **B/** tell how much people spend

C/ tell the number of people

23. The camera developed by Sony waits for people to _____.

A/ look natural **B/** smile **C/** stand still

24. Facial recognition _____ animals in the future.

A/ will definitely help **B/** may be able to help **C/** is unlikely to help

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We met thanks to sport

Marjorie

Many years ago I used to play tennis with a man called Roger. He usually beat me but I remember how kind he was. We lost touch when I got married and I thought I'd never see him again. That was 30 years ago. When I retired last year, I needed a new activity, especially as I had also recently got divorced, so I took up golf. One day I was going around the course alone, when I saw a man, also playing on his own. When he turned round, I realized it was my old friend! We couldn't believe it! After that we started playing regularly. Yesterday, Roger proposed in the middle of the golf course – he'd put a ring inside a golf ball! I couldn't believe it when I saw the ring, but I said 'yes'!

Paul

I was looking for a flatmate a few months ago because I had just split up with my partner and she had moved out. To forget her, I started working out at the gym after work. I slowly got to know Steve who was often there at the same time, although we didn't become friends until we were both warming up one day, and he said he was looking for somewhere to live as his girlfriend had just dumped him. I told him that I had a room in my flat and that I was looking for a flatmate. He moved in two days later. We've become good mates and we both agree that we're much easier to live with than our ex-girlfriends!

Liz

I had recently moved to Oxford from Bristol when I decided to run the London Marathon. I didn't want to train alone so I advertised for a running partner at my local gym, and Harriet got in touch. We met for

coffee and got on really well. It was amazing how many things we had in common, for example she had recently moved to Oxford, too. While we were getting fit we also became close friends. Unfortunately I got injured three weeks before the race and couldn't take part. I was sad about the race, but am delighted about my new friendship. And we're already thinking about next year ...

IV. Read the text and write true, false, or doesn't say

25. _____Marjorie stayed in touch with Roger after she got married.
26. _____Marjorie and Roger have got engaged.
27. _____Paul doesn't really get on with Steve.
28. _____Liz wanted someone to train with.
29. _____Harriet and Liz didn't like each other when they first met.
30. _____Harriet still ran the race after Liz hurt her leg.

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V. Write M for Marjorie, P for Paul or L for Liz.

31. _____The person I met had also recently moved to the city.
32. _____I started a new sport after I got divorced.
33. _____I usually go to the gym in the evenings.
34. _____I got injured while I was running.
35. _____I share a flat with one person.

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$300m search for WMD draws a blank

The man in charge of a $300m search for Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction said last week that no hidden weapons had been found. The only potential weapon found was a single vial containing a biological poison that is often used in cosmetic surgery. According to a progress report by the Iraq Survey Group (ISG) Saddam had not tried to revive his nuclear weapons plan since 1998. David Kay, the leader of the ISG said Saddam had also abandoned any large-scale chemical weapons programme more than 10 years ago.

The only exception in the ISG report was a vial containing a botulinum toxin. The bottle was found hidden in the home of an Iraqi scientist, among a batch of other biological samples. It was known that the Iraqi regime experimented with botulinum as a weapon. However, the botulinum found in the vial was not very strong, and could have been used to vaccinate farm animals. In the form of Botox, it could also have been used in cosmetic surgery to get rid of wrinkles.

"We don't know if this scientist
was going to get rid of Saddam's wrinkles or kill people," said Joseph Cirincione, a weapons expert.

Later even this doubtful evidence of potential WMD material was undermined, when it was learnt that the vial had been sitting in the Iraqi scientist's refrigerator at home for 10 years. Many parts of the report contrast with the UK government's dossier on Iraq's banned weapons programme published last September. The dossier claimed that Iraq had chemical and biological weapons ready to use". The ISG found no evidence of that.

But the British Foreign Secretary, Jack Straw, said that the report justified the war, arguing that it contained "incontrovertible evidence" that Saddam was breaking UN resolutions. His remarks echoed those of Tony Blair, who stressed before the report was published that the ISG had only been actively searching for weapons for three months. In the USA, the clear absence of evidence of WMDs in the report disappointed Democrats and Republicans alike. However, the US Congress was divided on whether to approve $600m to continue the ISG's search.

Jay Rockefeller, the leading Democrat on the Senate
intelligence committee, said: "We are now asking for another six to nine months. This makes me believe that we need to think seriously about our policies on Iraq. We also need to think seriously about how it was that the intelligence that was available to us allowed us to decide to go to war. Donald Rumsfeld, the US Defence Secretary, said It will be unfortunate if the intelligence used to justify the war in Iraq turns out to be wrong.

Julian Borger, Ewen MacAskill and Richard Norton-Taylor
The Guardian Weekly

VI. Choose the best answer.

36. How many weapons of mass destruction did the ISG find?
    A/ none **B/** a lot **C/** just one vial of botulinum
37. When did Saddam Hussein abandon his chemical weapons programme?
    A/ in 1998 **B/** 10 years ago **C/** last year
38. What can botox be used for?
    A/ vaccinating animals **B/** cosmetic surgery **C/** treating illness
39. Why did Jack Straw say that the report justified the war?
    A/ because it provided evidence that Saddam was breaking UN resolutions
    B/ because the ISG found a vial of botulinum
    C/ because it was similar to the UK governments dossier
40. Why are US congressmen divided?
    A/ because the report was unclear
    B/ because some want to continue the search and others do not
    C/ because the search will cost another $600m

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