LanguageCert Expert C1

Reading Part 1
Read the text and the statements. Some of these statements are true according to the text; some of them are false. Choose the correct answer: True (T) or False (F) for each statement.

I hurried along the road at top speed without seeing anything of Sir Henry, until I came to the point where the moor path branches off. There, fearing that perhaps I had set off in the wrong direction after all, I mounted a hill from which I could command a view – the same hill which is cut into the dark quarry. There I saw him at once. He was on the moor path, about a quarter of a mile off, and a lady was by his side who could only be Miss Stapleton.

It was clear that there was already an understanding between them and that they had met by appointment. They were walking slowly along in deep conversation, and I saw her making quick little movements of her hands as if she were very earnest in what she was saying, while he listened intently, and once or twice shook his head in strong dissent. I stood among the rocks watching them, very much puzzled as to what I should do next. To follow them and break into their intimate conversation seemed disgraceful and yet my clear duty was never for an instant to let him out of my sight.

To act the spy upon a friend was a hateful task. Still, I could see no better course than to observe him from the hill, and to clear my conscience by confessing to him afterwards what had happened. It is true that if any sudden danger had threatened him I was too far away to be of use, and yet I am sure that you will agree with me that there was nothing more I could do.

Our friend, Sir Henry, and the lady had halted on the path, and were standing deeply absorbed in their conversation, when it became apparent to me that I was not the only witness of their interview. I detected something green floating in the air out of the corner of my eye, and another glance showed me that it was carried on a stick by a man who was moving among the woods.

1. At first the writer was uncertain about the route he had followed. ☐
2. The writer heard the man and the woman quarrel. ☐
3. The writer feels that his behaviour was somewhat immoral. ☐
4. The man and woman were aware that they were being watched. ☐
5. The writer was injured in the eye by something that another man was holding. ☐

Reading Part 2
Read the text. Use the sentences to complete the text. Choose the correct sentence for each gap. There are two extra sentences you will not need.

James Augustine Aloysius Joyce was born on 2 February 1882 to John Stanislaus Joyce and Mary Jane 'May' Murray, in the Dublin suburb of Rathgar. He was the eldest of ten surviving children.

His father's family, originally from Fermoy in Cork, had once owned a small salt and lime works. Joyce's father and paternal grandfather both married into wealthy families, though the family's purported ancestor, Seán Mór Seoighe was a stonemason from Connemara. **(1)** _____The family subsequently moved to the fashionable small town of Bray, 12 miles from that city. Around this time Joyce was attacked by a dog, which resulted in his lifelong *cynophobia*; he was never again at ease near the creatures. **(2)** _____

Joyce enrolled at the recently established University College Dublin (UCD) in 1898, studying English, French and Italian. He also became active in theatrical and literary circles in the city. In 1900 his complimentary review of Henrik Ibsen's drama *When We Dead Awaken* appeared in *The Fortnightly Review*. **(3)** _____ Joyce wrote a number of other articles and at least two plays (since lost) during this period. Many of the friends he made at University College Dublin appeared as characters in his works. His closest fellow students included leading figures of the generation, most notably the authors Thomas Kettle, Francis Sheehy-Skeffington and Oliver St. John Gogarty. **(4)** _____ However, Joyce had it printed and distributed locally. He was eventually introduced to the wider Irish public by Arthur Griffith in his newspaper, *The United Irishman*, in November 1901.

After graduating from UCD in 1902, Joyce left for Paris to study medicine, but he soon abandoned this. **(5)** _____However, Joyce had already failed to pass a chemistry exam in Ireland, so perhaps it was not simply his linguistic ability, or lack of it, that was an issue. Joyce himself claimed ill health as the problem and wrote home that he was unwell and complained about the cold weather. He stayed on for a few months, constantly appealing for finance his family could ill afford and always reading late into the night. **(6)** _____

A Richard Ellmann suggests that this may have been because he found scientific lectures too difficult in a foreign language.

B Joyce penned an article on the influence of these famous writers, but his college magazine refused to publish it.

C In 1887, his father was appointed rate collector (i.e. a collector of local property taxes) by the Corporation of Dublin.

D The issue of Joyce's relationship with religion is somewhat controversial.

E Having completed work on *Ulysses*, Joyce was so exhausted that he did not write a line of prose for a year.

F It was the first time he'd had anything published and he subsequently sent a fan letter to the playwright, receiving a letter of thanks in return.

G He also suffered from a fear of thunderstorms, after a superstitious aunt had told him they were a forecast of bad luck.

H These were both habits that would continue throughout his life.

Reading Part 3
Read the four texts. Which text gives you the answer to each question? Choose the correct text (A-D) for each question.

A
A laptop, often called a notebook, is a portable personal computer suitable for mobile use. Although at first there was a distinction between laptops and notebooks, the former being bigger and heavier than the latter, in modern usage there is often no longer any difference. Laptops are commonly used in a variety of settings, such as at work, in education, and for personal multimedia. A laptop combines the components and inputs of a desktop computer, including the display, speakers, a keyboard, and pointing devices into a single unit. Most modern-day laptops also have integrated webcams and built-in microphones. The device can be powered either from a rechargeable battery or by mains electricity from an AC adapter. Portable computers, which later developed into modern laptops, were originally considered to be a small niche market, mostly for specialised professionals, such as military personnel, accountants, or sales representatives.

B
It was supposed to be a pleasant surprise, but it wasn't in the end. Having bought one of your most expensive laptops as a present for my partner, I thought that any problems we would have with the device would easily be solved by your company. However, this was not the case. When I had to contact your call centre to inform them that our brand-new laptop showed a blank screen, I was unpleasantly surprised to hear that there was nothing they could do because the problem was not related to parts. I hope you can appreciate why I found this reply unacceptable. If I'd known I'd be treated in this way, I would have bought one of your second-hand laptops, which cost less than €300.

C
Whether for business or pleasure, laptops are now a vital part of our everyday life. A wide range of choice is offered in all sizes and colours. No matter what your needs, don't miss out on this week's offer. All brand-new laptops and notebooks are 10% off for the whole week. Get yours today and get a €50 voucher off your next purchase. Also, when you buy one of our new laptops, you'll get a complimentary waterproof case. However, if you are on a tight budget, we've got the solution for you, too. Visit us and check out our stock of second-hand laptops which have all been inspected, cleaned and restored to original factory specifications. All come with a two-year guarantee and any problems will quickly be rectified by our team of specialists.

D
Leaving the laptop plugged in for too long will reduce the lifetime of its battery. Overheating computers can cause a lot of problems, from seemingly random blue screens to data loss. Be extra careful with wet surfaces because they can cause severe damage to the laptop which, in some cases, is irreparable. If you meet any of the above difficulties while using your device, or any other setback, use the "quick start" guide. If the problem persists, contact our service department. If your device is under guarantee, any work done will be free of charge, but please note that the guarantee is only valid if the device is used properly. When you call the service department, you will need the part number from your laptop's user manual. You can also find this by searching for your laptop's model number online.

In which text does the writer:
1. encourage people to make a purchase? ☐
2. advise readers of precautionary measures? ☐
3. describe an unexpected annoyance? ☐

Which text is saying the following?
4. In some cases, damage caused to laptops cannot be rectified. ☐
5. Ownership of laptops was originally limited to specific types of users. ☐
6. A guarantee does not cover damage caused by inappropriate use. ☐
7. A protective cover is free of charge. ☐

Reading Part 4
Read the text and answer the questions. Use a maximum of five words for each question.

How to be happy

Happiness is not a simple state to achieve, but it may be gained through a process of striving for, seeking, finding and retaining self-actualising work and leisure time, even when they appear elusive. Being happy often means finding satisfaction or contentment, feeling joyful, and sensing that your life is meaningful. Nobody is jolly and elated all the time, but some individuals are definitely more fulfilled than others. Most studies reveal that happiness has very little to do with possessions – so what is it about? And, since being happy is also good for health, how can we attain it?

Change your memory. People have an unfortunate tendency to concentrate on remembering negative experiences. However, thanks to its adaptability (neuroplasticity), you can actually change the way your mind functions. You can train it to be happier.

Look for the positive in all your experiences. The old saying that you find what you look for is true. Accept harsh experiences and problems as learning opportunities. It can be tempting to let challenges or roadblocks keep us from feeling happy. Sometimes, it looks as if there's nothing good about a particular situation or experience. However, it's important to think about even the greatest setbacks as experiences we can learn from so that we will be able to gain great results in the future.

Cultivate optimism. Why does winning the lottery not make people happy? In the 1970s, researchers followed people who'd won the lottery and found that a year afterward, they were no happier than people who hadn't. This is called hedonic adaptation, which suggests that we each have a "baseline" of happiness to which we return. No matter what events occur, good or bad, the effect on our happiness is temporary, and happiness tends to quickly revert to the baseline level. Some people have a higher baseline happiness level than others, and that is due in part to genetics, but it's also largely influenced by our approach to life.

Smile. Science suggests that when you smile, whether you're happy or not, your mood is elevated. This is especially true if all your facial muscles, including the ones around your eyes, contract in order to form a smile. So, smile whenever you can! Smiling is like a feedback loop: smiling reinforces happiness, just as happiness causes smiling. People who smile during painful procedures reported less pain than those who kept their facial expression neutral.

Follow your intuition. In one study, conducted by Dr Leitz, two groups of people were asked to pick a poster to take home. One group was asked to analyse their decision, weighing pros and cons, and the other group was told to simply base their choice on first impressions. Two weeks later, the latter group was happier with their posters than the group that analysed their decisions. Granted, some of our decisions are more crucial than picking out posters, but often the options we're agonising over won't have a huge effect on our long-term happiness. The stress of endlessly weighing all the options can drastically decrease our happiness, though.

Be compassionate. Compassion is all about doing something kind for someone in need, or someone less privileged than you. A brain-imaging study (where scientists peek into people's brains while they act or think) revealed that people gain as much happiness from giving to charity as they do receiving money themselves! Think of effective ways that you can make your community or the world a better place by being compassionate. Compassion is a key part of happiness because it highlights your good qualities, and it's also really good for your health.

Make friends. In a 2010 study published by Harvard researchers in *American Sociological Review*, people who went to the same sports club regularly reported greater life satisfaction than those who didn't. The critical factor was the quality of friendships made in such places. This research shows just how important it is to make friends with similar values and viewpoints as you. It doesn't matter what your interests and beliefs are.

1. What has research shown that happiness is seldom related to? _____
2. What do people generally find difficult to avoid doing? _____
3. How should we perceive difficulties and tough situations? _____
4. What determines the baseline of happiness, besides attitude to life? _____
5. Which body parts change when you smile? _____
6. According to Dr Leitz, what effect will over-analysing have on happiness? _____
7. What does compassion reveal about you? _____
8. What do you need to share with friends to achieve happiness? _____

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