

LEVEL B (B1 & B2)

2016 A

MODULE 1 Reading comprehension and language awareness

PART A - CHOICE ITEMS

ACTIVITY 1

Read the text and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 1a-7a.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2016

Have extinct animals vanished forever?

When Steven Spielberg's movie *Jurassic Park* came out in 1993, the idea of bringing dinosaurs and other extinct animals back to life was just an exciting story. However, there has been some amazing progress in the world of biology, and some scientists believe that the idea is a real possibility.

Last week *New Scientist* magazine put together a list of the animals that might walk the earth again. We will probably never see any



dinosaurs, because they died out millions of years ago, but on the list are creatures like the mammoth and the sabre-

toothed tiger, which lived less than 100,000 years ago.

For the process to work, scientists would need a small piece of an original animal –something like a bit of hair or a bone. This would need to be in

good condition, so would probably come from an animal preserved in ice and snow. They could then put this genetic information (DNA) into an egg and put the egg into a mother of a similar species.

Finding suitable mothers would be a difficult problem. Many extinct animals were much bigger than their modern relatives. The glyptodon, for example, which was a kind of armadillo, was as big as a car; a modern armadillo is only 30kg. However, there are some animals which might be suitable. The woolly rhinoceros, which died out about 10,000 years ago, is about the same size as a normal rhinoceros.

Some scientists believe it will be possible to re-create a mammoth in the next 10 or 20 years, but Dr Nicholls of *New Scientist* magazine thinks the technology will be used for other purposes. 'Making a mammoth is a fun idea,' he says, 'but we will probably use the information to save modern animals that are in danger. For example, the number of orangutans is falling, but we may be able to help them and make sure they survive.'

- 1a. The text is about
A. a science fiction movie. B. a famous scientist. C. scientific developments.
- 2a. The text is probably from
A. a scientific journal. B. a daily newspaper. C. a school book.
- 3a. The text looks at new developments in
A. biology. B. film-making. C. story-telling.
- 4a. The *New Scientist* list contains animals that
A. died millions of years ago. B. have been exterminated. C. are presently non-existent.
- 5a. Scientists would use a sample to get
A. an egg. B. genetic information. C. hair and bone.
- 6a. The text mentions the problem of finding mothers of a suitable
A. age. B. size. C. colour.
- 7a. Dr Nicholls thinks the technology will be used
A. to help endangered species. B. to create mammoths. C. to modernise equipment.

ATTENTION

- Try to answer all the questions.
- Mark your answers on Answer Sheet 1 [ΑΠΑΝΤΗΤΙΚΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1].
- Provide ONE answer for each item.
- You have **85 minutes** to complete this part of the exam.

ACTIVITY 2

Read the text and choose the best option (A-H) for items 8a-13a. Use each option only once. There are two options you do not need.

A. ago	B. including	C. while	D. more
E. through	F. whatever	G. whenever	H. when



Would you dare?

The first wing-walker was 26-year-old Ormer Locklear. Legend has it that he first climbed out onto the lower wings of his plane (8a) _____ he was training to be a pilot, during World War I (1914-1918). After that, (9a) _____ he had a mechanical problem, Ormer used to just climb onto the wings and fix it.

In the 1920s, wing-walking became a big attraction at air shows all over the USA. As the sport became (10a) _____ popular, performers tried to do tricks that were more and more dangerous. Instead of simply standing on the wing, performers would do handstands, hang by their teeth, or jump from one plane to another. As the stunts became more daring, the number of accidents increased. Eight wing-walkers died in a short period of time, (11a) _____ the first woman wing-walker, Ethel Dare. As a result, the US government made it illegal to wing-walk below 1500 feet, and that in effect finished off the sport.

In the UK, wing-walking was revived in 1987, (12a) _____ Vic Norman started a company called AeroSuperBatics to put on shows. His professional wing-walkers are all fully trained and also have to pass physical tests. They wear safety harnesses connecting them to the plane and when they are out on the wings they are tied on.

It is also possible for ordinary members of the public to try wing-walking themselves. You can go on a weekend course, and after a few lessons, you can find yourself standing on top of a plane as you fly (13a) _____ the sky at 160 miles an hour. The organisers say it's perfectly safe, but if you're afraid of heights, it's not something that would be recommended.

ACTIVITY 3

Match the underlined words in the text (items 14a-19a) with one option (A-H) that has a similar meaning. There are two options you do not need.

A. create	B. reduce	C. say	D. understand
E. prevent	F. appreciate	G. rescue	H. groan

Education World: Texting

www.educationworld.com/a_curr/texting-may-be-good-for-students.shtml



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March 30, 2016 | Teacher Essentials ▾ Administrators ▾ Lesson Plans ▾ Technology ▾ PD Tips ▾ More ▾

Is texting killing English?

There are many people who (14a) complain that the English used by young people is bad, as a result of texting. Those blaming texting for the decline of language, writing in particular, are not only in English-speaking countries but all over the world. They (15a) claim that kids are unable to write properly anymore because they write as they text. Are they right?

It is true that texting is not interested in the mechanics of writing, but in getting people to (16a) save time. So, for example, good texters (17a) value economy writing and will use the number 4 instead of the word 'for', and other abbreviations such as a question mark (?) instead of 'I don't understand you'; she or he uses '121' instead of 'one-to-one' (*private chat initiation*), 143 instead of 'I love you', 182 instead of 'I hate you', or '10Q' instead of 'thank you'. He or she shows little interest in capitalization and punctuation. In other words, he or she uses a different 'grammar' when texting, which is a little bit like a new kind of talking.

But it is not true that kids use these same conventions when they (18a) produce an essay or a report. Just as kids, from an early age, know that people talk differently to their colleagues during a formal meeting, and to family members at home, they (19a) realize that, when they themselves write school compositions they should use different conventions. As a matter of fact, this is what a Toronto University study of student's writing showed. Students' writing, when they are not texting, is the 'standard', not the texting grammar.

[Read more](#)

ACTIVITY 4

4.1 Read the text below and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 20a-21a.

20a. Which section of the newspaper does the text come from?

- A. Sports news. B. Health and fitness. C. Hygiene and nourishment.

21a. The writer's main aim is to

- A. get people to join a running club. B. encourage readers to start running. C. help people to lose weight.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2016

Ready, steady, go

There are lots of ways to exercise, but running is one of the easiest to start. It also has lots of advantages. Firstly, almost anybody can do it and it is one of the best ways to exercise. Besides it being good for your well-being, running along a beach or through a forest gives you time to think and, importantly, to get you back to nature.



Almost anybody can take up running, but talk to your doctor first if you are over 60 or if you are recovering from illness. Otherwise, anybody who is able of walking for 15 minutes can do it. Don't worry too much about how fit you are. Most people who begin running aren't fit; that's why they take it up in the first place. Start off slowly, and you will quickly see improvement. You won't even need much equipment to get started: a pair of shoes, a pair of shorts, a shirt and you're ready.

Another good thing for runners is that you yourself can decide what you're going to do. It's important to remember that you don't need to run a marathon to be a "real" runner. Fewer than 10 per cent of all runners ever run a marathon, and most of those who do run one never do it again. If you're happy with 5km or 10km, that's fine, and there will be plenty of competitive events to enter if you want to.

Your first run will be the hardest. You will feel more confident if you start off in a group or with a friend, and it will help to keep you motivated. If it is hard to find a partner, you can join a running club, and there are plenty of them up around.

After your first run, make sure you warm down properly by walking around, and this will help your muscles. The morning after your first run you will experience aches and pains. There isn't much you can do about them, but as your muscles get stronger, they learn to cope with the new conditions. So don't worry about the pain. Next time it won't be so bad and soon you won't even notice it.

4.2 On the basis of the text above, choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 22a-26a.

- 22a.** Running helps you
 A. lose weight. B. stay healthy. C. think intelligently.
- 23a.** Running is not a sport
 A. for people over 60. B. for people who've been ill. C. that needs special equipment.
- 24a.** Running a marathon is
 A. something all runners do. B. a one-time experience. C. is forbidden for some runners.
- 25a.** When one takes up running, it's a good idea to
 A. give up smoking. B. begin taking vitamins. C. do it with company.
- 26a.** At the beginning, running may cause
 A. some aching. B. serious trouble. C. improper behaviour.

ACTIVITY 5

Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.

Ode to Joy

When I was working in Canada, I came across an unusual patient. Mario was 40 and didn't need to work. Two years before, he'd won the lottery. He thought he should be the happiest man alive: he spent the winters in Florida and the summers in the lovely city of Quebec. He had divorced his wife and was happy to be single again. Best of all, he no longer had to answer to his boss at the post office.



Having freed himself of all his obligations, he now spent most of his time watching his favourite TV programmes, going to hockey and baseball matches, and having barbecues on the beach. Yet when he talked about his life, what emerged was a total lack of purpose and a profound sense of loneliness. He couldn't understand why he felt so low and so lost, which is why he had come to the hospital where I worked.

A couple of years later I met Elsie; an even more remarkable case. She was 70 and had spent the last 30 years in a wheelchair. She was losing control of her hands and even feeding herself was difficult. Yet she didn't let her condition stop her enjoying card games with her many friends, teaching her great-niece to read and write, or helping other people to use an electric wheelchair. Every time I saw her, she was wearing a great heart-warming smile. There was something radiant about her.

Sociologist Dr Philip Brickman at Chicago's Northwestern University has shown that Mario and Elsie are not isolated cases. Winning the lottery usually brings with it more loneliness, more enemies and more feelings of emptiness than it does any increase in warmth, friendship and love. Being paralysed, on the other hand, doesn't have to affect a person's capacity for long term happiness. The higher standards of living and other promises that politicians often talk about have almost no impact on happiness levels; billionaires are no happier than the general population.

So what really makes us feel good about our lives? All the research points to one key factor, and Mario and Elsie are perfect examples: we need to feel a real connection to others. We can make that happen by creating close and loving relationships, not just with our partner but also with friends, brothers, sisters and children. We can also achieve it by joining a group where we feel a sense of shared values (such as a club, a choir, etc.) or by feeling useful and respected at work.

On the basis of the “Ode to Joy” text, choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 27a-34a.

- 27a. Why is Mario described by the writer as 'unusual'?
- A. He had lots of money but was not a happy man. B. He had won the lottery but didn't invest his money. C. He had many peculiar obligations.
- 28a. Once Mario won the lottery, which most people dream about,
- A. he could do as he pleased. B. he could save his money. C. he could give to the needy.
- 29a. Despite the fact that Mario had lots of money, he seemed to
- A. keep a low profile. B. have no real reason to live. C. be boiling with anger.
- 30a. What was the most striking thing about Elsie?
- A. She was paralysed. B. She appeared to be happy. C. She had very few friends.
- 31a. According to Dr Philip Brickman, Mario and Elsie
- A. would benefit from psychiatric help. B. are typical cases in many ways. C. will find happiness in later life.
- 32a. Researchers agree on the importance of
- A. meaningful relationships. B. having a close family unit. C. helping friends and family.
- 33a. The 'moral' of this text is consistent with the saying:
- A. Money is the root of evil. B. Money can't buy happiness. C. Who covets more is a slave.
- 34a. The title of the article, “Ode to Joy”, refers to
- A. Mario's money that he won in a lottery. B. Mario and Elsie who were both very happy. C. Elsie, who could enjoy life, even if paralyzed.

ACTIVITY 6

Read extracts 35a-40a and match them with the topics of the websites (A-H). There are two options you do not need.

A	Financial advice guide	B	Weather around the world	C	Cheap flights and destinations	D	Instructions Manual
E	Hotels and accommodation	F	Sports and track events	G	Information-computer technology	H	Television programme

35a.	The award-winning Copthorne Tara is nestled close to many tourist attractions offering comfortable accommodation. Check for best rates and make online reservations today.
36a.	T-Know-How offers a snapshot of what geeks are discussing, on news sites, blogs, and Twitter. It will lead you to other sites where the coolest geeks are keeping tabs on different parts of the tech sector so that you and I don't have to.
37a.	Martin Lewis's free site saves you money. Beat the system on credit cards, shopping, special offers, mortgages, council tax, interest rate payments...
38a.	Current conditions and forecasts for the UK and the world. Includes background material about climate change, glossary, calculators, ...
39a.	Offers live match reports and breaking news along with player interviews, features and columnists.
40a.	Schedules for all major channels, including features, film review database, guide to digital technology and reminder function.

ACTIVITY 7

7.1 Read the text below and do the task that follows.

Georgia on her mind

Pop-jazz singer Katie Melua has achieved the kind of success that most other musicians can only dream of. Just 24, she is one of Europe's best known female artists, and her first two CDs have sold more than nine million copies. Certainly she has come a long way from her humble childhood in Tblisi, Georgia, in the Former USSR, where she remembers bathing in a bucket and standing in bread queues in the market.

katie melua

What do you remember of your childhood in Tblisi?



I was seven when Georgia got its independence, in 1991, after the breakup of the Soviet Union. The economy collapsed, civil war broke out. We lived in my grandparents' house, and we didn't have electricity or hot water. I had a wonderful childhood, though. We heated water on the gas stove and, being little, having a bath in a bucket was fun. We'd be plunged into darkness almost every evening, but to me it was exciting because we lived by candlelight. We'd sit around the kitchen table and play cards. This meant I wasn't in front of the television all the time, and we didn't have computer games or many toys, so I had the wildest imagination. I

was always outside, playing or climbing trees.

How did you get interested in music?

My grandparents had a piano and their house was where I first heard music. My mum would play and I enjoyed singing. When I was six, my parents arranged for me to have lessons with a singing teacher.

Why did your family move from Georgia?

My father was a heart surgeon and, during the early 1990s, it was difficult for him to get a well-paid job. He applied for posts in various countries and got one in Belfast, in Northern Ireland. I was excited. My idea of the West came from films, so I was expecting something like Hollywood. Even so, Belfast was wonderful. The electricity didn't go off, you could always have baths, the shops were colourful and we had toys to play with.

Were you affected by the political problems in Northern Ireland?

Not really – I walked to school every day and led a normal life. My only experience of the troubles was seeing soldiers in tanks driving down the street. We were there for five years, and then we moved to London and I got a place at the British School for the Performing Arts, and my singing career started to take off.


Do you ever miss Georgia?

Yes, but leaving gave me lots of opportunities and the chance for a career. I think if we'd stayed I'd probably just be married with kids. But I go back as often as possible to hang out with my friends and see my grandparents. They are in their mid-70s now and are still in the same house. They are really proud of me and are always making toasts to my success when we have dinners. It can get a bit annoying.

Decide if, according to the text, each of the statements below (41a-47a) are True (A), False (B) or Not stated (C).

STATEMENTS		A	B	C
		TRUE	FALSE	NOT STATED
41a.	Katie Melua won the 2016 British pop-jazz singer award.			
42a.	She rose from anonymity to fame without any support from her family.			
43a.	This famed celebrity has many unhappy memories from her childhood.			
44a.	The family moved from Georgia because even qualified professionals could earn only minimal wages.			
45a.	Katie's father, who was a medical doctor, worked in a private hospital in Northern Ireland.			
46a.	Her singing career started in Northern Ireland.			
47a.	Katie's singing career prevents her from ever visiting Georgia.			

7.2 Read the lyrics below and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 48a-50a.



Artist: **Katie Melua**

"I Will Be There" lyrics

She is like the lady down the road
Or just the woman up the street,
Like any other you may know.

To me, she is the one who had it planned
To lead us all to Wonderland,
She always wanted us to go.

And she said
Don't ever be lonely,
Remember, I'll always care.

Wherever you may be
Remember I will be there.

And like another lady that we know
She has a smile so bright and sweet,
And hair as white as driven snow

Though life is never easy day to day,
She has a very special way
To make us smile when we are low.

And she says
Don't ever be lonely
Remember, I'll always care.

Wherever you may be
Remember I will be there.

Don't ever be lonely
Remember, I will be there.

I will be there.
I will be there.

48a. The lyrics of the song above refer to

- A. a Mother figure. B. Georgia, Katie's homeland. C. a long-lost lover.

49a. The message of the song is that

- A. one should never despair. B. a special someone 'll always care C. one will never be lonely.

50a. The person referred to in the lyrics promises to

- A. make everything alright. B. wipe out bad memories. C. stand by no matter what.

PART B - SHORT ANSWERS

ACTIVITY 1

Fill in gaps 1b-5b with the right form of the word in parenthesis, so that the text makes sense.

HOME » YOUR PERSONAL IMPACT » ABOUT THE WEEE MAN

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

YOUR PERSONAL IMPACT

Measure your personal impact

What is ecological footprinting?

** About the WEEE Man

WHAT CAN I DO?

The WEEE Man –part alien, part robot– is a scary sculpture to look at. However, it is even more (1b) _____ (alarm) to think about what the sculpture represents. The WEEE Man is made entirely from old computers, mobile phones, TVs, microwaves, dishwashers and so on. The huge, seven-metre tall sculpture is made from the amount of (2b) _____ (electron) waste that just one average European throws away in a lifetime.

Up until recently, much of this has been sent to landfill sites. Alternatively, it has gone to developing countries, where desperate workers pick apart the products without even the most basic safety (3b) _____ (equip).

Most European (4b) _____ (govern) have now accepted that it is important for something to be done about the problem, and the EU has brought in new laws. Manufacturers are now acting more (5b) _____ (responsible). They take care of their waste products and recycle some of the rare metals and chemicals that they contain.

WHAT'S YOUR FOOTPRINT?

CLICK HERE to calculate how much "nature" your mobile phone and personal computer require

FURTHER INFORMATION

RSA manifesto – Zero waste society
www.theRSA.org

Industry Council for Electronic Equipment Recycling (ICER)
www.icer.org.uk

DTI
www.dti.gov.uk

Envirowise
www.envirowise.gov.uk

WEEE legislation
www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

VIDEO CLIPS

ACTIVITY 2

Fill in gaps 6b-10b with the most appropriate word, so that the text makes sense.



The Lawn Tennis Championships
The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Wimbledon



IMPORTANT SECURITY INFORMATION

SEARCHES

All bags will be searched upon (6b) a _ _ _ _ _ to the grounds, at the entrances to show courts and before acceptance at luggage facilities. The "All England Lawn Tennis Club" also reserves the (7b) r _ _ _ _ to perform further searches as a condition for using the grounds.



BAG AND LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

The following restrictions (8b) a _ _ _ _ and will be strictly enforced:

- one bag per person, max size 18" x 12" x 12" (45cm x 30cm x 30cm)
- no hard sided items (e.g. cool-boxes) of any size will be (9b) a _ _ _ _ _ into the grounds.

LEFT LUGGAGE FACILITIES

Left luggage facilities are provided at (10b) v _ _ _ _ _ locations OUTSIDE the grounds. Recovery of items from left luggage facilities will require a 'pass-out' wristband and production of a valid ticket for re-entry to the grounds.



DO NOT LEAVE BAGS UNATTENDED AT ANY TIME

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