

NAME _____

INDEX NUMBER _____

English as a Foreign Language
Schools' Monitoring Board

English Language Examination for EFL Teachers

24 November 2007

Time 3 hours

FOR EXAMINERS' USE ONLY

Section A	Section B	Section C	Section D	TOTAL
/100	/100	/100	/100	/100

Section A—Language Description

Part 1

Read the text below and answer questions 1-20 by circling the correct answer, a, b, c or d in its regard. (60 marks)

‘Stay awake now, please’

Adapted from an article by Victoria Coren in the Sunday May 6, 2007 edition of The Observer

1 American scientists are on the verge of curing insomnia. We heard last week
2 that Professor Giulio Tononi from the University of Wisconsin-Madison
3 **has discovered** that penetrating the brain with 'harmless' magnetic pulses can
4 **trigger** 'slow-wave activity' to create **deep sleep**. The next step, they claim, is
5 building **a** machine to cure insomnia.

6 This madness must **be stopped** in its tracks. Nobody wants insomnia to be
7 cured. Even insomniacs **don't** want a cure. They love **having** it. At this
8 moment, **thousands of you** are reaching excitedly for your pencils, to write
9 me protesting letters about your **tortuous** nights, your tossing and turning,
10 your bleariness in the daytime, the fortunes you spend **on** hypnotists and
11 self-help books and hocus-pocus herby remedies. Oh, the exquisite agony!
12 You will write 1,000 words more than you need to, because you will so **enjoy**
13 the furious detail.

14 Alcoholism isn't sexy any longer; we **know** too much about the dribbling,
15 violence and gum disease. Gluten allergies **and** lactose intolerance are
16 terribly 1998; the smart food to reject at dinner parties now is anything **which**
17 **might** 'keep you awake' later. Cheese- boards are **waved away** as if they
18 were grenades. God help the hostess who cannot provide freshly brewed,
19 **decaffeinated** latte for her glamorous sufferers.

20 **If a 'cure' is invented, they will simply find something else to** grumble
21 **about**. We have a need for **these** undiagnosable, untreatable conditions,
22 because most of the developed world is basically healthy all the time, until
23 they get something which kills **them**.

1. What tense is 'has discovered' in line 3?

- a) the present simple
- b) the past simple
- c) the present perfect simple
- d) the past perfect simple

2. What relationship does 'trigger' in line 4 have with the word 'create' in the same line?

- a) it's a hyponym
- b) it's a synonym
- c) it's an antonym
- d) it's a collocation

3. Why do we say 'deep sleep' as in line 4 but we cannot say 'shallow sleep' or 'hard sleep' (not in text)?

- a) it's a collocation
- b) it's a synonym
- c) it's a transitive verb
- d) it's a metaphor

7. /welθ/ _____

8. /wɪðdrɔ:əl/ _____

9. /mɔ:ɡɪdʒ/ _____

10. /kɹænʃɪ/ _____

Part 4

An EFL teacher elicited and brainstormed the words below during a lesson based on the topic of SPORTS. Write out each word in phonemic script. (20 marks)

Choose from these symbols:

ɪ ɪ ʊ u: ɪə eɪ
 e ə ɜ: ɔ: ʊə ɔɪ əʊ
 æ ʌ aɪ ɒ eə aɪ aʊ
 p b t d tʃ dʒ k g
 f v θ ð s z ʃ ʒ
 m n ŋ h l r w j

Example: sports = / s p ɔ: t s /

1. competitive _____

2. amateur _____

3. stadium _____

4. football _____

5. cricket _____

6. professional _____

7. tennis _____

8. athletics _____

9. golf _____

10. athlete _____

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Part One	Part Two	Part Three	Part Four	Total
/60	/10	/10	/20	/100

Section B—Language Sensitivity & Awareness

PART 1: A word or structure (indicated in **bold**) in one sentence in each set below is different from the others in the set. The difference may be in the **meaning, form or pronunciation**. Decide which sentence in each set is the odd one out and state clearly what the difference is.

(15 marks)

Example:

- (a) What a lovely **face**!
- (b) He is such a good **mate**.
- (c) That's **fate**, I suppose.
- (d) A real fire is lovely but cleaning out the **grate** is a hassle.
- (e) What a **farce**!

Sentence e is the odd one out because in a, b, c, d, the sound is a diphthong.

- 1. (a) **It's** much nicer than it was before.
- (b) If **it's** not yours then it must be mine.
- (c) It's not this week, **it's** next week.
- (d) **It's** been a very difficult time
- (e) **It's** hotter today than it was yesterday.

Sentence ___ is the odd one out because

- 2. (a) I **must** leave now.
- (b) You **must** be joking!
- (c) He **must** do something about the problem.
- (d) We **must** buy a bigger house.
- (e) They **must** change their plans.

Sentence ___ is the odd one out because

- 3 (a) He **is lying** in the sun.
(b) We **are enjoying** our holiday.
(c) She **is leaving** tomorrow.
(d) I **am reading** a very good book.
(e) Don't interrupt me. **I'm working**.

Sentence ___ is the odd one out because

- 4 (a) I am going **to** the bank.
(b) He walks **to** work, it's only a short distance.
(c) Will you drive me **to** the airport?
(d) I would like **to** go with you.
(e) Will you come **to** the shops with me?

Sentence ___ is the odd one out because

- 5 (a) **I've had** this problem before.
(b) **We've had** some bad news.
(c) **He's had** his car broken into.
(d) **She's had** a headache all week.
(e) **He's had** a bad day

Sentence ___ is the odd one out because

Part 2

Read the article below and write the missing words in the spaces numbered 1 to 13 below the text, with one word only. Blanks filled in with two or more words will be counted incorrect. (25 marks)

Adapted from an article by Michele Hanson in the Tuesday, January 30, 2007 edition of The Guardian

'It's much too scary out there - I'd much rather stay at home than go anywhere'

This may sound like raving rubbish to you but I have proof that a simple cross-town drive can wreck your life

The older I am, the less I want to go anywhere. It's not the event itself but the _____ 1 _____ there, especially if I don't know the _____ 2 _____. Worse still, it means leaving my home unprotected: against robbers, fires, tornados, flood, gas explosion - you name it, I've already _____ 3 _____ it in. So first I must _____ 4 _____ myself away from home, then travel. More danger. I blame my parents. Whenever I drove off in the car in my youth, they would be standing at the gate, pale green with fear, _____ 5 _____ that I would crash and come back either in a box or in pieces. I now feel the same.

Luckily, over the 10 years that my mother lived with us, I hardly had to go _____ 6 _____ at all. She was the perfect excuse. How could I leave my poorly, helpless old mother for more than a couple of hours, waiting and _____ 7 _____? Because her beliefs never wavered. She knew that the chances of my making it back alive were slim. So long journeys were out of the _____ 8 _____. Marvellous.

But now I have no mother and no excuse, so next week I must go to a birthday party on the other _____ 9 _____ of town. This is the trouble with advance bookings - one can stew over them for weeks. What if I _____ 10 _____ lost, never find the place at all, have a puncture, a crash, can't get home, and the dogs starve?

On top of all that, last week in the gales, our 20ft fence of rose bush and ivy was blown down. That rose was better than barbed _____ 11 _____. Any burglar would have been _____ 12 _____ to shreds. But now the way is clear and while I'm absent hordes of them

will swarm over the newly exposed low wall, smash the windows and do God knows

13.

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

7)

8)

9)

10)

11)

12)

13)

PART 3

In some of the sentences below there is an error in grammar, vocabulary, spelling or punctuation. If the sentence is correct, please put a tick (✓) at the end of the line. If the sentence is incorrect, rewrite the correct version in the space provided. The first is done for you as an example.

(60 marks)

0. I prefer to read books rather than watch on television.

I prefer to read books rather than watch television.

1. Andrew was very much angry when he realized he had been cheated.

2. We had played together when we were young.

3. Make sure you let me know when you arrive at home.

4. If you feel that the decision is unfair you should complain.

5. They never admit they are in wrong.

6. The person who told you that must have been mistaken.

7. We are trying to save up to buy a flat.

8. I'll lend you the book but please return it back.

9. I always like to adhere the rules.

10. I went to the hairdresser's to cut my hair.

11. The man, who committed the crime, has been arrested

12. The meal will soon be ready made to eat.

13. "Why didn't you tell her we were leaving"? she asked angrily

14. I don't mind going but I would rather stay here.

15. Little I knew that he was planning to cheat me.

16. The picnickers ran for shelter when it started to rain.

17. I'm not sure what to do about the problem.

18. You can speak to him now. He just came in.

19. The parents went to the school and insisted on speaking to the Principle

20. He has been in the same job for several years before now.

21. I don't think he meant to be rude.

22. My name is very easy to remember it.

23. Can you suggest a good restaurant?

24. If you told me you were coming I would have prepared a meal.

25. It's a shame you can't come with us.

26. I missed getting the bus because I had overslept.

27. He was very angry and told me I had made a very big mistake.

28. I hardly couldn't see very well because it was too dark.

29. He has just gone out for shopping but will be back soon.

30. The bread which was so stale that we couldn't eat it.

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Part One	Part Two	Part Three	Total
/15	/25	/60	/100

SECTION C – LANGUAGE IN CONTEXT

Part 1

In the following formal letter, one company is offering another an agency. Complete the letter by writing **ONE WORD ONLY** in the blanks. The words should be grammatically correct and appropriate to the context.

(44 marks)

Dear Mr Zammit,

We are a Brazilian company based in Sao Paolo and produce a

(1) _____ variety of coffee. You were recommended
(2) _____ us by the local Chamber of Commerce who
(3) _____ you might be (4) _____ in
representing our company in Malta.

We have a (5) _____ of agencies in other European countries and
these receive products on approval, then sell them

(6) _____ a six per cent (7) _____ basis. These are
(8) _____ agencies which means that only we supply them
and they represent only us in this line.

Generally, their customers (9) _____ all accounts
(10) _____ us, then we supply them direct on invoices
received (11) _____ the agent.

In most cases we offer a (12) _____ period of one year,
and if the (13) _____ are good, we (14) _____ the agreement
for a further period of two years. We would (15) _____ you advertise in the
media and although we can provide the leaflets in Portuguese, we shall leave it (16)
_____ you to (17) _____ them into Maltese.

Our products are the finest in the world, as you (18) _____ know, and they will
be very easy to (19) _____.

If you are interested in representing us, we will (20) _____ a standard agreement for your (21) _____.

I am enclosing a copy of our (22) _____ brochure and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Edouardo Pereira
Chairman.

PART 2:

For questions 1–7, choose the phrasal verb that best replaces the word or phrase in **bold** and underlined in each sentence.

(14 marks)

1. The two Formula One drivers have recently declared they are on good terms. They claim they haven't ever **quarrelled**.

(a) broken down (b) split up (c) fallen off (d) fallen out

2. The rock concert in the park was **cancelled** following the recent spate of bomb scares.

(a) called off (b) cut off (c) put off (d) taken off

3. He was fired because he was caught using the company money to **repay** his own debts.

(a) finish off (b) pull off (c) go off (d) pay off

4. "You still don't understand?! I think the matter was **explained quite clearly** in the annual report"

(a) spelled out (b) written up (c) spoken out (d) checked out

5. Your constant questioning of everything I do or say really **makes me tired**.

(a) phases ___ out (b) wipes ___ out (c) takes ___ out (d) wears ___ out

6. By the time they **brought the interview to an end**, I knew that I would not be getting the job.

- (a) kept up (b) fizzled out (c) summed up (d) wound up

7. The economy seems to be **improving** finally.

- (a) growing up (b) picking up (c) spreading out (d) stirring up

PART 3:

For questions 1–6, replace the underlined **phrasal** or **multi-word verbs** marked in bold by **ONE WORD** only that best captures the meaning
(12 marks)

1. She angrily told her son to stop **making** things **up** and to be honest, for once!

2. It didn't take her long to **come up with** a very convincing story.

3. There are clear laws which **lay down** what you can and cannot do in such a situation.

4. The shareholders instructed the directors to **lay off** 300 workers.

5. I didn't know you could speak German so fluently. Where did you **pick** it **up**?

6. We seem to be heading for a violent demonstration, so **keep off** the streets.

PART 4

Each of these 5 unfinished sentences can be completed by one of the three idiomatic expressions listed below. Tick the idiomatic expression which best completes each sentence.

(15 marks)

1. I'm really sorry I can't meet you tomorrow. I'm _____ all day.

- (a) hard done by
- (b) tied up
- (c) making the best out of a bad job

2. My grandfather used to be a great gardener. Every plant he touched flourished... he really had _____.

- (a) the Midas touch
- (b) green fingers
- (c) a finger in every pie.

3. John's just quit his job... He said he couldn't take his boss's attitude any longer. When he was shouted at in front of his colleagues he _____ and left!

- (a) blew his top
- (b) blew up
- (c) went round the bend

4. Malta lost to Norway only 1-0! They beat us but only just and with great difficulty:

- _____.
- (a) it was the icing on the cake
 - (b) every cloud has a silver lining
 - (c) we gave them a good run for their money

5. Since Tim lost his job, they only go out on very rare occasions, just

- _____.
- (a) when they see the light at the end of their tunnel
 - (b) once in a blue moon
 - (c) on and off

PART 5

For questions 1–5, rewrite each of the following sentences using an appropriate idiomatic expression that conveys a similar meaning to the phrase in bold letters. Your expression must include the word printed in CAPITALS and your sentences must be grammatically correct.

(15 marks)

1. I was in a depressed and hostile mood, and needed to **vent my bad feelings on** someone.

TAKE OUT: I was so depressed and felt so hostile, that I needed to

_____.

2. He is always sympathetic when it comes to helping other people who are in trouble, but he always **minimises** his own problems.

MAKES LIGHT: He is always sympathetic when it comes to helping other people who are in trouble, but he always _____.

3. She is so secretive: she **even refrained from talking** to them about her wedding plans until a couple of weeks before the wedding!

DARK: She _____ her parents _____ about her wedding plans until a couple of weeks before the event!

4. The terrorist never **thought of** imprisonment as an ordeal.

REGARDED: The terrorist _____ an ordeal.

5. He smokes because it's **hard to stop the addiction**, but he'll go on trying.

KICK: He smokes because it's hard _____ but he'll go on trying.

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Part One	Part Two	Part Three	Part Four	Part Five	Total
/ 44	/ 14	/ 12	/15	/ 15	/100

Section D - Writing:

1. The doors of connection have swung wide open with the use of the Internet. In your opinion how far has this been beneficial and how far has it been detrimental to the individual? Write an **essay** discussing changes you have observed in the structures of the real world as a result of internet use.
2. You have recently taken two small children to a playground and something happened which upset you. Write a **formal letter** to the Local Council describing the incident, expressing your concern, and suggesting steps that can be taken to avoid such occurrences in the future.
3. You have decided to enter a **short story** competition you saw advertised in the local newspaper. The story can deal with any topic but must begin with the words 'The phone started me awake in the middle of the night.'
4. Malta is a traditional country with strong family values. Therefore, many Maltese married women choose to stay at home taking care of the house and children rather than going to work. Write an **essay** about which you think is better, giving positive and negative points for each side.
5. Many claim that "Living on an island is pure bliss". Others disagree. Write an **essay** about the main positive and negative factors which you think make living on an island desirable or undesirable?
6. "Keeping up with the Joneses" is a popular catchphrase in many parts of the English-speaking world. Write an **essay** on how influenced you are by the people around you: friends, colleagues, neighbours?

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/ 100
