

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPOWER 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

**B1 + READING / USE OF ENGLISH COMPETENCY TEST**

**End of Course Test**

**Time** 30 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS**

Do not open this question paper until you are told to do so.

Write your name on this question paper.

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

Answer all the questions.

Write your answers on the question paper.

**INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

There are five parts to this test.

Each question carries one mark.

## Part 1

## Questions 1 – 5

Look at the text in each question.

What does it say?

For each question, circle the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.

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1

Hi Andrew

I'm working at the shop late - so won't be home to cook dinner. There's salad and cheese in the fridge and noodles in the cupboard. Have what you like. I'll eat before I come back.

Mum

Mum tells Andrew to

- A** shop for her dinner.
- B** help himself to food.
- C** save some food for her.
- D** cook when she returns.

2

**Members are  
requested to  
keep out of the  
gym until it has  
been painted.**

- A** The gym is not available at the moment.
- B** The gym has just been painted.
- C** Only members are allowed to use the gym.
- D** Members should ask for permission to use the gym.

3

If Chris calls, tell him to hang on. I'll be at the cinema in 10 minutes. The traffic's terrible! I've tried calling but his phone must be turned off.  
Thanks,  
Abby.

What is Chris doing now?

- A** talking on the phone
- B** driving a car
- C** watching a film
- D** waiting for Abby

4

Don't worry about picking Jane up from the station. Philip's train from London gets in at the same time as hers, so he's going to give her a lift home.

5

**Diving can be dangerous!**

**Always check the water directly beneath for swimmers.**

**Only dive when you are sure it is safe.**

3

- A Philip's spending the weekend in London.
- B Philip and Jane are catching the same train.
- C Jane has made arrangements for getting home.
- D Jane's worried about her journey home.

- A All divers should move to a safe area.
- B Only experienced divers are allowed here.
- C Before diving, make sure nobody is below.
- D You can dive by yourself.

## Part 2

## Questions 6 – 10

Look at the sentences below about a food festival.

Read the text on the opposite page to decide if each sentence is correct or incorrect.

If it is correct, circle Yes.

If it is not correct, circle No.

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6	Kelly Parker has been to the festival every year since it started.	Yes	No
7	Kelly regrets not having enough time to do everything at the festival.	Yes	No
8	Kelly spent more money than she planned to at the festival.	Yes	No
9	Kelly was pleased with how much the festival supports the environment.	Yes	No
10	Kelly thinks the festival is worth going to.	Yes	No

### **My review of 'The Taste' festival by Kelly Parker**

Now in its third year, 'The Taste' food and drink festival is becoming more and more popular, but I must admit I really didn't know what to expect when I went to find out what it was all about this summer. There was plenty of food and drink, of course, but also so much more. Cooking lessons, music and dancing, to name but a few of the activities. If I'm honest, there was almost too much to do. Anyone hoping to just sit and enjoy the beautiful location may have found themselves rushing from place to place like me, trying without success to do everything. I'll certainly plan my day better next time.

I stopped off at the bank on the way to the festival as I was sure I'd need to spend a lot of money. I did, but the food and drink prices were lower than I'd expected, which was a pleasant surprise. Tickets were a similar price to other festivals, but it's still quite an expensive day out. It's supposed to be an environmentally friendly festival, and it's better than most, but I think they could provide more places to recycle rubbish and not use quite so much plastic for the food. All profits do go to good causes though, so I was happy to support the festival.

The festival's located on a farm and it's difficult to get there by public transport, but there was plenty of parking and a great free bus to take to the festival site. What else can I say? You've missed it for this year, but it'll be back again next summer, and so will I. It's not the most exciting festival I've ever been to, but it was quite good fun and, for those who like good food and drink, it shouldn't be missed.



## Questions 11 – 15

Read the text and questions below.

For each question, circle the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.

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### A different place to stay on holiday

If you think hotels aren't very personal places to stay on holiday or you want to live like a local rather than a tourist, then the *Home From Home* website is the place to look. You can stay in a real home.

The 'host', who owns the home, posts a profile of their place on the website. People might think hosts would say the place is nicer than it actually is. This doesn't happen, however, because the website also has descriptions by 'guests' who have stayed there. Hosts also give reviews of the people who stay in their homes, so it's a two-way process. Sometimes the host is present, sometimes absent.

I stayed in a flat in Berlin and ate with my host, Dieter, every evening. This was good because the nearby restaurants were expensive. My German was pretty poor compared to Dieter's English, but we managed to communicate! We discovered we both liked jazz and hung out listening to music!

It's not always such a positive story, though. Yoko stayed at a villa in California while the hosts were away. Although the place was clean and had a bigger swimming pool than Yoko expected, it was miles from anywhere and there were no buses.

And the hosts? Andrew has a *Home From Home* cottage. He says he's enjoyed meeting so many people from different countries, though he's not keen on all the washing and cleaning! His family warned him that guests would steal from him, but they were wrong about that.

Louise says you need to trust people to treat your property like their own home. She checks other host reviews of the guests on the website. When guests make a reservation, Louise thinks it's helpful to ask them why they're travelling. 'It tells me something about them', she says.

11 Why do 'hosts' tell the truth about their homes?

- A It is illegal to tell a lie about your home.
- B Only nice homes are chosen for the website.
- C Reviews by previous visitors are also on the website.
- D The website owners check the homes themselves.

12 What does the writer say about his stay in Berlin?

- A He was surprised that the accommodation was so cheap.
- B He and Dieter found out they had something in common.
- C His German was much better than Dieter's English.
- D Sometimes Dieter and he shared a meal at a restaurant.

- 13 What disappointed Yoko?
- A It was hard to get around the area.
  - B the size of the swimming pool
  - C the condition of the villa
  - D The hosts were not there.
- 14 What's Andrew's opinion about being a host?
- A Sometimes the guests are thieves.
  - B The guests upset his family.
  - C He dislikes the housework.
  - D Talking to lots of guests is hard.
- 15 Louise says it is a good thing to
- A compare her home to those of other hosts.
  - B learn a little about the guests before they come.
  - C tell guests about other places to stay.
  - D discover how they are going to get about.

## Questions 16 – 20

Read the text below and choose the correct answer for each gap.

### Bank Money Stolen

In breaking news, two men have stolen thousands of pounds from Brunel Bank. Bank employees say the two men entered the bank just as it was opening. Although the men said they were customers, the staff were worried about their behaviour and called the police. The employees bravely **(16)** ..... their best but they couldn't stop the men getting away with over £50,000 in cash.

The police arrived on the scene quickly but were unable to **(17)** ..... the men from getting away in a car that was waiting **(18)** ..... them outside the bank. These men are dangerous and people are **(19)** ..... not to speak to them if they see them.

Local people are said to be shocked by the news. We'll **(20)** ..... this story with the latest information as soon as we can.

16	A	made	B	had	C	did	D	showed
17	A	save	B	prevent	C	limit	D	protect
18	A	for	B	at	C	by	D	with
19	A	suggested	B	warned	C	refused	D	relied
20	A	deliver	B	update	C	hold	D	feed



## Part 5

## Questions 21 – 25

Read the text. Think of the word which best fits each gap.  
Write ONE word for each gap.

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From:	Andrea
To:	Jake

Hi Jake,

Well, I've finally moved into my new flat. I'm reasonably pleased but it's **(21)** ..... quite as nice as I remember. It was really dirty **(22)** ..... I got here, so I had to clean everywhere! But once it has **(23)** ..... painted, it should look better – I'm going to ask the owner to do that. There wasn't quite enough space for my sofa, but my parents have offered to buy me a smaller one.

But anyway, the flat's far better **(24)** ..... the one I used to live in as a student. Do you remember?! Anyway I promise I **(25)** ..... give you a call soon to arrange a visit.

Andrea