

I. LISTENING PAPER**Duration: 30 minutes, 25 points**

Part 1 (10 points, 1 point per item). You will hear people speaking in five different situations. For questions 1–10, choose the correct answer, **A**, **B** or **C**. There is an example (0). You will hear each situation twice. You now have 1 minute to look at the questions.

Example (0). You will hear a man calling a restaurant.

0. When does the customer book the table for?

A Saturday afternoon
B Saturday evening
C Sunday evening

00. What does the customer need?

A a wheelchair
B vegan options
C a seat for his kid

Situation 1. You will hear two friends talking about going fishing.

01. What does the man want to buy for himself?

A some boots
B a fishing rod
C a storage container

02. How does the woman feel about fishing?

A It is boring.
B It is relaxing.
C It is stressful.

Situation 2. You will hear a job advertisement.

03. What is sure to happen to the successful applicant?

A They will earn a lot of money in tips from clients.
B They will be offered free gym membership.
C They will be able to choose their own timetable.

04. What position is the job advertisement for?

A a cleaner
B a courier
C a waiter

Situation 3. You will hear a pilot speaking to some passengers.

05. Why is the pilot addressing the passengers?

A to welcome them to the flight
B to apologise for the lack of good visibility
C to warn them about rough weather conditions

06. What do we learn about the flight?

A The plane left on time and will arrive on time.
B The plane left late but will arrive on time.
C The plane left on time but will arrive late.

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Situation 4. You will hear a radio phone-in about building a new motorway.

07. What is the woman's reaction to the last caller?

A She appreciates his respectful arguments.

B She thinks he has convinced the locals.

C She considers his tone inappropriate.

08. What is the woman's opinion on the new motorway?

A It would harm the environment.

B It would help local residents.

C It would benefit local business.

Situation 5. You will hear a man talking about his experience of martial arts classes.

09. What was the reason the man started martial arts classes?

A He wanted to build his muscular physique.

B He was really into martial arts movies.

C He wanted to improve his mental stamina.

10. Why did the man quit martial arts classes?

A He decided they were ineffective in real life.

B He had arguments with his instructors.

C He suffered some severe injuries.

Part 2 (4 points, 1 point per item). You will hear part of an interview with Rob Lilwall, an adventurer. For questions 11–14, choose the correct answer, A, B or C. There is an example (0). You will hear the recording twice. You now have 30 seconds to look at the questions.

0. What does Rob suggest about changing jobs?

A He didn't see any risk in giving up a stable job.

B He seems to regret giving up his old job.

C He enjoys going on expeditions more than teaching.

11. What does Rob say about travelling?

A Long-term travel can test even the closest friendships.

B When facing challenges, better decisions are made in a group.

C Solo travel is the most effective way to learn to trust yourself.

12. What features does Rob think are necessary for adventurers?

A Challenging adventures require bravery.

B Maintaining physical fitness needs effort.

C Psychological wellness is crucial.

13. What advice on budgeting did Rob apply to himself?

A Follow the priceless advice of experienced travellers.

B Avoid countries that are expensive.

C Learn to appreciate memories.

14. According to Rob, which statement is true?

A Meticulous plans prevent problems.

B Messed up plans ruin the trip.

C Obstacles can end up being beneficial.

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Part 3 (5 points, 1 point per item). You will hear some YouTubers speaking about the content of the videos they currently make. For questions 15–19, match the extracts that you hear with options **A–G**. There is **one option** that you do not need to use. There is an example (0). You will hear the recording twice. You now have 30 seconds to read the task.

What topic does the YouTuber make videos about nowadays?

- A** educational videos for children
- B** product reviews
- C** skincare routines
- D** advice for students
- E** mental health issues
- F** ethical money making
- G** computer maintenance

0. Example 0	A
15. Speaker 1	
16. Speaker 2	
17. Speaker 3	
18. Speaker 4	
19. Speaker 5	

Part 4 (6 points, 1 point per item). You will hear a talk on emojis and language. For questions 20–25, complete the summary. You may write **one word** only. Write the word exactly as you hear it. There is an example (0). You will hear the recording twice. You now have 1 minute to read the summary.



ENGLISH: Call me Ishmael.

EMOJI:

Due to different writing systems, ancient civilisations coded their messages through different geometrical patterns, for example, (0) angular shapes. These days, even a person who can't draw can choose from a variety of standard emojis, known as (20) standard icons. The message could consist of many lines, but a (21) sequence of emojis may be used or understood differently. Moreover, if an emoji is used inappropriately and the text becomes impossible to interpret, readers might feel inadequate, like when they encounter (22) ambiguous words. If the text consists only of emojis without a single word to read, it is difficult to (23) interpret or consider the sense of the intended message. The incredible translation of Melville's 'Moby-Dick' has proved that grouping emojis together is at best (24) ambiguous or even impossible as it is a harder way of conveying meaning due to the lack of grammar. In fact, communicating through less concrete emojis is far from (25) concrete language.

YOU NOW HAVE 2 MINUTES TO TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS ONTO THE ANSWER SHEET

II. READING PAPER**Duration: 60 minutes, 25 points**

Part 1 (4 points, 1 point per item). You are going to read about the ways children become adults in different cultures. For questions 26–29, choose the statement from **A–F** which best summarises each paragraph. There is **one statement** that you do not need to use. There is an example (0).

Entering Adulthood in Different Cultures

A	<i>Passing on survival skills</i>
B	Accepting physical pain bravely
C	Dancing, hunting, and jumping
D	Jumping into the future
E	Proving maturity with a cattle jump
F	Experiencing scary sounds

0. A Most countries mark the time when young people are considered full members of their communities with rights and responsibilities. Inuit boys traditionally go into the freezing wilderness of the Arctic Circle with their fathers for their first hunt. They also learn how to handle husky dogs and recognise the sounds of the desolate landscape. As they believe all animals have souls, the Inuit hunt just enough fish and reindeer to feed the people in this hostile environment. A boy is only considered a man when he has completed his first hunt.

26. _____ Each boy from Vanuatu, a small South Pacific island, enters adulthood by falling from a tall tower with a rope attached to his ankles. Beforehand, the boy chooses a toy that represents his childhood and hands it to his mother to hold during the drop. Afterwards, they throw the toy away to commemorate the successful completion of the literal and symbolic transition into adulthood. Sounds terrifying, though, and emotionally painful for the mother too.

27. _____ In the Hamar tribe of Ethiopia, boys take part in a noisy three-day ceremony that consists of dancing and singing. The climax is when the boys must demonstrate they can jump up and run across the backs of the tribe's bulls and cows. If they can accomplish it, they'll have shown they are grown up enough to be married and have a family.

28. _____ Children from the Ogiek Tribe in Kenya are isolated from their community and go deep into the unwelcoming forest to undergo various trials where they need to demonstrate self-reliance, endurance, and strength. They are told that when they hear the fearsome roar of a mythical animal, they must try to hunt it. Actually, it is the tribe's elders who use a horn to replicate the beast's howl in order to make the children jump out of their skin in fear. After the kids have demonstrated bravery, they are shown the horn, which each child blows to produce the creature's call and enter adulthood.

29. _____ Boys from an indigenous community in the Brazilian Amazon undergo an extreme experience. Bullet ants, whose stings are extremely powerful, are collected from the rainforest before being sedated in a herbal solution and attached to ceremonial gloves. When the angry ants wake up, the initiation begins; each boy has to wear the gloves for ten minutes. Dancing helps the boys sweat and keep the blood circulating to ease the discomfort. It is believed that enduring the experience without complaining or making any crying sounds demonstrates readiness for the trials of adulthood.

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Part 2 (6 points, 1 point per item). You are going to read a text about environmentally friendly clothing materials. For questions 30–35, complete the text with the words from the box below. There are two words that you do not need to use. There is an example (0).

Green Clothing

compostable consume disappear fabric **landfill** plant preserve reduce waste

Did you know that 85% of all textiles end up in (0) landfill sites? If we bought less and repaired our clothes, it would certainly (30) _____ the negative effects of the fashion industry on the ecosystem.

It takes 20 000 litres to produce 1 kg of cotton, the equivalent of one T-shirt and a pair of jeans. Inventing environmentally friendly textiles to replace cotton would therefore help to (31) _____ our natural resources. When we wash synthetic clothes, 500 000 tons of toxic micro-fibres flow into rivers and lakes every year. When they reach the sea, these tiny man-made materials pose a threat to marine creatures that mistake them for food. Humans then (32) _____ seafood, which is harmful to our organisms too.

It is now possible to make eco-friendly clothes from a material called cellulose, which is made from wood or used paper. Such clothes are (33) _____ because the cellulose fibres break down and degrade naturally. Linen, cork, bamboo, and seaweed are widely used to make ethical, vegan clothes.

Innovative manufacturing processes at one (34) _____ in the Philippines transform the leaves of pineapples into materials that are strong and flexible enough to replace leather. The leftover leaf (35) _____ is recycled and turned into fertiliser and added to soil to help crops grow. Overall, we just need to choose greener materials and avoid buying more than we need.

Part 3 (7 points, 1 point per item). You are going to read a text about lasers. Seven sentences have been removed from the text. For questions 36–42, choose from sentences A–I the one which fits each gap. There is one sentence that you do not need to use. There is an example (0).

Lasers: Not Just for Light Shows

- A Lasers are also used in DNA sequencing instruments, surgery, hair removal products, and skin treatments.
- B In industry and engineering, being exact to the nearest millimetre will always be crucial.
- C Regardless of the type, the basic principle underlying how they work remains the same.
- D Although basic laser technology was invented in 1960, the laser has undergone significant changes ever since.
- E There is a danger that heat from the large beam will burn the surrounding cells.
- F Highly skilled professionals direct the powerful laser beam to the precise spot where the treatment is needed.
- G It is hoped that ways will be found to use lasers to neutralise nuclear waste, thereby helping to solve the energy crisis.
- H Being able to drill holes in diamonds is necessary not only for crafting expensive jewellery.
- I They can double the number of calls that can be connected to one cable.

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Laser technology is very important in the modern world because it is so versatile. The incredible uses of lasers include: barcode scanners, laser printers, cutting materials, manufacturing computer chips, safety devices, and many others. (0) A So, there are many practical applications, but what exactly are lasers?

LASER stands for Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation: electromagnetic radiation that forms a high-energy light beam. (36) _____ It was not very powerful as it only used sapphire crystals; however, over time, many kinds of lasers have been developed using other materials, such as gas or liquid. (37) _____ Essentially, lasers are devices that control the way that energised atoms are stimulated to release particles of light and can be trillions of times more powerful than the average lightbulb.

Can you imagine life without Zoom, Facetime, or Teams? Fast communication systems that rely on optical fibres instead of old-fashioned technology wouldn't exist without lasers. (38) _____ This is because a red laser beam has only red light that is very directional, which means it can easily travel over great distances, allowing us to talk online across the world. Engineers in space are already testing the internet of the future: laser-based satellite communications for the high-speed transmission of large amounts of data.

Because of the unique characteristics of lasers, they are used for precision measuring. (39) _____ This is also relevant in computing, where lasers help make really tiny silicon chips; accuracy is also needed when constructing huge buildings, pipes, mines, or tunnels, for example, for joining pieces of metal together or separating them. Lasers have completely replaced traditional cutting techniques as they can slice through even the hardest substances. (40) _____ This precious material is used in the production of parts for jet engines, so modern planes would not be constructed without the help of lasers.

Laser technology is used in many areas of medical science. The high-intensity high-power laser beam is suitable for cutting tissue and has many advantages: preventing bleeding, reducing the likelihood of injury, and causing less damage to the neighbouring cells. (41) _____ This is important for sufferers of glaucoma – a serious disease in which the pressure inside the eyeball increases and can eventually lead to blindness. The patient's eyesight can be saved by releasing the pressure by using a laser to make a tiny hole in the eye, which is otherwise impossible using regular techniques.

It is clear that laser technology is prevalent in many sectors, and some countries have achieved widespread recognition within the industry. One of them is Lithuania, which is now famous for its world-class excellence in laser technologies; more than half of the lasers produced there are sold to big-name industrial clients, such as IBM, Hitachi, and Toyota. 90% of the world's top universities use Lithuanian lasers, as do NASA and CERN for conducting collaborative research on the future application of lasers. (42) _____ It's been just over fifty years since the invention of the first laser, but it has already revolutionised both science and the way we live. The next fifty years could be equally impressive.

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Part 4 (8 points, 1 point per item). You are going to read an article about financial literacy. For questions 43–50, complete the summary by inserting no more than **one word** from the text. There is an example (0).

Money, Money, Money

Basic financial literacy is an essential life skill. Individuals make financial decisions at all ages: children need to decide how to spend their pocket money and teenagers should be ready to enter the world of work; adults may want to purchase their first home or save for their retirement. Financial literacy helps individuals to navigate these decisions and strengthens their financial well-being. There needs to be a coordinated policy agenda to improve financial literacy, encompassing a range of stakeholders, including parents, teachers, public authorities in education and finance, as well as the financial industry and civil society.

However, the results of the latest Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) test of financial literacy reveal that many young people are unable to make even simple decisions on everyday spending. Over 117 000 15-year-olds took part in the test on their knowledge of money matters and their ability to face real-life situations involving financial issues and decision-making, for example, understanding if the interest to be paid on outstanding amounts was excessive or reasonable.

On average across OECD countries, roughly one in two students hold an account at a financial institution and have a payment or debit card; however, only roughly one in three students have the skills to interpret a bank statement. Almost three in four students had purchased something online over the twelve months prior to the assessment, which increased their financial know-how. Likewise, almost two in three students reported being confident in paying with a debit card instead of using cash; a school-leaver mentioned that he tracks his balance with less effort when using VISA. Such students were also associated with stronger performance on the assessment. However, despite having lived through an economic crisis, only a few were proficient in choosing the most economical variant from a variety of suitable packages of calls, SMS, and data.

More encouragingly, the majority of students reported that they check that they have received the appropriate change when they have bought something, and the minority reported that they did not shop around by researching prices and retailers' deals before making a purchase. There was a strong correlation between these behaviours and doing well on the test; high performers also tended to be oriented towards saving, expected to complete a university education and to work in a high-skilled occupation.

While access to digital financial services at a young age provides students with great opportunities to learn by experience, it also creates new challenges. Digital technologies can expose people to data insecurity, which can lead to stolen identities or illegal behaviour. Possessing a solid foundation in mathematics and reading is crucial for navigating the financial environment, but it is not all that matters. Many features unique to financial literacy, such as being aware that some deals from organisations with a bad reputation really are too good to be true, understanding the role of income tax, or being vigilant for fraudulent e-mails. Education really can help the next generation of young people who will inevitably need to make smart decisions about when to lend, borrow, or invest.

However, even in countries and economies that perform above the OECD average, a fifth of students performed below the baseline level. This means that these students cannot even recognise the value of a simple budget or have trouble understanding the relationship between how much a car is used and the costs incurred. There is thus an urgent need for all countries, regardless of their economic and financial development, to improve the financial literacy of their students.

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Summary

We need knowledge of financial literacy to help us spend wisely and plan our future lives and (0) retirement. In a survey, for young people getting to grips with financial terms and spending, it was challenging to comprehend whether the (43) _____ rate on loaned money was high or low. One respondent (44) _____ how much is left in his account more easily with bank cards compared to notes and coins. When searching for an appropriate phone plan, most students had difficulty in calculating the most reasonable option that was both (45) _____ and best suited their needs. Those who did not spend time comparing offers from different shops were in a (46) _____. New and progressive ways of making transactions in the modern world also have downsides, including the (47) _____ of personal information or its criminal use. Our ability to calculate sums is far from the only skill which (48) _____. We also need to be able to make sense of specific financial offers and judge when to skip the opportunity offered by untrustworthy institutions who want to (49) _____ you money. Students who did not do well on the test found it hard to understand how making and sticking to a (50) _____ can help with calculating how expensive it is to run a car.

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