

**CERTIFICATE for GENERAL EDUCATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
SEMESTER TWO — 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 a husband and wife.

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

1. The speakers will move to their new house _____.
A. tomorrow B. next week C. in two weeks
2. They agree to take their _____ to the new house.
A. dining table B. carpet C. sofa
3. They will take their things to the new house by _____.
A. car B. lorry C. hand
4. The husband's _____ will help them to move.
A. friends B. company C. brothers
5. The new house is _____.
A. near their old house B. in a different part of the same city C. in a different city
6. The husband is a _____.
A. scientist B. photographer C. businessman

LISTENING 2 (Items 7 – 11)

You will hear someone talking about a special course.

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

7. Where does the course take place? _____ (country)
8. Who studies on the course? _____
9. What do they learn? _____
10. How much do they pay? _____
11. Who does the teaching? _____

Write your answers on your answer paper.

LISTENING 3 (Items 12 – 15)

You will hear four people speaking. Who are they talking to? For each speaker, choose ONE of the items in the box. Write **A, B, C**, etc, as in the example.

Example: “It started two weeks ago. I get very bad headaches and I can’t sleep at night.” F

12. (1) _____

13. (2) _____

14. (3) _____

15. (4) _____

TALKING TO:

- A a cook
- B a tourist guide
- C an inventor
- D a taxi driver
- E a pilot
- ~~F a doctor~~
- G a teenager

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.)

climate

crop

increase

population

price

recipe

solution

waste

Rice is the most important **(1)** _____ for Filipino farmers. However, the Philippines does not produce enough rice to feed its **(2)** _____ of over 90 million. It has to import supplies from other countries. That is why the **(3)** _____ of rice is going up. In fact, there has been a 70% **(4)** _____ during the last six months! The government is trying hard to find a **(5)** _____ to this problem.

Write your answers on your answer paper.

VOCABULARY 2 (Items 6 – 10)

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

- 6. "We took the children for _____ in the park. It was great fun!"
A. a battle B. an emergency C. a picnic D. an investigation
- 7. Two men have _____ from the local prison. The police are looking for them.
A. escaped B. continued C. passed D. evaporated
- 8. "I'm very well prepared for the interview, so I feel _____ about getting the job."
A. embarrassed B. depressed C. frustrated D. confident
- 9. Because of his illness, we'll have to _____ the meeting until next Monday.
A. take away B. look after C. put off D. hang up
- 10. "My story has been _____ by the school magazine. It'll be in the March edition."
A. accepted B. destroyed C. protected D. wasted

VOCABULARY 3 (Items 11 – 15)

For each item, read the definition and write the word in the space provided.

You are given the first letter(s) of the word.

Write the whole word (e.g. 'kitchen', not just '-chen') in your Answer Book.

Make sure you spell the word correctly.

Example: kitchen (noun) a room where food is prepared and cooked
e.g. *They keep the fridge in the **kit**.....*

- 11. _____ (noun) a place where ships can load and unload passengers and cargo
e.g. *The ship sailed slowly out of the **p**.....*
- 12. _____ (noun) a large, dangerous fish with very sharp teeth
e.g. *While swimming in the ocean, he was attacked by a **sh**.....*
- 13. _____ (adjective) sensible; able to make good decisions and give good advice
e.g. *With so much experience of life, he's become very **wi**.....*
- 14. _____ (verb) to keep something in a place where it cannot easily be found
e.g. *I always **hi**..... the front door key under the mat.*
- 15. _____ (adjective) exactly right; without mistakes or weaknesses
e.g. *The letter was written in **per**..... English.*

Write your answers on your answer paper.

GRAMMAR 1 (Items 1 – 5)

Complete the text. For each space, choose the correct option: **A, B, C or D.**

Hi Sami, I (1) _____ your letter two weeks ago. I'm sorry I (2) _____
reply immediately. It sounds like you made (3) _____ nice new friends in France.
I'm going there myself (4) _____ June. By the way, thanks for the photo!
Where (5) _____ it taken?

- | | | | | |
|----|------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. | A. receive | B. received | C. was receiving | D. have received |
| 2. | A. didn't | B. don't | C. haven't | D. wasn't |
| 3. | A. some | B. any | C. much | D. a |
| 4. | A. at | B. on | C. in | D. to |
| 5. | A. did | B. is | C. was | D. has |

GRAMMAR 2 (Items 6 – 10)

Complete each sentence with **ONE WORD only.**

6. "_____ far is Nizwa from Muscat?" — "About 160 kilometres."
7. Good health is more important _____ money.
8. _____ you go to the meeting yesterday?
9. Would you like me _____ help you?
10. They sailed across _____ Indian Ocean.

GRAMMAR 3 (Items 11 – 15)

Look at the sentences. If the sentence is correct, put a tick (✓).

If the sentence is not correct, write it correctly.

Do not change the meaning of the sentence.

Examples: Ahmed is a nice man. _____ ✓

Salma are a nice woman. Salma is a nice woman.

11. She didn't say anything. _____
12. The boy who helped you is my son. _____
13. You should to stay at home. _____
14. I saw a lot people there. _____
15. How many invitation have you sent? _____

Write your answers on your answer paper.

READING 1 (Items 1 – 6)

Match the six cues on the left with the responses in the box.

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

e.g. She's a hotel receptionist.

 H

1. Garden Palace Restaurant, delivery service. Can I help you?
2. Is it really you in this photo? It doesn't look like you at all!
3. I had to sleep in my car last night. I was locked out of my flat!
4. What would you do if you found a mobile phone on a bus?
5. I really need a break, so I'd like to go on holiday next week, if possible.
6. I called you several times last night, but the line was always busy. Is there something wrong with your phone?

- A That's fine, but make sure you finish your report before leaving.
- B I think I'd give it to the driver. The owner might come back for it.
- C Yes, I ordered a pizza an hour ago, and it still hasn't arrived!
- D The meat was delicious, but it kept getting stuck between my teeth.
- E Really!? How did that happen? Did you lose your keys?
- F The phone kept ringing all night. I didn't get any sleep at all!
- G You should talk to a mechanic. Maybe he'll be able to help you.
- ~~H No, she isn't! She works in the local supermarket.~~
- I Yes, I know! It was taken when I was seventeen. I was much thinner then.
- J There *was*, but not any more —I took it to the shop this morning and they fixed it for me.

Write your answers on your answer paper.

READING 2 (Items 7-12)

Read the following two texts. Then, for each item, Choose the correct option: **A, B** or **C**.

Text 1

8 June 2008

Dear Mr Jones,

When I became Environment Officer for Global Insurance, the company asked me to visit all fifteen of our branches, so that I could understand the real situation throughout the country. During my visit to your branch on 21 January, we discussed the need to reduce electricity costs and also to protect the environment. As a result of these discussions, you agreed to install eight solar panels on the roof of your building.

However, when my assistant visited your branch recently, he found only *four* solar panels in operation. Could you please explain to me why the other panels have not yet been installed, and when you plan to install them. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards, Mary McFadden,

7. Mary works for _____.
- A. the government B. an environmental agency C. an insurance company
8. How many times has she visited Mr Jones' branch? _____
- A. Never B. Once C. Twice
9. At present, Mr Jones' branch has _____ solar panels.
- A. no B. four C. eight

Text 2

12 June 2008

Dear Ms McFadden,

Thankyou for your letter. I'm sorry, there has been a misunderstanding. When you visited us in January, I *thought* it was agreed that we should install four solar panels this year and four more next year — *not* all eight panels this year. However, I have just checked my notes and now I see that I was wrong.

The panels which we have already installed have been a great success, and I would be glad to install the other panels as soon as possible. I am sure that we will be able to do this by the end of next month.

Regards, Paul Jones

10. Mr Jones is _____ Mary's letter.
- A. pleased by B. angry about C. surprised by
11. He has not installed all the solar panels because he _____.
- A. did not understand the agreement correctly B. thought it was a waste of money C. was too busy with other work
12. He promises to install the panels _____.
- A. immediately B. in July 2008 C. sometime in 2009

Write your answers on your answer paper.

Reading 3 (Items 13 – 20)

Read this article, and then complete Task 1 and Task 2.

Manufactured in Germany in the 1930's, the airship *Hindenburg* was the largest aircraft ever made. It was 245 metres long — three times as long as the largest modern jet plane! Despite its size, it could only carry 60 passengers, but these passengers certainly travelled in style! They each had their own personal cabin, and could spend the time relaxing and listening to 'live' piano music in the beautifully-designed dining-room. Of course, with tickets costing \$6000 each, only the very rich could afford to travel this way!

Quiet and almost pollution-free, the airship seemed like the ideal form of transport, but there was one problem. Unlike a jet plane, it did not have powerful engines and its maximum speed was only 130 kph. So in order to fly, it had to be filled with gas so that it was lighter than air. Originally, the German designers planned to use helium gas, which is very safe. Unfortunately, in those days, helium was not easily available on the world markets. So, instead, they decided to use hydrogen gas, which is much more common, but has one important disadvantage — it can catch fire easily.

After its first flight in March 1936, the *Hindenburg* went on to complete 17 successful trips between Germany, Brazil and the USA. Its eighteenth and last trip began in Frankfurt, Germany, on 3 May 1937. With 97 people on board, the *Hindenburg* took off and crossed the North Atlantic. Because of strong winds, the flight took longer than usual, but after three days the airship came in to land in New Jersey in the USA. Suddenly, without warning, the tail of the airship burst into flames. Fuelled by the hydrogen gas, the fire spread rapidly and within thirty seconds the aircraft was completely destroyed.

Fortunately, only 15 passengers and 20 crew members lost their lives, but it was a terrible way to die. Soon cinemas around the world were showing horrifying pictures of the disaster, and after that nobody ever wanted to fly in an airship again. Strangely, the real cause of the fire has never been discovered. To this day, it remains a mystery...

Task 1 For each question, write a short answer (**ONE WORD only**).

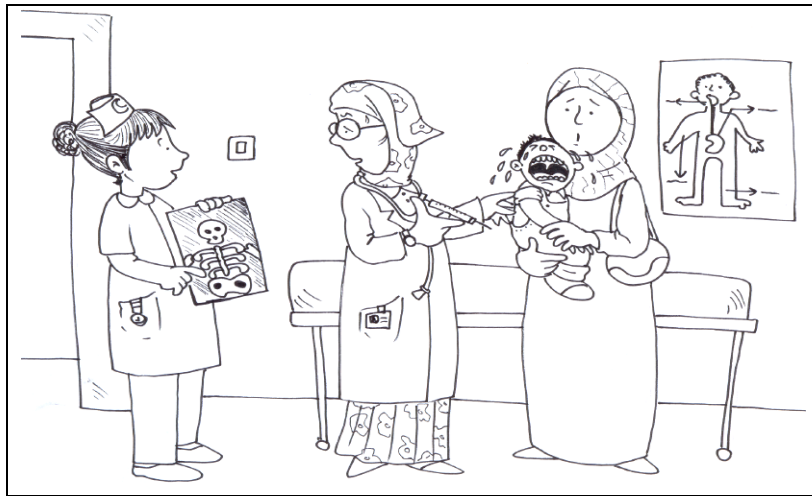
13. Where was the *Hindenburg* built? _____ (country)
14. What kind of gas did it use? _____
15. When did it crash? _____ (date) _____ (month) _____ (year)
16. How many people died? _____

Task 2 Choose the correct option: **A**, **B** or **C**.

17. Passengers liked travelling on the *Hindenburg* because it was _____.
A. cheap B. fast C. comfortable
18. The airship crashed in _____.
A. Germany B. the United States C. Brazil
19. The disaster became world-famous because of a _____.
A. film B. book C. radio broadcast
20. How did the fire start? _____.
A. Because of a cigarette B. Nobody knows C. Because of lightning

WRITING 1

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



WRITING 2

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

The Chuangs

moved/ Australia/ 1997 restaurant/ city centre
from/ Hong Kong Chinese/ Thai food
live/ Sydney/ south-east Australia
weekends/ camping apartment/ beach
next year/ new restaurant drive/ old van

WRITING 3

Complete the following task. Write at least 100 words.

Situation: Imagine that you are Nasr/Nasra. Somebody in your family has a problem. Write a **letter** to your uncle. Tell him about the problem and ask him to do something to help. Your letter should be clear and polite.

Write your answers on your answer paper.