



LEVEL THREE

PAPER ONE READING AND WRITING

Do not write on the exam paper.

Time limit: 1 hour 15 minutes

Sample Test

Instructions: Read the text and match each paragraph (1 - 5) with the correct heading (A - F). Fill in the correct box for each number on your answer sheet. There is one EXTRA heading.

EXAMPLE**Paragraph 0****CORRECT ANSWER**

G Remarkable statues of a far-away and secluded land

Easter Island's Mysterious 'Moai'

Paragraph 0

Located in the southern Pacific Ocean, 2000 miles off the coast of Chile, Easter Island is considered to be one of the most remote and mysterious islands on earth. It is best known for the approximately 800 enormous, thousand-year old, hand-sculpted statues (called moai) that are scattered along the island's forty-mile coastline.

Paragraph 1

These statues, carved from rough volcanic stone, take the form of stylized, human heads on male torsos. The heads are greatly exaggerated in size, with a three to five ratio between the head and the body. Some of the moai include a four-foot base, known locally as "ahu". Coincidentally, the term "ahu" is also used to refer to certain Easter Island burial grounds and other sacred ceremonial sites where several moai stand.

Paragraph 2

Despite the fact that the island's original inhabitants left behind absolutely no written history, and only scant oral history, modern-day ethnographers and archaeologists have made some progress in unlocking the mysteries of the sculptures. Unfortunately, the explanations given so far provide few definitive answers to such questions as why the original inhabitants undertook this massive statue-building effort.

Paragraph 3

Owing to their colossal size and weight, it is also a bit unclear as to how so many of the moai ended up making their way from the various inland quarries, where they were sculpted, to the coastline several miles away. Geologist Jared Diamond theorizes that this was accomplished by means of enormous trees that were cut down and transformed into tools and vehicles used for raising and transporting the statues.

Paragraph 4

Most archeologists believe that the sculptures were carved by groups of professional craftsmen. These artisans sought to preserve the images of famous former chiefs who had become part of local legend due to their brilliance as warriors and rulers. The moai, however, should not be interpreted as individualized portraits, but rather as standardized representations of these former 'celebrity chiefs'.

Paragraph 5

It is likely that the moai also held a sacred role in the life of the community. According to archeologist Jo Anne Van Tilburg, their physical position between earth and sky gives the statues both secular and sacred significance: secular in their representation of chiefs and their ability to physically hold up the sky, and sacred in their proximity to the heavenly gods. Van Tilburg concludes, "The moai thus mediate between sky and earth, people and chiefs, chiefs and gods."

A The dual importance of the sculptures

B Archeology and oral tradition working together

C A different interpretation of 'heads of state'

D A physical support for the statues – or something else?

E How they may have reached their destination

F Some things still unknown about the moai

Instructions: Read the conversation between Emily and Kevin. For numbers 6 – 10, choose the correct option (letters A – G) to complete Emily's part. Fill in the correct box on your answer sheet. There is an example (H) and there are two extra options.

EXAMPLE

CORRECT ANSWER

0. **Emily:** _____! Kevin, please tell me the deadline for this essay is wrong.

H*No, please*

Kevin: Sorry, Emily. I guess you just have to face the music and get to work.

6. **Emily:** _____ that's just the way it's going to be, so let it be. Will you help me?

Kevin: Emily you know you can always count on me, how many times do I have to tell you that?

7. **Emily:** _____! Honestly Kevin, I don't know what I'd do without you. Hey, let me buy you lunch...

Kevin: Sounds good to me...we can go to that salad bar that just opened. Oh, but I have to ask you a favor first.

8. **Emily:** _____. What is it? It would be nice to finally do something for you, rather than the other way around.

Kevin: OK...what would you say to coaching me for my calculus exam?

9. **Emily:** _____ Kevin, and you know what? If I coach you it'll help me with my calculus essay.

Kevin: Perfect! That's a win-win situation.

10. **Emily:** _____! Then we can celebrate together when we pass.

Kevin: Hold on; Let's wait till we get our results, Emily.

Emily: Relax! you'll pass that test with flying colors.

Kevin: Thanks, Emily.

A I reckon**B** I'm all ears**C** Why not**D** You're an angel**E** Sorry about it**F** Absolutely**G** By all means**H** No, please

Instructions: Read the text carefully, and for numbers 11-20, select the correct option (A, B, or C) for each statement. Fill in the correct box for each number on your answer sheet.

EXAMPLE**CORRECT ANSWER**

0. People familiar with China know that its cultural traditions are _____ old.

B

A hundreds of years

B thousands of years

C millions of years

Line

TRADITIONAL CHINESE FLOWER FESTIVALS

1 Anyone well versed in Chinese culture understands that China is a country steeped in millennium-old festivals and traditions. An example of this is the fact that what is arguably the most famous Chinese festival of all – the Chinese New Year Festival, with its images of exploding firecrackers and prancing dragons- is so old that historians are incapable of tracing its source.

10 Another traditional Chinese festival whose origins are only slightly less obscure is the traditional Flower Festival, whose purpose is to help ease the transition from the colder and darker months of winter to the warmer and sunnier months of spring. These festivals take their name, of course, from the beautiful flowers that decorate the festival surroundings, and that are immortalized in the traditional songs and dances that are performed on this special day. Due to the fact that China is such an immense territory, and that spring comes at different times of the year in different parts of the country, there is no one specific day when the Flower Festival is celebrated. However, it is safe to assume that most Chinese flower festivals take place sometime in mid-winter.

Historians are still in a quandary with regard to the date of the first Chinese Flower Festival. One group of scholars believes that it took place sometime between the years 386 and 534 during the Northern Wei Dynasty. According to this version, the origin of the festival is connected to a young merchant named Nu Yi, who was well known for the magnificent flowers she grew and sold. So beautiful were her flowers that, following her death, she became known as the 'Flower Goddess', and the Festival evidently started as a way of honoring her.

Another group of scholars believes that the festival originated under the Tang Dynasty between the years 618 and 907. According to this account, the festival is associated with the name of Cui Xuanwei, who was an enlightened aristocrat of the time with a special passion for flowers. According to local legend, one night towards the end of winter, a flock of fairies descended upon Cui's castle in order to talk to the sleeping flowers in his garden. The fairies told the flowers that a terrible storm was supposed to arrive the following day and that the flowers needed to wake up immediately and bloom before morning's first light or face the prospect of Spring being delayed another year.

The fairies also advised Cui to protect his garden with enormous strands of silk as a way of protecting the soon-to-bloom flowers from the harsh winds of the approaching storm. Cui did as the fairies instructed him, and the following day people came from near and far to admire the magnificent sight of Cui's garden: thousands of flowers in full bloom, with their intoxicating fragrances, surrounded by reams of colorful silk. Since then, it has been a tradition for flower shops and flower enthusiasts throughout China to wrap their flowers in silk on the day of the Flower Festival.

One of the principal elements of the modern-day Chinese Flower Festival is a type of traditional clothing worn by participants that is known as 'hanfu' and which dates from the Han Dynasty (202 B.C. to 220 A.D.) For men, the hanfu is characterized by long flowing robes with loose sleeves and colorful 'kerchiefs' or headpieces. The hanfu style for women is highlighted by 'chignons' -- or long hair coiled into a knot and fastened with jade hairpins -- which are accompanied by pearl earrings.

At the beginning of every Chinese Flower Festival, participants greet one another according to elaborate rules of social conduct originating in the Han and Tang Dynasties. Following this, each participant recites a poem focusing on the unique qualities of a different flower. Then, after a series of songs and games, the festival winds to a close with the performance of a traditional dance extolling the beauty and richness of China's natural landscapes. The festival officially ends after participants hand out homemade flower cakes to observers. These deliciously light and fragrant desserts are prepared according to an ancient recipe and represent a tasty ending to a ceremony that stimulates *all* of the senses.

11. It is not known when China's first _____ Festival took place.
- A Dragon
 - B New Year's
 - C Flower
12. A summary of the information in lines 7-8 would be that _____.
- A each period has its own special characteristics
 - B flowers appear all year long in parts of China
 - C the festival is related to the change of seasons
13. The timing of most Chinese Flower Festivals _____.
- A has to do with proper planting and growing
 - B is chosen with regard to seasonal holidays
 - C depends on variables like climate and geography
14. Nu Yi was eventually considered a Goddess due to _____.
- A her legendary beauty
 - B the goods she sold
 - C her annual rebirth
15. A nobleman's name is associated with the _____ Dynasty.
- A Han
 - B Tang
 - C Wei

16. The strategy employed by Cui Xuanwei took advantage of _____.
A a plain variety of cloth
B a brilliant kind of fabric
C sweet-smelling material
17. A tradition handed down from the Tang Dynasty involves _____.
A placing flowers in special fabric on a yearly occasion
B creating perfume out of the sweet-smelling flowers
C making annual tours to the gardens of famous estates
18. Observers watching female Festival participants are likely to notice _____.
A short hairstyles with long-flowing ribbons
B blouses with hand-made knots and pins
C ornaments in shades of green and white
19. The tone at the beginning of these Festivals _____.
A can be rather long and dry
B is light, like a new-born flower
C tends to be on the formal side
20. At the end of a typical Chinese Flower Festival _____.
A a traditional consumable gift is given to observers
B the audience can ask questions about the performance
C participants demonstrate how to prepare a special dessert

Instructions: Read the text carefully and, for numbers 21 – 30, select the correct option for each space. Fill in the correct box on your answer sheet. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

EXAMPLE**CORRECT ANSWER**

0. The late Steve Irwin and his wife, Terri, the present owner of Australia Zoo,
(0) _____ famous...

B**A** serve**B** are**C** enjoy**WILDLIFE ON TELEVISION**

The late Steve Irwin and his wife, Terri, the present owner of Australia Zoo, (0) _____ famous for catching crocodiles and other animals. If you want to know something about their lives, then you won't want to (21) _____ the repeat of The Crocodile Diaries. This popular television series is about their life behind the scenes at Australia Zoo.

You will also (22) _____ the rest of Australia Zoo's human population and learn something about their amazing animal experiences. The Zoo's doctors (23) _____ incredible operations as they (24) _____ to some of the most exotic animals in the world – everything from a lizard with a sore foot to a black swan that urgently needs surgery. The zoo's animal-rescue unit gets (25) _____ in some dramatic animal emergencies – if it's Australian, if it's dangerous or bites, then it'll be saved from a house or someone's back yard. Australia Zoo is much more than just a zoo; it's an environmentally-friendly facility where everyone is known for their (26) _____ to wildlife preservation.

In every program there's a great deal of risk involved, of the kind you get when saving a dangerous snake that has been hurt or (27) _____ the nests of female crocodiles and taking their eggs for incubation. Every day of the year zoo employees (28) _____ out the most dangerous animal (29) _____ work on earth, cleaning the areas where the crocodiles live. cutting the grass – inside the area where the crocodiles live.

Australia Zoo is a human and animal family. Enjoy their sense of humor, admire their brave actions, share their feelings and appreciate the surprising hazards as Steve, Terri, and the others look (30) _____ the zoo's 500 animals.

- | | | | | | | |
|-----|----------|--------------|----------|-------------|----------|------------|
| 21. | A | skip | B | miss | C | lose |
| 22. | A | meet | B | find | C | know |
| 23. | A | develop | B | make | C | perform |
| 24. | A | treat | B | serve | C | attend |
| 25. | A | involved | B | called | C | occupied |
| 26. | A | cooperation | B | commitment | C | compromiso |
| 27. | A | stealing | B | burgling | C | robbing |
| 28. | A | hold | B | carry | C | bring |
| 29. | A | conservation | B | maintenance | C | repair |
| 30. | A | out | B | up | C | after |

Instructions: For numbers 31 – 45, read the text and transform the word in capital letters on the right-hand side to the appropriate word for each space. Write the correct word for each number on your answer sheet. The transformed word must be spelled correctly.

EXAMPLE

Harry is probably the most famous (0)_____ in history.

CORRECT ANSWER

magician

HOUDINI

Harry Houdini is probably the most famous (0)_____ in history. His name is associated with incredible escapes, and his (31)_____ to get out of apparently (32)_____ situations made him a legend in his own time.

(33) _____, at the beginning of his career, Houdini was a (34)_____. For the first five years, he tried every type of magic, from card tricks to box escapes. In 1896, disillusioned and ready to give up, he actually put an (35)_____ in the newspaper offering to sell all of his magic and secrets for \$20. There were no (36)_____!

Eventually, Houdini became famous due to his talent for (37)_____ escaping from police handcuffs and jails. However, one of Houdini's most (38)_____ acts was to swallow several needles and thread (39)_____ and then pull them out, all carefully tied together. Other tricks consisted of escaping from straitjackets (used to control violent psychiatric patients) while hanging upside down or immersed in water.

In 1919, Houdini entered the world of film (40)_____ as both producer and actor, performing many of the most dangerous scenes himself. (41)_____, in spite of all of his efforts, the films were not very (42)_____. Today they are nearly all completely (43)_____—except to Houdini fans, of course!

Houdini's life was (44)_____, and his death from peritonitis in 1926 was just as unusual. Some consider that the direct cause was a punch to the body in one of his acts; others blame Houdini's stubborn (45)_____ to deal with a medical problem. The truth, of course, like much of his life, will probably remain a mystery.

- 0. MAGIC
- 31. ABLE
- 32. POSSIBLE
- 33. SURPRISE
- 34. FAIL
- 35. ADVERTISE
- 36. BUY
- 37. REPEAT
- 38. BELIEVE
- 39. SEPARATE
- 40. ENTERTAIN
- 41. FORTUNATE
- 42. SUCCESS
- 43. KNOW
- 44. ORDINARY
- 45. REFUSE

