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GLOBAL ENGLISH 8: FCE PRACTICE HOMEWORK

FCE 1 (2008) – TEST 2 – READING PART 2

For questions 13–24, 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** **A M O N G**

DICTIONARIES

Dictionaries are (0) *among* the most important tools of self-education. (13) Samuel Johnson wrote his influential English dictionary in the eighteenth century, the work kept him busy for seven years. At the end of that period he (14) written the meanings of over forty thousand words. Most modern dictionaries require a (15) deal less time and effort to write because writers often use earlier dictionaries (16) a source of reference.

Nowadays, most dictionaries are put together by teams of writers, or lexicographers. Sometimes they need to work together in meetings; at other times they work independently of (17) other, on different parts of the dictionary.

(18) one time, the starting point for deciding on which words to include used to be the lexicographer's own knowledge. These days, teams (19) use of a large collection of examples of (20) only writing but also everyday speech, which is known as a *corpus*. Teams also refer (21) books and articles about language as (22) as asking experts in particular subjects about the more specialised words. Finally, ordinary people are asked to say what they think about the (23) the words are defined and (24) they find the examples provided helpful or not.

You are going to read an extract from a novel. For questions 1–8, 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.

On the very last day of a bad year, I was leaning against a pillar in the Baltimore railway station, waiting to catch the 10.10 to Philadelphia. There were a lot more people waiting than I had expected. That airy, light, clean, polished feeling I generally got in the station had been lost. Elderly couples with matching luggage stuffed the benches, and swarms of college kids littered the floor with their bags.

A grey-haired man was walking around speaking to different strangers one by one. Well-off, you could tell: tanned skin, nice sweater, soft, beige car-coat. He went up to a woman sitting alone and asked her a question. Then he came over to a girl standing near me. She had long blond hair, and I had been thinking I wouldn't mind talking to her myself. The man said, 'Would you by any chance be travelling to Philadelphia?'

'Well, northbound, yes,' she said.

'But to Philadelphia?'

'No, New York, but I'll be ...'

'Thanks, anyway,' he said, and he moved toward the next bench.

Now he had my full attention. 'Ma'am,' I heard him ask an old lady, 'are you travelling to Philadelphia?' When the woman told him, 'Wilmington,' he didn't say a thing, just marched on down the row to one of the matched-luggage couples. I straightened up from my pillar and drifted closer, looking toward the platform as if I had my mind on the train.

Well, I was going to Philadelphia. He could have asked me. I understood why he didn't, of course. No doubt, I struck him as unreliable. He just glanced quickly at me and then swerved off toward the bench at the other end of the waiting area. By now he was looking seriously stressed. 'Please!' he said to a woman reading a book. 'Tell me you're going to Philadelphia!'

She lowered her book. She was thirtyish, maybe thirty-five – older than I was, anyhow. A school-teacher sort. 'Philadelphia?' she said. 'Why, yes, I am.'

'Then could I ask you a favour?'

I stopped several feet away and frowned down at my left wrist. (Never mind that I don't own a watch.) Even without looking, I could sense how she went on guard. The man must have sensed it too, because he said, 'Nothing too difficult, I promise!'

They were announcing my train now. People started moving toward Gate E, the older couples hauling their wheeled bags behind them like big pets on leashes. Next I heard the man talking. 'My daughter's flying out this afternoon for a study year abroad, leaving from Philadelphia. So I put her on a train this morning, stopping for groceries afterward, and came home to find my wife in a state. She hardly said "hello" to me. You see my daughter'd forgotten her passport. She'd telephoned home from the station in Philadelphia; didn't know what to do next.'

The woman clucked sympathetically. I'd have kept quiet myself. Waited to find out where he was heading with this.

'So I told her to stay put. Stay right there in the station, I said, and I would get somebody here to carry up her passport.'

A likely story! Why didn't he go himself, if this was such an emergency?

'Why don't you go yourself?' the woman asked him.

'I can't leave my wife alone for that long. She's in a wheelchair.'

This seemed like a pretty poor excuse, if you want my honest opinion. Also, it exceeded the amount of bad luck that one family could expect. I let my eyes wander toward the two of them. The man was holding a packet, not a plain envelope, which would have been the logical choice, but one of those padded envelopes the size of a paperback book. Aha! Padded! So you couldn't feel the contents! And from where I stood, it looked to be stapled shut besides. Watch yourself, lady, I said silently.

- 1 What was the narrator's impression of the station that morning?
 - A People were making too much noise.
 - B It was unusually busy.
 - C There was a lot of rubbish on the ground.
 - D The seating was inadequate.

- 2 Why does the narrator show an interest in the grey-haired stranger?
 - A He was fascinated by the stranger's questions.
 - B He was anxious about the stranger's destination.
 - C He was jealous of the stranger's appearance.
 - D He was impressed by the stranger's skill with people.

- 3 What does the writer mean by 'she went on guard' in line 27?
 - A The woman was employed by the railway company.
 - B The woman was ready to call the police.
 - C The woman was surprised by the man's attitude.
 - D The woman was cautious in her response.

- 4 According to the stranger, how was his wife feeling when he got home?
 - A relieved to see him
 - B annoyed by their daughter's phone call
 - C upset about their daughter's situation
 - D worried about planning the best course of action

- 5 What does 'this' refer to in line 36?
 - A the story
 - B the passport
 - C the station
 - D the telephone call

- 6 When the narrator had heard the stranger's explanation, he felt
 - A sympathetic towards the stranger's daughter.
 - B willing to offer his assistance.
 - C doubtful about the combination of events.
 - D confused by the story the stranger told.

- 7 When the narrator sees the packet, he thinks that the woman should
 - A remain on the platform.
 - B proceed carefully.
 - C ask to check the contents.
 - D co-operate with the man.

- 8 What do we learn about the narrator's character from reading this extract?
 - A He enjoys talking to strangers.
 - B He has a strong sense of curiosity.
 - C He has a kind-hearted attitude to people.
 - D He interferes in the affairs of others.

FCE 3 – TEST 4 – READING 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 A very friendly taxi driver drove us into town.

DRIVEN

We a very friendly taxi driver.

The gap can be filled by the words 'were driven into town by', so you write:

Example: 0 **WERE DRIVEN INTO TOWN BY**

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

25 Thick fog prevented the plane from landing.

UNABLE

The plane of the thick fog.

26 Mr Brown was just about to leave home when he remembered he hadn't bought a ticket.

POINT

Mr Brown was home when he remembered he hadn't bought a ticket.

27 I first visited Rome ten years ago.

SINCE

It has first visit to Rome.

28 Helen didn't tell me anything about the interview she had yesterday.

WORD

Helen to me about the interview she had yesterday.

29 Membership of the club is open to anyone over eighteen.

AGE

Anyone who is more than eighteen a member of the club.

30 Carole is hardly ever late for work.

ALMOST

Carole is time for work.

FCE 1 (2008) – TEST 1 – WRITING PART 1

You **must** answer this question. Write your answer in 120–150 words in an appropriate style.

1 You are planning to visit your friend Robin in Canada. Robin has written to you. Read Robin's letter and the notes you have made. Then write a letter to Robin, using all your notes.

My friends and I are going to a sports camp in the mountains in July. We'd love you to join us there. We can play tennis, hockey, football, basketball and other sports. We can stay in rooms or sleep in tents. Which would you prefer? We'll cook together in the evenings. Is there something special from your country that you could cook?

Great
because...

→ Say which
and why

Yes! —
Explain...

You could fly over to Canada a few days before the sports camp and stay with me here in the city. What would you like to do before we go to the camp?

Write soon.

Robin

Tell Robin

Write your letter. You must use grammatically correct sentences with accurate spelling and punctuation in a style appropriate for the situation.

Do not write any postal addresses.

FCE 2 (2008) – TEST 1 – LISTENING PART 2

Các con mồi link nghe sau dây bằng máy tính:

<https://tinyurl.com/u5a9d6f8> (13:06s – 21:17s)

You will hear part of a talk about dolls. For questions 9–18, complete the sentences.

Dolls

The first known dolls were found in 9 in ancient Egypt.

The earliest dolls in the museum date from the 10

Early European dolls were dressed like 11

On the 17th-century dolls, you can see details like the 12

17th-century dolls may cost as much as 13 each.

Collectors look for examples in perfect condition, with their 14

19th-century dolls had 15 and real hair.

If you can take off the doll's hair, you may see the 16 underneath.

Before the 20th century, all dolls were 17, not babies.

From the 1930s, dolls were made of 18

FCE 1 (2008) – TEST 3– LISTENING PART 4

Các con mở link nghe sau đây bằng máy tính:

<https://tinyurl.com/522c8kv4> (31:01s đến hết)

You will hear a radio interview with a young tennis player, Alice Winters and her coach, Bruce Gray. For questions 24–30, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

24 What does Bruce say about getting financial help?

- A He is surprised by how hard it is to get any.
- B He expects that they will get some soon.
- C He thinks they can succeed without it.

25 What is Alice's attitude towards training?

- A She enjoys organising it herself.
- B She wishes she had more time for other things.
- C She sometimes finds it hard to make the effort.

26 What is Alice's attitude towards her schoolwork?

- A She is determined to do well in it.
- B It is not the most important thing.
- C She is confident of her ability.

27 How does Alice feel about competitions?

- A The result is the most important thing.
- B Losing weakens her confidence.
- C She always expects to win.

28 According to Bruce, what makes Alice exceptional?

- A her natural talent for the game
- B the amount of effort she puts in
- C the way she reacts to other players

29 How does Alice feel about becoming a professional player?

- A She is looking forward to the glamorous lifestyle.
- B She realises she may not be successful.
- C She is worried about getting on with the other players.

30 How does Bruce describe Alice's character?

- A She's a very sociable person.
- B She tends to be rather moody.
- C She is surprisingly mature.

FCE 2 (2008) – TEST 1 – LISTENING PART 1

Các con mở link nghe sau đây bằng máy tính: <https://tinyurl.com/u5a9d6f8> (0:12s – 13:02s)

You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1–8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1 You hear part of a radio play.
Where is the scene taking place?

A in the street
B in a bank
C in a police station

- 2 You overhear the beginning of a lecture.
What subject are the students taking?

A medicine
B sport
C music

- 3 You overhear a conversation in a college.
Who is the young man?

A a new student
B a student in the middle of a course
C a former student

- 4 You hear a woman on the radio talking about a cookbook.
What does she regret?

A not looking after it
B not having kept it
C not using it properly

5 You hear someone talking about the day he met someone famous.
How did he feel after meeting Chris Turner?

A unimpressed with the footballer
B angry with his friend
C disappointed with himself

6 You hear a woman talking on the phone.
Why has she called?

A to request a meeting
B to offer assistance
C to apologise for her absence

7 You overhear an extract from a radio play.
What is the young woman's relationship with the man?

A She's a pupil of his.
B She's a relative of his.
C She's a patient of his.

8 You hear someone telling a story about a strange thing that happened in the mountains.
What point does the story prove?

A how strange things can be explained simply
B how easy it is to imagine things
C how you can be tricked by the silence