

C. N. GRIVAS

PTE General

PREPARATION & 10 PRACTICE TESTS



LEVEL

5

Proficient

PTE General

PREPARATION & 10 PRACTICE TESTS



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5

Proficient

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INTRODUCTION

PTE General (Pearson Test of English General) **Level 5** consists of a **written test** (75 marks) and a **spoken test** (25 marks), a total of 100 marks.

1 The **WRITTEN TEST** consists of **nine sections**, and assesses **Listening**, **Reading** and **Writing**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE WRITTEN TEST

SECTIONS	ITEM TYPES - TASKS
SECTION 1 Listening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Candidates listen once to ten short recordings, either monologues or dialogues, and answer a single 3-option multiple choice question for each. 10 questions to answer
SECTION 2 Listening and Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises a dictation item type. It assesses listening and writing skills. Candidates listen to one person speaking, and write exactly what is heard with correct spelling. The extract is played twice, the second time with pauses, giving time to write down word-for-word what is heard.
SECTION 3 Listening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises a text, note completion item type. Candidates listen once to two recordings, either a monologue or a dialogue, and complete a text or notes for each using the information heard. 10 gaps to complete
SECTION 4 Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises a gap fill 3-option multiple choice item type. Candidates read five short texts, each containing a gap, and choose which of three answer options is the missing word or phrase. 5 gaps to complete
SECTION 5 Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises a 3-option multiple choice item type. Candidates read one text and answer five questions or complete five sentences from a choice of three answer options. 5 questions or gaps
SECTION 6 Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises an open-ended question item type. Candidates read two texts and answer eight questions about them using single words or short answers. 8 questions to answer (four per text)
SECTION 7 Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises a text, note completion item type. Candidates read a text and use information from it to fill in seven gaps in a second incomplete text or notes. 7 gaps to complete
SECTION 8 Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises a write correspondence item type. Candidates write an email, formal or informal letter based on information given in Section 7. One text to write (120 - 150 words)
SECTION 9 Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises a write text item type. Candidates write a piece of free writing from a choice of two given topics. One text to write (200 - 250 words)

The **WRITTEN TEST** is scored out of **75**. The overall **timing** is **2 hours** and **30 minutes**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE WRITTEN TEST

THEMES / TOPICS	SCORE*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> transactional conversations public announcements social conversations factual information requests for goods or services requests for action / information expressing feelings / offers / invitations / apologies / excuses / criticism / dissatisfaction / suggestion / persuasion 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> instructions, news bulletins announcements, broadcast features and factual information <p>[The extracts are descriptive and contain relatively formal language.]</p>	10 (5 for writing and 5 for listening)
<p>One or two speakers giving or exchanging information. The items replicate real-life situations which require accurate comprehension and transcription of key information (e.g. taking messages or notes), including also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – transactional conversations – public announcements – recorded messages 	10
<p>Short authentic-style texts presented with realistic layout.</p> <p>Text types include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – labels, instructions – signs, notices, menus – advertisements – announcements 	5
<p>Authentic text types include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – newspaper articles – magazine articles – leaflets, brochures <p>Questions address:</p> <p>content, style, connotation, implication and inference</p>	5
<p>Authentic text types include:</p> <p>newspaper articles, magazine articles, leaflets, brochures and website articles</p> <p>Questions address:</p> <p>content, style, connotation, implication and inference</p>	8
<p>Text types include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – newspaper articles – textbooks – magazine articles – website articles 	7
<p>Instructions which include the purpose of the text, the intended content of the message and the recipient. The task gives candidates the opportunity to use language flexibly and effectively, to persuade, convince, amuse, impress or otherwise move the reader.</p>	10
<p>The form of the response may be:</p> <p>factual: blog entry, article, instructions, leaflet, news advert, fact sheet, interview</p> <p>critical: review, report, essay, speech, comment</p> <p>analytical: essay, analysis of issue or argument, explanation</p>	10

[*1 score point is awarded for each question throughout the Sections 1-7.

The written responses for Sections 8 and 9 are scored according to how well candidates perform.]

The **SPOKEN TEST** consists of **four sections**, and assesses **Speaking**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE SPOKEN TEST

SECTIONS	ITEM TYPES - TASKS
SECTION 10 Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises a sustained monologue item type. Candidates speak uninterrupted in response to a main prompt posed by the interlocutor (up to 1.5 minutes). Follow-up questions are asked to encourage the candidate to continue talking.
SECTION 11 Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises a discussion item type. Candidates give and support opinions on a topic in response to prompts given by the interlocutor.
SECTION 12 Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 12 is a describe picture item type. Candidates speak without interruption about two pictures in response to a prompt posed by the interlocutor (1 minute). This is followed by a second instruction to interpret some aspect of the pictures. <p>The visuals are designed to elicit language of comparison and contrast as well as expression of ideas, opinions and feelings.</p>
SECTION 13 Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises a role play item type. Candidates take part in a role play with the interlocutor using a role card with information and instructions. The situation may involve some difference of status or social distance between participants. It may require the candidate to state a problem which then needs to be solved jointly, explain or justify a course of action or speculate about the possible consequences of future action.

The **SPOKEN TEST** is scored out of **25**. The overall **timing** is **8 minutes**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE SPOKEN TEST

THEMES / TOPICS	TIMING	SCORE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prompts focus on present circumstances, regular and routine activities, past activities and experiences, future plans, tastes and preferences. Questions may require the candidate to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> choose between two alternatives. explain in detail reasons for an opinion or preference. speculate or respond to a hypothetical question. highlight or comment on a particular aspect of a topic. speak in a way that is particularly vivid or persuasive. 	2 minutes	The spoken test carries 25 score points in total, distributed across the marking criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion on a concrete or abstract issue about which it is feasible to have equally valid opposing opinions, feelings or ideas. The candidate will be invited to speculate or respond to a hypothesis. 	2 minutes	
Two related pictures and two questions. The first prompt focuses on the pictures; 'Please talk about the pictures' or 'Please tell me what you can see in the pictures' in relation to a topic or imagined purpose, such as their inclusion in a publication. The second prompt is an instruction to the candidate to interpret some aspect of the pictures or to express a personal reaction to them. The pictures may include some unusual element that invites comment or explanation. They may illustrate two alternative options and may allude to a topical issue.	2 minutes	
The interlocutor gives the candidate up to 15 seconds to read a role card with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an explanation of the situation. a specification of the roles to be taken by the candidate and the interlocutor. a specification of the candidate's goal (e.g. to reach an agreement, complete a transaction, etc.). visual support where appropriate. 	2 minutes	

SAMPLE PAGES

1

Sports Psychology
Language Learning
Mass Media

Preparation
and
Practice Test

Vocabulary Development

The **Vocabulary Development** section is designed to enrich your vocabulary as well as help you in the **Writing Section**.

SPORTS PSYCHOLOGY

1 Fill in the correct verb in the appropriate form.

affect • require • psych • prepare • disturb • keep

- 1 To be able to compete against top-class runners immense powers of concentration.
- 2 It goes without saying that injuries will an athlete's performance.
- 3 When stressed, an athlete will have trouble their mind on the game.
- 4 Many people listen to quiet music in order to mentally themselves before taking an important exam.
- 5 All professional sportspeople are trained in how to themselves up for a sporting event.
- 6 Before an important match footballers should not allow anything to their concentration.

2 Fill in the correct adjective.

peak • oblivious • intense • slim

- 1 Competing in the marathon demands concentration.
- 2 People generally need to put in a lot of hard work to achieve their performance.
- 3 Should you have a lot on your mind before an exam, you will have only a chance of doing well in it.
- 4 When competing, athletes are concentrating so hard that they are to everything around them.

3 Fill in the correct noun.

techniques • exercises • well-being • disturbance

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 It is said that the best way to calm your nerves before an important event is by doing breathing | 3 Part of a professional athlete's training includes learning useful stress management |
| 2 A good night's sleep is essential for our emotional | 4 Being in a constant state of agitation could lead to sleep |

4 Fill in the correct form of the word in capitals.

- 1 Thinking about a problem can make you and your mind soon starts to wander. **DISTRACT**
- 2 Prolonged periods of stress can lead to **DEPRESS**
- 3 Being completely with our personal problems would show in other areas of our lives. **PREOCCUPY**
- 4 It is always advisable to prepare yourself before an important event. **PSYCHOLOGICAL**
- 5 A certain amount of before a game is necessary to get the adrenalin going. **ANXIOUS**

STUDY

- ▶ have a sound mind
- ▶ get rid of negative thoughts
- ▶ build up mental strength
- ▶ complete concentration
- ▶ feel (un)motivated
- ▶ train one's mind
- ▶ achieve a goal
- ▶ maintain your concentration
- ▶ have a fear of failure
- ▶ have a bad day

LANGUAGE LEARNING

1 Fill in the correct preposition.

in • between • of • to

- 1 The main medium communication between nations is English.
- 2 Being bilingual gives you access two different worlds.
- 3 Bilingual children are able to switch two languages with the greatest of ease.
- 4 People proficient more than two languages usually have a high self-esteem.
- 5 Children brought up in bilingual families enjoy exposure two different cultures.



2 Fill in the correct noun.

barriers • doors • tongue • opportunities • tolerance

- 1 Without doubt, foreign languages can give you increased career
- 2 Knowing the language of the country you have chosen to visit means that there won't be any language
- 3 No one can deny that languages open for you when you enter the job market.
- 4 Children raised in a bilingual environment usually have more of different customs and religions.
- 5 It's good for children to have knowledge of other languages apart from their mother

3 Fill in the correct adjective.

well-off • compulsory • fluent • cultural

- 1 At this school, the students will become in both Spanish and German.
- 2 Having been brought up in a family where his father was English and his mother was French, Mark felt that he had had a wider experience than his friends.
- 3 Since so much emphasis is placed on languages these days, wouldn't it be a good idea for a bilingual education to become accessible to everyone, and not just those who are ?
- 4 The government should make it for all state schools to offer children a bilingual education.

4 Fill in the correct verb.

pick • reinforce • make • converse

- 1 Having been exposed to two languages from an early age, the school you have chosen will the knowledge your son already has.
- 2 After the first year, she will be able to in three languages.
- 3 The fact that your child is bilingual will a favourable impression on future employers.
- 4 It is a known fact that young children languages up very easily.

STUDY

- ▶ excel in languages
- ▶ have a successful career
- ▶ have scholarship programmes
- ▶ better communicative abilities
- ▶ dominant language
- ▶ teaching methods
- ▶ maximise language exposure
- ▶ embrace two diverse cultures
- ▶ immerse yourself in a language

MASS MEDIA

1 Fill in the correct prefix.

much- • half- • ever-

- 1 The stories they publish in this particular newspaper are a mixture of gossip andtruths.
- 2 There seems to be anincreasing demand for dramatic news stories.
- 3 The paparazzi, have beencriticised by serious newspapers.
- 4 In thischanging world of technology, the Internet helps us to keep track of the latest events.

2 Choose the correct word.

- 1 Television is a means of **transmitting** / **transferring** information.
- 2 Rarely are newspapers completely **biased** / **impartial**. This makes it difficult for us to form an opinion about a controversial issue unless we check the facts in other sources too.
- 3 Newspaper editors and TV stations pay vast sums of money for **exclusives** / **exclusions**.
- 4 The way in which we become informed of the latest news has undergone some **radical** / **tolerant** changes in the past few years.
- 5 News and **recent** / **current** affairs programmes keep us informed of incidents as they happen.

3 Fill in the correct adjective.

objective • credible • ambiguous • blatant • competitive

- 1 The newspaper business is highly
- 2 No one can deny the importance of a completely , independent press.
- 3 The language used in news reports can often be , forcing you to read between the lines.
- 4 Some reporters don't think twice about telling lies.
- 5 People have a need to read newspapers that print stories without the element of sensationalism that so many resort to these days.

4 Fill in the correct word.

to • into • in • of

- 1 It is difficult for reporters to write their stories from a completely objective **point** **view**.
- 2 Many newspapers **come** **for** a lot of criticism for printing untrue stories.
- 3 After being sued for printing lies, the newspaper's reliability **was called** **question**.
- 4 This particular newspaper portrays the government **a negative light**.
- 5 The paparazzi will **go** **great lengths** to bring us shocking images because they are the ones that make a newspaper sell.



STUDY

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • role of the media | • run the risk of |
| • offend people | • distort the truth |
| • unscrupulous journalists | • misleading story |
| • use tact and discretion | • be left in the dark about |
| • gruesome details | • keeps us in the picture |
| • disturbing images | • news bulletin |

Examination Skills – Exam-style Practice

Section 1: Exam Skills

In this section of the exam, you may be asked about the subject of an extract. Match the sentences below with a subject from A - I. There is one subject you do not need to use.

- 1 It's one of those things that you only miss when you don't have it.
- 2 You've got to be rich to do it – or live on a mountain.
- 3 Just put it in the cup, add some hot water and let it sit.
- 4 Never let go of it – what kind of life would we have without a bit of hope?
- 5 I found it under my car one winter's morning, barely moving.
- 6 It belongs to the Slavic group, but has hardly any speakers.
- 7 It makes me look like my nose is twice as long as it is!
- 8 It won us the cup – here's a photo of me just after I put it away.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

A skiing

B a kitten

C a goal

D freedom

E a photo

F a language

G running

H a teabag

I optimism

Section 1: Exam-style Practice

Now listen to your teacher read out four texts and put a cross (X) in the box next to the correct answer.

- 1 What is the speaker talking about?

A ☐ verbs

B ☐ adjectives

C ☐ adverbs

- 2 What are the speakers talking about?

A ☐ an injury

B ☐ a disability

C ☐ an accident

- 3 What is the speaker talking about?

A ☐ determination

B ☐ fitness

C ☐ youth

- 4 What are they talking about?

A ☐ a newspaper

B ☐ a computer

C ☐ a holiday

Section 2: Exam Skills

In Section 2 of the exam, you are expected to write down exactly what you hear with the correct spelling. Your teacher is going to read out eight words, twice each. Listen and write them down. Make sure you spell the words correctly.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

Section 2: Exam-style Practice

Now your teacher is going to read out a short text about the media. Listen to it once. Then your teacher will read it a second time with pauses for you to write down exactly what you hear. Make sure you spell the words correctly.

.....

.....

.....

.....

Section 3: Exam Skills

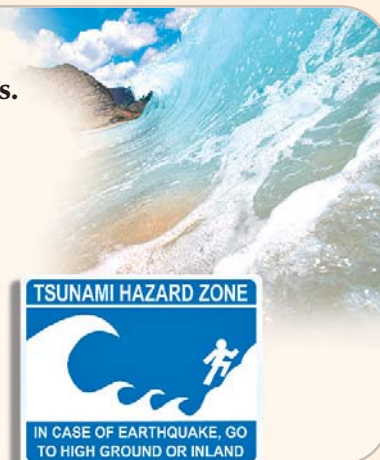
In this section of the exam, it is sometimes possible to think of the answers before you even start listening. Even if you do not guess right sometimes, it will still help you mentally prepare to hear the correct answer. Look at the questions below and discuss the possible answers with a partner.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 On what date did the 2004 tsunami take place? | 3 Which countries were worst affected? |
| 2 How strong was the earthquake that caused it? | 4 How many people were killed? |

Section 3: Exam-style Practice

Now your teacher is going to read out a short text. Listen and complete the notes.

The tsunami struck on
 2004. It was caused by a Richter
 earthquake, and hit Thailand,
 especially, killing around
 people.



Section 4: Exam Skills

Your knowledge of idiomatic structures may be tested in this section. Circle the word that does **NOT** fit each time.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 to make / keep / talk sense | 3 to ring / hear / hold true | 5 to make / take / do a decision |
| 2 to play / kill / save time | 4 to open / hold / make talks | 6 to bear / have / hold an opinion |

Section 4: Exam-style Practice

Now read each text and put a cross (X) by the missing word or phrase.

- The newspaper reported that the president had secret talks with the enemy for months.
 A ☐ made B ☐ been holding C ☐ opened
- It is our duty to inform you that you bear for the losses incurred while away on business.
 A ☐ full responsibility B ☐ complete blame C ☐ personal interest
- An athlete twice about changing their psychologist if the one they have doesn't suit them.
 A ☐ mustn't consider B ☐ shouldn't reconsider C ☐ shouldn't think

Section 5: Exam Skills

In the reading passages, you will often be asked to sum up an idea or attitude in one word. Read the passage and answer the questions below.

Sociolinguists have come to the conclusion that we have underestimated the power of language. This may seem strange considering that it allows us to do all manner of things such as communicate, teach others and above all express our innermost emotions to one another. However, often without our realising it, dialects and accents give us certain impressions – usually fixed stereotypes – about the speaker.

Choose the word that best describes ...

- 1 people's understanding of language.
- 2 the author's characterisation of language.

A versatile

B accurate

C informative

D inadequate

E overrated

Section 5: Exam-style Practice

Now read the passage and answer the questions below. Put a cross (X) in the box next to the correct answer.

Language can create its own fair share of issues. When two people speak the same dialect, the communication process is simple and natural. However, commonly held views about speakers of other dialects can lead to problems. In Mexico, for example, should you speak standard Spanish you will instantly make a good impression on the listener. Unfortunately, the opposite is true if someone speaks to a native Mexican in Chicano Spanish – a negative opinion of that person will almost certainly be formed. Chicano Spanish is probably the most frowned upon dialect since it is the one used by Mexican immigrants in the southern states of America and so has a heavy English influence.

- 1 How would the writer describe the opinions of Mexicans of those who speak Chicano Spanish?

A ☐ educational
 B ☐ understandable
 C ☐ judgemental

- 2 How are Mexican immigrants to America generally viewed in Mexico?

A ☐ ungenerously
 B ☐ respectfully
 C ☐ sympathetically



Section 6: Exam Skills

In this section you may be asked how many examples of something are mentioned throughout the text. Read the passage below and underline the psychological skills mentioned.

Sports psychology is the study of the psychological factors that influence athletic performance, physical activity and exercise. Through this knowledge, it aims to apply certain mental skills such as goal setting in order to boost individual and team performance. Some of the other important skills taught are relaxation, visualisation, concentration and confidence building.

Section 6: Exam-style Practice

Now read the passage and answer the questions below.

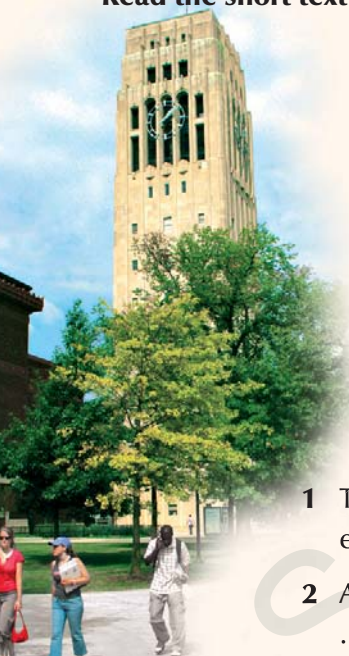
There is currently a range of psychological tools at the disposal of athletes, but most sports psychologists will analyse each individual to provide them with a learning style suited to them. The latest and most effective tool applied today is called 'Neuro-Linguistic Programming' or NLP. NLP categorises each individual's learning style, which could be visual, auditory (hearing), kinaesthetic (hands on), and so on. For example, if you are suited to visual learning, you would benefit from mentally picturing the ball going into the back of the net or yourself crossing the finishing line first. One runner with this style of learning said he never won a race unless he visualised the crowd cheering him on; a champion high-jumper always sees a gap between her body and the bar.



- 1 How many NLP learning styles are mentioned in the text?
- 2 How many examples of motivational images are given in the text?

Section 7: Exam-style Practice

Read the short text below and complete the notes. Write no more than three words in each gap from the text.



The Burton School of Media Studies has a large combination of media programmes to offer you. Our school is unique in that our students get the opportunity to both study media and create it since our courses allow you to integrate studies in media history and theory with practical work in the actual production of digital media projects. This gives you the advantage of being able to advance in almost any area of this wide-ranging field. Over 500 students enrol with us each year, taking advantage of our vast experience. Another benefit of choosing Burton for your studies is the individual attention you will receive from your adviser. This is the person whose job it is to help you identify your interests and select courses that fit your goals. The course lasts for two academic years and due to its popularity, would-be students are advised to register well in advance.

- 1 The Burton School of Media Studies offers you the chance as well as engage in the creation of it.
- 2 A qualified person will be on hand to help you make the right choices when your courses.

Section 8: Exam Skills

In Section 8 of the exam, you are expected to use the information you have read in Section 7 to help you write an email, letter or blog entry. This will require you to identify the correct pieces of information. Look again at the short text above and identify two benefits of attending the Burton School of Media Studies. Then write sentences summarising them in your own words as far as possible.

1

2

Sections 8&9: Writing Skills

FUNCTIONS

1 EXPRESSING YOUR OPINION

Fill in the correct preposition.

of • on • to • in

- 1 my opinion, you have made a very wise decision.
- 2 From my point view, athletes need peace and quiet before competing.
- 3 my mind, professional athletes should know how to put any stress to the back of their minds before going out into the arena.
- 4 My own view the matter is that there is no need for the media to resort to such degrees of sensationalism.
- 5 I am the opinion that reporters should not twist the facts to make their stories more newsworthy.
- 6 It seems me that such an education would be extremely beneficial.

2 GIVING EXAMPLES

Choose the correct answer.

- 1 There are a number of second languages to choose from, **furthermore** / **for example** French, German and Spanish.
- 2 I dislike watching the news on this channel **in particular** / **in contrast** because I know they tend to blow things out of proportion.
- 3 Some subjects **due to** / **such as** languages and computers are given special focus at this school.
- 4 There are some things in life that require complete and utter concentration **like** / **as** exams and driving.
- 5 Your son is sure to enjoy his lessons there, **consequently** / **particularly** the computer ones.



3 PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

Replace the words in bold with a prepositional phrase, as in the example.

Young people learn foreign languages **preparing** them for the world of work.

in preparation for

- 1 They write a lot of untruths **regarding** the lives of the rich and famous.
- 2 Not having enough free time would surely result in any individual being **stressed**.
- 3 The number of parents sending their offspring to bilingual schools is **rising**.

Key Points for Section 9 page 26

- 48 A)** kinds of pressure / concentration problems / poor performance / disappointment / fear of failure.
48 B) be fair / media bias / fierce competition / viewers' expectations.

Section 8: Exam-style Practice

Use the information from Section 7 Exam-style Practice to help you write your answer.

You have read the text on The Burton School of Media Studies. Write a letter to a friend who is considering enrolling on one of its courses. Write about 150 words and include the following:

- your comments on your friend's decision
- the benefits of attending the Burton School of Media Studies
- your thoughts on whether you think media studies should be introduced into the school curriculum

Speaking Skills

Section 10 (work with a partner)

The pictures below show different people applying for the job of presenter on a new music show. Discuss who you feel would be most suitable and why.

**Helpline**

- depends on type of music
- Who will watch the show?
- understand the audience
- too old for ...
- more suited to ...
- charismatic / trendy
- vivacious personality

Section 11

a The government is thinking of allowing toys to be advertised at any time in the run-up to Christmas. Look at the points below and tick which are the advantages of such a decision.

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1 More revenue for struggling TV channels. | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 Consumers get more opportunities to see what's available. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Children will demand more from their parents. | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 There are plenty of adverts already. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Advertising stimulates the economy. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

b Do you think there should be a time before which toy adverts cannot be shown on TV? Why?

Section 12

Look at the pictures and then answer the questions.



- 1 What can you see in the pictures?
- 2 Are any of these a problem where you live?
- 3 Why do these problems occur more in the city than the country?
- 4 What can be done to change these situations?

FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE**DESCRIBING SEQUENCE**

Match the sentence halves.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 I had just left the house | |
| 2 No sooner had I left the house | |
| 3 On leaving the house, | |

- A than I saw him climbing through my neighbour's window.
- B when I saw him climbing through my neighbour's window.
- C I saw him climbing through my neighbour's window.

Section 13 (role play)

Student A, you witnessed the burglary in picture 2 in Section 12. The burglar escaped before the police arrived, and now they want to know what happened. Student B, you are the police officer. You start.

Police officer

- how get in?
- when?
- description?
- when leave?
- take anything?

Witness

- say how burglar got in
- say when
- describe burglar
- say when he left
- say what he took with him

Section 1 Listening



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: How does the speaker describe the behaviour of compulsive gamblers?

- A ☐ hopeless
B ☒ irrational
C ☐ realistic

1 What is the speaker talking about?

- A ☐ running a marathon
B ☐ overcoming a sports injury
C ☐ getting fit

2 What are the speakers talking about?

- A ☐ football
B ☐ tennis
C ☐ chess

3 What was Frank Burton accused of?

- A ☐ libel
B ☐ fraud
C ☐ corruption

4 What commonly happens with bilingual children?

- A ☐ They forget their mother tongue.
B ☐ They confuse the two languages.
C ☐ They prefer one of the languages.

5 What is the man doing?

- A ☐ making an excuse
B ☐ explaining why something happened
C ☐ saying he is sorry

6 Why does the speaker use the expression 'in the zone'?

- A ☐ to explain the position he played in
B ☐ to express how focused he was
C ☐ to hint at his extraordinary powers

7 What is true about pidgin languages?

- A ☐ They are only used in coastal areas.
B ☐ No one speaks them as a mother tongue.
C ☐ They have a small vocabulary.

8 What does the woman want?

- A ☐ to meet for coffee on Sunday
B ☐ to discuss a game
C ☐ to go to the library

9 What is the man suggesting?

- A ☐ There must be some truth in the story.
B ☐ Newspapers are only interested in scandal.
C ☐ Reporters make up stories all the time.

10 What does the speaker say about bilingual children?

- A ☐ They tend to face learning difficulties.
B ☐ Their language abilities are limited.
C ☐ They have no lasting problems.

(10 marks)

Section 2 Listening & Writing



Test 1

You will hear a recording about bilingualism. 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

(10 marks)

Section 3 Listening



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

Example: Stephanie Sloan is a professor of **Media Studies** at Durham University.

- 12 After Hurricane Katrina, it was reported that the streets of New Orleans were full of causing problems.
- 13 Around people took shelter in the Superdome.
- 14 Many of the stories printed proved to be
- 15 There were even cases of being shot by the police.
- 16 Due to the presence of many people were unable to leave the city.

You will hear a talk about sports psychology. First, read the notes below then listen and complete the notes with information from the talk.

Example: Almost all top **athletes** make use of sports psychology.

- 17 Its methodology is also used in business, medicine and
- 18 To learn about the power of the mind, scientists turned to
- 19 They saw that when someone hard, changes take place in their brain and body.
- 20 Beginners preparing for a experience a faster heart rate.
- 21 The heart rate of experts when they are ready for action.

(10 marks)

Section 4 Reading



Test 1

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

Example: Passports are no longer checked at the borders between EU countries (with the exception of the UK and Ireland). , if you enter an EU country from a country which is not a member, the law states you must show a valid passport.

- A ☐ Although
- B ☐ Additionally
- C ☒ However

22

The court found the newspaper guilty of invasion of privacy, and ordered it to pay the actor's legal costs and an additional £500,000

- A ☐ in circulation
- B ☐ in compensation
- C ☐ in legal fees

23

'You should pray to have a sound mind in a sound body,' wrote the Roman poet Juvenal two millennia ago, and the words still today for any athlete preparing for competition.

- A ☐ hold true
- B ☐ talk sense
- C ☐ are heard

24

Pidgin languages develop between groups of people who have no language with which to communicate. This is the reason why pidgins have no native speakers.

- A ☐ to speak of
- B ☐ in common
- C ☐ learning skills

25

Communication is significantly easier when people who use different sign languages meet than it is for those who use different spoken languages. Therefore, a signer from Britain would be able to communicate fairly well with one from Japan, although there is no actual

- A ☐ international deaf community
- B ☐ worldwide intercommunication
- C ☐ global sign language

26

In order to gain acceptance into various social groups, it is often necessary for people to their style of speech or even the language. For example, Chicanos feel uncomfortable conversing in Spanish with Latin Americans and more often than not will resort to English when having a conversation with them.

- A ☐ switch
- B ☐ improve
- C ☐ simplify

(5 marks)



Read the passage and complete the sentences or answer the questions below. Put a cross (X) in the box next to the correct answer, as in the example.

Research now suggests that during peak performance, the mind relaxes its analytical side – the left side – thus allowing its right side to control the body. The result is the ‘flow’ that many people report experiencing when intensively engaged in an activity.

The ability to enter and maintain a state of deep concentration at the right moment appears to be localised in specific regions of the brain, and is a key part of acquiring an athletic skill, even though people are unaware they are doing it. So important is this flow that athletes actually improve their performance by learning to control their brainwaves.

One way in which psychologists train athletes to bring their minds into a flow state is by having them go through a preset mental routine with each shot, stroke or serve. Having a fixed routine can help improve concentration and performance off the playing field, too. A lawyer, for example, might carefully arrange notes and pencils before speaking in court, just as a surgeon might go through a mental checklist before performing an operation.

So, whether an athlete is an Olympian or an amateur, a key component in preparation is letting the automatic processes of the mind take over control of the muscles. This ‘muscle memory’ seems to have a basis in biological fact. It would appear that the brain learns a new skill by fine-tuning the specific neural circuits that are involved in carrying out a motion. When people are just beginning to learn a new task, many different areas of their brains are active simultaneously. But as people become more proficient at a task, their brain activity becomes more singularly focused on the brain circuits directly involved in producing the movements.

However, physically moving the muscles is not the only way to practise a new skill. Such is the power of the mind that merely *imagining* making the movement can often result in an enhanced performance. Research shows that as far as the brain is concerned, imagining oneself scoring a winning goal or hitting a blistering tennis serve may be the next best thing to actually doing it. Imagining the movement activates those same areas of the brain which direct the muscles that produce the movement. In other words, mental rehearsal of an action puts the mind through a neural workout that is not dissimilar to the real thing.

Example: What happens during peak performance?

- A ☐ The brain shuts down.
B ☐ Thoughts flow much better.
C ☒ A different part of the brain takes control.

27 What difference is suggested between professional and amateur sportspeople?

- A ☐ The amateur cannot focus properly.
B ☐ The professional consciously develops focus.
C ☐ The amateur needs special training.

28 Lawyers might arrange their things before speaking

- A ☐ to get psychologically prepared.
B ☐ so as not to make a mistake.
C ☐ so they can read their checklist.

29 Which word best describes brain activity while starting to learn a new skill?

- A ☐ random
 B ☐ scattered
 C ☐ focused

30 What does the writer say about the imagination?

- A ☐ It is as powerful as the real action.
 B ☐ It can be used to focus the brain.
 C ☐ It can make you think you are playing well.

31 Which of the following would help the brain to focus?

- A ☐ remembering scoring a goal
 B ☐ thinking about what could go wrong
 C ☐ visualising playing a good game

(5 marks)

Section 6 Reading



Read the article below and answer the questions.

Dr Barry Marsh is a sports psychiatrist who has worked with teams and individual athletes all over the world. We often think of sport as a physical activity, but Dr Marsh insists that the key to success lies in the mind.

'Self-belief and the will to win are the two most important factors in the make-up of a great sportsman,' he says. 'All the fitness and swiftness in the world won't win you a race if you don't think you'll win.'

Marsh mainly works with footballers who have problems in the area of self-belief, and his successes have resulted in managers clamouring for his help – though always in the strictest confidence, so he can't give us any names.

'Most footballers don't want to see a shrink – they think it's a sign of weakness. Footballers are a strange breed, many of them ruled by a system of superstition which is staggering when laid out in front of you. One young man I treated had lost the first medal he'd ever won – it had been his lucky charm, and since then he hadn't been able to put a foot right.'

Marsh begins by analysing the symbols that make up the player's system of beliefs. 'As a disciple of Jung, I don't believe it's a random choice when someone chooses a cross or a four-leaf clover as their personal talisman. It may be an unconscious choice, but it reveals a great deal about their psyche.'

Example: What does Dr Marsh think an athlete needs in order to win?

self-belief / willpower

32 What do his clients insist on?

.....

33 What does Dr Marsh believe footballers are often heavily influenced by?

.....

34 How many examples of lucky charms does Dr Marsh give?

.....

35 What is not a conscious choice, according to Dr Marsh?

.....

Read the newspaper article below and answer the questions.

The advent of the 24-hour news channel and the instant access the Internet provides us with has utterly changed the way we view the news. It would at first glance seem to be a good thing to be able to find out in a moment what has happened on the other side of the globe, but the problem is that the first glance is all we get. The moment a new story breaks, all attention switches away from the 'old' one, and nothing is heard of it again.

With competing news channels all covering the latest big event, another worrying trend emerges: sensationalism. The only way to get viewers to watch your show is by shouting the loudest; the most lurid story gets the headlines, and the serious but dull is relegated to the news in brief section, if it is mentioned at all. A good example of this is the oil spill in the Mexican Gulf, which was on the screen all day every day until it was plugged. But where is the coverage of the extent of the contamination, the lives it has affected, the compensation payments and the clean-up? For the 24-hour news cycle, it is as if the oil simply disappeared without leaving a trace.

Example: What appears to be a positive development?

instant access to (the) news

36 When does a piece of news become 'old'?

.....

37 What encourages sensationalism in reporting?

.....

38 What news stories do not receive the attention they deserve?

.....

39 Which environmental aspects of the oil spill have not been covered?

.....

(8 marks)



Read the advertisement and complete the notes. Write no more than three words in each gap from the article.

The Companion International School has maintained a high level of academic excellence throughout its 50-year history. The children of diplomats, professors and politicians have walked our halls on their own way to becoming diplomats, politicians and leading academics themselves.

We are deeply aware of the fact that many of our pupils are bilingual on entrance to the school, and make it our duty to encourage and nurture this vital ability. The curriculum is taught in English and French, but we have also made a commitment to develop the pupils' skills in any language they might speak in addition to the basic two. For example, a child from Russia would receive classes in their own language as well as intensive booster classes in English and French to ensure they can participate fully in class.

We take a cross-cultural approach elsewhere too. School life is designed so as not to make any child feel as if they are an outsider or foreigner. Religious education covers all the major world religions, history lessons avoid Eurocentrism and school events reflect our cultural richness and diversity. On International Day, for instance, every pupil is encouraged to bring in a dish from their national cuisine for their friends to sample, and groups of nationalities put on performances of their country's music and dance as well as demonstrations of arts and crafts.

Young children learn new languages effortlessly, and it has been shown time and again that the child who speaks two or more languages also does better in other areas of schooling. Our graduates go on to attend prestigious universities throughout the world, with many staying on at them to teach as professors.

Our alumni network ensures that ex-pupils stay in touch, meaning that wherever a Companion (as our pupils are called) is in the world, they will be able to find a friendly face and a helping hand.

We pride ourselves on our ability to teach children with special needs within an ordinary class environment. For example, a deaf boy enrolled at our school last year so we hired a teacher of sign language, and the boy's entire class, as well as a number of teachers, learned to sign. The parents of the boy have indicated that he is much happier here than at the special school for the deaf he attended before.

We also have a scholarship programme that assists gifted students who do not have the financial means to attend the Companion International School. For more information, please contact our Deputy Head Teacher, who deals with the assessment tests and interviews. Granting of a scholarship depends on the results of both, as well as on reports and references from the school the child is currently attending.

Example: **Pupils** of the school have included the children of diplomats and professors.

- 40 Both English and French are used to
- 41 To become fully contributing members of the class, some students will require lessons in the two main languages.
- 42 Multiculturalism is a feature of both and lessons.
- 43 Someone who attends the school is known as
- 44 Ex-pupils of the school can be found all
- 45 The example of the deaf boy shows the school's approach to children who have
- 46 Less well-off children with a good academic record could be awarded

(7 marks)

Section 8 Writing



Test 1

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

47 You have read the advertisement for the Companion International School. Write a letter to a friend who is considering sending their child to the school. Write about 150 - 200 words and include the following:

- your comments on your friend's decision
- the benefits of attending the Companion International School
- your thoughts on whether all children should be offered a bilingual education

(10 marks)

Section 9 Writing



Choose **one** of the topics below and write your answer in 250 - 300 words.

48 **A)** Write an article for a college magazine about the way in which an athlete's psychology affects his or her performance. Include your views on whether you think this applies to other aspects of our lives and give some examples.

OR

48 **B)** Write an essay about your views on the following:

When it comes to reporting current affairs, the role of the media is to inform, and news items should therefore be presented factually and objectively.

(10 marks)

**Section 10** (2 minutes)

Answer the teacher's questions.

Section 11 (2 minutes)

Answer the teacher's question.

Section 12 (2 minutes)

Answer the teacher's questions.

**Section 13** (2 minutes)

You are going to take part in a role play. Here is your card.

Test taker's card**The situation:**

You witnessed a gang stealing a woman's handbag. The examiner is a police officer who is going to interview you about what you saw.

Your goal:

Give the police officer all the information he / she requires.

SAMPLE PAGES

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