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PRACTICE TEST 1



SECTION 1

(10 marks)

You will have 10 seconds to read each question and the corresponding options. Then listen to the recording. After the recording you will have 10 seconds to choose the correct option.

Put a cross (X) in the box next to the correct answer, as in the example.

Example. Who is the woman talking to?

- A. a doctor
B. a teacher
C. a friend

1. Where is the conversation taking place?

- A. in a hotel bar
B. at a hotel front desk
C. in a hotel restaurant

2. Who is the girl talking to?

- A. her doctor
B. her cycling coach
C. her physics teacher

3. Who are the speakers?

- A. Jim's parents
B. Jim's neighbours
C. Jim's friends

4. What are the speakers discussing?

- A. a holiday
B. a traffic jam
C. a flight delay

5. How is the woman feeling?

- A. happy
B. worried
C. sad

6. Who is the speaker talking to?

- A. a tourist
B. the owner of the bar
C. a hotel receptionist

7. What is the speaker doing?

- A. apologising
B. complaining
C. warning

8. What is the matter with the boy?

- A. He misses his friends.
B. He is forgetful.
C. He is sick.

9. What is the speaker really saying?

- A. There are not enough beds in the room.
B. The room is more expensive than she had expected.
C. The room is far too small for her family.

10. Who is the speaker?

- A. an air hostess
B. a taxi driver
C. a hotel receptionist



SECTION 2

 (10 marks)

You will hear a recording about weather conditions. Listen to the whole recording once. Then you will hear the recording again with pauses for you to write down what you hear.

Make sure you spell the words correctly.

11. *Most Europeans pray for a white Christmas. However, this year they had a little more of the white stuff than they hoped for. Freezing cold weather and heavy snow brought disruption across the continent, causing chaos from Moscow to Milan. To make matters worse, dozens of motorists were involved in traffic accidents on roads that resembled skating rinks.*

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SECTION 3

 (10 marks)

You will hear a telephone conversation. First, read the notes below then listen and complete the notes with information from the conversation.

Example. The man has called to ask about *ticket prices*.

12. The man didn't know that Transport for London issued *combined tickets*.
13. Per trip, an annual ticket works out much *cheaper than* a six-month ticket.
14. The man is going to move into *a flat* in Harrison Street.
15. The man decides to buy a(n) *six-month* ticket.
16. Tickets can be paid for by check if a(n) *valid cash card* and recent photograph are produced.

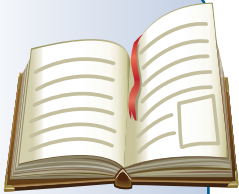
SECTION 3 continued

You will hear a conversation. First, read the notes below then listen and complete the notes with information from the conversation.



Example. The man has just arrived in *Iceland*.

17. The flight took off about *one/an hour* later than it should have.
18. The plane was delayed by an erupting *volcano*.
19. There was a(n) *screaming baby* in front of the man.
20. When the man looked out of the window he saw a(n) *island*.
21. The city was covered by volcanic *dust*.



SECTION 4

(5 marks)

Read each text and put a cross (X) by the missing word or phrase, as in the example.

Example. The new tourist facilities that have just been completed on the island of Crete offer visitors all the that they could possibly desire.

- A. itineraries
- B. amenities
- C. vicinities

22. Tourism is now one of the largest industries in the world and is the main of income in many countries.

- A. cause
- B. basis
- C. source



23. Air travel to faraway places results in huge amounts of carbon emissions which to global warming and extreme weather conditions.

- A. contribute
- B. donate
- C. supply



24. Probably the most recognisable bridge in the world, Tower Bridge is so that its central section can be raised to allow ships to pass through.

- A. intended
- B. designed
- C. considered



25. Eco-tourists choose their destinations carefully, and try to make sure that their visit has a negligible on the environment.

- A. outcome
- B. impact
- C. result



26. Just outside our village, the main road splits into two smaller ones, and if you take the one leading north, you will the Forest of Dean.

- A. turn up
- B. get on
- C. come to





SECTION 5



Read the passage and answer the questions below.

Put a cross (X) in the box next to the correct answer, as in the example.

The Millennium Dome

The Millennium Dome was originally erected to house the Millennium Experience, a temporary exhibition celebrating the beginning of the third millennium. In 2000, its first year in operation, it was the most visited tourist attraction in the UK, but even so, it failed to meet its proposed targets, as it attracted only half the visitors it needed to pay its way. Everybody thought that the project was a flop: badly thought-out, badly executed, leaving the government with the embarrassing question of what to do with it. (27)

In fact, the government closed down the Dome a year after it had opened and auctioned off most of the exhibits and artwork that had been on display. The building sat around empty for several years, costing taxpayers approximately one million pounds per month in maintenance costs. Then, despite the ongoing debate about the Dome's future use, it opened again in December 2003 for the Winter Wonderland 2003 Experience, which featured a large fun fair and ice rink. It also served as the venue for a number of free music festivals organized by the Mayor of London. Over the 2004 Christmas period, part of it was used as a shelter for the homeless. (28)

In 2005, the Dome was renamed The O2 in a deal with the telecommunications company O2. The company kept little beyond the walls and roof of the structure, and it has since been redeveloped into two indoor music venues and an exhibition centre. The larger music venue seats 20,000 people and is used for rock concerts and sporting events, while the smaller one, The O2 Indigo, has a seating capacity of 2,350 and is ideal for more intimate performances. The O2 also includes an 11-screen cinema complex, a music club, and numerous bars and restaurants. (29)

One of the finest views of the impressive O2 can be had from the Waterfront Pub at Greenwich. The river cruise that takes in the London Flood Barrier will also give you good views of the structure. (30)

Example.

What was the Dome initially built to accommodate?

- A. an art gallery
- B. a temporary exhibition
- C. a music venue

27. What opinion did the general public have of the Dome?

- A. They thought it was a successful project.
- B. They thought it was a profitable tourist attraction.
- C. They thought it was a complete failure.

28. Who arranged several free events after December 2003?

- A. the Mayor of London
- B. the O2 telecommunications company
- C. the British government

29. Who stayed in the Dome temporarily in 2004?

- A. tourists without money
- B. ice skaters
- C. homeless people

30. What was not demolished by O2 after it took over the Dome?

- A. the concert venue
- B. the cinema complex
- C. the walls and roof

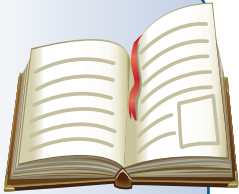
31. What does the Waterfront Pub provide?

- A. a good view of the Dome
- B. numerous bars and restaurants
- C. a dock for the river cruise

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SECTION 6

(8 marks)

Read the web article article below and answer the questions.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the FAA website. The article title is "Flight Delays". The text discusses the FAA's role, a study on airline delays, and solutions like imposing fines. Markers 32-35 are placed on the text.

Flight Delays

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is the government agency that oversees air travel throughout North America. It ³² has recently completed a study with particular emphasis on the problem of airline delays.

The study found major delay problems and the FAA suggested that many of them would be solved if airports purchased ³³ new computers in order to be able to deal with increased air traffic.

The FAA stated that more planes are flying than ever before, as a growing economy has more people using aeroplanes to get around. Aeroplanes are now a form of mass transportation, like trains and buses used to be in the past. However, the study found that 70% of all delays are caused by bad weather conditions and only the ³⁴ remaining 30% are caused by increased traffic.

One of the FAA's solutions has been to impose fines on airlines that had their planes stuck on the tarmac for more ³⁵ than 3 hours. This new measure took effect two months ago and last month, tarmac delays fell by 85%.

Example. What does the FAA do? It oversees air travel in North America.

32. What specific aspect of air travel did the FAA study concentrate on?

airline delays

33. What extra equipment do many airports need?

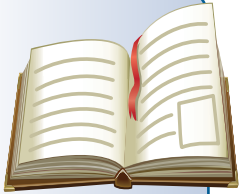
new computers

34. What causes the majority of aircraft delays?

bad weather conditions

35. How did the FAA manage to reduce tarmac delays?

by imposing fines



SECTION 6 continued

Read the newspaper article below and answer the questions.

Week ending Friday, November 29

A Monster Traffic Jam

On August 14th 2010, motorists in China were trapped in a traffic jam from hell. Thousands of drivers were stuck in their vehicles for many days on the Beijing to Tibet expressway just outside the Chinese capital.

The gridlock started when the Chinese authorities decided to carry out road works on one of the busiest roads in China. The bad news was that the chaos lasted for nine days and the traffic jam stretched back for more than 100 kilometres.

The situation was made worse by dozens of cars and trucks breaking down from overheating. Approximately 400 traffic police were assigned to patrol the expressway to make sure tension didn't rise.

This horrendous traffic jam was just another example of the dramatic increase in the number of cars on Chinese roads. As China becomes wealthier, more and more people are buying cars, thus causing more traffic problems.



Example. How many vehicles were stuck in the traffic jam? *thousands*

36. What caused the traffic jam?

road works

37. How long did the traffic jam last?

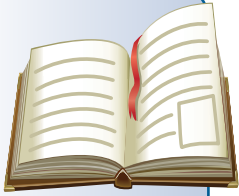
nine days

38. What happened to many vehicles during the traffic jam?

they broke down / they overheated / they broke down from overheating

39. Who tried to prevent drivers from losing their tempers?

traffic police



SECTION 7

(7 marks)

Read the web article and complete the notes.

Write no more than three words from the article in each gap.

Public Transport: Creating Efficient Cities

A new study conducted for the World Bank in thirty-seven cities around the world has demonstrated that public transport is more efficient than cars.

The study found that the Australian city of Perth is a good example of a city with poor public transport. As a result, 17% of the city's money went into transport costs. Some more efficient European and Asian cities, on the other hand, only spent as little as 5%. Professor Peter Newman pointed out that these cities have been able to use the difference to attract industries and jobs or create a better place for people to live.

According to Professor Newman, the Australian city of Melbourne is a rather unusual city in this sort of comparison. Melbourne's tram network has made car use in the inner city much lower, but the outer suburbs still have considerable traffic problems.

Bicycle use was not included in the study, but Newman noted that the two most 'bicycle friendly' cities studied - Amsterdam and Copenhagen - were very efficient, even though their public transport systems were 'reasonable but not special'.

Private car users object to the study. One objection they raise is climate, claiming that many cities cannot make more use of public transport because they are either too hot or too cold. Newman rejects this, pointing out that public transport has been successful in both Singapore and Toronto and, in fact, he has checked the use of cars against climate and found that there is no connection whatsoever.

There is a common belief that increasing wealth encourages people to live farther out, where cars are the only possible means of transport. However, European cities prove that wrong. In Stockholm, for example, car use has actually fallen in recent years as the city has become larger and wealthier. Underdeveloped cities in Asia, such as Jakarta and Bangkok, make more use of cars than wealthy Asian cities such as Tokyo and Singapore. In more recently built cities, the World Bank has discouraged the development of public transport systems and people have been forced to rely on their cars, resulting in massive traffic jams and smog.

Example. The study was carried out in *thirty seven* cities.

40. The better a city's public transport, *the less* it needs to spend on transport costs.
41. Cities with good public transport attract *industries and jobs*
42. Due to its *tram system* the use of cars in the centre of Melbourne has been reduced.
43. The study excluded the use of *bicycles*
44. Professor Newman says there is no relationship between the use of cars and *climate*
45. In Stockholm, the use of cars has dropped, even though the city is getting *larger and wealthier*
46. Some Asian cities with inefficient public transport systems suffer from huge *traffic jams* and air pollution.





SECTION 8

 (10 marks)

Use the information in Section 7 to help you write your answer.

47. You have read the article about the public transport study. Write a letter to your City Council suggesting why your city should invest in an efficient public transport network. Write about 90 - 120 words and include the following information:

- the state of the present public transport system
- how the present public transport system can be improved
- the benefits of an efficient public transport system



Write your answer here.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I read an article about the benefits of an efficient public transport system and I want to suggest ways to improve the system in our own city.

To begin with, public transport here is out of date: the buses are old and unreliable, and services are inadequate for the growing population. The buses need replacing and more frequent schedules should be implemented, along with cheaper fares.

If this is done, more people will use the public network. Moreover, traffic in the centre will decrease, making it less congested. Last but not least, our city will become more environmentally friendly because traffic jams and smog will be reduced.

To conclude, if the Council invests in a better transport system, everyone will benefit.

Sincerely,

Philip Brown

SECTION 9

(10 marks)



Choose one of the topics below and write your answer in 150 - 200 words.

Write your answer here.

48. A.

Your teacher gives you the following statement and asks you to write an essay.

Should parents let their teenage children go on vacation with their friends?

Write an essay expressing your views. Use specific reasons and examples to support your ideas.

48. B.

You see this post in an online magazine.

Blog entries wanted!

Some people cannot do without their cars when it comes to going on holiday, others use public transport. We want to know what your opinion is.

Write a blog entry for the online magazine expressing your views on this statement. Include the following information:

- which type of holiday a car is suitable for and why
- which type of holiday public transport is suitable for and why
- how you prefer getting around when you are on holiday

A.

Going on holiday is often a matter of debate between parents and their teenage children. The former want it to be a family event whereas the latter prefer to spend holidays with their friends. In my opinion, teenagers should be allowed to go on vacation with their peers, as it can prove beneficial for them.

To begin with, spending holidays with friends can be a very worthwhile and enjoyable experience for young people. In other words, they can share common interests with their peers, take part in the activities they prefer, and visit the places of their choice. What is more, this may even lead to stronger bonds between them.

Moreover, teenagers should be given the opportunity to stand on their own two feet. What I mean is that during holidays away from their parents, teenagers have to take care of themselves, get along with each other and get by on their own money. As a result, they become more responsible and feel more independent.

All things considered, I firmly believe teenagers should be given the chance to go on a trip with their friends. Parents may consider it risky, but this is an experience they should not deprive their children of.

B.

During their holidays, some people prefer taking their cars, whereas others prefer to use public transport. Each option is appropriate for different kinds of holidays, but personally, I like travelling by car.

To begin with, public transport is suitable for teenagers because they do not have a driving-licence. So, in order to see interesting places, they can choose public transport. In addition, public transport is far more economical than driving your own car or renting one.

On the other hand, cars are more convenient for faraway destinations or places where public transport is not so efficient; for example, when you explore a remote island. Moreover, car trips are more suitable for families, as they are more comfortable and less tiring. Speaking for myself, I have a family of four and getting on and off buses is extremely inconvenient. Furthermore, I want to feel independent and go wherever I want, any time I want, not spend hours waiting at bus or train stations.

All things considered, it is up to each individual to choose between their own car and public transport while on holiday, depending on their personal needs.

Practice Speaking Test 1

Section 10 (Sustained Monologue)

1.5 minutes

I'd like you to speak on your own for about 1 minute.

Main Prompt:

Tell me about an interesting place you have visited or would like to visit.

Follow-up Prompts:

What other kinds of places do you like visiting?

Which places in your country are popular with tourists? Why?

What (else) can people do there?

Do you think tourism is good for a region? Why?

OR

Main Prompt:

What kinds of sport do you enjoy playing?

Follow-up Prompts:

What's the most popular sport in your country?

Which sports do you enjoy watching? Why?

What future sporting event are you looking forward to?

Do you think that sports are necessary? Why/Why not?

(Oral Examiner attempts to extend the conversation if the candidate responds with yes/no answers.)

Section 11 (Discussion)

2 minutes

We are going to discuss something together. The question is:

Reality shows are very popular with young people. Is this a good or a bad thing?

What do you think?

Reality shows are good for young people because:

- They show that people can learn new skills.
- They demonstrate how teamwork is beneficial to people's lives.
- They illustrate that striving for a dream is worthwhile.
- They prove that ordinary people can be inspired to do great things.

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Reality shows are bad for young people because:

- They illustrate that bad behaviour is acceptable.
- They show people sitting around doing nothing all day.
- They give the impression that bad relationships are more normal than good ones.
- They imply that aggressiveness and rivalry between women and men is acceptable.

(Oral Examiner takes an opposing view so as to encourage the candidate to continue talking.)

Section 12 (Picture Description & Discussion)

1.5 minutes

Here are two pictures showing the effects of natural disasters. Please tell me what you can see in the pictures.



Which of these two disasters has happened in your country? Can you tell me what happened?

Section 13 (Role Play)

2 minutes

We are going to take part in a role play. Here is a card with the situation on it.

(Candidate is given 15 seconds to study the card)

Candidate's Card

The situation:

It's snowing. You see an old man slip and fall over in the street. You rush to help him and you see blood flowing down his leg. The examiner is the old man.

Your goal:

Persuade the man to come with you to the local health centre for an X-ray and treatment.

Oral Examiner's Script

I am the man who has fallen down.
I'll start.

- I'm fine - thank you for helping me young man/woman.
- It's nothing - it's only a small cut.
- But I don't have time to go to the health centre.
- I'll go to the pharmacy and get something.
- Eventually agree to go to the health centre.

(Oral Examiner may extend the script to assist interaction.)

Thank you. That is the end of the test.

GLOSSARY

PRACTICE TEST 1

section 5 p.8

dome θόλος, τρούλος
 erect οικοδομώ, ανεγείρω
 house (v) στεγάζω
 in operation σε λειτουργία
 attraction ατραξιόν, έλξη
 target στόχος
 pay sb's way βγάζω το ψωμί μου
 flop αποτυχία
 thought-out μελετημένος
 executed εκτελεσμένος
 embarrassing ενοχλητικός, που προκαλεί αμηχανία
 in fact στην πραγματικότητα
 auction (v) δημοπρατώ
 on display προς επίδειξη
 sit around στέκομαι
 taxpayer φορολογούμενος
 maintenance συντήρηση
 ongoing συνεχιζόμενος
 debate (n) δημόσια συζήτηση, αντιπαράθεση (απόψεων)
 feature (v) αναδεικνύω
 fun fair λούνα πάρκ
 ice rink παγοδρόμιο
 venue τόπος διεξαγωγής εκδηλώσεων
 mayor δήμαρχος
 shelter καταφύγιο
 homeless άστεγος
 indoor εσωτερικός
 capacity χωρητικότητα
 intimate φιλικός, προσωπικός
 impressive επιβλητικός

section 6 p.10

federal aviation administration ομοσπονδία διοίκησης της αεροπορίας
 agency οργανισμός
 oversee (v) επιβλέπω
 major μείζον
 purchase (v) αγοράζω
 state (v) δηλώνω
 get around κυκλοφορώ
 mass transportation μέσο μαζικής μεταφοράς
 impose επιβάλλω
 fine (n) πρόστιμο
 be stuck in έχω κολλήσει
 tarmac διάδρομος αεροδρομίου
 take effect διαδραματίζομαι

section 6 continued p.11

traffic jam μποτιλιάρισμα
 trap (v) παγιδεύω
 vehicle όχημα
 expressway αυτοκινητόδρομος ταχείας κυκλοφορίας
 gridlock αδιέξοδο
 authorities αρχές
 carry out διεξάγω
 last (v) διαρκώ
 stretch εκτείνομαι
 overheating υπερθέρμανση
 approximately περίπου
 assign (v) αναθέτω

patrol (v) περιπολώ
 horrendous τρομερός, φρικτός
 wealthy πλούσιος

section 7 p.12

efficient αποδοτικός
 conduct διεξάγω
 demonstrate αποδεικνύω
 poor ανεπαρκής
 point out επισημαίνω
 industry βιομηχανία
 network δίκτυο
 inner city το κέντρο της πόλης
 suburbs προάστια
 note (v) διαπιστώνω
 reasonable λογικός
 object to (v) αντιτίθεμαι
 objection αντίρρηση
 reject απορρίπτω
 whatsoever απολύτως
 farther πιο μακριά
 discourage αποθαρρύνω, αποτρέπω
 rely on στηρίζομαι, επαναπαύομαι
 result in (v) καταλήγω, έχω ως αποτέλεσμα
 massive τεράστιος, μαζικός
 smog νέφος

PRACTICE TEST 2

section 5 p.20

illogical παράλογος
 run out of ξεμένω από
 limit (v) περιορίζω
 restriction περιορισμός
 get rid of ξεφορτώνομαι
 chattering που κροταλίζει (συγκεκριμένος ήχος)
 superintendent επιστάτης
 expect αναμένω, προσδοκώ
 spectacular θεαματικός
 viewpoint οπτική γωνία, θέα
 scenic γραφικός
 policy πολιτική
 ban (n) απαγόρευση
 undoubtedly αναμφισβήτητα
 profit κέρδος
 expand επεκτείνω
 service υπηρεσία
 rail track σιδηροδρομική γραμμή
 hike κάνω πεζοπορία
 trail μονοπάτι
 sightseer αυτός που βλέπει τα αξιοθέατα
 threaten απειλώ
 spring (n) πηγή
 depend on εξαρτώμαι από
 flora κλωρίδα
 fauna πανίδα
 desert (adj) ερημικός
 live off ζω από
 cluster around συγκεντρώνομαι
 biodiversity βιοποικιλότητα
 majestic μεγαλοπρεπής
 marvel (n) θαύμα