



**ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
EXAMINATIONS**

**MAY
2010**

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: 90 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 your Answer Sheet. Mark them in 2H or HB pencil.

LISTENING EXERCISE 1: Numbers 1 to 8

USING YOUR MOBILE PHONE

Choose the correct word or phrase to complete each sentence, 1 to 4.

Circle its letter, A, B or C.

- The speaker says ____ young people use a mobile phone now.
A. too many B. lots of C. a few
- When you use a mobile phone, the speaker says, you should ____ .
A. not be in a car
B. always sit down
C. watch where you walk
- The speaker says you might annoy other people if you use your phone ____ .
A. on your own B. in a restaurant C. at school
- The speaker says many people send text messages because it ____ .
A. is cheap and quiet
B. helps them at school
C. is more polite



What does the speaker say?

Decide if statements 5 to 8 are true or not.

Write A for True or B for False in the space beside each number.

- ___ We sometimes spell things differently when we write text messages.
- ___ Teenagers who send many text messages take time from important work.
- ___ It's okay to send pictures from phone cameras to people we don't know.
- ___ Only adults should have mobile phones.

LISTENING EXERCISE 2: Numbers 9 to 15**ICE DANCING**

Choose the correct phrase to complete each statement.

Circle its letter, A, B or C.

9. Ice dancing is different from other pair competitions because ____ .

- A. it's easier than other types of sport on ice
- B. ice dancers have to hold each other most of the time
- C. ice dancers do not have to do the same moves

10. In ice dancing, the two people ____ .

- A. only need to be good athletes
- B. must be artists more than athletes
- C. have to be both athletes and artists

11. Chris changed his sport to ice dancing because ____ .

- A. he had a very bad accident
- B. his sister needed him
- C. he liked playing in matches

12. Chris and Vanessa practise ____ .

- A. every day except Sundays
- B. five days a week on their own
- C. seven days a week with their coach

13. In the summer, Chris and Vanessa ____ .

- A. go to another city to practise
- B. stop practising completely
- C. practise at an indoor stadium

14. Chris and Vanessa ____ the Vancouver Olympics.

- A. were unhappy about
- B. liked what they saw at
- C. did not want to go to

15. In the future, Chris and Vanessa hope to ____ .

- A. win an Olympic competition
- B. become ice dancing teachers
- C. move away from Canada



B

READING & USAGE (50 points)

- You are advised to spend about 40 minutes 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 your Answer Sheet using a 2H or HB pencil.

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 1: Numbers 16 to 25

Read this magazine story about this summer's football matches in South Africa. Then do the exercises on page 4.

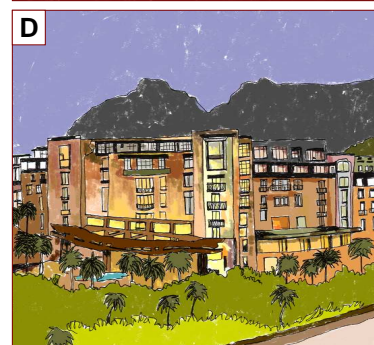
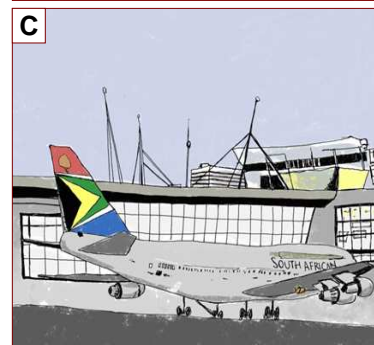
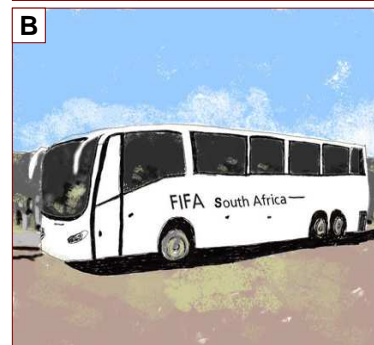
<h2>FIFA Football Matches Go to South Africa</h2>	
1 FIFA Cup	In June and July, the city of Johannesburg in South Africa will welcome football fans from all over the world for the FIFA World Cup matches. South Africans are looking forward to the World Cup and they have worked very hard, for almost two years, to get ready for it. They have built a new stadium in Johannesburg for the <u>final</u> matches. However, the early matches, whose winners will play for the championship, will happen in nine other large towns around the country.
2 Between Matches	Before they decided to have the World Cup in South Africa, the country had some good roads and some bad ones. There were a few buses and trains, but not enough to carry thousands of football fans to and from the matches. South Africa is a big country and big towns are far apart. So, they had to repair the roads for more traffic. Visitors can rent cars, if they know how to drive on the left side of the road. A better idea is to go by bus, and public buses as well as special coaches will take the crowds to the other stadiums. Most people will travel that way.
3 Getting There	A few people may use planes to travel between towns, and, certainly, to arrive in Johannesburg, most football fans will travel by air. Football is very popular everywhere, and South Africa is far away from many other countries. For example, it takes almost 17 hours, without stopping, to fly from Washington DC in the USA to Johannesburg. The flights from Brazil, where football is very popular, or from England, take a little less time. It's a long way to travel, but that won't stop people coming.
4 African Comfort	Naturally, all these fans will need somewhere to stay. So, South Africans are also preparing their hotels. Famous luxury hotels are always clean and beautiful, but smaller, older hotels are using this opportunity to make repairs. They'll be full of visitors during the World Cup, and that will help pay for the work. These hotels will have guests who don't want to pay too much, but the famous hotels will offer 'FIFA packages' for rich visitors or for companies to give to their special customers.
5 Great Job!	While the World Cup means a lot of work and planning, the main idea, of course, is to play the matches and see which team will be the champions. Thirty-two teams, from Europe, Asia, North and South America and Africa, will play, and everyone has their favourite. But no matter who wins the Cup, South Africans feel they've already won, because the FIFA competition is coming to their country!

Choose the correct phrase to complete each sentence, 16 to 21.
Mark its letter, A, B or C, on your Answer Sheet.

16. Visitors will watch FIFA World cup matches in ____ .
A. old stadiums around South Africa
B. nine stadiums and the new one in Johannesburg
C. nine new stadiums the South Africans have built
17. The word final in Paragraph 1 probably means ____ .
A. first B. fast C. last
18. For transport between stadiums, South Africa will ____ .
A. use its many railways
B. mostly use cars and coaches
C. fly people from town to town
19. Because South Africa is quite far away, ____ .
A. most foreign visitors will arrive by air
B. very few people will travel from England
C. not many people will attend the matches
20. Hotels in South Africa ____ .
A. have both cheap and expensive rooms
B. want only high-paying guests
C. are not well prepared for FIFA 2010
21. South Africans are ____ .
A. unhappy about the cost of the matches
B. worried about all the foreigners
C. glad they can host the matches

Match a picture to each description below.
Mark its letter next to the number on your Answer Sheet.
You will use only four of the pictures.

22. It will be easy to go from match to match.
23. South Africa built this new for FIFA 2010.
24. Win or lose, they're still very happy.
25. Most people will be very tired when they land.



READING & USAGE EXERCISE 2: Numbers 26 to 35

Read this text about weather in China.

Choose the correct word or phrase to fill each gap.

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

LAST YEAR'S WEATHER in CHINA

China, a very large country, had some bad weather last year. In the north-west, **_(26)_** from the sea, winter brought a lot of snow. In the spring, the snow melted and caused **_(27)_**. The water picked up dirt and sand as it hurried to the sea, along one of China's **_(28)_** rivers, the Hwang Ho. The name means Yellow River. This name is quite old, so the **_(29)_** thing has probably happened for many years. However, many forests have **_(30)_** and that made this year's floods worse.



In central and eastern China, there wasn't **_(31)_** rain in the spring and the land was very dry. Then a big storm came and **_(32)_** across the land to Beijing, a city near the sea. The wind **_(33)_** the dry dirt and sand. The air was **_(34)_** full of sand that people could hardly breathe or see. **_(35)_** days later, the rain came and washed the sand out of the air. Then, it was easier to breathe, except for the fumes from the cars!



- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 26. | A. far | B. near | C. about |
| 27. | A. clouds | B. floods | C. fields |
| 28. | A. length | B. too long | C. longest |
| 29. | A. some | B. same | C. another |
| 30. | A. to destroy | B. destroyed | C. been destroyed |
| 31. | A. enough | B. no | C. plenty |
| 32. | A. blows | B. blowing | C. blew |
| 33. | A. picked | B. picked up | C. picked out |
| 34. | A. so | B. such | C. too |
| 35. | A. Several | B. Few | C. Little |

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 3: Numbers 36 to 40**SHOPPING FOR THE PICNIC**

Match one of Deb's replies from the box with each thing Tom says on the left. Mark its letter, A to F, on your Answer Sheet. You will use only five of the letters.

Tom: Are you ready to go shopping for the picnic?

Deb: (36)

Tom: Well, hurry. I'm hungry and I want sausages!

Deb: (37)

Tom: Oh, no! Well, we can buy some cooked ham.

Deb: (38)

Tom: And we'll need some salad, won't we?

Deb: (39)

Tom: And something sweet for dessert!

Deb: (40)

Tom: Sounds great! Now I'm really hungry! Let me help with the washing up so we can get going!

- A. But we can't take those! We can't build a fire in the forest to cook them.
- B. I suppose we will. We've got tomatoes, so let's buy a cucumber and an onion.
- C. Did you bring the spoons and forks?
- D. Almost. I want to do the washing up before we go to the supermarket.
- E. Yes, that would be good. We can make sandwiches before we leave.
- F. Well, ice cream will melt. How about some biscuits or a small cake?

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 4: Numbers 41 to 45**JUSTIN'S FIRST TIME AT SUMMER CAMP**

Put the parts of the story in the correct order.

Mark the letter of each part, A to G, on your Answer Sheet.

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

EX. Part 1 A

The answer is A. His friends had all gone on holiday, so he didn't know anyone there.

A B C D E F G H

The first time Justin went to summer camp, he felt afraid and all alone.

EX. Part 1 A

41. Part 2

42. Part 3

43. Part 4

44. Part 5

45. Part 6

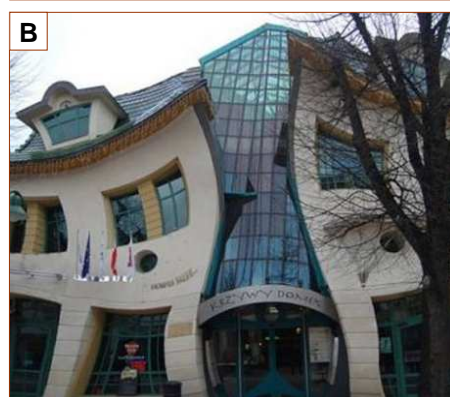
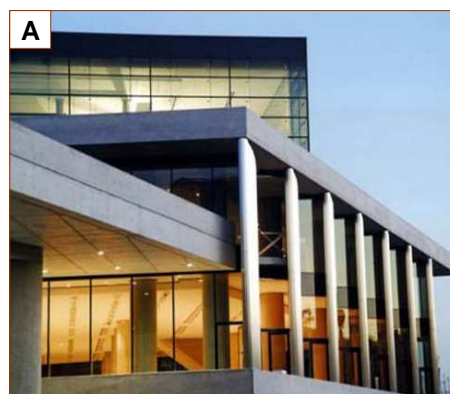
- A. His friends had all gone on holiday, so he didn't know anyone there.
- B. The sixth bed in the house belonged to their leader, a university student called Steve. He seemed very friendly that evening at dinner.
- C. By the time they walked back to the camp, the hot sun had dried their clothes and the fun in the river had helped the boys become friends.
- D. On the first day, Justin met the other four boys he shared a little house with. They all looked as unhappy as he felt.
- E. When they came to a little river, Steve had a great idea. They all ran into the water and started swimming and playing.
- F. Justin's parents worked at the camp, too, as house leaders.
- G. The next morning, Steve took the boys for a walk in the forest. He taught them the names of trees and showed them holes where rabbits lived.

At the end of the week, when it was time to leave, Justin didn't want to go home.

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 5: Numbers 46 to 50**INTERESTING BUILDINGS**

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

46. ___ “A lot of land in Holland is lower than the sea, with great dirt walls to keep the water out of the fields. So these buildings have always been very important. They use the wind to turn the machines that send the water back out to the sea. I took this picture on my trip there last summer!”
47. ___ “I suppose we need these factories to make iron suitable for cars and cookers and buildings. But they’re so dirty, they can’t be healthy to work in. And I really wouldn’t want to live near one! Would you? Don’t you think they should make them cleaner? Everybody would feel better!”
48. ___ “Ha ha! Look at this picture my cousin sent. It’s a new office building in his town. Not one wall is straight! It looks like it’s ready to fall down. But, it isn’t. It’s really quite strong. Hmm. I wonder what it feels like to be inside. Would you feel dizzy or ill? I’d like to go there and see how it feels.”
49. ___ “For centuries, all over the world, all kinds of work was done by the wind. In Greece, we used it to make flour from wheat, although now we use coal or oil engines to turn most of our machines. However, we do use tall, white, modern windmills to make electricity. They don’t look like these old ones, though.”
50. ___ “I went to the new museum for the first time last week and I loved it! It’s quite unusual, because it’s very modern, but its style reminded me of old buildings. The walls are all made of glass. That lets the sun shine in to light the ancient statues and other things. At the same time, you can look out through the walls and see the real Acropolis on the hill just opposite. Have you been to visit it yet?”



C

WRITING (25 points)

- You are advised to spend about 30 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 the back of your Answer Sheet 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 your Answer Sheet.

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

TOPIC A: You read about a competition in *Teen TV* magazine and you have decided to enter. If you win, you will get to meet your favourite TV star.

Write a **letter** to the magazine to enter the competition.

Be sure to say:

- who your favourite TV star is
- what he/she does that you like
- what you want to ask the star (if you win)



OR

TOPIC B: When you were leaving with your family on holiday, you forgot to take something very important with you. What was it?

Write a **story** about what happened.

Be sure to explain:

- what you forgot to take with you
- what happened because you forgot it
- how it all ended

Your story can be funny or serious.

