

Exam Preparation

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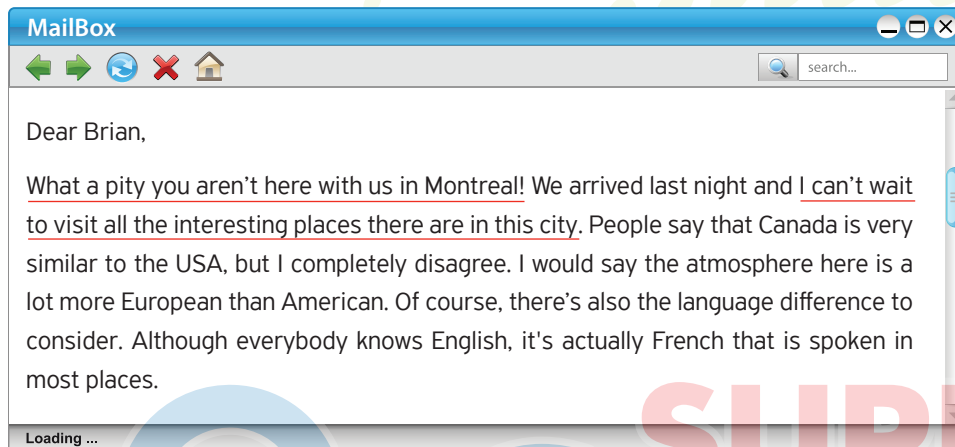
READING WRITER'S OPINION

See Glossary on pages 85-86

Some questions will ask you to decide what the writer's opinion or attitude is. To answer such questions, you will need to look for hints, such as words, phrases or expressions that show the writer's positive or negative feelings.

◆ READING: EXTRACT 1

The following extract is from an email that Brian received.



1. How does the writer feel about visiting Montreal?
- excited
 - indifferent
 - disappointed
 - scared

Here, by saying 'What a pity you aren't here with us' and 'I can't wait' it's obvious that the writer is excited about his visit to Montreal.

◆ READING: EXTRACT 2

The following extract is from a magazine article about mobile devices.

A smartphone or tablet can connect young children to the world outside the four walls of their classroom and give them access to knowledge they are not taught at school. What's more, there are many games and interactive activities on mobile devices that are not about school subjects but are still useful for children. To help your children get the maximum benefit from it, you should explore the device together, ask them questions about what they're doing and show them how to use it. Of course, you should not ignore the value of reading a book or spending time outdoors.



2. In general, the writer _____ introducing children to mobile devices.
- dislikes
 - ignores
 - encourages
 - avoids

Here, the writer mentions some applications and advantages of mobile devices. Then he tells parents to help children 'get the maximum benefit' from such devices. He also advises parents to show children 'how to use' such devices, so he is obviously encouraging parents to introduce children to them.

◆ READING: EXTRACT 3

The following extract is from a magazine article about vacations.

Going on vacation to remote locations allows us to escape from our noisy, stressful, daily routines and get the rest and relaxation we need. It is also much cheaper than going on vacation to busy cities. There are no museums, theaters or shopping centers so we don't spend a lot of money. Remote locations are often situated in beautiful natural surroundings, which are perfect for swimming, hiking and walking - activities which cost nothing to participate in. What's more, remote locations are hardly ever polluted and we can enjoy the unspoiled environment they offer.

3. What is the writer's opinion about remote locations?
- He believes they can lead to loneliness.
 - He thinks we spoil them when we go there.
 - He would like them to offer more activities.
 - He prefers them to other vacation destinations.

The writer lists a large number of advantages of remote locations. The way he describes what they offer also leaves no doubt that he prefers them to other destinations.

GRAMMAR 1

PRONOUNS & POSSESSIVES

SUBJECT PRONOUNS	OBJECT PRONOUNS	POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES	POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS
I	me	my	mine
you	you	your	yours
he	him	his	his
she	her	her	hers
it	it	its	-
we	us	our	ours
you	you	your	yours
they	them	their	theirs
<i>We are friends.</i>	<i>Come and visit us.</i>	<i>This is our car.</i>	<i>This car is ours.</i>

REFLEXIVE/EMPHATIC PRONOUNS

myself
yourself
himself
herself
itself
ourselves
yourselves
themselves

- Με ρήματα όπως: *cut, burn, kill* όταν το υποκείμενο και το αντικείμενο **είναι ίδια**.
Rachel cut herself while making a salad.
- Για έμφαση: **The actor himself gave me his autograph.**
- Με την έκφραση **by myself** (= μόνος μου / χωρίς βοήθεια)
I usually go shopping by myself. (= **on my own**)
- Με εκφράσεις όπως: **help myself (to sth)** (= σερβίρομαι)
behave myself (= συμμορφώνομαι)
enjoy myself (= διασκεδάζω)
! They enjoyed themselves at the party. NOT themselves

THE POSSESSIVE CASE

's μετά από:

- ανθρώπους ή ζώα: *Maria's dress / the parrot's cage*
- πληθυντικό ανώμαλων ουσιαστικών: *the children's toys*
- σύνθετα ουσιαστικά: *my father-in-law's car*
- χρονικές εκφράσεις: *last year's movies*
- επαγγέλματα: *I'll go to the butcher's.* (κατάστημα/μαγαζί)

COMPARE:

These are Bob and Jill's CDs. (ανήκουν και στους 2)

These are Bob's and Jill's CDs. (κάποια είναι του Bob και κάποια της Jill)

's μετά από:

- ανθρώπους ή ζώα που τελειώνουν σε **-s**: *the boys' room*

of:

- για άψυχα: *the window of the classroom*

NOTES:

This isn't my book. It's someone else's.

three weeks' holiday BUT a three-week holiday

Will you stay at Helen's tonight? (= στο σπίτι της)

This is a friend of Kate's. = *This is a friend of hers.*

They don't have their own car. = *They don't have a car of their own.*

QUESTIONS

Υπάρχουν οι **άμεσες ερωτήσεις (direct questions)** και οι **έμμεσες ερωτήσεις (indirect questions)**.

DIRECT QUESTIONS

Χωρίζονται σε δύο κατηγορίες:

- Yes/No questions:** απαντώνται με **yes/no**.
"Do you like chocolate?" "Yes, I do."
- Wh- questions:** εισάγονται με **question words**.
"When is your birthday?" "In May."

QUESTION WORDS

- WHO** για ανθρώπους

Who is your teacher?

Who(m) did you meet yesterday?

Who are you talking to?

BUT To whom are you talking?

- WHOSE** για κατοχή

Whose is this bag? OR Whose bag is this?

- WHERE**

"Where are my glasses?" "On the table."

- WHEN**

"When is your wedding?" "On the 5th of July."

- WHY**

"Why are you sad?" "Because I failed the test."

- WHAT**

What's your favorite color? (απεριόριστες επιλογές)

! "What is Ben like?" "He's kind and generous."

"What does Ben look like?" "He's tall and handsome."

- WHICH**

Which color do you prefer - black or white? (περιορισμένες επιλογές)

- HOW**

"How is your grandma?" "She's fine."

"How was your trip?" "Great!"

INDIRECT QUESTIONS

Συνήθως εκφράζουν ευγένεια και εισάγονται με εκφράσεις όπως: **Can/Could you tell me..., Please tell me..., I want/I'd like to know..., I wonder..., Do you know..., Would you mind telling me...** + if/whether/question word + υποκείμενο + ρήμα

Are you tired? > *Please tell me if/whether you are tired.* (ρήμα σε κατάφραση)

Who is she? > *I want to know who she is.*

Where do you live? > *Can you tell me where you live?*

1. Change the words in bold to pronouns or possessive adjectives, as in the example.

- Dave's** new song has become very popular.
His new song has become very popular.
- John and Jane** want to go skiing.
They want to go skiing.
- Carol's and Leslie's** bicycles are blue.
Their bicycles are blue.
- Mary** went hiking with **Gary and Brenda**.
She went hiking with them.
- Simon and I** saw **Stella** this morning.
We saw her this morning.
- These detective novels** are **Peter's**.
They are his.
- The old man** said hello to **Lisa and me**.
He said hello to us.
- The museum** is being renovated.
It is being renovated.

4. Choose the correct option.

- A friend of _____ wants to borrow this DVD.
 - me
 - myself
 - c. mine**
 - my
- _____ asked you to tidy my room?
 - a. Who**
 - Why
 - Whom
 - When
- Would you mind telling me _____?
 - a. what Sam looks like**
 - how Sam is like
 - what does Sam look like
 - how Sam looks like
- Nobody helped the kids build the tree house; they built it by _____.
 - their self
 - theirselves
 - c. themselves**
 - their own
- "_____ was your vacation?"
"It was great!"
 - Why
 - Where
 - What
 - d. How**
- Cooking in _____ kitchen feels very strange.
 - somebody else
 - somebody elses'
 - c. somebody else's**
 - somebody's else

2. Complete with an appropriate pronoun or possessive.

Angela and Gary live in the same apartment building. ¹ Their apartment building is downtown. One day, as ² they were entering the building, they saw a young girl crying on the busy street. "Why are ³ you crying?" asked Gary. "⁴ I don't know where ⁵ my father is," ⁶ she answered. "Don't worry, ⁷ he is probably around here somewhere," said Gary. "⁸ I will wait here with ⁹ you and ¹⁰ my friend Angela will find ¹¹ him," he added. Two minutes later, ¹² she returned with the young girl's father by her side.

3. Complete with the appropriate question word.

- What do you want me to do about this problem?
- Why are you never on time?
- Which of these offices do you work in?
- Whose essay was better - Edgar's or Suzanne's?
- What are your new classmates like?
- How was your field trip to the National Park last week?
- When will you be arriving - on Saturday or Sunday?
- Who are you going to speak to?

5. Using the word given, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first.

- Are you coming with me? (if)
I'd like to know if you are coming with me.
- Why is Debbie ignoring you today? (wonder)
I wonder why Debbie is ignoring you today.
- Will you eat the cookies I made? (whether)
Please tell me whether you will eat the cookies I made.
- Kay, what does your uncle look like? (tell)
Kay, can you tell me what your uncle looks like?
- How many times has Ted called you? (know)
I want to know how many times Ted has called you.
- Did they have a good time at the party? (if)
Do you know if they had a good time at the party?
- To whom should I give this letter? (who)
Can you tell me who I should give this letter to?
- What are you talking about? (mind)
Would you mind telling me what you are talking about?

GRAMMAR REVIEW 1

Choose the correct option.

1. "Please help _____ to another drink."
"No thanks; I've had two already."
a. you c. me
b. yourself d. myself

2. _____ did you send the letter?
a. To who c. Who
b. To which d. To whom

3. Don't ride that bicycle; it's _____.
a. my sister's-in-law c. my sisters'-in-law
b. my sister-in-law's d. sister-in-law's

4. I'd like to know why _____.
a. you read my diary c. did you read my diary
b. you did read my diary d. read you my diary

5. My mother cut _____ finger while she was making a sandwich.
a. her's c. herself
b. hers d. her

6. _____ camera should we use this weekend - yours or mine?
a. Of whom c. Whose
b. What d. Why

7. These books aren't mine; they're _____.
a. someone else's c. someone else
b. someone elses' d. someone's else

8. "Are you going to take the kids to the mall?"
"No, they'll have to go _____."
a. on them own c. by themselves
b. by their own d. on their own

9. What time _____ Jake to arrive?
a. expects c. she expects
b. does she expect d. she does expect

10. Are you guys enjoying _____ at my party?
a. yourselves c. themselves
b. myself d. yourself

11. _____ is the weather like in Canada in December?
a. How c. What
b. When d. Where

12. This library has a wide variety of _____.
a. books for childrens c. children's books
b. books for children's d. childrens' books

13. I can't find my cell phone. Could you tell me where _____ it?
a. you did last see c. did you last see
b. last you did see d. you last saw

14. We'd like to take _____ this summer.
a. a two-week vacation c. two-weeks vacation
b. a two-week's vacation d. two week's vacation

15. _____ of these trousers fit me better?
a. What c. Which
b. Whose d. Who

16. When people try on new clothes, they always look at _____ in the mirror.
a. their self c. theirselves
b. themselves d. themself

17. The general manager _____ welcomed the new employees on their first day.
a. he c. his
b. him d. himself

18. I wonder _____ to be a famous film star.
a. how it feels c. how does it feel
b. what feels it d. what does it feel

19. It was my sister who called you this morning, _____.
a. is not me c. not myself
b. is not mine d. not me

20. The people living next door park their cars on the street because they don't have a garage _____.
a. of their c. on their own
b. of their own d. of them own

VOCABULARY NOUNS

Choose the word that is closest in meaning to the highlighted part of the sentence.

- You can't have solved this difficult math exercise without any **assistance** from your teacher!
a. influence *επιρροή* **b. help** *βοήθεια* c. problem *πρόβλημα* d. control *έλεγχος*
- Food and drinks will be available in the reception area during the **intermission**.
a. performance *παράσταση, επίδοση* b. delay *καθυστέρηση* **c. break** *διάλειμμα* d. space *χώρος*
- This store may be small, but it has a wide **selection** of expensive jackets.
a. variety *ποικιλία* b. difference *διαφορά* c. category *κατηγορία* d. limit *όριο*
- I spend about 50% of my **income** on electricity and heating expenses during the winter.
a. account *λογαριασμός* **b. salary** *μισθός* c. savings *(pl.) 'οικονομίες'* d. donations *δωρεά*
- The scientists knew they had made a mistake when they saw the **outcome** of their experiment.
a. production *παραγωγή* b. discovery *ανακάλυψη* c. invention *εφεύρεση* **d. result** *αποτέλεσμα*
- Approximately 40% of the city's **residents** work in the downtown area.
a. immigrants *μετανάστες* b. authorities *(pl.) αρχές* **c. inhabitants** *κάτοικος* d. neighbors *γείτονες*
- Over a million people took part in a peaceful **demonstration** against the war.
a. protest *διαμαρτυρία* b. exhibition *έκθεση* c. department *τμήμα, κλάδος* d. display *παρουσίαση, επίδειξη*
- You will definitely lose weight if you follow the **guidelines** in this magazine article.
a. tips *συμβουλή* b. warnings *προειδοποίηση* c. innovations *καινοτομία* d. foundations *θεμέλιο, βάση*
- Having patience and knowledge are important **attributes** to have if you want to become a teacher.
a. qualities *χαρακτηριστικό, ιδιότητα* b. goals *σκοπός* c. beliefs *πίστη, πεποίθηση* d. ideals *(pl.) αξίες, ιδανικά*
- There has been a lot of **controversy** about the dangers of drinking a lot of coffee.
a. excitement *ενθουσιασμός* b. embarrassment *αμηχανία, ντροπή* c. confusion *σύγχυση, μπερδεμα* **d. debate** *αντιπαράθεση, διαμάχη*
- It's too late to make any **alterations** to our plans because we're leaving in five minutes.
a. replacements *αντικατάσταση* **b. changes** *αλλαγή* c. adoptions *υιοθεσία, υιοθέτηση* d. estimations *υπολογισμός, εκτίμηση*
- The employees say that if they were paid more, they would have the **incentive** to work harder.
a. motivation *κίνητρο* b. result *αποτέλεσμα* c. purpose *σκοπός* d. hesitation *δισταγμός*
- The **evaluation** of all the new teachers will be done by the principal of the school.
a. reception *υποδοχή* b. calculation *υπολογισμός* **c. assessment** *αξιολόγηση* d. resignation *παραίτηση*
- If their lawyers reach a **compromise** today, the couple won't have to go to court to get divorced.
a. explanation *εξήγηση* **b. agreement** *συμφωνία* c. development *ανάπτυξη* d. suggestion *πρόταση*
- Very young children don't have the **capacity** to distinguish between right and wrong.
a. willingness *προθυμία* b. strength *δύναμη* **c. ability** *ικανότητα* d. need *ανάγκη*

GLOSSARY FOR ALL MODULES

◆ MODULE 1

attitude στάση
hint υπαινιγμός, νύξη

EXTRACT 1

receive λαμβάνω
what a pity τι κρίμα
consider λαμβάνω υπόψη
indifferent αδιάφορος
disappointed απογοητευμένος

EXTRACT 2

mobile κινητός, φορητός
device συσκευή
connect συνδέω
access πρόσβαση
interactive διαδραστικός
benefit όφελος
explore εξερευνώ
ignore αγνώω
value αξία

outdoors στην ύπαιθρο
encourage ενθαρρύνω
avoid αποφεύγω

EXTRACT 3

vacations διακοπές
remote απομακρυσμένος
location τοποθεσία
rest and relaxation ξεκούραση
be situated βρίσκομαι
surroundings περιβάλλον χώρος
hiking πεζοπορία
participate in συμμετέχω
pollute ρυπαίνω, μολύνω
unspoiled άθικτος, ανέγγιχτος
loneliness μοναξιά
spoil χαλάω, καταστρέφω

◆ MODULE 2

purpose σκοπός
state αναφέρω, δηλώνω

EXTRACT 1

guest φιλοξενούμενος
review κριτική
aim στόχος
satisfy ικανοποιώ
comfort άνεση
facilities εγκαταστάσεις
provide παρέχω
shuttle bus λεωφορείο (που εκτελεί συγκεκριμένο δρομολόγιο)
benefit from επωφελούμαι από
trust εμπιστοσύνη
be located βρίσκομαι
promote προωθώ

EXTRACT 2

insomnia αϋπνία
survey έρευνα
suffer υποφέρω
lack έλλειψη
concentration συγκέντρωση
performance επίδοση
blood pressure αρτηριακή πίεση
depression κατάθλιψη
react αντιδρώ
cure θεραπεία
effect επίδραση

EXTRACT 3

illegal παράνομος
logger υλοτόμος, ξυλοκόπος
black market μαύρη αγορά (παράνομη)
become extinct αφανίζομαι
vote for sb ψηφίζω κπ
logging υλοτομία

◆ MODULE 3

repeated επαναλαμβανόμενος
summarize συνοψίζω
relevant σχετικός

EXTRACT 1

spectator θεατής (σε γήπεδο)
vehicle όχημα
traffic κυκλοφορία, κίνηση στους δρόμους
delay καθυστέρηση
public transport συγκοινωνία
suburbs προάστια
subway μετρό
operate λειτουργώ
convenient βολικός, εξυπηρετικός
on the outskirts στα περίχωρα

EXTRACT 2

column στήλη (σε περιοδικό)
ideal ιδανικός
dietitian διαιτολόγος
suit ταιριάζω
instead of αντί για/να
get rid of απαλλάσσομαι από
regular τακτικός
responsible υπεύθυνος

EXTRACT 3

satellite δορυφορικός
remote απομακρυσμένος
in the middle of στη μέση του/της
popular δημοφιλής
documentary ντοκιμαντέρ
possible δυνατός, εφικτός
deal with αντιμετωπίζω
keep sb company κάνω παρέα σε κπ
culture κουλτούρα, πολιτισμός

◆ MODULE 4

require απαιτώ
skills δεξιότητες, ικανότητες
summarize συνοψίζω

EXTRACT 1

pamphlet φυλλάδιο
throw away πετάω
benefit ωφελούμαι
stand for σημαίνω
harmful βλαβερός

EXTRACT 2

loan δανείζω
cruise ship κρουαζιερόπλοιο
harbor λιμάνι
construction κατασκευή
expert ειδικός
obstacle εμπόδιο

EXTRACT 3

brochure διαφημιστικό φυλλάδιο
volunteering εθελοντισμός
international διεθνής
underdeveloped υποανάπτυκτος
research έρευνα
conditions συνθήκες
likely πιθανός
accommodation κατάλυμα, στέγαση
complain παραπονιέμαι
handle χειρίζομαι
limit όριο

◆ MODULE 5

lie βρίσκομαι
refer to αναφέρομαι σε
mention αναφέρω

EXTRACT 1

enlighten διαφωτίζω
uninhabited ακατοίκητος
harbor λιμάνι
attraction αξιοθέατο
temporary προσωρινός
shelter καταφύγιο
immigrant μετανάστης

EXTRACT 2

author συγγραφέας
pray προσεύχομαι
make an impression on sb κάνω εντύπωση σε κπ
novel μυθιστόρημα

EXTRACT 3

free access δωρεάν πρόσβαση
including συμπεριλαμβανομένου

ANALYTICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE MSU-CELC EXAM

The MSU-CELC exam has four main sections: Writing Ability, Listening Ability, Reading Ability and Speaking Ability. Each section is scored on a scale from 0 through 25 so that a total of 100 points is possible. A total score of 60 is required to pass.

◆ The Writing Ability Section (25 points)

The Writing Ability Section consists of an Essay subsection (20 maximum points) and a multiple-choice Grammar subsection (5 maximum points).

- Essay subsection (20 points)

In the Essay subsection, candidates are presented with two prompts. They have to choose one of the prompts and write an essay. They have 35 minutes to complete their essay.

The MSU-CELC essay is graded according to the following criteria:

- A. Grammatical Accuracy (use of grammatical structures and forms)
- B. Range of Vocabulary (use of appropriate words, phrases and expressions to convey meaning)
- C. Development and Task Completion (response to the prompt, support of opinion using elaboration/examples)
- D. Genre Appropriateness and Writing Conventions (appropriateness of language, structure of essay, sense of audience)

For each of the criteria, the essay is graded from 0-5 to obtain a maximum score of 20. The grading is as follows:

- (5) Honors Pass - some C1/C2 features
- (4) Clear Pass - B2/C1 features
- (3) Marginal Pass - B2 "floor"**
- (2) Narrow Fail - mostly B1 features
- (1) Fail
- (0) Too little to evaluate

- Grammar subsection (5 points)

The Grammar subsection consists of 40 multiple-choice questions and candidates must choose between four options (a, b, c, d). They have 25 minutes to complete this subsection.

To achieve the total score for the Writing Ability Section, the candidate's score (0-5) in the Grammar subsection is added to his/her Essay subsection score. For example, if a candidate gets 13 out of 20 in the Essay subsection and 24 out of 40 (3 points) in the Grammar subsection, he/she will get a total of 16 (13 + 3) out of 25 for the Writing Ability Section.

◆ The Listening Ability Section (25 points)

The Listening Ability Section consists of three parts. Part One contains short conversations followed by a single multiple-choice question, Part Two contains medium length conversations followed by 3-5 multiple-choice questions, and Part 3 consists of 2 extended dialogs or presentations followed by 8-12 multiple-choice questions each. Candidates must choose between three options (a, b, c). The Listening Ability Section lasts approximately 45 minutes.

◆ The Reading Ability Section (25 points)

The Reading Ability Section is comprised of four reading passages with a total of 40 test items. Each passage is followed by 8-12 multiple-choice questions, depending on the length or complexity of the passage. Candidates must choose between four options (a, b, c, d). They have 60 minutes to complete this section.

◆ The Speaking Ability Section (25 points)

The Speaking Ability Section is a guided interview with multiple parts. The interview begins with a one-minute warm-up section (not scored). The types of tasks on the speaking test include description, narration, and supported opinion. Two examiners will evaluate the candidate's performance. The Speaking Ability Section lasts approximately 12-15 minutes.

Refer to p. 320 of the Teacher's book for information on the most recent modifications of the MSU-CELC (B2) format.

Refer to p. 312 of the Student's book for information on the most recent modifications of the MSU-CELC (B2) format.

ABOUT THE ESSAY SUBSECTION

In the MSU-CELC exam, you will be asked to write an essay based on one of two prompts. There is a wide variety of essay topics that have appeared on previous examinations, and the following notes will explain how to best deal with them. However, bear in mind that any type of topic may arise. What is most important is to write a clear and well organized essay in which you develop, explain and illustrate your points. It is also important to use correct English and the right register (informal/formal) - depending on who your audience might be.

◆ ESSAY TYPE 1: Expressing Opinion

- Explanation

An opinion essay is a formal piece of writing. The prompt may ask you to write a balanced essay (*What are the advantages and disadvantages of cell phones?*) or a one-sided essay (*Should cars be banned from the city center?*). When writing a balanced essay, you should be objective and discuss both sides of an issue. When writing a one-sided essay, you should argue for or against an issue and try to persuade the reader that your viewpoint is acceptable. As with every MSU-CELC topic, you must support your ideas with examples and explanations.

- Suggested Plan

Balanced Essay	One-sided Essay
INTRODUCTION	
Start with a general comment on the topic. The opening sentence should NOT give the reader any idea of what your personal opinion is (<i>Nowadays, cell phones have become a vital part of our lives.</i>). Then give a balanced argument (<i>Although cell phones have made our lives much easier, some people claim that they have certain drawbacks.</i>).	Start with a general comment on the topic. The opening sentence should NOT give the reader any idea of what your personal opinion is (<i>Most people use their cars to get around, as they are very convenient.</i>). Then state your opinion clearly so that the reader has no doubt about where you stand on the issue (<i>Although cars have made our lives much easier, I believe that they should not be allowed into the city center.</i>).
MAIN BODY	
This part of the essay should consist of two paragraphs. The 1 st paragraph should focus on the benefits and the 2 nd on the drawbacks. Try to support each point that you make with reasons and examples.	This part of the essay could consist of two or three paragraphs. The 1 st and 2 nd paragraphs should support the opinion you expressed in your introduction. Each paragraph should focus on a different aspect of your argument (<i>the 1st could focus on pollution and the 2nd on traffic problems</i>). The 3 rd paragraph is optional. It should either focus on a 3 rd argument (<i>parking difficulties</i>) or briefly mention and refute the opposing point of view (<i>the inconvenience the ban would cause</i>). You should support each point you make with reasons and examples.
CONCLUSION	
The conclusion should summarize the main points of your essay. If you wish, you may express your personal opinion and explain it briefly (<i>I believe the advantages of cell phones outweigh their disadvantages, provided we do not overuse them.</i>).	The conclusion should restate your opinion. Make sure you paraphrase your arguments so as to avoid using the same words (<i>In conclusion, if we want to improve our living conditions, we should reduce pollution and traffic in the city center and this can only be done by banning cars.</i>).

TIPS

- Remember that an opinion essay is a formal piece of writing, so don't use contractions or parentheses.
- Read the prompt carefully and decide whether it asks for a balanced essay or a one-sided essay.
- Plan before you write and decide which of your ideas can go in the same paragraphs.
- Make sure you support your arguments with valid reasons, explanations and examples.
- Use a range of grammatical structures, appropriate vocabulary and linking words.
- Do not introduce any new ideas in your conclusion and sum up appropriately.

MSU-CELC BENCHMARK ESSAYS

ESSAY SAMPLE NARROW FAIL

PROMPT 1

Some people feel that having a job during the summer or on weekends is beneficial for teenagers. Others feel that school should be the only job that teenagers have because outside work would interfere with their studies. Which side of the argument do you agree with? Support your opinion with examples and explanations.

This essay exhibits qualities of an essay written by a candidate whose overall ability is in the “Narrow Fail” range.

(Comments refer to both regular text and blue highlighted phrases.)

In this days, some people feel that having a job during summer or on weekends is beneficial for teenagers. Others feel that school be the only job that teenagers have. I think it is good for teenagers to work during the summer and beneficial.

First of all, work teenagers on summer is good, because they help their families and they take a good time. Also they take money for their future. If they find jobs now, lately they are find faster. Is good for a teenager to work on Summer, because they have a fun and is very beneficial.

On the other hand, when teenagers work they haven't enough free time to study their homework or spend time with their friend or do an activity. They spend more time on work than school subjects.

To sum up, is better to work but don't you spend more time on this, that you can do your studies and homework right. Work and study together is the most fantastic think and it is beneficial, and help you on the future, when you try to find a job.

Comments on Evaluation

The introduction presents a clear argument, but is *overly dependent on the prompt*, and contains several grammar errors.

The essay itself is *repetitious* and contains many errors of word order, S/V agreement, *verb form* and word choice. E.G. “... work teenagers on summer is good” for *having a job during the summer is good for teens because...*, as well as “lately they are find faster”... These phrases obscure meaning and require substantial reader effort to understand the ideas.

While the essay presents a *balanced argument*, it is insufficiently developed to merit a “Marginal Pass” in task completion; the essay fails in all other aspects. “Narrow Fail”.



PRACTICE TEST 1

for the Certificate of English Language Competency

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE WRITING ABILITY SECTION:

- For this section of the test, you will be given a special answer form.
- Using a Number 2 pencil ONLY, write as much as you can, as well as you can, in an original composition on **ONE** of the two topics.
- You have 35 minutes to complete the composition.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE LISTENING ABILITY SECTION:

- The listening section has three main parts. Part 1 consists of several short conversations, and Part 2 has longer conversations. Part 3 contains an extended monologue and an extended dialogue.
- There are 40 questions on the listening test. For each question, choose the **ONE BEST** answer.
- For each question, find the letter on the answer sheet that corresponds to the answer you have chosen. Use your pencil to completely fill in the circle for your answer.
- If you are not sure of the answer, take your best guess. Unanswered items will be scored as incorrect.
- You are allowed to write in the test booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE GRAMMAR SECTION:

- The grammar test has 40 questions.
- You have 25 minutes to answer all 40 questions. For each question, choose the **ONE BEST** answer.
- For each question, find the letter on the answer sheet that corresponds to the answer you have chosen. Use your pencil to completely fill in the circle for your answer.
- If you are not sure of the answer, take your best guess. Unanswered items will be scored as incorrect.
- You are allowed to write in the test booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE READING ABILITY SECTION:

- The reading test has four passages. Each passage is followed by several questions.
- You have 60 minutes to answer all 40 questions. For each question, choose the **ONE BEST** answer.
- For each question, find the letter on the answer sheet that corresponds to the answer you have chosen. Use your pencil to completely fill in the circle for your answer.
- If you are not sure of the answer, take your best guess. Unanswered items will be scored as incorrect.
- You are allowed to write in the test booklet.

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.



WRITING TASK A

Imagine your best friend wants to get a pet. You would like to suggest the best pet for him or her. Describe the pet, the benefits of owning it and the responsibilities involved. Be sure to support your answer with reasons, explanations and examples.

Recently, a friend of mine decided that she would like to get a pet and asked me for advice about what to choose. This is what I told her.

To begin with, I said that getting a dog would be a very good idea. Pets such as goldfish and hamsters may not need a lot of care, but they are not such good companions as dogs. If you train your dog properly, it will become your best friend and protector as well. Dogs can learn many things, such as fetching a ball or lying down when you tell them to, so you can build a strong relationship with them. Most dogs also love playing so they are great company. For instance, they can keep you busy running in the park with a ball or even swimming together in the summer. Finally, dogs are very sensitive to human feelings. Your dog can provide great comfort because it will love you and always be there for you, even in difficult moments.

However, I also explained to my friend that having a dog involves many responsibilities. Since dogs are so intelligent, they need human company. In other words, you must spend some hours a day playing with your dog, taking it for walks and teaching it tricks, or else it will get bored. Dogs also need proper feeding, baths and visits to the vet.

To sum up, I told my friend that dogs may need a lot of care, but they are loving, wonderful animals and they make perfect pets.

◆ PART 1: SHORT CONVERSATIONS

For each question in the test booklet, you will hear a short conversation. Each conversation has a short title to tell you what it is about. Listen to the conversation and choose the letter of the choice that best answers the question that appears in your test booklet. You will not hear the question; you will see it and read it. You will read it quietly to yourself. Use your pencil to mark your answer on your answer sheet. You are allowed to take notes in the test booklet.

Talking to a tour guide

1. What time will the man finish touring the city tomorrow?
- at noon
 - at 1:00
 - at 4:00

Giving directions

2. Where is this conversation most likely taking place?
- in a garden
 - in a bus
 - in a taxi

In the kitchen

3. What should Steve do?
- turn up the heat
 - turn off the heat
 - turn down the heat

Offering an opinion

4. What can be inferred from the conversation?
- The weather is very cold.
 - The woman has poor taste in clothing.
 - The store doesn't have a large variety of coats.

A dinner party

5. What will the man buy?
- wine
 - beer
 - soda

Going on vacation

6. How long will the woman be away from work?
- one week
 - ten days
 - two weeks

Returning a shirt

7. Why does the man want to return the shirt?
- He needs a smaller one.
 - The label was missing.
 - It was too expensive.

◆ NOTES - TRANSCRIPTS

- 1. M:** Excuse me, how long is tomorrow's tour of the city?
F: The tour that's included in the package price is a morning tour sir, and it ends at noon. However, there's another tour that goes to some less famous, but equally interesting sights. That starts at one and ends at four.
M: Definitely sign me up for that! How much does it cost?
- 2. M:** Listen madam, I've been working in this city for almost 15 years and I've never heard of a "La Croix" Street, North Gardens. Do you know how to get there?
F: Yes, but it's a new street, in a new part of North Gardens. I'll recognize the neighborhood once I'm there, but I'm not exactly sure how to get to North Gardens from here.
M: Look, I know how to get there, but you'll have to show me exactly where La Croix Street is, OK?
- 3. F:** Hi Steve, what are you doing in here?
M: Surprise, surprise! I'm cooking. I've been following this recipe for vegetable soup.
F: That's great, but look, it says here: as soon as the vegetables start to boil, lower the heat and let the soup simmer for about twenty minutes. You've still got it on full Steve ... and it looks as if it's ready to explode!
- 4. M:** Do you like this coat?
F: That's not a coat Mike; it doesn't have sleeves. You're going to get sick if you wear that on a day like today! It's freezing out there! How about this one?
M: It's too big and I don't like the fur on the collar.
F: OK, what about these ones over here? Look, here's one with buttons down the front.
M: Hmm, that's much better.
- 5. F:** The dinner party's great, but we're running out of wine.
M: We've got plenty of beer and soda, though. Can't we drink that when the wine's finished?
F: What! We can't switch in the middle of the meal! What will our guests think?
M: I suppose you're right. I'll run down to the convenience store then.
- 6. M:** Honey, did you speak to your boss about your vacation?
F: Yes, but he won't let me take that extra week I wanted. So I'm still left with only 14 days.
M: Don't worry about it. By the way, I stopped at the travel agent's and they have a special offer on a 10-day river cruise. What do you say?
F: Sounds OK to me.
- 7. M:** Excuse me, I'd like to return this shirt. It's too large for me.
F: I see. Well, what size do you need?
M: A medium, I guess. The problem is that someone crossed out the "L" for large on the label and wrote an "M".
F: Hmm, that's strange. Well, the price tag is still attached so go ahead and get another one.

READING PASSAGE 1

See Glossary at the end of the test.

Sissy has written an email to Toby, talking about her plans for summer. She has included you on the email as well. Read her email and Toby's response and answer the questions that follow.

Inbox - IncrediMail 2.0 Menu

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Subject **JOB HUNTING**

Dear Toby,

It was so nice bumping into you at the mall last week. I wish we could have had more time to catch up, but you were obviously too busy serving the other customers in the store. Besides, I didn't like the way your boss kept looking over your shoulder, as if you weren't doing your job properly. I wanted to give him a piece of my mind, but I figured I might make the situation worse rather than better.

So I wanted to ask you how long you've been working at Camera Shack and if you're happy there in general. I was thinking of looking for a summer job, provided mom and dad agree. To be honest, they'll be relieved that I'm thinking of working because then I could help them out with my college tuition. I got accepted by Georgetown, which means I'll also have living expenses to deal with. My parents are very happy that I got into such a fine college, but they'd rather it were closer to home.

What about you? Are you saving up for college or is your job there permanent? Please give me some advice about job hunting - I don't know where to begin.

Love,
Sissy

Inbox - IncrediMail 2.0 Menu

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Subject **RE: JOB HUNTING**

Hi Sissy!

I was really surprised and delighted to see you the other day. The last time we met up, I was depressed because I didn't know what to do with my life. Sorry if I complained a lot back then; I think I was going through a phase but I'm over it now. Getting this job has helped me a lot because, as you know, I've always loved photography so it's very interesting to be working with all different types of cameras. Some customers want advice about the right camera to buy, and I even get a commission if I sell more than 20 cameras a week.

I've been a salesman at Camera Shack for over two months now, and as a result, I've been able to buy some new clothes. I've even started putting money aside for a car as well - can you believe it? Unlike you, I don't think college is for me, but I'm proud of you! Georgetown is a great place to study, I've heard. If you want to get a job, I'll ask around at some of the shops in the mall. I know some of the cafés with patios are hiring summer staff - if you're interested in waitressing that is. I hear the tips are pretty good. Just say the word, and I'll get you some job interviews.

Wow - can you imagine us working in the same mall? We could take our coffee breaks together!

Bye for now!
Toby

81. Toby and Sissy _____.
- a. both plan to attend college
 - b. work in different places
 - c. saw each other by accident recently
 - d. are looking for a summer job
82. What was Sissy most likely doing when she saw Toby?
- a. trying to sell a product
 - c. buying a camera
 - b. arguing with Toby's boss
 - d. looking for work
83. Why didn't Sissy like Toby's boss?
- a. He didn't care about the store.
 - b. He didn't know anything about cameras.
 - c. He didn't pay any attention to Toby.
 - d. He didn't seem to trust Toby.
84. Which of the following is closest in meaning to **I wanted to give him a piece of my mind** in lines 10-11?
- a. I wanted to tell him what I thought of him.
 - b. I wanted to help him with his work.
 - c. I wanted to explain the situation to him.
 - d. I wanted to ask him a few questions.
85. Sissy's parents _____.
- a. are against her working
 - b. doubt she can find a job
 - c. will find a job for her
 - d. will appreciate her working
86. What do we find out about Georgetown?
- a. It is not a famous college.
 - b. Sissy cannot afford to go there.
 - c. It is far away from where Sissy lives.
 - d. Sissy is not sure if she will go there or not.
87. Which of the following is closest in meaning to **permanent** in line 32?
- a. demanding
 - b. steady
 - c. enjoyable
 - d. exhausting
88. Toby says **I'm over it now** (line 44). What does he mean?
- a. He has changed his mind.
 - b. He feels foolish about his behavior.
 - c. He doesn't feel bad any more.
 - d. He would like some advice.
89. What does Toby seem to like most about his job?
- a. the customers
 - b. the benefits
 - c. the short hours
 - d. the products he sells
90. What does Toby offer to do for Sissy?
- a. help her buy a car
 - b. help her find a job
 - c. teach her how to waitress
 - d. give her some job tips

SUPER COURSE

FIT PUBLISHING



GLOSSARY FOR TEST 1

LISTENING PART 1 pp. 106-107

sign up εγγράφομαι
simmer σιγοβράζω
turn up αυξάνω, ανεβάζω (ένταση)
turn off σβήνω φώτα/μηχανή
turn down μειώνω (ένταση)
taste γούστο
run out of ξεμένω από
switch αλλάζω
convenience store μικρό σούπερ μάρκετ (ανοικτό όλο το 24ωρο)
cross out σβήνω, διαγράφω
tag ετικέτα, καρτέλα (πάνω σε ρούχο)
attach προσκολλώ, επισυνάπτω
it slipped my mind ξεχνώ κτ

LISTENING PART 2 pp. 107-108

the last minute η τελευταία στιγμή
let sb know ενημερώνω κπ
big deal κάτι το σημαντικό
call sb up τηλεφωνώ σε κπ
make up my mind αποφασίζω
break up χωρίζω
turn into γίνομαι, εξελίσσεται
come along έρχομαι μαζί
switch on ανάβω (φώτα, μηχανή)
eyepiece φακός (μικροσκόπιο, τηλεσκόπιο)
switch διακόπτης
send off αποστέλλω (ταχυδρομικώς)
hand out μοιράζω
fill out συμπληρώνω
accurately με ακρίβεια
sample δείγμα

LISTENING PART 3 pp. 108-110

take an exam δίνω εξετάσεις
come across βρίσκω τυχαία, "πετυχαίνω"
stress sb out αγχώνω κπ
review επανάληψη, επανεξέταση
be aware of είμαι ενήμερος, γνωρίζω
composition έκθεση
stretch the truth παραποιώ/αλλάζω τα γεγονότα
make sth up επινοώ κτ
keep track of παρακολουθώ
put sb at risk θέτω κπ σε κίνδυνο
heal γιατρεύομαι, θεραπεύομαι
herbs βότανα
cut down μειώνω, ελατώνω
work out γυμνάζομαι
guidance καθοδήγηση
whole grains προϊόντα ολικής άλεσης
heart attack καρδιακή προσβολή
eager πρόθυμος

READING PASSAGE 1 pp. 114-115

job hunting αναζήτηση εργασίας
catch up μαθαίνω νέα κάποιου
customer πελάτης
properly σωστά

figure θεωρώ, υποθέτω
relieved ανακουφισμένος
tuition δίδακτρα
living expenses βασικά έξοδα διαβίωσης
save up εξοικονομώ χρήματα
delighted πολύ χαρούμενος
commission προμήθεια
salesman πωλητής
put money aside βάζω χρήματα "στην άκρη"
patio σκεπαστή βεράντα
hire προσλαμβάνω
staff προσωπικό
tip φιλοδώρημα
attend παρακολουθώ
by accident κατά λάθος
argue καβγαδίζω, λογομαχώ

READING PASSAGE 2 pp. 116-117

inspire εμπνέω
app (application) εφαρμογή
count μετρώ
calorie θερμίδα
keep track of παρακολουθώ
amount ποσότητα, ποσό
competitive ανταγωνιστικός
additional επιπλέον
trained εκπαιδευμένος
reprimand επιπλήττω, κάνω παρατήρηση
individualized ατομικός, εξατομικευμένος
voyage ταξίδι (εδώ μεταφορικά)
shape διαμορφώνω
reduce μειώνω
carbohydrate υδατάνθρακας
intake πρόσληψη (τροφής)
record καταγράφω, καταχωρώ
consume καταναλώνω
convinced πεπεισμένος
schedule πρόγραμμα
estimate υπολογίζω, εκτιμώ
target στόχος
look over sb's shoulder επιβλέπω, επιτηρώ
stick to τηρώ πιστά
lack στερούμαι, έχω έλλειψη από
discipline πειθαρχία
lose track of χάνω την αίσθηση από κτ, "χάνομαι"
appetite όρεξη
point out τονίζω
effective αποτελεσματικός
influence επηρεάζω
motivation κίνητρο

READING PASSAGE 3 pp. 118-119

go green αποκτώ οικολογική συνείδηση
concern ενδιαφέρον
consider σκέφτομαι, λαμβάνω υπόψη
consumption κατανάλωση
harm ζημιά
regardless of ανεξάρτητα από
carbon emissions εκπομπές διοξειδίου του άνθρακα

screen saver προφύλαξη οθόνης
mode λειτουργία
personal touch προσωπική "πινελιά"
water cooler ψύκτης νερού
unspeakable ανεπίπλωτος
at all costs πάση θυσία
waste απόβλητα, σκουπίδια
file αρχείο
document έγγραφο
sheet φύλλο (χαρτιού)
convenient βολικός
spot σημείο
commuting μετακινήσεις
carpool συλλογική χρήση αυτοκινήτου, συνεπιβατισμός
convenience άνεση, ευκολία
affect επηρεάζω
traffic jam μποτιλιάρισμα
ultimately στην τελική, τελικά
significantly σημαντικά
publish δημοσιεύω
energy-efficient που εξοικονομεί ενέργεια
conserve εξοικονομώ
regulation κανονισμός, κανόνας
fuel καύσιμα

READING PASSAGE 4 pp. 120-121

role model πρότυπο, παράδειγμα προς μίμηση
celebrity διασημότητα
as far as I am concerned όσον μ' αφορά
renowned φημισμένος, πασίγνωστος
questionnaire ερωτηματολόγιο
quality ιδιότητα, χαρακτηριστικό
complex περίπλοκος
sense αίσθηση
sculptor γλύπτης, -ρια
peer συνομήλικος
ordinary συνηθισμένος, κοινός
encounter συναντώ
wealth πλούτος
attribute ιδιότητα, χαρακτηριστικό
overcome ξεπερνώ
percentage ποσοστό
initiative πρωτοβουλία
capability ικανότητα
in the face of παρά, παρόλο
trait χαρακτηριστικό
set of values σύνολο ηθικών αξιών
consistent συνεπής
honesty ειλικρίνεια
struggle πασιζώ, αγωνίζομαι
to an extent ως ένα βαθμό/σημείο
crucial κρίσιμος
be related to είμαι συγγενής, σχετίζομαι με
priority προτεραιότητα
ambition φιλοδοξία
religious θρησκευόμενος, θρήσκος
admirable αξιοθαύμαστος

ANALYTICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE MSU - CELC SPEAKING ABILITY SECTION

FORMAT: Guided interview

DURATION: 10-12 minutes in total

NUMBER OF CANDIDATES: 1

NUMBER OF EXAMINERS: 2 (one active, one observer)

NUMBER OF TASKS: 1 unrated warm-up and 6 rated tasks

LANGUAGE REQUIRED: informal / semi-formal style, vocabulary drawn from everyday English

NOTE: For Tasks 1 and 3, the examiner will **briefly model a response to the task**, and in general, will **try to elicit a more elaborated response** from the candidate by asking for more information if the answer is not adequately elaborate.

DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

Warm-up Phase (1 minute) Exchange greetings, verify identity, brief introduction, some standard questions which are left to the examiner's discretion. This section is NOT graded.

Task 1: Description (1 minute) (e.g. exchange descriptions of home, a well-known building or monument, a family car, or some possession familiar to the student)

Task 2: Description (1 minute) (e.g. Examiner asks examinee to describe their hometown or city, neighborhood, local market or grocery store, local department store, or favorite beach or vacation spot.)

Task 3: Narration (1 minute) (Examiner asks about a recent trip that the candidate has taken, with a focus on a particular event or two that occurred during the trip - this could be a vacation or visiting relatives; or examiner asks about an experience such as a shopping trip, a trip across town to a restaurant, something that happened at the restaurant, etc.)

Task 4: Narration involving a complication (2 minutes) (Examiner asks examinee to tell him/her about a time when they had a problem such as getting lost, losing money, getting locked out of a building or car, arriving late for an appointment, class or exam, ...)

Task 5: Supported opinion on a general topic (e.g. educational) (2-3 minutes) (Examiner asks the candidate to state an opinion on a current topic, and to give reasons for that opinion. Topic examples include use of computers in class, length of school year, importance of field trips, and homework.)

Task 6: Supported opinion on another general topic (e.g. medical or ethical) (2-3 minutes) (Examiner asks the candidate to state an opinion on a current topic, and to give reasons for that opinion. Topic examples include use of sun screen protection, care of elderly, care of younger siblings, and pet care.)

Example: I would like to know your opinion on an important topic. What are your views on how strictly the police should enforce safety laws regarding matters such as how fast we drive and whether we should wear seat belts all of the time - does it restrict our personal freedom too much, or is it a good idea?

◆ **TASK 1: DESCRIPTION** (1 minute)

(Your favorite room)

Now, I'd like you to describe something for me. Let's talk about favorite rooms in the house. Personally, I like the kitchen. We have a large table there, and besides eating, it's where everyone in the family gets together. We sit and have a cup of tea, and we talk about how our day was, or anything else we want. What about you? Which is your favorite room?

Oh, I love my bedroom. I used to share a room with my brother, but last year I got my own room. I have a small TV and my own laptop there. It's a great feeling to close the door. All day, I'm at school or with my friends so I really need time to be alone. I also like my room because I have decorated it myself. The curtains and sheets are orange, my favorite color, and I have posters of my favorite pop stars on the wall. For me, my bedroom is the best room in the house.

◆ **TASK 2: DESCRIPTION** (1 minute)

(A funny TV show)

Can you tell me about a funny TV show you've watched?

Well, to be honest I don't watch a lot of TV. After I do my homework, I prefer to watch videos on my computer. But I remember a show with a famous Greek actor who made fun of Greek life. He imitated many Greek politicians, but in a very funny way. He could really imitate their voices and he was saying silly things. He's very talented and the jokes on the show made me laugh a lot.

◆ **TASK 3: NARRATION** (1 minute)

(A visit to a relative's house)

Alright, now I'd like us to talk about something else. Last week, I went to visit my grandmother. I hadn't seen her for a while, and in the beginning I could tell she was a bit angry with me. But she's such a sweet woman that she couldn't stay angry. By the end of the visit, we were laughing and chatting together. I'd like you to tell me about a recent visit to a relative's house. I'd like you to tell me why you visited them and if anything interesting happened during the visit.

Last weekend, we went to my aunt's house to celebrate her name day. My aunt is a great cook so we were all looking forward to a wonderful meal. But we didn't know that my aunt had broken her arm, so she couldn't cook anything. In the end, we ordered souvlaki and pizza! It was alright and we had a wonderful time together. I had the chance to see all my cousins and we talked about everything you can imagine. And my aunt promised to cook for us another time.

◆ **TASK 4: NARRATION INVOLVING A COMPLICATION** (2 minutes)

(A time you lied)

Sometimes, we lie to protect ourselves. Other times we lie because we don't want to hurt someone's feelings. Have you ever told a lie to someone in your family? Can you tell us why you did this and what happened afterwards?

Yes, I think we all tell lies sometimes. Recently, I really wanted to go out with some friends, but I know that my mother doesn't like this one boy, Jimmy. She asked if he was coming too. I knew she wouldn't let me go out with my friends if Jimmy was around, so I lied. I said that he wasn't coming with us. The problem is I'm not a very good liar. I felt so guilty that the next day, I told her the truth. Well, she already knew about it because my best friend's mother had told her. She said that she was very angry at first, but she was glad that in the end, I told her the truth. But she wanted to talk about it. She told me why she didn't like Jimmy. She also asked me why I liked him. Well, she was right. I found out that Jimmy is not a good friend and you can't trust him. Now I listen to my mother more, and I know I must never tell her any lies.

◆ **TASK 5: SUPPORTED OPINION ON A TOPIC** (2-3 minutes)

(School excursions)

That's good! Now, we'd like to get your opinion on a couple of topics. In some schools, students go on many excursions, while in others they do not consider them important. What is your opinion of school excursions? Do you enjoy them?

I think everyone enjoys going on a school excursion because it gives you a chance to do something different with your classmates. Sometimes we have too many tests and assignments, and it's nice to do something that is fun. I also think that school excursions are very educational. I remember when we went to the Acropolis Museum with my class. It was more interesting than history at school and we all learned a lot. It was so amazing that I went there again with my family. So, I think that school excursions are very important because they are fun and you can learn a lot from them.

◆ **TASK 6: SUPPORTED OPINION ON A TOPIC** (2-3 minutes)

(School breaks)

In some countries, children have a lunch break at school. In other words, they have classes for three hours, then they have a one-hour break, and then they have three more hours of classes. Which do you think is better – to have a one-hour break in the middle of the school day or to finish earlier?

I think it's better to have a break, like they do in other countries. I'm very tired and hungry when I come home in the afternoon. Most kids here eat junk food, like chips or chocolate bars, because they don't have time to eat something else and it's too long to wait until they get home. I know that in America, kids bring their lunch to school sometimes. I think young people should eat a good lunch. Usually, I'm so hungry when I get home from school that I eat too much. Then I feel very heavy and I can't do my homework.

Well, it was very nice talking to you. Thank you very much!

GO FOR MSU

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

B2 Level - CELC



SUPER 3 EXTRA COURSE PRACTICE TESTS

ELT PUBLISHING

Based on the
2020 changes

THE MSU EXAMS AT A GLANCE



The MSU Exams are designed to test all 4 language skills:

Section	2020 Format	Lasting	Points
1. Writing	Opinion Essay <ul style="list-style-type: none">• choice of two prompts• no specified word limit	35 minutes	[20]
	Test of English Grammar <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 30 multiple-choice items	20 minutes	[5]
2. Listening	3 parts with 30 multiple-choice questions in total <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Short conversations• Part 2: Longer conversations• Part 3: 2 examples of extended discourse	35-45 minutes	[25]
3. Reading	30 questions that follow 4 unrelated reading passages	50 minutes	[25]
4. Speaking	Guided interview Candidates are expected to perform 5 different tasks which require them to describe, narrate and support their opinion on a number of topics.	10-12 minutes	[25]

SCORING

Each of the 4 sections carries equal points, i.e. 25 for a total of 100 points. The 60% base is a result of adding the points from each section together and does not require a minimum performance per section. However, candidates must complete all 4 sections of the exam and obtain a total of 60 or more points in order to be awarded a "Pass".



EXTRA PRACTICE TEST 1

for the Certificate of
English Language Competency

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE WRITING ABILITY SECTION:

- For this section of the test, a proctor has given you a special answer form.
- Using a **Number 2 pencil only**, write as much as you can, as well as you can, in an original composition on **one** of the two topics.
- You have **35 minutes** to complete the composition.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE LISTENING ABILITY SECTION:

- This section has three main parts. Part 1 has short conversations and Part 2 has longer conversations. Part 3 contains a speech and a long conversation.
- There are **30** questions on the listening test. For each question, choose the **one best** answer.
- For each question, find the letter on the answer sheet that corresponds to the answer you have chosen. Use your pencil to completely fill in the circle for your answer.
- If you are not sure of the answer, take your best guess. Unanswered items will be scored as incorrect.
- You **are** allowed to write in the test booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE GRAMMAR SECTION:

- The grammar test has **30** questions.
- You have **20 minutes** to answer all **30** questions. For each question, choose the **one best** answer.
- For each question, find the letter on the answer sheet that corresponds to the answer you have chosen. Use your pencil to completely fill in the circle for your answer.
- If you are not sure of the answer, take your best guess. Unanswered items will be scored as incorrect.
- You **are** allowed to write in the test booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE READING ABILITY SECTION:

- The reading test has four passages. Each passage is followed by several questions.
- You have **50 minutes** to answer all **30** questions. For each question, choose the **one best** answer.
- For each question, find the letter on the answer sheet that corresponds to the answer you have chosen. Use your pencil to completely fill in the circle for your answer.
- If you are not sure of the answer, take your best guess. Unanswered items will be scored as incorrect.
- You **are** allowed to write in the test booklet.

Do not turn the page until you are told to do so.

SUPER
COURSE
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WRITING TASK A

Nowadays, many people prefer to go shopping in large shopping malls. This can be entertaining but it is also harmful to local businesses. Write about whether or not making our purchases in shopping malls is a better choice. Be sure to support your answer with examples, reasons, and explanations.



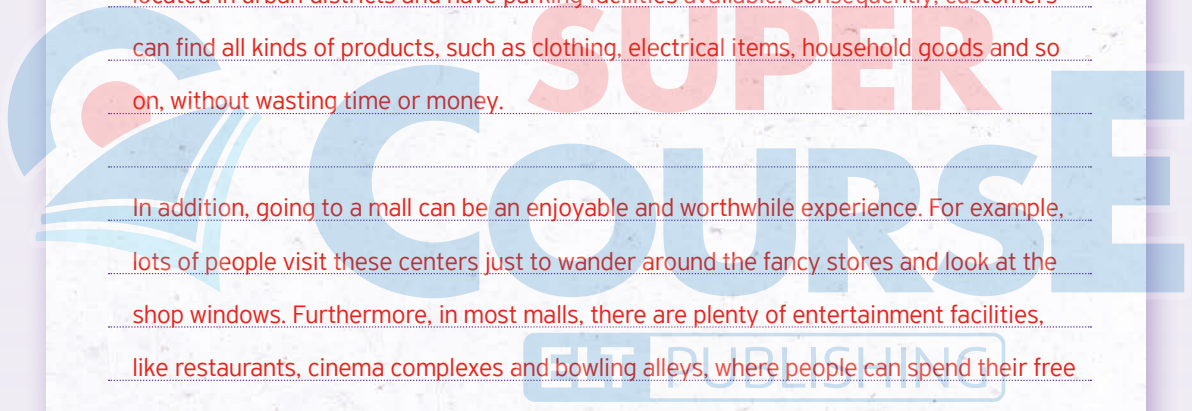
More and more people today would rather visit large shopping centers than local stores to purchase what they need. In my opinion, shopping malls have numerous benefits for customers, so they are an ideal option.

First and foremost, shopping in a mall is generally practical and convenient, even for the most demanding consumer. Malls contain a wide variety of shops, often with attractive offers, all together in a single place. What is more, malls are easily accessible as they are located in urban districts and have parking facilities available. Consequently, customers can find all kinds of products, such as clothing, electrical items, household goods and so on, without wasting time or money.

In addition, going to a mall can be an enjoyable and worthwhile experience. For example, lots of people visit these centers just to wander around the fancy stores and look at the shop windows. Furthermore, in most malls, there are plenty of entertainment facilities, like restaurants, cinema complexes and bowling alleys, where people can spend their free time or take a break from a shopping spree.

However, despite the various advantages of shopping centers, some people claim that their increasing popularity may end up harming local businesses and, as a result, the local economy. For this reason, consumers should also support smaller local stores and not choose to shop exclusively in malls.

All in all, I believe that malls are a preferable shopping option since they offer so many alternatives, but at the same time, consumers should not turn their backs on small neighborhood businesses.



◇ PART 1 – SHORT CONVERSATIONS

For each question in your test booklet, you will hear a short conversation. Each conversation has a short title to tell you what it is about, followed by a brief description of the situation that is also printed in the test booklet after the words, **“Here is the situation.”**

You will listen to the conversation and choose the letter of the choice that best answers the question that appears in your test booklet. You will not hear the question; you will see it and read it. You will read it quietly to yourself. Use your pencil to mark your answer on your answer sheet.

1. Working out

Here is the situation: Leslie and Alan go to the same gym. They are chatting after their aerobics class. Leslie has an idea and she shares it with Alan.

Why does Leslie want to take up yoga?

- a. The instructor has a good reputation.
- b.** It is popular among gym members.
- c. She is fed up with aerobics.

2. Internet search

Here is the situation: Chloe is looking at homes on the Internet. She sees one she likes and asks for her husband Tony's opinion.

What can be understood about Chloe and Tony?

- a. They want to move house.
- b.** They are planning a vacation.
- c. They live in a downtown apartment.

3. Joining a school club

Here is the situation: Mrs Rogers is talking to her student Liam after class in the hallway. She is trying to encourage him to become a member of a school club.

Why does Mrs Rogers want Liam to join the debate club?

- a.** He will get to meet new people.
- b. It has not got enough members.
- c. His language skills will improve a lot.

4. Running late

Here is the situation: Maria has some errands to run, but she has to stay late at work. She calls her husband Tomas to let him know she has to cover for a colleague.

What will Maria probably do on the way home?

- a.** stop by a drugstore
- b. buy some food
- c. go to a laundry

◇ NOTES - TRANSCRIPTS

1. Leslie: You know what we should do? Sign up for yoga classes. I met the instructor, Sheila, earlier. She seemed nice.

Alan: Hmm, are we gonna be able to handle it, though? Isn't yoga really demanding?

Leslie: I don't know ... we'll find out. Everyone at the gym does yoga, and I want to see what all the fuss is about.

Alan: Alright, let's give it a try. I wouldn't mind a change from aerobics anyway.

2. Chloe: Hey, Tony, how about this one? It sleeps 4, and it's near the beach.

Tony: It looks nice, but there's only one bedroom.

Chloe: There's a sofa bed in the sitting room.

Tony: We should get something a bit bigger, and within walking distance of the town. We'll be eating out a lot while we're there.

Chloe: True. We need to keep the kids entertained, too.

3. Mrs Rogers: Liam, you would be a great fit for the debate club. Your English is really impressive.

Liam: Thanks, Mrs Rogers, but I'm new to the school and I don't know anyone in the club.

Mrs Rogers: That's precisely why you should join. It's a small group and it will be a good chance to make some friends.

Liam: Alright, I'll think about it. Thanks again, Mrs Rogers.

4. Tomas: So, Claudia's still on vacation, is she? What time do you expect to get home?

Maria: I dunno. I have to pick up my prescription and get your jacket from the dry-cleaner's. And there's nothing for dinner, either. Should I get some takeout?

Tomas: Don't bother. I'll make some pasta. And don't worry about my jacket. I don't need it until next week.

Maria: You're an angel, Tomas. See you later.

5. Returning an item

Here is the situation: Jane is wrapping up a top she bought online. Mike, her brother, wants to know why she is returning it.

Why is Jane returning the item?

- a. The occasion she wanted it for has been canceled.
- b.** The size she ordered was incorrect.
- c. The colors are not what she was expecting.

6. New furniture

Here is the situation: John and Mia have just bought a furniture kit for a new nightstand. John has started assembling the nightstand and speaks to Mia.

Why is John having difficulty putting the piece of furniture together?

- a. There is a part missing.
- b. The instructions are wrong.
- c.** He has misread a part number.

7. The sales representative

Here is the situation: Mr Finn has just been hired as a sales rep. He is visiting clients and is introducing himself to Mrs Palmer, one of his firm's clients.

Who is Jane most likely to be?

- a. the owner of WholeFoods
- b. the coordinator of the meeting
- c.** Mrs Palmer's secretary

5. Jane: I went by the sizes on their chart, but it's a bit tight. It's also a bit brighter than it looked in the pictures, too ... but that's no bad thing.

Mike: Was it an American brand?

Jane: No. It's an expensive designer brand from France. I was going to wear it at Alexia's party ... if she doesn't cancel, that is.

Mike: That explains it, then, Jane. European sizes are different. Their size 14 is only a 12 over here. You need to watch out for that.

6. John: This is the last time we're getting flat-pack furniture. There's always something missing ... or the instructions are confusing. Honestly, how can part 2 fit into part 8?

Mia: Did you check all the parts before you started?

John: Of course. There are 15 in total.

Mia: Put your glasses on, John! Look, the pictures show that parts 1 and 2 are the sides of a drawer ... and they fit into part 3, not 8.

7. Mr Finn: Good morning, Mrs Palmer. My name's Mr Finn, from WholeFoods. I understand you're the owner.

Mrs Palmer: Yes, that's right, but I'm afraid you must make an appointment.

Mr Finn: I won't take up much of your time. I just wanted to ...

Mrs Palmer: I'm sorry, Mr Finn. I don't see anyone without an appointment. I'm surprised Jane let you in, to be honest. Now, if you'll excuse me, I have a meeting to get to.

◇ PART 2 – LONGER CONVERSATIONS

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In this section you will hear longer conversations. Each conversation has a short title to tell you what it is about, followed by a brief description of the situation that is also printed in the test booklet after the words, "**Here is the situation.**" Before listening to each conversation you will read 2 to 4 questions. Listen to each conversation and answer the questions that appear in your test booklet.

8-11. Garden landscaping

Here is the situation: Questions 8 through 11 are based on the following conversation. Angela has recently moved to a new house and wants to remodel the back garden. She is worried about the steep slope. Seth, a landscape gardener, has come to look at the garden.

8. What does Seth think about the slope of the garden?

- a. He has concerns about it.
- b.** He sees it as an advantage.
- c. It will increase the landscaping costs.

◇ NOTES - TRANSCRIPTS

Seth: We can get round the slope easily enough. We'll make three terraces, then each level could be different. (8) And seeing that you want a pool, the slope will help us.

Angela: I want the pool on the first level ... near the dining area.



31. What time _____ your dentist?
 a. are you seeing
 b. you see
 c. are seeing you
 d. you have seen
32. Susan was _____ woman in the room.
 a. most elegant
 b. most elegant as
 c. the most elegant
 d. a most elegant
33. Beth doesn't mind _____ her apartment with her roommates.
 a. to sharing
 b. shared
 c. sharing
 d. to share
34. The police finally arrested the criminal _____ had escaped from prison.
 a. he
 b. where
 c. which
 d. that
35. The fence _____ by Mark last week.
 a. has been painted
 b. painted
 c. had painted
 d. was painted
36. On our way home, we stopped _____ some ice cream.
 a. buying
 b. to buy
 c. buy
 d. bought
37. Andrea announced some big news yesterday. _____ she loves her job, she has decided to quit.
 a. Although
 b. Despite
 c. However
 d. In spite of
38. How often _____ travel by plane?
 a. have you
 b. are you
 c. do you
 d. that you
39. I wish my husband _____ so many hours.
 a. doesn't work
 b. not work
 c. hasn't worked
 d. wouldn't work
40. My mother got an electrician _____ the new stove.
 a. installed
 b. install
 c. to install
 d. have installed
41. _____ what my parents say, I will study abroad.
 a. Regardless
 b. No matter
 c. Instead
 d. Except
42. My assistant opened the envelope only _____ that it was empty inside.
 a. find
 b. found
 c. finding
 d. to find

SUPER COURSE

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READING ACTIVITY 1

Here is the situation: At school, everyone is talking about a nutritional program that the students in Mr Wilkinson's class have been following. You are interested in what they have been doing so you look up their page on the school's website to see what it is all about. *Read the article and answer the questions that follow.*

HOPE STREET HIGH

* Mr Wilkinson's Class *



Calling all students!

- 61 Feeling tired is common these days. You may put it down to a heavy class schedule or too much studying, and often some timeout can help. If it doesn't, it can be hard to find a connection between cause, effect and cure. But if there's no medical reason, you probably need to think about your diet.

Our 24/7 world means snack to boost energy and skip exercise because it takes too much time and effort. But this affects our mind and body. If we want to stay on top, we need to change our habits.

- 67 **Take the challenge too!**
- 62 We all took part in an experiment over two weeks. By following the advice of food experts, 97% of us reported improvement in tiredness. Of those, 61% said they were less tired in the afternoons and 37% said they felt they had enough energy to take on new tasks.
- 67 It wasn't a hard routine, and we feel great. Why not try it for yourselves?

Take a look at what food experts recommend:

Good Luck!
Mr Wilkinson's Class

Food experts say ...

Eat breakfast

- 63 Around 40% of us skip the most important meal of the day, but this means our muscles and brain have no fuel. Problem-solving becomes more difficult, concentration fails, and test results slide. Eat a high-fiber, wholegrain cereal. It will keep you feeling full all morning, and studies show it leads to weight loss!

Stop snacking

When we experience a drop in blood sugar, it is easy to reach for chips or cookies. Don't. They are full of sugar, which can lead to diabetes, and after an initial burst of energy, they leave us feeling more tired than before. Choose fruit or honey, not processed foods.

Stay balanced

- Whatever your diet, keep it balanced. Carbohydrates have a bad reputation, but they are actually the energy source your body prefers. Go for carbohydrates which release energy slowly, like oats and pinto beans. Protein controls the release of energy, helps you grow and maintains cells.
- 64
- 65 Seafood, meat and soya all contain protein. Your body also needs fat, but make sure it is the kind which protects your heart. Avocados and nuts are a great source.

Keep watered

Dehydration is one of the **leading** causes of tiredness. If your body doesn't get around 2 liters a day, it will concentrate on maintaining your water balance, reducing your energy reserves. Drink water throughout the day.

61. What does the class believe about feeling tired?
- It is usually cured by a good night's sleep.
 - It is frequently due to lack of exercise.
 - It may be because of not eating properly.
 - It is a complicated issue with no solution.
62. What did the class say about the experiment?
- More students could have taken part.
 - It could have lasted longer.
 - Almost everyone benefited.
 - It was difficult, but worth it.
63. What do food experts say about breakfast?
- Only 40% of students regularly eat breakfast.
 - Eating breakfast can improve classroom performance.
 - The bigger your breakfast, the less tired you feel.
 - Eating breakfast cereal is the best way to lose weight.
64. According to food experts, what keeps our cells in good condition?
- sugar
 - carbohydrates
 - protein
 - fat
65. Which food do food experts suggest can help your heart?
- avocados
 - oats
 - pinto beans
 - honey
66. Which of the following is closest in meaning to **leading** in the last paragraph?
- possible
 - normal
 - hidden
 - main
67. Why did the class write the article?
- to let Mr Wilkinson know the results of their experiment
 - to encourage other students to do what they did
 - to inform food experts about their experiment
 - to tell the rest of the students what foods to avoid



SUPER COURSE

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GLOSSARY FOR TEST 1

LISTENING PART 1 pp. 324-325

sign up (for sth) εγγράφομαι (σε κτ)
demanding απαιτητικός
fuss «ντόρος», χαμός, σαματάς
reputation φήμη
fed up (with sth) μπουκτισμένος (με κτ)
sleep sb χωράω, κοιμίζω κπ
within walking distance σε κοντινή απόσταση
be a great fit for ταιριάζω «γάντι»/απόλυτα σε
debate club όμιλος επιχειρηματολογίας
precisely ακριβώς
run errands κάνω δουλειές (εκτός σπιτιού)
cover for sb «καλύπτω» κπ (κάνω τη δουλειά κπ)
prescription συνταγή γιατρού
drugstore φαρμακείο
laundry καθαριστήριο
that is δηλαδή, με άλλα λόγια
occasion περίπτωση, εκδήλωση
furniture kit σετ συναρμολογούμενου επίπλου
nightstand κομοδίνο
assemble συναρμολογώ
flat-pack που χρειάζεται συναρμολόγηση
put sth together συναρμολογώ κτ
sales representative (sales rep) εμπορικός αντιπρόσωπος

LISTENING PART 2 pp. 325-326

landscaping αρχιτεκτονική κήπων και εξωτερικών χώρων
remodel ανακαινίζω, αναδιαμορφώνω
steep απότομος, απόκρημνος
slope πλαγιά
get round sth ξεμπερδεύω με κτ, «τα βολεύω με κτ»
terrace διάζωμα
pump room αντλιοστάσιο
bush θάμνος
mockup προσχέδιο
rough cost πρόχειρος υπολογισμός κόστους
survey τοπογραφική μελέτη
fundraiser φιλανθρωπική εκδήλωση
bake sale πώληση αρτοσκευασμάτων για συγκέντρωση χρημάτων για φιλανθρωπικό σκοπό
goodies γλυκίσματα, λιχουδιές
shout-out δημόσια αναφορά, υπενθύμιση
spread the word διαδίδω (πληροφορία/νέα)
flier φυλλάδιο
retirement home γηροκομείο
go like hot cakes γίνονται ανάρπαστος, πουλάω σαν τρελός

LISTENING PART 3 pp. 327-328

establish ιδρύω
not to mention καθώς και, «χώρια»
hold-held-held διεξάγω, διοργανώνω
line καλύπτω (επιφάνεια)
remarkable αξιολόγος, σπουδαίος
citizen πολίτης
when it comes to όσον αφορά
texture υφή
moderator επόπτης / συντονιστής
refugee πρόσφυγας
fit the bill ταιριάζω, ανταποκρίνομαι στις απαιτήσεις
archive αρχείο
upcoming επερχόμενος

stellar performance εξαιρετική απόδοση
leave sb in the air αφήνω κπ «στον αέρα», χωρίς τελικό συμπέρασμα
takeaway μήνυμα, συμπέρασμα
mumble μιλάω μέσα απ' τα δόντια μου, μουρμουρίζω
dreadful φρικτός
be hard on myself είμαι αυστηρός με τον εαυτό μου
tone down μετριάζω
cut to the chase «μπαίνω στο ψπτό»
edible βρώσιμος, φαγώσιμος
soluble διαλυτός
preservative (adj.) συντηρητικός
shelf life διάρκεια ζωής (προϊόντος)
rot away σαπίζω
antimicrobial properties αντιμικροβιακές ιδιότητες
go one better κάνω/προτείνω κάτι καλύτερο
untreated ανεπεξέργαστος, ακατέργαστος
mushy μαλακός και πολτώδης, «νιανιά»

READING ACTIVITY 1 pp. 332-333

nutritional διατροφικός
high (high school) γυμνάσιο / λύκειο
put sth down to sth αποδίδω κτ σε κτ
cure (n./v.) θεραπεία / θεραπεύω
boost ενισχύω, αυξάνω
stay on top διατηρώ τον έλεγχο
take the challenge δέχομαι την πρόκληση
take on αναλαμβάνω (έργο/καθήκον)
slide χειροτερεύω, «κατρακυλώ»
high-fiber πλούσιος σε φυτικές ίνες
wholegrain ολικής άλεσης
lead to sth οδηγώ σε κτ
drop πτώση
blood sugar επίπεδο γλυκόζης στο αίμα
reach for sth αναζητώ κτ, στρέφομαι σε κτ
initial αρχικός
burst έκρηξη, ξέσπασμα
processed foods επεξεργασμένες τροφές
carbohydrate υδατάνθρακας
release (v./n.) απελευθερώνω / απελευθέρωση
cell κύτταρο
dehydration αφυδάτωση
reserve απόθεμα
benefit (v./n.) ωφελώ, -ούμαι / όφελος

READING ACTIVITY 2 pp. 334-335

lifespan διάρκεια ζωής
make it past sth ξεπερνάω κτ
go unnoticed περνάω απαρατήρητος
exception εξαίρεση
identify αναγνωρίζω, προσδιορίζω
resident κάτοικος
inhabitant κάτοικος
make it to καταφέρνω να φτάσω σε
rate ποσοστό
dementia άνοια
mentally sharp πνευματικά διαυγής
notable αξιοσημείωτος
gene γονίδιο
apparently προφανώς
dependent (on) που εξαρτάται (από) / εξαρτημένος (από)
invader εισβολέας
highlands ορεινές περιοχές
herbal tea τσάι βοτάνων
quality ιδιότητα
chemical composition χημική σύσταση

diuretic διουρητική ουσία
substance ουσία
boast sth διαθέτω κτ εντυπωσιακό
alternative εναλλακτικός
mental state ψυχική κατάσταση
isolated απομονωμένος
exclude αποκλείω, δεν περιλαμβάνω

READING ACTIVITY 3 pp. 336-337

custom έθιμο / συνήθεια
tie the knot (tying) παντρεύομαι
hen party μπάτσελορ πάρτι γυναικών
forthcoming επερχόμενος
plant dye φυτική βαφή
stain βάφω / λεκιάζω
reddish κοκκινωπός
intricate περίτεχνος / πολύπλοκος
medicinal φαρμακευτικός
property ιδιότητα / ιδιοκτησία
smashing καταπληκτικός
literally κυριολεκτικά
Jewish Εβραϊκός
stamp on ποδοπατάω
go back to χρονολογούμαι από
delicate εύθραυστος, ευαίσθητος
gradually σταδιακά
date back (to) χρονολογούμαι (από), υπάρχουν εδώ και
verse στίχος
shilling σελίνι (νόμισμα)
stand for σημαίνω, αντιπροσωπεύω
faithful πιστός
be meant to do sth αποσκοπώ στο να κάνω κτ
ensure εξασφαλίζω
pay the price πληρώνω το τίμημα
dowry προίκα
relief ανάκούφιση
loyalty πίστη, αφοσίωση
draw a conclusion βγάζω συμπέρασμα
die out (dying) χάνομαι, εξασθενώ

READING ACTIVITY 4 pp. 338-339

craft χειροτεχνία, κατασκευή
exhibit έκθεση
yarn νήμα, μαλλί
Bombs Away! Έτοιμοι, πάμε! (έκφραση)
signpost πινακίδα (δρόμου)
knitted wool πλεκτό μαλλί
yarn bombing «βομβαρδισμός» από νήματα
crew παρέα / ομάδα / πλήρωμα
pole στύλος, κολόνα
knit πλέκω
off site εκτός των εγκαταστάσεων μιας συγκεκριμένης τοποθεσίας
sew ράβω
anti-racism protest αντιρατσιστική διαμαρτυρία/διαδήλωση
play a part συμβάλλω, παίζω ρόλο
legal νόμιμος
stroll (up to sb) πλησιάζω (σε κπ) περπατώντας
put up sth σπίνω, τοποθετώ κτ
collection box κουτί για έρανο
raise (money) μαζεύω/συγκεντρώνω (χρήματα)
string σκοινί, κορδόνι
fasten δένω
ribbon κορδέλα

ANALYTICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE MSU - CELC SPEAKING ABILITY SECTION



FORMAT: Guided interview

DURATION: 10-12 minutes in total

NUMBER OF CANDIDATES: 1

NUMBER OF EXAMINERS: 2 (one will be the lead examiner and ask most of the questions while the other will primarily take notes)

NUMBER OF TASKS: 1 unrated warm-up and 5 rated tasks

LANGUAGE REQUIRED: informal / semi-formal style, vocabulary drawn from everyday English

NOTES:

- If a speaking topic is completely unfamiliar to the candidate, he/she may ask for a different one. However, this can only be done twice for each task.
- Within a task, the examiner will often ask the candidate a series of questions, either to help the candidate expand on his/her answers or because they are part of the task topic. The questions will be asked one by one, and not all together. If the examiner feels that the candidate's response to the main question(s) is adequate, some of the follow-up questions may not be asked.

DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

WARM-UP (approximately 1 minute): When you first enter the exam room, the examiners will check your identification and get you signed in. They will briefly introduce themselves and then ask you a few simple questions about who you are and how your day is going. This part of the conversation is NOT scored. Its purpose is just to help you feel relaxed and get used to speaking English with them.

PART 1: DESCRIPTION (approximately 1 minute)

In the first part of the exam, the lead examiner will ask you to describe something, and then give you a very short example. Your description should be longer than the examiner's example – your description should last up to about one minute. The examiner will help you think of things to say by asking you to say more about certain parts of what you are describing. The types of things you will be asked to describe will be familiar to you. Examples include your home, other familiar buildings or places, your family car, or one of your possessions. In any case, you will only be asked to describe one thing.

PART 2: NARRATION (approximately 1-2 minutes)

In Part 2, the lead examiner will ask you to narrate (tell a story about) something that has happened to you, personally. For example, the examiner might ask you about a trip that you have taken, such as a vacation trip or a visit to relatives, with a focus on a particular event or two that occurred during the trip. Or, the examiner might ask you about an experience you have had, such as a shopping trip or eating at a restaurant. You should provide as many details as possible. Or the examiner might ask you about a time something went wrong and how you managed. For example, you might be asked to talk about a time that you got lost, lost money, got locked out of a building or car, or arrived late for an appointment, class, or exam. You can talk about the problem and how you solved it or managed it in some way.

PART 3: NARRATION (approximately 1-2 minutes)

Part 3 is the same as Part 2, but with a new topic.

PART 4: SUPPORTED OPINION (approximately 2-3 minutes)

In Part 4, the examiner will ask you to give your opinion on a current topic, and to give reasons for that opinion. Topic examples include: use of computers in class, length of the school year, the importance of field trips, and homework.

PART 5: SUPPORTED OPINION (approximately 2-3 minutes)

Just as in Part 4, the examiner will ask you to give an opinion on a current topic, and to give reasons for that opinion. More topic examples include: use of sunscreen to protect the skin, care of the elderly, care of younger siblings, and pet care.



◇ WARM-UP

(approximately 1 minute)

(Indicative questions)

- Where are you from?
- Where do you live? What do you like best about the city/town where you live?
- Would you like to live in another place? Why or why not?

◇ PART 1: DESCRIPTION

(approximately 1 minute)

(Favorite Internet celebrity)

I'd like you to talk about your favorite Internet celebrity, but let me tell you a little about an Internet celebrity that I like first. One of my friends sent me a video of a kid chef, called Rachel. She's incredible because she's only 10 years old and she posts cooking videos on Instagram every week. She's got millions of followers and she always prepares easy-to-make dishes. Who's your favorite Internet celebrity?

◇ PART 2: NARRATION

(approximately 1-2 minutes)

(A time you were really happy)

Alright, now I'd like us to talk about something else. Can you think of a time when you were really happy? What was the occasion and where were you? Who else was there?

◇ PART 3: NARRATION

(approximately 1-2 minutes)

(A difficult achievement)

OK, moving on. Have you ever tried really hard to achieve something difficult? What made it so difficult? What did you have to do to achieve it?

◇ PART 4: SUPPORTED OPINION

(approximately 2-3 minutes)

(The importance of exercise at school)

Now, we'd like your views on something. Many students enjoy PE class or playing sports at school. How do you feel about exercising at school? Is it important? Why or why not? Why do some young people dislike or avoid exercising?

◇ PART 5: SUPPORTED OPINION

(approximately 2-3 minutes)

(Taking care of siblings)

Let's talk about one more thing. If you have brothers or sisters, you have definitely thought about this before. Should older siblings be responsible for taking care of younger siblings? Why or why not?

That was it. You are free to go!

