

Practice Test 2

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 such B as C well D like

0	A	B	C	D
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HOLIDAYS

In the UK, holidays began (0) religious festival days or 'holy days'. The idea of a holiday as a 'no-work' day seems to have first (1) around 150 years ago. In 1871 the Bank Holidays Act established (2) days when, by law, banks closed. Bank holidays soon became public holidays, but by tradition, not law.

In fact, working people (3) took holidays. For many people, paid holidays remained a (4) until the second half of the twentieth century. Instead, people enjoyed outings to (5) places on the one day a week when they didn't work.

The (6) of the railways made it possible for working people and their families to go further afield on their day trips. As (7) as such outings became possible more people travelled to the seaside. Seaside towns started to boom. Funfairs opened and boat trips were (8) by local fishermen. Many of the towns that benefited from these day trippers were at the end of railway lines.

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|---|------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| 1 | A appeared | B established | C created | D arrived |
| 2 | A absolute | B certain | C odd | D possible |
| 3 | A rarely | B quite | C gradually | D ever |
| 4 | A prize | B comfort | C reward | D luxury |
| 5 | A close | B away | C nearby | D next |
| 6 | A quantity | B growth | C increase | D size |
| 7 | A far | B soon | C early | D good |
| 8 | A done | B offered | C performed | D raised |

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	H	A	V	E													
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Supermarkets

There **(0)** been many changes to shopping in the past 100 years, but the introduction of supermarket shopping is surely **(9)** most significant of all the changes to shopping. It is less than 70 years since the first self-service store opened **(10)** doors in South London. For most of us nowadays the supermarket plays an important part in our daily lives. **(11)** fact, some people's support of a particular supermarket chain can be **(12)** strong as their support of their favourite football club!

Layout and image are of vital importance to any supermarket. Fruit, vegetables and flowers are usually displayed immediately inside the entrance of the store, **(13)** the fact that the majority of goods sold by a supermarket are frozen or tinned. **(14)** layout suggests an image of freshness and healthy eating. We are led from tempting displays to the basics – tea, bread, sugar – **(15)** are frequently placed well apart and at the back of the store. You could say the layout encourages us **(16)** buy overpriced products in attractive packaging.

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	D	R	A	M	A	T	I	C									
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JEAN-PIERRE BASSIN

Jean-Pierre Bassin is an 'action cameraman' who films **(0)** events like snowboarding or paragliding. His speciality is using a video camera while skiing at high speed. His most recent **(17)** was filming athletes at high altitudes. 'Everything is **(18)** at this height,' he says. 'You take your **(19)** out of the case and you're out of breath already. I'm **(20)** fit and I managed to take some shots running alongside the athletes, but it was very hard. I had **(21)** every morning and at first I didn't realise that these were due to the altitude. I also suffered from **(22)** nights, which meant I was always tired.'

Jean-Pierre is relaxed about how **(23)** he has become and has few plans for the future. 'I'm not really interested in fame and my lifestyle is of greater **(24)** than what's in my bank account.'

DRAMA**ASSIGN****EXHAUST****EQUIP****REASON****HEAD****SLEEP****SUCCESS****IMPORTANT**

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** Strong winds meant the ship couldn't leave.

PREVENTED

The ship strong winds.

- 26** Lia had not seen such beautiful flowers before

MOST

They were had ever seen.

- 27** I have finally decided to emigrate.

MIND

I have finally emigrate.

- 28 Can you tell me the time?

WHAT

Do is?

- 29 Andreas doesn't like people to interrupt him when he's speaking.

OBJECTS

Andreas him when he's speaking.

- 30 I packed warm clothes for the trip as I thought the weather might get cold.

CASE

I packed warm clothes for the trip cold.

PART 5

You are going to read an article by a musician called Robert Patton who plays the violin in an orchestra. 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**.

When I'm not playing the violin

Robert Patton always seems to be performing, but there's more to his life than his violin.

For the last twenty years I've been playing violin for a large US orchestra and for most of the year we go on tour not only within the USA but in Europe, South America and the Far East. Being a touring musician is a bit like being a sailor. It's a constant ebb and flow, a continuous routine of settling into new hotels and meeting new people all the time. So my ideal holiday is enjoying being alone with my wife.

line 9

My earliest memory of a holiday was when I was five. My dad had just bought a new car, and we drove from San Francisco, exploring the most beautiful parts of California, its food and its art markets. It was a wonderful experience. I vividly remember the beautiful Yosemite Valley, a place of waterfalls and haunting mountains, a wilderness before mankind polluted it with cars and noise.

As a child I collected photographs of those huge railway engines that pulled hundreds of goods wagons across America. These trains were like monsters, with groups of four wheels on each side. For Americans, especially boys like me, trains are hugely romantic. My first train journey across America was when I was eight years old. During the day I sat at the window watching the scenery fly past. At night I always had the top bunk bed in the sleeping compartment. I would scramble up so I could read in my bunk as the train travelled over the rails to a measured beat through the night.

Since then I've worked and studied my music for the next performance for many hours on trains, enjoying the changing view and the sense of timelessness. I love the smell of steel upon steel mixed up with the smell of the countryside. I love the sound of the engine's horn, which reminds me of the ferries which creep along in between the ships in San Francisco Bay on foggy nights.

I have been lucky travelling all over the world and managing, just occasionally, to take a few days actually to see something more than just the airport, hotel and concert hall. If you're not careful, that might be all you ever experience. Once, when my wife came out to join me in Peru, I took three days off and we flew in a small plane to the mountains, where we had a wonderful time walking in the jungle.

Twenty years ago we bought a small house on a Greek island and went there whenever we could. Initially there were very few cars, and some things were still transported on the back of a donkey or a man. Sadly those days are long gone. We had a tiny cottage with a lovely garden of fruit trees where we used to pick grapes and oranges. We spent a lot of time on the beach – as I love swimming – and in the village getting to know people. After ten or fifteen years we were firmly involved in the community, able to share a totally different world, different language, different music.

- 31 Why does Robert compare his life to that of a sailor?
- A He has a definite routine.
 - B He has very little free time.
 - C He can't be with his wife.
 - D He's always on the move.
- 32 What does 'it' in line 9 refer to?
- A his touring holiday in California
 - B his wonderful experience
 - C the Californian culture
 - D the beautiful Yosemite Valley
- 33 What does Robert say about travelling by train at night?
- A He liked listening to the sounds of nature.
 - B He found night-time scenery exciting.
 - C He felt warm, safe and comfortable.
 - D He especially enjoyed the sense of rhythm.
- 34 What does Robert seem to appreciate most about his life?
- A taking time off whenever he wants
 - B visiting a variety of different places
 - C learning about the natural world
 - D sharing his experiences with his family at home
- 35 What does Robert suggest about village life on a Greek island?
- A It has changed considerably over recent years.
 - B The people try hard to maintain traditions.
 - C There is very little contact with the rest of the world.
 - D People from elsewhere can never become part of the community.
- 36 What is the writer's purpose in this text?
- A to describe what it's like to be a musician
 - B to share his early childhood experiences
 - C to look back over his experience of travelling
 - D to encourage people to share his love of travel

PART 6

You are going to read a newspaper article about a little-known sport called korfball. 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**.

It's not a basket or a net, it's a korf

The Netherlands recently celebrated the fact that they became European korfball champions for the fourth time in a row. Now, you may well be thinking, I didn't know that, in fact I'm not even sure I know what korfball is or how it came about and why the game became so popular in the Netherlands.

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He introduced it into schools and people loved it. The next major development was in 1920, when the game was demonstrated at the Olympic Games in Belgium. Then in 1946 Dutch players demonstrated the game for the first time in the UK. Although it became established in south-east London, interest in the game was very limited. However, since then the development of korfball has been very impressive worldwide.

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Interestingly, most of these are in university towns.

In order to describe it to the vast majority who have never heard of it, it is best defined as a mixture of basketball and netball. Korfball must be played by mixed teams, and it's a game of high speed and huge variety. The pitch is rectangular and measures 40 metres by 20 metres indoors or 60 metres by 30 metres on grass, and is divided into two like a football pitch.

39

There are eight players in a team; two men and two women play in defence and the same numbers in attack, but after every two goals – scored by either team – the players change divisions, and roles: attackers become defenders and defenders become attackers.

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Since it is very much a team game, to succeed at the top level individuals require balance, speed and the ability to think ahead and move into space.

The world championship was held in China in 2011, and you've guessed it, the Netherlands were the winners again! Internationally korfball is established in more than fifty countries. It has been given full membership of the Olympic movement, but it is still not an Olympic sport. In magazines there have been articles about the game in various countries from Australia to Russia, South Africa to the USA.

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It may have taken a very long time to lay the foundations of the game, but with Olympic recognition, and it becoming an Olympic sport perhaps in the not-too-distant future, korfball seems set to expand.

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