

2007 National English Contest for College Students

(Level C - Preliminary)

Part I Listening Comprehension (25 minutes, 30 points)

Section A (6 points)

Directions: In this section, you will hear 6 short conversations. At the end of each conversation, a question will be asked about what was said. Both the conversation and the question will be read only once. After each question, there will be a pause. During the pause, you must read the three choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. A. He hasn't found a suitable one. | B. He hasn't enough money. |
| C. He prefers his old one. | |
| 2. A. In ten minutes. | B. In fifteen minutes. |
| C. In twenty minutes. | |
| 3. A. Have dinner with Mary. | B. See a film with Mary. |
| C. Do his homework. | |
| 4. A. Rainy. | B. Sunny. |
| C. Cloudy. | |
| 5. A. He has to go to the bank. | B. He has missed the train. |
| C. His train has been delayed. | |
| 6. A. £315. | B. £350. |
| C. £375. | |

Section B (4 points)

Directions: In this section, you will hear one long conversation. The conversation will be

read only once. At the end of the conversation, there will be a one-minute pause. During the pause, you must read the four questions, each with three choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

7. What office is the student looking for?
A. Accounting. B. Economic History. C. Economics.
8. When was the orientation meeting held?
A. Yesterday. B. Last Friday. C. A week ago.
9. What is the rule about attendance at lectures?
A. It is optional. B. It is necessary. C. It is difficult to enforce.
10. How often does the student have to attend tutorials?
A. Once every other week. B. Three times a week.
C. Once a week.

Section C (10 points)

Directions: In this section, you will hear 10 short news items. After each item, there will be a pause. During the pause, you must read the question and then the three choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

11. When did the bomb go off in a popular market in central Baghdad?
A. Late in the evening. B. At mid-morning. C. Late in the afternoon.
12. What's the purpose of the Amber Alert program?
A. To report the number of children missing in the U.S. every year.
B. To help find the children who are believed to have been abducted.
C. To find out the reasons why children are kidnapped in the U.S.
13. How many villages have been involved in the inter-communal fighting in Chad?
A. Fewer than 8. B. About 10. C. Over 20.
14. What is the best tactic when you're caught up by a rolling wave of snow?
A. To create space around you. B. To outrun the avalanche.
C. To leave the ski resort instantly.
15. What's the news item mainly talking about?
A. Development of medical technology. B. Health care in California.
C. Health insurance in the U.S.

16. How many people did bird flu kill in Indonesia in two weeks?
A. 5. B. 2. C. 35.
17. What's the function of the new drug produced by Pfizer?
A. Reducing dogs' weight.
B. Increasing dogs' appetite.
C. Controlling dogs' population.
18. What will soon begin in the southern Senegalese towns?
A. Planting new agricultural crops. B. Biofuel production.
C. Fuel recycling.
19. When did Ponti begin making films?
A. In 1913. B. In 1931. C. In 1938.
20. What's the main reason Democrats could regain control of Congress after 12 years?
A. Nancy Pelosi has become their leader.
B. Americans are dissatisfied with the Iraq war.
C. They support sending more troops to Iraq.

Section D (10 points)

Directions: In this section, you will hear a short passage. There are ten missing words or phrases in it. Fill in the blanks with the exact words you hear on the tape. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

Every traveller has a tale to tell about bad driving. These are usually exaggerated (21) _____ of life on the main streets of cities where the motorists are crazy and traffic lights are treated as colourful (22) _____.

It all happened on a Sunday April morning. I (23) _____ my intention to turn left into a side road and paused as the oncoming traffic cleared. But as I drove across the road, an elderly man driving a battered Renault 12 chose to overtake me (24) _____ pass on the inside. There was a fearful bang and my car was pushed sideways. I felt groggy and bruised and was taken to hospital in the back seat of a police car. There my spleen was removed. Fortunately, though, my recovery was steady and (25) _____.

But that's not the end of the tale. Yes, I had taken out insurance and it covered my medical expenses, (26) _____ while I recovered and my flights home. However, as always, there was a catch to it. I had (27) _____ hired my car from a backstreet firm called Kavis that had been recommended by the hotel front desk. I was assured that I had

full insurance cover, but Kavis (28) _____ my credit card £800 on the day of the accident. My solicitor took advice on the form I had signed. Being in a hurry at the time, I hadn't (29) _____ to get it translated. "Mr. Balmer was stupid to sign this document," it read. I (30) _____ with a smile. After all, I am still alive!

Part II Vocabulary and Structure (10 minutes, 15 points)

Directions: There are 15 incomplete sentences in this part. For each blank there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

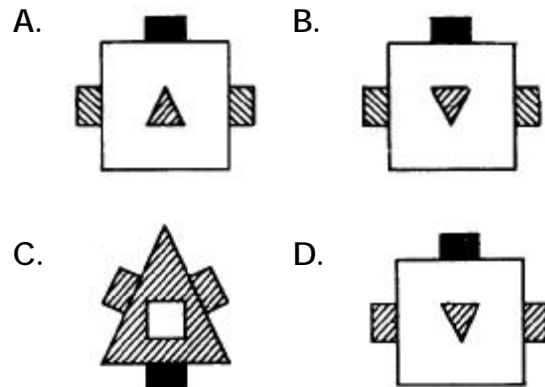
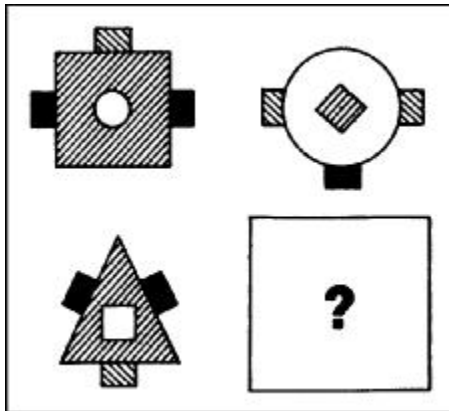
31. If I lose my new watch my parents will be very annoyed _____ me.
A. against B. with C. for D. about
32. I don't think _____ possible to master a foreign language without much memory work.
A. this B. that C. its D. it
33. Does brain power _____ as we get older? Scientists now have some surprising answers.
A. descend B. decline C. reduce D. collapse
34. I don't believe in Brown's adventure at all. It sounds so _____.
A. incredible B. credible C. incredulous D. credulous
35. We'll never get to the station on time _____ we run as fast as we can.
A. in case B. even if C. provided that D. if only
36. Oil sales volume in local urban and rural areas rose by 24% and 50% _____, over July 2006.
A. separately B. individually C. independently D. respectively
37. The shipping authorities followed the _____ of the unidentified submarine on their radar screens.
A. channel B. way C. course D. direction
38. I set off as soon as I got the news about my grandpa's illness. Unfortunately, he _____ at the hospital before I _____.
A. has died; went there B. had died; arrived
C. died; had been there D. was dying; had gone
39. The committee has made rules _____ all its members are supposed to work.

- A. by which B. so that C. now that D. for which
40. They were married for fifteen years but have now _____ up and live apart.
A. split B. divided C. divorced D. separated
41. We wouldn't have missed the train if we _____ to the station.
A. didn't walk B. wouldn't run C. hadn't walked D. weren't running
42. No matter what measure they took, in no way _____.
A. could the outflowing tide be controlled
B. the outflowing tide could be controlled
C. could the outflowing tide control
D. the outflowing tide could control
43. — Did you get any information from Peter?
— He _____ an expert, but he doesn't seem to know much.
A. believes to be B. is supposed to be C. thought to be D. is claimed being
44. — The radio's terribly loud. Could you turn it down a little?
— Sorry! _____
— Yes, and something else – wouldn't it be an idea to buy your own soap?
A. Is it disturbing you?
B. I forgot where I put my soap this morning.
C. A football match was broadcast live on it.
D. Could you repeat what you said?
45. — Can I book a room from now until Friday?
— _____
— What's the price?
— \$128.75 not counting the service.
A. Definitely. Go see it yourself.
B. Yes, our hotel is quite near to the station.
C. Of course. Would you like to follow me?
D. You can have Room 33, overlooking the sea.

Part III IQ Test (5 minutes, 5 points)

Directions: There are 5 IQ Test questions in this part. For each question there are 4 choices marked A, B, C and D. Mark your answer on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

46. Which figure completes the sequence?



47. A man has 29 socks in his drawer, 9 identical blue, 8 identical grey and 12 identical black. The lights have fused and he is completely in the dark. How many socks must he take out to make certain that he has a pair of each colour?

- A. 21 B. 14 C. 23 D. 24

48. Which comes next?

A, 1A, 11A, 311A, ?

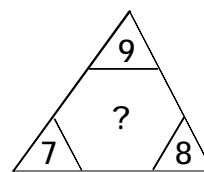
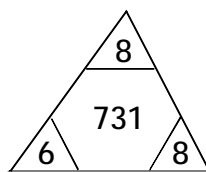
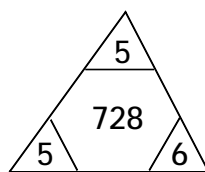
- A. 1312A B. 13211A C. 1231A D. 11231A

49. Find the weight to balance the scales.



- A. 2kg B. 4kg C. 3kg D. 5kg

50. What is the missing number?



- A. 748 B. 754 C. 745 D. 784

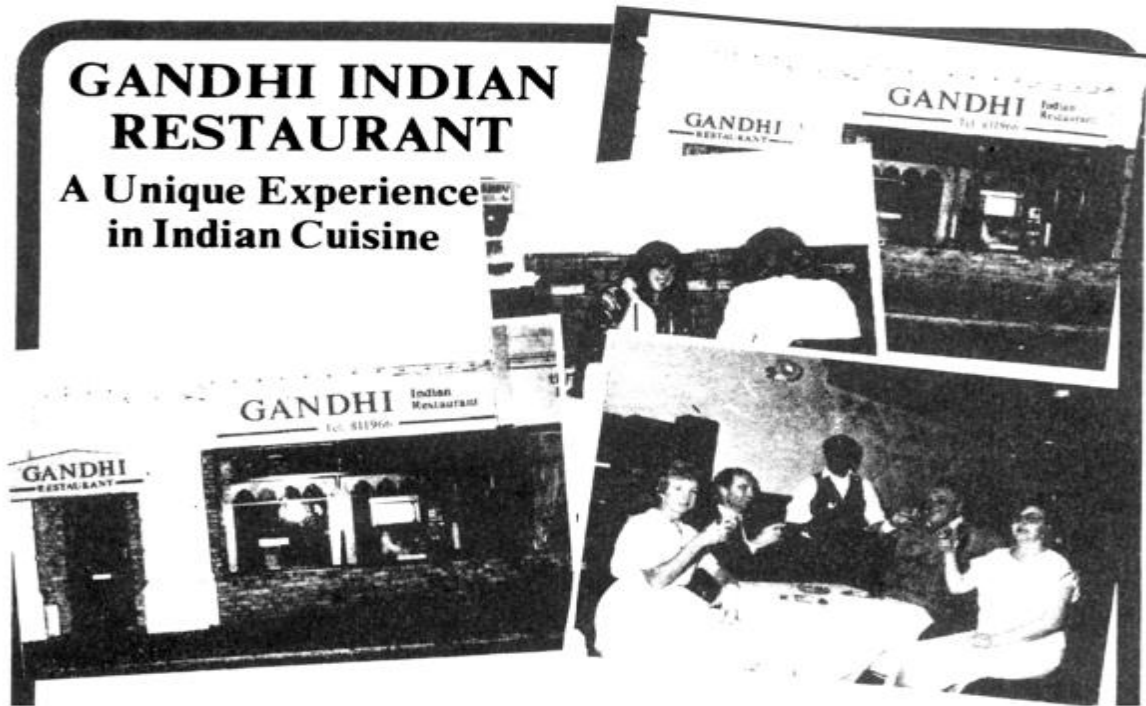
Part IV Reading Comprehension (25 minutes, 40 points)

Section A (6 points)

Directions: There is one passage in this section with 6 questions. For each question, there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You should decide on the best choice. Then

mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Questions 51-56 are based on the following passage.



**“A Unique Experience in
Indian Cuisine”**

Opening night at the Gandhi Restaurant brought cries of praise and delight from customers when they sampled the unique cuisine on Monday night.

Opened by County Councillor, Mr. Tony Peaston, the Gandhi offers the discerning diner authentic Indian dishes, many available for the first time in Hampshire.

The secret lies in the preparation - only authentic Indian herbs and spices are used to individually prepare each special dish, following ancient recipes, many handed down through generations of Indian chefs.

High Standard

“I’ve travelled extensively and dined at many Indian restaurants throughout the country, but rarely have I tasted Indian food of such a high standard,” extolled Councillor Peaston.

“Whilst Gandhi himself was a leader of men, the Gandhi Restaurant could be considered the leader of a new breed of Indian cuisine in Hampshire,” he added.

“By far the best curry we have had in the Portsmouth area,” was the comment of Havant diners, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cairns of Denvilles.

“We enjoyed the different menu and

found the advice of the staff, explaining how each dish was prepared, very helpful for deciding our choice of menu,” they said.

Such glowing comments reflect the exclusive nature of the dishes available at the Gandhi Restaurant.

Original Recipes

You can choose from a menu which offers curries and tandoories, knowing each one is specially cooked for you, with individual care and attention, according to strict original recipes, by a top London chef, formerly of Covent Garden.

And after you have sampled the spicy delights of your main course, you can select from a choice of original Indian sweets to temper your palate.

Relaxing in the comfortable surroundings of the restaurant, you can have a hot towel to freshen yourself or clean your fingers between courses - another touch of In-

dian living.

The Gandhi Restaurant, situated at 139 Kingston Road, Portsmouth, is fully licensed and open seven days a week.

You can pop in for a traditional Indian lunch between 12 and 2:30 pm or enjoy a languid evening meal, when the restaurant is open from 6 pm to midnight.

But take care to book in advance, as demand for this cuisine is expected to be high, so avoid disappointment by telephoning Portsmouth 811966.

As proof of confidence in your enjoyment, the Gandhi is offering a 10 per cent discount on the cost of your meal, when you produce this advertisement within three months of the opening.

The staff at the Gandhi look forward to serving you with your first taste of truly authentic Indian cuisine in this area - and they know you will come back again and again.

51. “A Unique Experience in Indian Cuisine” here means that the Gandhi restaurant

- _____.
- A. is the only genuine Indian restaurant in Hampshire
- B. offers customers its own special style of cooking
- C. makes special food for native Indian customers
- D. is trying out Indian recipes for the first time

52. How does the food preparation contribute to the unique experience?

- A. It varies from customer to customer, depending on the price.
- B. The methods used are secret and known only to the chef.
- C. It uses genuine Indian ingredients and follows ancient recipes.
- D. It follows methods described by traditional Indian authors.

53. According to the article, in what way does the restaurant live up to its name?
- A. It will soon be as famous throughout the world as Gandhi himself.
 - B. The owner considers himself to be a leader of the local Indian community.
 - C. It has had a considerable influence on other Hampshire restaurants.
 - D. It sets new standards of excellence for other Indian restaurants to follow.
54. Where did the top chef of the Gandhi Restaurant use to work?
- A. In London.
 - B. In Hampshire.
 - C. In Denvilles.
 - D. In Portsmouth.
55. Hot towels are provided _____.
- A. because customers feel cold
 - B. to make customers feel more relaxed
 - C. mainly for hygienic reasons
 - D. to give customers the true feel of Indian life
56. Customers can obtain a cheaper meal by _____.
- A. bringing the advertisement with them
 - B. making a phone call to the restaurant
 - C. providing proof of their enjoyment
 - D. contributing to the cost of advertising

Section B (7 points)

Directions: In this section, there is one passage followed by 7 statements. Go over the passage quickly and mark the answers on the Answer Sheet. For questions 57 - 63, mark Y (for Yes) if the statement agrees with the information given in the passage; N (for No) if the statement contradicts the information given in the passage; NG (for Not Given) if the information is not given in the passage.

Questions 57-63 are based on the following passage.

Eleven days ago, as he felt himself being crushed from head to toe, Andrew Jepson was certain he was about to die.

Yesterday the 26-year-old construction worker was able to stroll around his parents' home and tell for the first time how he survived being run over by a four-ton road roller.

The accident happened as Mr. Jepson worked at a building site at Heathrow and the roller was reversing at 4 mph.

“I was looking away and then I just felt it go over my leg”, he said. “I fell to the floor and felt this amazing pain in my leg as it was being crushed.”

“When I felt it running over me I thought this is it, I’m dead. Nobody can survive this.”

“There was absolutely nothing I could do. The pain was horrendous and all the air was being crushed out of my lungs.”

“I couldn’t breathe. I thought every breath would be my last.”

The machine took more than a second to roll over Mr. Jepson’s body.

“It came over my head but I had my hard hat on which must have blocked most of the pressure,” he said.

Workmates believed he would be dead but the uneven surface, foundation for a road, cushioned much of the weight of the roller and saved him.

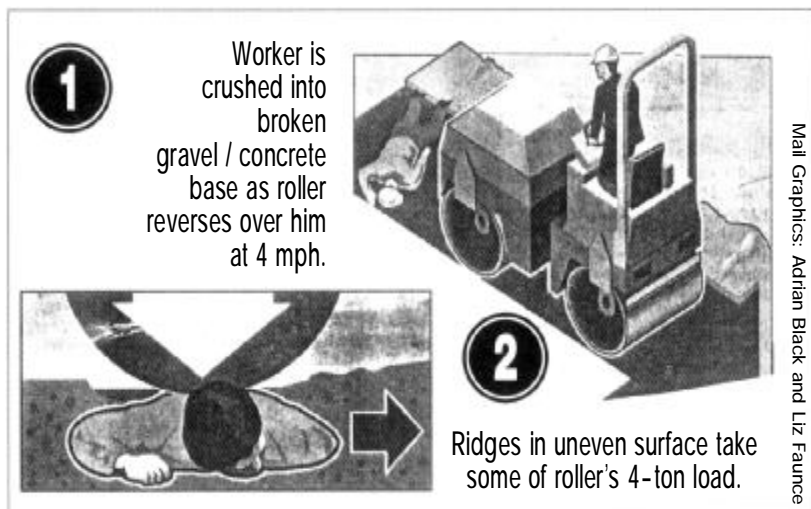
“Afterwards I tried to get straight up,” he said. “I was fully conscious. I was in shock but for some reason I thought, ‘If I stay down, I will die.’”

“Luckily a labourer ran over and kept me down so that I would not do any more injury to myself.”

“The driver rushed over. He was really upset. I said, ‘You are not to blame, it was just an accident.’”

Mr. Jepson, a site engineer, suffered crushed ribs, bruising, cuts and a collapsed left lung but escaped permanent injury. An air ambulance arrived and doctors operated at the scene.

He spent two days in intensive care but six days later was back at his parents’ home near Spalding, Lincolnshire.



“It is like being born again,” said Mr. Jepson, who has amazed doctors with his recovery.

“When I came around from the anaesthetic I just cried with joy. Being able to walk and breathe again is the most wonderful thing in the world.”

Mr. Jepson’s 62-year-old father, John, said, “When we heard he had been under a roller I feared the worst. We prayed all the way to the hospital. To see him now is just wonderful.”

Mr. Jepson’s employer, construction firm Laing, said the accident was still being investigated.

Statements:

- 57. The accident happened two weeks ago.
- 58. Mr. Jepson was paving the road when the accident happened.
- 59. The roller was going backwards when it hit Mr. Jepson.
- 60. A workman ran immediately to the scene of the accident.
- 61. An operation was performed at the scene of the accident.
- 62. The company has decided who is responsible for the accident.
- 63. The investigation of the accident lasted for almost two years.

Section C (7 points)

Directions: You are going to read a magazine article about sand. Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences (A – H) the one which fits each gap (64 – 70). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use. Mark your answers on the Answer Sheet.

Sand: as children we play on it and as adults we relax on it. It is something we complain about when it gets in our eyes on a windy beach, and praise when it is made into sand castles.

But we don’t often look at it. If we did, we would discover an account of a

geological past and a history of sea life that goes back thousands and, in some cases, millions of years.

Sand covers not just seashores, but also ocean beds, deserts and mountains. 64 And it is a major element in manufactured products too – concrete is largely sand, while glass is made of little else.

65 Well, it is larger than fine dust and smaller than shingle. In fact, according to the most generally accepted scheme of measurement, grains can be called sand if their diameter is greater than 0.06 of a millimetre and less than 0.6 of a millimetre.

Depending on its age and origin, a particular sand can consist of tiny stones or porous grains through which water can pass. 66 They have come from the breaking down of rocks, or from the dead bodies of sea creatures, which collect on the bottom of the oceans, or even from volcanic eruptions.

67 If it is a dazzling white, its grains may come from nearby coral, from crystalline quartz rocks or from gypsum, like the white sand of New Mexico. On Pacific Islands, jet black sands form from volcanic minerals. Other black beaches are magnetic and are mined for iron ore.

68 It washes rock into streams and rivers and down to the sea, leaving behind softer materials. By the time it reaches the sea, the hardest rocks remain but everything else has been broken into tiny particles of 0.02 millimetre diameter or less. The largest pieces fall to the bottom quickly, while smaller particles float and settle only slowly in deeper water, which is why the sandy beach on the shoreline so often turns to mud further out.

69 If the individual fragments still have sharp edges, you can be sure they were formed fairly recently. This is the case on the island of Kamoama in Hawaii, where a beach was created after a volcanic eruption in 1990. Molten lava spilled into the sea and exploded into glassy droplets.

It seems that when the poet William Blake saw infinity in a grain of sand he was not far wrong. Sand is an irreplaceable industrial ingredient which has many uses. 70 Sand cushions our land from the force of the sea, and geologists say it often does a better job protecting our shores than the most advanced coastal technology.

- A. These may have the shape of stars or spirals, their edges rough or smooth.
- B. It is one of the most common substances on earth.
- C. In addition, it has one vital function which you might never even notice.
- D. Rain is an important force in the creation of beaches.
- E. In the great slow cycle of the earth, sand that was once rock can turn to rock again.
- F. What exactly is sand?
- G. Colour is another clue to the origins of sand.
- H. It can be difficult to date the sand on a beach accurately but it is possible to get a general idea of whether or not the sand is “young” or “old”.

Section D (10 points)

Directions: In this section, there is one passage followed by 5 questions. Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions in as few words as possible (not more than 10 words). Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

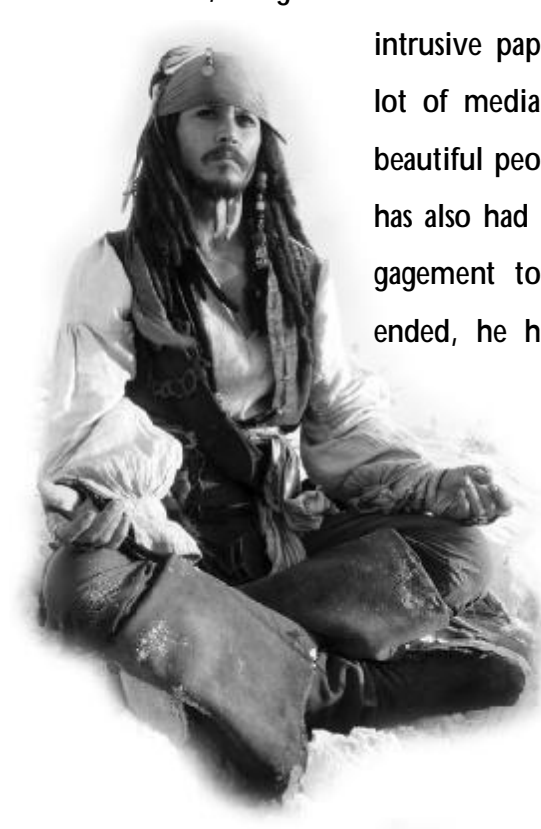
Questions 71–75 are based on the following passage.

Rare among American actors, Depp has made a name for himself effortlessly switching between mainstream Hollywood movies and more “out of the ordinary” projects. Talking about his choice of roles, he once said, “With any part you play, there is a certain amount of yourself in it. There has to be, otherwise it’s not acting. It’s lying.” Highlights of a richly diverse career include *Edward Scissorhands*, *Sleepy Hollow* and *Pirates of the Caribbean*.

Depp dropped out of school at sixteen to concentrate on a career in music, playing the guitar (he played with more than twenty bands). However, his musical career failed to take off, and he found himself selling pens over the phone to pay the bills. His lucky break came when makeup artist Lori Allison, to whom he was briefly married, introduced him

to Nicolas Cage. Although at first they did not like each other, they later became good friends and Cage persuaded him to try acting. Depp signed on with Cage's agent, and made his feature film debut in Wes Craven's horror film *Nightmare on Elm Street*, in which the character he played was eaten by his bed. After that he had his first screen leading role in *Private Resort*.

Depp went on to achieve teen idol status in the TV series *21 Jump Street*, but after four seasons, he wanted out, with the hope of making the transition to the big screen. He starred in *Cry-Baby*, followed by Tim Burton's *Edward Scissorhands*, after which he went on to win considerable critical acclaim in *Ed Wood*, a reunion with Burton. Depp made his feature directorial debut with *The Brave* in 1997, a film he also co-wrote and starred in. Premiering at the Cannes Film Festival, the film also featured Marlon Brando, but earned mostly negative reviews, with most critics blaming its weak script. *Sleepy Hollow* teamed him with director Burton yet again, before he starred in Ted Demme's *Blow*, and appeared in the thriller *From Hell*, about Jack the Ripper.



Off screen, his good looks and “bad boy” image (he was once arrested for attacking intrusive paparazzi with a wooden plank) have earned him a lot of media attention. He was voted one of the fifty most beautiful people in the world by *People* magazine in 1996. He has also had his fair share of celebrity romances; when his engagement to *Edward Scissorhands* co-star Winona Ryder ended, he had a tattoo (one of at least eight), which said “Winona Forever”, altered by laser to get rid of the last two letters of her name. His relationship with model Kate Moss also ended abruptly in 1998, when he started dating French singer-actress Vanessa Paradis. They are now married and have two children, Lily-Rose Melody and Jack. More recent work has included *Pirates of the Caribbean* with Geoffrey

Rush and Once Upon a Time in Mexico.

Questions:

71. What does Johnny Depp think of acting a role without having any part of oneself in it?
72. Who inspired Depp to start his film career?
73. Why did many critics negatively review Depp's film The Brave?
74. How many films has Depp made with director Tim Burton?
75. What have brought Depp a lot of media attention off screen?

Section E (10 points)

Directions: In this section, there is one passage followed by a summary. Read the passage carefully and complete the summary below by choosing a maximum of three words from the passage to fill in the spaces 76–80. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

Questions 76–80 are based on the following passage.

Lack of culture, or rather an excess of the wrong sort of culture, is often considered to be synonymous with disadvantage. Most commonly associated with low cultural standards are low levels of reading, and some thirteen per cent of all twenty-three-year-olds feel they have trouble with reading and writing. One way of compensating such disadvantaged young people is thought to be to provide them with the culture they lack: in particular, high quality reading material.

Whereas forty to fifty per cent of young people aged sixteen to twenty rarely read a book, the majority appear to read comics. In 1991 sales of *Viz*, a UK comic, exceeded one million copies per issue, making it the fourth best-selling periodical in Britain. The reading of comics, however, is not restricted to young people: by 1992 it was estimated that two out of three men aged eighteen to fifty-three read *Viz*. The number of imitators this comic has spawned, including *Zit*, *Gas*, *Brain Damage* and *Swiz*, indicates the extent of the influence it wields.

The reading of comics was traditionally regarded by the educational establishment

with considerable suspicion. Whereas the received arts were always assumed to exert an improving or civilizing influence, comics were thought to “rot children’s brains”, to lower educational standards and to threaten morality. They were, and are, assumed to be an inferior cultural form, their readers assumed to come from the lower social classes, to be low educational attainers and to be easily led astray.

Over the past decade, perceptions of comics have shifted. Since the 1970s, the comic format has been commonly used to represent the interests of various disenfranchised groups – community groups, the unemployed, welfare recipients – who became more conscious of a climate conditioned by other contemporary movements such as civil rights, consumerism, self-help and de-institutionalization. As cultural signifiers, comics have become the subject matter of academic courses in cultural and media studies. Indeed, young people’s cultural activities, grounded in the commercial rather than the subsidized sector, are beginning to merit the attention of the arts establishment.

Summary:

Low cultural standards, such as 76 of reading, a difficulty experienced by many young adults, are often associated with disadvantage. While around half of sixteen to twenty-year-olds rarely read books, most will read comics. Although many comics in Britain are 77 and have lots of readers, the educational establishment still considers them to be an 78, appealing only to the lower levels of society. However, attitudes are beginning to change as the format has been adopted to 79 of disenfranchised groups. Certain comics have been included in the courses of 80 studies. Young people’s cultural activities are beginning to attract the attention of the arts establishment.

Part V Cloze (10 minutes, 10 points)

Directions: There are 10 blanks in the passage. Use the words (phrases) given in the box to fill in the blanks, changing the form where necessary. Use only one word (phrase) in each blank. There are two extra words (phrases) which you do not need to use. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

anxious about, strong, suggest, instruct, which,
especial, whether, apply to, all, both, great, form

Working out to music can improve the coordination of your mind and body, (81) _____ you are football crazy or keen on tennis. The (82) _____ that rock or pop music might ever play a part in sports training would have been regarded as a joke not so long ago. But today modern music is increasingly filling the gym as well as the front room.

The idea of exercise to music is not new. For years, (83) _____ in eastern Europe, the benefits of sportsmen and sportswomen having (84) _____ in ballet and classical dance, with their stress on total body control and balance, have long been recognised.

Figure-skating and ice-dance are usually performed to music and can be said to be specialised (85) _____ of this type of exercise. But ballet and classical dance can be (86) _____ other sports that are also pleasing to the eye, such as gymnastics and skiing, (87) _____ of which demand high standards of balance, coordination and suppleness.

In western Europe and North America, a far (88) _____ interest has been shown in working out to classical music. Even sports which seem to demand muscular (89) _____ more than any other physical requirement have taken up exercise to music as a valuable addition to their own specialised training schemes.

Devotees of soccer, rugby, and rowing now regularly train to music; even those who take part in weightlifting, (90) _____ demands enormous physical strength, and participants in athletics field events, find that exercise to music is beneficial and makes their movements more fluid.

Part VI Translation (15 minutes, 20 points)

Section A (10 points)

Directions: Translate the underlined sentences in the following passage into Chinese. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

(91) An active lifestyle and a healthy, fish-rich diet are not only good for your heart, they may also help tackle the memory loss associated with old age, two leading neuroscientists said.

As people live longer, finding ways of halving the decline in mental agility is becoming increasingly important, said Professor Ian Robertson, director of the Institute of Neuroscience at Trinity College Dublin.

(92) “The biggest threat to being able to function well and properly is our brains,” he told journalists.

“There is very strong evidence, particularly in the over-50s, that the degree to which you maintain your mental faculties depends on a handful of quite simple environmental factors,” he said.

(93) Those who remained physically fit, avoided high stress levels and enjoyed a rich and varied social life are better equipped to stay alert as they age. Mental stimulation, learning new things and simply thinking young also help.

A new survey compiled for the University of Kent and the charity Age Concern showed ageism was rife in Britain where people, on average, see youth as ending at 49 and old age beginning at 65.

But Robertson said such attitudes were not helpful given the number of 80-year-olds who remain “sharp as pins”.

(94) “If you start to think of yourself as old when you are 60, which is no longer justified, you will behave old,” he said.

Research conducted by his Trinity College colleague, Professor Marina Lynch, showed healthy eating was another key requirement for staying on the ball.

(95) Lynch said new research showed fish oils may reduce the cell inflammation that triggers a decline in memory.

Section B (10 points)

Directions: Translate the following sentences into English, using the words given in the brackets. Remember to write your answers on the Answer Sheet.

96. 这决不是解决人口问题的最好办法。(by no means)

97. 首先,我要感谢那些为取得这项成果而辛勤工作的所有人。(bring about)

98. 越来越多的新能源被开发出来代替煤和石油。(exploit)
 99. 有必要让人们充分认识违反交通规则的危害。(aware of)
 100. 看到古代的生活完整地保存下来,我们是多么高兴啊!(preserve)

Part VII Writing (30 minutes, 30 points)

Task I (10 points)

Directions: You are in England helping to organise a course for foreign students which begins next week. This morning you received a message from Katarina Tabacek, one of the students who has reserved a place on the course. She wants to bring a friend with her on the course. Look at the description of the course below and the notes you have made and write to Katarina explaining why her friend cannot come on the course.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
 (1564–1616)

*Was he really the greatest writer
the world has ever known?*

- ✿ Learn about his life and work in
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
the town where he was born
- ✿ One-week course for foreign students
with a good level of English
- ✿ Comfortable accommodation
at unusually reasonable price
- ✿ Two theatre visits included
- ✿ Three sightseeing tours
- ✿ Daily lectures

NOTES

Katarina's friend:
beginner!

booked last yr. -
we got discount

✓ expensive now

more tickets
impossible

coaches full

in English

Write a letter of between 80–120 words in an appropriate style on the Answer Sheet.
 Do not write your address or name.

Task II (20 points)

Directions: Read the following extract of a newspaper article on personal freedom. Then write an article (between 110–150 words) responding to the points raised and expressing your own views.

Week after week we seem to hear about some reckless adventure that has gone wrong. In a recent Sydney to Hobart ocean yacht race, the boats sailed into violent storms. Most of the sailors were rescued, but only as a result of a massive rescue operation which cost a huge amount of money and put rescuers' lives at risk. Similar tragedies have occurred in other dangerous sports, costing the taxpayer thousands and wasting the emergency services' time. Isn't it time to ban dangerous sports and protect people who put themselves and others at risk? Or would a ban restrict our freedom too much?

Please write on the Answer Sheet.