PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

You will hear a text about the education in developing countries twice. Before you listen to it, you have 1 minute to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 5 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.

1. Classes in the village school in Kenya begin at noon.
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

2. All teachers in Kenya are under twenty.
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

3. Research shows that in some countries teachers are frequently absent.
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

4. Simply spending time in school does not guarantee good results.
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

5. Some experts think that education in private schools in poor countries is worse than in government-run schools.
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

Directions: You will hear a story about count Dracula twice. Before you listen to it, you have 1 minute to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text you have 5 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.

6. The narrator was very pleased to see the approaching cart.
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

7. The cart was drawn by eight horses.
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

8. The narrator was one of the people who stopped the cart carrying the box.
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text
9. The box fell on the ground by pure accident.
A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

10. Dracula looked triumphant because the night was about to fall.
A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

Directions: You will hear a story about an experience in a lift twice. Before you listen to it, you have 2 minutes to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 5 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, C or D. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.

11. The narrator ____ in an office block with a glass lift.
A) used to live  B) worked  C) went to a business meeting  D) was a doorman

12. The office block
A) had at least 10 floors.  B) was an old building in the city centre.  C) was the only one with a glass lift.  D) had no doorman after office hours.

13. The lift stopped
A) because of an electricity cut in the area.  B) for it wasn’t properly constructed.  C) as it was overloaded.  D) for no obvious reason.

14. Which is NOT among the things that the narrator tried in order to get free from the lift?

15. The narrator was freed from her glass prison
A) just a couple of minutes after the lift stopped.  B) before she got nervous and desperate.  C) only after she put in action her improvised rescue plan.  D) as soon as the electricity in the building was restored.

PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

Directions: Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among A, B or C, marking your answers on your answer sheet.
Henry Parkinson is probably the luckiest person I know. I normally envy very few of my friends’ jobs because I am happy with what I do, but Henry is one of those rare people whose job I would really like to have myself. Henry, who, unlike me, has always been interested in both science and animals, was studying to be a vet. In fact this is how I came to know him – we were at university at the same time and we shared the same room at college for a while.

When he graduated, he went to London, where he opened a small surgery and looked after domestic animals such as cats and dogs. He always said that he would not stay in a job like that for long because he didn’t find it satisfying. So, we were not very surprised when he gave up that job and went to work at London Zoo. He stayed there for two years, and in the evenings he studied because he wanted to get a higher degree. When he passed all his exams, he applied for a job in a game reserve in Africa. He got the job, and is now responsible for a large number of animals. He is also in charge of a special programme to protect species in danger of extinction.

The other day I got a letter from Henry asking me if I’d like to go out and see him for a holiday. I’ve never been to Kenya, and nor has my wife, so I wrote to say that we would love to go. We’ll be going out there at the end of August.

16. **Although the writer likes what he does, he often feels envious of his friends’ jobs.**
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

17. **Both Henry and the writer were interested in science and animals.**
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

18. **Henry had two other jobs before he went to work in Kenya.**
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

19. **Henry got the job in the game reserve only because he had already obtained a higher degree.**
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

20. **The writer is going to visit his friend in Africa alone.**
   A) True  B) False  C) No information in the text

**Directions:** Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among A, B, C or D, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

Many reasons have been given for the phenomenal popularity of J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter books. For the majority of critics, it is the narrator’s magical mix of narrative tricks; for others, she has simply captured the mood of the moment. Yet few acknowledge her gift for language. For translators, who have contributed to the international success of the Harry Potter series, the books represent a major challenge, as J.K. Rowling creates a magic world with names for people, places and spells, and even a new sport, Quidditch. Like many common English surnames (such as Smith, Wright, Cooper and Taylor), Potter was originally a trade name. The fact that a potter is a “maker of pots” suggests that Harry is rather creative. Hermione’s sophisticated name instantly tells us that she is upper class. Dudley Dursley sounds dull, unpleasant and middle class. Draco Malfoy, by contrast, is
the perfect name for a villain. Draco is Latin for dragon or snake, and Malfoy comes from the old French for bad faith. His friends sound suitably evil: Crabbe sounds like a crab, while Goyle sounds like gargoyle, the grotesque face on a medieval cathedral. Voldemort’s name is the most sinister of all, suggesting desire for death. Rowling also uses nonsense words to shape our expectations of characters. Snape is not a real word, but it sounds harsh and cruel. Many words beginning with “sn-” have a negative meaning: snake and snare, snoop and snarl, snip and snap. By contrast, Quirrell sounds timid and uncertain: like a squirrel. The name for a non-wizard, muggle, sounds like a cross between muddled and mug. A mug is not only for drinking, it is also slang for an ignorant person who is easily tricked. When Draco wants to insult a halfblood, he calls them mudbloods. This word conveys the snobbery, even racism, against magicians with Muggle parents.

21. According to most critics, J.K. Rowling’s success is due to
A) her story-telling skills.
B) her simple writing style.
C) translations into other languages.
D) the names of her characters.

22. The major difficulty in translating J.K. Rowling’s books lies in
A) the sports terms she uses.
B) the names she invents.
C) the author’s spelling.
D) All of the above.

23. According to the text, the name “Potter”
A) shows relation to trading.
B) comes from a company name.
C) implies some creativity.
D) points to noble origin.

24. Hermione is upper class because her name sounds
A) foreign.
B) playful.
C) self-important.
D) refined.

25. J.K. Rowling creates expectations about her characters by
A) using names related to slang.
B) creating nonsensical names.
C) coining meaningful names.
D) including foreign names.

Directions: Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among A, B, C or D, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

Raymond Chandler was born in Chicago in 1888, but moved to England with his Irish-born mother, after they had been abandoned by his alcoholic father, when he was twelve. He went
to school in London, and later worked as a newspaper reporter and book reviewer. For a while he even tried writing romantic poetry, but was not very successful at it. Later, remembering about those years of his life he said, ‘I was distinctly not a very clever young man. Nor was I at all a happy young man.’

In 1912 he borrowed some money from his rich uncle and returned with his mother to America, settling in California. After World War I, during which he was in the Canadian army, he did a number of different trivial jobs, and then worked for an oil company. In 1924, despite his mother’s disapproval, Raymond Chandler married Cissy Pascal, who was eighteen years older than him.

Raymond Chandler was a self-taught pulp fiction writer and he didn’t begin writing until 1933. His first novel, ‘The Big Sleep’ appeared in 1939 and it was an immediate success. Later novels included ‘Farewell, My Lovely’ (1940), ‘The High Window’ (1942), ‘The Lady in the Lake’ (1943), and ‘The Long Goodbye’ (1953). All these have been made into successful Hollywood films – the most famous one is probably ‘The Big Sleep’, made in 1944, starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall.

Raymond Chandler is one of the great writers of crime fiction – many people would still say the greatest among modern writers in that genre and they often compare his main character to Sherlock Holmes. Chandler believed that style was just as important as the plot, and his writing has been much admired for its clever and amusing use of language. Philip Marlowe is the first-person narrator of all his novels. He is cool, tough, good-looking, always cracking jokes and never surprised by anything – a hero who stays honest in a hard, dishonest world. It was often said that Marlowe was modelled on Chandler himself. In a letter the writer once shared: ‘I see him always in a lonely street, in lonely rooms, puzzled but never quite defeated.’

26. As a young man Raymond Chandler
A) went to live in England with his parents.
B) was very well-educated and happy.
C) was a soldier for a while.
D) had several well-paid jobs.

27. Raymond Chandler’s literary success came
A) while he was reviewing his first books.
B) with his romantic poems.
C) when he was in his early fifties.
D) after ‘The Big Sleep’ was filmed.

28. Raymond Chandler’s mother
A) was of Irish origin.
B) never saw the States again.
C) agreed to her son’s marriage.
D) helped him with his literary career.

29. Which of the following statements is NOT true?
A) Raymond Chandler did a training course on fiction writing.
B) Chandler’s very first novel was quick in gaining popularity.
C) Some of Chandler’s literary works were made into successful movies.
D) All his novels have the same main character – Philip Marlowe.
30. Philip Marlowe
A) is a corrupt detective in a tough world.
B) is a loner with a sense of humour.
C) was modelled on Sherlock Holmes.
D) was once pl

PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

Section One: Cloze Test

Directions: Read the text and the sentences below and for each numbered gap choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best suits the gap, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

One day a/an (31) _______ mime visits the zoo and (32) _______ to earn some money as a street performer. As soon as he starts to (33) _______ a crowd, a zoo keeper grabs him and drags him into his office. The zoo keeper explains to the mime that the zoo's most popular (34) _______, a gorilla, has died suddenly and the keeper fears that the number of (35) _______ to the zoo will fall off.
He offers the mime a job to dress up as the gorilla until they can get another one. The mime (36) _______.
So the next morning the mime puts on the gorilla suit and enters the cage before the crowd comes. He discovers that it's a great job. He can eat all he wants, play and make fun (37) _______ people and he attracts bigger crowds than he ever did as a mime. However, eventually the crowds tire of him. He begins to notice that the people are (38) _______ more attention to the lion in the cage next to his. Not wanting to lose the attention of his audience, he climbs to the top of his cage, crawls across a partition, and swings from the top to the lion's cage. Of course, this (39) _______ the lion furious, but the crowd loves it.

31. A) vacant B) idle C) out-of-work D) unoccupied
32. A) attempts B) tests C) experiments D) probes
33. A) pick B) persuade C) influence D) draw
34. A) interest B) demonstration C) enjoyment D) attraction
35. A) presence B) appearance C) attendance D) audience
36. A) takes B) accepts C) admits D) affirms
37. A) of B) for C) at D) with
38. A) paying B) spending C) sending D) rewarding
39. A) forces B) gets C) makes D) causes
40. In the mid-1860s, a doctor named Benjamin Richardson ____________ the first aerosol to be used as a cooling anesthetic.
A) developed B) evolved C) researched D) discovered
41. In Singapore, the number of registered dogs has increased by a quarter over the past decade while the number of ________ pets has fallen by a third.
A) left B) quit C) abandoned D) outcast
42. I’m afraid we don’t have the CD you need. It’s out of ________.
A) order B) stock C) shelf D) store
43. Ann’s first painting was her ________ portrait.
A) self- B) private C) personal D) individual
44. Is it worth reading books, ________ nowadays there are so many other forms of
entertainment?
A) in B) while C) why D) since

45. You can’t tell what one is like just from one’s ________.
A) image B) appearance C) outlook D) looking

Section Two: Sentence Completion

Directions: For each of the sentences below, choose the letter A, B, C or D of the word or phrase that best completes its meaning, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

46. ___________ thought that my own sister was capable of telling nasty stories about our family.
A) Never I would have
B) I never would have
C) I would never have
D) Never would have

47. If you come back _______________ than midnight, the front gate will be locked and you’ll have to wake the doorkeeper.
A) more lately
B) more late
C) more later
D) later

48. My girlfriend is _______________ charming _______________ people always admire her wherever she goes.
A) very … but
B) so … that
C) very … for
D) too … and

49. This is the first time I _______________ for an important exam in my life.
A) sit
B) am sitting
C) have sat
D) sat

50. I have never supported the idea of school uniforms and _______________.
A) my friends haven’t, too
B) my friends haven’t, neither
C) so have my friends
D) neither have my friends

Section Three: Sentence Transformations

Directions: On your sheet for open-ended answers complete the second sentence so that it is as close as possible in meaning to the first one.

51. Andy last saw his brother 10 years ago when he left for America to seek his fortune.

Успех с курсовете за матура по английски с The Passionate Shepherd!
Andy hasn’t ________________________________________________________________.

52. It’s such a pity that you’ve got another appointment and can’t come with us to the concert.
I wish ________________________________________________________________.

Вариант 1 9

53. The witness said that she hadn’t seen that young man at the club the previous night.
“___________________________________________________________,” said the witness.

54. They are building new hotels all over the Black Sea coast.
New hotels ________________________________________________________________.

55. I wouldn’t like to be examined orally in front of the whole class.
I’d rather not ________________________________________________________________.

56. The only explanation is that the secretary forgot to send the message.
The secretary ________________________________________________________________.

57. I haven’t asked questions and I have answered no questions, either.
I have ________________________________nor__________________________________.

58. There were no casualties because the fire brigade arrived within minutes.
If the fire brigade ____________________________________________________________.

59. Witnesses said that there hadn’t been such a disastrous snowstorm for decades.
Witnesses described it as ______________________________________________________.

60. My girlfriend said she was sorry that she was half an hour late.
My girlfriend apologized ______________________________________________________.

PART FOUR: WRITING

Directions: On your sheet for open-ended answers write a composition in standard English of about 160-170 words on ONE of the following topics:

1. Tell about a surprising experience you have had at a public place (for example, at a stadium, concert hall, library etc.) over the last three or four years. Why were you there? What happened? What made it surprising? How did you feel?

2. When did you last need advice? Why did you need it? Who did you ask for it? How did she/he respond? Did you follow it? What was the result?

Mind that in case of plagiarism, identical texts or if your composition is under 80 words or totally disagreeing with the chosen topic it will get 0 points.
2. C  |  27. C  
3. A  |  28. A  
4. A  |  29. A  
5. B  |  30. B  
6. A  |  31. C  
7. C  |  32. A  
8. A  |  33. D  
9. B  |  34. D  
10. A |  35. C  
12. A |  37. A  
13. D |  38. A  
15. C |  40. A  
16. B |  41. C  
17. B |  42. B  
18. A |  43. A  
19. C |  44. D  
20. B |  45. B  
21. A |  46. C  
22. B |  47. D  
24. D |  49. C  
25. C |  50. D  

51. Andy hasn’t *seen his brother for ten years, after he left for America to seek his fortune / since he left for America to seek his fortune 10 years ago.*

52. I wish you didn’t have another appointment so (that) you / and could come with us to the concert.

53. “I *didn’t see this young man at the club last night,*” said the witness.

54. New hotels *are being built all over the Black Sea coast.*

55. I’d rather not *be examined orally in front of the whole class.*

56. The secretary *must have forgotten / most probably forgot to send the message.*

57. I have *neither asked (questions) nor answered any questions/ any.*

58. If the fire brigade hadn’t arrived within minutes/ later, there would / might / could have been *some casualties.*

59. Witnesses described it *the most disastrous snowstorm (there had been / they had seen) for decades.*

60. My girlfriend apologised *for being half an hour late.*
TRANSCRIPTS: LISTENING

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Dawn has just broken but classes have already started at a village school in Kenya. Around 30 children, mostly from poor families, sit listening as an enthusiastic 18-year-old teacher gives an arithmetic lesson. The school is really little more than a sandy patch of ground under a tree. The blackboard hangs from its branches. There are no desks or chairs. Pupils use sticks to scratch numbers in the sand.

The lack of basic school equipment is typical of schools in poor countries. What is unusual is that the teacher was actually present and teaching.

In India, for example, research reveals that 25% of teachers in government-run schools are away on any given day; of those present, only half were actually teaching when the researchers made spot checks. That is dreadful but not unusual.

Attending school is only the first step towards education. Spending time in school does not guarantee good outcomes.

So what to do? More government spending is unlikely to be a complete answer. Some experts say private-sector education in poor countries routinely outperforms education in government-run schools.

COUNT DRACULA

We travelled all day until we saw the outline of Castle Dracula in the distance. There it sat, on the edge of a steep rock, a thousand feet on top of a hill. We heard wolves howling across the snow. The river lay below us.

Suddenly, straight in front of us we saw it – a cart carrying an enormous wooden box, rushing towards Castle Dracula. My heart leapt with joy.

But the snow began to fall more thickly around us, blotting everything from sight. We waited. Later, the wind changed direction and started to blow the snow away from us. Now we could see the cart, coming closer and closer. We hid behind a rock and had our guns ready.

When the cart almost reached us, I heard my husband Jonathan shouting, “Stop!”

At the same time Professor Van Helsing and I pointed our weapons at the men on the cart. Seeing that they were surrounded, they stopped the horses and formed a circle.

Jonathan reached the circle first and forced his way through. He jumped onto the cart.

With a strength I did not know he possessed, my dear husband pushed the box onto the ground. Then he jumped from the cart and attacked the box with his knife.

Finally the lid of the box flew open and we could see Count Dracula lying there, deathly pale like a wax figure. His red eyes glared with the evil look I knew so well. As he looked at the setting sun, that look turned to one of triumph. We had to hurry.

AN EXPERIENCE IN A LIFT

Some years ago I used to work on the tenth floor of an office block in the city centre. It was one of several new buildings with a glass lift on the outside. People in the street could look up and see the lift going up and down, whereas those in the lift were able to look out at the view.

On Friday evening I was the last one to leave the office. I set the security alarm on and
walked out, locking the doors behind me. There seemed to be no one else in any of the other offices. I pressed the lift button, got into the lift and started to descend. Suddenly, the lift stopped and the lights went out. A power cut, I thought, but then I saw that the street below was still brightly illuminated and there was electricity in all the buildings across the street too. I could only hope that Mr. Jenkins, the night doorman would soon realize the problem and come to rescue me. At first, I did nothing and just waited quietly in the dark, but as time went by, I got nervous. About half an hour must have passed and there was still absolute silence. In the dark I couldn’t make out any of the buttons in the lift. In desperation I pushed my hands deep into my pockets and my fingers touched a packet of matches that I had picked up in a restaurant earlier that day. I lit a match and peered at the panel with the lift buttons. The alarm button was right at the top – somehow I had never noticed it before. I pushed it but no sound was heard. Neither did it stir any activity outside. Then an idea crossed my mind and I started lighting the matches one by one and waving them near the glass walls of the lift. Finally, I managed to attract someone’s attention in the street below, and a few moments later I was freed from my glass prison. I never used that lift again.