



**CERTIFICATE for GENERAL EDUCATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
SEMESTER ONE – SECOND SESSION**

TIME: 3 hours

This paper has 8 pages.

TOTAL MARKS: 70

LISTENING: *You will hear each text three times. The first time, only listen; the second time write; the third time check your work. When the tape finishes, write your answers on your answer paper.*

LISTENING 1 (Items 1 – 6)

You will hear a conversation between two people. Listen, and for each item, choose the correct option: A, B or C.

1. Ameera is calling to ask for _____.
A. money B. advice C. information
2. Her son is _____ years old.
A. four B. six C. eight
3. Recently, he has become very _____.
A. unhealthy B. unpleasant C. unhappy
4. He watches television with his _____.
A. parents B. friends C. grandmother
5. Ameera's mother-in-law is _____.
A. easy-going B. quick-tempered C. honest
6. At the end, Ameera decides to talk to her _____.
A. husband B. mother-in-law C. father-in-law

LISTENING 2 (Items 7 – 11)

*You will hear a man talking about something that happened when he was on holiday. Listen, and for each question, write a short answer (not more than **THREE WORDS**).*

7. What country was he in? _____
8. Where did he want to go? _____
9. What mistake did he make? *He took* _____
10. Because of this mistake, where did he actually go? _____
11. How long did he stay there? _____

Write your answers on your answer paper.

LISTENING 3 (Items 12 – 15)

You will hear four news items. *What are they about?* For each speaker, choose ONE of the items in the box. Write **A, B, C**, etc, as in the example.

Example: "A report published today says that there are now more than 16,000 endangered species." F

TOPICS

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| A | business |
| B | sport |
| C | health |
| D | crime |
| E | education |
| F | environment |
| G | science & technology |

12. (1) _____

13. (2) _____

14. (3) _____

15. (4) _____

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.)

called	caused	dreamed	invented
pretended	published	spent	won

Sarah always **(1)** _____ of becoming a writer. She had lots of ideas, so she thought it would be easy. But, in fact, she **(2)** _____ more than five years writing her first book, a collection of short stories **(3)** _____ 'Discoveries'. It was **(4)** _____ in February 1976, and later in the same year she **(5)** _____ the Pullman Prize as 'Best New Writer'.

Write your answers on your answer paper.

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: The end of someone's life.

 F

6. Not having enough to eat _____
7. Very bad weather, with strong winds and heavy rain _____
8. A serious accident in a vehicle, for example, a car or a plane _____
9. An illness that affects people, animals or plants _____
10. A large amount of water covering an area that is usually dry _____

A	crash
B	murder
C	storm
D	war
E	floods
F	death
G	hunger
H	earthquake
I	explosion
J	disease
K	fire

VOCABULARY 3 (Items 11 – 15)

Complete the unfinished word in each sentence.
You are given the first letter(s) of each word. Write the whole word
in your Answer Book. Make sure you spell the word correctly.

Example: Your hands are d irty . Go and wash them!

11. "We spent two hours on the lake, but we didn't **ca** _____ any fish."
12. "**Hu** _____ up, or we'll be late for the opening ceremony!"
13. "When you travel by car, you should always use your seat **b** _____."
14. "We've had a long period of hot, **d** _____ weather. It hasn't rained for weeks."
15. "My hotel room was near the main road. The noise of the **tr** _____ kept me awake all night."

Write your answers on your answer paper.

GRAMMAR 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.)

an	and	but	since	stories	story	the	to
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Omar has been a friend of mine **(1)** _____ we met at university. He's got **(2)** _____ amazing sense of humour. If I'm feeling depressed, he's always able to make me laugh with his funny **(3)** _____. He can copy people's voices, too. One day, my boss phoned me and told me **(4)** _____ report to his office immediately, **(5)** _____ it wasn't my boss — it was Omar! I could've killed him!

GRAMMAR 2 (Items 6 – 10)

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

6. I _____ to smoke, but I stopped last year.
A. use B. used C. didn't D. don't
7. Ahmed _____ the main road when the car hit him.
A. was crossing B. cross C. crossed D. crossing
8. Take a taxi. It's _____ than going by bus.
A. quick B. quicker C. more quickly D. quickest
9. I _____ any e-mails yesterday.
A. haven't sent B. won't send C. don't send D. didn't send
10. I'm not really interested _____ computers.
A. with B. on C. in D. for

GRAMMAR 3 (Items 11 – 15)

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

Speaker A: "I'm sorry I'm late. How long **(11)** _____ you been here?"

Speaker B: "Oh, not long. I only got here ten minutes **(12)** _____."

Speaker A: "Good. What would you like **(13)** _____ drink? Coffee?"

Speaker B: "No, I think I'll have a cup **(14)** _____ tea."

Speaker A: "**(15)** _____ you sure? The coffee here is excellent!"

Write your answers on your answer paper.

READING 1 (Items 1 – 6)

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

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

Ex. It's a really beautiful place. F

1. We wanted to have our class picnic on 14 April. _____
2. Researchers in France think they have discovered a new cure for flu. _____
3. Since she bought her new computer, Salma spends all her time on the Internet. _____
4. We would like to apologise for the delay in the departure of Flight TA 522. _____
5. People had warned me about the dangerous snakes in the river. _____
6. In the USA, it's easier for teenagers to get a driving license than it is in other countries. _____

- A However, they say that more tests will be needed before it can be sold in pharmacies.
- B So, when I fell out of the boat, I was really frightened. Luckily my friends quickly pulled me out of the water.
- C However, passengers should remain seated. The plane will be ready for take-off in twenty minutes' time.
- D In some states, for example, you can apply for one even if you're only fifteen.
- E However, we had to change the date, because the school bus was not available.
- F ~~Every year, thousands of tourists go there for their holidays.~~
- G Doctors are becoming more and more worried about the number of schoolchildren who are overweight.
- H I'm very worried about her. It's very unhealthy sitting in her room all day. I think she should go out more often.
- I I must go to the airport now. It's already nine o'clock and I don't want to miss my plane.
- J Scientists are meeting in Paris today to discuss ways of saving endangered species.

Write your answers on your answer paper.

READING 2 (Items 7 – 12)

Read each text. Then, write **ONE WORD only** to complete the answer.

My telephone bill was much higher than I expected, so I decided to ask my brother and sister to lend me some money. She agreed, but he didn't.

7. The writer's _____ helped him.

Charles Smythe was shot in 1990, but it was not until 1995 that the police were able to discover who the murderer actually was. Unfortunately, it was already too late. He had died two years earlier in a road accident!

8. The murderer died in _____. (year)

Dear Maryam, Many thanks for your kind invitation. Unfortunately, Monday is difficult for me because I'll be in the middle of our annual conference. But that finishes on Wednesday, so I could come and see you on Thursday morning. Would that be OK?

9. Maryam has invited the writer to visit her on _____. (day)

When I was traveling in East Asia, I was often invited to restaurants which served the strangest food. In Korea, I was offered dog meat, but I politely refused. Then, when I was in China, I enjoyed an excellent soup, and when I asked, my host told me that the main ingredient came from a cat!

10. The writer ate _____ meat. (What animal?)

It's been an excellent year for us. The new crops we planted have done extremely well, and our animals have all been healthy, too, with none of the diseases that hit us so badly last year. The market price of wheat has also been steadily increasing.

11. What is the writer's job? _____

One of the most beautiful pieces of furniture in the French royal palace is a rosewood '*ecritoire*' in the king's study. This was where he used to write all his letters. In fact, on the top, you can still see the black marks where he spilt some ink!

12. An '*ecritoire*' is a kind of _____.

Write your answers on your answer paper.

READING 3 (Items 13 – 20)

Read the text. Then, for each item, choose the correct option: **A, B or C.**

Foreigners usually think that English is the only language in the UK, but in fact there are *other* languages, and one of them is Welsh, which is spoken by three-quarters of a million people. If you visit Wales, people will speak to you in English, of course, but you will also hear Welsh people speaking to each other in their own language, especially if you go to the north, where Welsh is most widely spoken.

However, not long ago, Welsh was in serious danger of extinction. In the 1970's, the number of Welsh speakers had fallen to less than five hundred thousand, which was only 15% of the population. Some believed that English was all they needed for the modern world, but fortunately there were others who loved their own language and culture and fought hard to save it. Because of their efforts, the government took action, especially in education. Anyone who applies for a teaching job in Wales has to pass a Welsh language exam. Welsh is now taught to all children up to the age of sixteen, and in some primary schools other subjects are also taught using Welsh. This is very different from the old days. In the 19th century, students were actually punished if they ever said a Welsh word.

So the number of Welsh speakers is rising again. Of the three million people living in Wales, 25% now say they use the language every day. In fact, you can see the Welsh language everywhere. All road signs and official documents are written in both English and Welsh. Since 1977 there has been a Welsh language radio station and since 1982 a Welsh TV channel, and soon Wales will have its first-ever national daily newspaper. This will appear in March 2008 and will be called 'Y Byd', which means 'The World'.

For those of you who are interested in learning Welsh, there are some very useful websites, such as www.bbc.co.uk/wales/learnwelsh. But don't expect it to be easy. The pronunciation isn't too difficult and you'll recognize quite a lot of words from English, but the grammar is completely different. For example, most sentences begin with a verb!

13. _____ people in the UK can speak Welsh.
A. 500,000 B. 750,000 C. 3,000,000
14. Most Welsh speakers live in the _____ of the country.
A. south B. west C. north
15. Welsh used to be an endangered language because _____.
A. people thought English was more useful B. it is very difficult to learn C. Welsh people are not proud of their country
16. Welsh is now studied by all children until they are _____ years old.
A. 10 B. 16 C. 18
17. The **first** media to be available in Welsh was _____.
A. radio B. television C. newspapers
18. The writer suggests learning Welsh _____.
A. on the Internet B. at a language school C. from a friend
19. The biggest difference between Welsh and English is in the _____.
A. pronunciation B. grammar C. vocabulary
20. The writer is _____ the survival of the Welsh language.
A. optimistic about B. not interested in C. pessimistic about

WRITING 1

Describe and comment on the picture. Write 20 – 30 words.



WRITING 2

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

Ayuthaya

many tourists	palaces/ temples/ canals
ruined city	King of Thailand
built/ 14 th century	beautiful bronze statues
1767/ destroyed/ Burmese army	old capital city/ Thailand
50 kms/ north/ Bangkok	train/bus/one hour

WRITING 3

Write at least 100 words on the following topic:

**"Smoking should not be allowed in restaurants,
shopping centres, and other public places."**
— Do you agree? Yes or No? Give your reasons.

Your writing should be clear and interesting.

Write your answers on your answer paper.