

# Exam Practice

## Listening

**Part 1** 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 programme about people who can't hear musical beats. What does the man say about being 'beat deaf'?  
A Many who believe they are beat deaf probably aren't.  
B Beat deafness is connected with the speed of the music.  
C Beat deaf people don't understand the idea of rhythm.

2 You hear two students talking about making a map of their local area. What do they agree about?  
A how difficult it might be to use an online tool  
B how helpful their geography teacher has been  
C how important it is to do careful planning

3 You hear two friends talking about a TV programme they have seen. What does the woman say about the new salt product?  
A It is not likely to be successful.  
B It will not offer value for money.  
C It may not taste as good as normal salt.

4 You hear a teacher telling her students about a historical novel. What is she doing?  
A describing its relevance to her students  
B providing detailed information about the plot  
C explaining why she bought the book

5 You hear a man who is blind talking about experiencing travel through his sense of smell. Why is he talking about this?  
A to persuade us to try out his technique  
B to describe particular journeys he's made  
C to explain how his skill makes him feel

6 You hear a sports coach talking to a cyclist. What is the coach doing?  
A praising the cyclist for her progress  
B explaining why the cyclist feels a certain way  
C encouraging the cyclist to eat better foods

7 You hear an author talking to a friend about launching her new book. How does the author feel now?  
A surprised by her publisher's behaviour  
B worried about certain arrangements  
C eager to carry out her plans

8 You hear a sea captain talking to trainees about finding the way at sea. What does he say sailors must do?  
A learn from the mistakes of older sailors  
B study relevant charts while sailing  
C be aware of their location at all times

### Part 2

You will hear a man called James Perry talking about growing olives, a kind of fruit used to make oil for food. For questions 9–18, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

### Olive farming

As James' olives were growing, some trees were affected by an unexpected (9) .....

James says that a kind of (10) ..... was one creature found on his olive trees.

James decided to pick his olives by (11) ..... when they were ready.

James collected his olives using a (12) ..... rather than a traditional container.

James says he found cleaning (13) ..... out of the olives extremely boring.

After sorting them, James said that the olives had left (14) ..... over his kitchen.

At the olive press, James hadn't expected to wait in a (15) .....

James' wife joked they could use his first oil in (16) ..... as well as for cooking.

James says that the olives need to be (17) ..... when you pick them.

James hopes next year's oil will have the flavour of (18) ..... , which he likes.

VietFCE

### Part 3

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about why they studied astronomy, the scientific study of stars and planets. For questions 19–23, choose from the list (A–H) the reason each speaker gives for choosing to study the subject. Use the letters only once. There are three extra letters which you do not need to use.

A to gain access to the latest equipment

Speaker 1

	19
--	----

B to follow a family tradition

Speaker 2

	20
--	----

C to earn a good salary

Speaker 3

	21
--	----

D to improve career opportunities

Speaker 4

	22
--	----

E to prove something to other people

Speaker 5

	23
--	----

F to apply knowledge of another subject

G to increase the opportunity to travel

H to satisfy a childhood ambition

### Part 4

You will hear an interview with a life coach called Mel Candy, who helps people to achieve a work-life balance. For questions 24–30, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

24 Mel says that people who complain to her about being too busy

- A usually work in management positions.
- B want her to tell them precisely what to do.
- C enjoy the fact that it makes them seem important.

28 Mel says it's difficult to achieve a work-life balance when people feel

- A concerned that others may judge them.
- B worried they'll miss something important.
- C scared of trying out new activities.

25 Mel thinks that people who live and work alone

- A tend to lose track of time.
- B worry about being isolated.
- C can lose their social skills.

29 What does Mel say about the advice a client gave her?

- A It made a difference to her own life.
- B It confirmed why she likes to help people.
- C It's something she shares with other clients.

26 What does Mel think about trying to do more than one task at a time?

- A She believes it's possible to learn to do it well.
- B She sees why people think it's a good technique.
- C She thinks it's important to research the idea.

30 What does achieving a work-life balance mean for Mel?

- A feeling in control of her workload
- B having more time for social activities
- C achieving a state of physical relaxation

27 According to Mel, the expert answer to gaining work-life balance is to

- A change your work routine.
- B achieve goals more quickly.
- C look ahead at forthcoming events.

## Reading and Use of English

## Part 1

For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

A beneath	B lower	<u>C minus</u>	D less
-----------	---------	----------------	--------

### Mars on Earth

The centre of Antarctica, where winter temperatures frequently fall to 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 80 degrees centigrade and for four months each year there is 1 \_\_\_\_\_ darkness 24 hours a day, is one of the most extreme environments on Earth. It is also by 2 \_\_\_\_\_ the most similar place to the surface of Mars, which is why a 3 \_\_\_\_\_ of thirteen scientists from the European Space Agency have spent nine months at a base there.

They have been studying the physical and psychological 4 \_\_\_\_\_ on humans of living in extreme conditions, in order to obtain a better understanding of the difficulties humans will 5 \_\_\_\_\_ during the long flight to Mars and their stay there. Of course, space is 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Antarctica in that astronauts have to adapt to weightlessness, but the base is 3,200 metres above sea 7 \_\_\_\_\_ making it difficult to breathe there - as it can be on space flights. They have also, like space travellers, experienced strong feelings of being 8 \_\_\_\_\_ off from civilisation.

1	A regular	B constant	C repeated	D maintained
2	A far	B much	C large	D long
3	A crew	B cast	C gang	D team
4	A results	B effects	C issues	D risks
5	A oppose	B dare	C challenge	D face
6	A unlike	B contrary	C unfamiliar	D different
7	A height	B level	C depth	D scale
8	A broken	B cut	C kept	D taken

## Part 2

For questions 9-16, 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). In the exam, write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

Example: SINCE

### Marathon in the mountains

The Ultra-Trail of Mont Blanc is an extreme marathon held annually 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 2003 in the mountains of France, Italy and Switzerland. Widely regarded 9 \_\_\_\_\_ one of the toughest races in the world, the Ultra-Trail takes place in August, 10 \_\_\_\_\_ temperatures frequently range from over 30°C at the lowest points of the course, to well 11 \_\_\_\_\_ freezing at the highest.

An Olympic marathon is 42.5 kilometres long, but 12 \_\_\_\_\_ one is over 160 kilometres in length and includes nine mountain peaks. That involves climbing a total of approximately 9,500 metres, 13 \_\_\_\_\_ is considerably higher than Everest. In 14 \_\_\_\_\_ of, or perhaps because of this, the annual event has become increasingly popular with runners, to 15 \_\_\_\_\_ an extent that the numbers have had to be limited to 2300. Only about half of these, 16 \_\_\_\_\_ average, are likely to finish the course, in times that typically vary from 20 hours to over 45.

## Part 3

For questions 17-24, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0). In the exam, write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

Example: **REASONABLE**

### Jobs in the future

In twenty years' time, which jobs will people still be doing, and which is it **0** \_\_\_\_\_ to assume will have gone forever? Today's young people should give that question careful **17** \_\_\_\_\_ before choosing a career. Clearly there will continue to be a need for staff in **18** \_\_\_\_\_ professions such as medicine that involve caring for others, and also for people able to persuade, like **19** \_\_\_\_\_ and lawyers.

There will of course be no **20** \_\_\_\_\_ of jobs in science and technology, particularly for individuals able to **21** \_\_\_\_\_ in newer fields such as biotechnology and microbiology.

On the other hand, the already rapid **22** \_\_\_\_\_ of jobs to robots will speed up even further, as they replace workers not only in manufacturing but also in the **23** \_\_\_\_\_ industry. And as robots learn how to stack shelves, take over at check-outs or send us our online shopping, it won't be long before most supermarket jobs have **24** \_\_\_\_\_, too.

0. REASON
17. CONSIDER
18. EXIST
19. POLITICS
20. SHORT
21. SPECIAL
22. LOSE
23. CONSTRUCT
24. APPEAR

## 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. ON HIS OWN**

0. My little brother went to see the big match by himself.

**OWN**

My little brother went \_\_\_\_\_ to see the big match.

25. Amanda woke up late because she'd forgotten to set her alarm.

**HAVE**

If Amanda hadn't forgotten to set her alarm she \_\_\_\_\_ late.

26. This Internet browser works far better than the others.

**NEARLY**

The other Internet browsers don't \_\_\_\_\_ this one.

27. 'Can I borrow your phone for a minute, Jack?' asked Emma.

**WHETHER**

Emma asked Jack \_\_\_\_\_ phone.

28. Raymond has so much skill as an artist that his drawings look like photographs.

**SUCH**

Raymond is \_\_\_\_\_ artist that his drawings look like photographs.

29. I wish I hadn't stayed up late last night.

**BED**

I should \_\_\_\_\_ last night.

30. Our departure was delayed because another flight arrived late.

**CAUSED**

The delay to our departure \_\_\_\_\_ arrival of another flight.

## Part 5

*You are going to read an extract from a novel. For questions 31-36, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.*

### Night Flight

The flight is busy and the last few passengers to board are searching for places to stow their hand luggage. The Asian woman in the seat next to me is in her late twenties, probably travelling on business. I am wondering if I should talk to her when the man in the window seat shows up and we have to let him in. She settles back in the middle seat. When I try to strap myself back in I find she's picked up the buckle of my belt by accident and we look at each other and laugh.

'What have you been doing in Bangalore?' I ask.

'My office is there. It's where I'm based.' I notice that she has a North American accent. She tells me she works for a multinational company that makes clothing and that she is on her way to Thailand. She has to visit a couple of factories and meet with some other people from the company. She's also trying to complete her PhD thesis, which is on a laptop she has under the seat in front of her. While she's talking she puts her passport away in her bag and I see she's Canadian.

She asks me what I do and I tell her. Then I ask her some more about her job and she tells me about that. By this time we are in the air and climbing towards our cruising altitude. The cabin is quiet, lights still dimmed, just the gentle sound of the air conditioning and the murmur of conversations. The flight to Singapore is three and a half hours. I can't decide whether to attempt sleep. It is nearly midnight and it hardly seems worth it. The man in the window seat has put on eye-shades and has an inflated pillow around his neck. He has slipped down in the seat with his head lolling to one side, his blanket pulled up to his chest. The woman shows no inclination to sleep so I ask her where she grew up.

She tells me her father is a medical doctor and that he went to Canada before she was born. They spent a few years in Montreal but most of the time she lived in Saskatchewan. 'It was OK,' she says. 'There are things happening there, it's not as dull as you might think.' She tells me sometimes in the winter it would get down to minus sixty.

'Really it was minus thirty,' she says. 'But the wind chill factor made it feel like minus sixty. I remember them saying on the weather forecast "human flesh will freeze in 1.4 seconds." Things like that.'

'I've never been anywhere that cold,' I say.

'Somehow it didn't feel that bad,' she says. 'It was like a dry cold. When the sun was shining it didn't seem that cold. It makes your skin kind of tingle. We used to play out in it. You can get seriously cold and not realise it. When you're back indoors your face and hands ache as the blood comes back. I suppose that is how polar explorers end up losing toes. They don't realise how cold they are.'

'I suppose so,' I say. There's a pause in the conversation and I wonder what to say next.

'I guess you get the other extreme living in India.'

'Bangalore is fine,' she says, 'though we need rain. The drought is very bad in south India right now.'

The woman asks me how I got into my present job and I tell her a bit about my life. At least I tell her the story which over time has fashioned itself into what I call my life. It's not that I'm being deliberately secretive or deceitful. I just don't know how to talk about what really happened.

31. What do we find out about the woman in the first paragraph?

- A She is annoyed at having to change seats with another passenger.
- B She finds a mistake she makes amusing.
- C She wants to get on with her work during the flight.
- D She has difficulty finding room for items she brought on board.

32. What does the woman say at the beginning of the conversation?

- A She has Canadian nationality.
- B She usually works in Thailand.
- C She is currently both studying and working.
- D She is going to work for a different employer.

33. Why does the writer stay awake throughout the flight?

- A There is a lot of mechanical noise on the plane.
- B Nobody else on board seems to want to sleep.
- C Some of the passengers are talking loudly.
- D He would not be able to sleep very long.

34. The woman talks about temperatures in Canada to show that

- A it could sometimes be extremely cold in Montreal.
- B India is a more pleasant country to live in than Canada.
- C the place where she grew up could be interesting.
- D in Saskatchewan children had to stay at home all winter.

35. What does the underlined 'that' refer to in Paragraph 10?

- A failing to notice how cold some parts of the body really are
- B wearing clothes that do not cover the skin in very cold weather
- C playing games outside in extremely low temperatures
- D going into a warm place straight from somewhere much colder

36. The writer mentions the weather in India because

- A he realises the woman wants to change the subject.
- B he wants to keep the conversation going.
- C he finds the weather an interesting topic to discuss.
- D he had wanted to ask the woman about it while she was talking.

## Writing

Write an essay in 140-190 words

Modern lifestyles can seriously endanger our health.

Do you agree?

Write about:

- food
- physical activity
- ..... (your own choice)

---