



**ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
EXAMINATIONS**

**MAY
2013**

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

PLANNING A CHEAP PARTY

Choose the correct phrase to answer each question, 1 to 4.

Circle its letter, A, B or C.

- Niki wanted to _____.
A. make more money
B. celebrate her birthday
C. spend time with her dad
- Niki's problem was _____.
A. her mum didn't have a job
B. she had not been careful with her money
C. her family didn't have extra money
- Niki's friends preferred _____.
A. to share the cost B. not to have a party C. to make Niki pay for it all
- Niki used her computer to decide _____.
A. which friends to invite B. what food to serve C. where to have the party



Use Niki's computer maths and what you hear to decide if each statement, 5 to 8, is true or not. Write A for True or B for False in the space beside each number.

Niki's Computer Maths		Number of guests	Restaurant meal	Cake from the baker's	Each guest pays
	Plan A	30	€3	€20/30	€3.60
	Plan B	40	€3	2 x €20/20	€4.00
		Number of guests	Mum's meal	Cake made at home	Each guest pays
	Plan C	30	2 x €10/30	2 x €5/30	€1.00
	Plan D	40	2 x €10/40	2 x €5/40	€0.75

- ___ Niki decided to have hamburgers at the party.
- ___ Niki decided to cook all of the food by herself.
- ___ Niki invited 40 guests and asked each to pay the price from Plan C.
- ___ Niki's best birthday present was a box of 16 music CDs.

LISTENING EXERCISE 2: Numbers 9 to 15**WAS THE EARTH IN DANGER?**

Choose the correct phrase to complete each statement.

Circle its letter, A, B or C.

9. Marc tells us that an asteroid is ____ a planet.
A. bigger than
B. smaller than
C. the same size as
10. Dr. Severs says scientists ____.
A. didn't expect the asteroid to pass so close to Earth
B. had known about the asteroid for over 10 years
C. studied the DA14 asteroid for about a year
11. Dr. Severs says the DA14 asteroid ____.
A. almost hit the Earth
B. came very near the Moon
C. was not dangerously close to Earth
12. The other reason Dr. Severs wasn't worried about DA14 was that it ____.
A. was smaller than a football pitch
B. landed safely on a football pitch
C. was only travelling at about 45 km/hour
13. Marc asks about an asteroid that ____.
A. recently killed many animals
B. is expected to fall in Mexico
C. scientists think changed the weather
14. Dr. Severs explains that the dinosaurs died ____.
A. because an asteroid fell on them
B. after a very big asteroid hit the Earth
C. as they were burnt by the hot sun
15. Dr. Severs says interest in asteroids is growing because ____.
A. they contain metals we can use
B. we can now make them in factories
C. scientists can now move them very easily



Asteroid as seen from space



Future uses (artist's drawing)

Drawings of space ship and asteroids from the Internet, Google Images

For more information about the DA14 asteroid <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/02/130204131341.htm>

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 the text below about a new school in Africa.
Then do the exercises on page 4.

African News

MAKOKO: The Floating School in Lagos, Nigeria

What do you do if you live near the water and the water is rising? This is exactly what many people face in Lagos, Nigeria. Lagos, with a population of about 15 million people, is the biggest city in Nigeria – It's even bigger than London – and it's still growing. It stands between the ocean and a huge lake called Lagos Lagoon. So, if the water rises, Lagos has a problem.

While the central business area of Lagos is built on dry land, that land is becoming crowded. So, some parts of the city are built on the lake. People have lived there for many years, in houses sitting on wooden legs in the water, and they travel about by canoe. Most homes have no electric lights and if there are too many houses, too close together, it can be a health problem. However, the biggest danger is a flood. Floods are worse now, because of climate change. More rainwater runs into the lake and the level of water in the ocean is higher, too.

Makoko, an area like this on Lagos's lake, has 250,000 people. They've been looking for a way to make their area safer and maybe they've found one. A man named Kunle Adeyemi of *NLE Works* is planning and building a new multi-level school in Makoko. The school won't sit on legs, but will float on 256 plastic drums. If the water rises, the school will go up with it.

The school will have room for 100 students and their teachers, with a playground on the bottom level and classrooms on two floors above that. The building will also be friendly to the environment. They're using local wood to build it. It will also have a special toilet system to keep the lake clean and ways to collect rainwater for drinking and to make its own electric energy from the sun.

The team that is building the Makoko Floating School hope everyone likes Adeyemi's idea. They want to build more schools like this one. It isn't expensive; each school costs less than €5000. They also think they can use their idea to make floating houses. If their plan works, they can build homes for 100,000 people. That means a lot of families won't have to worry if the water rises in their lake.



See more pictures of the school at <http://www.nleworks.com/case/makoko-floating-school-preview/>

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

16. Lagos is _____.
 A. a small city in the middle of Nigeria
 B. not as big as London but growing
 C. a very large city near an ocean
17. A major problem for Lagos is that _____.
 A. its business center is too near the ocean
 B. parts of the city are in danger of floods
 C. most people have to travel by canoe
18. The new school in Makoko will _____.
 A. be safe if there's a flood
 B. sit higher on longer legs
 C. be less safe than the old one
19. The Makoko Floating School _____.
 A. may harm the environment
 B. will have lessons but nowhere to play
 C. can have lights and computers
20. Houses made like the floating school will _____.
 A. be both cheap and safe
 B. be too expensive for most people
 C. still have problems in a flood

**Choose a title, A to F, for each picture, 21 to 25.
Mark its letter on your Answer Sheet.
You will use only five of the letters.**

- A. If the water rises, these homes get wet.
 B. In the future, Makoko may look like this.
 C. The floating school was built on an old ship.
 D. This is the base before they built the school on it.
 E. Dry land is becoming crowded.
 F. A play area is below two floors of classrooms.**



21. ____



22. ____



23. ____



24. ____



25. ____

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 2: Numbers 26 to 35

Read this text about a new camera invention.

Choose the correct word or phrase to fill each gap.

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

BALL-CAM: New for Sports Photographers

At sports matches nowadays, **_(26)_** cameras almost everywhere. There are cameras **_(27)_** the sides of the pitch and inside the goals. Then there are the **_(28)_** that take pictures of the whole field, from a place **_(29)_** up in the stadium. And, there are cameras that follow **_(30)_** the players. We thought we'd seen it all, but, now, something new is coming. What would it be like to see the game as the ball sees it?

A ball in the air turns so fast that a regular video shows nothing. So, scientists from two universities have been working together. They **_(31)_** a camera that fits into the ball. It takes pictures as the ball flies **_(32)_** the air. Of course, they have also found a way to put the pictures together to make a film of **_(33)_** the ball 'sees' as it moves. We'll see it leave the first player, look around the stadium and arrive at the second player. At first, the Ball-Cam will be used **_(34)_** interest to TV sports programmes, but there will probably be **_(35)_** other uses for this invention in the future.

From an article and photo at www.gizmag.com



- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| 26. | A. there are | B. they are | C. they may be |
| 27. | A. away | B. among | C. along |
| 28. | A. one | B. ones | C. other |
| 29. | A. over | B. above | C. high |
| 30. | A. each of | B. some | C. many |
| 31. | A. invent | B. will invent | C. have invented |
| 32. | A. inside | B. through | C. on top of |
| 33. | A. which | B. what | C. that |
| 34. | A. to add | B. add | C. adding |
| 35. | A. lots | B. a lot of | C. any |

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 3: Numbers 36 to 40**A PHONE CALL ABOUT GOING OUT**

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

Jack: Hi, Cara! Do you want to go out for pizza?

Cara: __ (36) __

Jack: No, I was thinking about 7:30 or 8.

Cara: __ (37) __

Jack: Do you have to be there?

Cara: __ (38) __

Jack: Shall we go out for ice cream this afternoon?

Cara: __ (39) __

Jack: What time is good for you?

Cara: __ (40) __

Jack: Great! Let's meet at Café Corner, then.

A. Oh, I can't. My grandparents are coming to visit this evening.

B. Yes, I was in a hurry. I had to get back before they left.

C. Okay. I could do that and come back before they get here.

D. Now, Jack? I've just had lunch.

E. Well, yes, I do. They haven't seen me since New Year's Eve.

F. Let's say in about an hour. How does 4 o'clock sound?

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 4: Numbers 41 to 45**MY 'SOUND ENVIRONMENT'**

Put the parts of the article 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. So, this morning, I decided ...

A B C D E F G H



Last night, I read an article about our 'sound environment.' It said all the sounds around us affect the way we feel.

EX. Part 1 A

41. Part 2

42. Part 3

43. Part 4

44. Part 5

45. Part 6

A. So, this morning, I decided to listen more carefully to the sounds in my neighbourhood.

B. It was so loud today that it frightened the little dog that lives downstairs. The dog started barking. Its voice is high – yap, yap, yap! It's very annoying!

C. I don't like riding on buses, and neither does my dog. However, it's better than walking.

D. First, I heard birds singing. My neighbour's got eight birds in a large cage and they sing all day long. Nice!

E. I don't usually notice the traffic noise. However, I do pay attention when a bus goes by. It's very loud.

F. After the bird sounds, I listened to the noise of cars and motorbikes in all the surrounding streets. It's a low roar that never really stops.

G. Then, I also heard other birds: pigeons flying by and some little brown birds that were looking for strawberries outside my window.

Finally, the dog stopped and I heard my mother calling me for breakfast. The pancakes were ready! Yeah! I love the sound of me chewing pancakes!

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 5: Numbers 46 to 50

Match a picture on the right with each of the paragraphs on the left.
Mark its letter, A to F, on your Answer Sheet. You will use only five of the pictures.

COOKING CLASS**Lesson 1: Words to use in the kitchen**

Dear Student Chefs,

To do well in this class, you will need to know the words we use for different things we do in the kitchen. Here is the first group of words. Make sure you know what they mean! ~ Chef Bonmange

46. **SLICE** – To cut food into thin, flat pieces, using a long knife. We slice all kinds of food, such as the pieces of cheese and ham we use to make sandwiches. Of course, for club sandwiches or breakfast toast, we also slice the bread.
47. **DICE** – To cut food into small square pieces. The pieces look like the dice we use in board games. We dice cheese to use in a salad. We also dice dry bread to put on top of a salad or soup. Often, we dice large vegetables, such as carrots, so that the pieces are the same size as a smaller vegetable, such as peas, that we want to cook at the same time.
48. **BEAT** – To stir the food with a spoon, fork or other tool, moving the hand very quickly in a circle. This mixes tiny air bubbles into the food. We beat eggs to use in a cake or omelette. We also beat cream until it's thick and light, to put on desserts. Some cooks also use electric mixers to beat foods, but you can do just as good a job with a fork.
49. **GRATE** – To run food over the holes in a metal tool, to cut the food into very fine, tiny pieces. The tool may be flat, with only one side for cutting, but sometimes it is shaped like a box. Then, there are holes of different sizes on each side, and the pieces of food drop inside the box so there's no mess. We grate hard or dry foods such as cheese, nuts, and dry bread to use in recipes.
50. **MINCE** – To cut into tiny pieces with a machine or knife. We mince wet or soft food, usually beef, lamb or pork, to make burgers or to use in other dishes such as moussaka. We can mince the meat ourselves or buy it ready from the butcher.



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 pencil or 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.

TOPIC A: Your teacher has asked you to suggest a class trip. She's sent you the two adverts below to choose from.

Write an **email** to your teacher. Tell her which trip is best for the class.

Be sure to say:

- which trip you think your class should take
- why it's the better choice
- why the other trip is not a good choice

Dinosaurs walked the Earth for 200 million years!

Dinosaurs of South America
All month at the National Museum



- See the bones of 25 large dinosaurs
- Enjoy the video "How Dinosaurs Lived"
- Learn how scientists find and study them

Open Daily – 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tickets: Adults - €7

Under 18s - Free

Adventure Fun Park

Open all year
Saturday & Sunday
10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tickets: €7 plus
€1 for each ride

Ride the Rides!
Play the Games!
Take home Prizes!



OR

TOPIC B: Have you ever been very, very afraid? There may have been real danger. Or, you may have imagined it or thought it was worse than it really was. Tell us your story.

Write a **story** about a time you were really frightened.

Be sure to say:

- what frightened you
- what you did about it
- how it all ended

