



SUBJECT:	English Language
PAPER NUMBER:	I – Part 1 (a) Listening Comprehension
DATE:	6 th September 2023
TIME:	Approx. 30 minutes

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.

Samantha Walsh: This is Samantha Walsh, welcoming you to the concluding episode in the series, Famous British Bands. Joining me today is Jim Hunter, an expert on the famous rock band, Led Zeppelin.

Jim Hunter: Hello, Samantha.

Samantha Walsh: Well Jim, what can you tell us about this famous band?

Jim Hunter: To begin with Samantha, the band Led Zeppelin was formed in London in 1968 but originally the group was called the New Yardbirds. The group comprised Robert Plant, Jimmy Page, John Paul Jones, and John Bonham. Initially unpopular, they achieved significant success over ten years with songs like the celebrated *Ramble On*.

Samantha Walsh: How did Led Zeppelin achieve this success?

Jim Hunter: The group was influenced by early rock and roll, Indian, and Arabic music. Jimmy Page and John Paul Jones composed most of the band's music, while Robert Plant contributed the lyrics.

Their 1969 debut album called, *Led Zeppelin*, was a top-ten album in several countries. In 1969, *Led Zeppelin II* was their first number-one album, followed in 1970 by *Led Zeppelin III*. Their 1971 untitled fourth album is one of the best-selling albums in history with 37 million copies sold.

Led Zeppelin's best-known song *Stairway to Heaven* forms part of this album. The band enjoyed extraordinary commercial success throughout the 1970s.

Samantha Walsh: Were Led Zeppelin influential in any way?

Jim Hunter: While Led Zeppelin never received the mainstream admiration accorded to the bands The Beatles or The Rolling Stones, their influence on rock music has been phenomenal. They are regularly referred to as the forerunners of both hard rock and heavy metal. Their sound has been imitated by many bands. They inspired hard rock bands to include acoustic elements in their music and were the first to experiment with Indian and North African music.

Jimmy Page's style has served as an important model for most rock guitarists, and John Bonham is often cited as the model drummer.

Samantha Walsh: Did Led Zeppelin eventually disband?

Jim Hunter: Yes, Led Zeppelin disbanded in 1980 after John Bonham's accidental death. The group re-formed for short, one-off performances in 1985 for the Live Aid concert, in 1995 for the band's induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and in 2007 for the group's full-blown concert at which John Bonham's son, Jason, played the drums.

Samantha Walsh: Thank you, Jim. Those were some really, interesting facts about Led Zeppelin. We hope you've enjoyed the podcast. Thanks for listening.

(Adapted from: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Led-Zeppelin>)

(Total: 15 marks)

The examiner reads out the following:

Text B

You are going to listen to the safety briefing at a trampoline park.

Welcome to Jumping Jacks, the only indoor trampoline park on the islands just for teenagers and which can be enjoyed all year round! I know you're all excited to bounce and try out our brand-new bouncy climbing wall and obstacle courses while trampolining. Trampolining is great fun and it's even more fun when you attend birthday celebrations and disco nights held here. However, it can also be dangerous, so please listen carefully to this safety briefing.

Once you've put all your coats and other belongings in the lockers, especially sharp objects like jewellery and keys, sanitise your hands. Put on your entry wristband and then, the approved grippy jumping socks, and make your way around the arena to the entrance which is located opposite the café. It is important to wait until your session begins. While you're waiting, we suggest you stretch and warm up. An announcement will be made by the safety marshal who will blow a whistle.

When jumping, always aim for the middle of the trampoline and land in the middle on two feet with your knees bent. Stay within the lines. That's the safe jumping area. Landing on the side padding can cause injury because it's not bouncy. Only one jumper at a time is allowed on a trampoline.

Triple front flips or backflips are prohibited. Enter feet first and never dive headfirst. The stunt area is for advanced jumpers only, so you must be able to demonstrate a controlled backflip to a safety marshal before you are allowed within this area. Only perform tricks within your ability. Don't run down the track as you may injure yourself or others.

And finally, when your half-hour session is up or you get tired, don't sit or lie down on the trampoline. Exit the bouncing zone and head round to our newly refurbished cafeteria on the top floor where you'll find plenty of seating to relax. If you're feeling peckish or want to quench your thirst, we have a varied menu available. However, all food and beverages must be consumed inside the cafeteria. The trampoline park is completely a non-smoking zone. Photos can only be taken outside the play area. We thank you for your attention and hope you have a great time at Jumping Jacks!

(Adapted from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQgzxf2ZJaE>)

(Total: 15 marks)



SUBJECT: **English Language**
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 DATE: 6th September 2023
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CANDIDATE'S PAPER

TEXT A – FAMOUS BRITISH BANDS: LED ZEPPELIN

Total

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

- Today's episode is the (first, second, last) in the series.
- (Samantha Walsh, Jimmy Page, John Bonham) is the host of this episode.
- Jim Hunter (is a critic of, is an authority on, has written about) Led Zeppelin.
- Led Zeppelin was set up in (1968, 1969, 1970).
- The song, *Stairway to Heaven*, features in Led Zeppelin's (second, third, fourth) album.
- The band Led Zeppelin was remarkably successful during the (1960s, 1970s, 1980s).
- Led Zeppelin's influence on rock music was (insignificant, moderate, sensational).
- John Bonham was the perfect (guitarist, drummer, vocalist).

(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 group was always known as Led Zeppelin.

(True/False) because _____

- b. Different types of music influenced Led Zeppelin's songs.

(True/False) because _____

- c. Group member Robert Plant wrote the music for the band.

(True/False) because _____

- d. Led Zeppelin were as popular as The Beatles and The Rolling Stones.

(True/False) because _____

- e. Led Zeppelin are known for paving the way for hard rock and heavy metal music.

(True/False) because _____

- f. Led Zeppelin gave the occasional performance after disbanding in 1980.

(True/False) because _____

(Total: 6 marks)

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

During the podcast, Jim Hunter

- argues against Led Zeppelin's influence on rock music.
- narrates stories about Led Zeppelin's influence on rock music.
- explains Led Zeppelin's influence on rock music.

(Total: 1 mark)

TEXT B – TRAMPOLINE PARK

Total

1. Tick (✓) the **FIVE** correct facts about Jumping Jacks trampoline park as mentioned in the text:

Jumping Jacks		(✓)
a.	includes a water slide.	
b.	includes trampolines.	
c.	allows toddlers in.	
d.	includes other attractions.	
e.	hosts special events.	
f.	has height restrictions.	
g.	is open in winter.	
h.	has a gift shop.	
i.	is multi-levelled.	
j.	has a photo booth.	

(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 park? Tick (✓) the correct box below.

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
a.	Jump on the padding	
b.	Jump in pairs	
c.	Do backflips if skilled enough	
d.	Spend an hour jumping	
e.	Have a snack at the cafeteria	
f.	Smoke in designated areas	
g.	Take selfies while jumping	

(Total: 7 marks)



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**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
2023 SUPPLEMENTARY SESSION**

SUBJECT:	English Language	TOTAL
PAPER NUMBER:	I – Part 2	
DATE:	28 th August 2023	
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.	

LANGUAGE USE

1. Match the spoken item on the left with the most suitable response on the right. The first one has been done for you.

(a)	That was some argument you had with Ann, wasn't it?		Don't hold your breath!
(b)	I'm not done yet.		Must dash, I'm afraid.
(c)	She promised she'd clear her room.		Yes, I'm feeling under the weather.
(d)	You don't look too well. Is anything wrong?		Ok, mum's the word.
(e)	Did you hear the latest news at the office?		Yes, and start from scratch.
(f)	Do you have time for a bite to eat with us?	(a)	Yes, we just don't see eye to eye.
(g)	I've had enough for today, if I'm honest.		Your guess is as good as mine!
(h)	Don't tell anyone!		Ok, let's call it a day, then.
(i)	Was it easy to answer all their questions?		Make it snappy, will you?
(j)	Do I have to throw it all away?		Tom's been let go, right?
(k)	What time's Sam coming today?		Well, I had to think on my feet.

(Total: 5 marks)

Please turn the page.

2. Fill in the blanks with ONE of the determiners in the box below. Use each one only ONCE. The first one has been done for you.

this ~~one~~ the its each all a first our quite many

Wheat is (a) one of the most important crops in (b) _____ world. It's used for (c) _____ foods, from bread to pasta to breakfast cereals and cakes and is an essential part of our diet. Unfortunately, climate change is having a big impact with scientists calculating that a one degree rise in global temperature can cause (d) _____ reduction of 6.4 per cent in the amount we can grow. As a result, scientists are asking the question: could the key to feeding the world be hiding in a 300-year-old museum? (e) _____ is one of the hopes of a group of scientists combing through 12,000 specimens of wheat and (f) _____ relatives held in the archives at the National Heritage Museum. The old varieties of wheat are stored in hundreds of old cardboard files, neatly lined up in the museum vaults. (g) _____ one contains dried leaves, stems or ears of grain and sometimes (h) _____ three, from centuries ago. The collection includes a specimen that was collected on Captain Cook's (i) _____ voyage to Australia. It looks spindly and grass-like, and (j) _____ different from the varieties growing in (k) _____ fields today.

(Total: 5 marks)

3. Copy the following sentences inserting all the necessary punctuation.

(a) we tried calling you he said as he picked up the twins jackets

(b) told you i was unavailable didnt i replied his brother

(c) of course you did he shouted back

(Total: 5 marks)

4. Complete the following passage by forming ONE word from the words in brackets. The first one has been done for you.

Nature is the mother of (a) **invention** (**invent**).

Many of the world's most (b) _____ (**innovate**) solutions have been discovered by scientists who stole ideas from nature. Over millions of years of (c) _____ (**evolve**), nature has worked out solutions to many problems. Humans have arrived late in the day and pinched them. For example, Velcro was invented after an engineer marvelled at the hook-like seeds of a plant that got stuck to his dog's fur; the idea for (d) _____ (**robot**) arms came from the (e) _____ (**grip**) ability of elephants. There are different types of (f) _____ (**mimic**) and the most straightforward is the idea of copying something that already exists in nature. The Beijing National Stadium, for example, is inspired by a bird's nest and the Lotus Temple in India is shaped, (g) _____ (**unsurprising**), like a lotus.

Our ability to copy nature is becoming more sophisticated thanks to advances in technology. The atomic force microscope uses a probe with a very sharp tip 1,000 times smaller than the (h) _____ (**wide**) of a hair. This has greatly facilitated the (i) _____ (**develop**) of science which allows better replication of natural materials.

Scientists are also working on materials that decompose as alternatives to the ones currently being used. Recycling plastic, glass and cement consumes energy, and the natural decomposition of these materials takes decades, which is a roadblock to (j) _____ (**sustain**). In the next 50 years, scientists aim to create a bio-robot with tissues that resemble those of the human body. In fact, they see the human body as the perfect (k) _____ (**biology**) machine which inspires solutions.

(Total: 5 marks)

Please turn the page.

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

After 78 years, a social media campaign (a) **brought (bring)** Reg Pye, a war veteran, now 99, and Huguette, a French woman, back together. The two (b) _____ **(reunite)** after they first met in France during the second world war. Reg Pye, who served as a driver in the war, (c) _____ **(pass)** through Normandy when one evening, he (d) _____ **(spot)** a young woman (e) _____ **(stare)** at him while he was eating. The then 22-year-old immediately gave her his bread with jam and his tin of pilchards, and she ran away to eat them. The next morning, he found that she (f) _____ **(fill)** his tin with milk and left a picture of herself with a written message, which he kept.

Pye went back to Normandy twenty years ago to try and find Huguette but was unsuccessful. After hearing the story, Paul Cork from the Taxi Charity for Military Veterans which (g) _____ **(arrange)** free trips for veterans, started a social media campaign and this eventually proved successful.

Once he was told the news, Pye looked at her picture and said, 'The memory of this young girl (h) _____ **(stay)** with me forever. I can't believe that she (i) _____ **(finally/find)** and I wish to thank all those who (j) _____ **(help)** to make my dream come true.' Paul Cork added, 'I (k) _____ **(will not)** be surprised if this story were made into a film because it's so romantic.' He then drove Pye to Normandy in his taxi to meet Huguette again.

(Total: 10 marks)

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

John Gerard’s food blog

The recipes you’ll find (a) **here** are inspired by the people and places I love most. I come from a family of ten and a big family means big meals. In an (b) _____ to tame some of our mealtime chaos and get dinner on the table at a respectable (c) _____, I began to help with the cooking. I soon realised how much I enjoyed it, and (d) _____ I knew it, I had taken over cooking full-time. I captured the process (e) _____ photos, documented my best recipes and that’s (f) _____ the blog was born.

I spent the first 14 years of my life in Cleveland until my family (g) _____ to Colorado. I now live in a converted horse barn (h) _____ I shot my first cookbook. I also spend days experimenting with new recipes, feeding my family and (i) _____ a giant mess here. My hope is to inspire a love for food in others as well as to help them find the courage to try (j) _____ new! Since I started the blog in 2012, I’ve been on various popular TV channels, and I’ve won many (k) _____, including that for Best Food Blogger.

(Total: 5 marks)

Please turn the page.

7. 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.

tell	agree	insist	suggest	greet	offer	ask	apologise
------	-------	--------	---------	------------------	-------	-----	-----------

Luke: Hi Milly! Can the new guy fix the printer for us?

Milly: He may be able to but I'm not sure.

Luke: Why don't you ask him tomorrow?

Milly: Yes, I'll ask him if I remember.

Luke: Shall I remind you this evening?

Luke greeted Milly and _____.

Milly _____.

Luke _____.

Milly _____.

Luke _____.

(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.

A	catch	give	expand	fit	set	blow	get	branch	carry	sum	switch	work
B	out	towards	up	away	up	off	on	in	up	down	up	on

We recently (a) **caught up** with Lauren, founder of The Little Coffee Company about her inspirations and what her business offers.

Interviewer: How was The Little Coffee Company (b) _____ and how would you best summarise what you offer?

Lauren: Well, I started after I went back to Jamaica. I wanted to develop a brand that focussed on women and narrated stories from our communities. The best way to (c) _____ what we offer is to say that our company is a social enterprise that sells some of the best coffees while at the same time showcasing the women farmers behind the brand. We're all (d) _____ the same goal. That's what makes our coffee great!

Interviewer: Did you go through any kind of formal education to help you get to this point?

Lauren: I studied business as I wanted to (e) _____ my knowledge of starting a business. Also, when I worked in the coffee industry in Jamaica, I was (f) _____ by the whole coffee industry. I just loved it!

Interviewer: How does your work complement your personality?

Lauren: I love people, culture, and the community. I'm hardworking too so I (g) _____ working until I get things done.

Interviewer: What do you do to (h) _____?

Lauren: I love to travel, and I enjoy socialising. I also play tennis when I manage to (i) _____ a game.

Interviewer: Where would you like to see yourself in five years' time?

Lauren: Professionally, I'd like to (j) _____ from coffee to other products and make investments in a team that will help us grow.

Interviewer: If you had to choose another career, what would it be?

Lauren: To be honest, I don't know because I don't think I'll ever (k) _____ this job!

(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) Many think that Julia and Emma are sisters, but they're not.

Contrary

Contrary to what many think, Julia and Emma aren't sisters.

(b) When they first met, they thought that they didn't share any interests.

common

When they first met, they thought that they didn't have
_____.

(c) The two friends had never been to Italy, so they went there together.

of

Neither _____ had ever been to Italy so they went there together.

(d) Their trip to Italy was the best of all.

second

Their trip to Italy was _____.

(e) Although it wasn't a long holiday, they enjoyed it as much as possible.

most

Although it wasn't a long holiday, they _____.

(f) As soon as they got back, they started planning their next trip to Italy.

hardly

They _____ when they started planning their next trip to Italy.

(Total: 5 marks)



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EXAMINATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
2023 SUPPLEMENTARY SESSION**

SUBJECT:	English Language	TOTAL
PAPER NUMBER:	IIB – Question 1	
DATE:	28 th August 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. You have decided to enter a writing competition. Write a short story entitled 'A lost opportunity'.
2. Write an article for a local magazine discussing the advantages and disadvantages of being well-known.
3. You are Jessie Adams (jessie.adams@smail.com), a local resident. Write an email to the Mayor (jack.zammit@mayor.com) of your local council in which you suggest the setting up of an outdoor gym in an unused area of your town or village.

To	jack.zammit@mayor.com
From	jessie.adams@smail.com
Subject	Outdoor Gym
Date	September 2023

(Total: 40 marks)



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EXAMINATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
2023 SUPPLEMENTARY SESSION**

SUBJECT:	English Language
PAPER NUMBER:	IIB – Question 2
DATE:	28 th August 2023
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.

TOTAL

READING COMPREHENSION AND SUMMARY

Passage 1

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

5 For most people, the weekly shop is a mundane task that gets sandwiched between rushing home from work and making dinner. I, on the other hand, find a lot of joy in grocery shopping. Working from home allows me to go when the supermarkets are quiet, and I can wander up and down every aisle dreaming of endless food possibilities. But even I sometimes get bored with the options at my local grocery store. This is why I so love grocery shopping when I am abroad.

10 As a vegan, finding restaurants that cater to my needs is not always easy abroad, so I always make sure to book accommodation that has a kitchen. One of the first things I do is go to the grocery store. I don't cook every meal in my rental accommodation. That would be boring and beside the point of travelling to a new place. But I do love to look for local delicacies and those accidental vegan treats.

I've become really good at reading foreign language food labels. I know the words for milk and eggs in several languages, which helps quicken the process. Grocery stores feel like a great way to immerse myself in a new culture. By seeing what their supermarket aisles are filled with, you start to see what the people value.

15 The variety of vegan products in different countries fascinates me every time I travel somewhere new. In Malta, I found the most delicious chocolate-filled croissants that just so happened to be vegan, a product I would struggle to find even in the UK. I ended up eating these unexpected treats for breakfast.

20 By wandering around a grocery store in another country, I can imagine what the lives of its citizens are like. In Italy seeing one aisle filled entirely with different types of pasta, I smiled to myself as it confirmed that it's not just a stereotype: Italians really do love their pasta. Walking through a supermarket in Germany was a delight, seeing the types of things that Germans might impulse buy. I could also watch children begging their parents for sweets, a universal experience that needs no language.

25 People might find it a weird habit to go grocery shopping on holiday. Surely, I'd rather spend my time doing something more fun like visiting museums. And don't get me wrong, I love doing this too. Being immersed in the day-to-day lives of a country's citizens helps you understand more about them. For all they know, I am not a tourist but a local. This, of course, tends to break down when I pay for my items. But for that half an hour, I put myself in the shoes of a local.

30 Grocery shopping is an act of people-watching as much as it is about buying food. It's a chance to slow down and find that their lives are not so different from our own.

(Adapted from: readersdigest.co.uk)

QUESTIONS ON PASSAGE 1

1. Underline the title that best fits the passage: (1)

- a. Grocery shopping at the local shop
- b. Grocery shopping whilst on holiday
- c. The pleasures of grocery shopping whilst on holiday
- d. The joys of grocery shopping in Italy

2. **In your own words**, mention **TWO** ways in which the weekly shopping is different for the writer when compared to 'most people' (line 1). (2)

- a. _____
- b. _____

3. Explain what the writer means by 'beside the point of travelling to a new place' (line 9). (1)

4. Why do you think the writer knows the words for some food items 'in several languages' (line 12)? (1)

5. What does 'the process' in line 12 refer to? (1)

6. Underline the correct answer. (1)

The writer uses the word 'unexpected' in line 17 because he did not think that he would

- a. be eating such a lot of food for breakfast.
- b. buy croissants in Malta.
- c. like the croissants sold in Malta.
- d. find vegan croissants in Malta.

7. **In your own words**, explain why the writer says 'I smiled to myself' (lines 20-21). (2)

8. Underline the correct answer. (1)

The phrase 'impulse buy' (line 23) means people buy something

- a. that is a bargain.
- b. that they really need.
- c. that they do not reflect on before buying.
- d. that is on their shopping list.

9. Explain why the writer describes watching children begging their parents for sweets as 'a universal experience' (line 23). (1)

10. Explain why you think the writer says that pretending to be a local, not a tourist, 'tends to break down when I pay' (lines 28-29). (1)

11. Underline the correct answer. (1)

By 'I put myself in the shoes of a local' (line 29) the writer means he

- a. uses shoes purchased from the local shoe store.
- b. thinks and behaves like a local.
- c. communicates well with the locals.
- d. wears shoes typically worn by locals.

12. Are the following statements True (T) or False (F)? Circle the correct answer and give a reason for each of your answers. (4)

a. When abroad, the writer stays in hotels that offer vegan choices.

(True/False) because _____

b. The writer enjoys trying out typical food of the country he visits.

(True/False) because _____

c. The writer dislikes visiting museums when abroad.

(True/False) because _____

d. When abroad the writer spends hours every time he goes grocery shopping.

(True/False) because _____

13. In a paragraph of between 40 and 50 words, summarise the **FOUR** reasons why the writer enjoys grocery shopping when in another country. Use your own words. (8)

(Total: 25 marks)

Total passage 1

Passage 2

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

Just 20 kilometres south of Pisa in Italy, Livorno checks all the boxes of the typical European port city. It's chaotic and lively, multicultural, and strongly linked to the sea, both culturally and gastronomically. Plus, it is in the middle of Tuscany, which should automatically make **it** popular.

5 Yet, with only 10% of Florence's tourist numbers, Livorno is mostly ignored by visitors and the few who do show up often look like they arrived by accident. Stop one on the street, if you can find **one**, and ask why they are here. They will likely say they are waiting to board the ferry to Corsica or Sardinia.

10 But why is that? Firstly, Livorno is surrounded by renowned Tuscan towns that, many locals say, steal the spotlight. Others believe that throughout the years, the city's oil refineries, its port area and the US military base have given Livorno an industrial, polluted image. But travellers who speed through don't realise that they're missing out on a culturally lively town with a breathtaking coastline and a uniquely liberal attitude.

15 "By the 1800s, Livorno had become a popular summer destination for the Italian high society," says local historian Giorgio Mandalis. He explains that in the 1800s and up until World War Two, the city was home to some of Italy's first seaside resorts, **which** were regularly frequented by Italian royals, and had tourism facilities including hotels and spas. There was even a funfair with rollercoasters and an early version of a cinema.

20 However, the glory days didn't last forever. In World War Two, US air raids destroyed much of the strategic port and the city centre, making Livorno one of the most heavily bombed cities in Italy. Things got even worse with the reckless and hasty post-war redevelopment of entire neighbourhoods. Livorno's public image was further slain by simple modern structures which,

erected right next to 17th-Century classic-style buildings spared by the bombs, caused the area to look disharmonious and unbalanced.

25 On the other hand, Livorno does have its share of positives. "**We** have things that the other 'properly beautiful' Tuscan cities don't have," says Mandalis. "The city's cosmopolitan character, its openness, and brightness have always attracted painters, and Livorno is also filled with history and art, such as the ancient seaside resorts, the 14th-century lighthouse and the villas in front of the Naval Academy."

30 Things seem to be changing from a cultural point of view. "In the last years, the artistic scene has become livelier, especially with music festivals, theatres, art galleries and exhibitions, especially in summer," says Alessandra Falca, a Livorno-born musician who is very involved in the city's cultural scene.

35 In other words, the Tuscan city is made for visitors who are willing to dig a little deeper into the local history and take in **its** easy-going attitude. According to Falca, "The Livornese think there is no better city in the world. But judging by the number of tourists who come to Livorno, **they** are just saying it to themselves."

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

QUESTIONS ON PASSAGE 2

1. a. What do you understand by 'Livorno checks all the boxes of the typical European port city' (lines 1-2)? (1)

b. **In your own words**, write the **FOUR** ways in which Livorno does so. (2)

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

iv. _____

2. Give **TWO** reasons why 'Livorno is mostly ignored by visitors' (line 4). (2)

a. _____

b. _____

3. From the passage list **THREE** reasons why Livorno should be popular with visitors. (3)

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

4. Between lines 4 and 17 find **SINGLE** words that mean the **opposite** of the following: (3)

- a. disembark from _____
- b. unknown _____
- c. pass slowly _____
- d. commonly _____
- e. foreign _____
- f. hardly ever _____

5. List **FOUR** facts about Livorno that made it attractive between the 19th and early 20th century prior to World War Two. (2)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

6. Explain what the writer means by 'glory days' (line 18). (1)

7. List the **THREE** stages of Livorno's loss of popularity with visitors in the order in which they occur. (3)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

8. What do the following refer to in the passage? (3)

a. it (line 3)	b. one (line 6)
c. which (line 15)	d. We (line 24)
e. its (line 34)	f. they (line 35)

9. Fill in the following table with information taken from the passage. The first one has been done for you as an example. (3)

Name of person	What makes Livorno attractive according to the people listed in the column on the left
Giorgio Mandalis	a. its cosmopolitan character
	b.
	c.
	d.
Alessandra Falca	a.
	b.
	c.
	d.

10. For what type of tourist is Livorno a good holiday destination? (1)

11. Underline the most appropriate answer. (1)

- The main purpose of the writer is to
- a. narrate the daily life of the Livorno inhabitants.
 - b. encourage readers to visit Livorno.
 - c. inform readers about gastronomy in Livorno.
 - d. persuade readers to invest financially in Livorno.

(Total: 25 marks)

Total passage 2

Please turn the page.

