

Practice Test 1

Reading and Use of English

1 hour 15 minutes

PART 1

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

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Example:

0 A falls

B puts

C goes

D breaks

0	A	B	<u>C</u>	D
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THE IDEAL JOB INTERVIEW

When you are being interviewed, 80 per cent of your mental effort (0) into thinking about what to say and about 20 per cent into how to say it. However, the interviewer measures you the (1) way round. According to one expert, you need to (2) your role before the interview.

(3) of confidence at an interview puts employers off, so sit on a chair in front of a mirror before the interview and take a critical look at yourself. Make sure you sit up (4) and do everything in a (5) way. If you think you may look (6) , you will feel tense. Get someone to listen to your voice. If you are nervous, you are (7) to talk in a dull tone. But if you talk faster than you normally do, what comes out might not make sense. A good interviewer will (8) open-ended questions, so try and give answers which are clear and precise.

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1 | A next | B other | C wrong | D best |
| 2 | A train | B practise | C try | D repeat |
| 3 | A Lack | B Scarcity | C Failure | D Absence |
| 4 | A direct | B regular | C neat | D straight |
| 5 | A loose | B simple | C relaxed | D gentle |
| 6 | A unnatural | B irregular | C false | D artificial |
| 7 | A possibly | B really | C likely | D probably |
| 8 | A say | B give | C ask | D reply |

PART 2

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

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

Example:

0	T	H	E														
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Northern lights

Aurora borealis – the northern lights – is one of (0) world's most magical firework displays. These displays of light are most intense around the North Pole, so in (9) to experience them fully on a dark winter's night, you should ideally be in the Arctic Circle. (10) the displays occur all year round, the number varies in any one year, depending (11) the sunspot cycle.

You need to be far from the glow of the city on a cloudless night to see the northern lights properly, and people (12) have witnessed them say they are unforgettable. At (13) brightest, it's possible to read a book in the middle of the countryside as the whole area is lit up. Great sheets of light move across the sky in constantly changing patterns, just (14) huge colourful curtains. (15) fact, you don't really have to go to the Arctic Circle to get a good view of the lights. According (16) many people, it's possible to see the effect on dark nights from the far north of Scotland.

PART 3

For questions **17 – 24**, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some 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	I	N	V	E	N	T	O	R									
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ERNO RUBIK

Erno Rubik is the **(0)** of the well-known Rubik's Cube, which sold over 100 million in its first ten years. He is one of the **(17)** men in Hungary and says that his most important tools are his **(18)** and his brain. He enjoys geometry and the problems of construction. He says that he has many **(19)** , who bring their dreams to him and want him to turn them into **(20)** , but it's his own dreams that really excite him.

Before he invented his famous Cube, he was a **(21)** in interior design. Now he runs his own organisation from an office in Budapest, but is rarely seen in public. He is usually **(22)** to go on television or make guest **(23)** anywhere, although one year he did agree to attend an **(24)** stunning exhibition of Hungarian design in London.

INVENT
WEALTHY
IMAGINE

VISIT
REAL

LECTURE

WILL
APPEAR
EXCEPT

PART 4

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 two and five words, including the word given. Here is an example **(0)**.

Example:

- 0** The suitcase is not light enough for me to carry.

TOO

The suitcase for me to carry.

The gap can be filled by the words 'is too heavy', so you write:

Example: **0** **IS TOO HEAVY**

Write **only** the missing words **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

- 25** Despite the heat Sam kept his jacket on.

OF

In Sam did not take his jacket off.

- 26** Swimming in the river is forbidden.

ALLOWED

You in the river.

- 27** I'm really sorry I didn't see you when you were in Paris.

REGRET

I you when you were in Paris.

- 28 The apples were too sour to eat.

SWEET

The apples were to eat.

- 29 Why did she change her plans?

REASON

What her change of plans?

- 30 I am not very interested in sport.

INTEREST

Sport me.

PART 5

You are going to read an article about a musician. 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**.

Good vibrations

line 2

There is nothing to suggest that Evelyn Glennie is profoundly deaf. She insists that her deafness is irrelevant to her musicianship, but there is no doubt that her obvious handicap has turned a remarkable career into a miraculous one.

She was eight when her hearing began to fail; by twelve she had lost it completely and feared she would have to give up the music she loved. But a doctor's suggestion that she should become an accountant rather than follow a hopeless musical career strengthened her will to succeed.

She grew up on a farm in Scotland. From an early age her great love was the piano, and after enjoying the audience applause at a prize-winning performance she decided on a career as a soloist. By then, however, her love of the piano had been overtaken by her passion for playing percussion instruments like the drums, an almost impossible task for a deaf person. 'You need to be very sensitive because you are dealing with literally thousands of instruments,' she says. 'Anyone can strike something and get a sound but you have to learn to control it and that can take a lifetime's work.'

As it turned out, music was one of the most suitable careers she could have chosen and this is nothing to do with how well-known she has become. It is one reason why her speech remains so extraordinarily correct, despite her deafness. 'You can relate a lot of what you feel through the instruments onto your own voice box, so you know how to pitch, how to adjust your voice,' she says.

Occasionally she listens to recordings by holding a CD player between her knees, interpreting the vibrations and the shaking movements. Her deafness is one of the reasons for her unique style, for she can't listen to and be influenced by other performances or audiences' reactions. She has often declared that getting her hearing back would be the worst thing that could happen to her. 'It would be like giving sight to a blind person who had fitted their life to what they saw through their hands. Quite apart from that, I am so critical of what I do anyway that I wouldn't want to be comparing myself to others.'

As a result of her devotion to her music and her determination to succeed, she has doubled the range of works available for percussion music in Europe and introduced instruments previously unheard of in the west. She has also asked composers to write more than fifty new pieces of music for these instruments, and has set up a library of three hundred works for other musicians to use.

31 What do you think the phrase 'obvious handicap' (line 2) means in this context?

- A a potential emotional disadvantage
- B a remarkable physical achievement
- C a clear musical advantage
- D an apparent physical disability

32 Why did Glennie want to be a solo performer?

- A Not many people played the drums.
- B It was easier if you were deaf.
- C She liked praise and attention.
- D She knew she was a good pianist.

33 Why was music such a good choice of career?

- A It enables her to speak well.
- B It has made her voice softer.
- C It helps with her deafness.
- D It has made her famous.

34 Glennie thinks that being deaf is an advantage because it means

- A her audience is sympathetic.
- B her interpretation is her own.
- C her style is better than others.
- D her performance is influential.

35 Why does Glennie dislike the idea of comparison with others?

- A She is too critical of other people.
- B She criticises herself already.
- C She is afraid of harsh criticism.
- D She thinks her critics are unfair.

36 What would be the most suitable title for this extract?

- A How to be a successful musician
- B The disadvantages of deafness
- C Developing one's musical skills
- D Overcoming an enormous challenge

PART 6

You are going to read a newspaper article about students who take a year off after leaving university, before looking for a job. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A – G** the one which fits each gap (37 – 42). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Just the ticket

Travel requires time, money and a desire to see beyond the supermarket on the edge of town. Despite financial limits, students have always been great travellers, as the vacations offer opportunities for long-distance travel, expeditions or just doing very little on a faraway beach.

37 They are now regarded by industry and commerce as an exercise in independence and learning how to rely on oneself. Ten years ago, employers looked on gap years with suspicion but now they have a more positive attitude towards them. As a result of this change, many travel agencies, including Campus Travel, have seen a huge increase in demand for round-the-world tickets in the last few years.

There are basically three ways of spending a gap year. **38** Most of these trips are short enough to be fitted into the summer vacation, but some can last up to six months. Unfortunately, many of the organisations only offer such projects for 18- and 19-year-olds, although a few encourage adults of all ages to apply. **39** The cost of these trips can be fairly high, but people usually pay for some if not all of it through raising money from supporters.

The second way is the long holiday in which students travel the world or a large part of it, perhaps working occasionally to add to spending money and pay for a new pair of trainers.

40

Overall, however, it seems risky to expect to find work once you are abroad and it is much better to arrange it beforehand. Student travel specialists such as Campus Travel arrange special student conditions with airlines that allow customers to change their ticket date and route. **41**

The final type of gap year involves choosing a part of the world in order to study or work in a particular area. **42** In this way people can develop skills and experience at an early age, which can lead to a permanent position in a company after a few years when they return to their own country.