AACI
ASOCIACIÓN ARGENTINA DE CULTURA INGLESA

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Sections	1st	2nd	3rd
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Corrector			

NAME: _____ SURNAME: _____

Paper 2 **"L"**

SENIOR SIX FINAL EXAM Time allowed: 2 hrs.

SECTION A: Reading Comprehension

Read the text and choose the correct option, true (T) or false (F).

BLACK

"Why do you always wear black? "I've remembered this opening line from Chekhov's *The Seagull* since I first read it at college. This is because the question could have been directed at me. My obsession with black clothes at that time annoyed my parents enormously. However, I must say that, in spite of being rebellious and often a little melodramatic, I never replied as Masha did in *The Seagull*: "I am in mourning for my life', although at times I may have thought it!

These days I still often wear black but for many different reasons. For instance, at formal parties I might want to look elegant and sophisticated, or when meeting clients and in work meetings to give an efficient, serious and business-like impression. Black can do all these things. But what intrigues me is how this colour moved from representing grief or rebellion to becoming the must-have fashion colour in today's world. At a time when trends and colours come and go, black is always 'in'. But why? I think the answer lies in the unique power of the colour itself and its many associations. Black always tells others something important about who wears it, far more than any other colour.

Many people, like Masha in *The Seagull*, associate black with mourning and death. Looking back in history we can see quite clearly that since Greek and Roman times, black clothing has been a symbol of grief and sorrow. In many countries people wore, and still wear it to funerals. In Victorian England, widows were forced to dress in black for years. And the Romantic poets in the 19th century, including Byron, Shelley and Keats, adopted the colour as a symbol of isolation, sadness and mystery.

But, through the centuries, black has also had other associations. One of these is with protest, standing against what people thought was wrong. Johnny Cash, the legendary country singer, famously wore black to remind people of the injustices he saw in society. Linked to this is the association of black with rebellion. Groups who want to show their distance from the rules and opinions of normal society often choose black as their go-to colour. Who could imagine a biker riding a Harley Davidson wearing a yellow leather jacket?

But it's when we look at fashion trends that we can see black's biggest moment. In Victorian times black was the uniform for servants and shop assistants, but in 1926 the influential fashion magazine, Vogue, had a dress by designer Coco Chanel on its cover. Referred to as the 'Little Black Dress', it immediately changed the face of fashion. It was simple, practical and elegant. In addition to this it was both flattering and affordable. In an instant, the LBD (a term which gained a place in the Oxford English Dictionary in 2010) moved black from the shadows to centre stage, where it has remained ever since.

So, whether black is worn to look attractive or efficient, to show sadness or sophistication, to be rebellious or appear important, it is a uniquely powerful colour. We may not all be 'in mourning for our lives,' like Masha in *The Seagull*, but there is a strong probability that there is something black and timeless in all our wardrobes. It is there for those occasions when we either want to fit in or stand out from the crowd. Black will always be 'the new black'.

Adapted from FORMULA B2.

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1. The writer thinks the opening line of *The Seagull* is unforgettable. **T F**
2. The writer's parents were very irritated by her habit of wearing black clothes at that time. **T F**
3. The writer still wears black only because she likes the colour. **T F**
4. The writer finds it unsurprising that the colour black has changed from symbolizing sadness or disobedience to a popular fashion colour. **T F**
5. Black can communicate significant information about the person wearing it. **T F**
6. Black has rarely been linked to protest or challenging social norms. **T F**
7. In Victorian times, only the upper class wore black. **T F**
8. It was Coco Chanel herself who appeared on the cover of Vogue magazine wearing a little black dress. **T F**
9. If you look up the word LBD in the Oxford dictionary, you will find a definition. **T F**
10. The last paragraph implies that most likely everyone owns at least one black item of clothing. **T F**

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

SECTION B: Language in Use

I. Read the passage below. Choose the correct option for each gap and write it in the box.

SMALL CHANGE, BIG DIFFERENCE

Are you reluctant to get out and try something new? Is life feeling dull and (1) ___ right now? Then change. But this doesn't mean taking on huge challenges that become overwhelming. The key to shaking up our routine is to start small. Look (2) ___ ways of changing the stuff you do every day: take a different route to school, college or work, download a (3) ___ by a band you've never heard before, talk to a student or colleague you don't normally mix with. These things (4) ___ sound basic but don't dismiss them. For one thing, they help to make day-to-day life (5) ___ more fun. And they really can be worthwhile because they help you start to think (6) ___. It's easy to pigeonhole yourself with fixed roles and routines. Making a change every day helps you escape in a risk-free way. And if you're willing to step out of your cozy routine in small ways, you're much more likely to take on far (7) ___ challenges. Trying something different can also boost your confidence (8) ___ you prove to yourself that you are capable of adapting. You may even discover hidden talents or interests that you never realized you had. Small steps like 9) ___ also create a sense of progress, (10) ___ is motivating in itself. In the long run, these minor shifts can open doors to opportunities that you would otherwise have overlooked.

Adapted from GOLD EXPERIENCE B2 WB

1 ___	A. bored	B. boring	C. bore	D. bores
2 ___	A. by	B. on	C. for	D down
3 ___	A. music	B. lyrics	C. song	D. word
4 ___	A. ought	B. have	C. need	D. might
5 ___	A. little	B. few	C. a little	D. a few
6 ___	A. quick	B. quickly	C. the quicker	D. quickest
7 ___	A. the bigger	B. big	C. bigger	D. biggest
8 ___	A. however	B. because	C. despite	D. although
9 ___	A. ---	B. that	C. this	D. these
10 ___	A. where	B. that	C. which	D. how

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II. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form. Use modals if necessary.

LOVE?

Feeling nervous, Lena waited backstage at a theatre in New York. She (1) _____ (not act) in a famous play before, and tonight she was about to rehearse as Juliet in a theatre on Broadway. As she (2) _____ (practice) her lines, questions ran through her mind. Would the cast be friendly? What if her mind (3) _____ (go) blank? Which other role would she have auditioned for if she (4) _____ (not choose) Juliet?

"Act 2, Scene 2!" said the director, and that was her cue to go on stage. A stagehand checked Lena's mic and straightened the balcony rail. The house lights (5) _____ (turn down) by one of the technicians as the crew got the scene ready. No sooner had she started saying her lines than a loud buzz came from a loose cable. On top of that, the metal frame trembled and rattled. Startled, Lena shut her eyes so she (6) _____ (not lose) concentration. Over the headset, a calm voice said, "Stage manager here. There is nothing to worry about—we (7) _____ (fix) the cable, but it will take some time. Most likely, by the time we are done, you (8) _____ (finish) the balcony scene, so consider rehearsing it again."

The actor playing Romeo squeezed her hand and whispered, "We've got this. Don't let this technical problem interfere with our performance. Let's pretend nothing (9) _____ (happen) here." They began the balcony lines again. Lena squeezed his hand back and convinced herself to keep going, but this time with the feeling that Romeo (10) _____ (become) *her* Romeo.

Adapted from *Complete First for Schools*

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

III. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. You must use the **WORD IN CAPITALS** and cannot change it. Use between two and five words, including the word given.

1. I think the package will arrive today.	**LIKELY**
The package _____ today	
2. Patricia knew the answer so quickly I'm sure she studied a lot.	**HAVE**
Patricia knew the answer very quickly. She _____ a lot.	
3. "I'll see you tomorrow" said Mary	**AGREED**
Mary _____ the next day.	
4. Playing in front of a big audience was not easy for her at first.	**USED**
She _____in front of a big audience at first.	
5. It was possible for her to get the job only because her uncle is the manager.	**BEEN**
If her uncle were not the manager, getting the job _____impossible for her.	
6. Peter is a very generous man. I borrowed his grammar notes yesterday.	**WHOSE**
Peter, _____ yesterday, is a very generous man.	
7. I usually run 5 kilometres every day.	**HAVE**
By the end of the week, I _____35 kilometers.	
8. It annoys me that Tom keeps borrowing my pen and never gives it back.	**WISH**
I _____my pen because he never gives it back to me.	
9. The red carpet was shorter than I'd expected.	**NOT**
The red carpet _____ I'd expected.	
10.It was raining, but I went swimming anyway.	**SPITE**
I went swimming _____.	

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SECTION C: Writing

Choose **ONE** of the following options. You must write between **180 and 200** words

Option A: You have decided to enter a short story competition. The rules say that the narrative must **begin or end** with the following words: "He had warned me that it would be dangerous, but I didn't believe him". Write your **story**.

Option B: Your teacher has asked you to write an **essay** giving your opinion on the following: "While regret can be painful, it helps us reflect on past decisions". What do you think?
Write your **essay**, giving your reasons for your point of view. Include examples if necessary.

Option C:
Here is part of an **email** you have received from Peter, an English-speaking friend.

> Hi!
> Hope you're doing well. I'm working on a project about **"Lack of Sleep"** for my science class, and I was wondering if you could help me with my research. Please think about the following questions and share as much information as you can:
> Do you have a regular sleep routine? Do you have any tips for people who suffer from insomnia?
> Have you ever fallen asleep at an embarrassing moment (e.g. during class)?
> I'm looking forward to reading about your experience with sleep.
> Write soon!
> Peter

Write your **email.**

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