

Sample entry test

READING:

Task 1

- Read this article about an unusual way of publishing poems and then read the sentences (1-7) following it.
- Mark a sentence A if it is true according to the article.
- Mark it B if it is false.
- Mark it C if there isn't enough information in the text to decide if the sentence is true or not.
- Write your answers in the white boxes next to the numbers as in the example (0).

POET HIJACKS ATLANTA STREETS WITH HAIKU* ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

Artist satirises roadside adverts by nailing his poetry to traffic lights and streetlamps across the city

Artist John Morse has been peppering Atlanta's road intersections with haikus, nailing his poetry to traffic lights and street lamps in an attempt to provide commuters with "poetic snapshots of the urban condition".

Mimicking the usual advertisements for weight loss and health insurance, Morse's poems began appearing throughout the city last month. From the advice: "Lose ugly weight fast!!/ Feel Happier! Healthier!/ Dump your bigotry" to: "Meet local singles!!/ Easy: stand near others/ Hang up your cell phone" and: "Free debt counselling/ Take the important first step/ Beware signs like these", the artist has written 10 different haikus, printed 50 copies of each and placed them at 500 locations across Atlanta.

"People read these bandit signs. They'll read them if it's about an electrician or they'll read them if it's about anything", explained Morse. "So if they read it and they like it, great, if they read it and they don't like it, great. But the fact is they'll read it, they're going to read my poetry and that's my goal.

"There's a great deal of bad in the world, and one of the few things that helps endure the cruelties of the world is art," he said. "A little bit of art can do a great deal of good. And I want to spend my life doing something good ... Will it be good? I don't know. But I'm going to try."

Backed by artist support group Flux Projects, which says the signs offer "compact observations and commentary on modern life", the Roadside Haiku initiative is scheduled to run until the end of October. The haikus haven't been welcomed by everyone, however: Peggy Denby of Keep Atlanta Beautiful described them as "litter on a stick" and told local news site wsbtv.com there would be fines if they weren't taken down.

(<http://www.guardian.co.uk>, September 2010)

*haiku: short poem

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 0) John Morse's poems can be read at crossroads in Atlanta. | 0) A |
| 1) The haikus are mostly about beauty spots around the city. | 1)... |
| 2) The poet makes his haikus resemble typical advertisements. | 2)... |
| 3) The idea for this campaign came to Morse years ago. | 3)... |
| 4) The same haikus appear at various places in the city. | 4)... |
| 5) Morse is not sure people will read his poems. | 5)... |
| 6) It is Morse's belief that art has a social impact. | 6)... |
| 7) Flux Projects has backed similar initiatives in the city. | 7)... |

Reading

Task 2

- Read this article about the winner of a TV quiz and then read the sentences (1-5) following it.
- Your task is to decide which of the options A, B, C or D best completes each sentence based on what the text says.
- Write the letters in the white boxes next to the numbers as in the example (0).

#QUIZQUEEN

THE QUIZ QUEEN WHO MADE THEM TREMBLE

The quiz master called it an “intellectual blitzkrieg” after Gail Trimble of Corpus Christi College, Oxford led her team to victory in the grand final of the University Challenge competition. Hailed as the brainiest woman on British television, the postgraduate classics student became a cult figure last week, with commentators divided over whether she was to be praised for her brilliance or denounced as “horribly smug”.

Laughing excitedly, Trimble, 26, repeatedly slammed her buzzer to address questions ranging from literature to science. Possibly the contest’s most successful ever contestant, she scored more right answers than any other participant – getting right over two thirds of all the questions. (“Which of Shakespeare’s plays is the only one to be set in Vienna and concerns the city’s Duke adopting a disguise?” “Measure for Measure.” “Which German bacteriologist gave his name to a shallow glass or plastic cylindrical dish that biologists use to culture cells?” “Petri.” “The name of the kingdom that according to Aristophanes was built by birds?” “Cloud Cuckoo Land.” etc.)

Tiny Corpus Christi College triumphed over Manchester University but it was the beating the team gave to Exeter University in the quarter final – described by the stunned question master as “less a quiz, more a cull” – that first brought the Trimble phenomenon to public attention.

Not all reaction has been pleasant, though. There have been some nasty comments, and she has been ridiculed on social networking sites for being too intellectual. Miss Trimble – bespectacled with long brown hair and a beaming smile – said she had been taken aback by the hostility after experiencing no such problems at school or university. Asked if she thought there was an element of sexism in it she said: “I’m sure this wouldn’t happen if I wasn’t a woman.”

Trimble, whose mother was a magistrate and father a BT manager, gained four A-levels at A grade and was always a brainbox. “I seemed to find school a lot easier than other people – I realised I was a bit different because my classmates were always asking for help with their homework.”

But there’s a lighter side too. She likes cooking, gin and tonic and The Simpsons* – and has a boyfriend of five years, Tom West, a trainee solicitor. Nonetheless, it’s not always easy having a massive brain. “I’ve had lots of issues about my self image – I try really hard not to come across as too clever.”

(The Sunday Times 01.03.2009)

* The Simpsons: humorous television cartoon programme

0) The phrase “intellectual blitzkrieg” here means

A) an intellectual disaster.

B) an intellectual triumph.

C) University Challenge.

D) the winner of the quiz.

- 1) Media reactions to Gail Trimble's achievement were
 - A) mixed.
 - B) unanimous.
 - C) mostly positive.
 - D) mostly negative.

- 2) What put Trimble above other quizzers was her
 - A) background as a classical scholar.
 - B) vast knowledge and fast recall.
 - C) speed in slamming the buzzer.
 - D) exceptional brain for a girl.

- 3) From the quarter final on Trimble received a lot of publicity
 - A) and she enjoyed it tremendously.
 - B) and she was surprised by some of it.
 - C) but she shrugged off nasty comments.
 - D) but she took no interest in what people said.

- 4) Trimble, who comes from a family of professionals,
 - A) was a high achiever at school.
 - B) looked down on less fortunate kids.
 - C) was considered different by her mates.
 - D) had problems at school despite her brain.

- 5) It seems that
 - A) Trimble and her boyfriend share many interests.
 - B) her boyfriend, Tom West, is as brilliant as she is.
 - C) Trimble doesn't want others to find her too brainy.
 - D) she is good at simple things such as cooking, too.

Reading

Task 3.

- **Read the text below and put in the missing sentence parts.**

Motto: I saw an ad on TV last night for a mouthwash that guarantees to kill all known germs. But who wants a mouthful of dead germs?

_____ (1) I don't like advertising. I think _____ (2) is that it involves a lot of lying or at least bending of the truth. For the purpose of adverts, people in advertising tend to say that advertising is to give information. Well, I don't believe that for a minute. Yes, it does give information, _____ (3). I think the purpose of advertising is to persuade people to spend their money on one thing rather than another. Then, to spend their money on things, which they didn't think about spending their money on before. In other words, it's just a way of getting people to spend their money. In that way, I feel that _____ (4). Having said that, for me, for example TV commercials can be amusing, and in a way they've become an art form in their own right. It's become a kind of short film art form and some people can do it very, very well, so they create very excellent short films. Now, that's enjoyable _____ (5). Again, even with billboard posters and magazines and ads in magazines _____ (6); sometimes they can be funny and creative and again it's a kind of art form. It's just that, again, that sometimes I feel like I'm being manipulated, either made to feel guilty, or _____ (7) that I have by offering me something, which I don't really need, but would, on the surface, at least fulfil some kind of desire that I have deep down inside.

I'm not sure, however, whether anything should be banned from being advertised. I'm _____ (8), whenever possible. I think that in a free society, basically things shouldn't be censored. However, censorship does happen in one form or another, even if you don't want it to and I think that people should censor their own things. So anyway, _____ (9), I can understand the case for not advertising cigarettes, especially around schools. However, I should say I don't think it really makes a difference. I don't think that advertising cigarettes is what makes smoking a big problem among children. I think it's much more to do with family relationships and upbringing and education and schools and the state of society and the media, rather than anything else.

- A. but information can be given in any number of ways**
- B. I have to say**
- C. getting back to advertising**
- D. the advertiser is trying to tap some kind of desire**
- E. and so on**
- F. my main problem with it**
- G. and I like that**
- H. fundamentally against censorship**
- I. it's often a negative influence on our lives**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

USE OF ENGLISH

Task 1.

- Choose the answer that best fits the sentences.



TENSES

1. Ann ... around the house, but this week she can't because she ... for an exam.

- a. is helping usually/prepares
- b. helps usually/is preparing
- c. is usually helping/prepares
- d. usually helps/is preparing

2. Fathers ... more and more active in child-care these days.

- a. had become
- b. are becoming
- c. have been becoming
- d. became

3. You ... me when I want to say something important.

- a. are always interrupting
- b. always are interrupting
- c. always interrupted
- d. interrupt always

4. We ... in a flat for 5 years, but then we moved to a detached house.

- a. have lived
- b. lived
- c. have been living
- d. had been lived

5. Ann ... a housewife since she ... married.

- a. is/got
- b. is/has got
- c. has been/got
- d. has been/has got

6. Is this the first time you ... parachuting?

- a. try
- b. have tried
- c. are trying
- d. tried

7. Sam ... his finger while he ... lunch.

- a. burnt/had cooked
- b. was burning/had cooked
- c. burnt/was cooking
- d. burnt/cooked

8. They ... discussing the weekend for an hour but they haven't decided what to do yet.

- a. have been
- b. were
- c. had been
- d. are

9. We ... for two hours by the time our parents arrived.

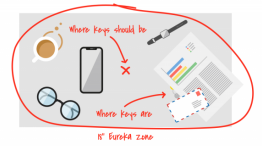
- a. were arguing
- b. have been arguing
- c. argued
- d. had been arguing

10. How long ... your wife before you got engaged?

- a. were you knowing
- b. have you known
- c. had you known
- d. had you been knowing

Task 2.

- For questions 1-10, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space.
- Use only one word in each space.
- There is an example at the beginning (0).



HOW TO FIND ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING

You've searched (0)...**all**... over the house but you still can't find your keys and you're late.

(1) this sounds familiar, follow this advice to make sure it never happens again.

Stop and think about where to start looking. Don't start searching (2)..... any idea of where the lost item could (3)..... .

"Lost items are often in the place they should be. Have a look in the place where it's supposed to be first. Someone might (4) put it away for you.

Relax and take another look. When you're in (5) agitated state of mind, it's quite possible to see the item you've lost but (6) notice it. Take a deep breath and look properly.

Look under everything. The item you're looking for could be hidden from view – it may be under a newspaper (7) it may have fallen off the table. Check carefully in, under, on and beside the place where the object is usually kept.

Retrace your steps. Take a few moments (8) think about when and where you last had the item. Go back to that place and search it thoroughly.

Ask for a little help. Check that (9) else hasn't taken it. You'll (10) yourself valuable time and lots of effort searching when something isn't really lost, but has been "borrowed".

Task 3.

- For Questions 1-10, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given.
- Do not change the word given.
- You must use between two and five words, including the word given.
- Here is an example (0).

Example:

It was the most relaxing holiday I ever had.

such

I have never (0)**"had such a relaxing"** holiday

1. I find Robert's taste in music very hard to tolerate.

put

I find it hard Robert's taste in music.

2. I find waiting for buses very boring.

get

I waiting for buses.

3. It's very difficult to predict the weather here.

tends

The weather unpredictable here.

4. People say learning lists of words is not a good use of time.

waste

Learning lists of words is of time.

5. Christine complained formally when her course of study was cancelled.

made

Christine when her course of study was cancelled.

6. „I find all the advertisements on TV really irritating,“ said John.

nerves

„All the advertisements on TV really ,“ said John.

7. Mark regretted selling his old motorbike. **wished**
Mark his old motorbike.

8.„If you take my advice, Paul,“ said Lynda, you should buy a personal computer.“ **advised**
Lynda a personal computer.

9. Pauline hadn't expected to see so many people at the concert. **surprise**
It came to see many people at the concert .

10. Golf is becoming increasingly popular in Britain. **popularity**
The in Britain.



WRITING

You are going to visit your friend Gena in the summer holidays. She has just sent you the following advertisement for a balloon flight and wants to know if you would be interested in going for a flight during your stay:

The Yorkshire Dales

The perfect venue for your balloon flight. The Dales is an attractive and interesting area for all ages to visit and balloon over and a practical and convenient area to fly from.

Join us for a flight over this area of outstanding natural beauty. Gaze down on the magnificent scenery as it gently drifts by. Local features you may have seen a hundred times before are revealed anew from this unfamiliar vantage point. Whether skimming through the treetops or high in the clouds, it will be an experience you will never forget.

Write a letter of about **120 words** to Gena in which you

- tell her how you feel about unusual or scary experiences;
- ask her about the height and the duration of the flight and how much it costs;
- tell her if you would be interested in a balloon flight and give your reasons.

Begin your letter like this:

Dear Gena,

KEY:**READING:****Task 1.**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B	A	C	A	B	A	C

Task 2.

1	2	3	4	5
A	B	B	A	C

Task 3.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
B	F	A	I	G	E	D	H	C

USE of English**Task 1.**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
D	B	A	B	C	B	C	A	D	C

Task 2.

1 If	6 not
2 without	7 or
3 be	8 to
4 have	9 someone
5 an	10 save

Task 3.

- 1 to put up with
- 2 get bored
- 3 tends to be very
- 4 said to be a waste
- 5 made a formal complaint
- 6 get on my nerves
- 7 wished he hadn't sold
- 8 advised Paul to buy
- 9 as a surprise to Pauline
- 10 popularity of golf is increasing

SOURCES:

1. oktatas.hu
2. <https://www.tsu.ge> (MA sample test B2)