

NAME _____

INDEX NUMBER _____

English as a Foreign Language
Schools' Monitoring Board

English Language Examination for EFL Teachers

27th November 2010

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 following text carefully and choose the correct answer from the multiple choice questions below. (60 marks)

Babylonian, dead for millennia, now online
By Raphael G Satter, Associated Press Writer

- 1 The language of the Epic of Gilgamesh and King Hammurabi has found a new life online after
2 being dead for some 2,000 years.
- 3 Academics from across the world have recorded audio of Babylonian epics, poems, and even a
4 magic spell to the Internet in an effort to help scholars and laymen understand what the language
5 of the ancient Near East sounded like.
- 6 The answer? Cambridge University's Martin Worthington told The Associated Press that it's "a bit
7 like a mixture of Arabic and Italian."
- 8 Babylonia was among the world's first civilizations and produced some of its earliest pieces of
9 literature. Its people also play a central role in the Bible. Babylon's soaring, pyramid-shaped
10 Temple of Marduk is thought to have inspired the tale of the Tower of Babel, while their conquest
11 of the Kingdom of Judah in the early sixth century B.C. led to the deportation and exile of the
12 nation's Jewish population.
- 13 The Babylonian language, written on clay tablets in cuneiform script, dominated the Near East for
14 centuries before it was gradually displaced by Aramaic. After a long decline, it disappeared from
15 use altogether sometime in the first century A.D. — and was only deciphered nearly two millennia
16 later by 19th-century European academics.
- 17 Worthington, who specializes in the study of Babylonian language and literature, said he got the
18 idea of posting audio recordings of the ancient tongue to the Web because "the questions which
19 students of ancient languages most frequently hear from laymen are: 'How did they sound? And
20 how do you know?'"
- 21 He said scholars have a pretty good idea of what Babylonian sounded like by comparing the
22 language to its Semitic cousins — Hebrew and Arabic — and by picking out Babylonian words
23 written in Greek or Aramaic. The vowel patterns within Babylonian itself also provide clues as to
24 how some words are supposed to sound, he said.
- 25 The website hosts some 30 audio files, generally a few minutes long. Among them are extracts
26 from "The Epic of Gilgamesh," and the "Codex Hammurabi," one of the world's oldest set of laws.

- 27 There are also several versions of the "Poem of the Righteous Sufferer," a Babylonian tale that
 28 closely parallels the Biblical story of Job, and other texts, including an erotic hymn to the goddess
 29 Ishtar and an incantation to prevent dog bites.
- 30 The initiative draws enthusiastic support from Roger Woodard, a classics professor at the
 31 University of Buffalo in New York state who is not involved with the project.
- 32 "I think it's a wonderful idea," said Woodard, who counts Babylonian among his languages.
 33 "There are just a few people in every generation who are the keepers of this knowledge, and by
 34 putting it on the Internet it's possible for a great many more people to be exposed to it, which in
 35 the end would help with the preservation of this knowledge."
- 36 He said audio files will be helpful because most students who study ancient languages are only
 37 exposed to texts and do not get a chance to hear how the language actually sounds.
- 38 Worthington said recordings were made by about a dozen specialists from several different
 39 countries, adding that his favorite part of the project was listening to how Babylonian varied
 40 depending on each accent.
- 41 So do they all pronounce Babylonian in the same way? And what does the language really sound
 42 like?
- 43 "Listen to the recordings and judge for yourself," he said.

1 of the "Epic of Gilgamesh and King Hammurabi" (Line 1) is:

- a. an adverb phrase b. an adjective phrase c. a noun phrase d. an adjective clause
2. "have recorded" (Line 3) is a verb in the:
- a. past tense b. present perfect c. present tense d. past perfect tense
3. The 's in "University's" (Line 6) is an example of:
- a. possession b. contraction c. abbreviation d. a verb
4. "written" (Line 13) is:
- a. a perfect tense b. a past participle c. a present tense d. a present participle
5. The voice and tense of "it was gradually displaced" (Line 14) is:
- a. past simple active b. past simple passive c. present simple d. past perfect active
6. "who specializes in the study of Babylonian language and literature" (Line 17) is:
- a. a non-defining b. an adverb phrase c. a defining relative d. a noun clause
- relative clause clause

7. "frequently" (Line 19) is:
- a. a modifier b. a time preposition c. a time adverb d. an adjective
8. an antonym for "laymen" (Line 19) would be:
- a. amateurs b. priests c. professors d. specialists
9. "pretty" in "a pretty good idea" (Line 21) is:
- a. an adjective b. an adverb c. an intensifier d. a modifier
10. "itself" (Line 23) is:
- a. a possessive b. a personal pronoun c. a determiner d. a reflexive pronoun
pronoun
11. "oldest" (Line 26) is:
- a. a comparative b. a comparative c. a superlative d. a superlative
adverb adjective adverb adjective
12. What relationship does the word "tale" (Line 27) have with the word "tail" (not in the text)? The two words are:
- a. synonyms b. hyponyms c. homophones d. homographs
13. The word "parallels" (Line 28) is:
- a. a verb b. a noun c. an adjective d. an adverb
14. The word "bites" (Line 29) is:
- a. a verb b. a noun c. an adjective d. an adverb
15. "classics" (Line 30) is:
- a. a countable noun b. an adjective c. an uncountable d. an adverb
noun
16. "it's a wonderful idea" (Line 32) is:
- a. a noun phrase b. a noun clause c. an adjective d. an adjective phrase
clause
17. "will be helpful" (Line 36) in this context expresses:
- a. a future desire b. a prediction c. a plan d. a future routine
18. The tense and voice of "were made" (Line 38) is:
- a. a past simple b. a present perfect c. a past perfect d. a past simple active
passive active passive
19. "Listen to the recordings" (Line 43) is a:
- a. verb in the infinitive b. verb in the c. modal verb d. verb in the
mood imperative mood indicative mood

20. "and" (Line 43) is:

- a. a preposition b. an adverb c. a conjunction d. a participle

Part 2

Underline the syllable that is normally stressed in each of the following words. The part of speech is indicated in brackets below each word.

(10 marks)

Example: syllable (N)

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| furiously (Adv.) | provocation (N) | convict (N) | convict (V) | administrative (Adj.) |
| administration (N) | consultant (N) | protest (V) | delicious (Adj.) | announcement (N) |

Part 3

Write out these phonemic transcriptions in normal spelling. Each word can be associated with the topic of TRANSPORT.

(10 marks)

Example: / trænspɔ:t / = transport

- 1. / træfɪk dʒæm / _____
- 2. / tæksɪ / _____
- 3. / eəpleɪn / _____
- 4. / vi:ɪkəl / _____
- 5. / kəʊtʃ / _____
- 6. / helɪkɒptə / _____
- 7. / məʊtəweɪ / _____

8. / kru:z ʃɪp / _____
9. / rʌʃ aʊə / _____
10. /lɒrɪ/ _____

Part 4

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

(20marks)

Choose from these symbols:

i: ɪ ʊ u: ɪə eɪ
 e ə ɜ: ɔ: ʊə ɔɪ əʊ
 æ ʌ ɑ: 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: **computer** = / kəmˈpjʊ:tə /

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. website _____ | 2. Skype _____ |
| 3. delete _____ | 4. click _____ |
| 5. scroll _____ | 6. save _____ |
| 7. facebook _____ | 8. email _____ |
| 9. Google _____ | 10. Twitter _____ |

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| Part one | Part two | Part three | Part four | Total |
|----------|----------|------------|-----------|-------|
| /60 | /10 | /10 | /20 | /100 |

Section B – Language Sensitivity and Awareness

Part 1

One sentence in each set is different from the other sentences. The difference may be in grammatical meaning or form or communicative function. Decide which sentence is the odd one out and briefly explain why.

(40 marks)

1.
 - a. By the time we arrived they'd already left.
 - b. Turn left at the lights and proceed for 100 metres.
 - c. You've left your keys on the table.
 - d. His shoes left mud marks on the floor.

Sentence ____ is the odd one out because

2.
 - a. I'm not surprised he failed his exam; he didn't exactly try very hard.
 - b. It's hard being a single mother.
 - c. Heating clay makes it hard.
 - d. A hard bed is meant to be good for backache.

Sentence ____ is the odd one out because

3.
 - a. In some fairy tales, a knight in shining armour usually saves the day.
 - b. He scraped his knee so badly he couldn't continue playing.
 - c. He doesn't know what he's talking about; he's never been to Africa.
 - d. Many believe Prince Charles will never be king of England.

Sentence ____ is the odd one out because

- 4.
- a. He's kind, handsome and wealthy to boot.
 - b. She's always putting her foot in it; she just doesn't think.
 - c. I'm really looking forward to meeting her.
 - d. He was booked for over-speeding.

Sentence ____ is the odd one out because

- 5.
- a. If I see him, I'll pass on your message.
 - b. If I'd stayed on an extra 10 minutes, I'd have been caught up in the explosion.
 - c. We'll definitely have a picnic if it doesn't rain.
 - d. They'll fit me in if they get a cancellation

Sentence ____ is the odd one out because

- 6.
- a. The miners were freed by the army.
 - b. I missed the target by 30 centimetres.
 - c. The church was hit by a bomb.
 - d. The boys were attacked by a pit bull.

Sentence ____ is the odd one out because

- 7.
- a. I must have lost my wallet on the way to work.
 - b. That must have been awesome.
 - c. She must have something to eat.
 - d. Her mobile is on her desk: she must still be around.

Sentence ____ is the odd one out because

8.

- a. Hand me that book.
- b. I have to hand it to you; that's brilliant.
- c. They live from hand to mouth.
- d. Let's all give the girls a big hand.

Sentence ____ is the odd one out because

9.

- a. This looks interesting
- b. He looks rather fed up
- c. She looks forward to our visits
- d. It looks like some kind of fish

Sentence ____ is the odd one out because

10.

- a. It's never been done before
- b. It's never too late to learn
- c. It's never going to stop raining
- d. It's never like it is in the films

Sentence ____ is the odd one out because

Part 2

The following extract has 30 gaps of missing text (...). In the table below, fill in each numbered gap using one suitable word.

(30 marks)

If your online life is taking over your real (1), it could be time to erase yourself from (2) internet. A Dutch company has made a program (3) can destroy all posts and personal information (4) your Facebook, LinkedIn, MySpace and Twitter accounts. The advantage of (5) tastefully-named Web 2.0 Suicide Machine is its speed. (6) of spending nearly ten hours erasing things manually, you (7) go offline in just 52 minutes.

Some 3,000 people (8) already used the free program, with another 90,000 on the (9) list. You hand over your passwords and watch as (10) Tweets and Facebook friends disappear - until there's just (11) empty screen.

Last month, one of the country's (12) eminent brain scientists warned that an obsession (13) social networking sites and computer games may (14) changing the way people's minds work. Oxford University (15) Susan Greenfield believes constant computer and internet use may be 'rewiring the brain', shortening attention (16), encouraging instant gratification and causing a loss (17) empathy. She said: 'For me, this is almost as important as climate (18).

'Whilst of course it doesn't threaten the (19) of the planet like climate change, I think (20) quality of our existence is threatened – and the kind (21) people we might be in the (22).' The neuroscientist believes technology may be behind the 'alarming' rise in attention deficit hyperactivity (23) and the growth in the (24) of anti-hyperactivity drug Ritalin. But Baroness Greenfield said (25) although benefits of playing computer (26) may include a higher IQ and better memory, social networking (27) such as Twitter and Facebook may hamper empathy. Using search engines (28) find facts may hinder our ability (29) learn, while computer games in which it (30) always possible to start again, may make us more reckless.

Note: take care when filling in this table to enter your answers left to right, not top to bottom.

| | | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|--|-----|--|
| 1. | | 2. | | 3. | |
| 4. | | 5. | | 6. | |
| 7. | | 8. | | 9. | |
| 10. | | 11. | | 12. | |
| 13. | | 14. | | 15. | |
| 16. | | 17. | | 18. | |
| 19. | | 20. | | 21. | |
| 22. | | 23. | | 24. | |
| 25. | | 26. | | 27. | |
| 28. | | 29. | | 30. | |

Part 3 Error Correction

Read the following text and correct any mistakes in punctuation, spelling, grammar or lexis. Each numbered section has one mistake. Underline the mistake and write the correction in the margin. (30 marks)

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | Red wine is good four you. The more antioxidants there are in the wine, | |
| 2 | the better is it for you according to Swiss and US researchers. | |
| 3 | Squeezed between guidelines on responsibly drinking and units, bottles of | |
| 4 | wine may soon boast a surprised new health notice: this drink is good for you. | |
| 5 | Swiss and American researchers have produced a device that perform's | |
| 6 | a simple test to uncover which wines contain the most health-giving properties. | |
| 7 | Curious as to why French people have healthy hearths despite consuming rich, fatty foods in rich sauces, | |
| 8 | the scientists found this was partly due in their penchant for a glass or two of red wine. | |
| 9 | A secret, they said yesterday, is in the polyphenols, antioxidant chemicals in | |
| 10 | Wine that have a positive effect on the rate at which the human body and brain age, | |
| 11 | and which appear to reduce the risk of heart unease, obesity, cancer and even wrinkles. | |
| 12 | Until now, drinkers facing row upon row of wine, bottles in their local supermarket | |
| 13 | or off-licence would not have the fainter idea which bottle contains the most antioxidants. | |
| 14 | The Swiss researchers at the Polytechnic School of Lausanne, working with collages at | |
| 15 | Stanford University in America, say they have produced a machine that can test quickly levels | |
| 16 | of polyphenols in individual bottles. The device had been tested on | |
| 17 | 500 Swiss wine and is ready to be marketed in France. | |
| 18 | Jean-Charles Hoda, one of the Swiss research team said he could foresee a day when wines would carry positive health notices. | |
| 19 | 'The antioxidant property of wine are well known, but this machine means we are able to measure the actual chemicals in the bottles. | |
| 20 | We started of looking at this from a medical point of view, but then we realised it had an interesting commercial application.' | |
| 21 | The matchbox-size devise can measure antioxidants | |
| 22 | in a drop of wine placing on a test strip and is expected to sell to wine producers for around €2,000. | |

| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 23 | 'I can absolutely see people choosing to buy | |
| 24 | one wine over another because they can see it is healthiest for them,' said Hoda. | |
| 25 | 'It will also help producers making wine with more polyphenols. | |
| 26 | We know these antioxidants come from the skin of the grapes; and that red grapes are better than white.' | |
| 27 | He said the pilot Swiss test had revealed pinot noir grapes to have the greatest health benefits. | |
| 28 | "Let's be honest, it's definitely better to have a glass of wine | |
| 29 | then to take a pill. Within moderation, of course.' | |
| 30 | A 2006 study found that regular, moderate consumption of red wine is linked to a reduced risk of coronary heart disease and to lower overall mortality. | |

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SECTION B

| Part one | Part two | Part three | Total |
|----------|----------|------------|-------|
| /40 | /30 | /30 | /100 |

Section C - Language in Context

Part 1

Idioms

Re-write the following sentences using more idiomatic expressions. Your answer must include the word printed in bold. (30 marks)

Example:

0. Tim's was really pleased with the result.

Moon

Tim was over the moon with the result.

1. My parents are always criticizing me about my studies.

Back

2. Welcome to our house. We want you to relax and feel comfortable.

Home

3. When my fourteen year-old daughter came home at 6 a.m., I got very angry.

Roof

4. I have a feeling deep inside me that something is wrong.

Bones

5. Anne told me that she split up with her boyfriend and she wanted some support and sympathy.

Shoulder

6. John didn't really wanted to do the job but his boss forced him to do it.

Twisted

7. We shouldn't minimize her troubles; she's very upset.

Light

8. I heard about your school not through adverts or the internet but because some of your ex-students were talking about it.

Mouth

9. There's no point in getting upset about some bad experience in the past: you can't change it anyway.

Milk

10. I really can't meet you for lunch this week: I'm extremely busy at work.

Snowed

Part 2

Phrasal Verbs

For questions 1 – 10, choose the Phrasal Verb that best matches the word or phrase in **bold** in each sentence.

(30marks)

1. Students often **behave badly** with new and inexperienced teachers.

- (a) play up
- (b) play off
- (c) talk over
- (d) take over

2. Sergey and Natalia live in Kiev. They need to **wear warm clothes** every time they go out in winter.

- (a) dress up
- (b) wrap up
- (c) dress down
- (d) wear off

3. Tim is so tall. He'll always **look different from others** in a crowd.

- (a) walk ahead
- (b) sit down
- (c) stay away
- (d) stand out

4. The car alarm **rang** in the middle of the night, waking all the neighbours.

- (a) went out
- (b) cut out
- (c) turned on
- (d) went off

5. The smell of fried green peppers **makes me remember** my childhood when my mum cooked them for me every Saturday.

- (a) turns me back to
- (b) takes me back to
- (c) dates me back to
- (d) drags me back to

6. Whole town were **destroyed** during the bombings.

- (a) wiped out
- (b) written off
- (c) torn off
- (d) blown off

7. I'll **discuss** this with Anne tonight and let you know tomorrow.

- (a) talk it over
- (b) put it over
- (c) tell it over
- (d) argue it over

8. It's a pity Jack and John **quarrelled** over such a small matter.

- (a) fell out
- (b) went out
- (c) gave out
- (d) broke out

9. Come on. You're old enough now to **deal with your personal problems yourself**

- (a) talk yourself out
- (b) move yourself away
- (c) tell yourself off
- (d) sort yourself out

10. I wanted to forget my silly mistake but he insisted on **reminding me of it**.

- (a) picking it up
- (b) telling it off
- (c) rubbing it in
- (d) looking it up

Part 3 - Register

In the following exercise decide where the excerpts are from. You can choose from the following list:

(20 marks)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. advert | 11. a love letter |
| 2. newspaper article | 12. a personal diary |
| 3. email from your bank | 13. a text message |
| 4. letter from a friend | 14. review of a book |
| 5. recipe | 15. a literary critique |
| 6. blurb | 16. an editorial |
| 7. the opening of a classic novel | 17. a classified ad |
| 8. a text book | 18. a note to your boss |
| 9. advert for a job | 19. instructions |
| 10. part of a job application | 20. memo from a superior |

Write your answers in the table below.

1. In a pan, with a heavy base, stir the rice in half the ghee until the grains are well coated. Add the saffron and spices and pour in 3 cups of cold water. Cover and bring to the boil, then reduce heat to lowest point and cook without removing the lid for 20 minutes.
2. A massive, complex story about a literary mystery which turns into an emotional voyage of discovery...a triumphant success on every level- as a critique of Victorian poetry, an unbearably moving love story and a satire on the modern 'biography Industry'.
3. It was 8am on the south-west stretch of the M25 and the traffic was, as the man on the radio put it, 'building up...' It was not so much building up as solidifying. It looked as if thousands would be rather late for work on Friday.
4. It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife. However little known the feelings or views of such a man may be on his first entering a neighbourhood, this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families, that he is considered as the rightful property of some one or other of their daughters.
5. Presentation is responsible for the transmission of two of the BBC Television Networks. Working to one of two duty Presentation Editors, you will look after the detailed planning and transmission of BBC1 and BBC2 schedules. This involves the construction of programme junctions, placing of trails and making sure that the networks run to time and complement each other effectively.
6. Thanks for your card. Sorry I haven't been in touch but you know how things are over Christmas. We had a pile of relations over as well so you can imagine the chaos.
7. Thanks for getting in touch about the transaction with Segpayeu.com. I've made sure that your account has been amended and for now, you won't be charged interest on the transaction and it won't affect your minimum payment.
8. Can this really be a low-cost kitchen? Sounds unlikely doesn't it? But then ours is not your run-of-the mill kitchen!
9. Gone to lunch. Back about 2.
10. A faint is transient loss of consciousness, due to a fall in systemic arterial blood pressure which reduces the blood supply to the brain. It is manifested by loss of consciousness, which is usually less sudden than in cardiac arrest, and is preceded by feeling and looking unwell for seconds or minutes

| | |
|---|--|
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|----|--|
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| 10 | |

Part 4

Collocations

Complete the following collocations exercise by circling one word A, B, C or D, which does not collocate with the word given in bold. In the examples provided, ___ queue can be preceded by long, winding and slow-moving, but does not collocate well with fat and handsome___ can be followed by man, dog, person but does not collocate well with house.

(20marks)

examples:

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---|-----------|---|---------|---|-------------|
| 0. | ___ queue | | | | | | |
| A | long | B | winding | C | fat | D | slow-moving |
| 00. | handsome___ | | | | | | |
| A | dog | B | man | C | house | D | person |
| 1. | amazingly ___ | | | | | | |
| A | disgusting | B | beautiful | C | elegant | D | intelligent |
| 2. | speed___ | | | | | | |
| A | camera | B | dating | C | queue | D | test |
| 3. | ___ network | | | | | | |
| A | social | B | ugly | C | online | D | extended |
| 4. | painfully___ | | | | | | |
| A | slow | B | stupid | C | tired | D | boring |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---|-----------|---|--------------|---|--------------|
| 5. | ___contest | | | | | | |
| A | close | B | bitter | C | beauty | D | underhand |
| 6. | ___able | | | | | | |
| A | barely | B | hardly | C | happily | D | perfectly |
| 7. | ___accountability | | | | | | |
| A | important | B | financial | C | professional | D | moral |
| 8. | quite___ | | | | | | |
| A | beautiful | B | exciting | C | fine | D | interesting |
| 9. | bitterly___ | | | | | | |
| A | depressed | B | disputed | C | upset | D | disappointed |
| 10. | maiden___ | | | | | | |
| A | aunt | B | uncle | C | speech | D | voyage |

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Part 1 | Part 2 | Part 3 | Part 4 | Total |
| /30 | /30 | /20 | /20 | /100 |

Section D – Writing

On the lined pages, write between 350 and 400 words on one of the topics below. Marks will be awarded for style, vocabulary, grammar, syntax, paragraphing, layout, spelling and punctuation.

(100 marks)

1. In the local press there is a debate about whether it is better to use English or Maltese. Write an **article** about the advantages of being bilingual.
2. A travel company catering for tourists over 40 is exploring the possibility of choosing an island resort that goes beyond that of a popular ‘sun and sea’ destination. You have been commissioned to write a **report** on why Malta should be chosen.
3. A teenage magazine is launching a **short story** competition. Write a story ending ...’after that I could never look him/her in the eye again’.
4. Life in the thirty first century.
5. The next topic for the local debating society is ‘City life is superior to country life’. You are going to oppose the motion. Write your **speech**.

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| |
|-------|
| / 100 |
|-------|