



LEVEL TEST – INTERMEDIATE / UPPER INTERMEDIATE

Name: _____ Surname: _____

A. READING COMPREHENSION. READ THE PASSAGE AND MARK THE STATEMENTS BELOW T (TRUE) OR F (FALSE):

Heading in the right direction

You either have it, or you don't – a sense of direction, that is. But why is it that some people can find their way across the Sahara without a map, while others can lose themselves in the next street?

Scientists say we're all born with a sense of direction, but it is not properly understood how this works. One theory is that people with a good sense of direction have simply worked harder at developing it. Research being carried out at Liverpool University backs this idea and suggests that if we don't use it, we lose it.

"Children as young as seven have the ability to find their way around", says Jim Martland, Research Director of the project. "However, if they are not allowed out alone or are taken everywhere by car, they never develop their skills."

One skill that must be developed is being able to distinguish left from right. When Andrea Lynch took her driving test recently, the examiner asked her to turn right. She moved into the left-hand side of the road, signalled, and executed a perfect left turn. "I genuinely didn't realize," said Andrea. Fortunately, the examiner overlooked the slip!

Researchers point out that Andrea's mistake is quite understandable. There is nothing in our make-up that tells us which is left or right – most of our body is in pairs, we have two arms, two legs, etc. If we weren't right or left-handed we might well have even more trouble.

Few of us get lost somewhere we know well, but it's not a question of familiarity. In an American experiment, people with very good and poor senses of direction were taken to a strange place. The results showed that people with a good sense of direction either remembered a series of clues to help them get back to where they started, or they remembered the various turns they had gone through.

The good news, then, is that even if you have a poor sense of direction, it can be improved by following this advice:

- If you are using a map, turn it so that it relates to the way you are facing.
- If you leave your car or bike in a strange car park, leave it near something like a big stone or tree. Note landmarks on the route as you go away from your car or bike. When you return, reverse the route.
- Simplify navigation by using lines such as streets in a town, streams, or walls in the countryside to guide you. Count your steps so that you know how far you have gone and orientate yourself by looking out for landmarks such as tower blocks, hills, etc.

1. Scientists understand how our sense of direction Works. T / F
2. According to some experts, our sense of direction always remains unaffected. T / F
3. There is something in our bodies that tells us which is left and which is right. T / F
4. People with a good sense of direction may remember the turns they take on the way. T / F
5. Our sense of direction cannot be developed. T / F

B. MULTIPLE CHOICE. CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION.

- Maria made _____ a ghost story to entertain her friends.
A) up B) for C) off
- Sharon is quite _____ in politics. She says she wants to be president.
A) interesting B) interested C) keen
- Olivia is going to have her ID photo _____.
A) take B) took C) taken
- I'm sure we _____ win the match tonight. We haven't trained enough.
A) will B) may not C) won't
- I hope _____ you soon!
A) see B) to see C) seeing
- Mark offered to pick Pam _____ when she arrived at the airport.
A) after B) for C) up
- This film is so _____ I have already fallen asleep twice and it hasn't finished yet.
A) bored B) boring C) exciting
- The builders are used _____ a break at midday.
A) To take B) taking C) to taking
- I _____ to be home by ten; my mum said so.
A) have B) must C) can
- We avoid _____ in the city centre at the weekend.
A) drive B) to drive C) driving
- Tom is quite _____ and finds it hard to talk to new people.
A) reserved B) well-groomed C) scruffy D) sloppy
- They _____ out for six months.
A) have gone B) are going C) go D) have been going
- We were so late that the show _____ before we got there.
A) was nearly finishing B) had nearly finished
C) nearly finished D) has nearly finished
- Mum's at _____ hospital visiting our grandmother.
A) – B) a C) an D) the
- Have you ever thought about _____ golf?
A) taking up B) setting up C) taking off D) setting off

16. Could you tell me what ____?
- A) does it say B) is saying C) it says D) is it saying
17. I have a ____ knowledge of all aspects of business.
- A) seen B) heard C) sound D) sure
18. Just think, this time tomorrow we ____ our English exam and will still have another hour to go.
- A) will have written B) will be writing
C) will write D) are writing
19. I'll do my work as soon as I ____ my tea.
- A) will have finished B) will finish
C) will be finishing D) finish
20. ____ the end of the year, the road will have been completed.
- A) By B) In C) For D) When
21. You should show more ____ when talking to your boss.
- A) respected B) respectful C) respect D) respectable
22. John always comes ____ as being unfriendly. I don't know why.
- A) across B) above C) away D) over
23. When I was young, we ____ often go to the mountains.
- A) would B) did C) used D) use to
24. Don't bother to ask him. He ____.
- A) isn't answering B) wouldn't answer
C) won't answer D) wasn't answering
25. I don't like the way she talks ____ people's backs.
- A) in front of B) below C) around D) behind
26. You've got to ____ the bullies at your school.
- A) face towards B) take over C) stand up to D) turn round
27. I'd prefer ____ go out until I've eaten.
- A) don't B) not C) didn't D) not to
28. I'd rather he ____ English.
- A) studied B) study C) studying D) studies
29. ____ we are careful, we sometimes make mistakes.
- A) However B) Although C) In spite of D) Nevertheless
30. The room was empty but I could smell cigarettes. Somebody ____ there.
- A) had smoked B) was smoking C) had been smoking D) smoked

C. PUT THE VERBS IN BRACKETS IN THE CORRECT FORM. USE MODALS WHEN NECESSARY.

Dream invention

One evening in 1993, Trevor Baylis (1) _____ (watch) a TV programme about the AIDS epidemic in Africa. The programme explained that the only way to stop the spread of AIDS was to educate people about the disease. However, broadcasting the information was extremely difficult. At this point Trevor Baylis fell asleep and had a dream. In the dream he imagined that he was Colonel Baylis out in the jungle (2) _____ (listen) to some music on an old gramophone. When he woke up, he had dreamt up the concept of the clockwork radio.

It (3) _____ (take) him just two to three months to get a prototype and decide that his idea (4) _____ (really/work). He filed a patent, and then the problems began. By April of the following year he was a very frustrated man. He had been trying (5) _____ (find) a backer for his idea, but every British company he had contacted had turned him down. However, his unexpected TV appearance on a BBC programme changed everything. Trevor Baylis was approached by a South African businessman, and soon money (6) _____ (find) to set up a company with a Factory based in Cape Town and today 200,000 radios (7) _____ (make) in Africa each month.

According to Trevor Baylis, you (8) _____ (not / need) to be a genius to be an inventor. He (9) _____ (believe) there is an inventor in all of us. His advice to anybody who has an idea is "keep the idea to yourself until you (10) _____ (file) a patent, and never give up".

D. COMPLETE THE SECOND SENTENCE SO THAT IT HAS A SIMILAR MEANING TO THE FIRST SENTENCE. YOU MUST USE THE WORD GIVEN AND CANNOT CHANGE IT.

1. Messi scored the winning goal. **BY**

The winning goal _____.

2. Alex, this is an exam, you can't use your dictionary. **MUST**

Alex, you _____ an exam.

3. We arrived at the restaurant late, so we didn't get a table. **HAD**

We would have got a table if _____.

4. I started working as a nurse when I was 26. **SINCE**

I _____ I was 26.

5. "It's true. I took the car without my parents' permission." **ADMITTED**

He _____ his parents.

6. I regret having eaten so much. **SHOULD**

I _____ so much.

7. "I'm sorry I haven't brought the books". **APOLOGISED**

Ann _____ the books.

8. Comedian Jerry Seinfeld's TV show became an international success in the 90's.

WHOSE

Jerry Seinfeld is _____ became an international success in the 90's.

9. Generally, when you practise a sport a lot, you are good at it. **MORE**

Generally, the _____ you are at it.

10. 5. I did not go into business with my best friend. I am not rich and successful today. **BE**

If I _____ rich and successful today.

E. WRITING. CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING AND WRITE BETWEEN 150 WORDS.

OPTION 1 - You have decided to enter a short story competition. The competition rules say that the story must begin or end with these words: **"She wished she had never made such a comment."**

OPTION 2 - A friend of yours hosts a blog where different topics are discussed. He has asked you to contribute your opinion on this month's topic: "Technology". Write a piece giving your opinion about the following statement: **"Playing video games has a beneficial effect on children."**
