

Test in English

Information for Candidates

There are 2 parts to the test:

Reading paper

Time **48 minutes.**

- Each question carries one mark.
- Read the instructions for each task of the paper carefully.

Use of English paper

Time **40 minutes.**

- Each question carries one mark.
- Read the instructions for each task of the paper carefully

Write your answers in the tasks.

Write your name

(First name)

(Last name)

Reading Paper

Task **B1-B7**

You are going to read an article. **Seven sentences** have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A-H** the one which fits each gap (**B1-B7**). There is **one extra sentence** which you do not need to use.

Judging by its name, The Isle of Dogs promises strange and fantastical experiences. **B1** _____ Tonight in the String Theatre¹, an old church that has been changed into a performance space, some of that promise is kept, particularly when the lights go up and the *The Red Balloon* performance begins.

The Red Balloon is an unforgettable marionette, or *puppet* show, inspired by Albert Lamorisse's Oscar-winning short of the same name. **B2** _____ If you haven't watched or heard of it, it is about a young boy who discovers a lost balloon that seems to have a mind of its own, on the streets of Paris. The two become inseparable, yet the world's harsh realities finally interfere.

The String Theatre has done a great job with the theatrical adaptation. They've created a really wonderful experience by combining long-stringed wood-carved marionettes and a built-for-purpose stage, which is the first thing you notice upon entering the hall. Unlike a usual stage that is flat and stable, this one is made of stacked boxes that constantly move and turn, creating a magic effect. **B3** _____ Unbelievably the three-metre high construction can be set up in less than three hours by two puppeteers!

The puppeteers are hidden, working from a bridge about five feet above the stage. They jump out at the end for their applause. And what a surprise to see that there were only two performers! **B4** _____ The puppets include a strict schoolmaster, a hardworking old washerwoman, an acrobatic chimney sweep, some troublesome schoolboys, and a charming little bird that was the most entertaining to watch.

The curtain opens to a small boy walking on stage – all one metre of him – and rescuing a red balloon caught on the top of a lamppost. The balloon

comes alive through clever animation and we follow the two through their wonderful adventures, as they play together in various locations around his home town. **B5**

The children in the audience seemed to respond particularly strongly to one very powerful moment, the one when a girl walks on stage holding a blue balloon.

¹ String Theatre presents live performances using marionettes, or "string puppets", which are controlled by a number of strings, attached to a control bar held from above by the puppeteer.

Having been so caught up with the boy and his pet balloon, it's almost a fascinating discovery for us to realise that this girl has her own magical world very much like the

boy's. Another powerful moment is at the climax of the play when one of the boy's classmates attacks and destroys the balloon. **B6** _____ I was literally on the edge of my seat with excitement and anticipation for what was about to happen.

Only during certain middle passages, when the boy meets a chimney sweep and balances delicately across a washer woman's line, do I start to feel bored as the narrative progression is being replaced by marionettes doing tricks. **B7** _____ I think adults and children alike will enjoy this quiet, contemplative, bittersweet production for its simple beauty and playful innocence.

- A. No matter how well-manipulated the little puppets are, the whole experience is frustrating.
- B. It was fun to watch the children before the performance, as they tried to discover more about its workings by looking under the red curtain.
- C. This particular scene is handled in a much less dark spirit than in the famous film, but nevertheless still made me feel very nervous.
- D. I thought there must have been a busload of them up there, considering the multitude of marionettes and the countless numbers of strings that were pulled throughout the night.
- E. In reality, though, it is merely another clean, quiet, new suburb of an ever-expanding London.
- F. I just loved this fantasy thirty-four minute movie when I was a child.
- G. Yet, judging by their cheerful reaction, the younger viewers certainly still found a lot to appreciate during these less interesting scenes.
- H. The scenery changes are switching from a park scene to a school grounds, and from among the town houses to a vast cityscape.

Task **A1-A8**

You are going to read an extract from a magazine article. For questions A1-A8, circle the answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) which you think best fits according to the text.

Forty years ago, when *The Terminator* took moviegoers by storm, who could have predicted that the bodybuilder playing the indestructible cyborg would one day run the most populous state in the USA? But in 2003, when Arnold Schwarzenegger

announced his candidacy for governor of California and won a seat in a special election, no one was particularly surprised.

Nowadays there is a growing trend toward crosspollination between celebrity and politics. Darrell West, director of the Taubman Center for Public Policy at Brown, says that when celebrities run for office, they often win by impressive margins, even though voters make fun of them initially, saying they know nothing about politics. In fact, elected officials and celebrities need similar skills: connecting with an audience and developing a loyal fan base.

Conversely, as the public grows increasingly skeptical of career politicians, lacking a political pedigree can be a plus. “Celebrities bring a special credibility that career politicians don’t have,” West says. “They haven’t spent their lifetimes doing things the public doesn’t like.” Moreover, celebrity politicians operate differently than their professional peers. For instance, because celebrities are less connected to others in the political establishment, they are often more likely to trust their gut instincts and support ambitious programs. In 2004, Schwarzenegger broke with the Republican Party to give approval to embryonic stem-cell research, which California voters supported but other party members feared.

But celebrities aren’t magicians, cautioned Marty Kaplan, who studies the impact of entertainment on society. “Only magicians can make things like red ink disappear by waving a wand,” he said after Schwarzenegger’s election. “People had the mistaken impression that all our problems would be solved now that we have a famous superhero in place. In truth, that was just the beginning.” Celebrity politicians can also have trouble adapting to the snail-like pace of the political world, and their role within that world. They often grew weary of the mundane realities – and the heavy responsibilities – that came with the job.

A1 The author’s main purpose in the 1st paragraph is to show that

1. Arnold Schwarzenegger’s film was incredibly popular with moviegoers.
2. public attitude towards celebrities has changed dramatically.
3. it was difficult for Arnold Schwarzenegger to become governor of California.
4. most political predictions end up being wrong.

A2 What do celebrities and elected officials have in common?

1. The voters are sure that in both cases their knowledge about politics is limited.
2. They both have to cope with initially being made fun of.
3. It’s important for both groups to gain a large and devoted following.
4. People in both groups often fail to connect with their audience.

A3 Schwarzenegger’s actions, as described in the 3rd paragraph, show that political outsiders

1. are more independent and willing to take risks.
2. are often in more of a hurry to meet their voters’ expectations.
3. are more willing to support projects in medicine.
4. lack the essential experience and skills which career politicians have.

A4 Which of the following can be inferred from the 4th paragraph?

1. The public ascribe some features of fictional characters to real people.
2. The pace of change in the political world is growing faster.
3. The impact of entertainment on society is insignificant.
4. Celebrities don’t usually lose enthusiasm for political life.

“Every joke,” George Orwell wrote, “is a tiny revolution.” That’s because what makes something funny is that it upsets the established order. The more the joke questions the system, or the more it says what people secretly feel but are afraid to say – the better it is. That is why *The Daily Show*² – as childish as it can sometimes be – is actually a first-rate news program and offers some of the most insightful commentary on television. While it clearly has a particular perspective, it is hard to be funny if you are simply pushing one point of view. And if your jokes do not hit home, no one will laugh.

Our major news outlets don’t really question the actions of the government any more. The received wisdom is that reporters should be neutral, reporting on controversial topics without deciding them. But in practice the only way to be neutral to everyone’s satisfaction is to say as little as possible that anyone might disagree with. While major news organizations still publish the occasional thoroughly researched piece of investigative reporting, they are often reduced to simply passing along what politicians say without commentary.

Real news is offensive. If it did not challenge our expectations, it would not particularly be news. News programs with a more editorial bent, like *The O’Reilly Factor* and *Countdown with Keith Olbermann*³, can often be more informative than the supposedly more serious shows, if only because they are more willing to challenge what political actors say. Bloggers have also increasingly taken on the role of public

² *The Daily Show* is an American late-night talk and news satire television program. *The Daily Show* draws its comedy and satire from recent news stories, political figures and media organizations.

³ *The O’Reilly Factor* and *Countdown with Keith Olbermann* are American news and talk shows hosted by political commentators Bill O’Reilly and Keith Olbermann.

skeptics. Of course, when journalists do take positions of their own, it's up to the people who follow them to use their own judgment about how trustworthy each source is. But at least when someone ridicules the official line rather than repeats it, it gives us something to think about.

A5 What is the author's opinion about *The Daily Show*?

1. He is critical of the show for aggressively pushing one point of view.
2. He thinks the show will become particularly popular with TV viewers in the near future.
3. He thinks the show often provides a rather dull commentary.
4. He thinks the show helps to reveal hidden and unspoken truths.

A6 While reporting on today's problems most journalists tend to

1. only do thorough research into major news.
2. show the public why deciding controversial questions might be difficult.
3. restrict themselves to more neutral topics.
4. present information rather than evaluate and interpret it.

A7 Real news, according to the author, is

1. unlikely to match public opinion.
2. unlikely to challenge political authority.
3. often distorted by editors' observations and comments.
4. harder to believe because of the bloggers' skeptical attitudes.

A8 What is the main purpose of the author in the text?

1. to show his disapproval of today's political situation
2. to explain why a certain amount of doubt is necessary in media
3. to persuade the reader that bad news is more informative than good news
4. to encourage people to make their own judgments about politics

Task **B8-B16**

. You are going to read an article about celebrity culture. Match a person **A-D** to each question **B8-B16**. The people may be chosen **more than once**. Write your answers in the appropriate boxes. There is an **example** at the beginning **0**.

Which person says that

0	A	focusing on celebrities makes the media less trustworthy and reliable?
B8		people can become the focus of public attention without even being aware of it?
B9		people can gain widespread publicity on their own?
B10		the attitude of celebrities towards being caught in real life situations has changed?
B11		the public are able to invade the privacy of celebrities much more today than in the past?
B12		the media encourage public's preoccupation with celebrities?
B13		the media should try to change the type of person it features in the celebrity pages?
B14		information about celebrities has become outside the control of professional image makers?
B15		the way celebrities are presented in the media is the result of a collaborative effort?
B16		people who admire celebrities are unable to deal with their own problems efficiently?

A There is something childish about the need to worship a famous person who is our contemporary but who doesn't know us: it is passive and inferior, proof that we are insufficiently engaged with our own projects and have chosen to 'escape' from our lives because we have no idea how to lead them properly. It's indicative of a problem; a trend that strongly suggests we're an entertainment-saturated culture that treats celebrities akin to religious icons. The entertainment news programmes and even the mainstream press often act like drug dealers, devoting far too much space to stories about the rich and famous – information that has little real value but tremendous power to reinforce society's addiction to celebrities. Also, devoting too much attention to celebrities undermines the credibility of media outlets.

B As our culture generates its endless images, we are fed more and more information about people who are less and less authentic. There is an increasingly tight control of image by the image makers – the publicists, managers, and agents behind the scenes.

Press agents and publicists arrange the locations of interviews, channel the discussion into approved areas, and influence a magazine's selection of a writer by refusing to cooperate with any scribe they feel will not benefit the celebrity. "The same control is exercised over photos", reports Mitch Gerber, a paparazzo who specialises in long-lens surprise shots of celebrities. "Years ago people didn't care if you took photos of them eating or blowing their nose. Now they're much more cautious".

C The impulse to admire is an important feature of our psyches. Rather than try to suppress our love of celebrity, we ought to channel it in optimally intelligent and fruitful directions. A properly organised society would be one where the best-known people were those who embodied and reinforced the highest, noblest and most socially beneficial values. The job of the news is to make the celebrity section no less exciting than it is now, while ensuring that it provides us with portraits of people who can guide us to what matters, in ourselves and the world.

D The Internet has moved the power over who decides if someone is a celebrity out of the hands of the traditional star creators. It's because the audience is in charge, armed with a smart phone and a Wi-Fi connection. This makes us potentially more dangerous to the celebrity than ever before. Then, the worst George Clooney might have faced was a busload of strangers standing outside his well-guarded Beverly Hills fortress. Now fans can zoom into Clooney's backyard on *Google Maps* or report his most recent location. We can also act outside the system, promoting ourselves using similar techniques as the studios, using carefully placed pieces of media and cultivating followings among specifically targeted communities. We can also thrust unsuspecting people into the spotlight by posting a video on *Twitter* or *Facebook* for our friends to see and pass on.

Use of English Paper

Task B17-B24

For questions B17-B24, read the text below and write one word which you think best fits each gap. There is an **example** at the beginning 0

Sense of Touch

The sense of touch may affect decision-making. 0 If you want to negotiate a good financial deal, make sure you are sitting on a hard chair, say US researchers. They have B17 _____ to the conclusion that people who sit on soft

chairs tend to be more flexible in agreeing a price B18 _____ people sitting on a hard chair.

Through a series of experiments, they found that the weight, texture, and hardness of objects unconsciously influence our decision-making. The results of their experiments suggest that physical touch, B19 _____ is the first sense to develop, may be a base upon which people make their decisions.

In one test, participants arranged rough or smooth puzzle pieces before hearing a story about a social interaction. The participants B20 _____ puzzle pieces were rough were more likely to describe the interaction in the story as disjointed and harsh.

In another experiment, the participants were given either a soft blanket B21 _____ a hard wooden block before hearing a story about an interaction between a supervisor and an employee. The researchers found that those who touched the block judged the supervisor as more rigid and strict.

Professor Cary Cooper believes that sense of touch plays an important role in social interaction. He thinks that it may be especially important to B22 _____ it into account during negotiations and job interviews, "I can see that if people are sitting on a very comfy, relaxing sofa during their job interview, they may not be as assertive as they usually B23 _____ and they may let their guard down".

B24 _____ to Christopher Nocera, the author of the study, first impressions are likely to be influenced by the things we touch. He believes that touch is the most under-investigated sense in behavioural research.

Task **A9-A18**

For questions **A9-A18**, read the text below and circle the answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) which best fits each gap. There is an **example** at the beginning **0**.

Sleep Science

What happens when we sleep?

During the first **0** _____ of light sleep, we're half asleep and half awake. Within ten minutes of light sleep we enter the stage of true sleep, and then deep sleep. If we are awakened during deep sleep, we do not adjust immediately and often feel disoriented for several minutes. Some children **A9** _____ night-terrors or sleepwalking during this stage. During the next period most of our dreams **A10** _____. Although we are not **A11** _____, the brain is very active – often more so than when we are awake. Then the whole cycle begins again.

We spend a third of our lives sleeping. Napoleon and Margaret Thatcher got by on four hours a night and Thomas Edison **A12** _____ it was a waste of time.

So why do we sleep?

This is a question that has **A13** _____ scientists for centuries. Some believe that sleep gives the body a chance to refresh itself from the day's activities but the amount of energy saved by sleeping is very small – the same energy as in a piece of toast.

We have to sleep because sleeping is an essential way to **A14** _____ normal levels of cognitive skills such as speech, memory, and **A15** _____ thinking.

Research **A16** _____ that sleep-deprived individuals often have difficulty in **A17** _____ to rapidly changing situations and making rational judgments. Lack of sleep not only has a major **A18** _____ on cognitive functioning but also on emotional and physical health. After just one night without sleep, concentration goes down and attention span shortens considerably.

0	1 stage	2 degree	3 division	4 track
A9	1 practise	2 start	3 display	4 experience
A10	1 occur	2 develop	3 initiate	4 raise
A11	1 sensitive	2 conscious	3 aware	4 sensible
A12	1 pointed	2 claimed	3 noticed	4 estimated
A13	1 involved	2 appealed	3 puzzled	4 discouraged
A14	1 supply	2 remain	3 maintain	4 hold
A15	1 variable	2 flexible	3 mighty	4 capable
A16	1 reveals	2 declares	3 represents	4 introduces
A17	1 opposing	2 facing	3 coping	4 responding
A18	1 impact	2 pressure	3 consequence	4 significance

Task **B25-B32**

For questions **B25-B32**, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two and five words**, including the word given (**no more than 17 characters**). There is an **example** at the beginning **0**.

Example:

0 I have not read that book for many years.

AGES

It's been ages since I read that book.

B25 Clarissa felt sorry that she sounded so angry on the telephone.

FOR

Clarissa was _____ so angry on the telephone.

B26 As Willy hates innovations, he doesn't change the lifestyle he has in the country.

IF

Willy would change the lifestyle he has in the country
_____ innovations.

B27 It's a pity they don't provide a consultancy service in this town.

WISH

I _____ a consultancy service in this town.

B28 To make the area more accessible to visitors, they are building a new car park.

BEING

A new car park _____ to make the area more accessible to visitors.

B29 I didn't get on with my teacher so I didn't listen to his suggestions.

MIGHT

If I had got on with my teacher I _____ to his suggestions.

B30 No one has checked the information so far and that's the problem.

NOT

The problem is that the information _____ by anyone so far.

B31 Everybody believes that she will make her speech interesting in order to catch the audience's attention.

EXPECTED

She _____ her speech interesting in order to catch the audience's attention.

B32 "How many adverts have you seen recently selling life insurance, Paul?" asked Mrs. Fletcher.

HE

Mrs. Fletcher asked Paul how many adverts _____ recently selling life insurance.