



SUBJECT: **English Language**  
PAPER NUMBER: I – Part 1 – a) Listening Comprehension  
DATE: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**SESSION 1**

**EXAMINER'S PAPER**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO EXAMINERS**

**Preparation before the session:**

- Familiarise yourself with the texts before reading them aloud and take note of the punctuation in order to make the texts sound as natural as possible.
- Check the footnotes for the pronunciation of certain words.

**Procedure during the session:**

- (1) Tell the candidates:  
You are going to listen to **TWO** passages and answer questions on both of them on the sheet provided.  
You may answer the questions at any time during the session.  
First, you have **THREE** minutes to read the questions on Text A.  
Give the candidates three minutes to read the questions on Text A.  
Read Text A.
- (2) Tell the candidates:  
You have **THREE** minutes to continue working on the questions.  
Give the candidates three minutes to continue working on the questions.  
Read Text A for the second and last time.
- (3) Tell the candidates:  
You have **THREE** minutes to complete your answers.  
Give the candidates three minutes to complete their answers.
- (4) Tell the candidates:  
The **THREE** minutes are up. Kindly turn the page.  
You now have **THREE** minutes to read the questions on Text B.  
Give the candidates three minutes to read the questions on Text B.  
Read Text B.
- (5) Tell the candidates:  
You have **THREE** minutes to continue working on the questions.  
Give the candidates three minutes to continue working on the questions.  
Read Text B for the second and last time.
- (6) Tell the candidates:  
You have **THREE** minutes to complete your answers.  
Give the candidates three minutes to complete their answers.

The examiner reads out the following:

### Text A

**You are going to listen to a podcast called Famous British Bands.**

**Hannah Jenson:** This is Hannah Jenson, welcoming you to the introductory episode in the series, Famous British Bands. Joining me today is Tom Wilson, an expert on the famous rock band, The Beatles.

**Tom Wilson:** Hello, Hannah.

**Hannah Jenson:** Well Tom, I know that you happen to be a great fan of The Beatles. What can you tell us about this famous band?

**Tom Wilson:** To begin with, Hannah, The Beatles were an English rock band, formed in 1960, comprising John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr. As pioneers in recording, song-writing and artistic presentation, The Beatles revolutionised many aspects of the music industry.

Led by primary songwriters John Lennon and Paul McCartney, The Beatles were a spin-off from The Quarrymen, a group previously formed by John Lennon. They built their reputation playing in clubs in Liverpool and later, in Hamburg until 1963.

By early 1964, The Beatles were international stars, and became a leading force in Britain's cultural revival. They soon made their film debut with *A Hard Day's Night* in 1964. From 1965 to 1967, the Beatles' music rapidly evolved, ranging from ballads such as the song, *Yesterday*, to the hard rock style of the song, *Tomorrow Never Knows*.

**Hannah Jenson:** Do you think The Beatles influenced society?

**Tom Wilson:** Yes, they did influence many aspects of society, including fashion, culture, and music. Countless people around the world still listen to The Beatles' songs today. They were the first band to make music videos, which boosted their popularity, and the first band to produce a song that stayed in the charts for a long time. They were the first to use many different styles of music, from rock to pop, to classical music, and jazz.

Beatles' fans went into hysterics whenever they heard one of their songs or saw them on television. Despite all this success, their public performances eventually ended in 1966.

**Hannah Jenson:** So, when did The Beatles officially disband?

**Tom Wilson:** The group broke up in 1970. John Lennon was murdered in 1980 and George Harrison died of an illness in 2001, but Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr remain musically active.

**Hannah Jenson:** Thank you, Tom. Those were some really, interesting facts about The Beatles. If you enjoyed this podcast, then tune in again on Sunday for more episodes on Famous British Bands. Thanks for listening.

*(Adapted from: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/the-Beatles>)*

**(Total: 15 marks)**

The examiner reads out the following:

**Text B**

**You are going to listen to the safety briefing at a go-karting racetrack.**

Welcome to Railway Karting, the leading open-air go-karting racetrack on the islands that opens every weekend!

May we remind you that all racers need to be at least one metre tall but no racing experience is required. If you wish to train before racing, coaches are available for practice sessions. Those competing in the championships next weekend need to present their licence. I know you're all revving to go but to keep things safe and fun, please listen carefully to the following instructions.

Make sure your helmet is secure and your visor is closed. You may attach a video camera to your helmet. Long hair needs to be tied up and tucked inside the helmet. It's mandatory to wear a racing suit and have it zipped up to the top. Closed-toe shoes, gloves and balaclavas are also mandatory. It's forbidden to drive with any loose clothing. Empty your pockets before you enter the kart as phones, keys and anything else may fall onto the track. Fasten your seatbelt and watch the flags; it's the only way we can communicate with you while you are driving. The accelerator pedal is on the right-hand side and the brake pedal is on the left. Please don't use both pedals simultaneously as this damages the kart.

We operate a zero-tolerance approach to alcohol and drugs. The marshal will take you to the electric kart assigned to you. Don't start the kart before you are instructed by the track marshals. During the first lap, drive at a reduced speed. Karting is a non-contact sport, so please don't bump into other drivers or the barriers. A smooth driver is always the fastest driver. Try to be as smooth as possible when steering, braking or accelerating. Squeezing or swerving in front of other drivers is strictly prohibited. When you arrive in the pit lane, remain seated in your kart until the marshal switches it off.

When you are ready to take a break from riding, fuel up with a quick sandwich and warm beverage at our bar with a panoramic view to the circuit. We hope you have fun. Feel free to leave us your feedback and don't forget to buy some race-inspired merchandise on your way out!

*(Adapted from: <https://railwaykarting.com/>)*

**(Total: 15 marks)**



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**SESSION 2**

**EXAMINER'S PAPER**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO EXAMINERS**

**Preparation before the session:**

- Familiarise yourself with the texts before reading them aloud and take note of the punctuation in order to make the texts sound as natural as possible.
- Check the footnotes for the pronunciation of certain words.

**Procedure during the session:**

- (1) Tell the candidates:  
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 Read Text A.
- (2) Tell the candidates:  
 You have **THREE** minutes to continue working on the questions.  
 Give the candidates three minutes to continue working on the questions.  
 Read Text A for the second and last time.
- (3) Tell the candidates:  
 You have **THREE** minutes to complete your answers.  
 Give the candidates three minutes to complete their answers.
- (4) Tell the candidates:  
 The **THREE** minutes are up. Kindly turn the page.  
 You now have three minutes to read the questions on Text B.  
 Give the candidates three minutes to read the questions on Text B.  
 Read Text B.
- (5) Tell the candidates:  
 You have **THREE** minutes to continue working on the questions.  
 Give the candidates three minutes to continue working on the questions.  
 Read Text B for the second and last time.
- (6) Tell the candidates:  
 You have **THREE** minutes to complete your answers.  
 Give the candidates three minutes to complete their answers.

The examiner reads out the following:

**Text A**

**You are going to listen to a podcast called Famous British Bands.**

**Julie Ford:** This is Julie Ford, welcoming you to another episode in the series, Famous British Bands. Joining me today is Gary Jones, an ardent fan of the famous rock band, The Rolling Stones.

**Gary Jones:** Hello, Julie.

**Julie Ford:** Well Gary, you're well-known for your proficient knowledge about The Rolling Stones. What can you tell us about this famous band?

**Gary Jones:** To begin with, Julie, The Rolling Stones are a British rock group formed in 1962. The original members were Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Brian Jones, Bill Wyman, and Charlie Watts. The Rolling Stones began as a group of students playing music based on Chicago blues in pubs and clubs in and around West London. No rock band has had consistent activity and global popularity for so long a period as The Rolling Stones, still capable, more than 60 years after their formation, of filling the largest stadiums in the world.

**Julie Ford:** So, how did they become famous?

**Gary Jones:** The Rolling Stones started out playing songs that had already been released by other singers in the 1950s. However, they later found greater success with their own material. Indeed, their own original song, *Satisfaction* released in 1965, followed by *Paint It Black* in 1966 and *Ruby Tuesday* in 1967, became international number-one hits. *Aftermath*, released in 1966, was their first entirely original album.

**Julie Ford:** What role did The Rolling Stones play in the music scene of the time?

**Gary Jones:** They were at the forefront of the British Invasion of the United States by British pop and rock groups in 1964, becoming identified with the youthful and rebellious culture of the 1960s. In 1965, they were second only to The Beatles in the collective love of teenagers in Britain. The Rolling Stones had considerably long hair, performed in diverse and outlandish outfits, and seemed thoroughly intimidating and rebellious.

**Julie Ford:** Do The Rolling Stones still perform today?

**Gary Jones:** The Rolling Stones have remained active into the 2020s, releasing close to thirty studio albums throughout their decades-long career. At present, the line-up of the band includes original members Mick Jagger and Keith Richards, along with newcomer Ronnie Woods.

**Julie Ford:** Thank you, Gary. Those were some really, interesting facts about The Rolling Stones. If you enjoyed this podcast, tune in again on Sunday, for an episode about another Famous British Band. Thanks for listening.

(Adapted from: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/the-Rolling-Stones>)

**(Total: 15 marks)**

The examiner reads out the following:

**Text B**

**You are going to listen to the safety briefing before going into an escape room.**

Welcome to Trapped, the only high-tech physical escape room complex open daily on the islands! For the newbies here, Escape Rooms are multi-player adventure games in which players are inside one of the themed rooms available and they have to use elements of the room to solve a series of puzzles and, hopefully, escape the room within 45 minutes! All rooms, including the Pirate's Cove room and the Forbidden Castle room, have a 14+ age policy. The room you've pre-booked and chosen, The Forgotten Island Escape room, is the easiest; no special knowledge is required. If you want a snack, a vending machine is available at reception. I now ask for your undivided attention.

After signing the waiver, you'll watch a video message from the game master who will explain the rules of the game. You'll then be given a timer to keep track of time and a walkie-talkie through which you can communicate with us. In this particular room, you need to wear a fluorescent vest which you'll use at some point. Escape rooms usually have dim lighting. For this, you'll be given a torch light.

When you're in the room, read all labels but refrain from touching them. Many items in our rooms are very small and may inadvertently find their way into your pockets. You'll be asked to check your pockets before you leave the room. And for the claustrophobic players, the doors are never actually locked. If you feel uncomfortable, feel free to exit the room. Eating, drinking, or smoking is strictly prohibited. Mobile phones or any other audio or video equipment cannot be taken inside the rooms. Be mindful of our props and furniture. If any items of furniture don't open easily, find another way; use your brain, not force. Everything you need is within arm's reach, so don't climb on the furniture.

If you get stuck throughout the game, you can always ask the game master for clues. You have three, so use them wisely; it could mean the difference between winning and losing. With your consent, we'll take a photo of your team after the game and put it on our official website. Do you think you have what it takes to escape? Off you go!

*(Adapted from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3kVNO4Hgchs&t=107s>)*

**(Total: 15 marks)**



SUBJECT: **English Language**  
PAPER NUMBER: I – Part 1 – a) Listening Comprehension  
DATE: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**SESSION 1**

**CANDIDATE'S PAPER**

Total

**TEXT A – FAMOUS BRITISH BANDS: THE BEATLES**

1. Underline the correct answer in brackets, based on what you have listened to.

- You have just listened to the (first, second, last) episode in the series, Famous British Bands.
- (Tom Wilson, Hannah Jenson, Paul McCartney) hosts this episode.
- The band The Beatles was set up in (1960, 1964, 1967).
- Besides John Lennon, (George Harrison, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr) was the other main songwriter.
- The Beatles' song Tomorrow Never Knows is an example of (pop, classical, hard rock) music.
- Music videos (enhanced, ruined, made no difference to) The Beatles' reputation.
- The Beatles (made their last film, gave shows, split up) in 1970.
- (Two, Three, Four) members of the band have passed away.

**(Total: 8 marks)**

2. Are the following statements **TRUE** or **FALSE**? Circle the correct answer and give evidence from what you have listened to for each of your answers.

- a. The Beatles were innovative in the music world.

**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Lennon's first group was The Beatles.

**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_

- c. The Beatles' first film was called A Hard Day's Night.

**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_

- d. The Beatles' influence was restricted to music.

**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_

- e. Hardly anyone listens to The Beatles' music these days.

**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_

- f. Surviving members of the band are still committed to the music scene.

**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_

**(Total: 6 marks)**

3. Underline the correct answer based on what you have listened to.

During the podcast, Tom Wilson

- provides information about the popularity of The Beatles.
- criticises the popularity of The Beatles.
- narrates stories about the popularity of The Beatles.

**(Total: 1 mark)**

**TEXT B – GO-KARTING RACETRACK**

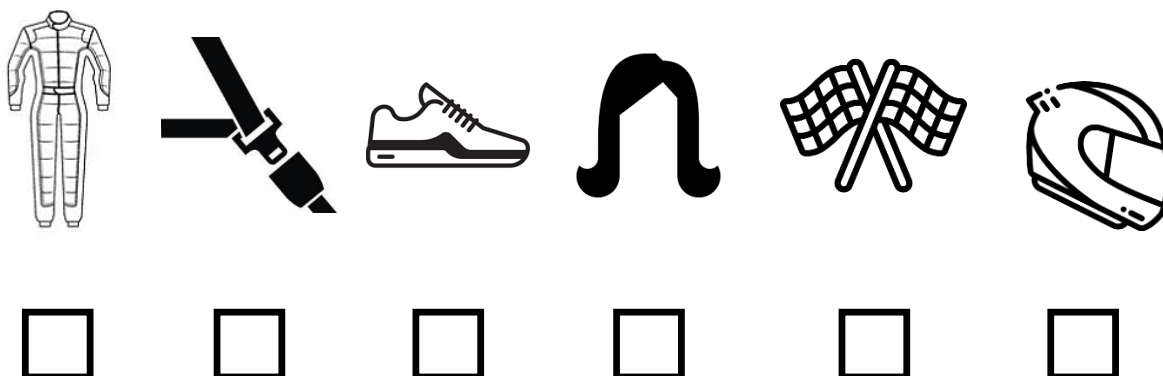
Total
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1. Tick (✓) the **FIVE** correct facts about Railway Karting racetrack as mentioned in the text:

Railway Karting	(✓)
a. is outdoors.	
b. is a car park.	
c. is open daily.	
d. has age restrictions.	
e. has height restrictions.	
f. has a gym.	
g. offers training opportunities.	
h. organises racing events.	
i. has fuel-powered karts.	
j. has a gift shop.	

**(Total: 5 marks)**

2. Put the following pictures in the order they are mentioned. Number them 1-6 in the boxes below.



**(Total: 3 marks)**

3. Which of the following are you allowed or **not** allowed to do at the track? Tick (✓) the correct box below.

		ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
a.	Take a video while racing		
b.	Use two pedals at a time		
c.	Drink alcohol at the bar		
d.	Choose the kart		
e.	Drive slowly during the first round		
f.	Bump into the other karts		
g.	Have a snack while waiting		

**(Total: 7 marks)**





SUBJECT: **English Language**  
PAPER NUMBER: I – Part 1 – a) Listening Comprehension  
DATE: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**SESSION 2**

**CANDIDATE'S PAPER**

Total

**TEXT A – FAMOUS BRITISH BANDS: THE ROLLING STONES**

1. Underline the correct answer in brackets, based on what you have listened to.
- (Julie Ford, Charlie Watts, Mick Jagger) is the host of this episode.
  - Gary Jones (has written about, is a critic of, is an expert on) The Rolling Stones.
  - The Rolling Stones band was set up in (1960, 1962, 1965).
  - The Rolling Stones started out playing in clubs in (West London, The East End, Chicago).
  - The Rolling Stones' song Paint It Black was released in (1964, 1965, 1966).
  - (Satisfaction, Aftermath, Ruby Tuesday) was The Rolling Stones' first original album.
  - The Rolling Stones (led, opposed, stalled) the invasion of the United States by British pop and rock groups.
  - The Rolling Stones band members wore (identical, different, similar) clothes during their concerts.
- (Total: 8 marks)**
2. Are the following statements **TRUE** or **FALSE**? Circle the correct answer and give evidence from what you have listened to for each of your answers.
- The Rolling Stones attract large audiences nowadays.  
**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_
  - Initially, The Rolling Stones' songs were original.  
**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_
  - Satisfaction and Ruby Tuesday were number-one hits in Britain only.  
**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_
  - British teenagers loved The Beatles more than The Rolling Stones.  
**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_
  - The Rolling Stones' appearance was quite reassuring.  
**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_
  - The three current members of The Rolling Stones formed part of the original band.  
**(True/False)** because \_\_\_\_\_
- (Total: 6 marks)**
3. Underline the correct answer based on what you have listened to.
- During the podcast, Gary Jones
- narrates stories about The Rolling Stones' growth and fame.
  - describes The Rolling Stones' growth and fame.
  - complains about The Rolling Stones' growth and fame.
- (Total: 1 mark)**

**TEXT B – ESCAPE ROOMS**


Total
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1. Tick (✓) the **FIVE** correct facts about the escape room complex at Trapped as mentioned in the text:


Escape rooms at Trapped	(✓)
a. are virtual ones.	
b. are open on Tuesdays.	
c. are completed by a group.	
d. need to be completed in an hour.	
e. have age restrictions.	
f. have height restrictions.	
g. can be booked in advance.	
h. vary in difficulty.	
i. are for experienced players.	
j. have a snack bar.	


**(Total: 5 marks)**


2. Put the following pictures in the order they are mentioned. Number them 1-6 in the boxes below.














**(Total: 3 marks)**

3. Which of the following are you allowed or **not** allowed to do in the escape rooms? Tick (✓) the correct box below.

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
a. Move the signs		
b. Take items out of the rooms		
c. Leave the rooms at any time		
d. Use personal digital equipment		
e. Open cupboards		
f. Stand on top of a chair		
g. Ask for hints		

**(Total: 7 marks)**



SUBJECT:	<b>English Language</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
PAPER NUMBER:	I – Part 2	
DATE:	13 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.	

**LANGUAGE USE**
**1. Complete the following passage by forming ONE word from the word in brackets.  
The first one has been done for you.**

Fishing, preserving and consuming sardines have come a long way since (a) **Roman (Rome)** times. The sardine tinning (b) \_\_\_\_\_ **(industrial)** has evolved from storing fish in barrels of salt to the eye-catching tins of sardines we have today. The (c) \_\_\_\_\_ **(delicate)** has become (d) \_\_\_\_\_ **(increasing)** popular over the years because the tinned sardines are tasty and high in omega oil. One reason for this is the fact that (e) \_\_\_\_\_ **(manufacture)** compete to outdo each other and offer customers (f) \_\_\_\_\_ **(consider)** choice of flavour, such as tomato, sweet-pickle and grilled peppers, to name a few.

Sardines are (g) \_\_\_\_\_ **(migrate)** and fishing takes place from May to October because if it is done outside these dates, a lower fat content will result. In France, the processing of the tinned sardines still follows the 19<sup>th</sup> century (h) \_\_\_\_\_ **(pioneer)** methods of Joseph Colin, and St Gilles de la Croix on the Atlantic coast is home to La Perle, a tinning sardine (i) \_\_\_\_\_ **(establish)** that was founded in 1887. Providing good quality sardines is key for this family business, conscious that sardines are one of the most (j) \_\_\_\_\_ **(perish)** fish and that their success depends entirely on (k) \_\_\_\_\_ **(fresh)**.

**(Total: 5 marks)** 
***Please turn the page.***

**2. Copy the following sentences inserting all the necessary punctuation.**

(a) mango growers are urging customers to celebrate this seasons plentiful yield by buying more fruit as a glut in supply has sent prices plummeting

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(b) the manager at fresh mangoes says that the low price is being driven by an excess supply from different regions of the continent

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(c) youve got a crossover of more mangoes hitting the markets at one time and that puts a bit of pressure on the price he says

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(d) is this going to be the biggest mango season weve ever seen in australia he goes on

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**(Total: 5 marks)**

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**3. Underline the correct word in the brackets. The first one has been done for you.**

(a) (Changed, Fixed, Turned, **Adapted**) from the (b) (comparative, incomparable, like-minded, compared) children's novel by Roald Dahl, Matilda The Musical is the multi-award winning musical from the Royal Shakespeare Company that continues to (c) (favour, appease, delight, feast) audiences in the West End. After opening at the Royal Shakespeare's Company home in Stratford-upon-Avon, the musical (d) (departed, transferred, changed, surrendered) to the West End's Cambridge Theatre. The show won seven Olivier Awards in 2012, marking the biggest overall win of any London musical. As well as winning the award for Best New Musical, the four young actors who share the title role, took home the (e) (collective, collected, accumulated, composite) award for Best Actor in a Musical.

Matilda The Musical inspires audiences of all (f) (groups, varieties, genres, ages). There's ingenious staging by director Matthew Warchus, choreography by Peter Darling, exceptional scenic design and an incredible cast of young performers. The show (g) (speaks, tells, exposes, says) the story of an extraordinary little girl who, armed with a (h) (vivid, detailed, clear, lucid) imagination and a sharp mind, dares to (i) (put, leave, do, take) a stand and change her own destiny. With the young girl challenging those above her for the (j) (larger, greater, bigger, better) good, combined with Roald Dahl's (k) (signature, stylish, seamless, slipshod) wit and naughtiness, Matilda is an unforgettable West End musical.

**(Total: 5 marks)**

***Please turn the page.***

**4. Fill in the blanks with the correct linking word or phrase from the box below. Use each linking word or phrase only once. The first one has been done for you.**

secondly	also	despite	yet	besides	actually
<del>after all</del>	in conclusion	although	in fact	and	

Learning a language while sleeping is an enticing idea. (a) **After all**, who wouldn't want to slap on some headphones, take a long nap (b) \_\_\_\_\_ wake up able to speak German? Anyone would. (c) \_\_\_\_\_ it does seem too good to be true.

Is sleep learning really possible? A 2019 study found that participants who listened to recordings of word pairs while sleeping could form associations between those words. This study (d) \_\_\_\_\_ showed that participants were better at remembering the new words they had learned in their sleep than other language learners. However, (e) \_\_\_\_\_ being greatly welcomed by those who are interested in learning languages, the study had obvious limitations. First of all, participants could only remember associations during very short periods of sleep. (f) \_\_\_\_\_, this study showed that more complex parts of a language, such as grammar, are impossible to learn. (g) \_\_\_\_\_ these limitations, the study also noted that the timing required to learn a language while one is asleep is critical and very particular. (h) \_\_\_\_\_, in an interview held after the results were published, the researchers stressed that (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the tests carried out in the study showed some evidence of learning, they were not providing a shortcut to learning a new language. (j) \_\_\_\_\_, since the idea of sleep learning has only been tested in clinical conditions with sophisticated equipment, it may not (k) \_\_\_\_\_ be practical.

**(Total: 5 marks)**

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**5. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. The first one has been done for you.**

A clever dog (a) **is helping (help)** clear the streets by collecting hundreds of plastic bottles during his daily walk. Scruff, a border collie, loves nothing more than (b) \_\_\_\_\_ **(pick)** up plastic bottles and his owners soon realised that they (c) \_\_\_\_\_ **(can)** turn his playful antics into a positive.

David and Yvonne Faulkner began carrying a bag to collect the bottles and take them to a recycling centre. Scruff started by scooping 40 bottles during his first year and (d) \_\_\_\_\_ **(now/retrieve)** more than a thousand over the past year.

David and Yvonne first noticed Scruff's fascination with bottles about a year ago, but at first, he would drop them once he (e) \_\_\_\_\_ **(find)** the next one.

They were afraid onlookers would think that they (f) \_\_\_\_\_ **(drop)** litter purposely when Scruff let the bottles go after he (g) \_\_\_\_\_ **(finish)** playing with them. So they trained him to bring the bottles to them and they collected them in a bag.

At the end of this year, David and Yvonne (h) \_\_\_\_\_ **(lay)** out all the bottles for everyone to see. Yvonne said, 'I'd say he (i) \_\_\_\_\_ **(collect)** at least a thousand by then. We get such a good reaction on social media where Scruff (j) \_\_\_\_\_ **(recently/dub)** an eco-dog.' The couple (k) \_\_\_\_\_ **(share)** the dog's green credentials for some time now using the #scruffpatrol hashtag.

**(Total: 10 marks)**

***Please turn the page.***

6. Rewrite the following dialogue in reported speech in the space provided. Make use of the verbs in the box below only ONCE. Two are extra. The first one has been done for you.

suggest deny reply remind complain greet ask accuse promise

Ann: Hi Tim! Where are you going this evening?
Tim: I don't know yet but I was thinking of staying home.
Ann: Why don't we go to the concert? Don't forget we have free tickets.
Tim: I've had a headache since yesterday, so I'll just stay home.
Ann: You're such a wet blanket!

Ann greeted Tim and \_\_\_\_\_.

Tim \_\_\_\_\_

Ann \_\_\_\_\_

Tim \_\_\_\_\_

Ann \_\_\_\_\_

(Total: 5 marks)

7. Fill in each blank with ONE suitable word. The first one has been done for you.

There has been (a) much talk of late about how our towns and cities, not to (b) \_\_\_\_\_ our workplaces, have changed recently. But the biggest change is the silence. Whether (c) \_\_\_\_\_ be on public transport, in a shopping centre or in the middle of a row of desks in an office, a sizeable slice of our working population is, (d) \_\_\_\_\_ to their headphones, with us but not with us. There is no more chatter in the coffee queue, (e) \_\_\_\_\_ arguments over jumping the queue, not even a meeting of eyes. For those like me (f) \_\_\_\_\_ heads are unadorned by any tech, it can feel like walking on to the (g) \_\_\_\_\_ of some sci-fi movie. And you have to have your wits (h) \_\_\_\_\_ you because danger lurks everywhere: from millennials e-scooting along with headphones on and eyes open but minds firmly in (i) \_\_\_\_\_ reality, to pedestrians having a conversation on their phone and stepping into the traffic at (j) \_\_\_\_\_ moment. When people spend so much time with headphones on, it is clear that they want to be in a world of their (k) \_\_\_\_\_.

(Total: 5 marks)



**8. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb from Box A and a word from Box B. One in each box is extra. The first one has been done for you.**

<b>A</b>	count	bring	turn	deal	<del>carry</del>	focus	believe	take	look	make	move	keep
<b>B</b>	off	forward	down	up	on	after	up	with	to	on	in	<del>out</del>

A UK study (a) **carried out** with more than 11,000 young people showed that their happiness with friends, school and family has dropped substantially. Most students experience a sharp decline in their well-being after (b) \_\_\_\_\_ to secondary school. The study also suggests that mindfulness sessions should become part of the national curriculum to improve life satisfaction. Mindfulness is, in fact, a popular form of meditation in which you (c) \_\_\_\_\_ being intensely aware of what you're feeling in the moment. The practice includes breathing methods and guided imagery to relax and (d) \_\_\_\_\_ high stress levels to more manageable ones. Mindfulness has (e) \_\_\_\_\_ in recent years as a way of improving mental and physical well-being because it lowers blood pressure with many people (f) \_\_\_\_\_ this form of meditation to cope with anxiety. It is thought that taking deep breaths helps dilate blood vessels, allowing more blood to flow through them. Although scientists (g) \_\_\_\_\_ mindfulness as an effective practice, the study concludes that young people should not (h) \_\_\_\_\_ it as the only way to (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the symptoms of stress. In order to (j) \_\_\_\_\_ themselves, they should still (k) \_\_\_\_\_ other healthy habits such as regular exercise.

**(Total: 5 marks)**

***Please turn the page.***

**9. Use the word given to complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one.**

**Do NOT change the word given.**

**Use between THREE and FIVE words, including the word given.**

**The first one has been done for you.**

- (a) It may seem strange, but a plumber found a 135-year-old message in a bottle under the floorboards of a bathroom.

**seem**

Strange **as it may seem**, a plumber found a 135-year-old message in a bottle under the floorboards of a bathroom.

- (b) He was surprised when he cut a hole in the floorboards and found the bottle.

**eyes**

He \_\_\_\_\_ when he cut a hole in the floorboards and found the bottle.

- (c) He tried to get the note out of the bottle with a pair of tweezers, but he was unsuccessful.

**avail**

He tried to get the note out of the bottle with a pair of tweezers but \_\_\_\_\_.

- (d) 'I'm afraid the only thing I can do is break the bottle,' said the plumber.

**no**

The plumber felt that he \_\_\_\_\_ break the bottle.

- (e) The owner of the house dissuaded the plumber from breaking the bottle.

**been**

\_\_\_\_\_ for the owner of the house, the plumber would have broken the bottle.

- (f) The discovery of such an old message in a bottle would most likely have made its way to the press.

**bound**

The discovery of such an old message in a bottle \_\_\_\_\_ make its way to the press.

**(Total: 5 marks)**



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MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE  
EXAMINATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL  
2023 MAIN SESSION**

SUBJECT:	<b>English Language</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
PAPER NUMBER:	IIA – Question 1	
DATE:	13 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.	

### WRITING TASK

Write between 320 and 350 words on **ONE** of the tasks below.

You are advised to:

- pay attention to layout, paragraphing, vocabulary, grammar, spelling and punctuation;
- keep your writing to the number of words indicated. You will be penalised if you write less than 320 or more than 350 words.

1. Write a short story to be published on the school website entitled 'The power of hope'.
2. 'The more materialistic we become, the less happy we are'. Write an article to be published in an online newspaper in which you discuss your views on this.
3. The teen website, FilmSite, is inviting young people to submit film reviews. Write a review of a fantasy film you have watched recently.

**(Total: 40 marks)**









SUBJECT:	<b>English Language</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
PAPER NUMBER:	IIA – Question 2	
DATE:	13 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.	

## READING COMPREHENSION AND SUMMARY

### Passage 1

**Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

5 It is claimed that mysterious beasts hide in lakes or forests, and roam mountains. Although refuted by science, for centuries they have filled humans with terror. They have inspired movies and have lent their names to hotels, cruises, and even an airline. Their magical appeal also helps governments strengthen tourism in their countries. Whether people believe in **them** or not, they offer travellers the chance of exploring under-the-radar destinations from a unique perspective.

10 One such strange creature is the Yowie, which is said to live in Australia. Mention of this apelike creature can be found in Aboriginal oral history that has been passed down through generations since ancient times. After the British put down roots in the country in the late 1700s, Aboriginal Australians gave them an eerie warning. The forests **they** stole camouflaged hairy, 3-metre-tall monsters.

"Yowies are respected but also avoided by indigenous people. They think that they can be dangerous," says Tony Healy, author of several books on Australian mythical creatures. "The elders I spoke to see Yowies as guardian spirits of the landscape."

15 The earliest rumoured Yowie sighting was in the 1830s. It was said that a European man fired his gun at one of these beasts in South Australia. According to Australian scientist Gary Opit, there have been hundreds of supposed encounters since. He says they happened mainly in the Great Divide. This is a 2,300-mile-long series of mountain ranges that runs through New South Wales and Queensland.

20 Despite **its** history, the Yowie only became a tourist draw in the past decade. Opit leads Yowie tours into the bush. Most participants are foreign tourists keen on exploring the isolated locations of reported Yowie sightings. Opit says, "There is excitement when people join our tours. Maybe, just maybe, they'll get a glimpse of our most elusive friend."

25 Some 5,000 miles away, in Nepal, tourism connected with a mythical creature dates back to the 1950s. **It** centres on the Yeti. Up to two metres tall, this legendary creature allegedly prowls the snowy peaks of the Himalayas. It is also a prominent figure in the folklore of the people living in the area.

30 Its tale is 6,000 years old, says Ram Panday, a Nepali author of many books about the Yeti. But the furry beast was a regional fairy-tale until a 1951 expedition to climb Mount Everest. Panday says that during this expedition, British explorer Eric Shipton claimed to have photographed a large human-like footprint.

This image haunted newspapers and televisions all over the world. Explorers soon flocked to the Himalayas, eager to find the mysterious creature. The flood of foreign visitors prompted the Nepal government to issue strict regulations on Yeti hunts.

35 Over the following decades, the Yeti became a powerful tourism brand in Nepal. This beast’s foot forms the logo of the domestic carrier, Yeti Airlines. Hotels, restaurants, cafés, and tour companies continue to profit off its name. In early 2020, the Nepali government made the Yeti the focus of its tourism campaign, by placing dozens of Yeti statues at key sites.

40 As part of Nepal’s lore, the Yeti is a good tourist draw, Panday says. Travellers intrigued by the beast should trek to Mahalangur Himal. This wild Himalayan region, home to several of the world’s tallest peaks, including Mount Everest, is the location of most Yeti sightings, he adds. Panday also explains that visitors to this region can learn dozens of Yeti legends from the communities living in those mountainous regions.

45 Other Nepalis are more sceptical. Veteran tour guide Sushil Kumar says even as a child he viewed Yetis as a sham. “I don’t think the Yeti is a valuable tool to promote Nepal tourism,” he says. “Nepal should focus on its cultural heritage such as famous architecture and ancient traditions. The country should also promote its rich natural diversity.”

Many researchers have similar doubts about the Yeti. In 2017, DNA tests on alleged Yeti teeth, hair, and fur were carried out. It was revealed that the samples belonged to Himalayan black and brown bears.

50 Yet the legends do not go away. “People have always been fascinated by things in nature which confuse us,” Panday says. “That’s not going to change any time soon.”  
*(Adapted from: www.nationalgeographic.com)*

In Questions 1 and 2 underline the correct answer.

1. Mysterious beasts are (1)  
a. said to live in cities.  
b. a recent phenomenon.  
c. a boost to tourism.   
d. of no interest to humans.

2. ‘Under-the-radar destinations’ (line 5) are places that are (1)  
a. fictitious.  
b. well known by locals.  
c. difficult to access.   
d. rarely visited.

3. Mention **THREE** details about the physical appearance of the Yowie. (1½)  
a. \_\_\_\_\_  
b. \_\_\_\_\_  
c. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why are Yowies ‘respected but also avoided by indigenous people’ (line 11)? (1)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Are the following sentences True (T) or False (F)? Circle the correct answer and give a reason for your answer. (4)  
a. Australia was colonised by the British. (True/False) because  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



b. Tony Healy has interacted with indigenous people. (True/False) because

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c. The earliest mention of the Yowie dates back to the late 1700s. (True/False) because

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d. It is a proven fact that a Yowie was shot at in 1830. (True/False) because

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6. When and where did the hundreds of supposed encounters with the Yowie take place? (1)

a. When: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Where: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Why does Gary Opit refer to the Yowie as 'elusive' (line 22)? (1)

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8. In your own words, state what were the **TWO** effects of Eric Shipton's photo. (2)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

9. Explain how the Yeti was used as a promotional tool by (a) a domestic carrier and (b) the Nepali government. (1)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

10. In a paragraph of between 50 and 60 words, summarise how Ram Panday and Sushil Kumar believe that Nepal can be attractive to tourists. Use your own words. (7)

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11. Why do scientists have reservations about the existence of the Yeti? (1/2)

\_\_\_\_\_

12. What do the following refer to? (2)

a. them (line 4) \_\_\_\_\_

b. they (line 9) \_\_\_\_\_

c. its (line 19) \_\_\_\_\_

d. It (line 24) \_\_\_\_\_

13. What does Ram Panday imply about tourists visiting Nepal when he says, 'That's not going to change any time soon'? (line 51) (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Underline the most appropriate answer. (1)

It is the writer's main intention to

a. persuade readers that despite popular belief, mysterious creatures do not exist.

b. inform readers about the connection between mysterious creatures and business.

c. describe the habitat where the Yowie and Yeti have been sighted.

d. advise about the dangers of adventure holidays to far-away countries.

**(Total: 25 marks)**

Total passage 1

**Passage 2**

I was sailing towards the Greek island of Ikaria around dusk. Its rugged peaks rose sharply. The twinkles of lights from its houses were not primarily along the coast. They were mainly scattered in the mountains behind. I wondered: why would inhabitants make life tougher for themselves by choosing to live up on the precipitous slopes, far from the more level ground near the sea?

5 I soon found out that the sea was both Ikaria's blessing and curse. It allowed the island to spread its reputation for its excellent wine, and trade its prized product across Greece, along with olives and honey. But the sea also brought pirates, lured by the island's highly regarded produce and prosperity.

10 Ikaria was not unique within Greece in being troubled by pirates. It, however, suffered the additional complication of a revolving door of rulers over Ikaria between 500 BCE and 1521 CE. After that, Ikaria fell firmly into the Ottoman Empire, where it would remain for more than three centuries.

15 Piracy became a more-or-less unchecked threat during Roman rule (late 3rd century BCE to 5th century CE) and Byzantine rule (5th to 12th centuries CE). Ikarians finally resorted to destroying their own ports to deter invaders. Even this act was not enough.

Lacking resources to repel their aggressors, islanders withdrew deep into their mountainous interior. They went to every possible length to convince anyone sailing past that Ikaria was deserted. Practically invisible communities were built. It was this elaborate disappearing act, pulled off for several centuries, that I had come to learn more about.

20 I started off by meeting Eleni Mazari in her office in the north coast port of Evdilos. Mazari runs a real estate business, but the wall inside the entranceway indicated her other long-standing passion: Ikaria history. Here, shelves were lined with models of the types of homes the retreating islanders decided to build. In Ikaria these are commonly known as "anti-pirate houses".

25 These squat, stone-built dwellings incorporated natural features of the landscape, such as rocks, cliff overhangs and thickets. Boulders, which were strewn over the high mountain slopes, often formed much of the walls and ceiling. Living arrangements were simple - houses had little more than a door and a hearth, as islanders simply spent the majority of their time outdoors.

30 Mazari also explained that it was the incorporation of Ikaria into the Ottoman Empire that had finally persuaded Ikarians to move from the coast to the crags. During their rule, the Ottomans were lax and as a result piracy was rife. For the next 300 years, islanders concealed their society in the rocky upper reaches of Ikaria.

35 My next stop was Lagkada, the upland refuge to which many Ikarians had decided to retreat. Without it, the population would likely have died out. While driving up the island's north coast, it seemed to me that the craggy island interior would be hard to inhabit even today. The terrain was arid, rocky and virtually deserted; mountainsides plummeted so sharply into the sea there was scarcely enough level ground to carve out a plot for a house or for a road to twist along its edge.

40 The final track to get to Lagkada was too steep and rough for me to attempt driving. So, I walked up a route that wound hair-raisingly around the rockface into a lush valley you never could have seen from below.

Despite knowing there were numerous anti-pirate houses in the vicinity, I wandered up and down the valley for several hours but found none. It was only on a final scan of the valley from above that I caught sight of an aperture in a rock too angular to be naturally occurring. I had found the community's old jail.

45 My efforts made me appreciate how tough life must have been for the islanders. They were constantly under the threat of pirate attack and their sole defence was that of constructing dwellings that completely merge into the landscape.

*(Adapted from: www.bbc.com/travel)*

1. Underline the correct answer. (1)
- The writer was sailing towards Ikaria
- a. just before daybreak.
  - b. in the afternoon.
  - c. just before nightfall.
  - d. late at night.
- 

2. What did the writer find puzzling as he approached Ikaria? (1)

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***Please turn the page.***

3. From the first paragraph, quote a word that means 'steep'. (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

4. In your own words, explain why the writer says that the sea was Ikaria's blessing and curse (line 5). (2)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Explain what the writer means by 'a revolving door of rulers' (line 10). Pay special attention to the underlined words. (2)

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Which word shows that the Romans did **not** do much to control piracy? (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Before withdrawing into the mountains, how had the Ikarians tried to prevent pirates from invading their island? (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What does 'disappearing act' (line 18) refer to? (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Underline the correct answer. (1)

The phrasal verb 'pulled off' (line 19) shows that the disappearing act was

- a. successful.
- b. a failure.
- c. kept secret.
- d. rehearsed.

10. Why did the writer meet Eleni Mazari? (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Mention **FOUR** features of a typical anti-pirate house. (2)

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_

12. From lines 28-37 find words which are similar in meaning to the definitions given below: (4)

a.	inclusion		e.	hid	
b.	convinced		f.	haven	
c.	lenient		g.	dry	
d.	widespread		h.	fell	

13. Mention **TWO** challenges that the writer faced in his search for anti-pirate houses. (2)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

14. How did the writer discover the community jail? (1)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

15. Underline the correct answer. (1)

The word 'lush' (line 39) shows that the valley at the top of Lagkada was

- a. dry and rocky.
- b. full of vegetation.
- c. well hidden.
- d. deep and humid.

16. In your own words, give **TWO** reasons why the writer says that life must have been tough for the islanders. (2)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

17. Underline the answer that best sums up the writer's attitude. (1)

The writer is

- a. fascinated by the islanders' history of invasions by foreign powers.
- b. struck by the islanders' inventiveness when building their dwellings.
- c. critical of the islanders' decision to move away from the coast.
- d. horrified by the islanders' suffering at the hands of the pirates.

**(Total: 25 marks)**

Total passage 2
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***Please turn the page.***

**WRITING TASK**

You are Robin Borg and you have received an invitation to join a group of friends on a trekking holiday next winter. In between 60 to 80 words, write an email to Max Miller, the group leader of the trekking holiday, in which you decline the invitation. **You will be penalised if you write less than 60 and more than 80 words.**

From:	<u>robin.borg@smail.com</u>
To:	<u>max.miller@trekking.com</u>
Subject:	Trekking Holiday

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**(Total: 10 marks)**

Writing
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EXAMINATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL  
2023 MAIN SESSION**

SUBJECT:	<b>English Language</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
PAPER NUMBER:	IIB – Question 1	
DATE:	13 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.	

### **WRITING TASK**

**Write between 180 and 200 words on ONE of the tasks below.**

**You are advised to:**

- **pay attention to layout, paragraphing, vocabulary, grammar, spelling and punctuation;**
- **keep your writing to the number of words indicated. You will be penalised if you write less than 180 or more than 200 words.**

1. Write a short story to be published on the local council website entitled 'The audition that changed my life'.
2. Write an article for the school magazine on the advantages and disadvantages of school outings.
3. Your local council is holding a book reading activity for children. Write a review of a book that you would recommend for this activity.

**(Total: 40 marks)**











SUBJECT:	<b>English Language</b>
PAPER NUMBER:	IIB – Question 2
DATE:	13 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.

<b>TOTAL</b>
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**READING COMPREHENSION AND SUMMARY**
**Passage 1**

**Read the following passage carefully and answer ALL the questions that follow.**

5 “What are you doing?” my friend asked from her sun-lounger, as I held on to mine to stretch my calves. “Going for a run along the beach,” I replied casually but knowing I was breaking a holiday taboo. So off I went, running along the extensive stretch of soft, sandy beach that lay before our luxurious hotel in Florida where I had attended the wedding of a friend from university the day before.

10 Holidays are generally meant to be about relaxing. I know that. But my idea of relaxing, as much as I might try and fight it, means being active. For me, working out on holiday is my rest and relaxation, but that’s not to say I do it on every single trip. When I take my annual city break with a good friend, it’s all about seeing the sights of Porto, Valletta or Bucharest, so I only pack my running shoes for walking.

If those running shoes stay firmly in your suitcase, you’re not alone. According to a 2017 study by Cornell University, 46 per cent of hotel guests initially plan to use the hotel gym, but only 22 per cent actually do. So if you prefer to just put your feet up on your next holiday, then that’s what’s right for you.

15 “Going on holiday means different things to different people,” says Sara Picken-Brown, a holistic wellbeing coach. “What’s most important is returning with your mind, body and spirit feeling refreshed and ready to engage. Some may see holiday exercise as defeating the purpose of recuperation time, but I would argue the majority of us spend up to 12 hours a day sitting in front of computers, which is very counterproductive to overall physical and mental health. That doesn’t mean we have to go flat out on holiday. A little fresh air, sunshine and gentle activity is enough.”

20 If fitness is a big part of your daily life, as it is mine, it’s worth asking yourself if you’re packing gym gear for the right reasons. In my case, if I’m going away to enjoy a home away from home, I’ll take as much sports attire as I can.

25 Ryan Hodgson, a fitness coach agrees. “Exercising on holiday is OK as long as it’s something you enjoy,” he says. “It’s about getting that balance right while ensuring your body is getting enough rest.” He adds, “If you usually hit the gym, why not enjoy the pool instead? Try something new, which comes with added mental benefits, too. Exercising in a new environment makes your body work in new ways. This challenges the neural pathways, encourages the brain to fire and wire cohesively and gives the body a chance to heal.”

30 At the same time, if you never train at home, your holiday isn’t the time to start. Nor is it the time to push yourself near or past your limit. James Virtue, a fitness manager, in fact advises, “the last thing anyone would want is an injury to dampen their holiday.”

*(adapted from: bahighlife.com)*

**QUESTIONS ON PASSAGE 1**

1. Underline the title that best fits the passage. (1)
- a. A city break: the best type of holiday.
  - b. Why attend fitness classes whilst on holiday?
  - c. Is working out on holiday a good idea?
  - d. The pleasures of staying in seaside resorts when on holiday.

2. In your own words, explain what the writer's friend is doing in line 1. (1)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

3. Between lines 1 and 5, find **SINGLE** words that show: (3)
- a. what the writer does before her run \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. how the writer addresses her peer \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. that the beach is long \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. that the beach is in front of the hotel \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. that the writer is not staying at a cheap hotel \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. that the writer studied beyond secondary school \_\_\_\_\_

4. In your own words, explain why the writer feels she is 'breaking a holiday taboo' (lines 2-3). (2)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

5. Between lines 6 and 14 find a phrase: (1)
- a. of **THREE** words that means 'a short yearly holiday' \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. of **FOUR** words which means 'relax' \_\_\_\_\_

6. In your own words, explain how the writer supports the statement: 'If those running shoes stay firmly in your suitcase, you're not alone' (line 11). (2)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

7. Underline the correct answer. (1)
- The phrase 'a home away from home' (line 22) means a place
- a. where you stay for a short time.
  - b. where you feel comfortable.
  - c. that you stay in, which is in a different country.
  - d. that you purchased in a different country.

8. In your own words, explain what it is about exercising on holiday that both James Virtue and Ryan Hodgson seem to have the same idea about. (2)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. 'Going on holiday means different things to different people' (line 15). In a paragraph of between 40 and 50 words, explain what a holiday means to the writer and to Sara Picken-Brown. Use your own words. (8)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Are the following statements True (T) or False (F)? Circle the correct answer and give reason for each of your answers. (5)

a. The writer chose Florida as a holiday destination because of its beaches.  
(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

b. The writer doesn't always work out whilst on holiday.  
(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

c. Sara Picken-Brown claims that spending hours on end sitting down harms one's health.  
(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

d. Ryan Hodgson encourages people to stick to a familiar environment when exercising.  
(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

e. It is advisable for everyone to exercise whilst on holiday.  
(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

**(Total: 26 marks)**

Total passage 1
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**Passage 2**

**Read the following passage carefully and answer ALL the questions that follow.**

**A**

Above the hills of the Amalfi Coast in southern Italy, an agile farmer leaps across terraced lemon groves. Balancing between one wooden pole and another, the not-so-young acrobat bends to pick lemons and then transports **them** home in crates weighing more than 25 kilogrammes.

**B**

5 “Not blood, but lemon juice runs through **my** veins,” says 87-year-old farmer Gigino Aceto, whose family has been growing lemons **here** since the 1800s. About 200,000 kilogrammes are currently harvested each year. However, surveys and studies show that these lemon groves have been in decline for the past 60 years, while urbanisation has been advancing considerably.

**C**

10 One single Amalfi lemon can weigh up to three kilogrammes. With its light-yellow colour, intense fragrance, juicy texture and sweet skin, the Amalfi lemon has become a staple ingredient in the area's traditional cuisine. It is used in pasta dishes, sauces for salads, desserts, not to mention Italy's famous Limoncello liqueur. Given that it is rich in vitamins C, B, E, potassium and magnesium, the inhabitants of the coast have found myriad uses, from cleaning clothes to natural medicine.

**D**

15 But it is not only these properties that made the Amalfi lemons so fundamental to the area. The traditional agricultural system, a remarkable 15th-century example of people and nature working in harmony, has proven resilient to climate change instability.

**E**

20 Sculpting the wild cliffs overlooking the sea, the orderly architecture of the lemon groves curb some of the area's worst problems, including landslides caused by rain and wildfires. Farmers provide a systemic service to the whole area, protecting the coastline from landslides and other environmental disasters. Without this agricultural activity, the landscape of Amalfi and the entire coastline would vanish.

**F**

“Everything works perfectly in synergy with the land,” says Aceto's 57-year-old son, Salvatore. Nevertheless, he says, the farmers are fighting a constant battle against environmental problems, not least scorching temperatures blamed on climate change.

**G**

25 **they** have been either abandoned or turned into holiday homes and illegal constructions.” There is a risk, he says, that when his generation stops cultivating the land, the knowledge accumulated over the centuries by local communities could vanish altogether.

**H**

30 "Most tourists who come to Amalfi are unaware of **our** work." In an attempt to solve that problem, Salvatore created Lemon Tours, an agricultural tourism venture to increase awareness of the Amalfi lemon and revitalise the traditions used to cultivate it. **He** leads groups of up to five people, spending hours among terraces built over a thousand years ago, teaching **them** culinary skills like cooking a dish of lemon pasta.

**I**

35 "At 5.30 a.m., my clothes are soiled, and my knees are exhausted. It's a job that destroys you. There are two faces of Amalfi: the town that tourists dream of visiting, and the real one which is the farmers' life. However, we don't bow to tourists. We are farmers, and this is what **we** show," he emphasises.

*(Adapted from <https://www.cnn.com/Travel>)*

**QUESTIONS ON PASSAGE 2**

1. Give **ONE** reason why the writer refers to the farmer as an 'acrobat' (line 2). (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Explain what is meant by 'Not blood, but lemon juice runs through my veins.' (line 4). (2)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. In your own words, explain the change that has taken place along the Amalfi Coast in the last 60 years. (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. List **SIX** characteristics of the Amalfi lemon that we learn from the passage. (3)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_

f. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Explain  
 a. what 'this agricultural activity' (line 19) refers to. (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- b. what **ONE** consequence would be if this activity did not take place. (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Write down **TWO** consecutive words, found between lines 8 and 20 that show that:  
 a. the Amalfi lemon is an integral part of food dishes in the area (2)

\_\_\_\_\_

- b. the ways in which the Amalfi lemon is utilised by the locals is various

\_\_\_\_\_

- c. it is evident that the traditional cultivation has remained strong despite climate change

\_\_\_\_\_

- d. the lemon grove structures look neat

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What **TWO** problems are farmers facing today? (1)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

8. In your own words, give **TWO** reasons why Lemon Tours was set up. (2)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

9. Write down the letter of the paragraph in which you read about: (2)

a. how farming today in Amalfi is similar to farming in the past	Paragraph:
b. Gigino Aceto's hard physical work	Paragraph:
c. what tourists do on a tour organised by Lemon Tours	Paragraph:
d. how the lemon groves protect the Amalfi coastline	Paragraph:



10. What do the words listed below refer to in the passage? (4)

a. them (line 3)		e. our (line 28)	
b. my (line 4)		f. He (line 30)	
c. here (line 5)		g. them (line 31)	
d. they (line 25)		h. we (line 35)	

11. 'It's a job that destroys you' (line 33). **In your own words**, give **TWO** reasons why Salvatore says this. (2)

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_

12. Underline the correct answer. (1)

By the phrase 'we don't bow to tourists' (line 35) Salvatore means 'we don't'

- a. allow tourists to trample on our fields.
- b. give tourists recipes of our dishes.
- c. give tourists more importance than farming.
- d. respect tourists as much as locals.

13. Underline the correct answer. (1)

The main purpose of the passage is to

- a. describe the process of lemon cultivation on the Amalfi coast.
- b. narrate the daily routine of the Amalfi farmers cultivating lemons.
- c. persuade readers to visit the Amalfi coast and go on Lemon Tours.
- d. inform readers of the importance of lemon cultivation on the Amalfi coast.

**(Total: 24 marks)**

Total passage 2
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***Please turn the page.***

