

**CERTIFICATE for GENERAL EDUCATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
SEMESTER TWO — SECOND 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 husband works in a _____.
A. university B. bank C. factory
2. Today his presentation was bad because he _____.
A. was very tired B. lost his notes C. had a sore throat
3. Their neighbours moved in _____.
A. last week B. two weeks ago C. last year
4. The problem with their neighbours is that they _____.
A. throw rubbish in the garden B. park their car in the wrong place C. make a lot of noise at night
5. The husband and wife decide to _____.
A. do nothing and hope things get better B. make an official complaint C. invite their neighbours to dinner
6. The wife is a _____ person.
A. hard-working B. wise C. jealous

LISTENING 2 (Items 7 – 11)

You will hear someone talking about a special project for old people.

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

7. Where was the project? _____ (country)
8. What was its name? _____
9. Who organized it? _____
10. Where can you read the old people's stories? _____
11. What is the speaker's opinion of old people now? *She thinks they are* _____

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

TALKING TO:

- 12. (1) _____
- 13. (2) _____
- 14. (3) _____
- 15. (4) _____

- A a taxi driver
- B a travel agent
- C a technician
- D a sportsman
- E a waiter
- ~~F a doctor~~
- G a boss

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.)

bulbs	customers	employees	factories
materials	products	sales	statistics

My brother works for a company called ‘New Dawn Electrics’. It has three **(1)** _____ in southern China, where plugs, sockets, switches and light **(2)** _____ are made. The company sells these **(3)** _____ to its **(4)** _____ all over the world. Business is generally good, but this year a rise in the cost of raw **(5)** _____ has caused a reduction in profits.

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.**

Good news! My mother (1) _____ decided to spend six months here. She (2) _____ next month. Our apartment is (3) _____ small for all of us, so we're going to find a larger apartment (4) _____ else. Hopefully, we can find a nice one (5) _____ the coast.

- | | | | | |
|----|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. | A. have | B. has | C. is | D. was |
| 2. | A. is coming | B. was coming | C. has come | D. came |
| 3. | A. enough | B. too | C. less | D. as |
| 4. | A. somewhere | B. nowhere | C. everywhere | D. anywhere |
| 5. | A. for | B. in | C. on | D. at |

GRAMMAR 2 (Items 6 – 10)

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

6. What _____ you doing when the fire started?
7. How _____ books did you buy?
8. I used _____ enjoy sailing, but now I find it boring.
9. I don't like people _____ tell lies.
10. She is now _____ oldest woman in the world.

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.

Example 1: Ahmed lives in Muscat. _____ ✓ _____

Example 2: Salma are a nice woman. _____ Salma is a nice woman. _____

11. Her birthday is on October. _____
12. He bought a expensive car. _____
13. I went home to have lunch. _____
14. Where have you parked your car? _____
15. Ahmed enjoyed herself at the party. _____

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. Are you still staying at Nasser's house?

2. What happened to your eyes? Why do they look so red?

3. Excuse me, sir, one of your brake lights isn't working.

4. I was late for work again today. It was really embarrassing.

5. I've just heard the news about the fire. Was anybody hurt?

6. This room looks different. What have you done to it?

A No, not that one. I'd prefer another colour. Green or brown, if possible.

B Fortunately, no. But the roof of the building was badly damaged.

C Well, it's your own fault! Why don't you buy a proper alarm-clock?

D The house has a beautiful garden overlooking the valley.

E Yes, but only until the end of the month. Then I'll be able to move into my new flat.

F Is it? Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't know. I'll get it repaired as soon as I can.

G Unfortunately, the two thieves were able to get away.

H ~~No, she isn't! She works in the local supermarket~~

I I've re-arranged the furniture. Do you think it looks better now?

J I'm just tired, that's all. I've been working on my computer all day.

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

(Part of an article in 'Energy' magazine on 23 April 2008)

In Brazil, we believe that there is a great future for biofuels which can be made from crops such as sugar cane, wheat and soya. One advantage for us is that, if we produce our own cheap biofuels, we do not have to import so much oil. Even more important, biofuels burn more cleanly than petrol and help to reduce pollution and global warming.

That is why, twenty-five years ago, with full public support, we began production of special cars that can run on a mixture of petrol and a biofuel called 'ethanol'. Since then, every year the number of Brazilians buying these 'flexi-fuel' cars has gone up. Last year, for the first time, more than half of the cars sold in Brazil were 'flexi-fuel' cars...

7. The writer is _____ of biofuels in his country.
A. proud of the success B. angry about criticism C. worried about the future
8. He says that biofuels _____.
A. can be used in all cars B. are expensive C. come from plants
9. Brazil started its biofuel project in _____.
A. 1983 B. 1993 C. 2003

Text 2

(Part of a letter to the Editor of 'Energy' magazine on 30 April 2008)

I have read with great interest the letters sent in by your readers in reply to last week's article about biofuels in Brazil. They are, of course, right when they say that there are several problems with biofuels. However, I do not agree with those readers who say that biofuels are causing food prices to rise in many countries. There are many reasons why this is happening, and I do not believe that producing biofuels is one of them.

Surprisingly, only two of your readers have mentioned the main disadvantage of biofuel production in Brazil. In order to grow the necessary crops, producers have to clear huge areas of land, and this means cutting down or burning millions of trees. Surely, destroying Brazil's beautiful rainforests is not the best way to save the planet...

10. The writer _____ with the other letter-writers.
A. fully agrees B. partly agrees C. does not agree
11. She believes that biofuels _____ the cause of high food prices.
A. are not B. may be C. are
12. She feels that the biggest problem caused by biofuels is _____.
A. pollution B. deforestation C. unemployment

Write your answers on your answer paper.

READING 3 (Items 13 – 20)

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

When the passenger ship *Wahine* left Christchurch in New Zealand at 5 p.m. on 9 April 1968, there was no sign of the coming disaster. The sky was cloudy and there was a light wind, but the weather did not seem too bad nor the sea too rough. The *Wahine* was a powerful, modern ship, which had been built only two years earlier. In addition to its cargo, mostly cars, it was carrying six hundred passengers and a crew of one hundred and twenty-five. Its destination was the country's capital city, Wellington.

During the night, however, the weather started to get worse, and by six o'clock in the morning, when it arrived near Wellington, the *Wahine* found itself in the middle of a tropical cyclone with winds of up to 200 kph! The captain, Henry Robertson, tried to sail into the port, but failed. Then, at 6.40 a.m., the ship was hit by a huge wave, and a few seconds later by another, and was driven onto the rocks of Barrett Reef.

The *Wahine* was now stuck on the rocks, unable to move. Captain Robertson radioed for help, but the storm was so bad that boats and helicopters were unable to come to the rescue. There was nothing more he could do, so he decided to wait for the weather to improve. The crew served tea and sandwiches and tried to keep the passengers calm.

However, by midday, even though the weather was getting better, it was clear that the *Wahine* was going to sink. The passengers were told to hurry to the lifeboats. But the four boats did not have enough room for everybody, and to make matters worse, one of them sank. Many people also had to jump into the sea when, at two-thirty, the ship went down. So hundreds of people were in the water with only their life-jackets to help them.

Fortunately, there was an island nearby and those who were young and strong, or lucky enough to be in a lifeboat, were able to reach the shore. Nevertheless, fifty-two people — mostly elderly passengers — drowned. Later, the city of Wellington built a monument to those who had lost their lives, and on 10 April 2008, the 40th anniversary of the disaster, a special ceremony was attended by the country's Prime Minister.

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

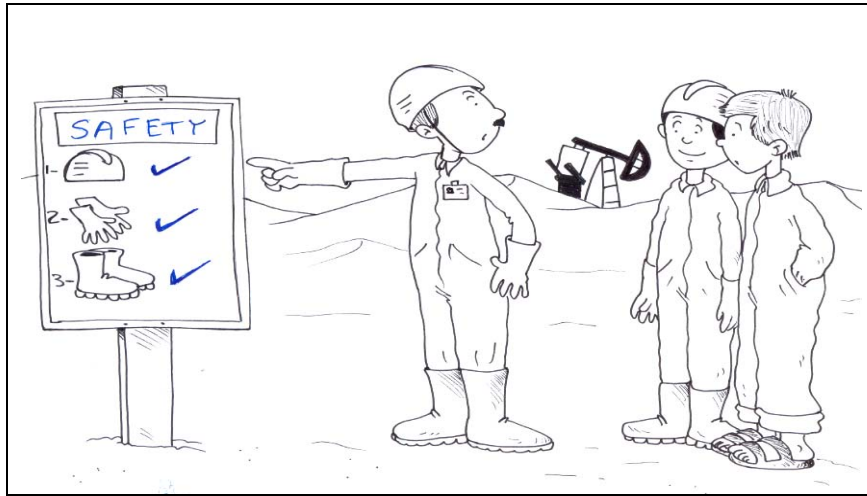
13. When did the *Wahine* sink? _____ (date) _____ (month) _____ (year)
14. How many people died? _____
15. How many lifeboats reached the island? _____
16. What cargo was the ship carrying? _____

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

17. At the start of the voyage, the weather was _____.
A. quite good B. very bad C. getting worse
18. The ship sank _____.
A. at night B. in the morning C. in the afternoon
19. The disaster happened because the _____.
A. ship was old B. sea was rough C. captain made mistakes
20. Most of the people who died were _____

WRITING 1

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

**WRITING 2**

Write a PARAGRAPH about a football club called **Nagoya FC**. Use ALL the information in the box. Your paragraph should be correct and well-organised.

Nagoya FC

2005/ final/ Asian Cup

red shirts/ black shorts

win/ Emperor's Cup/ 3 times

popular/ football club/ Japan

2010/ new stadium/ 55,000 seats

players/ mostly Japanese/ a few Brazilians

started/ 1946/ car company

nickname/ 'The Dolphins'

WRITING 3

Complete the following task. Write at least 100 words.

Situation: Imagine that you are Fahad/ Farah. You have heard that your friend Nasr/ Nasra is very angry with you because you didn't go to his/her birthday party.

Write a **letter** to Nasr/ Nasra. Give **two** reasons why you did not go to the party. Then try to make the situation better — you do not want to lose his/her friendship!

Write your answers on your answer paper.