

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXAMINATIONS

## MAY 2024

FIRST STEP

PRE-A1

A1

**A2**

## LAAS

LANGUAGE ATTAINMENT ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Certificate Recognised by ICC

## INSTRUCTIONS

- 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**



# PART A LISTENING

**POINTS: 25****TIME: APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES****GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 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.

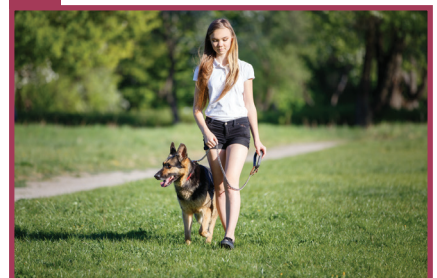
## EXERCISE 1

Numbers: 1 - 8

## Helping people

**EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS:** Choose the correct phrase or picture to complete each statement, 1 to 5. Circle its letter, A, B or C. Then decide if statements 6 to 8 are true or not. Write A for True and B for False in the space beside each number.

- Lauren is talking about ways you can help \_\_\_\_ .  
**A.** at a radio station      **B.** in your local area      **C.** in other cities
- At a food bank, you can help by \_\_\_\_ .  
**A.** buying food      **B.** putting food in boxes      **C.** cooking food
- Lauren says you can help an older person by \_\_\_\_ .  
**A.** carrying heavy things      **B.** finding supermarkets      **C.** preparing meals
- Older people also sometimes need help with \_\_\_\_ .  
**A.** painting the house      **B.** cleaning the car      **C.** doing housework
- Lauren says that another way you can help older people is to \_\_\_\_ .

**A****B****C**

- \_\_\_ Libraries usually have lots of people working there.
- \_\_\_ You can volunteer to play games with young children.
- \_\_\_ You can help children enjoy reading stories.



## EXERCISE 2

Numbers: 9 - 15

# How was your weekend?

### EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose the correct word, phrase or picture to complete each statement, 9 to 15.  
Circle its letter, A, B or C.

9. At the market, Anna bought \_\_\_\_ .

A



B



C



10. When Tom was with his grandparents, he helped them to \_\_\_\_ .

A



B



C



11. Near his grandparents' house, Tom went for a walk \_\_\_\_ .

A. in a place with trees

B. to some shops

C. along the beach

12. Tom thinks there's a problem with \_\_\_\_ because of the lake.

A. birds

B. insects

C. rabbits

13. Where Anna was, the weather was \_\_\_\_ .

A. cold and rainy

B. windy and snowy

C. warm and sunny

14. Anna's favourite films are \_\_\_\_ .

A. comedies

B. science fiction films

C. thrillers

15. This evening, Tom is going to \_\_\_\_ .

A. stay at home

B. go to a concert

C. go to the cinema

**PART B**  **READING & USAGE****POINTS: 50****TIME: 40 MINUTES ARE ADVISED****GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 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.

**EXERCISE 1**  
**Numbers: 16 - 25****Helping at an animal shelter**

**EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the text. Then do the exercise on page 5 by choosing the correct phrase to fill each gap. Mark its letter, A, B or C, on your Answer Sheet.

My name is Mia, and I love animals. That's why I decided to volunteer at an animal shelter. The first day I went to the shelter, I felt a little nervous but also very excited. When I arrived, the shelter manager, Mrs Smith, showed me around. There were so many dogs and cats! Some were quiet, and some were very noisy.

Mrs. Smith explained that many of the animals were there because their owners didn't want them anymore. Often, that's because they don't have enough money to keep their pets. Sometimes, it's because they have to move house and can't find a place where pets are allowed. I thought that was really sad.

Mrs Smith said that my job was to help look after the animals. This meant feeding them, cleaning their areas, and playing with them. I started with the cats. I gave them food and fresh water. Some cats were shy and stayed in the back of their cages. Others came to the front and tried to touch my hand with their paws. They were so cute!

Next, I helped with the dogs. I was a bit scared at first because some dogs were big. But I soon learned they were friendly. I helped take the dogs out for walks. They were very happy to be outside. They wagged their tails and sniffed everything. Walking the dogs was my favourite part.

One of the dogs was called Buddy. He was a small, brown dog with big eyes. He was very friendly and loved to be touched. I felt a special connection with him. Every time I came to the shelter, he wagged his tail and looked happy to see me.

I learned a lot from volunteering. I learned how to take care of animals and how important it is to be kind and gentle. I also made new friends, both humans and animals. I'm glad I decided to volunteer at the animal shelter. It's an experience I will never forget.



16. Mia worked at the animal shelter for \_\_\_\_ .  
A. a little money  
B. a lot of money  
C. no money
17. When Mia first arrived at the animal shelter, \_\_\_\_ .  
A. Mrs Smith asked her to keep the dogs quiet  
B. Mrs Smith took her round the place  
C. she helped Mrs Smith feed the cats
18. Some people leave their pets at the animal shelter because \_\_\_\_ .  
A. they can't buy food for their pets  
B. they have stopped liking their pets  
C. they think their pets are too noisy
19. Some people find a new place to live but their pets \_\_\_\_ .  
A. hate living there  
B. run away from there  
C. can't live there
20. Mia's first job was to give the cats water and \_\_\_\_ .  
A. play with them  
B. give them food  
C. let them out of their cages
21. Mia was frightened of the dogs because they \_\_\_\_ .  
A. were large  
B. weren't very friendly  
C. didn't want to go out
22. Mia enjoyed \_\_\_\_ more than any other job.  
A. feeding the cats  
B. taking the dogs out  
C. cleaning the dogs' cages
23. Buddy liked \_\_\_\_ .  
A. touching other dogs  
B. Mia touching him  
C. touching Mia
24. When Mia saw Buddy, she knew that he \_\_\_\_ .  
A. was surprised she came back  
B. wanted to go out  
C. felt glad she was there
25. While she was at the animal shelter, Mia \_\_\_\_ .  
A. got close to some people and animals  
B. decided it was a mistake to volunteer  
C. asked her friends to come and help her



## EXERCISE 2

Numbers: 26 - 35

# On the planet Mars

**EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS:** Read this article about robots on the planet Mars. Choose the correct word or phrase to fill each gap. Mark its letter, A, B or C, on your Answer Sheet.



Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun. It is [26] \_\_\_\_ as the Red Planet. It is very cold and has a lot of dust. People from Earth have sent robots [27] \_\_\_\_ Mars. These robots are called rovers. The first successful rover was Sojourner. It landed in 1997. It did important work, [28] \_\_\_\_ it was quite small.

In 2004, two more rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, went to Mars. They found signs that there was water on Mars [29] \_\_\_\_ long time ago. Water is important because it could [30] \_\_\_\_ that there was life on Mars at some point in the past.

The biggest rover, Curiosity, landed on Mars in 2012 and it is still working. It is [31] \_\_\_\_ big as a car. Like all rovers, it depends [32] \_\_\_\_ energy from the Sun to charge its batteries.

Sending rovers to Mars helps scientists learn [33] \_\_\_\_ the planet. They hope to find out if [34] \_\_\_\_ was ever life on Mars. In the future, people [35] \_\_\_\_ even go to Mars.

- |     |                    |                   |                  |
|-----|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 26. | <b>A. knowing</b>  | <b>B. known</b>   | <b>C. knows</b>  |
| 27. | <b>A. at</b>       | <b>B. in</b>      | <b>C. to</b>     |
| 28. | <b>A. although</b> | <b>B. instead</b> | <b>C. either</b> |
| 29. | <b>A. a</b>        | <b>B. the</b>     | <b>C. this</b>   |
| 30. | <b>A. to mean</b>  | <b>B. mean</b>    | <b>C. meant</b>  |
| 31. | <b>A. like</b>     | <b>B. same</b>    | <b>C. as</b>     |
| 32. | <b>A. for</b>      | <b>B. on</b>      | <b>C. with</b>   |
| 33. | <b>A. about</b>    | <b>B. with</b>    | <b>C. to</b>     |
| 34. | <b>A. they</b>     | <b>B. it</b>      | <b>C. there</b>  |
| 35. | <b>A. must</b>     | <b>B. would</b>   | <b>C. might</b>  |

## EXERCISE 3

Numbers: 36 - 40

## Looking after Eva's brother



**EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS:** Match one of Toby's replies from the box with each thing his friend, Eva, says on the left. Mark its letter, A to F, on your Answer Sheet. You will use only five of the letters.

Eva: Toby, do you have any plans for tomorrow evening?

Toby: [36] \_\_\_\_

Eva: My parents are going to eat out and I volunteered to look after my little brother Stanley.

Toby: [37] \_\_\_\_

Eva: Yes. They don't get the chance to go out very often. Do you want to come round and help me?

Toby: [38] \_\_\_\_

Eva: That's a really good idea! He gets bored easily and you have to find things for him to do.

Toby: [39] \_\_\_\_

Eva: Great! Come at six o'clock, and don't forget that game!

Toby: [40] \_\_\_\_

Eva: They'll be out for about two hours. They can drive you home at about 8 o'clock.

- A. That's great! Thanks for helping me!
- B. Don't worry. I'll find something fun to do with him.
- C. I won't! Oh, what time will your parents be back?
- D. Tomorrow? No, I don't think so. Why?
- E. I'd love to! Shall I bring a game to play with Stanley?
- F. Oh, really? I'm sure your parents are glad about that.

## EXERCISE 4

Numbers: 41 - 45

## Facts of Today!

**EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS:** Choose the correct word to fill each gap. Mark its letter, A to F, on your Answer Sheet. You will use only five of the letters.

• Every year, it seems there is more bad news about the environment. Some natural [41] \_\_\_\_, like floods, for example, are becoming more common.

• Scientists believe that this is because of global [42] \_\_\_\_. The world is getting a little hotter every year.

• This is a problem in some places in the summer. Dangerous forest [43] \_\_\_\_ start in areas that are very dry.

• Another result is the polar [44] \_\_\_\_ caps melting. This water makes sea levels rise.

• But it's not all bad news. In the 1980s, scientists found a big [45] \_\_\_\_ in the ozone layer. We stopped using some chemicals and now it's much smaller. There is still hope for the environment.

- A. ice
- B. hole
- C. snowstorm
- D. disasters
- E. fires
- F. warming

## EXERCISE 5

Numbers: 46 - 50

# Shopping

**EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS:** Match a picture with each paragraph, 46 to 50. Mark its letter, A to F, on your Answer Sheet. You will use only five of the letters.

46. \_\_\_ We sometimes use notes and coins when we buy things. But more and more people are using credit cards or debit cards when they go shopping. And, of course, when you buy things online, you can't use notes or coins, so cards are very important for online shopping too. We can also use them to get money (paper notes) from a bank machine.

47. \_\_\_ It's a good idea to try on clothes and shoes before you buy them. This helps you see that they fit you and look good on you. Of course, if you buy clothes or shoes online, you can't try them on before you buy. So if they don't fit, you have to send them back.

48. \_\_\_ Many things that we buy have a barcode. This usually has some black lines, and some numbers under the lines. This barcode contains information, such as the name and price of the thing. Shops find them very useful. Customers sometimes use them too. They scan them with an app on their mobile phone and then look at the information.

49. \_\_\_ Millions of packages and parcels are delivered every day around the world. These might be things people have ordered online, or they might be large things, like pieces of furniture, that people have bought from a shop. These days, delivery drivers often come to our house in a van. In the future, we might see drones delivering parcels!

50. \_\_\_ In many countries, when you buy something, a shop assistant might ask you if it is a gift for someone else. If you say yes, they will offer to wrap it for you, or put it in a pretty box. This is great for birthday and Christmas presents! In the UK, this gift-wrapping service is not very common, so don't expect it if you go shopping there.





**PART C**  **WRITING**

**POINTS: 25**

**TIME: 30 MINUTES ARE ADVISED**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 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.

**Choice of Topic A OR Topic B.**

Write your task in about 80-100 words on your Answer Sheet.

CHOICE OF  
**TOPIC A**

**Write an email**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

You recently helped make a meal.

Write an **email** to a friend. In your email:

- say who you helped.
- say what you did.
- say how you felt about it.
- ask your friend if she/he likes cooking.



CHOICE OF  
**TOPIC B**

**Write a story**

Write a **story** that begins like this:

**“I was taking my neighbour’s dog for a walk when something strange happened. ...”**

Your story can be funny or serious.

