ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΕΘΝΙΚΗΣ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ
ΚΡΑΤΙΚΟ ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΤΙΚΟ ΓΛΩΣΣΟΜΑΘΕΙΑΣ

Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs

English Language Certification

LEVEL	**B2**	**on the scale set by the Council of Europe**
MODULE	**1**	**Reading comprehension and language awareness**

Period	**November 2008**

ATTENTION

- Do not open this booklet until the exam begins.
- Mark your answers on Answer Sheet 1 [ΑΠΑΝΤΗΤΙΚΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1].
- Provide a single answer for each item.
- You have **65 minutes** to complete this part of the exam.

ACTIVITY 1

Step 1: Read the text below and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 1-2.

1. The text is aimed at

A. general readers. **B.** male readers. **C.** young readers.

2. The attitude of the writer towards the Nenets appears to be one of

A. jealousy. **B.** respect. **C.** anger.

The World Around Us

Nenet led by reindeer

The Nenets

In the cold climate of the Yamal Peninsula in Russia's far north, the Arctic winds blow and the snowy landscape seems to go on forever. It seems an almost impossible place to survive in, but this is the home of the Nenets.

They are a tribe of nomads with one of the oldest traditions in the Arctic, who have lived in this freezing climate for the past 1,000 years.

The Nenets move huge herds of reindeer thousands of miles throughout the year, following the change of seasons. They spend winter in the forests of the south, where there is just enough for the reindeer to survive on. They then spend months moving northwards to the Arctic Circle. Often they are caught in huge snowstorms as they make their way forward with their animals and supplies.

The Nenets themselves live almost entirely off the reindeer herds. The animals provide them with meat and reindeer fur for clothing. Reindeer skins are also used to make their tents, known as *chums*, which are taken down and re-built every other day as the herds move north or south.

The Nenets have little contact with other people apart from two short visits to the region's only town, which they pass through in April and November. They have the chance to sell some of their reindeer for meat and use the money to buy tea, sugar, and salt. Although some of them have apartments in the town, they prefer to live their traditional life in the wilderness.

Similarly, all Nenet children are flown out by helicopter to go to boarding school, returning to help their parents only in summer. Most young men also serve in the armed forces, just like their Russian counterparts. Although they know about the outside world, almost all of them come back to continue looking after the reindeer.

The only real danger to the Nenets comes from oil and gas exploration, because the Yamal Peninsula has one of the largest reserves of natural gas in the world, and pollution and development are already a problem. Hopefully, the Nenets will survive these threats and will carry on living their traditional lives until well into the future.

Step 2: Read the text again and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 3-10.

3. The Nenet tribes
- **A.** can no longer survive in the Arctic.
- **B.** have lived in the same way for centuries.
- **C.** have moved into permanent houses.

4. The forests in the south provide the reindeer with
- **A.** food during the winter.
- **B.** shelter from the cold.
- **C.** protection from the wind.

5. During migrations, the tents are moved
- **A.** every day.
- **B.** three or four times a week.
- **C.** once a week.

6. The Nenets visit the town twice a year
- **A.** to sell their crop.
- **B.** to buy essential food items.
- **C.** to find part-time work.

7. The Nenets do not stay long in the town because
- **A.** they have nowhere to stay.
- **B.** they cannot afford it.
- **C.** they prefer life in the wilderness.

8. The children of the Nenets
- **A.** are sent away to school.
- **B.** are educated entirely by their parents.
- **C.** leave the tribe for the summer holidays.

9. The majority of the younger generation of Nenets
- **A.** choose a career in the army.
- **B.** want to live in the outside world.
- **C.** prefer their traditional way of life.

10. The text suggests that the Nenets
- **A.** benefit from oil and gas exploration.
- **B.** exploit their natural gas reserves.
- **C.** may be extinguished because of pollution.

ACTIVITY 2

Step 1: Read this extract from an EU Commission website. For each gap in items 11-15 choose the best option (A-F). Use each option only once. There is one option you do not need.

A.	mobile	**B.**	immediately	**C.**	identical
D.	health-care	**E.**	personal	**F.**	procedure

The European Health Insurance Card

The basic model for the European Health Insurance Card is (**11**) _____ in all the Member States. This enables health care providers in every Member State to identify the card (**12**) _____. The insured person can then benefit from a simplified (**13**) _____ for receiving any medical assistance that might become necessary during a temporary stay. The only (**14**) _____ information on the European Health Insurance Card is the holder's surname, first name, personal identification number and date of birth. The European Health Insurance Card does not contain medical data.

If you have to pay any costs up front, these documents guarantee reimbursement of (**15**) _____ costs locally or very soon after your return home.

Step 2: Read the text carefully and decide if the following statements (16-18) are True (A), False (B), or Not stated (C).

	STATEMENTS	A TRUE	B FALSE	C NOT STATED
16.	This card is good for European citizens who are visiting a member state.			
17.	The card holds information about your blood group and past illnesses.			
18.	The card allows you to see a doctor privately for free.			

ACTIVITY 3

For items 19-23, match the texts with the places where you might see them (options A-F). There is one option you do not need.

A.	On the side of a lorry	**B.**	On a chocolate cake box	**C.**	At an airport
D.	On a pack of coffee	**E.**	A computer programme	**F.**	On a coach

19.	This is a silent terminal and no announcements will be made. Please check the monitors for flight information.	
20.	This product is offered subject to your acceptance of the license agreement included with the media and to limited warrantee terms.	
21.	Allergy advice: This product may contain traces of nuts.	
22.	Passengers must not distract the driver's attention without good cause.	
23.	We select from the finest beans in the world, grind them at the peak of freshness, and then seal it instantly.	

ACTIVITY 4

Fill in the gaps in items 24-28 with the best option (A-F). Use each option only once. There is one option you do not need.

A.	an example	**B.**	breath	**C.**	heart
D.	the grade	**E.**	the speed limit	**F.**	the message

24.	I was angry with him; hopefully he got ▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓ and won't do it again.	
25.	If you break ▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓, you could lose your driver's licence.	
26.	She was so beautiful, she took my ▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓ away.	
27.	I think that politicians should set ▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓ to the rest of the public.	
28.	Let's not lose ▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓. Things are bound to get better soon.	

ACTIVITY 5

Use options A-F to fill in the gaps for items 29-33 in Column A. Use each option only once. The information in Column B will help you. There is one option you do not need.

A.	should	**B.**	couldn't	**C.**	would
D.	how would you	**E.**	would love	**F.**	why don't you

COLUMN A			COLUMN B
29.	Speaker A	*When do you want to leave?*	asking about agreement
	Speaker B	*What about Friday? ▒▒▒▒▒ that be OK for you?*	
30.	Speaker A	*That sounds like an interesting job.*	asking for advice
	Speaker B	*Really? Do you think I ▒▒▒▒▒ apply for it?*	
31.	Speaker A	*Would you like to come with us on Saturday the 15th?*	accepting an invitation
	Speaker B	*Yes, I ▒▒▒▒▒ to.*	
32.	Speaker A	*There aren't any flights on Saturday.*	suggesting a course of action
	Speaker B	*▒▒▒▒▒ stay an extra night?*	
33.	Speaker A	*No, I've got no plans for this summer.*	making an invitation
	Speaker B	*▒▒▒▒▒ like to come on holiday with us?*	

ACTIVITY 6

Step 1: Read the text below and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 34-35.

34. The text is aimed mainly at people with an interest in

A. travelling abroad. **B.** buying books. **C.** learning a language.

35. The next section of the text probably contains information about

A. different websites. **B.** quality podcasts. **C.** forums on the web.

PARLEZ VOUS L'INTERNET?

Whether you're brushing up for your holiday or just want to broaden your horizons, the web can help you learn a language. A host of websites offers multimedia experience by combining text, video, animation and sound.

Some of the ones we've looked at here can help with pronunciation; others offer one-to-one tuition via a webcam or internet telephone. Add to that a choice of online dictionaries and phrase books, and the choice - from Mandarin to Swahili – is almost unlimited.

A - ALL ROUNDERS

Rosetta Stone (www.rosettastone.com) provides excellent learning software for 30 languages, including Mandarin, Arabic and Latin. It uses a combination of images, text and voice to teach, and voice recognition technology will rate your pronunciation. A three month online subscription is £70, six months is £100.

And if you fancy some human interaction, go to VerbalPlanet and find a language tutor to chat to anywhere in the world using an internet telephone service. Lesson costs range from £6 to £16 per 45 minutes.

B - BUDGET LINGO

There are also plenty of online resources that won't cost you a penny. Word2word is an excellent directory offering links to free online dictionaries. At www.yourdictionary.com there are links to dictionaries and grammars in a staggering 300 different languages, including Vulcan for all those Star Trek fans.

For learning vocabulary, www.byki.com offers free downloadable software for 58 languages. Using a flashcard system, you see the word, learn what it means and test yourself. The only catch is that you only get a small number of word lists for free – the full version costs £28.

C - COMMUNICATING ON THE GO

Traditional foreign language phrase books can't show you how the word should be pronounced, but new gadgets and software can do just that. At the luxury end of this market is the Ectaco Communicator (£296), a small hand-held device that uses speech recognition software. You simply speak a phrase into the machine, and the Communicator will translate it for you. The phrase book recognises and speaks 14,000 travel related phrases per language and contains other useful documents such as maps and information about places to visit.

Step 2: For items 36-40, match the statements with one of the three sections of the text A (All rounders) B (Budget Lingo) or C (Communicating on the go).

Find a section that mentions....		
36.	a site where you can speak to a teacher	
37.	a company that sells pocket computers that can translate	
38.	a site that you pay to join for a limited time	
39.	a site that can test how well you pronounce new words	
40.	a site where you can get some language materials without paying anything	

Step 3: The words in Column A (41-45) appear in the text. Change them so that they are in the right form for the sentences in Column B.

COLUMN A		COLUMN B	
WORDS FROM THE TEXT		STATEMENTS	
month	**41.**	The company also produces a ▒▒▒ newsletter.	
find	**42.**	All of the ▒▒▒ from our research will be made public.	
free	**43.**	We believe that ▒▒▒ is more important than wealth or status.	
useful	**44.**	If the batteries run out, a pocket PC is completely ▒▒▒.	
visit	**45.**	We had a mysterious ▒▒▒ last night –a man who said he'd been my father's friend in the army.	

ACTIVITY 7

Complete the word puzzle by filling in gaps 46-50. All the words are connected with health. The first one has been done as an example.

Word puzzle ¤ Word puzzle ¤ Word puzzle ¤ Word puzzle ¤ Word puzzle ¤ Word

After the accident, he was rushed to **hospital**.					EX.	H	O	S	P	I	T	A	L
Make sure you take the ▒▒▒ three times a day after meals.				46.		E							
He's funny about taking any kind of pills. He avoids it even if he's in a great deal of ▒▒▒				47.		A							
Tuberculosis is a disease of the ▒▒▒					48.	L							
Fruit and vegetables are an important part of a healthy ▒▒▒.		49.				T							
You'll ▒▒▒ a cold if you go out in the rain without a coat.	50.					H							

ΣΑΣ ΥΠΕΝΘΥΜΙΖΟΥΜΕ ΟΤΙ ΠΡΕΠΕΙ ΝΑ ΜΕΤΑΦΕΡΕΤΕ ΟΛΕΣ ΤΙΣ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΙΣ ΣΤΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1

ΤΕΛΟΣ ΜΗΝΥΜΑΤΟΣ