

ПРИМЕРЕН ВАРИАНТ
ЗА ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК

PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *You will hear the text **The Saint** twice. Before you listen to it, you have **3 minutes** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **8 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, C or D. Then you will hear the text again and will have **2 minutes** to check your answers.*

1. St Patrick

- A) was born poor.
- B) had parents who were well-off.
- C) was an orphan.
- D) was born a saint.

2. St Patrick got to know Christianity

- A) while he was in sainthood.
- B) while he was working as a slave.
- C) while the villains tried to kill him.
- D) While Christians converted people to their faith.

3. He spent twelve years

- A) studying at university.
- B) learning at places of worship and prayer.
- C) studying the ways of the world.
- D) learning with friends.

4. When he felt ready he

- A) started calling on his friends.
- B) began working for the pagans.
- C) set off to spread Christianity.
- D) called the Druids for help.

5. Why did St Patrick use the shamrock?

- A) To explain his writings.
- B) To raise people from their graves.
- C) To approach his followers.
- D) To clarify his faith.

6. The books St Patrick wrote

- A) show how holy he was.
- B) imply he was honest and religious.
- C) state his purpose in life.
- D) can be useful for teaching.

Directions: You will hear a short article about a disabled sportsman twice. Before you listen to it, you have **2 minutes** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **6 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.

7. The Blade Runner is a film starring Harrison Ford.

- A) True.
- B) False.
- C) No information in the text.

8. Oscar Pistorius holds the records for three track events.

- A) True.
- B) False.
- C) No information in the text.

9. Oscar Pistorius lost his legs in a car accident.

- A) True.
- B) False.
- C) No information in the text.

10. Oscar's artificial legs make him feel as tired as able-bodied athletes.

- A) True.
- B) False.
- C) No information in the text.

11. International Association of Athletics Federations was reluctant to grant Oscar permission to take part in the Olympics.

- A) True.
- B) False.
- C) No information in the text.

Directions: You will hear a joke twice. Before you listen to it, you have **2 minutes** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **5 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.

12. The young person from the story had just graduated from a business school.

- A) True
- B) False
- C) No information in the text

13. According to the text, he had a lot of work from day one:

- A) True
- B) False
- C) No information in the text.

14. The young man spoke on the phone for a while before he addressed the visitor.

- A) True
- B) False
- C) No information in the text

15. The visitor was a technician who had to connect the young man's phone.

- A) True
- B) False
- C) No information in the text

PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among A, B or C, marking the answer on your answer sheet.*

The European Union

The European Union (EU) is a unique political and economic community with supranational and intergovernmental dimensions. It is composed of twenty-seven member states primarily located in Europe. In 1957, six European countries formed the European Economic Community (EEC) by the Treaty of Rome. Since then the EU has grown in size through the accession of new member states and has increased its powers by the addition of new policy areas to its remit. In 1993, the Maastricht Treaty established the base of the current legal framework.

The EU created a single market which seeks to guarantee the freedom of movement of people, goods, services and capital between member states. It maintains a common trade policy, agricultural and fisheries policies, and a regional development policy. In 1999 the EU introduced a common currency, the euro, which has been adopted by thirteen member states. It has also developed a role in foreign policy, and in justice and home affairs. Passport control and customs checks between many member states were abolished under the Schengen Agreement.

With over 492 million citizens the EU generates an estimated nominal GDP of €8.6 (\$10.7) trillion in 2007. It represents its members in the WTO and observes the G8 summits. Twenty EU countries are members of NATO. Important institutions of the EU include the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union, the European Council, the European Court of Justice and the European Central Bank. EU citizens elect the Parliament every five years.

16. The twenty-seven EU member states are located mainly in Central Europe.

- (A) True.
- (B) False.
- (C) No information in the text.

17. The strength of the EU has weakened since the new member states were annexed.

- (A) True.
- (B) False.
- (C) No information in the text.

18. The euro is used in all the countries of the EU.

- (A) True.
- (B) False.
- (C) No information in the text.

19. The Schengen Agreement made it easier for people to travel in the EU.

- (A) True.
- (B) False.
- (C) No information in the text.

20. Only twenty EU countries are members of NATO.

- (A) True.
- (B) False.
- (C) No information in the text.

Directions: *Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among A, B, C or D, marking the answer on your answer sheet.*

I must tell you about our holiday this year - it was one of the best we'd ever had. No, we weren't staying in an expensive hotel, but a youth hostel! I know what you're thinking: we must've gone mad. But we haven't - I just wish we'd discovered youth hostels years ago. Now that I'm back at university again luxury hotels are a thing of the past, and I was complaining about this one day to a friend who said that she and her family never stayed anywhere but hostels. I had no idea that hostels could be anything from a cottage to a castle. I mean where else do you get to stay in a castle! In fact there are four different grades - simple, standard, superior and special so you pay an overnight charge according to the kind of hostel you stay at. You can't stay more than three nights at a time but that didn't bother us because we wanted a touring holiday. Basically you look after yourself although most hostels do breakfast and some of them offer an evening meal if you arrive early enough. There are a few rules like having to be in by 11 p.m. in the evening and out by 10 a.m. in the morning but otherwise you're free to do what you want. Now I really believe that the best thing about this whole holiday was meeting so many different and interesting people. I used to think hostels were only for the young and noisy, but not any more. You can't imagine what a variety there was! Anyway, what are you all doing next year?

21. This text is from

- A) a diary.
- B) a letter.
- C) a magazine.
- D) a poster

22. What is the writer trying to do?

- A) to give directions
- B) to offer instructions
- C) to make complaints
- D) to give information

23. Staying in a hostel was good because

- A) there was no room in the hotels.
- B) the writer prefers cottages and castles.
- C) there were a lot of interesting guests.
- D) the writer wanted a touring holiday.

24. What did the writer enjoy most about her vacation?

- A) people
- B) touring
- C) accomodation
- D)variety

25. Only ONE of these people will choose to stay in a hostel. Choose which one you think it will be.

A) I cook for my family all the year round, and although I enjoy doing it, I really don't want to have to provide any meals when I'm on holiday, especially as I plan to go out and enjoy myself dancing the night away!

B) I've worked hard for many years and now that I've got a bit of free time I plan on seeing as many different places as possible. If I can save on the cost of accomodation, I'll have more to spend on train or bus fares.

C) We want an opportunity to meet different sorts of people and get to know them, so we thought we'd spend a couple of weeks relaxing in one place - our jobs mean moving about so much that it would be nice not to carry a suitcase for a fortnight!

D) I'm a student and I don't have a lot of money to spare. I don't like getting cold and wet though, so if the weather isn't good, I'll just make myself a pot of coffee and stay in all day reading an exciting book.

Directions: *Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among A, B, C or D, marking the answer on your answer sheet.*

Cultural Use of Time

Culture tells us how to manipulate time in order to communicate different messages. Appearing for an appointment varies with the custom, people's social situation, and their relative status. In North America, if you have a business meeting scheduled, the time you should arrive largely depends on the power relationship between you and the person who you are meeting. People who are lower in status are expected to arrive on time, if not early. Higher status individuals can expect that others will wait for them if they are late. For instance, most people who have medical appointments are expected to arrive early and to wait patiently for their doctor to see them rather than the other way around. An invitation to a party is an entirely different matter. It is often expected that most guests will arrive "fashionably late." It generally takes a North American child at least 12 years to master these subtle cultural aspects of time. By 5-6 years old, they usually only know the days of the week, the difference between day and night, morning and afternoon, meal and nap time. By 7-8 years old, most can consistently use the clock to tell time. However, it is not until about 12 years or older that they begin to know the situational aspects of time, such as when to arrive at a party.

When people come together with very different cultural expectations about time, there is a potential for misunderstanding, frustration, and hurt feelings. This could occur, for instance, if a Brazilian businessman does not arrive "on time" for a meeting with a potential North American customer in New York and fails to give an apology when he arrives. For the Brazilian, time may

be relatively "elastic" and the pace-of-life a bit slower. He believes that he was sufficiently prompt for the scheduled business meeting, having arrived within a half hour of the appointment. It is not surprising that he is astonished and offended when he is treated coldly by the North American who also feels slighted by what he perceives as rudeness. Compounding the situation is likely to be differences in their comfortable physical interaction distances. This dismal scenario can be avoided, of course, by foreknowledge about the other culture and a willingness to adopt a cultural relativity approach. The old saying "when in Rome do as the Romans do" is still good advice.

26. In North America the time you arrive for a business meeting is determined by:

- A) your habits.
- B) your culture.
- C) the appointment you've made.
- D) the rank you occupy.

27. Which one of the following people should NOT wait for an appointment:

- A) the physician whose patient is late.
- B) the computer expert whose manager is late.
- C) the student if the teacher is late.
- D) the teacher if the principal is late.

28. In what way is arrival for a party different from arrival for a business appointment?

- A) people should carry gifts for the party.
- B) people should be dressed up for the party.
- C) people should wait for the party host.
- D) people should send a silent message by being late.

29. For people from South America punctuality is:

- A) a matter of life and death.
- B) to be observed only at times.
- C) not to be taken lightly.
- D) to arrive within 30 minutes of the appointed time.

30. The saying "when in Rome do as the Romans do" means:

- A) you should go to Rome to see the Romans.
- B) a visitor should try to act as the people do who are from that place
- C) a person ought to act like the Romans
- D) that your approach to culture is wrong.

PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

Section One: Cloze Test

Directions: Read the text and the sentences below. For each numbered gap choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best completes each space, marking your answer on your answer sheet.

Environmental Concerns

Earth is the (31) _____ we know of in the universe that can support human life. (32) _____ human activities are making the planet less fit to live on. As the western world (33) _____ on consuming two-thirds of the world's resources while half of the world's population do so (34) _____ to stay alive we are rapidly destroying the (35) _____ resource we have by which all people can survive and prosper. Everywhere fertile soil is (36) _____ built on or washed into the sea. Renewable resources are exploited so much that they will never be able to recover (37) _____. We discharge pollutants into the atmosphere without any thought of the consequences. As a (38) _____ the planet's ability to support people is being (39) _____ at the very time when rising human numbers and consumption are (40) _____ increasingly heavy demands on it.

The Earth's (41) _____ resources are there for us to use. We need food, water, air, energy, medicines, warmth, shelter and minerals to (42) _____ us fed, comfortable, healthy and active. If we are sensible in how we use the resources they will (43) _____ indefinitely. But if we (44) _____ them wastefully and excessively they will soon run (45) _____ and everyone will suffer.

- | | | | | |
|------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| (31) | A situation | B place | C position | D site |
| (32) | A Although | B Still | C Yet | D Despite |
| (33) | A | continues | B repeats | C carries D follows |
| (34) | A | already | B just | C for D entirely |
| (35) | A | alone | B | individual C lone D only |
| (36) | A | sooner | B | neither C either D rather |
| (37) | A | quite | B | greatly C utterly D completely |
| (38) | A | development | B | result C reaction D product |
| (39) | A | stopped | B | narrowed C reduced D cut |
| (40) | A | doing | B | having C taking D making |
| (41) | A | natural | B | real C living D genuine |
| (42) | A hold | B maintain | C stay | D keep |

- (43) A last B stand C go D
 remain
- (44) A exceed B apply C use D refer
- (45) A in B out C away D through

Section Two: Sentence Completion

Directions: Read the sentences and for each numbered gap, choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best completes its meaning, marking your answer on your answer sheet.

46. Not _____ did he realize this too late but he also made the mistake of trusting that fraud.
 A) really B) only C) before D) until
47. _____ be offered a better job, she would immediately resign from her present position.
 A) Suppose she B) Provided she had C) Were she to D) If she was
48. _____ great was his surprise that he could only gape and stand still at the sight.
 A) Such B) Such a C) So a D) So
49. He _____ been his son's murderer; at that time he was at a conference in Paris.
 A) shouldn't have B) mustn't have C) oughtn't to have D) can't have
50. _____ of people being displaced by war was rapidly increasing.
 A) The number B) A number C) The amount D) An amount

Section Three: Sentence Transformations

Directions: On your sheet for open-ended answers complete the second sentence so that it is as close as possible in meaning to the first one.

51. **The last time I met him was at Jim's retirement party when he delivered that speech.**
 I have _____ Jim's retirement party when he delivered that speech.
52. **It was once before that she noticed he was used to staring at people.**
 This was the second time _____ of staring at people.
53. **"No! I never took those diamonds! I swear!"**
 The man vehemently denied _____ the diamonds.
54. **We booked a table at Pepe's restaurant but when we arrived we realized it hadn't been necessary.**

We _____ a table at Pepe's restaurant.

55. As soon as she turned the corner, she caught a glimpse of the dark figure ahead.

No sooner _____ she caught a glimpse of the dark figure ahead.

56. "I expect to see in the office at 7:30 am sharp!" the manager told us firmly.

Last week the manager insisted _____ at 7:30 am sharp.

57. Although the hall was noisy and dirty, the people in it felt safe and joyous.

Despite _____, the people felt safe and joyous in it.

58. They say that Mr. Jones has been writing for that newspaper for years.

Mr. Jones is _____ for that newspaper for years.

59. Last week my parents asked me to look after my younger sister while they were celebrating their anniversary the next day.

"Will you look after _____ anniversary tomorrow?",
my parents asked.

60. I am sure he was the one who let the cat out of the bag and spoiled the surprise.

He _____ the one who let the cat out of the bag and spoiled the surprise.

PART FOUR

WRITING

Directions: *On your sheet for open-ended answers write a composition of about 140-170 words on ONE of the following topics:*

1. Describe an important social event that you took part in. (wedding, church party, sports event, etc.)

2. There has been a problem in local schools with discipline and violence. Your school board has decided to institute a school uniform policy in order to cut down on these problems, based on the positive examples that they have seen at other schools. What is your position on this issue? Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper stating your position on this issue and supporting it with convincing reasons.

KEYS

PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION (the text was written by me)

Key: 1 B 2 B 3 B 4 C 5 D 6 B

Tape script: The story I am going to tell you is about a real person who left his mark in the world book of fame. Few people have heard of him and even those few may not realize that he was a person who actually lived in the 4th century. Yet millions all over the world celebrate his name day, March 17th. Yes, he is St Patrick. He was not a saint when he was born and he had the bad luck of having wealthy parents. This might have attracted the attention of the early Irish villains who kidnapped him and sold him as a slave.

However, every cloud has a silver lining and the 6 years spent in slavery became crucial in Patrick's life. They sent him on the way to sainthood. It was during those years that Patrick discovered Christianity. Upon his escape, he found refuge in a monastery where he spent the next 12 years studying. At some point during that period he found out his calling and set to convert all the pagans in Ireland to Christianity. He wandered from monastery to monastery doing exactly that, much to the fury of the Druids. The latter tried to capture Patrick several times but without success.

Patrick - who meanwhile had managed to become St Patrick - could raise dead people from their graves. He also used shamrocks to explain the Holy Trinity (the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost) to his followers. On the more practical side, St Patrick wrote two books, one of them a spiritual autobiography. The voice between the lines of these writings reveals a person of integrity and faith who justifiably became the apostle of Ireland.

He may not have really chased all the snakes from Ireland, but he gave people faith for which alone they keep honoring him, seventeen centuries later. So on March 17th don't forget to dress in green clothes, put on a peaked green hat, place a shamrock behind your ear, grab a green beer and do dancing in the streets of your town. Only if you feel Irish, that is.

Questions 7 – 11: Key 7C; 8A; 9B; 10B; 11A

Tape script: They call him the fastest man on no legs. He's also known as the Blade Runner. His real name is Oscar Pistorius, and he holds world records in the 100-, 200- and 400-metre events. What's special about Pistorius, though, is that he doesn't have legs. He runs with the help of two carbon-fibre artificial legs. Pistorius was born with a congenital disease and had both legs amputated below the knee when he was almost a year old. But by the age of 11 he was playing rugby, water polo and tennis. In 2004, Pistorius began running in competitions in his home country of South Africa. / He never looked back.

He has won many Paralympic events, but Oscar Pistorius' dream is to go to the Olympics. His trainers say Pistorius has the ability to run against able-bodied athletes. However, the International Association of Athletics Federations says that his artificial legs give him an unfair advantage as they make him less tired than runners with real legs. Finally, after several appeals, Pistorius was allowed to qualify for the Olympics.

Oscar Pistorius plans to compete regularly against able-bodied athletes. His sporting motto is: 'You're not disabled by the disabilities you have, you are able by the abilities you have.'

Questions 12 – 15: Key:

Tape script: 12C; 13B; 14 B; 15 A

A resourceful young graduate decided to launch his own business as a financial consultant. The business did not progress very fast and in the first few days he had scarcely any enquiries, / which left him feeling, not surprisingly, rather disappointed. On the fifth day, however, he was relieved to hear a knock on his door. ‘Come in,’ he said. Because he was worried that his visitor might realize he did not have a single client and had nothing to do, he picked up the phone and pretended to be busy. He was speaking on the phone as his visitor walked into the room. The young man signalled to the visitor to take a seat. ‘I won’t be long,’ he told him and resumed the phone conversation, if you can call it that, that he was having. After a while, he hung up and turned to his visitor, who was looking surprised. ‘How can I help you?’ he asked. His visitor answered, ‘I’ve come to connect your phone!’

PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

Questions 16- 20: 16C; 17B; 18B; 19A; 20A

Questions 21-25: 21 B; 22 D; 23 C; 24 A; 25 B

Questions 26-30 : 26 D; 27 A; 28 D; 29 D; 30 B

PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

Section One: Cloze Test

**(31) B (32)C (33) C (34) B (35)D (36)C (37)D (38)B (39) C (40) D(41)A (42) A (43) A
(44) C (45) B**

Section Two: Sentence Completion: (46) B (47) C (48) D (49) D (50) A

Section Three: Sentence Transformations (written by me)

51. haven’t seen him since

52. (that) she had noticed his habit

53. having taken /taking /that he had taken

54. needn’t have booked

55. had she turned the corner than

56. on seeing us at the office

57. the noise and dirt in the hall/the hall being noisy and dirty

58. said to have been writing

59. your younger sister while we are celebrating our

60. must have been