

SECTION 1: READING COMPREHENSION

(Estimated time: 40 min)

Example 1

Which sentences (1-6) match places (A-F)? There is ONE sentence you don't need to use. 0 is the example.

BIRMINGHAM BREAK

Birmingham as a city is the ideal place to visit in England. It's in an area known as the Midlands, right in the centre of England; and it's Britain's second largest city. Here are some top things to do in Birmingham.

0. You can buy exclusive clothes.

1. This place is very big.
2. You can see marine life.
3. You can play football here.
4. You are driven in this place.
5. It's a thirty-minute journey to get there.
6. It will not cost you anything.

- A. **The Barber Institute of Fine Arts** opened by Queen Mary in 1939 contains one of the finest small collections of European art in the UK. Free entrance.
- B. **The Bullring.** Birmingham is also a great place to shop. The Bullring is a new large shopping centre, which is the size of twenty-six football pitches. It has a selection of shops and restaurants and is open until late.
- C. **The Mailbox** is another interesting shopping centre, which has the largest selection of designer shops outside London. **0 EXAMPLE**
- D. **Alton Towers.** You can spend a great day out. If you want a scary ride, Alton Towers is a theme park about half an hour from the city.
- E. **The National Sea Life Centre,** where visitors can discover a tropical paradise of exotic creatures in the heart of the city.
- F. **The West Midland Safari and Leisure Park.** The four mile drive-through safari is home to a variety of exotic and unusual animals.

Adapted from a leaflet (Tourist Information Centre), 2006

Example 2

Read the text and for questions (1-6) choose the correct answer a), b) or c). 0 is the example.

THE JANE AUSTEN CENTRE

Welcome to Jane Austen Centre. The focus of this exhibition is Jane Austen's five years living and socialising in Bath – the places she lived in and visited. We hope you enjoy your visit.

The Jane Austen Centre in Bath at No. 40 Gay Street is a house very similar to No. 25, where Jane Austen lived for a few months following her father's death. These Georgian town houses in Gay Street were built between 1735 and 1760.

The houses are alike in design, although this house had a large extension added, during the 20th century, which covers the whole of the garden. It is in this space that the permanent exhibition is placed.

Within the exhibition are displayed a number of hand-made reproduction period costumes, which have been created using authentic fabrics, in colours contemporary with the period.

Refresh yourself during and after your visit at our Tea Rooms and enjoy a pot of real leaf tea, some home-made cakes or a delicious light snack.

The Centre Giftshop is a treasure of Jane Austen – related gifts, some specially designed for, exclusive to, the Centre. There is a range of writing paper, pens, post cards and high-quality reproduction cards. We have a comprehensive stock of books about Jane Austen, her life, her family and times.

Adapted from a leaflet (Tourist Information Centre), 2006

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0. The Centre offers an exhibition of ... | a) British writers.
b) Jane Austen. ✓
c) writers in Bath. |
| 1. Jane Austen lived ... | a) in one house in Gay Street.
b) in two different houses
c) with her father |
| 2. You can visit the exhibition ... | a) in both houses.
b) in one of the houses.
c) temporarily in the garden. |
| 3. The clothes you can see are ... | a) made in a factory.
b) specially made.
c) the real ones. |
| 4. Inside the Centre you ... | a) can have both a drink and a meal.
b) must go out for a drink.
c) you cannot eat. |
| 5. Some presents related to Jane Austen in the Giftshop are ... | a) authentic.
b) not found in any other shops.
c) related to writers. |
| 6. This information comes from ... | a) a brochure for tourists.
b) a novel.
c) an encyclopaedia. |

Example 3

Fill in the gaps in the following text using the words in the bank below. There are three words you don't need to use. 0 is the example.

A DELICIOUS CUP OF TEA

Experts have found that there are (0) clear health benefits to drinking tea. Research has discovered that antioxidants found in tea (1) _____ stop cell damage. And there is clear evidence that drinking three to four cups of tea a day will reduce the chances of having a (2) _____ attack. A further study even suggested that tea protected (3) _____ cancer. "Drinking tea is actually better for you than drinking water," said one doctor.

There was also (4) _____ interesting information on the properties of tea. The research destroys the myth that tea is dehydrating. "Everyone assumes that caffeine-containing drinks dehydrate," an expert explained. "But even if you had a really, really (5) _____ cup of tea, it would still be beneficial because we recommend 1.5 to 2 litres (6) _____ day, and that includes tea. Tea is not dehydrating. It's a (7) _____ drink."

There was only one bit of bad news about tea. Research suggests that tea can affect the body's (8) _____ to absorb iron from food. This means that people in danger of anaemia shouldn't drink tea around mealtimes.

Adapted from *Hot English Magazine*, 2006

A	CLEAR (Example)	HEALTHY
ABILITY	DANGEROUS	HEART
AGAINST	FOR	SOME
CAN	HARD	STRONG

SECTION 2: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Example 1

Listen to six people talking about how traffic problems are solved in big cities. Match cities (1-6) with sentences (A-G). There is ONE sentence you don't need to use. C is the example.

CAR CHAOS

1. FLORENCE
2. SINGAPORE
3. **THE NETHERLANDS**
4. BRITAIN
5. PORTLAND
6. HONG KONG

In this city or country:

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| A. Computers are used to check when you use your car. | _____ |
| B. You pay if you drive to the centre with two people in your car. | _____ |
| C. There are many cycle paths. (Example) | _____ 3 _____ |
| D. Public transport is not so frequent. | _____ |
| E. You can find new car parks. | _____ |
| F. You can drive to the city centre at 8:00 p.m. | _____ |
| G. There are more buses and trains than in the past. | _____ |

Adapted from *Language in Use Pre-Intermediate*

Example 2

Listen to a man talking about Ben James, an emigrant. Choose the correct option a), b) or c). 0 is the example.

UNCLE BEN

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0. The speaker's ... | a) father's brother emigrated in 1919.
b) grandfather's brother ✓
c) grandfather's father |
| 1. The family paid for ... | a) the flight
b) the ship.
c) the train. |
| 2. In Patagonia Ben worked as a ... | a) farmer.
b) fisherman.
c) gold miner. |
| 3. He ... | a) didn't get married.
b) didn't have any children.
c) got married. |
| 4. He ... | a) lost his fortune.
b) made money.
c) stopped working. |
| 5. As he had relatives in Wales, he ... | a) came back to Wales.
b) came every year.
c) wrote to them very often. |
| 6. Thomas ... | a) is Ben's son.
b) is coming next year.
c) visited Wales recently. |
| 7. He speaks ... | a) English and Welsh.
b) Spanish and English.
c) Welsh and Spanish. |

Adapted from *Signature Beginners*

Example 3

Listen to the conversation between a granddad and his grandson. Complete sentences (1-7) with a word or phrase from the text. 0 is the example.

GRANDDAD

0. He met his wife when he was a 0) __STUDENT __ (Example)
1. He got married _____ after coming back from Italy.
 2. He worked hard to have money and to _____ a house.
 3. He learnt _____ by reading letters.
 4. He had a part-time job in a _____.
 5. He still keeps more than a _____ letters.
 6. The grandson tells his granddad to use the letters for a _____.
 7. His grandson thought the letters were about _____.

Adapted from *That's English*

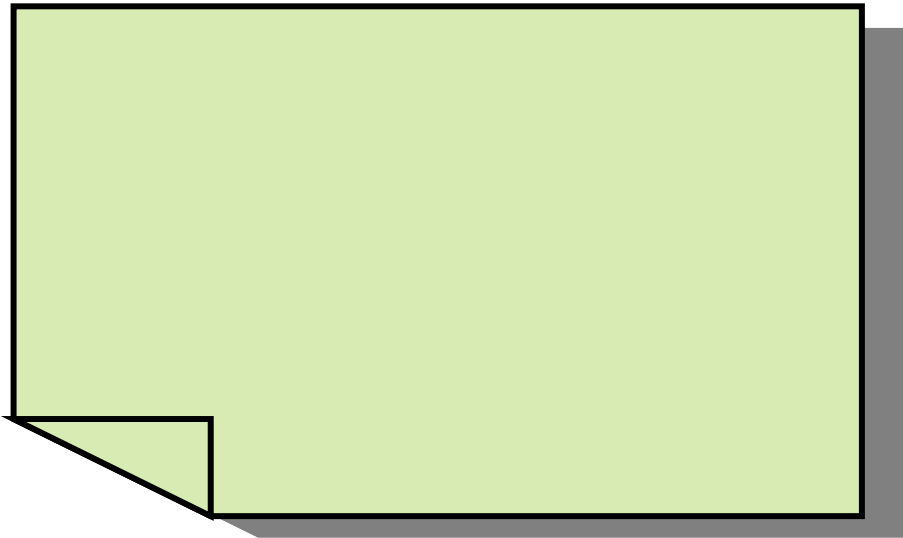
SECTION 3: WRITING

(Estimated time: 45 min)

WRITE TWO COMPOSITIONS, ONE ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS :

TASK 1

1. Your flatmate told you this morning to buy some bread on your way home after school. The problem is that you won't come back home tonight because you have to spend the night at your parents'. Write a short note (35-40 words) telling him/her what the problem is.



TASK 2

2. It was one of your friends' birthday last weekend and you went out to celebrate with him/her. Write a letter (about 110 words) to another friend telling him/her about it. Let him/her know:
 - a) Whose birthday it was
 - b) Where you went
 - c) What you did
 - d) Whether you enjoyed it.