

Language Exam 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, feeling that perhaps I had set off in the wrong direction after all, I resolved to kill him when I could command a view - the same hill which led 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 waiting quietly along the moor, and I saw that they had both little movements of the hands as if they were very nervous in what they were doing, while he looked 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 dangerous 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 a hard business to have to confess to a friend, but I was bound to do so, 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 flashing in the east of the corner of my eye, and another glance showed me that it was carried on a stick by a man who was rooting among the woods.

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

Reading Part 2

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

James Augustine Alloysius 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 purportedly descended from John Mair Saigah, a stone-mason from Connemara. In 1890 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 convalescence; he was never again at ease near the creature. (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 contemporary 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 ten plays during the 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 printed and distributed locally. He was eventually introduced to the wider Irish public by Arthur Griffith in his newspaper, *The Irishman*, in November 1901.

After graduating from UCD in 1902, Joyce left Paris to study medicine, but he soon abandoned this. (5) However, Joyce had already taken to a medical career in Ireland, so perhaps it was not simply his linguistic ability, or lack of it, that was an issue. Joyce himself claimed to have as the problem and more from that he was unwell and complained about the cold weather. He stayed on for a few months, reportedly appearing to have his family could after and always meeting late into the night. (6)

- Richard Elmann suggests that this may have been because he found scientific lectures too difficult in a foreign language.
- Joyce penned an article on the influence of these famous writers, but his college magazine refused to publish it.
- In 1887 his father was appointed rate collector (i.e. a collector of local property taxes) by the Corporation of Dublin.
- The issue of Joyce's relationship with religion is somewhat controversial.
- Having completed work on *Lipotes*, Joyce was so exhausted that he did not write a line of prose for a year.
- It was the first time he'd had anything published and he subsequently sent a fan letter to the playwright, mentioning a letter of thanks in return.
- He also suffered from fear of thunderstorms, after a superstitious aunt had told him they were a forecast of bad luck.
- 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 laptop often called a notebook, is a portable personal computer capable 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 no longer a difference. Laptops are commonly used in a variety of settings, such as at work, in education, and for personal use. A laptop combines the components and types of a desktop computer, including the display, speakers, a keyboard, and pointing device into a single unit. Most modern day laptops also have integrated webcams and built-in microphones. The devices are transported either from one geographic location, with one person, or to a small niche market, mostly for specialised professionals, such as military personnel, accountants, or sales representatives.
- A laptop is supposed to be a pleasant surprise, but it wasn't the end. Having bought one of your most cherished laptops a gift for my mother, I thought the problems she would have with the device would surely be solved by your company. However, this was not the case. When I had to come to your office to tell her what you had done, my mother showed a look that was unpleasantly surprised to hear that there was nothing they could do because the problem was not related to her. There you can appreciate why I think this was unacceptable. If it weren't for the trouble in the way, I would have bought one of your second-hand laptops, which cost less than £300.
- I wish for happiness or pleasure. Laptops are more a bit part of my everyday life. In order of choice or preference it's speed and colour. No matter what your needs, don't fuss out on this week's offer. It's hard to see laptops and notebooks 10% off the shop week. We get the best prices and a £10 voucher off your next purchase. Also when you buy one of our new laptops, you'll get a complimentary wireless mouse. However, if you are a light laptop user, we get the smallest for you. Yes, you can check out our stock of second-hand laptops which will be inspected, cleaned and returned to original factory specifications. All come with a one year guarantee and any problems we quickly be rectified by our team of specialists.
- Keeping the laptop plugged in for too long will reduce the lifetime of its battery. Overcharging computers can cause a lot of problems. From overloading random blue screens to data loss, be extra careful with your laptop because they can cause severe damage to laptops which are new ones. In responsible of your own of the above difficulties while using your device, or any other methods, you'll be held liable for the solution. If you do not wish to contact our service department or your device is under guarantee, any work done will be at your charge. We advise that the guarantee is only valid if the device is used properly when you call the service department, you will need the serial number from your laptop's user manual. You can also find help by searching for your laptop's model number online.

In which text does the writer:

- encourage people to make a purchase?
- advise readers of precautionary measures?
- describe an unexpected annoyance?

Which text is saying the following?

- In some cases, changes caused to laptops cannot be rectified.
- Ownership of laptops was originally limited to specific types of users.
- A guarantee does not cover damage caused by inappropriate use.
- 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 can be gained through a process of striving for meaning, finding and striving for fulfilling work and leisure time, even when they appear elusive, being happy often means finding fulfilment in one's career, finding joy and meaning in their day-to-day life. Nobody is fully and content all the time, but some individuals are definitely more fulfilled than others. Most studies reveal that happiness has very little to do with possessions - as what is it about? And, since being happy is also good for health, how can we attain it?

Change your attitude. People have an unfortunate tendency to concentrate on remembering negative experiences; however, think about its adaptability (neuroplasticity), you can actually change the way your mind functions. You can't let it be happy.

Look for the positive in all your experiences. The old saying that you find what you look for is true. Accept both requirements and broaden the number of things you can be happy to see. Challenge or modify tasks as soon as you feel happy. Sometimes it looks as if there's nothing good about a particular situation or experience. However, if you concentrate on the things that are the greatest aspects of an experience 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 did win the lottery and found that a year afterwards they were no happier than people who hadn't. It is the difference between optimism, which suggests that we have a number of happiness to which we return, no matter what, versus pessimism, good or bad, the effect on our happiness is known, and happy that tends to be due 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 experiences 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 those around your eyes, contribute to form a smile. So, smile whenever you can. Smiling is like a feedback loop: smiling reinforces happiness. Use as happiness does smiling. People who smile during medical procedures reported less pain than those who kept their facial expressions neutral.

Follow your intuition. In one study, conducted by Dr. Leitz, two groups of people were asked to pick a poster (like home). One group was asked to analyse their decision, weighing pros and cons, and the other group was told to simply trust their intuition on their decisions. We need to trust our intuition group was happier with their poster than the group that analysed their decision. Granted, some of our decisions are more crucial than others, but often the options we're considering won't have a huge effect on our long-term happiness. The areas 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, which scientists used to probe the brain while they act or listen to someone who is in need, shows that when people help someone in need, the brain's reward system is activated. This is because you're helping someone who is in need, and the brain's reward system is activated. Compassion is all about doing something kind for someone in need, or someone less privileged than you, and it's also really good for you.

Make friends. In a 2010 study published by Harvard researchers in *American Sociological Review*, despite the fact that the study did not include regular or reported gender discrimination, the researchers did find that the critical factor was the quality of friends that made in each place. The researchers also did not find that it was the number of friends who were similar values and viewpoints as you. It doesn't matter what your interests and beliefs are.

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