PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: You will hear a text about Nelson Mandela twice. Before you listen to it, you have 2 minutes to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 4 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, C or D. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.

1. Nelson Mandela
   A) came from a royal family background.
   B) got the nickname “Rolihlahla” from a school teacher.
   C) acted as a city chief before going to university.
   D) studied political science at university.

2. As a member and a leader of the African National Congress, Mandela
   A) actively campaigned against racism, poverty and inequality.
   B) always supported non-violent forms of protest.
   C) achieved his political demands by using violence only.
   D) was responsible for the death of many innocent people.

3. While in prison, Nelson Mandela
   A) publicly renounced his beliefs and ideals.
   B) was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
   C) attracted international support for his cause.
   D) voted in the first multiracial general elections.

4. As a president of South Africa, Nelson Mandela
   A) was elected and supported only by non-white citizens.
   B) continued his fight against the legacy of apartheid.
   C) could not prevent a civil war from breaking out.
   D) made his last public appearance at a football World Cup.

5. Nelson Mandela day
   A) is celebrated on 5 December to commemorate Mandela’s sacrifice.
   B) was proclaimed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu last year.
   C) is about showing you are proud to be African for 67 minutes.
   D) is to inspire individuals to change the world for the better.

Directions: You will hear a text about beavers twice. Before you listen to it, you have 2 minutes to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 4 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, C or D. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.
6. The expression “an eager beaver”
   A) refers to a type of rodent living in water.
   B) is associated with hard-working people.
   C) was coined during the settlement of America.
   D) is in danger of becoming extinct soon.

7. Unlike mice and rats, beavers
   A) are very small.
   B) don’t have a tail.
   C) have sharp front teeth.
   D) spend a lot of time in water.

8. Beavers
   A) were brought to America from Europe.
   B) cannot survive in the cold.
   C) build dams out of tree branches and mud.
   D) create small lakes by cutting holes in dams.

9. The fur of the beaver
   A) is usually quite thick and black in colour.
   B) wasn’t considered valuable by American settlers.
   C) was used in the construction of water dams.
   D) used to be a means of payment in trade transactions.

10. Beavers
    A) couldn’t be found anywhere in the West.
    B) acted as guides to the settlers in the West.
    C) can be spotted not far from the US capital city.
    D) are still on the point of extinction in America.

Directions: You will hear a text about a bad travelling experience twice. Before you listen to it, you have 1 minute to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 3 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.

11. The speaker was going to Rome on holiday.
    A) True.  B) False.  C) No information in the text.

12. She could not catch the connecting train for the airport because she arrived late at the railway station.
    A) True.  B) False.  C) No information in the text.

13. She decided to travel by taxi because there was no other way to get to the airport on time.
    A) True.  B) False.  C) No information in the text.

14. The taxi fare was equal to the price of the ticket for a regular flight.
    A) True.  B) False.  C) No information in the text.

15. The speaker couldn’t pay the taxi driver because someone had stolen her purse.
    A) True.  B) False.  C) No information in the text.
Every language has its own ways of expressing strong emotions – surprise, shock, anger. The expressions range from mild to strong, from exclamations to curses and swear words. The ones that are accepted in public speech change through the years as social rules change.

At times, only very mild expressions are socially accepted. Some of the most popular expressions are those that are guaranteed not to offend anyone. Most of these exclamations have survived from earlier days, and their original meanings are long since forgotten.

"Great Scott!" is a good example. It expresses surprise or shock. You might say to someone, "Great Scott! I did not know she was married."

Language expert Webb Garrison tells an interesting story about the expression. Just before the Civil War, the Whig political party was making a last effort to remain a part of American political life. For the election of 1852, the Whigs wanted to offer a colourful candidate for president.

They thought that Winfield Scott would be the right candidate. In his 30 years as a general, Winfield Scott had become one of the best known military leaders in the country. During the war with Mexico he had captured Vera Cruz and occupied Mexico City. So, party leaders thought that if any Whig could be elected president, it was Winfield Scott.

General Scott quickly accepted the nomination and began campaigning. It did not take long for the public to realize that General Scott really liked General Scott. His speeches were full of praise for himself. It was evident that he thought he was the greatest candidate who had ever lived. Soon his political opponents began to make fun of him. They called him "Great Scott". General Scott did not come close to winning the presidency. But his name still lives as part of the English language.

Other popular exclamations combine “holy” with other words. "Holy mackerel!" is one that expresses surprise or wonder. It comes from earlier days when the Roman Catholic Church ruled that Catholics must not eat meat on Fridays. Since mackerel was a common and cheap fish in the United States, it was often eaten for dinner on Friday.

"Holy cow" is a similar expression. It comes from the Hindu belief that cows are sacred. It, too, expresses surprise. For example, "Holy cow! I did not know it was so late."

16. Ways of expressing strong emotions
   A) are identical in all languages.
   B) have rarely changed over the years.
   C) vary in intensity and social acceptability.
   D) are easily traced back to their original roots.

17. The most popular exclamations
   A) express surprise, wonder or shock.
   B) are the ones containing swear words.
   C) are those generally considered acceptable.
   D) have been around for many years.

18. The expression "Great Scott!"
   A) originates from Scotland.
   B) is used to express approval.
   C) was first used by General Scott.
   D) has been studied by Webb Garrison.
19. General Winfield Scott
A) distinguished himself on several occasions during the Civil War.
B) was a renowned military leader for about three decades.
C) was not a member of the Whig party until the presidential elections.
D) was generally liked and praised by the people for his modesty.

20. The expressions "Holy mackerel!" and "Holy cow!"
A) are used to express the same strong emotion.
B) are based on the same religious belief.
C) are related to the eating habits of Americans.
D) should not be used on Fridays if you are a believer.

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

The Early Days of Mountain-Climbing

Modern alpinists try to climb mountains by a route which will give them good sport, and the more difficult it is, the more highly it is regarded. In the pioneering days, however, this was not the case at all. The early climbers were looking for the easiest way to the top because the summit was the prize they sought, especially if it had never been attained before. It is true that during their explorations they often faced difficulties and dangers of the most terrifying nature, equipped in a manner which would make a modern climber shudder at the thought, but they did not go out of their way to look for such excitement. They had a single aim – the top!

It is hard for us to realize nowadays how difficult it was for the pioneers. Except for one or two places like Zermatt and Chamonix, which rapidly became popular, Alpine villages tended to be poor settlements cut off from civilization by the high mountains. Such inns as there were, were generally dirty and flea-ridden; the food was simply local cheese accompanied by bread often twelve months old, all washed down with coarse wine. Often a valley boasted no inn at all, and climbers found shelter wherever they could – sometimes with the local priest (who was usually as poor as his parishioners), sometimes with shepherds or cheese-makers. Invariably the background was the same: dirt and poverty, and very uncomfortable. For men in the habit of eating seven-course dinners and sleeping between fine linen sheets at home, the change to the Alps must have been very hard indeed.

21. For modern alpinists often the challenges of the route matter as much as actually reaching their final destination.
A) True.  B) False.  C) No information in the text.

22. The early climbers had to overcome fewer difficulties on their way to the mountain peaks.
A) True.  B) False.  C) No information in the text.

23. Alpine villages with good conditions for skiing developed more quickly than the rest of the mountain settlements.
A) True.  B) False.  C) No information in the text.

24. The early alpinists never carried tents with them but took shelter with local people.
A) True.  B) False.  C) No information in the text.

25. We can infer that the early alpinists were usually well-off people from an upper-class background.
A) True.  B) False.  C) No information in the text.
Directions: Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among A, B or C, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

Future Champions

Experiments have proved that children can be instructed in swimming at a very early age. At a special swimming pool in Los Angeles, children became expert at holding their breath under water even before they can walk. Babies of two months old do not appear to be reluctant to enter the water. It is not long before they are so accustomed to swimming under water that they can pick up weights from the floor of the pool. A game that is very popular with these young swimmers is the underwater tricycle race. Tricycles are lined up on the floor of the pool seven feet under water. The children compete against each other to reach the other end of the pool. Many pedal their tricycles, but most of them prefer to push or drag them. Some children can cover the whole length of the pool without coming up for breath even once. Whether they will become future Olympic champions, only time will tell.

26. The children at the swimming pool in Los Angeles are training for competing in Olympic games.
   A) True.    B) False.    C) No information in the text.

27. Children cannot swim under water until they learn how to walk.
   A) True.    B) False.    C) No information in the text.

28. Children who can pick weights from the floor of the pool already know how to swim under water.
   A) True.    B) False.    C) No information in the text.

29. Only children who know how to cycle when out of water take part in the underwater tricycle race.
   A) True.    B) False.    C) No information in the text.

30. During the race, only the children who pedal their tricycles have to come to the surface of the water to breathe.
   A) True.    B) False.    C) No information in the text.
PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH
Section One: Cloze
Directions: Read the text below and for each numbered gap choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best suits the gap, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

The story of the Pilgrims and their Indian neighbours is familiar to most Americans, and many foreign visitors as well. It evokes powerful images of strength in the (31) .......... of danger and hardship, of ships on storm-tossed oceans and winters on bleak New England shores, yet also of harvest, of Thanksgiving gatherings and golden autumnal afternoons. However, the historic reality which underlies this greeting card imagery is far more complex. The colonists who arrived in 1620 (32) .......... to the new continent not only European (33) .......... and technology, but also hopes, dreams and a Christian faith reflecting a decidedly seventeenth-century English view of the world.

The people we know as the Pilgrims have become so surrounded with legends that we tend to forget that they were real people. Against great (34) .........., they courageously (35) .......... the famous 1620 voyage and (36) .......... the first New England colony, but they were still ordinary English men and women, not super heroes. If we really want to understand them, we must try to (37) .......... the myths surrounding them and see them as they saw themselves.

They were English people who sought to (38) .......... the religious controversies and economic problems of their time by (39) .......... to America. As English people, the Pilgrims also (40) .......... a vital secular culture, both learned and traditional. They lived in a time which accepted fairies and witches, (41) .......... remedies and astrological virtues, seasonal festivals and folklore as real parts of their lives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>31.</th>
<th>A) eyes</th>
<th>B) head</th>
<th>C) face</th>
<th>D) meeting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32.</td>
<td>A) brought</td>
<td>B) fetched</td>
<td>C) conveyed</td>
<td>D) transmitted</td>
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<td>33.</td>
<td>A) amenities</td>
<td>B) tools</td>
<td>C) gears</td>
<td>D) appliances</td>
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<td>34.</td>
<td>A) drawbacks</td>
<td>B) hindrances</td>
<td>C) oddities</td>
<td>D) odds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.</td>
<td>A) made</td>
<td>B) did</td>
<td>C) travelled</td>
<td>D) covered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.</td>
<td>A) found</td>
<td>B) founded</td>
<td>C) set off</td>
<td>D) set out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.</td>
<td>A) disclose</td>
<td>B) decline</td>
<td>C) dispel</td>
<td>D) disbelieve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.</td>
<td>A) escape</td>
<td>B) run</td>
<td>C) break off</td>
<td>D) break away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39.</td>
<td>A) displacing</td>
<td>B) removing</td>
<td>C) replacing</td>
<td>D) moving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40.</td>
<td>A) divided</td>
<td>B) shared</td>
<td>C) distributed</td>
<td>D) joined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41.</td>
<td>A) bloom</td>
<td>B) grass</td>
<td>C) herbal</td>
<td>D) weed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

42. Around the year 1800, Thomas Wedgwood made the first known attempt to capture the image in a camera obscura by .......... of a light-sensitive substance.
A) means  B) instrument  C) method  D) a way

43. The participation of women in photography goes .......... to the very origins of the process.
A) forth  B) into  C) on  D) back

44. Photography by indigenous peoples of the Americas is an art form that .......... in contrast to photography by non-natives.
A) gets  B) stands  C) sets  D) stays

45. The oldest known dictionaries were Akkadian Empire cuneiform tablets with bilingual Sumerian-Akkadian wordlists, discovered in Ebla (modern Syria) and .......... roughly 2300 BC.
A) dated  B) calendared  C) determined  D) recorded
Section Two: Sentence Completion
Directions: For each of the sentences below, choose the letter A, B, C or D of the word or phrase that best completes its meaning, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

46. The luggage looks rather heavy. ______ carry it for you?
   A) Shall I     B) Will I     C) Would I     D) Do I

47. ______ go to the concert than listen to that political speech.
   A) We would rather   B) We prefer   C) We’d prefer   D) We rather

48. ______ a celebrity has its advantages and disadvantages.
   A) As being   B) Been   C) Being   D) Be

49. ______ in loitering in the streets after midnight.
   A) It’s no point   B) There is no point   C) It isn’t point   D) There isn’t point

50. I find my boss difficult to work with – he is always _____ my ideas.
   A) criticize   B) criticizes   C) criticized   D) criticizing

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

51. Susan was so bored with the lecture that she almost fell asleep.
   It was ______________________ that Susan almost fell asleep.

52. If the joke is better, the laugh is louder.
   The _______________, the ____________.

53. Hardly had he called when I realized I missed him.
   As soon_____________________________________.

54. The police officer reported that the stolen money had been found under the old bridge.
   The stolen money ________________ to ___________________ under the old bridge.

55. Kate continued to work for the library even after graduating from Harvard.
   Kate went………………………………… even after graduating from Harvard.

56. As I went past his house, I heard that he was shouting at someone in the garden.
   Going past his house, ____________ him ___________________ at someone in the garden.

57. We have received confirmation of Mr Jackson’s resignation.
   It has ________________ that ________________.

58. My parents started quarrelling 60 minutes ago and they are still doing it.
   My parents ______________________________________60 minutes now.

59. ‘Jack, where did you leave the documents last week?’ Mrs Hill asked her employee.
   Mrs Hill asked her employee ________________ week.

60. They sold all the best stuff before I got there.
   By the time I got there all____________________.
PART FOUR: WRITING

Directions: On your sheet for open-ended answers write a composition in standard English of about 160-170 words on **ONE** of the following topics, marking the topic you have chosen on the sheet:

1. What comes to your mind on seeing a falling star?
2. Which is the greatest moral value of our times? Support your opinion with arguments.

Mind that if you submit two texts as well as in case of indecent language, plagiarism, identical texts or if your composition is under 80 words or totally irrelevant to the chosen topic it will get 0 points.
Nelson Mandela was a civil rights leader in South Africa. He fought against apartheid, a system where non-white citizens were segregated from whites and did not have equal rights. He spent a good portion of his life in prison for his protests, but became a symbol for his people. In 1993 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and the next year he was elected the first black president of South Africa.

Nelson Mandela was born on July 18, 1918 in South Africa. His birth name is Rolihlahla, which means "troublemaker". He got the nickname Nelson from a teacher in primary school. Nelson was a member of Thimbu royalty and his father was a city chief. At university, Mandela studied Law and there he met some of his fellow activists against apartheid.

In 1943 Nelson Mandela joined the African National Congress and soon became its leader. At first he pushed hard for the Congress and the protesters to follow Gandhi's non-violence approach. But then he started to doubt that this approach would work and set up an armed branch of the Congress. He planned to bomb certain buildings, but he also wanted to make sure that no one would be hurt. In the 1960s he was classified as a terrorist by the South African government and sent to prison.

Mandela spent the next 27 years in prison. He refused to bend on his principles in order to be released and stated that he would die for his ideals. He wanted all people of all races to have equal rights in South Africa. His prison sentence brought international visibility to the anti-apartheid movement. He was finally released through international pressure in 1990.

Once released from prison, Nelson continued his campaign to end apartheid. His hard work and lifelong effort paid off when all races were allowed to vote in the 1994 election. Nelson Mandela won the election and became president of South Africa. There were several times during the process where violence threatened to break out. Nelson was a strong force in keeping the calm and preventing a major civil war.

On December 5, 2013 Nelson Mandela died in Johannesburg, South Africa. He had rarely been seen in public since officially retiring in 2004. He made his last public appearance in 2010, at the football World Cup in South Africa. His fellow campaigner against apartheid, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, said he was "not only an amazing gift to humankind, he made South Africans and Africans feel good about being who we are. He made us walk tall. God be praised."

July 18th is Nelson Mandela day in South Africa. People are asked to devote 67 minutes to helping others. The 67 minutes represents the 67 years Mandela spent serving his country.
Directions: You will hear a text about beavers twice. Before you listen to it, you have 2 minutes to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 4 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, C or D. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.

An eager beaver is a person who is always willing and excited to do what is expected of him and to do it as quickly as he can.

Suppose, for example, that a teacher tells her students they each must solve one hundred math problems before coming to school the next day. The students generally complain about so much home study. But a few students do not protest at all – they are the eager beavers. They love to do math problems and do not mind all the homework. In fact, they can hardly wait to get started.

Another eager beaver works as a salesman for a company. He always arrives at the office before anyone else and is the last person to leave. The man works hard, because he enjoys his job. He is a true eager beaver.

The expression comes from the name of a hard-working animal – the beaver. Beavers are strange-looking creatures. They are rodents, like mice and rats, but much larger. Some weigh more than twenty-five kilograms. Beavers have a large, black tail to help them swim. They also have thick brown fur to keep them warm in cold waters. And they have front teeth sharp enough to cut down large trees. Beavers spend a lot of time in the water, building dams to create little lakes or ponds. They work hard to cut down trees, remove branches and put them together with mud to make dams. Few other animals work so hard.

Historians say the beaver had an important part in the settlement of North America. There were many millions of beavers when European settlers first arrived. The settlers put great value on the fur of the beaver. In fact, for two hundred years or more, beaver was the most valuable fur in North America. Beaver skins were often used as money. Young men looking for adventure headed west across the country to search for beavers. In their search, they explored much of the western territories. The trading posts, where they exchanged beaver skins for the goods they needed, became villages, and later towns and cities. Many of the beaver trappers became guides. They led groups of settlers to new homes in the West.

So most of the beavers were trapped and killed. For a time they were in danger of extinction. But laws were passed to protect the beaver. And today, the population of beavers in America is rising. In fact, wild beavers are building dams on a stream less than twenty kilometers outside Washington.

And, like the animal, the expression "eager beaver" is in no danger of dying out.
Directions: You will hear a text about a bad travelling experience twice. Before you listen to it, you have 1 minute to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 3 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.

One of the worst journeys I have ever experienced occurred a few weeks ago. I had booked a cheap flight to Rome, so the ticket could not be changed in any way. If I missed the flight, I would not be able to use the ticket for any alternative journey.

When I reached the railway station, I was told that all the trains were running late; this meant I would miss the connecting train for the airport. A loudspeaker announcement helpfully informed us that an extra train would be provided, so we needn’t worry. Nothing could have been further from the truth. The extra train did not arrive. I inquired about buses, but the last one for the airport had left! There was only one solution: I had to take a taxi. Dragging my suitcases behind me, I hurried outside and found a taxi. “It’s a long way. It’ll cost you a lot,” the taxi driver warned me. I knew that, but the taxi fare would be cheaper than having to buy another plane ticket.

We arrived at the airport with about twenty minutes to spare. I jumped out, looked in my bag for my purse and to my horror discovered it was missing! The taxi driver was pleasant but firm. My suitcases were locked in the boot and there they would stay until I found a way of paying him. Of course, I never caught my plane.
Въпрос № | Верен отговор | Брой точки |
--- | --- | --- |
1. | A | 1 |
2. | A | 1 |
3. | C | 1 |
4. | B | 1 |
5. | D | 1 |
6. | B | 1 |
7. | D | 1 |
8. | C | 1 |
9. | D | 1 |
10. | C | 1 |
11. | C | 1 |
12. | B | 1 |
13. | A | 1 |
14. | B | 1 |
15. | C | 1 |
16. | C | 1 |
17. | C | 1 |
18. | D | 1 |
19. | B | 1 |
20. | A | 1 |
21. | A | 1 |
22. | B | 1 |
23. | C | 1 |
24. | C | 1 |
25. | A | 1 |
26. | B | 1 |
27. | B | 1 |
28. | A | 1 |
29. | C | 1 |
30. | C | 1 |
31. | C | 1 |
32. | A | 1 |
33. | B | 1 |
34. | D | 1 |
35. | A | 1 |
36. | B | 1 |
37. | C | 1 |
38. | A | 1 |
39. | D | 1 |
40. | B | 1 |
41. | C | 1 |
42. | A | 1 |
43. | D | 1 |
44. | B | 1 |
45. | A | 1 |
46. | A | 1 |
47. | A | 1 |
48. | C | 1 |
49. | B | 1 |
50. | D | 1 |

Възможни варианти:

Задачите от 51 до 60 включително се оценяват с 0 – 2 точки. Не се санкционират правописни и пунктуационни грешки, които не водят до нарушаване на комуникацията.
Sentence Transformations

51. It was such a boring/so boring a lecture that Susan almost fell asleep.
52. The better the joke, the louder the laugh.
53. As soon as he called, I realized I missed him.
54. The stolen money was reported to have been found under the old bridge.
55. Kate went on working for the library even after graduating from Harvard.
56. Going past his house, I heard him shouting/shout at someone in the garden.
57. It has been confirmed that Mr Jackson has resigned/is resigning/is going to resign.
58. My parents have been quarrelling for 60 minutes now.
59. Mrs Hill asked her employee where he had left the documents the previous week.
60. By the time I got there all the best stuff had been sold.

Критерии за оценяване на писменя текст:
1. Съдържание и логическа последователност на изложението – 0 – 4т.
2. Спазване на зададения обем и формат – 0 – 3т.
3. Спазване на граматическите норми и правила – 0 – 9т.
4. Правилна и точна употреба на лексиката – 0 – 9т.
5. Богатство на изразните средства – 0 – 3т.
6. Правопис – 0 – 2т. (Не се санкционират пунктуационни грешки, които не пречат на разбирането.)

При предадени два текста, в случай на плагиатство, идентични текстове, текст под 80 думи или пълно несъответствие на текста с избраната тема се присъждат 0 точки.