

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

May 2009

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 about the Beatles and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 1-2.

1. This text comes from
 - A. a book.
 - B. a DVD cover.
 - C. a magazine.
2. The text concentrates on
 - A. the contributions that different band members made.
 - B. the development of the band's musical style.
 - C. the conflict between members of the band.



**Beatles
forever**

Although most of this foreword has been dedicated to Lennon and McCartney, since they were the two principal composers with the Beatles, it must be stressed that they themselves both paid enormous tribute to the contribution made to their work by George Harrison and Ringo Starr.

George's help was particularly important in the recording studio, where he frequently sang harmony and always played lead guitar. Early in the careers of the Beatles their manager Brian Epstein was widely quoted as saying that George was the most naturally musically gifted of the four. This may have been said to boost George's ego slightly, since he must have felt in danger of being swamped by the two heavyweights with whom he was working. But there is little doubt that some of the most memorable facets of Beatles records were little acts of Harrison inspiration.

Although Ringo Starr contributed to the richness of sound which the group produced, he is in fact something of the mystery man in the Beatles. He never admitted to being more than a competent drummer, and apart from the mildly amusing children's song *Octopus' Garden* (page 83), he wrote little of any consequence. But his presence in the middle of the often warring factions of Lennon and McCartney was, I think, one of the essentially stabilising factors in the group. Had there been another genius there, they would certainly have torn themselves apart almost before they had started. And is it not interesting to note that it was Ringo to whom American audiences were first drawn? He was the sad, clown-like figure in the group, the little man who seemed to be saying 'What am I doing here?' He was just an ordinary man caught up in a circus of unreality.

As I wrote at the beginning of this foreword, it is now many years since the Beatles were together, and despite the deaths of Lennon and Harrison, the group's appeal has very little to do with nostalgia. Today there are still teenagers who are familiar with the Beatles' work, despite the fact that they –and sometimes also their parents– were not even born when the Beatles broke up. They are second or third generation fans, drawn to the music because of its excellence rather than because it is the flavour of the moment. For me, this is the true test of the Beatles' contribution.



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

3. What word best summarises Lennon and McCartney's opinion of the other two band members' contribution?
 - A. Indifferent.
 - B. Appreciative.
 - C. Critical.
4. The group benefited mainly from George's input while they were
 - A. composing songs.
 - B. making recordings.
 - C. giving live performances.
5. What Epstein said about George Harrison was meant to make him
 - A. feel good about himself.
 - B. despise Lennon.
 - C. admire the others.
6. The writer suggests that Ringo was
 - A. modest.
 - B. disruptive.
 - C. creative.
7. According to the text, both Lennon and McCartney
 - A. were remarkably self-centred.
 - B. were exceedingly talented.
 - C. created based on instinct.
8. The text suggests that Ringo's most important contribution to the group was that he was
 - A. a talented songwriter.
 - B. a calming influence.
 - C. a first class drummer.
9. Ringo particularly appealed to American audiences because he seemed to be
 - A. like the average person.
 - B. extremely talented.
 - C. very witty.
10. The modern fans mentioned in the text like the Beatle's music because
 - A. they're nostalgic of the good old days.
 - B. because it is back in fashion.
 - C. it has a lasting quality.

ACTIVITY 2

Read this extract from an advertisement. For each gap in items 11-17 choose the best option (A-H). Use each option only once. There is one option you do not need.

A. atmosphere	B. capital	C. from	D. knowledge
E. known	F. of	G. visiting	H. walking



Our tour begins in Istanbul, city of dreams, one of the great cities (11)____ the world. Known as Constantinople, it used to be (12)____ of the Byzantium in Roman times, and later, as the capital of the Byzantine Empire, it was (13)____ as Constantinople. From 1453 to 1919, Istanbul was the capital of the Ottoman Empire.

We drive to the Hellespont and the site of Troy – the scene of Schliemann's excavations in the 19th century. New research has broadened our (14)____ of this magnificent site considerably. After (15)____ Assos, Pergamum and Smyrna, Homer's birthplace, we embark on our private yachts, and cruise via Ephesus Priene, Miletus, and Didyma, viewing their monuments amongst shaded groves of pine and myrtle.

Turkey preserves some magnificent sites, making this journey ideal for anyone interested in classical civilisation. Great figures from the past like Herodotus, Heraclitus and Hadrian haunt the pillared splendour of these romantic ruins. (16)____ up the stepped streets of Knidos, or sitting in the shade of the temple of Zeus at Euromos, one can easily conjure up the (17) ____ of ancient Greece and Rome.

ACTIVITY 3

Match the texts below (18-24) with the places where you might see them (options A-H). There is one option you do not need.

A.	In a shop in London.	B.	Outside a theatre in London.
C.	On a packet of light bulbs.	D.	On a CD of computer software.
E.	On a medicine bottle.	F.	On replacement ink film
G.	On a can of Cola.	H.	On a sandwich wrapper.

18.	Carbonated low calorie soft drink with vegetable extracts and sweeteners. Best served ice cold.	
19.	Euros will be accepted but change will be in English pounds.	
20.	We regret to announce that tonight's performance has been cancelled. Please contact the Ticket Office for refunds.	
21.	Smoked ham with tomato and crunchy iceberg lettuce on malted wheat bread.	
22.	Store away from direct sunlight, extreme temperature or high humidity.	
23.	If you are pregnant, nursing or have a heart condition, please consult your physician before using this product.	
24.	For distribution with a new PC only. For product support, contact the manufacturer of your PC.	

ACTIVITY 4

Fill in the gaps in items 25-31 with the best option (A-H). Use each option only once. There is one option you do not need.

A.	open eye	B.	open heart	C.	open book	D.	open mind
E.	open to change	F.	open ended	G.	open to criticism	H.	open to suggestions

25.	What I like best about her is that she's got an []. Maybe it's on account of having lived in so many different countries. And, did you know she speaks seven languages?	
26.	We've got to keep an [] because I don't really trust them. It's not that they'd cheat but they may not be totally honest about the whole thing.	
27.	I'd love to redecorate the house, start yoga and learn how to cook exotic foods but Bill... that's a totally different story. He's not [].	
28.	She was raging with fury when he told her that she should learn from her mistakes. You see, she's not []. Not at all.	
29.	There's nothing mysterious about him. In fact, I don't think you could have found a more honest human being. He's like an [].	
30.	I'm running out of patience, out of money and out of time... I guess I'm now []. I don't think I know what to do anymore.	
31.	That was an [] questionnaire and I couldn't fill it out. I didn't know what they wanted us to say...	

ACTIVITY 5

Step 1: Read Text A below and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 32-33.

32. The aim of this introductory text is
 A. to promote something. B. to express an opinion. C. to report on a past event.
33. The booklet referred to will probably contain
 A. times of different talks. B. special offers on books. C. details of places to stay.

TEXT A**CELEBRATE BOOKS WITH US**

Please join us again to celebrate books at the Literary Festival. From Friday to Sunday, make the most of this unique opportunity to hear the country's leading writers talking about their work. From Philip Pullman talking about his *Dark Materials* to Douglas Hurd on his biography of Sir Robert Peel, there is something for every age and interest. Browse through this booklet to see what is on, then come for the day or stay for the weekend. The authors and books are waiting to welcome you!

**LYNNE TRUSS: *A Certain Age***

Lynne Truss is the author of the International bestsellers *Eats, Shoots and Leaves* and *Talk to the Hand*. Here she offers twelve bittersweet tales about love, romance, friendship and family. The six men and women each have very different stories to tell. Ranging from a wife who becomes a new woman when her husband disappears, to a pedant who undergoes a TV makeover, each tale is funny, moving and beautifully observed.

Step 2: Read Text A again, as well as the texts on the next page, and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 34-40.

34. Which book is mainly autobiographical?
 A. A Certain Age. B. Bright Young People. C. Silver River.
35. Which writer will be talking about a collection of short stories?
 A. A. A. Gill. B. Daisy Goodwin. C. Lynne Truss.
36. Which writer has already written two very successful books?
 A. D. J. Taylor. B. Daisy Goodwin. C. Lynne Truss.
37. Which book is a collection of previously published articles?
 A. A Certain Age. B. Table Talk. C. Bright Young People.
38. Which writer will be talking to an interviewer?
 A. D. J. Taylor. B. Daisy Goodwin. C. Lynne Truss.
39. Which writer will be talking about a particular period in history?
 A. Lynne Truss. B. D. J. Taylor. C. Daisy Goodwin.
40. Which writer is most likely to give an amusing talk?
 A. A. A. Gill. B. D. J. Taylor. C. Daisy Goodwin.

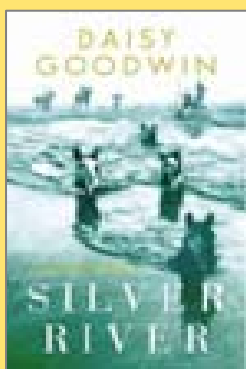
TEXT B

A. A. GILL: *Table talk*

Every weekend AA Gill entertains readers with his biting observations and unsparing restaurant reviews. In this, a selection of his best reviews, he celebrates what great eating can be and hammers those who get it wrong. The opinions expressed here are as much observations about society at large as they are about places to eat. Spend an entertaining hour with one of our funniest, most feared and most respected restaurant critics.






D. J. TAYLOR: *Bright Young People*

The Bright Young People were a pleasure-seeking band of bohemian party-givers and socialites in the 1920s. Evelyn Waugh dramatised their antics in *Vile Bodies* and many of them became household names. Beneath the surface, however, was a tormented generation, brought up in the shadow of war. For many, their progress through the 'serious' 1930s, when the age of parties was over and another war was on the horizon, led only to drink, drugs and disappointment. D J Taylor chronicles a lost generation and brings a vanished age to life.

DAISY GOODWIN: *Silver River*

Daisy Goodwin's mother left home when Daisy was five to lead a bohemian life. Daisy was brought up by her respectable father and stepmother. She adored her glamorous mother from afar and dreamt about her family's unstable background. One side of the family was driven from their southern Irish home to emigrate to Argentina. Here is a story of great wealth rapidly acquired and lost, gambling, horses, suicide, the isolation of the bleak Pampas and the heights of high society. This is an extraordinary memoir that captures the life of the author, caught between two parents, two countries, and two cultures. She talks to David Freeman.

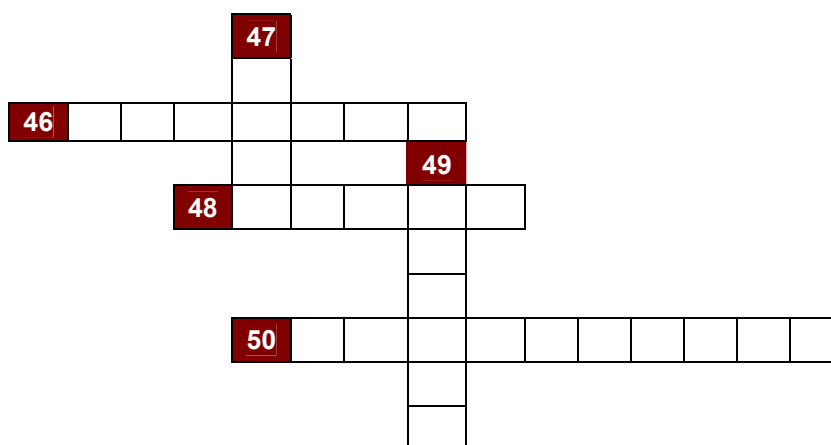
Step 3: The words in Column A (41-45) appear in the text. Change them so that they are in the right form for the sentences in Column B.

COLUMN A		COLUMN B	
WORDS FROM THE TEXT		STATEMENTS	
romance	41.	She's such a hopeless [] that you think she's from a 19 th century novel.	
entertains	42.	The problem with living here is that there's very little [].	
critics	43.	Try not to be so [] of your children all the time.	
life	44.	She's bright, [] and has a great sense of humour.	
adored	45.	Jaybee, my favourite cat, just had five [] kittens!	

ACTIVITY 6

Complete the puzzle by filling in the gaps in items 46-50.

Word puzzle ▢ Word puzzle ▢ Word puzzle ▢ Word puzzle	
46.	Hotels can be cheaper if you book a few months in _____.
47.	You can stay in a hotel full-board, _____-board, or just have bed and breakfast.
48.	We couldn't get a table at the restaurant because it was _____ - booked.
49.	We waited in the departure _____ for our flight to be called.
50.	I don't like lying on the beach and _____ for a long time because I get burned very easily.



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