



**ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
EXAMINATIONS**

**DECEMBER
2007**

NAME

LAAS
LANGUAGE ATTAINMENT ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Level A2

Certificate Recognised by ICC

INSTRUCTIONS

- Be sure you have written your name at the top of this page.
- Do not open this booklet until the exam starts.
- The order of the exam papers is: PART A Listening, PART B Reading & Usage, PART C Writing.
- Time allowed for all three parts: 120 minutes

A LISTENING (25 points) Time: approximately 20 minutes

- As you listen to the recording, mark your answers in this booklet.
- Answer all the questions. Give only one answer for each question.
- After the end of the recording, you will have 3 minutes to transfer your answers onto Answer Sheet A. Mark them in 2H or HB pencil.

LISTENING EXERCISE 1: Numbers 1 to 10





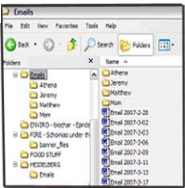

You and Your Computer

Choose the correct word or phrase to complete each sentence, 1 to 5.
 Circle its letter, A, B or C.

- One thing you will not find in a 'file' is a ____ .
 A. computer B. page of writing C. picture
- When you 'delete' a file, you ____ .
 A. save it in the computer
 B. throw it in your dustbin
 C. put it into the 'Recycle Bin'
- New computer students may be afraid they will ____ .
 A. throw something away by mistake
 B. make a mistake in their writing
 C. keep something they don't want
- In a library, you can find the book you want because ____ .
 A. the librarian helps you
 B. there is a title on each one
 C. there is a computer to help you
- When you 'delete' a file from your computer, you ____ .
 A. destroy it completely
 B. take the name off the file
 C. put it into a book

Choose a picture to answer each question, 6 to 10.
 Write its letter, A to F, in the space beside each number.
 You will use only five of the pictures.

6. ____ 7. ____ 8. ____ 9. ____ 10. ____

A	
B	
C	
D	
E	
F	

LISTENING EXERCISE 2: Numbers 11 to 20**TRAVEL INFORMATION CENTRE**

Choose the correct word or phrase to complete each sentence, 11 to 17.

Circle its letter, A, B or C.

11. The caller is pleased that the Centre ____ .
 A. is in the centre of Athens
 B. has information in English
 C. needs some information
12. The caller wants information for his ____ .
 A. friend B. nephew C. wife and kids
13. George might prefer a guided coach tour because he ____ .
 A. doesn't speak Greek very well
 B. is not old enough to travel alone
 C. doesn't like buses and trains
14. The Travel Information Centre recommends ____ .
 A. leaving by 6 or 7 in the morning
 B. returning the next day
 C. visiting some famous places
15. If George takes a longer tour, ____ .
 A. the tour company organises hotels
 B. he'd have to organise his own hotel
 C. he might not find a hotel
16. The Information Centre can recommend ____ .
 A. a good tour company
 B. a travel site on the Internet
 C. sights but not companies
17. The caller might call travel agents to ____ .
 A. do a good job for his customers
 B. learn which tour companies they use
 C. organise a place on a tour for himself



Choose a picture to answer each question, 18 to 20.
 Write its letter, A, B, C or D, beside the number.
 You will use only **three** of the pictures.

Which picture shows the person:

18. ____ at the Travel Information Centre?
 19. ____ who will visit Greece?
 20. ____ who has called the Information Centre?

B

READING & USAGE (50 points)

- You are advised to spend about 1 hour on this part of the test.
- You may mark your answers on this booklet while you are working on them.
- Answer all the questions. Give only one answer for each question.
- When you have finished, mark your answers on Answer Sheet **B** using a 2H or HB pencil.

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 1: Numbers 1 to 10

Read this story about birds.

Then do the exercises on page 4.

Saving the Birds

Have you heard of the whooping crane? It's a large bird. There aren't many whooping cranes left in North America. One group of cranes flies every year from Wood Buffalo National Park in Canada to its winter home in Texas, in the USA. That's a long way! There are about 230 birds in this group.

Last spring, another group of 18 whooping cranes flew to Florida in the USA. There, seventeen of them died in a terrible storm. One young bird, called Number 15, didn't die. It was found because it had a tiny radio on its leg. Why were Number 15 and the other whooping cranes in Florida and not Texas? It's an interesting story!

When young birds come out of their eggs, the first thing they usually see is their mother. But these whooping cranes saw a small aeroplane. When they were big enough to fly, they followed the plane, like a mother bird. And the plane flew – with the birds behind it – from the state of Wisconsin, near Canada, all the way to Florida. Number 15's group went to Florida in case something bad happened to the large group in Texas.

This was all part of a project called Operation Migration. For the last 50 years or so, there have been fewer and fewer whooping cranes. Operation Migration protects whooping crane eggs on bird farms and then takes the young cranes back to nature. There, they learn to live as wild birds again. In the future, if the project succeeds, there will be lots of whooping cranes in North America again.

The people in charge of Operation Migration were very excited this year when all 18 of the young cranes arrived in Sandhill, Florida. This was the first time in six years that all the young birds had got there alive. And then the storm happened. "So many birds, and they were such good birds," said Joe Duff from Operation Migration, which began the unusual idea of using planes to lead the birds.

There are 64 birds in the Wisconsin-Florida group now, and Number 15 will probably fly back to Wisconsin with the rest. Next year, another group of young birds will make the trip and the group, known as a flock, will get bigger.

The people who run Operation Migration hope that things will go better next year. "The important thing is that the birds we raise can return to nature, and, so far, this has been a success," one of them said. "Things were going very well for the project until this storm. Accidents happen, but we expect things to go well from now on."

This story appeared on the Birdlife International website: www.birdlife.org

Choose the correct word or phrase to fill each gap.
Mark its letter, A, B or C, on Answer Sheet B.

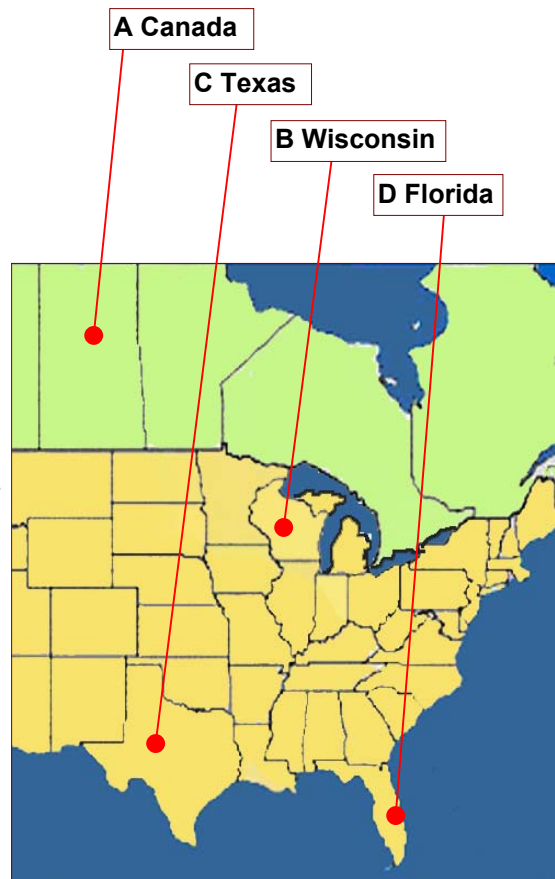
- The Whooping Crane is a large bird that _____.
A. is very common in North America
B. can fly long distances
C. lives in Texas in the summer
- _____ whooping crane(s) did not die in the storm.
A. One B. Fifteen C. Eighteen
- Number 15's group travelled to Florida _____.
A. on board a plane
B. flying as birds do
C. while still in their eggs
- Operation Migration is a project to help _____.
A. whooping cranes find food
B. increase the number of wild cranes
C. Florida get new types of birds
- This year's journey to Florida was more _____ than usual.
A. expensive
B. difficult
C. successful
- Number 15's group _____.
A. will never fly back home to Wisconsin
B. has more birds now than before the storm
C. will be the last group ever to go to Florida
- People in Operation Migration think the the whooping crane project _____.
A. will be successful
B. should be closed
C. has too many accidents



Choose a place on the map to match each sentence.
Mark its letter, A to D, on Answer Sheet B.
You will use only three of the letters.

This is where:

- crane 'Number 15' came from.
- there was a bad storm.
- 230 cranes spend the winter.



READING & USAGE EXERCISE 2: Numbers 11 to 20

Read this article about houses.

Choose the correct word to fill each gap.

Mark its letter, A, B or C, on Answer Sheet B.

Hot and Cold Houses

In the old days, homes in the warm (11) of Greece had very high ceilings, stone floors, and wide windows and doors. Why? Because hot air (12). In the summer, the room was (13) near the floor because the hot air was near the ceiling. The stone floor was cool, and the big windows let in cool air in the evening.

Houses in the mountains were the (14): windows were small and ceilings were (15). In the mountains, it was cooler all year round and very cold in the winter. So, this helped keep the hot air down near the people who, of course, wanted to (16) warm.

(17), new buildings don't usually have high ceilings. This is cheaper, because shorter walls (18) less cement. If it's a bit hot in the summer, we just turn on fans or the (19) conditioner. Of course, we have to use lots of electricity for this, which makes the world warmer and the air dirtier. And if the (20) goes off, it's really hot and miserable inside!



- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 11. | A. halves | B. parts | C. pieces |
| 12. | A. rises | B. adds | C. increases |
| 13. | A. tasty | B. helpful | C. comfortable |
| 14. | A. opposite | B. different | C. other |
| 15. | A. little | B. low | C. short |
| 16. | A. keep | B. hold | C. have |
| 17. | A. Yesterday | B. Nowadays | C. Tomorrow |
| 18. | A. bring | B. want | C. need |
| 19. | A. sky | B. air | C. atmosphere |
| 20. | A. power | B. strength | C. situation |

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 3: Numbers 21 to 25

HOLIDAY TRAVEL

Match a reply from the box with each question on the left.

Mark its letter, A to F, on Answer Sheet B. You will use only five of the letters.

21. Are you going skiing in the holidays?
22. Did you enjoy your cruise last summer?
23. How about staying at a seaside hotel?
24. Has your mum found a hotel yet?
25. It's faster to fly to Crete, isn't it?

- A. Well, all right, if it has a swimming pool.
- B. No, he's in his room.
- C. Yes, but I was sea sick for the first two days.
- D. Yes, but I still prefer the ferry.
- E. No, I'm going somewhere warm! Bali!
- F. She says she's going to do it tomorrow.

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 4: Numbers 26 to 30**HOW DO I LOOK?**

Choose the correct word or phrase to fill each gap.
Mark its letter, A, B or C, on Answer Sheet B.

26. How do I look in these _____? Are they too tight?
A. pockets B. trousers C. purses
27. I'm going fishing this winter, so I got a warm pullover and _____.
A. an anorak B. a blouse C. pyjamas
28. I love the _____ of that dress, but the colour doesn't suit you.
A. show B. view C. style
29. That _____ was fine for the summer, but now I want to let my hair grow.
A. hair B. hairdresser C. haircut
30. 'If _____ are still in fashion when I'm older, I'm going to grow one!' said Dave to his dad.
A. moustaches B. wigs C. tails

**READING & USAGE EXERCISE 5: Numbers 31 to 35****HOW TO SAVE SEEDS TO PLANT**

Here's some advice about saving seeds.

Put the sentences in the correct order.

Mark the letter of each sentence, A to G, on Answer Sheet B.

You will use only five of the letters. The first one is done for you.

EX. Sentence 1 _____

The answer is A. *If you eat fresh fruit and vegetables, you can save the seeds for someone to plant. Here's how you do it.*

A B C D E F G H

EX. Sentence 1 A

31. Sentence 2 _____

32. Sentence 3 _____

33. Sentence 4 _____

34. Sentence 5 _____

35. Sentence 6 _____



- A. *If you eat fresh fruit and vegetables, you can save the seeds for someone to plant. Here's how you do it.*
- B. *After a couple of days, the seeds will be ready, and you can put them in a little paper bag or fold them in a square of paper.*
- C. *With a spoon, take out the melon seeds. They're a bit messy, so you have to wash them in a bowl of cool water.*
- D. *Be careful not to eat the melon!*
- E. *For example, let's do a melon. First, cut it in half or in four pieces.*
- F. *Write Melon Seeds on the outside and give them to someone who needs seeds. Or plant them yourself!*
- G. *Then, pour the water away and lay the seeds on a towel to dry. Don't put them in the sun or on a radiator.*

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 6: Numbers 36 to 45**SPORT AND FANS**

Match a picture with each of the statements.
Mark its letter, A to E, on Answer Sheet B.
You will use some letters more than once.

36. ___ "What I like best about this sport is the feeling of freedom. I'm all alone, with just the wind in my hair. It's wonderful!"
37. ___ "When they turn to go round a corner, they're almost lying on their sides. Amazing! How do they do that?"
38. ___ "Daniella threw the ball into the basket and scored two points."
39. ___ "My team's new stadium is very modern. The grass on the pitch is made of nylon, and a special roof uses the sun to make electricity for the lights."
40. ___ "When I started training, I only wanted to get fit and to learn the philosophy. I never wanted to fight another student. But of course you have to sometimes."
41. ___ "For men who play, being tall is very important. For women ... well, I guess being tall is very important, too!"
42. ___ "Of course, learning to kick high and to hit hard was difficult. But it all became easier when I learned to control my breathing."
43. ___ "I love racing. Only two problems, though. First, it's dangerous and also it's not very good for the environment. I guess those are big problems."
44. ___ "A few years ago, there were a lot of fights at the matches. Every time a team scored a goal, the fans of the other team started making trouble. Things are better now."
45. ___ "At first, I found the board heavy and the sail, well, just big and hard to handle. I got used to it though, and I got stronger. Now, sometimes I feel like, together, we're a bird flying over the water."



C

WRITING (25 points)

- You are advised to spend about 40 minutes on this part of the test.
- You may use a blank sheet of paper as a draft.
- Write your task in the space provided on Answer Sheet **C** in blue or black pen.

You have **ONE** writing task to do. Choose either Topic A or Topic B.

Write your task in about 120 words on Answer Sheet C.

Choose **ONE** of these two topics. Do the task in about 120 words.

TOPIC A: You've just got a new computer and Internet connection. Now you can write an e-mail to your pen friend.

Write an **e-mail** to your friend.

Tell him or her:

- what you use your computer for
- if you learned to use it at school or on your own
- whether or not you like using it



OR

TOPIC B: Do you do any sport?

Write a **story** about something that happened while you were training or doing your sport.

Your story can be funny or serious, but you must be the star of your story.



ΕΞΕΤΑΣΕΙΣ PALSO - ΔΕΚΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ 2007
ΛΥΣΕΙΣ ΑΓΓΛΙΚΩΝ

A2 - BASIC					
Listening		Reading			
1	A	1	B	41	B
2	C	2	A	42	E
3	A	3	B	43	C
4	B	4	B	44	A
5	B	5	C	45	D
6	C	6	B		
7	A	7	A		
8	F	8	B		
9	E	9	D		
10	B	10	C		
11	B	11	B		
12	B	12	A		
13	A	13	C		
14	C	14	A		
15	A	15	B		
16	C	16	A		
17	B	17	B		
18	D	18	C		
19	C	19	B		
20	B	20	A		
		21	E		
		22	C		
		23	A		
		24	F		
		25	D		
		26	B		
		27	A		
		28	C		
		29	C		
		30	A		
		31	E		
		32	C		
		33	G		
		34	B		
		35	F		
		36	D		
		37	C		
		38	B		
		39	A		
		40	E		