

LEVEL B (B1 & B2)

2017 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.


movie-reviews






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Mia, who wants to be an actress, and ambitious jazz pianist Sebastian begin a dramatic romance as they both follow their heart to their dreams in Hollywood. When they get to a point when their careers pull them in different directions, they must face the difficulties in their growing relationship. **La La Land**, a film that nearly won the Oscar for Best picture, was written and directed by Damien Chazell. Emma Stone won the Oscar for Best actress, for her role as Mia, and Ryan Gosling was nominated for Best actor, for his role as Sebastian.

Mia and Sebastian are trying to make it in Hollywood. Mia dropped out of college five years ago, and moved from a small town in Nevada to pursue her dream. She adores old-time movies, on which she grew up, and loves acting. But she hates what all hope-to-be actresses have to do in order to get ahead in the business. Sebastian, who plays the piano, wants to do his part to preserve the jazz of traditionalists like Charlie Parker, especially as he knows that this style of music is dying. He has trouble playing music he doesn't like. Mia's and Sebastian's initial couple of chance meetings are antagonistic ones. But they eventually fall in love, largely because of the passion each sees in the other for what he/she is striving for in life. However, they face many obstacles. The pursuit of their dreams takes all their energy and they may have little left for their relationship...

### User Reviews

★★★★★ **Memorable Cinematic Experience** | by marcus-749-184404 (UK)

The last time I felt like this in the cinema I was 6 years old, when I was watching Star Wars. I never imagined I would ever find that feeling again in a movie –that sense of being transported to another world. The opening sequence took my breath away and I never got it back. Not even at the end –which left my head spinning. It is a beautiful film with soul, wit, charm, style and emotions. Oh, and Ryan Gosling is fantastic. He's a melancholy genius and so is Emma Stone. It has been five days since I saw La La Land and I am still thinking about it, singing the refrain that plays with your soul.

Click [here](#) to see more reviews

### 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.

- 1a. The main text is  
 A. a film buster. B. a film summary. C. a film preview.
- 2a. The text is about a movie that  
 A. got the Best picture award. B. deals with imagination. C. deals with love and dreams.
- 3a. Mia and Sebastian are both  
 A. protagonists. B. losers. C. after money.
- 4a. Mia, played by Emma Stone,  
 A. is studying in college. B. wants to be an actress. C. loves romantic movies.
- 5a. Sebastian, played by Ryan Gosling, is  
 A. a musician. B. a poor artist. C. a saxophonist.
- 6a. The relationship between Mia and Sebastian  
 A. is fantastic. B. develops antagonistically. C. has difficulties.
- 7a. In User Reviews, Marcus writes that this film is  
 A. a great love story. B. a melancholic romance. C. simply marvellous.

## ACTIVITY 2

Read the short texts below, and choose the best word (A-H) to fill in items 8a-13a. Use each word only once. There are two words you do not need.

A. like	B. hate	C. help	D. trust
E. work	F. forget	G. stop	H. wait

<p><b>Aquarius</b> (Jan.20-Feb.18)</p>  <p><b>People like you</b> because you're <b>progressive</b>, you <b>help</b> others and listen to their problems. You are fun to be with and you hate boring situations. Keep fighting for what you believe in, and (8a) _____ falling in love so often!</p>	<p><b>Pisces</b> (Feb.19-March 20)</p>  <p>You're artistic, <b>gentle</b>, and <b>wise</b>. You don't mind being alone. You like music, romance, and spiritual themes. You're selfless and quick to help others. Your problems? You (9a) _____ others too easily and you escape reality!</p>	<p><b>Aries</b> (Mar 21-April 19)</p>  <p>You are enthusiastic, honest and passionate. You like to be first in everything, you like being a leader. You enjoy individual sports, but you don't (10a) _____ team sports. You love to take action, but you must think before doing something!</p>
<p><b>Taurus</b> (April 20 – May 20)</p>  <p>You are patient, practical, devoted and responsible, but also possessive. You like to (11a) _____ with your hands, and you feel the need to always be surrounded by love and beauty! Your problem? A little bit too stubborn!</p>	<p><b>Gemini</b> (May 21-June 21)</p>  <p>You are curious and you learn quickly. Affectionate, but nervous and indecisive. You like music, books and chats. You (12a) _____ routine and monotony. As you are "two in one", your friends don't know what to expect!</p>	<p><b>Cancer</b> (June 22-July 22)</p>  <p>You are imaginative, loyal, and emotional, but also moody, and insecure. Always ready to (13a) _____ your loved ones. You care deeply for matters of the family and home. One problem is that you keep to yourself. You should open up more.</p>

### ACTIVITY 3

Read the text and fill in gaps 14a-20a with the best option (A-H). Use each option only once. There is one option you do not need.

A. before	B. in	C. out	D. to
E. on	F. about	G. how	H. why

European Society for Road Safety  
30 June 2016





# The RULES

## All Kids Should Know



It is true that you cannot be with your kids all the time! You're with them at home, and try to keep them safe there. You're with them at school if you are their teacher and watch out for them. But you're not always with them when they are walking, or when they are **(14a)** \_\_\_\_\_ the school bus.

*Kids must learn road safety rules, so they can look after themselves!*

#### Our team put together the road safety rules you need to teach them!

- Help kids learn **(15a)** \_\_\_\_\_ the traffic lights and signs, and what each color indicates.
- Make sure they know they must stop and look **(16a)** \_\_\_\_\_ they cross the street.
- Teach them **(17a)** \_\_\_\_\_ use the sidewalk when walking.
- Kids tend to put their hands out of the car or the school bus window, even when the vehicle is moving. Explain **(18a)** \_\_\_\_\_ this is dangerous.
- Children can get excited and run when they're anxious to get somewhere. Tell them **(19a)** \_\_\_\_\_ dangerous this is.

One of the best ways to teach kids something important is to play or to carry **(20a)** \_\_\_\_\_ activities with them. For example, draw or paint road and traffic signs or posters to help them remember better, see if you can create a fun road safety song with the signs and what the signs mean. Crosswords that you can find online can be excellent learning tools for older kids. Safety education activity sheets that you can download for different age groups can prove very useful!

### ACTIVITY 4

Read the text below and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 21a-26a.

- 21a. The person who tells the story here is most likely  
 A. Greek. B. not Nordic. C. a Dane.
- 22a. The person telling the story has probably decided to  
 A. become a Danish citizen. B. stay in Denmark for a while. C. interview Danish people.
- 23a. The writer thinks that  
 A. the Danes are snobs. B. the Danish society is well-organised. C. Denmark is a rich country.
- 24a. The writer says that having to pay very high taxes is  
 A. not an issue for the Danes. B. the cause of Danes' frustration. C. a result of high incomes.
- 25a. According to the writer, the Danes are  
 A. not open to outsiders. B. unfriendly people. C. envious of strangers.
- 26a. According to the writer, Denmark seems to be  
 A. full of wealthy people. B. a non-divided society. C. a very dull society.

Europe Today

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2017

## Being Danish and about it!

In my search for the secret of happiness, I went to Denmark. Why Denmark? Because social scientists say that it is here, in these cold northern parts, that we are most likely to find people who are completely happy. Clearly, they know something we don't.

Never having been here before, what struck me immediately was that this is a country that works. The air is fresh, the streets are clean, the people are friendly and there is no yob culture. This is a well-ordered, structured society, enjoyed not just by the rich but by everyone.

The roots of this ordered society go back to a war with Germany 150 years ago, says Prof. Gundelach of Copenhagen University. 'We lost a third of our population and half of our land. As a small country with powerful neighbours, we had to find a new identity'. They chose to forget about trying to build an Empire; instead, they became community builders, dreaming of creating a self-contained, equal society. The results of that dream are the excellent schools, hospitals and universities that Danes enjoy – but they do come at a cost. Denmark has one of the highest rates of tax in the world. How can Danes hand over nearly 60% of their incomes to the government and remain happy? But they do, and they are.

The reason is that the Danes have faith in their politicians. In most other European countries,

taxation is the cause of unhappiness. In Denmark, they believe that the government will use the money to do the right thing. Tax is not seen as robbery so much as social income. As a result, standards are high and it is hard to find real poverty. Equally, there are few symbols of great wealth.

'The Danes celebrate ordinariness', I was told more than once. Sitting in a cafe one evening, I watched to see how people reacted to the \$5 million boats moored overnight in Copenhagen marina. There were no envious glances – only frowns of disapproval. In Denmark, if you are rich, you are expected to keep quiet about it.

The other dimension to the Danes is that they feel exclusive, like members of a special private club. They are by nature friendly, but there is a lot that is essentially Danish that is not open to outsiders. They are in the EU, but it is still very hard for outsiders to get a permanent full-time job.

So, there it is. Happiness is having a comfortable lifestyle without being swept up by competitive consumption. It is having a feeling of belonging, accepting that leisure is important and realising that work is not the sole purpose of life.





### ACTIVITY 5

Read the text below and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 27a-32a.

# The Wandering mind

Have you ever fantasized about being the hero or heroine of your own story? When bored, does your mind wander off into fields filled with imagery and experiences you can't possibly have in real life? Do you take a break from the everyday life around you in order to plan for your future? If you have, it's normal!

Daydreams are the most common form of altered consciousness and consciousness is simply the level of our awareness of what's going on around us and in us, at all times. However, our levels of consciousness change throughout the day, most often without us even having a choice in the matter. The brain sometimes likes to do things on its own.



Daydreaming isn't just for starry eyed teenagers. For most of us, it's a fact of life. In one study, up to 96% of adults said they drift off at least once a day. Our minds tend to wander while we're engaged in mundane or repetitive tasks like driving home from work, digesting a meal, or jogging.

Far from unhealthy, these mental 'vacations' can relieve stress and boredom and help us prepare for the future. It's the people whose minds don't appear to do this that raise red flags among researchers. In fact, scientists have discovered that the brain regions that take over when our minds are left to drift don't function the same way in people with autism (and Alzheimer's disease) as they do in others who are healthy. What is interesting is that this finding suggests that the same regions that govern our daytime dreams also have a part in certain brain afflictions.

It is a fact that the terms "mind wandering" and "day-dreaming" have been given a bad reputation.

They are associated with students who don't pay attention in class, end up having trouble completing coursework, or with workers who spend time thinking about where they'd rather be and are not as productive as their boss would have wished. But research has shown that daydreaming can be productive.

For example, daydreaming motivates people to work toward accomplishing their goals, said Dr. Matthew Lorber, director of child and adolescent psychiatry at Lenox Hill Hospital in NYC. For instance, if a high school student daydreams about getting into a good college, such daydreaming may motivate him or her to actually study more.

Mind wandering can be very adaptive and functional. When we daydream about the past, our brains may be consolidating these memories so that we remember them better later. When we daydream about the future, we may actually become better prepared to confront the event we're daydreaming about.

- 27a. This article gives us  
 A scientific information. B survey results. C detailed evidence.
- 28a. According to the text, daydreams are  
 A involuntary acts. B sickly behaviour. C levels of unawareness.
- 29a. According to the text, having a wandering mind is normal for  
 A teenagers. B girls. C everyone.
- 30a. According to the text, the minds of people with autism don't  
 A go off to dreamland. B work like those of other people. C show symptoms of boredom.
- 31a. According to the text, daydreaming is assumed by the larger public to be  
 A a cause for alarm. B constructive. C practical.
- 32a. This article claims that mind-wandering or daydreaming can be  
 A an illness. B ongoing. C purposeful.

# CINEMA FOR ALL

## ACTIVITY 6

Match items 33a-38a with options A-H. There are two options you do not need.



A.	Thriller	B.	Comedy	C.	Classic play	D.	Detective film
E.	Science Fiction	F.	Documentary	G.	War film	H.	Children's movie

33a	The BBC set itself the task of filming the complete works of Shakespeare. The resulting productions, renowned for their loyalty to the text, utilised the best theatrical and television directors and brought acclaimed performances from leading actors.
34a	Peter Ustinov gives an energetic performance as Poirot in his first portrayal of the Belgian sleuth. As we cruise down the legendary Nile, a mystery assassin takes toll of a passenger list of internationally renowned faces.
35a	This brilliantly clever parody follows a warped intergalactic mission to blow up an unstable planet.
36a	From embarrassing situations to romantic misunderstandings, the 'Edge of Reason' will have you crying with laughter. A feel-good movie to watch again and again.
37a	Emperor penguins are born to sing. All except young Mumble, who was born to dance – tap dance. Such un-penguin-like behaviour eventually gets Mumble kicked out of penguin land and into the big cold world.
38a	In 1914, a room full of German schoolboys, fresh-faced and idealistic, are goaded by their chauvinistic schoolmaster to troop off and fight for their country. With the fire and partiotism of youth, they sign up and leave for the unknown horrors of the battlefields of the Western Front.

## ACTIVITY 7

Read the text and fill in gaps 39a-44a with the best option (A-H). Use each option only once. There are two options you do not need.

A.	reared	B.	hid	C.	figured out	D.	led
E.	split	F.	showed	G.	provided	H.	watched

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## Baby bird brains prove good at math

### Mathematical aptitude may exist from birth for chickens

**BIOLOGY** Baby chicks can do arithmetic. In a recent experiment, researchers (39a) \_\_\_\_\_ by Lucia Regolin, an animal cognition expert at the University of Padua in Italy, found that three- to four-day-old chicks have the ability to add and subtract. The researchers (40a) \_\_\_\_\_ newborn birds with five yellow plastic balls at birth to make the balls desirable to them. A few days later, the researchers (41a) \_\_\_\_\_ the balls into groups of two and three and (42a) \_\_\_\_\_ them behind two screens, while the chicks (43a) \_\_\_\_\_. Not only did most chicks walk toward the screen hiding three balls, but they also (44a) \_\_\_\_\_ which screen hid more when the balls were moved around one by one. Such mathematical aptitude has never before been shown in such young animals, so this experiment presented new evidence: that the ability to perform simple arithmetic may be present at birth in some species.

## ACTIVITY 8

Read the text and decide if the statements below (45a-50a) are True (A), False (B) or Not stated (C).

HEALTH NEWS

MARCH 17, 2017

# Exhausted, but just can't fall asleep?

*New breakthrough will help you fall asleep faster, sleep deeper and awake more refreshed.*



Sleep is the only way we can recharge our brain and restore important neurotransmitters. Sleep is also the time when the body does most of its repair work including rebuilding and restoring muscle tissue. This is because growth hormones are secreted during sleep, which is essential to rebuilding tissues.

### Consequences of too little sleep

There is a growing body of evidence indicating that chronic sleep deprivation increases risk of early death. In addition, one of the fastest growing areas of research is the link between chronic sleep deprivation and the risk of

becoming overweight. Lack of sleep and obesity seem to be linked to one another. Actually, sleep deprivation can lead to:

- Greater risk of heart disease
- Increased risk of illness
- Thinking impairments, like slower reaction time, memory loss and confusion
- Poor work performance
- Mood problems like depression, anger and irritability
- Risk of unhealthy weight loss or gain

### Lack of sleep impacts 1 in 6 adults

The National Sleep Foundation polls in the USA reveal that over a six-year period only about half of adults get a good night's sleep every night. Sleep deficit is frequently related to caffeine, nicotine and alcohol. It is also related to stress, long hours at work night-shifts and working on home computers before going to bed.

### New non-prescription breakthrough

Before resorting to expensive prescription sleeping pills with potential negative side effects, try "Rest-Better". It is a natural sleeping supplement that will help you fall asleep faster, sleep deeper and awake more refreshed.

STATEMENTS		A	B	C
		TRUE	FALSE	NOT STATED
45a.	The basic aim of this text is to promote a new product.			
46a.	Sleep plays a vital role in our mental and emotional well-being.			
47a.	Sleep deficiency results in a higher than normal blood sugar level, which may increase your risk for diabetes.			
48a.	Ongoing sleep deficiency is unrelated to risk of heart disease.			
49a.	Contrary to popular belief, sleeplessness is never caused by drinking coffee late at night.			
50a.	Sleeplessness may result in an increased risk of motor vehicle collisions.			

## PART B - SHORT ANSWERS

ACTIVITY 1

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

## From an Interview with Kristen



**"I'm  
gonna  
drop it."**

Kristen says of the  
dangerous habit.

**DANGER**

Did you know that smoking causes nearly  
**one out of every five deaths**  
in the United States? That's almost 438,000  
deaths a year!

### Not to disappoint her fans

Despite the nasty consequences, Kristen Stewart started smoking to ease the stress of her everyday life. "People believe that I'm not strong (1b) \_\_\_\_\_ to quit" she tells us "and they're right." And she goes on "But I just know that I am, and I will prove it to my fans who are worried (2b) \_\_\_\_\_ me."

### Under pressure

Hollywood is one big competition and growing up in the movie business was (3b) \_\_\_\_\_ easy for Kristen. "Every time someone else gets a role that you really want, it is so very hard to accept" she tells us.

### Second-hand smoke

When Kristen got the role she wanted more (4b) \_\_\_\_\_ anything, she had a different kind of pressure. Wanting to be perfect for the role. Besides, she was around people who smoke – other actors, crew members, and more. She was literally living and breathing smoke!

### Time to quit!

"I'm going to stop, and that's all there is to it," she told us. "I know now that I'm not only hurting myself, but those who are (5b) \_\_\_\_\_ me."



## ACTIVITY 2

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

?

HOWSTUFFWORKS

# SCIENCE

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SEARCH

# WORK ROBOTS

BY TOM HARRIS   SCIENCE | ROBOTICS

It's one thing to create robots that perform repetitive unchanging tasks, such as assembling cars. It's another to build a robot that can interact with people in the workplace. If robots are to work alongside us, they'll have to seem empathetic, fit in the same places, move in familiar ways. But to (6b) \_\_\_\_\_ these capabilities together, in a single robot, and to give that robot the (7b) \_\_\_\_\_ to recognize and adapt to various social situations is perhaps the greatest design challenge of all.



## School teacher

**Name:** Saya

**BACKGROUND:** Electrical engineer Hiroshi Kobayashi of the Tokyo University of Science originally developed a prototype of Saya in 1993, in an (8b) \_\_\_\_\_ to use facial expressions, to allow robots to communicate emotions. Now the robot can teach a class at a Tokyo elementary school, answer phones and greet visitors in an office.

**CAPABILITIES:** Saya behaves like a real school teacher. In experiments at elementary schools. She gives children homework, observes and responds to their speech and behaviour, (9b) \_\_\_\_\_ their names, and makes eye contact with them. When prompted by an operator, the robot encourages or warns them verbally or through its lively facial expressions. Saya can also use speech recognition and speech-synthesis systems to function as a receptionist. The robot speaks Japanese and English and could learn to speak more languages with voice-synthesis hardware. Today, Saya can (10b) \_\_\_\_\_ surprise, fear, disgust, anger, happiness, and sadness. Her creators hope that they can make her face more life-like and her expressions more realistic using new mechanisms to move the muscles and new skin materials.

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