



PRELIMINARY ENGLISH TEST

Reading and Writing

D241/01

SAMPLE TEST 3

Time 1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this question paper until you are told to do so.

Write your name, centre number and candidate number on your answer sheets if they are not already there.

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

Answer all the questions in Reading Parts 1 – 5 and Writing Parts 1 and 2.

Answer only **one** question from Writing Part 3.

Read the instructions on the answer sheets.

Write your answers on the answer sheets. Use a pencil.

You **must** complete the answer sheets within the time limit.

At the end of the test, hand in both this question paper and your answer sheets.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

READING

Questions **1 – 35** carry one mark.

WRITING

Questions **1 – 5** carry one mark.

Part 2 (Question **6**) carries five marks.

Part 3 (Question **7** or **8**) carries fifteen marks.

Reading

Part 1

Questions 1 – 5

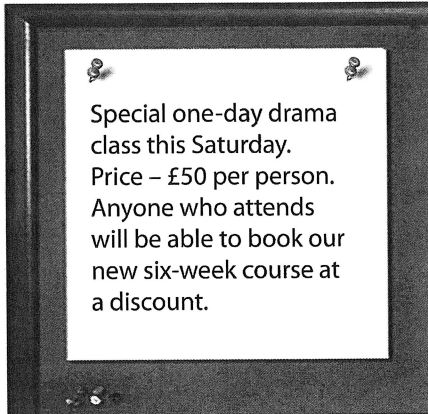
Look at the text in each question.

What does it say?

Mark the correct letter **A**, **B** or **C** on your answer sheet.

Example:

0

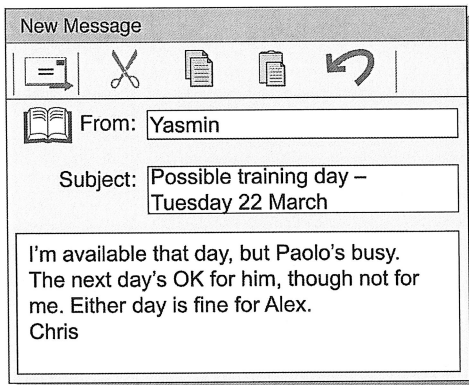


- A The six-week course is cheaper if you also do the one-day class.
- B The one-day class is free for those who book the six-week course.
- C You must pay for the six-week course before you do the one-day class.

Answer:

0	A	B	C
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

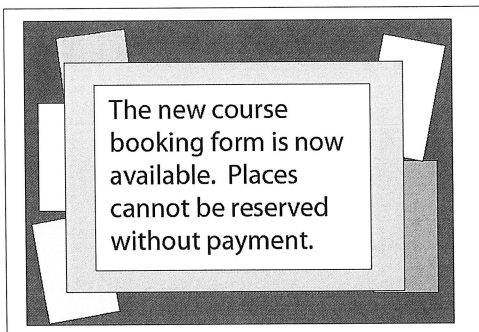
1



Who is free on Wednesday?

- A Paolo and Alex
- B Chris and Paolo
- C Alex and Chris

2



What does the notice say?

- A Your payment will be refunded if there aren't any places available on the course.
- B You need to book your course immediately in order to reserve a place.
- C Your place on a course is only confirmed once you have paid the fee.

3



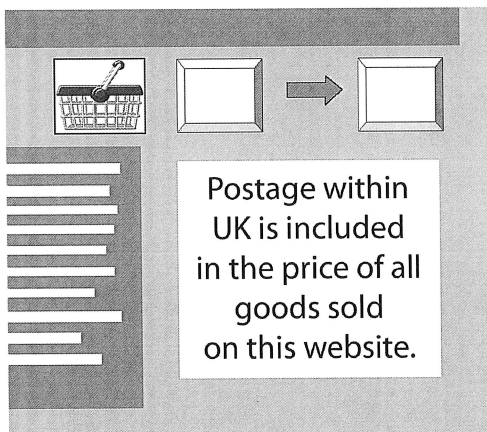
- A Emi wants Yumiko to give a message to her parents.
- B Emi wants her parents to meet the teacher.
- C Emi wants Yumiko to speak to the teacher.

4



- A Anyone who buys tickets today can get free return entry next weekend.
- B Visitors can save on weekend entry by buying tickets the week before.
- C Tickets bought at the weekend can be used again during the week.

5



- A This website shows the extra prices for posting goods.
- B UK customers are not charged for postage when buying items on this website.
- C The cost of postage outside the UK is included for some goods on this website.

Part 2

Questions 6 – 10

The people below all want to find a job in an office.
On the opposite page there are descriptions of eight office jobs.
Decide which job would be the most suitable for the following people.
For questions 6 – 10, mark the correct letter (A – H) on your answer sheet.

6



Maria wants a part-time job that involves being out of the office occasionally. She is good at dealing with money and enjoys talking to people from other countries. She hasn't worked in an office before.

7



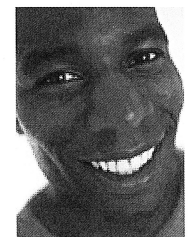
Hannah has office experience, computing and telephone skills, and enjoys meeting and working with people. She wants a part-time job but doesn't want to travel and cannot work during school holidays.

8



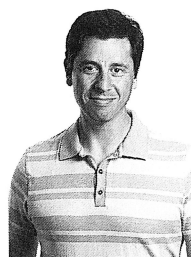
Claude is about to start work for the first time. He would like a job connected with his hobby, sport. He has his own car and wants a full-time job.

9



Manuel wants to use his computing skills in a job which offers the opportunity to travel. He also plays several instruments as a hobby, so a part-time job that involves all his interests would be perfect.

10



Bernard is looking for a part-time job so he will have time to complete his music studies. He has some office experience, but wants a job where he doesn't have to work with other people. He dislikes having to travel.

OFFICE JOBS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK

- A** **We need someone** to join our small team, for general office duties in our ski equipment company. Experience is not essential for this full-time post, but your own transport would be an advantage. We offer excellent staff facilities including a canteen.
- B** **Help is needed** for three days a week throughout the year in the office of a music recording studio. Working closely with colleagues, your duties will include organising travel and money for the meetings that our manager regularly attends. Experience is an advantage, but training will be given.
- C** **Person needed** for five mornings per week in our busy language school office, greeting visitors and handling calls from all over the world. Hours will be during school term-time only. Previous experience of office work and IT skills are essential.
- D** **Needed as soon as possible,** someone to help run a sports centre with reception duties such as answering the phone and dealing with the public. Hours would be 9 – 5, Mon – Fri throughout the year. Experience of office work and IT is essential. You must also have a driving licence.
- E** **Working in our music shop** for 20 hours per week throughout the year, you will be involved in reception duties, including answering telephone calls. We need someone with a cheerful personality, who works well as part of a team and has some office experience.
- F** **We need someone** to support a large, busy school music department for three mornings per week with IT work, and personal contact with music teachers and children. In addition to term times, you will be expected to work for one week before and after each term, and travel away from school occasionally to support the music team.

G **We are a large** international school of English. We need an assistant three days per week to help look after the financial side of the business. The work will also involve travelling to our other schools in the area. Experience would be an advantage, but we will give training to the right person. Benefits include use of the sports facilities and low-cost canteen.

H **Help is needed in the office** of the University Music Department, Mon - Fri, for 20 hours a week in term times. You must be able to answer international calls and handle room bookings. This post would suit someone able to work alone, so some experience is essential. Throughout the year, you will have access to all the university's sports facilities.

Part 3

Questions 11 – 20

Look at the sentences below about an unusual cruise in northern Finland.

Read the text on the opposite page to decide if each sentence is correct or incorrect.

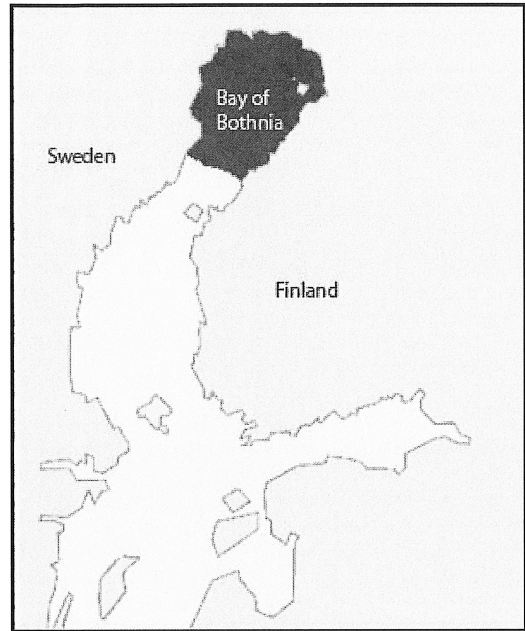
If it is correct, mark **A** on your answer sheet.

If it is not correct, mark **B** on your answer sheet.

- 11 In winter, all the ports in the Bay of Bothnia are kept clear of ice.
- 12 The *Sampo* is still used for its original purpose.
- 13 Cruises on the *Sampo* take several days.
- 14 It is possible to get married at the Snow Castle Hotel.
- 15 The Snow Castle Hotel offers accommodation all year round.
- 16 The majority of passengers on the *Sampo* sail from Kemi harbour.
- 17 Skidoo-riders are given some instruction before they set out across the ice.
- 18 The skidoos are ridden back to Kemi over the ice.
- 19 The *Sampo* staff make sure that the inside of the ship is always well looked after.
- 20 Every passenger is given the opportunity to go swimming.

An unusual cruise

Every year the sea between Finland and Sweden, which is called the Bay of Bothnia, freezes over for several months. There are about 60 Finnish ports in this ice zone, and during the winter, about a third are kept open by ice-breakers. These are the strongest ships in the world, three times heavier and three times more powerful than any other ship of the same size. They can slice through one-metre thick ice without any effort. The *Sampo* is one such ship. For 30 years the *Sampo* used to clear a path for smaller ships carrying goods to the port of Kemi, at the tip of the Bay of Bothnia. Now this fine old ship has retired and taken on a new, lighter role, carrying passengers on one of the most unusual cruises in the world.



From mid-December to April thousands of tourists get on the *Sampo* at Kemi for an unforgettable day trip through the frozen sea. The night before, they stay at Kemi's Snow Castle Hotel beside the harbour. This hotel is built out of sculpted snow and ice, complete with towers, dining room and even a wedding hall, which is very popular. Guests sleep comfortably in several layers of sleeping bags on blocks of ice in the little white bedrooms. As summer approaches, the hotel melts away and is rebuilt later in the year.

Most tourists board the *Sampo* from the quay at Kemi, but there is another way to access the ship. Dressed in the thickest possible snowsuit, boots, gloves and hard helmet, the bravest of them can travel for ten kilometres across the frozen bay by skidoo. After a brief lesson on how to control this 'motorbike on skis', people find riding across the ice at high speed breathtakingly exciting. There is a stop for a cup of coffee and a sandwich at a farm on one of the small wooded islands before the ride continues and the *Sampo* appears in the mist ahead.



The skidoo-riders climb up onto the ship and the skidoos are stored away below deck. On board, the ship is old-fashioned but beautifully cared for. The crew obviously work very hard to keep the wood polished and the pipes shining. One more adventure is on offer - a swim in the freezing waters of the bay. After putting on enormous orange wetsuits, the bravest of those on the cruise are gently pushed into the sea where they would immediately freeze to death if wearing normal clothing. Floating in the dark waters close to the old ice-breaker, amongst huge lumps of ice, makes this the sort of dream-like day they will remember for the rest of their lives.

Part 4

Questions 21 – 25

Read the text and questions below.

For each question, mark the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** on your answer sheet.

Opera singer

A former waitress finally became a star when she appeared in the title role of the opera *Carmen* at the opera house in a German city.

Up until a year ago, Else Lindberg had never sung an opera on stage. The daughter of music teachers, she grew up in a small village. At the age of 19 she moved to the nearby city to study voice and music at university, working in restaurants to pay for her courses. She then started singing at private events, although she still felt her voice was not good enough for her to register with an agency as a professional singer. She continued to do part-time jobs to pay for more singing lessons.

The turning point came on a hot summer day in 2003. 'I was serving drinks at a party, wearing an ugly uniform, and feeling very sorry for myself. I decided to take a more positive attitude to my singing and made myself contact an agent.' As a result, Else was invited for an interview with the director of the city opera. He admired her voice and offered her some small roles, although he had never seen her perform on stage. One of these was to be the understudy for the leading singer. When she fell ill a few months later, it was Else's job to take her place in *Carmen* before a large audience.

Reviews the next day spoke highly of Else's performance. Her success was even more amazing because she had only 24 hours to prepare for the part, and one hour to rehearse. What is more, the performance was heard on the radio by people all over Europe.

- 21 What is the writer doing in this text?
- A giving advice on studying music
 - B reviewing a new musical show
 - C describing the career of a singer
 - D encouraging people to go to the opera
- 22 Why did Else move to the city?
- A She was going to attend college.
 - B She was hoping to become famous.
 - C She wanted to get away from her village.
 - D She needed to earn some money.

- 23 Why didn't Else contact an agent sooner?
- A She thought her voice was too weak.
 - B People said she needed more experience.
 - C It was difficult to find a suitable agency.
 - D She was satisfied with her part-time work.

- 24 Why was the director's decision to employ Else surprising?
- A He had never heard her singing.
 - B She was older than most other singers.
 - C She performed badly at the interview.
 - D He knew nothing about her acting skills.

- 25 What did Else say after her performance as Carmen?

A

Thank goodness there weren't too many people in the audience to hear all the mistakes I made!

B

When I heard the leading singer was ill, I realised this was a fantastic opportunity for me!

C

My parents will be amazed when they read my reviews - I'm the first family member to have a career in music!

D

It's been great fun but I'm looking forward to going back to being a waitress again next week!

Part 5

Questions 26 – 35

Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space.
For each question, mark the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** on your answer sheet.

Example:

0 **A** must **B** can **C** would **D** need

Answer:

0	A	B	C	D
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cuckoos

The call of the cuckoo **(0)** be one of the most easily recognised bird sounds, although the cuckoo's **(26)** is less familiar.



(27) than build her own nest, the female cuckoo **(28)** watches other smaller birds building their nests. When a small bird lays its eggs, the cuckoo lays a single large egg **(29)** them. Usually the smaller bird sees the strange egg and builds a new nest **(30)** else. However, if the cuckoo egg is not **(31)**, the baby cuckoo will push the other babies out of the nest and force the parents to feed it. Baby cuckoos are always **(32)** hungry and will **(33)** steal food from other birds. Most birds learn from their parents what to eat and when to fly away to a warmer **(34)** Cuckoos seem to know these things automatically, as they never see their **(35)** mother and father.

- 26 A look B view C appearance D sight
- 27 A Whether B Rather C Either D Other
- 28 A carefully B nearly C narrowly D tightly
- 29 A across B through C inside D among
- 30 A anywhere B somewhere C wherever D everywhere
- 31 A remarked B described C noticed D recorded
- 32 A largely B extremely C greatly D highly
- 33 A even B still C yet D so
- 34 A weather B condition C scene D climate
- 35 A actual B certain C definite D sure

Writing

Part 1

Questions 1 – 5

Here are some sentences about cars and driving.

For each question, complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first.

Use no more than three words.

Write only the missing words on your answer sheet.

You may use this page for any rough work.

Example:

0 In the UK, you can't take a driving test until you are seventeen.

In the UK, you need to be seventeen you can take a driving test.

Answer:

0	before
---	--------

1 I spent four months learning how to drive.

It me four months to learn how to drive.

2 I passed my driving test two years ago.

It is two years I passed my driving test.

3 I still don't have a car of my own.

I got my own car yet.

4 My favourite type of car is a sports car.

I like sports cars of all.

5 My mother says I should save my money rather than buy a car.

My mother says I should save my money instead a car.

Part 2

Question 6

Your English friend, Jo, has invited you to a birthday party. You can't go to the party.

Write a card to Jo. In your card, you should

- apologise for not being able to go to the party
- explain why you can't go
- say what present you are sending Jo.

Write **35 – 45 words** on your answer sheet.

Part 3

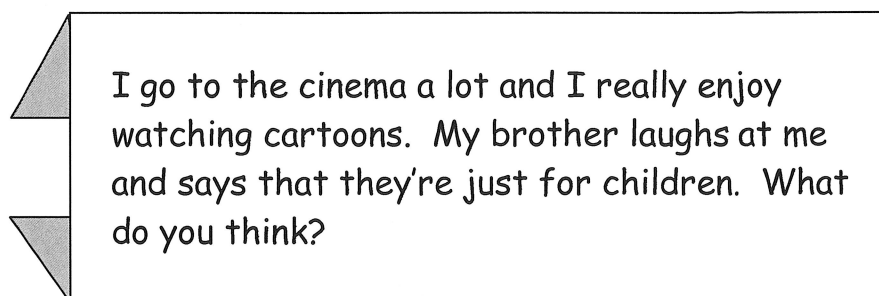
Write an answer to **one** of the questions (7 or 8) in this part.

Write your answer in about **100 words** on your answer sheet.

Tick the box (Question 7 or Question 8) on your answer sheet to show which question you have answered.

Question 7

- This is part of a letter you receive from an English friend.



- Now write a letter, answering your friend's question.
- Write your **letter** in about 100 words on your answer sheet.

Question 8

- Your English teacher has asked you to write a story.
- Your story must begin with this sentence:

Emma looked at the clock and realised she was late.

- Write your **story** in about 100 words on your answer sheet.



To practise your English and prepare for your exam:

www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams/first/how-to-prepare

www.cambridgeenglish.org/learning-english



For teachers, find lesson plans and more sample materials:

www.cambridgeenglish.org/teaching-english

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