**UNIVERSITY OF DEFENCE**

**LANGUAGE CENTER**

**TEST A 2024**

**TASK A**

***For sentences 1-20 choose one correct option A, B, C, or D and mark it on your answer sheet as shown in the example. Please, do not write into the test booklet.***

***Example:***

***For many young people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in one of the school teams is very important****.*

1. *having*
2. *taking*
3. *putting*
4. *being*

**A B C D**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1. If you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more, you would have done better in the exams.**

1. studied
2. were studying
3. had studied
4. have studied

**2.** **I feel terrible. I think I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ be sick.**

1. will to
2. am going
3. am about
4. am going to

**3. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cycle a lot but I don’t have time for it.**

1. used
2. use to
3. am used
4. used to

**4. She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to that concert several times; it’s her favourite band.**

1. has been
2. is being
3. will be
4. was

**5.** **What’s the name of the singer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ son used to have problems with drugs?**

1. that
2. who
3. whom
4. whose

**6. The exam was extremely difficult. Not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ could have passed.**

1. nobody
2. everybody
3. somebody
4. anybody

**7. She had forgotten her jacket, so I gave her \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. my
2. mine
3. myself
4. me

**8. I don’t like dogs. I’m always afraid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ being bitten.**

1. to
2. of
3. about
4. from

**9. John was reading a magazine when he came \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ an article of his old friend.**

1. on
2. into
3. round
4. across

**10. Peter didn’t want to eat, but his mum made him \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the sandwich.**

1. finish
2. finishes
3. to finish
4. finishing

**11. The old vacuum cleaner was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at picking up pet hair, so we decided to buy a new, more efficient one.**

1. ineffective
2. uneffective
3. noneffective
4. diseffective

**12. She is allergic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cats**.

1. to
2. with
3. at
4. for

**13. Unfortunately, my bank statement says I’m \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. overpaid
2. overdosed
3. overdrawn
4. overloaded

**14. By the time you arrive, they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ preparing dinner.**

1. will have finished
2. will finish
3. finished
4. finish

**15. Avoid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that suburb at night, it is dangerous!**

1. visit
2. visits
3. to visit
4. visiting

**16. He suffers \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rheumatism.**

1. of
2. from
3. in
4. on

**17. The 11.45 train left \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ time.**

1. for
2. at
3. by
4. on

**18. People say my brother’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He likes giving gifts to his friends.**

1. mean
2. generous
3. greedy
4. optimistic

**19. Look! Somebody \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ coffee on the carpet.**

1. spilling
2. spills
3. has spilt
4. going to spill

**20. He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Northern Ireland, in a rich family.**

1. brought up
2. put up
3. grew up
4. gave up

**TASK B**

***Read the following texts and choose one correct option A, B, C, or D. Mark your answers on the answer sheet.***

21. From an article

In recent years, the trend of remote work has gained widespread popularity, allowing employees to work from the comfort of their homes. While this arrangement provides flexibility and work-life balance, it also presents challenges such as potential feelings of isolation and difficulties in maintaining a clear boundary between work and personal life. Proponents argue that remote work enhances productivity, but sceptics question its long-term effects on team collaboration.

**What is the main idea of this passage?**

1. The benefits of remote work.
2. The challenges of remote work.
3. The popularity of remote work.
4. The impact of remote work on productivity.

22. From a magazine article

Professor George Brown, who is in charge of the Institute of Human Genetics in Oxford, says that up to three million Britons may be wrong about who their real father is. He suggests that 6% of the population may have a different father to the one they think they are related to. One way to find out whether you are a father or not is to do tests on paternity. But he warns that men should think twice before they try to find out, because the truth is often unkind.

**Professor Brown asks men \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. to think about their relations
2. to make a careful decision
3. to take a DNA test
4. to tell the truth

23. From a report

The Internet has rescued an 80-year-old man. Paul Smith had to sell firewood every day for $5 a bag to pay for his wife’s medical bills. He started last year. His wife of over 30 years helped him. Sadly, she lost her battle against cancer in October and the hospital bill wiped out Mr. Smith’s life savings. But then a local woman posted on Facebook to get people to help him. Her post was shared over 9,000 times. People even stopped their car to give Mr. Smith some money.

**The report says that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. Mr. Smith became a rich person
2. the hospital saved a lot of money
3. Mrs. Smith was 30 years old when she died
4. a post on a social network changed Mr. Smith’s life

24. From a magazine

Social media’s impact on interpersonal relationships is profound. While it facilitates connection across distances, it can hinder face-to-face interactions. Individuals often prioritize virtual engagement over in-person communication, affecting the depth of relationships. The constant exposure to curated content may lead to unrealistic comparisons, contributing to anxiety and self-esteem issues. Moreover, the echo chamber effect amplifies existing beliefs, limiting exposure to diverse perspectives. Balancing online and offline interactions is crucial for fostering genuine connections and a healthy social environment. Striking this balance ensures that technology enhances, rather than replaces, the richness of human relationships.

**What is suggested to maintain a healthy social environment in the context of technology?**

1. Discouraging face-to-face communication
2. Expanding exposure to diverse perspectives
3. Giving exclusive priority to online interactions
4. Virtual and face-to-face engagement equilibrium

25. From a magazine

Avoiding pollution can be a fulltime job. Try not to inhale traffic fumes; keep away from chemical plants and building-sites; wear a mask when cycling. It is enough to make you want to stay at home. But that, according to a growing body of scientific evidence, would also be a bad idea. Research shows that levels of pollutants such as hazardous gases and other chemical ‘nasties’ are usually higher indoors than out, even in the most polluted cities. Since the average American spends 18 hours indoors for every hour outside, it looks as though many environmentalists may be attacking the wrong target.

**The writer suggests that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. people should avoid working in cities
2. staying indoors might be quite unhealthy
3. Americans spend too much time outdoors
4. hazardous gases are concentrated in industry

26. From a BBC article

Together with an international team of scientists, Robinson was on an expedition to a remote patch of forest in northwest Bolivia, close to the border with Brazil. Getting there had not been easy. To avoid a 10-hour boat ride, they took a hair-raising flight to the nearest village, where the plane had to circle back over a grass runway to avoid landing on a herd of grazing animals. Then came a long trek through thick rainforest, navigating over twisted roots and past armies of ants. “It’s hot, it’s humid, you’re getting bitten constantly,” says Robinson, a senior lecturer in archaeology at the University of Exeter.

W**hich of these statements is TRUE about the journey? The scientists \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. went by boat
2. landed on cattle
3. met some soldiers
4. suffered from insect bites

27. From a book

My brother, Dominic, had just finished his first year at university in a town 150 km away. He was coming home by train and he’d asked for a lift back from the station. Now, Dad normally hates being disturbed when he’s writing (which is just about all the time), and he also hates having to go anywhere, but despite the typical sighs and moans – why can’t he get a taxi? What’s wrong with the bus? – I could tell by the sparkle in his eyes that he was really looking forward to seeing Dominic.

**What does the author imply regarding her father?**

1. His writing prevents him from doing things he likes.
2. His initial reaction to his son’s request is negative.
3. His son’s arrival is one event he will take time off for.
4. His true feelings are easily hidden from his daughter.

28. From a magazine

The debate surrounding literacy is one of the most charged in education. On the one hand, there is an army of people convinced that traditional skills of reading and writing are declining. On the other, a host of progressives protest that literacy is much more complicated than a simple technical mastery of reading and writing. This second position is supported by most of the relevant academic work over the past 20 years. These studies argue that literacy can only be understood in its social and technical context.

**What is the writer’s opinion on literacy in education?**

1. Children cannot read and write properly.
2. Academic work on literacy has improved.
3. Literacy is related to external factors.
4. The two arguments are equally convincing.

29. From a magazine

A classical guitarist, Laurence Lennon, 44, was thrilled to hear from New York City police that his valuable guitar had been found. It disappeared almost a year ago when he got out of a taxicab and forgot to take the guitar with him. Mr Lennon was running late that day. He was talking to his manager on his cell phone when he dashed out of the cab. He gave the driver $60 and told him to keep the change. He walked through the front doors of the concert hall still talking on the phone to his manager.

**What happened to the guitar? It was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. lost in the concert hall
2. sold for $60
3. damaged in the taxi
4. found again

30. From a magazine

About 100,000 people die each year in US hospitals from infections that they get while they are in the hospital. The hospital deaths are due to poor housekeeping and poor hygiene. Floors, walls, and doors are not cleaned regularly or thoroughly. The carts that carry food trays, and the trays themselves, are usually contaminated from handling and coughing. Cooks and other food handlers can easily infect the food by not washing properly after using the bathroom.

**According to the text, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. hygiene standards in US hospitals are low
2. quality of food in US hospitals is poor
3. the number of deaths in US hospitals rises
4. patients bring infections to US hospitals

**TASK C**

***Read the following text and complete its summary below. Use only one word for each gap and write your answers on the answer sheet.***

**In Praise of Amateurs**

Modern science was often built on the work of amateurs. Despite the specialisation of scientific research, amateurs still have an important role to play. Only in the past century or two has it become possible to make a living from investigating the workings of nature. Today, science is an increasingly specialised subject, the domain of experts who know more and more about less and less. Perhaps surprisingly, however, amateurs – even those without private means – are still important.

A recent poll in this area was carried out by American astronomer Dr Richard Fienberg. According to him, some fields are more open to amateurs than others. Anything that requires expensive equipment is clearly a no-go area. And some kinds of research can be dangerous; most amateur chemists, jokes Dr Fienberg, are either locked up or have blown themselves to bits. But amateurs can make valuable contributions in fields from rocketry to palaeontology and the rise of the Internet has made it easier than ever before to collect data and distribute results.

Dr Fienberg makes a strong case for astronomy. There is, he points out, a long tradition of collaboration between amateur and professional sky watchers. Today, in addition to comet and asteroid spotting, amateurs continue to do valuable work observing the brightness of variable stars and detecting novae – ‘new’ stars. Amateur observers are helpful, because there are so many of them and because they are distributed all over the world. This makes special kinds of observations possible: if several observers around the world accurately record the time when a star is eclipsed by an asteroid, for example, it is possible to derive useful information about the asteroid’s shape. Another field in which amateurs have traditionally played an important role is palaeontology. Despite the development of high-tech equipment, the best sensors for finding fossils are human eyes – lots of them. Finding volunteers to look for fossils is not difficult, because of the near-universal interest in anything to do with dinosaurs.

**Summary**

Prior to the 19 century, professional scientists did not exist and scientific research was largely carried out by amateurs. However, while **\_\_\_31.\_\_\_** today is mostly the domain of professionals, a recent US survey highlighted the fact that amateurs play an important role in several **\_\_\_32.\_\_\_** and indeed many professionals are reliant on their **\_\_\_33.\_\_\_**. In areas such as astronomy, amateurs can be invaluable when making specific **\_\_\_34.\_\_\_** on a global basis. Similarly, in the area of palaeontology, their involvement is invaluable and helpers are easy to recruit because of the popularity of **\_\_\_35.\_\_\_**.

**TASK D**

***Read the following text and answer the questions below. Do not use more than four words for each answer and write your answers on the answer sheet.***

Adventurous journey

A trio of friends—Sam, Emma, and Jake—discovered an abandoned hangar in the bustling town of Willowbrook, while exploring their neighborhood. To their amazement, inside the hangar sat a forgotten aircraft, covered in a layer of dust, as if frozen in time.

Curiosity ignited, the friends decided to unravel the mysteries of this relic. Led by Sam, whose fascination with aviation knew no bounds, they hatched a plan to restore the old plane to its former glory.

Armed with determination and a toolbox, the friends cleaned and repaired the vintage aircraft. As the dust settled, they stumbled upon a hidden compartment in the cockpit containing a dusty logbook. The logbook, weathered by time, told the story of a lost expedition led by Captain Williams.

Intrigued by the tale of daring journeys and cryptic messages, the friends embarked on a quest to trace Captain Williams’ path. Their journey took them to forgotten airstrips, dense jungles, and treacherous mountain peaks. Along the way, they deciphered Captain Williams’ messages, each revealing a piece of the puzzle.

In a remote valley, the friends uncovered the remains of Captain Williams’ expedition—a testament to courage and adventure. The old aircraft, now a relic, became a symbol of dreams and determination.

Inspired by the story, the friends decided to turn the hangar into an aviation museum, honoring Captain Williams and the spirit of exploration.

**Questions**

36. What activity were the three friends engaged in when they found the hangar?

37. What did they find in the cockpit compartment?

38. Who was in charge of leading the lost expedition?

39. What did the old aircraft represent?

40. What was the hangar repurposed into?