LONDON Institute

MONTHLY EXAM

READING, TASK 1: *You are going to read a page from a brochure with advertisements for four unusual leisure experiences. For questions 1-7, choose from the advertisements (A-D). The advertisements may be chosen more than once or not chosen at all.*

Do Something Different

A - **Indoor Skydiving**

If you have always wanted to try skydiving, but are afraid of flying, here is the answer - indoor skydiving. You will feel like you are freefalling from a plane, even though you are only about two feet off the ground, as a giant propeller blasts air at 200 mph, suspending you in the airflow. It is a freefall experience that everyone must try, at the world's biggest skydiving wind tunnel, in Bedfordshire, England. Compared to other similar experiences on the market, you will get more 'flight time' in the wind tunnel and, when you finish, a DVD containing footage of your flight for you to remember the experience. This facility also caters to international skydiving teams, so be assured that you'll be in the safest hands. The tunnel was originally built over fifty years ago to study aerodynamic forces, and later to test the strength of aeroplane parts such as ejector seats. Four decades later, the tunnel was restored. A reasonable level of fitness is required in order to participate. Spectators can watch the dive from the free viewing gallery, but the loud noise makes it unsuitable for very young children.

B - **The Cathedrals Express Steam Train**

Step back into the 19th century as you take a train ride on the Cathedrals Express, which runs from central London to some of England's most beautiful cathedral cities. It's the perfect experience for romantic couples, Harry Potter fans and those who want to relive the good old days. As you travel, you will dine on superb food while sitting at a table with lovely views of the countryside. The train is an exact replica of one that operated during Victorian times, and the carriage interiors are beautifully decorated. It is an unusual sight, so expect people to wave at you as you go by. Of course, you may wish to wave back! When the train pulls into the terminus, you are released from the fantasy for a short spell, as you have the chance to shop or see the sights. Trains and stations have ramps for wheelchair users. Spectators are welcome to see the train depart and meet it on its return.

C - **Traditional Circus Skills**

Do you want to learn some new skills? Are you fed up with the usual routine and want to do something a little more exciting than walking around the shopping centre on Saturday mornings? Then roll up, roll up - come and join the circus! During your session at Britain's top circus skills school, you will learn about the physical strength required for the trapeze and acrobatics, practise your coordination skills while juggling and attempt to acrobalance (otherwise known as tightrope walking). All the instructors are professionals with first-hand knowledge of the techniques and equipment used. You'll be learning the basics in no time, so you can impress all your friends with your new skills when you get home. It is recommended that you wear casual clothes that don't restrict your movement - a tracksuit and trainers would be ideal. Participants must be at least 14 years old, and although they don't need to be in absolutely tip-top shape, a reasonable level of fitness is required if you want to get the most from this course. Spectators are welcome throughout. Unfortunately, there is no disabled access at the school.

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D - **Scuba Diving**

Are you having trouble finding things to do with the kids? Here's an idea. At the Aqua Fun Programme, young adventurers are introduced to the thrill of breathing under water. They are first taught the basic procedures for scuba diving, including safety and communication with fellow divers, and familiarised with the equipment before dipping their toes into the water. All the instructors are qualified Diving Instructors. Then, under constant supervision, they get to dive and swim around in a swimming pool, at a maximum depth of only 6m, but still, experience what it would feel like to be in a natural diving environment. Parents are welcome to watch as their children learn to scuba dive and enjoy splashing around making bubbles underwater. Children don't have to be strong swimmers and previous experience is not needed. You must bring your own swimwear, but all other equipment will be provided.

Which of the advertisements mention(s):

1. something participants in the experience must bring with them? A - B - C – D
2. giving you something to take home with you? A - B - C – D
3. giving you the chance to take a break from normal life? A - B - C – D
4. what participants will learn before the start of the activity? A - B - C – D
5. regret that a specific type of visitor cannot enter the place? A - B - C – D
6. that the place has been used for more than one purpose? A - B - C – D
7. something which makes it possible for the disabled to participate? A - B - C – D

A - Indoor Skydiving, B - The Cathedrals Express Steam Train, C - Traditional Circus Skill, D - Scuba Diving

LISTENING, TASK 2: *You will hear David telling his friend Janet about his recent trip to Brazil. Choose the best answer.*

1. Where was the first place he went?

a) To the beach b) To the hotel c) To the Carnival

2. What does Dave say about the dancers?

a) They were tireless b) They were tiring c) They were tired

3. What is the Sambodromo?

a) A parade b) A street c) A dance

4. What does Dave say about the nightlife?

a) It is an interesting mix b) He did not go out much c) The nightclubs were great

5. What is Janet going to do?

a) Take some photos b) Look at some photos c) Get some photos developed

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USE OF ENGLISH

TASK 3: *You will have to complete the following text. You will have to choose between passive or active.*

Even in the age of the Internet, popular myths are widespread. It ..... (widely / believe) for example, that the explorer Christopher Columbus had trouble persuading his sailors that they would not sail off the edge of a flat earth. Most people don't realize that in fact few people ..... (think) the earth was flat during this time. We also ..... (assume) that Marco Polo brought back pasta from China although it ..... (can / easily / show) that the Italians learned about pasta from the Arabs 600 years earlier.

Myths relating to science and nature are also common. It ..... (often / say) that bats are blind, and we all ..... (know) that bulls become angry when they see the colour red. We ..... (believe) that if an earthworm is cut in half, two new worms are the result and it ..... (commonly / accept) that goldfish have short memories - so short that they don't get bored swimming around their bowls. It ..... (frequently / claim) that chewing gum stays is the body for years; and how often have you heard people ..... (say) that if you dropped a coin from the Empire State Building, it could kill a person? How many that the Great Wall of China is visible from the Moon? In fact, none of these is true.

TASK 4: *For each sentence, choose a variety of "used to", "be used to" or "get used to". Use the verb in brackets to make the sentence*

1. European drivers find it difficult to ..... (drive) on the left when they visit Britain.

2. See that building there? I ..... (go) to school there, but now it's a factory.

3. I've only been at this company a couple of months. I ..... (still not) how they do things round here.

4. When I first arrived in this neighbourhood, I had to ..... (live) in a house. I had always lived in apartment buildings.

5. Working till 10pm isn't a problem. I ..... (finish) late. I did it in my last job too.

6. I can't believe they are going to build an airport just two miles from our new house! I will ..... (never) all that noise! What a nightmare.

7. His father ..... (smoke) twenty cigars a day - now he doesn't smoke at all!

8. Whenever all my friends went to discos, I ..... (never go) with them, but now I enjoy it.

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9. I ..... (drive) as I have had my driving licence almost a year now.

10. When Max went to live in Italy, he ..... (live) there very quickly. He's a very open minded person.

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