

**CERTIFICATE for GENERAL EDUCATION**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
**SEMESTER ONE — FIRST SESSION**

TIME: 3 hours

TOTAL MARKS: 70

This paper has 8 pages.

**LISTENING:**     *You will hear each text three times. The first time, only listen; the second time write; the third time check your work. When the tape finishes, write your answers on your answer paper.*

**LISTENING 1 (Items 1 – 6)**

*You will hear a conversation between two people.*

*Listen, and for each item, choose the correct option: **A, B** or **C**.*

1. The woman is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. at home                                      B. in a studio                                      C. at school
2. The boy is \_\_\_\_\_ years old.  
A. 11    B. 16    C. 18
3. His problem is that he is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. lonely    B. poor    C. overweight
4. He hasn't spoken to his parents because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he hasn't had time                              B. he's afraid                                      C. they're too busy
5. He is interested in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. clothes    B. football    C. computers
6. At the end, the woman gives him some advice. He \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. agrees    B. disagrees    C. says he'll think about it

**LISTENING 2 (Items 7 – 11)**

*You will hear a man talking about something that happened when he was travelling.*

*Listen, and for each question, write a short answer (**ONE or TWO WORDS only**).*

7. What is his job? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What country did he visit? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What did he lose there? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Where exactly did he lose it? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What did he do to solve the problem? \_\_\_\_\_

***Write your answers on your answer paper.***

**LISTENING 3 (Items 12 – 15)**

You will hear four news items. What are they about? For each speaker, choose ONE of the items in the box. Write **A, B, C**, etc, as in the example.

Example: "In last night's European Cup final, Portugal beat France by three goals to one." F

12. (1) \_\_\_\_\_

13. (2) \_\_\_\_\_

14. (3) \_\_\_\_\_

15. (4) \_\_\_\_\_

**TOPICS**

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| A | health        |
| B | education     |
| C | tourism       |
| D | entertainment |
| E | history       |
| F | sport         |
| G | disasters     |

**VOCABULARY 1 (Items 1 – 5)**

Complete the text. Use five of the words in the box. Write ONE word in each space. (There are three extra words in the box.)

decided	designed	guessed	graduated
received	recognized	returned	stayed

My friend Tony always wanted to see the world. So after he **(1)** \_\_\_\_\_ from university in 1986, he **(2)** \_\_\_\_\_ to go abroad. He went to Japan and **(3)** \_\_\_\_\_ there for six years, working as an English teacher. But then he **(4)** \_\_\_\_\_ news that his father was seriously ill, so he **(5)** \_\_\_\_\_ home. Fortunately, after three months in hospital, his father recovered from his illness.

**Write your answers on your answer paper.**

**VOCABULARY 2 (Items 6 – 10)**

Match the definitions with the words in the box. Write **A, B, C**, etc, as in the example.  
(There are five extra words in the box.)

<p><i>Example:</i> A place where you can buy books.</p> <p>6. The story of a real person's life, written by someone else</p> <p>7. A large book that gives information about many subjects</p> <p>8. Instructions for cooking or preparing something to eat</p> <p>9. A long story about people and events that are not real</p> <p>10. The title of a newspaper story, printed in large letters at the top</p>	<p>_____ <b>F</b> _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>A novel</p> <p>B article</p> <p>C dictionary</p> <p>D advertisement</p> <p>E biography</p> <p>F <del>bookshop</del></p> <p>G recipe</p> <p>H message</p> <p>I encyclopedia</p> <p>J magazine</p> <p>K headline</p>
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**VOCABULARY 3 (Items 11 – 15)**

Complete the unfinished word in each sentence.  
You are given the first letter(s) of each word. Write the whole word in your Answer Book. Make sure you spell the word correctly.

*Example:* Your hands are **d\_irty**\_\_\_\_. Go and wash them!

11. "Of course, I understand what you said! I'm not **st**\_\_\_\_\_!"
12. "Which way do we go now? To the west or to the **e**\_\_\_\_\_?"
13. "I can't find Singapore on the map. Can you **sh**\_\_\_\_\_ me where it is, please?"
14. "I don't agree. In my **op**\_\_\_\_\_, the old system was much better."
15. "It's too expensive. If they don't **red**\_\_\_\_\_ the price, nobody will buy it."

**Write your answers on your answer paper.**

**GRAMMAR 1 (Items 1 – 5)**

Complete the text. Use five of the words in the box. Write ONE word in each space. (There are three extra words in the box.)

a	are	meet	met	the	were	year	years
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Maria lives in Brazil, so I've never actually (1) \_\_\_\_\_ her, but we've been pen-friends for eight (2) \_\_\_\_\_. I still remember (3) \_\_\_\_\_ first letter she sent me. The envelope and the writing paper (4) \_\_\_\_\_ both bright pink! Every letter I get from her has colourful new stamps on it, so now I've got (5) \_\_\_\_\_ fantastic collection!

**GRAMMAR 2 (Items 6 – 10)**

Complete each sentence. Choose the correct option: **A, B, C** or **D**.

6. Where \_\_\_\_\_ last night?  
A. will you go      B. did you go      C. have you gone      D. do you go
7. My father, \_\_\_\_\_ is over eighty, still drives a car.  
A. whose      B. when      C. which      D. who
8. That looks bad. I think you \_\_\_\_\_ to see a doctor.  
A. should      B. need      C. can      D. must
9. "I'm tired \_\_\_\_\_ doing the same work every day."  
A. at      B. with      C. in      D. of
10. "I was feeling very ill, \_\_\_\_\_ I went to school anyway."  
A. if      B. and      C. but      D. so

**GRAMMAR 3 (Items 11 – 15)**

Complete the dialogue. In each space, write **ONE WORD** only.

Speaker A: "(11) \_\_\_\_\_ you seen Saif?"

Speaker B: "No. Why? Do you want to talk to (12) \_\_\_\_\_?"

Speaker A: "Yes. He has (13) \_\_\_\_\_ money for me and I need it quickly. I have (14) \_\_\_\_\_ pay my telephone bill."

Speaker B: "How (15) \_\_\_\_\_ do you need? Maybe I can help."

<p><b>Write your answers on your answer paper.</b></p>
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**READING 1 (Items 1 – 6)**

Match the six texts on the left with the texts in the box.

Write **A, B, C**, etc, as in the example. (There are three extra texts in the box.)

*Ex.* It's a really beautiful place.          F    

1. My doctor says I'm over-weight and has put me on a special diet.
2. For some people, the car is just an easy-to-use form of transportation.
3. There are many reasons why I love my new job.
4. I'm sorry. Salim and I won't be able to see you next week.
5. As you can see, Nasir Al-Abri has several years of experience as an editor.
6. If you are ever invited to dinner in Japan, one word you should learn is 'Itadakimasu'.

- A He has also worked as a reporter for a well-known sports magazine.
- B This morning, it took me two hours to drive from Seeb to Ruwi. The traffic was terrible!
- C However, we shall be in Muscat in early February for the school holidays, so we can meet then.
- D It includes fruits, vegetables, nuts and grains, and I have to follow it strictly for three months.
- E In the modern world, it is very important to be able to speak foreign languages.
- F ~~Every year, thousands of tourists go there for their holidays.~~
- G But for others, it's an exciting hobby. They spend their lives either collecting them or driving them in races.
- H Our boss is very narrow-minded. He never tries anything new and he never listens to our suggestions.
- I First of all, the pay is good and the work is interesting, plus I can take breaks whenever I want.
- J It means 'Good eating to you', and you should always say it before starting a meal. If you don't, people will think you are very rude.

**Write your answers on your answer paper.**

**READING 2 (Items 7 – 12)**

Read each text. Then, write **ONE WORD only** to complete the answer.

Khalid and Fatma both told me they had sent me a present for my birthday. I got his — a lovely antique coffee-pot — but, for some reason, hers never arrived.

7. The writer received a present from \_\_\_\_\_

Finally, we started our journey through the mountains. Our plan was to reach the lake on Wednesday 19 February. However, the weather was perfect, and everything went so well that we arrived three days early.

8. They arrived at the lake on \_\_\_\_\_ February. (*date*)

I wish to complain about the article that you published on the front page of your 25<sup>th</sup> November edition. It contained several incorrect statements, which may give the public the wrong idea about me and my company.

9. This is a letter to a \_\_\_\_\_.

At two-and-a-half hours, it is rather long, but I enjoyed every minute of it. The script was funny, the acting was brilliant and the photography was beautiful. All in all, the director did a fantastic job.

10. The writer is talking about a \_\_\_\_\_.

In many countries, it is common to give flowers as gifts. Red, pink and white are usually OK, but in Thailand yellow flowers are only given when there is a death in the family, and in Russia yellow means that you hate someone!

11. When you give someone flowers, you should be careful about the \_\_\_\_\_.

The old man gave Antonio a *phial* containing a clear yellow liquid. He said that if Antonio drank this, it would cure his illness. Antonio paid the man five gold coins. When he arrived home, he opened the phial and poured the medicine into a glass.

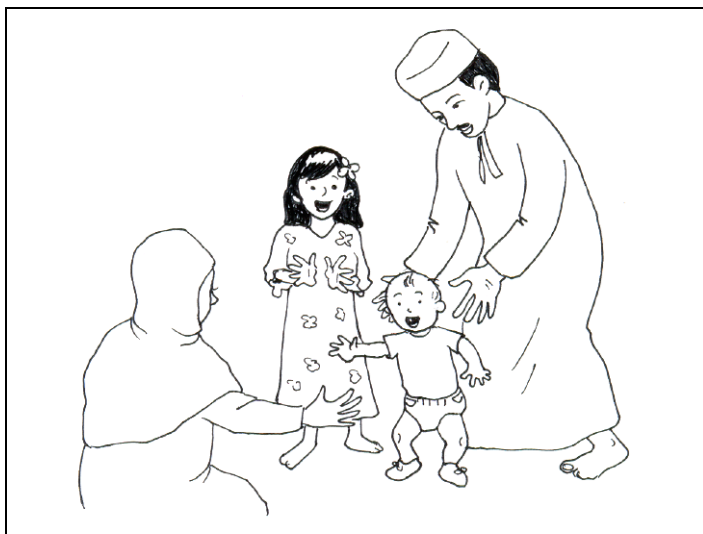
12. A '*phial*' is a kind of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Write your answers on your answer paper.**



**WRITING 1**

Describe and comment on the picture. Write 20 – 30 words.



**WRITING 2**

Write a PARAGRAPH about a place called **Machu Pichu**. Use ALL the information in the box. Your paragraph should be correct and well-organised.

**Machu Pichu**

the Incas	ruined city
Peru/ South America	built/ 15 <sup>th</sup> century
400,000 visitors/ every year	2400 metres/ sea level
destroyed/ Spanish army/ 16 <sup>th</sup> century	
beautiful architecture/ scenery	Andes mountains
discovered/ 1911/ Hiram Bingham/ American historian	

**WRITING 3**

Write at least 100 words on the following topic:

**"Students should be allowed to wear what they want.  
There should be no school uniform"**  
— Do you agree? Yes or No? Give your reasons.

Your writing should be clear and interesting.

**Write your answers on your answer paper.**



