

**CERTIFICATE for GENERAL EDUCATION  
ELECTIVE ENGLISH  
SEMESTER TWO — SECOND SESSION**

TIME: 3 hours

TOTAL MARKS: 70

This paper has 3 pages

**READING 1 (Items 1 – 6)**

Read this text, and then for each question, write a short answer (**not more than FIVE WORDS**).

I knew it was going to be a bad day when, on the way to the airport, the taxi driver took a wrong turning and got lost. He had to stop three times to ask the way.

I had booked my flight over the phone, so when we finally arrived at the airport, I hurried to the reservation desk to pay for my ticket. However, the woman at the desk told me that my name wasn't on the passenger list. It took her ten minutes to realize that she had spelt my name wrong! After correcting this mistake, she was finally able to give me my ticket. Then she had the nerve to tell me that I'd better check-in my luggage quickly or I would miss my flight! As it was, I was the last person to get on the plane.

I found my seat and discovered that it was next to a small boy who had a bad cold and kept sneezing all the time! I sat down and wondered if anything else could go wrong. I must admit, I hate flying and always get very nervous, especially during take-off, but the plane rose smoothly into the air and everything seemed to be OK. Then, suddenly, there was a loud noise and everything started to shake. I looked out of the window and saw smoke coming from the wing! All I could think was: "The engine's on fire! We're going to crash! I'm too young to die!"

However, the captain spoke to us calmly and informed us that there was 'a small problem' with one of the engines and that we needed to return to the airport. I was terrified, but the crew were fantastic. They moved around the cabin, smiling and telling us all not to worry. A few minutes later, the pilot made a perfect landing on the runway. It was over. We were safe!

I took a taxi home, and when I closed the front door, I looked down at my suitcase — but it wasn't *my* suitcase; it was somebody else's! Somehow, I had picked up the wrong one! That day, I decided never to fly again...

1. What mistake did the taxi driver make? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What mistake did the woman at the reservation desk make? \_\_\_\_\_
3. On the plane, what was wrong with the person sitting next to the writer? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What did the writer see that frightened her? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What did the pilot decide to do? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What mistake did the writer make at the end? \_\_\_\_\_

**READING 2 (Items 7 – 10)**

Read each text. Then, for the numbered statement, write 'True' or 'False'.

As soon as she saw the official-looking envelope, she knew that something was wrong. With shaking hands, she tore it open. The first words she saw were: "Dear Mrs Henshaw, we are sorry to inform you ..."

7. The letter contains bad news. \_\_\_\_\_

The new film, "Nightmare", is about a family whose car breaks down on a lonely road. They find an empty house where they can spend the night. They do not realize that they are in great danger — in the basement, a madman with a long knife is waiting...

8. "Nightmare" is a horror movie. \_\_\_\_\_

The Hamilton Sports Centre is in a pleasant location, has excellent facilities and its staff are friendly and very professional. However, unfortunately, the membership fees are far too high for most of our staff.

9. The writer recommends that his company should use the centre. \_\_\_\_\_

For people like me who live in Brookside, the annual festival is a complete nuisance. The streets are full of noisy crowds and it's impossible to get a parking space. The only people I know who welcome all this are a few businessmen who make a huge amount of money!

10. The festival is popular with most local people. \_\_\_\_\_

**WRITING 1**

You are a reporter for a newspaper. Your editor has asked you to write a **NEWS REPORT** about the discovery of a new species.

In your report, use ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be clear, formal and well-organised. Include a **Headline**, an **Introduction**, a **Main Body** and a **Conclusion**. Do not write your name.

\*blue and white body/long tail

\*new species/ bird

\*team/ German scientists

\*believe/ many more species/ not yet found

\*discovered/ three weeks ago

\*forest/ hills/ south-west/ country

\*main food/ insects

\*Uganda/ East Africa

\*new species/ no name yet

\*press conference/ announced/ yesterday

**Write your answers on your answer paper.**

**WRITING 2**

*Complete the following task. Write at least 75 words.*

Situation: Imagine that your friend Nasr/ Nasra has written a letter to you. He/She has a problem. He/ She wrote: "I feel unhappy and depressed all the time, but I don't know why."

Write a **letter** to Nasr/ Nasra. Give him/her advice about what he/she should do.

*Your letter should be friendly and helpful. Do not write your address.*

**WRITING 3**

*Write at least 100 words on the following topic:*

**"In some countries, teenagers have part-time jobs while they are still students.  
Do you think this is a good idea?"**

— Answer the question. Give your reasons.

*Your writing should be clear, lively and interesting.*

***Write your answers on your answer paper.***