Instructions for the conduct of the Listening Comprehension Examination

The teacher should instruct the candidates to answer the questions on the paper provided. The following procedure for reading the Listening Comprehension passage is to be explained to the candidates immediately before proceeding with the examination.

You have been given a sheet containing the Listening Comprehension questions. I shall first read through the questions and then read the passage at normal reading speed. You may take notes on the blank sheet provided during the reading. After this reading there will be a pause of another three minutes to allow you to answer some of the questions. The passage will be read a second time and you may take further notes and answer the rest of the questions. After this second reading you will be given a further three minutes for a final revision of answers.

a. 3 minutes - Teacher reads out the questions
b. 3 minutes - First reading aloud of passage while students take notes
c. 3 minutes - Students may answer questions
d. 3 minutes - Second reading of passage and possibility of answering questions
e. 3 minutes - Final revision
The Mona Lisa

The painting known to millions as The Mona Lisa, by Leonardo Da Vinci, is probably the most famous painting of our time. Across the world, the Mona Lisa is treated like a celebrity. People of all ages and nationalities find the Mona Lisa’s face as recognisable and familiar as that of a friend. At her home in the Louvre museum in Paris, ninety per cent of all visitors to the museum ignore most of the museum’s collections of art and go straight to the room where they can see the Mona Lisa. This means that an amazing 1,500 people pass by the picture each hour. On average, visitors spend just three minutes gazing at the masterpiece before moving on to other parts of the museum.

Leonardo completed the painting in 1506. Ten years later he took the Mona Lisa with him when he visited the court of the French king, Francis the First. The king was so impressed by the painting that he purchased it immediately. The Mona Lisa then remained in the Royal collection until the beginning of the nineteenth century. In fact, Napoleon’s wife displayed it in her apartments for a short time. However, it was only after the fall of Napoleon that the Mona Lisa was placed permanently in the Louvre.

The fame of the painting increased when it disappeared from the Louvre in 1911. An Italian employee who believed that the Mona Lisa should belong to Italy walked out of the museum with the small painting hidden under his coat. The theft created a huge reaction throughout France. Pictures of the painting appeared in all the newspapers and magazines of the time. The Mona Lisa finally reappeared in 1913. Its return to the Louvre was an occasion of great joy among the French.
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Name: _____________________________________ Class: _______________

1. State whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F). (2 marks)
   a) The Mona Lisa is mainly known in Europe. [ ]
   b) Many people recognise the Mona Lisa immediately. [ ]
   c) 1,500 visitors to the Louvre see the painting every day. [ ]
   d) People do not stay long in front of the picture. [ ]

2. Only one of these statements is correct. Which one is it? (Mark with a tick ✓) (1 mark)
   a) Francis the First, King of France, liked the Mona Lisa. [ ]
   b) He bought it some time after he saw it. [ ]
   c) He put the painting in the Louvre. [ ]
   d) Napoleon’s wife never saw the Mona Lisa. [ ]

3. Fill in with information from the passage. (4 marks)
   a) The year Leonardo finished the Mona Lisa ______________
   b) The year he took it to France ______________
   c) The year it was stolen from the Louvre ______________
   d) The year it was found ______________

4. Fill in with a suitable word from the passage. (3 marks)
   a) The Mona Lisa was stolen by an Italian ______________ at the Louvre.
   b) The thief ______________ that the painting belonged to Italy.
   c) He left the museum with the painting ______________ under his coat.
   d) Pictures of the stolen painting appeared in all ______________ and ________________.
   e) When the Mona Lisa was found there was much ______________ in France.
FORM 5 ENGLISH LANGUAGE TIME: 2 hours

Name: _____________________________________ Class: _______________

MARKS

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Section A – Language. (20 marks)

A. Fill in each blank space with a suitable word. The first one has been worked out for you. (5 marks)

Sean Connery is (0) an actor who appeals to (1) ________________ men and women. He is proud (2) ________________ the fact that he is Scottish and he comes from a working-(3) ________________ family. Sean left school (4) ________________ he was only thirteen years old. At the age of fifteen, he (5) ________________ the Royal Navy, where he stayed (6) ________________ three years. (7) ________________ he did many other jobs, he never wanted to (8) ________________ an actor. However, one day he accepted a small (9) ________________ in a musical in London. His acting (10) ________________ had begun!

[ ] marks

B. Fill in each blank space with the correct form of the verb in brackets. The first one has been worked out for you. (5 marks)

The film ‘Gone with the Wind’ (0) is (be) 72 years old this year. It (1) ________________ (release) in 1939, and since that time (2) ________________ (remain) the most popular film in history. When producer David Selznick (3) ________________ (start) filming, the main part of Scarlet O’Hara (4) ________________ (not fill) yet, even though 1400 actresses (5) ________________ (interview) in the previous two years. The famous scene of the burning of Alabama was actually the first scene (6) ________________. (shoot) The producers (7) ________________ (know) that it was very expensive (8) ________________ (film), so they decided that if something (9) ________________ (go) wrong, they (10) ________________ (abandon) the rest of the film.

[ ] marks
C. Fill in the blank spaces with the right preposition from the box below. The first one has been worked out for you. (5 marks)

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One day, last month, as soon as I got (0) back home, I took (1) _________ my suit and put (2) ____________ some light clothes to feel more relaxed. When I started reading the newspaper, I came (3) ____________ a report about a fire at a house in my town. I read that the fire brigade did not take long to arrive and two firemen bravely went (4) ____________ the main door to put (5) ____________ the fire. They managed to do so after about half an hour. However, I was very shocked to learn that the house belonged to my best friend. When I called (6) ____________ his house, he broke (7) _____________. I was very sorry for him. He had put (8) ____________ so much money to be able to buy it. When I met him again a few days later, he told me, “Now I’ll have to pull (9) ____________ my socks and look (10) ____________ ways and means of repairing the damage.”

D. Fill in the blank spaces with a word formed from the one in brackets. The first one has been done for you. (5 marks)

Besides being one of the most (0) famous (fame) actors today, Tom Cruise is also an (1) ____________________ (influence) and (2) ________________ Hollywood producer. He is furthermore one of a (3) ________________ (hand) of actors who have scored one (4) ________________ (succeed) after another for many years. Although his first (5) ____________________ (appear) in a film was in 1981, it was with the (6) ________________ (huge) popular and (7) ________________ (profit) film ‘Top Gun’ in 1986 that he won (8) ________________ (recognise) as a great film star. Finally, while (9) ________________ (critic) by Hollywood experts has not been lacking, his (10) ________________ (profession) great talent as an actor is praised by all cinemagoers.

marks

marks
Read this passage carefully and then answer the questions below.

Very few people in Britain talk with enthusiasm about past holidays in Germany as they do about vacations in France and Spain. This is a bit strange. In the first place, getting to Germany from Britain is very straightforward and relatively cheap. London’s five airports alone operate flights to 22 destinations in Germany. However, according to the most recent statistics, the British made only 2.3 million visits to Germany in 2009 compared with 11.6 million to France and 13.8 million to Spain. Only a quarter of British visits were for holiday purposes. Half were for business and the remaining quarter for visits to family and friends.

Still, despite this lack of interest in the country by the British, Germany offers much of interest to the tourist. Germans are usually charming and polite to foreign visitors. Many people speak excellent English and are always willing to give directions or help people out in other ways. Germany is famous for its excellent food and high–quality accommodation. Every part of the country is rich in history and culture. Germany has many regions, each with its own traditions and way of life. Perhaps the most famous of these is the southern state of Bavaria, with Munich as its capital. Munich’s Opera Festival is the oldest in the world. The city’s art galleries are world – class. Bavaria is also famous for its mountains, lakes, forests and castles.

The capital city, Berlin, is one of the most exciting cities in Europe. It is a centre of fashion, art, learning and fast living. On a national scale, Germany is home to 25 UNESCO World Heritage Sites. It is also famous for its many international music festivals held throughout the year. The most popular of these is probably the Wagner Festival at Bayreuth. This draws a wide audience from all over the world. And what about the Oberammergau Passion Play? Performed only once a decade, it is another German festival with an unbeatable worldwide reputation.

So why don’t the British holiday in Germany? One of the reasons is Germany’s reputation in the UK for being a destination for middle–aged people whose idea of heaven is a three–day cruise down the river Rhine. British tourists also long for places with bright, hot sunshine. They see Germany as a cold country with the same grey skies as Britain. But in this they are wrong. The German beaches on the Baltic and the North Sea enjoy hot summer weather of a kind not seen in Britain. And the calm Baltic waters warm up nicely in summer to provide excellent swimming conditions. But maybe it is the German language that puts many British people off. Most schools in Britain teach French and Spanish; only a few teach German. In addition, many people see German as a difficult language to learn or speak.

But those who do travel to Germany find that things work well and service is punctual. The country has an excellent transport system. The German rail service is reliable and fast, with trains travelling at speeds of up to 300 kilometres per hour. There are thousands of kilometres of well-maintained motorway for fast travel by car. Thirty regional or international airports serve every corner of the country. Accommodation ranges from five–star hotels to family–run guesthouses, from converted castles to charming hideaway cottages. Accommodation is also generally less expensive than in the UK – as are shopping and eating.

In 2006, Germany hosted the football World Cup. The event attracted millions of visitors from all over the world. Those football fans who explored the country beyond the stadiums were surely able to find out just how warm, welcoming and wonderful Germany could be.
1. Tick (✓) the best title for the passage. (1 mark)

   a) Germany and Britain
   b) Prices in Germany
   c) The attractions of Germany
   d) Flying to Germany

2. What do these words refer to in the passage? (2 marks)
   - Half (line 6)
   - these (line 13)
   - It (line 16)
   - few (line 29)

3. From the first three paragraphs, find one word every time with a similar meaning to each of the following: (2 marks)
   a) holidays __________________________
   b) well–mannered ______________________
   c) maybe __________________________
   d) attracts __________________________

4. Say whether each of the following statements is True (T) or False (F). Give one reason for your answer. (2 marks)
   a) British people visited Spain more than Germany in 2009 because____________________________________________ _________________________
   b) The majority of British visitors to Germany in 2009 went there for a holiday because____________________________________________ _________________________

5. The writer finds it ‘a bit strange’ (line 2) that not many British people holiday in Germany. Give two reasons, from the first paragraph, why he should think so. (2 marks)
   a) _______________________________________________ ____________________________
   b) _______________________________________________ ____________________________

6. According to the passage, why does Munich attract so many visitors? (2 marks)
   ____________________________________________________ _________________________
   ____________________________________________________ _________________________

7. How do we know that the Wagner Festival at Bayreuth is a popular event? (2 marks)
   ____________________________________________________ _________________________
   ____________________________________________________ _________________________
8. The writer gives two reasons why the German language may not encourage British people to visit the country. Which are they? (2 marks)
   a) ____________________________________________________ ____________________
   b) ____________________________________________________ ____________________

9. Choose two German transport systems mentioned in the passage and explain why the writer considers them excellent. (2 marks)
   ____________________________________________________ _________________________
   ____________________________________________________ _________________________

10. What, according to the passage, could the 2006 World Cup in Germany have offered foreign visitors besides football? (2 marks)
    ____________________________________________________ _________________________
    ____________________________________________________ _________________________

11. Explain the meaning of: (3 marks)
   a) “a wide audience” (line 19) ____________________________________________________
   b) “reliable” (line 32 ) _________________________________________________________
   c) “hideaway cottages” (line 36) ________________________________________________

12. Imagine you are a British tourist and you will be going to Germany on holiday after having read the above passage. In your own words, and using only information from the passage, give five reasons why you think you will be having a nice holiday in Germany. Use no more than 60 words. (8 marks)

E. Composition. (30 marks)

Write between 180 and 200 words on ONE of the following.

1. You recently spent an unforgettable day on the island of Gozo with your friends. Write an entry in your diary about this event.

2. Your school has just celebrated Healthy Eating Day. Write a report of the activities held on this day, which will be published in the next edition of the school magazine.

3. Write an account of an experience which made you feel miserable.

4. Next month.