



# Practice for FCE







## Test 1

### Reading Comprehension, Section A

Choose the word or phrase (A, B, C, or D) which best completes each sentence.

- 1 The ..... from London to Bristol takes two hours by car.  
A journey    B travel    C driving    D voyage
- 2 Gerald went to the bank to ..... his drachmas into pounds.  
A exchange    B convert    C change    D turn
- 3 Steven couldn't understand the language ....., but after a few weeks he could communicate quite well.  
A first of all    B first    C at first    D firstly
- 4 Charles Dickens ..... on 9 June 1870.  
A die    B death    C dead    D died
- 5 Soon after reaching the scene of the accident in Grosvenor Square the policeman took the names and addresses of .....  
A witnesses    B onlookers    C watchers    D spectators
- 6 Sarah wanted to buy some shoes to ..... her new dress.  
A match    B suit    C fit    D resemble
- 7 If the firemen ..... the correct address, they would have got to the fire more quickly.  
A would have    B were having    C have had    D had had
- 8 Michael read two novels ..... the flight to Singapore.  
A for    B during    C while    D through
- 9 We are all looking forward ..... you when you next come to England.  
A see    B to see    C to seeing    D for seeing
- 10 We have been ..... business with that company since 1960.  
A doing    B making    C growing    D working
- 11 The caller asked to be put ..... to the manager.  
A through    B over    C on    D off

- 12 At the age of eighteen he ..... the army.  
A enlisted B conscripted C entered D joined
- 13 The station clock isn't .....  
A timely B precise C right D correct 
- 14 He left the lights on to make it look ..... the house was occupied.  
A so that B as for C so far D as if
- 15 The storm did considerable ..... to the trees in the park.  
A harm B damage C destruction D injury
- 16 The delay at the airport ..... that we arrived at our hotel three hours later than planned.  
A resulted B led C meant D caused
- 17 He was offered the job of managing director but he turned it .....  
A off B over C up D down
- 18 Sally was ..... of her purse by two young men.  
A robbed B taken C stolen D grabbed 
- 19 Climbing boots and helmets were provided so we ..... bring our own.  
A didn't need to B needn't have C not needed D need not
- 20 What does that notice ..... ?  
A print B write C say D tell
- 21 Can you look ..... the children for an hour while I go shopping?  
A after B out C for D to
- 22 In this hot weather milk will turn ..... very quickly unless you put it in the fridge immediately.  
A bitter B bad C thick D sour 
- 23 They gave me ..... advice about what to say in the interview.  
A an B plenty of C some of D the
- 24 I need £1,000 to pay off the debt, but I just haven't got .....  
A them B some C these D it
- 25 The manager told us that a great ..... of money was missing.  
A lot B quantity C deal D supply 



## Test One

### Use of English

- 1 Fill each of the numbered blanks in the following passage. Use only **one** word in each space.

One Saturday, Henry Dombey was in his jewellery shop, waiting for customers. At 10 a.m., ..... (1) first customer, a smartly-dressed, middle-aged man arrived and, after looking around, ..... (2) a £400 watch, which he paid for ..... (3) cheque.

Half an hour later, the same customer returned to the shop with ..... (4) waiter from a ..... (5) cafe. He was trying to sell the watch to the waiter for £200 cash ..... (6) wanted Mr Dombey to confirm that the watch was worth at ..... (7) that much. Mr Dombey became very suspicious and called the police. He assumed that the cheque was ..... (8), since otherwise the customer would have lost £200. When the police arrived, the customer explained that, after ..... (9) the shop, he had ..... (10) remembered an important business meeting in Manchester ..... (11) afternoon. He realised that he didn't have enough cash to cover his expenses, so he had ..... (12) to sell the watch because the meeting was more important ..... (13) losing £200. Mr Dombey didn't believe this and neither ..... (14) the police, and the customer ..... (15) arrested.

Mr Dombey was very surprised when, on Monday, the bank paid the cheque without question. He was ..... (16) more surprised when, on Tuesday, he received a letter from the customer's lawyers telling ..... (17) he was ..... (18) to be taken to court ..... (19) making false accusations. Eventually, Mr Dombey had to pay £5,000 in compensation to the customer.

It was, of course, an elaborate trick ..... (20) the customer had planned very carefully.



- 2 Finish each of the following sentences in such a way that it means exactly the same as the sentence printed before it.

EXAMPLE: I haven't enjoyed myself so much for ages.

ANSWER: It's ages *since I enjoyed myself so much.*

- a) It's five years since I last visited Peru.  
I haven't .....
- b) It would be a good idea to buy a dictionary if you want to learn a foreign language.  
You'd better .....
- c) Whose pen is this?  
Who .....
- d) Rosalind is so hardworking that she is sure to get on in her job.  
Rosalind is such .....
- e) Electrical activity in the brain is recorded by this machine.  
This machine .....
- f) Eat up your vegetables or you won't get any pudding.  
If you .....
- g) Although Alfred was over seventy, he continued to cycle to work every day.  
Despite .....
- h) 'Sebastian is the one who stole the video-recorder,' said Bernard.  
Bernard accused .....
- i) This is the best apple-pie I have ever tasted.  
I have .....
- j) Please don't invite Mary to stay for the weekend.  
I'd rather .....







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## Test One



3 Complete the following sentences with a phrase made from **bring**. Write one word in each blank space.

EXAMPLE: A series of financial scandals *brought down* the government.


- a) The Prime Minister aimed to ..... a change in people's attitude to private enterprise.
- b) 'When I got home, I discovered that the video tape I had bought was faulty, so I've ..... it ..... to change it,' I said to the shop assistant.
- c) I wanted to know if Denys had really left his wife, but I didn't like to ..... the subject ..... in front of the children.
- d) I know it's difficult if you want to do something and your father won't let you. Can't your mother help to ..... him ..... ?
- e) Anna wanted to show Margaret the photos of her holiday so she ..... her photo album.



4 Complete each of the following sentences with one word which refers to **using the telephone**.

EXAMPLE: If you give me your *number*, I'll ring you tonight.

- a) I rang the office and asked the ..... to put me through to Stephen.
- b) When you ring the office, you'll get through faster if you ask for my ..... , which is 792, instead of asking for me by name.
- c) I've tried the number four times already, but it's always .....
- d) If you don't know someone's number, try looking it up in the telephone .....

- 5  Make all the changes and additions necessary to produce, from the following sets of words and phrases, sentences which together make a complete letter. Note carefully from the example what kind of alterations need to be made. Write each sentence in the space provided.

EXAMPLE: I be very surprised/receive/letter/you yesterday.

ANSWER: *I was very surprised to receive a letter from you yesterday.*

17 avenue des lilas  
Toulon  
France

17 June 19--

The Principal  
Brighton English Study Centre  
Brighton BN1 7TP

Dear Sir,

A friend/mine/attend/school/1986/1987/recommend/it/to me.

- a) .....  
I want/spend/year/England/improve/English before go/university.
- b) .....  
I/already study English/six years/school.
- c) .....  
I/like/attend/course/general English/first two terms/then study Business English.
- d) .....  
I be interested/take exams/I/be/school.
- e) .....  
Could you tell me/exams I enrol/I/have/pay/enter/them?
- f) .....  
Finally/you send me/prospectus/full details/how much everything cost?
- g) .....  
I hope/hear/you soon.
- h) .....

Yours faithfully,  
Serena Blanc

