



GRADE TEN — GENERAL EDUCATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXAM for ABSENTEES (APPROVED CASES)
SEMESTER ONE — 2007/ 2008

TIME: 2½ hours

TOTAL MARKS: 60

PAGES: 5

LISTENING 1 (Items 1 – 4)

You will hear a conversation between Salim and his mother. Listen, and for each item, choose the correct option: **A, B, or C.**

- Salim’s project is about _____.
A. a palace B. a city C. an island
- The project must be ready _____.
A. at the end of this week B. by next week C. tomorrow
- He shows his mother a photo of _____.
A. some old statues B. a famous archaeologist C. a wooden building
- He got the photo from _____.
A. the Internet B. a friend C. the school library

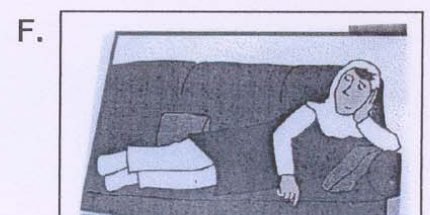
LISTENING 2 (Items 5 – 8)

You will hear a tourist talking about visiting Britain. Listen, and for each question, write a short answer (**ONE or TWO WORDS only**).

- Which place in Britain does she like **least**? _____
- When did she go to Stirling? In _____ (year)
- When was Stirling Castle built? _____ years ago
- What did she **not** like in Stirling? _____

LISTENING 3 (Items 9 – 11)

You will hear three people talking about their friends. Who are they talking about? Listen and number the pictures: **1, 2, 3.** (There are three extra pictures.)



Write your answers on your answer paper.

VOCABULARY 1 (Items 1 – 5)

Complete the text. Use five of the words in the box. Write ONE word in each space.
(There are three extra words in the box.)

covered	irrigated	invited	moved
painted	planted	sprayed	touched

When we (1) _____ into our new house, we could see that there was lot of work to do. First, we (2) _____ some flowers and bushes in the garden. Then we (3) _____ the area with insecticide to kill any mosquitoes. After that we (4) _____ the living-room walls yellow and white. Finally, when everything was ready, we (5) _____ all our friends to come for a big 'house-warming' party.

VOCABULARY 2 (Items 6 – 10)

Match the definitions with the words in the box. Write **A, B, C**, etc, as in the example.
(There are five extra words in the box.)

Example: A round object used in many sports. F

- 6. A piece of furniture used for storing food, clothes, etc. _____
- 7. A metal container used for boiling water _____
- 8. A small thin piece of metal used for sewing _____
- 9. A large piece of cloth used for drying yourself _____
- 10. Something which is used for fighting or killing people _____

A	scissors
B	cupboard
C	towel
D	needle
E	bowl
F	ball
G	jar
H	weapon
I	kettle
J	rubbish bin
K	roof

VOCABULARY 3 (Items 11 – 15)

Complete the unfinished word in each sentence/ short text.
You are given the first letter(s) of each word. Make sure you spell the word correctly.

- 11. "I can't get in. The door's locked and I don't have the **k**_____."
- 12. "My hotel has got a beautiful new swimming **p**_____."
- 13. "The post office? It's not **f**_____ from here — only two minutes' walk."
- 14. "You're getting fat. How much do you **w**_____ now?" — "Just over 50 kilos."
- 15. "If you want to hang up that picture, you'll have to **dr**_____ a hole in the wall."

GRAMMAR 1 (Items 1 – 5)

Complete the text/dialogue. Use five of the words in the box.

Write ONE word in each space. (There are three extra words in the box.)

a	live	lived	most	the	to	year	years
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My father is (1) _____ businessman, and when I was a child we (2) _____ in Hong Kong. We stayed there for five (3) _____, and I shall never forget it. For me, it was (4) _____ happiest time in my whole life. But in 1990, my father decided (5) _____ leave and go to live in Australia. I was so unhappy.

GRAMMAR 2 (Items 6 – 10)

Complete each sentence. Choose the correct option: **A, B, C** or **D**.

6. She's a very quiet girl. She _____ say much.
A. don't B. doesn't C. wasn't D. isn't
7. Living in the Dubai is more expensive _____ living in Oman.
A. if B. as C. to D. than
8. We don't have enough money _____ buy a computer.
A. to B. and C. for D. after
9. The next holiday will be _____ May.
A. at B. on C. last D. in
10. When it rains, you must _____ very carefully.
A. driving B. drive C. to drive D. driver

GRAMMAR 3 (Items 11 – 15)

Complete the dialogue. In each space, write **ONE WORD** only.

Speaker A: Hi, Muna! (11) _____ you go out yesterday?

Speaker B: No, I (12) _____ ill.

Speaker A: Oh, I'm sorry (13) _____ hear that. Did you take (14) _____ medicine?

Speaker B: No, I didn't. I just stayed (15) _____ bed and rested. I'm fine now.

Write your answers on your answer paper.

READING 1 (Items 1 – 5)

Match the five texts on the left with the texts in the box.

Write **A, B, C**, etc, as in the example. (There are two extra texts in the box.)

Ex. *It's a really beautiful place.* F

- 1. Dr Mehdi is an expert on tropical rainforests. _____
- 2. Our farm produces melons, apples and mangoes. _____
- 3. Looking after young children is never easy. _____
- 4. When we arrived at the airport, it was snowing. _____
- 5. I don't understand why my friends watch so much football on television. _____

- A That's why our flight to New York was late.
- B I bought my father a gold watch for his birthday.
- C It's much better to play a sport than to spend all your time watching it.
- D Tonight he'll give a presentation about the dangers of over-logging.
- E Salma went to the market and bought some fruit for the picnic.
- F ~~Every year, thousands of tourists go there for their holidays.~~
- G However, next year, we want to start growing some new crops.
- H For example, you have to be very careful to protect them against dangerous diseases.

READING 2 (Items 6 – 10)

Read the text, and then complete the task on page 5.

Charles Lindbergh is one of the most famous pilots who have ever lived. In 1927, when he was just twenty-five years old, he became the first man to fly across the Atlantic Ocean alone. He arrived in Paris on 21 May after a 34-hour flight from New York. One hundred thousand people were at the airport to welcome him.

Lindbergh was born in a small town in the United States. He was not a very good student, and after leaving school, he helped his father on the family farm. But he also discovered a new exciting hobby — flying. His first flight was in 1920 when he was only eighteen years old, and he soon became an excellent pilot.

After his amazing flight across the Atlantic, Lindbergh became world-famous and very rich, even though he stopped flying. He also got to know many other famous people in the United States. But being a celebrity did not make him happy. So he decided to move to Europe to start a new life.

In 1953, he told the story of his life in an auto-biography called "The Spirit of St Louis" — the name of the plane in which he had crossed the Atlantic. Later, he wrote a second book, which was about the need to stop pollution and to protect endangered species. Until his death in 1974, he continued to fight for this cause.

READING 2 (cont'd)

For each item, choose the correct option: **A, B** or **C**.

6. Charles Lindbergh was born in _____.
- A. in 1897 B. 1902 C. 1920
7. He became famous after flying _____.
- A. around the world B. from France to the USA C. from America to Europe
8. His father was _____.
- A. a poor farmer B. a rich businessman C. an excellent pilot
9. During his life, he wrote _____.
- A. one book B. two books C. many books
10. In the later part of his life, he was interested in _____.
- A. the environment B. flying C. meeting famous people

WRITING 1

Write a PARAGRAPH about a woman called **Salma**. Use ALL the information in the box. Your paragraph should be correct and well-organised.

Salma	
study/ English/ Sultan Qaboos University	married/ 1995
born/ Nizwa/ 1974	husband/ engineer
parents/ both teachers	☺ reading/ gardening
2 sons/ 1 daughter	work/ bank/ Muscat

WRITING 2

Imagine you are Fahad/Farah. Your pen friend in Britain has written this letter to you:

Dear Fahad/ Farah,
I heard from your brother that you were ill. What happened? Did you have to go into hospital? Are you OK now?
Please write as soon as you can. Paul/ Paula

Answer Paul/Paula's letter. Write at least 75 words. Your letter should be friendly and interesting. Do not write an address.

Write your answers on your answer paper.
