

NAME .....

STUDENT ID CODE .....

**Practical English Test-Year Two**

Section A: Grammar \_\_\_\_\_ / 15

Section B: Reading \_\_\_\_\_ / 10

Section C: Writing \_\_\_\_\_ / 15

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_ / **40**

Read the instructions carefully before you do the tasks. Understanding the instructions is part of the test. You have 150 minutes to complete this test. ALL ANSWERS MUST BE WRITTEN IN BLUE OR BLACK PEN.

**SECTION A: GRAMMAR**

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**I. ERROR CORRECTION**

*In each of the following sentences there is ONE error. Find the error and write your correction clearly above it.*

1. If only I could afford going abroad for holiday this year!
2. We needn't have to left so early, because we got there with over an hour to spare.
3. I brought dozens of sandwiches to the picnic, most of whom didn't get eaten.
4. We explained him the new system but he told me he didn't understand it.
5. I offered helping him but he said he would prefer to do it on his own.
6. I'm sorry, I have no time now and I'd rather you come tomorrow, if you don't mind.

**II. TRANSLATION**

*Translate the following sentences into English:*

1. Powiedziała, że zorganizuje moje urodzinowe przyjęcie i że już wysłała zaproszenia.

.....

2. Musiałeś widzieć Toma – był tu wczoraj cały dzień, bo poproszono go by napisał raport.

.....

3. Zagroził, że mnie zwolni jeśli nie podpiszę tego dokumentu.

..... unless .....

4. Zawsze podziwiałem twojego ojca – on nigdy nie odmówił mi pomocy.

.....

5. Pamiętaj, żeby nie dzwonić do Susan przed 20 - może być wtedy zajęta.

.....

6. Gdyby nie ten deszcz, moglibyśmy iść na spacer. Weźmy psa i idźmy mimo wszystko, dobrze?

But .....

.....

### III. TRANSFORMATION

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 **three** and **six** words, including the word given.

1. Some people think the proposed legislation is unthinkable. **TO**  
The proposed legislation..... unthinkable.
2. Lily didn't read the chapter because she didn't know she had to do it. **READ**  
Lily would ..... if she had known she had to do it.
3. She made the children tidy their room. **MADE**  
The children ..... their room.
4. It may sound easy but it's really rather difficult. **THOUGH**  
Easy ....., it's really rather difficult.
5. Greg finally managed to pass his driving test. **SUCCEEDED**  
Greg finally ..... his driving test.

### SECTION B: READING

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**A. Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.**

#### FUTURE OF FOOD

*I* How can we feed the 2.5 billion more people – an extra China and India – likely to be alive by 2050? Fifty years ago, when the world's population was around half what it is now, the answer to looming famines was 'the green revolution' – a massive increase in the use of hybrid seeds and chemical fertilizers. It worked, but at a great ecological price. We grow nearly twice as much food as we did just a generation ago, but we use three times as much water from rivers and underground supplies.

Food, farm and water technologists will have to find new ways to grow more crops in places that until now were hard or impossible to farm. It may need a total rethink over how we use land and water. So enter a new generation of radical farmers, novel foods and bright ideas.

#### *II Algae*

How do you free up huge amounts of farmland to grow more food for humans? Easy – switch to commercial algae farms. Algae are simple, single-cell organisms that can grow very rapidly in sea water, in polluted water and in places that would normally kill food crops. Major airlines and shipping companies are now investigating a switch to algae oil, and smart clean tech money is pouring in to the nascent technology.

The prize is huge: scientists say that under optimum conditions, commercial algae farms can produce 5,000-10,000 gallons of oil per acre, compared to just 350 gallons of ethanol biofuel per acre grown with crops like maize.

Algae are at the bottom of the food chain but they are already eaten widely in Japan and China in the form of seaweeds, and are used as fertilizers, soil conditioners and animal feed. They range from giant seaweeds and kelps to microscopic slimes, they are capable of fixing CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere and providing fats, oils and sugars. They are eaten by everything from the tiniest shrimp to the great blue whale. They are the basis of all life and must therefore be the future.

#### *III Artificial meat*

Scientists say the hunt for meat substitutes is critical because western eating habits are now spreading to China and other rapidly emerging economies, putting intense pressure on governments and farmers to fell more forests and open up new farmland. Cattle now occupy nearly one quarter of all cultivable land, and growing crops for animal feed takes up another 25%. In the US, nearly 70% of the grain and cereals grown are now fed to farmed animals.

It looks like meat, feels like meat and it is meat, although it's never been near a living, breathing animal. Instead, artificial or "cultured" meat is grown from stem cells in giant vats. Much of the research into artificial meat is being done in Europe with scientists in Holland and Britain developing edible tissue grown from stem cells in laboratories. But while the first artificial hamburger could be developed next year, it might taste of nothing at all. Meat needs blood

and fat to give it colour and taste, and while stem cells for blood and fat have been identified, this is slow, complex and expensive work.

#### *IV New crops*

Few people have heard of Zhikang Li, but history may judge the Chinese plant breeder to be one of the most important people of the century. Last year, after 12 years' work with the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences and the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines, he and his team developed 'green super rice', a series of rice varieties which produce more grain but which have proved more resistant to droughts, floods, brackish water, insects and disease.

Most importantly, Zhikang Li achieved this without GMO technology, working instead with hundreds of researchers and farmers in 16 countries and using only conventional plant breeding techniques to cross-breed more than 250 rice varieties.

However, most of the research money has gone into GMO in the past 20 years. Here, the global agricultural industry has promised new crops enriched with extra vitamins, enzymes or healthy fatty acids, as well as drought-tolerant corn, and crops that can save carbon emissions. But while it looks ahead to bananas that produce human vaccines, fish that mature more quickly and cows that are resistant to disease, its promise to feed the world has been patchy in terms of results.

Last year more than 350m acres – about 10% of global cultivated area, or the same area as Germany, France and the UK together – were planted with GMO crops, but this mainly covered only three big foods – maize, oilseed rape and soya – most of which went to animal feed.

#### *V Insects*

Locusts, grasshoppers, spiders, wasps, worms, ants and beetles are not on most European or US menus but at least 1,400 species are eaten across Africa, Latin America and Asia. Now, with rising food prices and worldwide land shortages, it could be just a matter of time before insect farms set up in Britain.

Not only are many bugs rich in protein, low in fat and cholesterol and high in calcium and iron, but insect farms need little space. Environmentally, they beat conventional farms, too. The creatures emit fewer greenhouse gases and can thrive on paper, algae and industrial waste that would normally be put in landfills.

The advantages of "micro-livestock" farming are great; say the UN and EU, both of which are keen to see if insect rearing could be greatly expanded. The Dutch government is studying how to set up insect farms. But aware of western squeamishness, they have asked researchers to see if **they** can just extract the protein that many bugs contain. Meanwhile the EU is offering its member states 3 million euros to promote the use of insects in cooking, and has asked food standards watchdogs to investigate their potential to supplement diets.

**1. Complete the sentences below on the basis of the information provided in the text. Choose NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the passage for each answer.**

1. For the last 50 years, \_\_\_\_\_ multiplied more rapidly than ever before.
2. People grow \_\_\_\_\_ as much food as they used to about twenty years ago.
3. In the future, \_\_\_\_\_ production will have to take place in unusual locations.

**2. Read the text again and for questions 1-5, choose the answer which you think fits best according to the text.**

1. Hybrid seeds and chemical fertilizers ...
  - A) were totally unknown fifty years ago.
  - B) were discovered fifty years ago.
  - C) were a part of the so-called 'green revolution'.
  - D) used to be more environmentally friendly.

2. What's the major difference between commercial algae farms and commercial maize farms?

- A) Commercial algae farms are more expensive to maintain.
- B) Commercial algae farms are more popular in Asia.
- C) Commercial algae farms are potentially more profitable.
- D) Commercial algae farms are much cheaper to maintain.

3. It can be inferred from the text that lab-grown meat production ...

- A) has been criticised by most scientists.
- B) has become very popular in China.
- C) will reduce damage to the natural environment.
- D) won't affect livestock production.

4. What's the main advantage of 'green super rice'?

- A) It's been developed in a natural way.
- B) It cannot be harmed by insects.
- C) It's resistant to droughts and floods.
- D) It produces more grain.

5. What does the word 'they' (section V, line 9) refer to?

- A) The Dutch government.
- B) Farms.
- C) Bugs.
- D) Researchers.

3. **Find the synonyms of the following words and phrases. Roman numerals in the brackets refer to the section in which the item can be found.**

- 1. substances that are put on the soil to make plants grow (I) - .....
- 2. safe to eat (III) - .....
- 3. not completely satisfactory (IV) - .....
- 4. groups of people who act as protectors against inefficiency or illegal practices (V) - .....

## **SECTION C: WRITING**

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Choose one of the topics and write an essay in formal academic language of 350 ± 20 words. Use the information from the sources. You can use direct and indirect quotations. Do not quote more than 10 words in a row. Remember to cite the source in an appropriate way.

### **Topic 1. Food additives and processed foods (Problem-solution).**

#### **Source**

Author: Elson Haas

Title: Food additives and human health

Date of publication: 2008

Page: 8

For decades now, the food industry has continually created new chemicals to manipulate, preserve, and transform our food. With the use of chemicals, scientists are able to mimic natural flavors, color foods to make them look more natural or fresh, preserve foods for longer and longer periods of time, and create altered versions of breads, crackers, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy products and many more commonly used foods. Now there are even foods that are made entirely from chemicals. Coffee creamers, sugar substitutes, and candies consist almost completely of artificial ingredients. Such manipulation of our food can have a profound effect on our body's unique biochemical balance.

### **Topic 2. Dogs versus cats (Compare/contrast).**

#### **Source**

Author: Harry Samy

Title: Which is better: cat or dog?

Date of publication: 2012

Page: 117

There are many reasons why both dogs and cats make good pets, and it is up to the owner to weigh the options of which suits her life, household and schedule best. Some people claim that cats require less work; they do not need walks, are quiet and clean. Some benefits to owning a dog are that dogs are highly active and are social animals.

For those who work often and are not home a lot, a cat might be the better choice, as cats typically require less attention. Cats are also great pets because they are easily entertained; string or a laser pointer often make great toys. Cats sleep a lot, they require less attention from their owner and are great at keeping away mice or insects.

Dogs are often perceptive, as they can pick up on your happiness or sadness. Dogs are also known to be very active. They enjoy runs or walks and taking a dog out for these activities can provide the opportunity for a dog to socialize with other dogs, which they typically enjoy. A pet dog may be recommended for those seeking companionship, like the elderly.

### **Topic 3. Is working from home a job benefit? (Opinion).**

#### **Source**

Author: Samuel Johnson

Title: Which is more productive: work from home or office?

Date of publication: 2010

Page: 18

Some 30 million Americans, or 1 in 5 U.S. workers, work from home at least once a week, research shows, and that number is expected to increase 63% in the next five years. The WFH trend can be scary for employers: Some believe remote work hinders collaboration by interfering with those flashes of insight and innovation that occur spontaneously in unexpected meetings around the water cooler or in the hallway. Meanwhile, proponents of telework argue that it decreases real-estate costs, attracts better talent and leads to happier, more productive employees.

### **Topic 4. Social networking sites (For and against).**

#### **Source**

Author: Sally Samson

Title: Social networking sites

Date of publication: 2015

Page: 1

The use of social networking sites has both positive and negative consequences. It is amazing how someone can find a long-lost friend through a social networking site, enabling them to reconnect. In a society where people have become quite mobile and family and friends are often geographically separated, it is convenient to keep in touch through technology. However, one need not look far to find problems associated with social networking sites. There is a lively debate about whether Internet addictions are real. To me it appears to be a real problem (perception is often reality in a social context) with which people have to grapple. Some assert that these Web sites contributed to cheating on significant others, often leading to divorce. People have been fired from their jobs or put under pressure because they use these sites at work or because something is posted on a site that undermined the person's professional standing.

WRITING EVALUATION SHEET

<b>STRUCTURE</b>		<b>MAX.</b>	
Introduction	an introduction in a separate paragraph that is relevant to the topic	1	
Thesis statement	thesis statement includes topic and opinion	1	
Body paragraphs	all body paragraphs are separate, have identifiable topic sentences and give arguments that are logically linked with the thesis statement	1	
Conclusion	conclusion in a separate paragraph and logically connected with the thesis statement	1	
<b>CITATION</b>			
Citation	1 – full reference  1 – cited text fits logically and grammatically in the context	2	
<b>VOCABULARY</b>			
Linking words	linking words to signalize body paragraphs, internal paragraph structure and conclusion	1	
Vocabulary	a wide range of vocabulary	2	
Formal academic style	fully formal academic style and register	2	
<b>GRAMMATICAL CORRECTNESS</b>			
a wide range of sentence types used correctly		1	
correct nouns, articles, adjectives and adverbs		1	
correct tenses and verbs forms		1	
correct word collocations	including prepositions, gerunds, that-clauses, etc.	1	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>15</b>	

**EXAMINER 1** ..... **EXAMINER 2** .....

# ANSWER KEY:

## GRAMMAR

### I. ERROR CORRECTION

(3 points)

(give half a point for each underlined item)

1. If only I could afford going to go abroad for holiday this year!
2. We needn't have ~~to~~ left so early, because we got there with over an hour to spare.
3. I brought dozens of sandwiches to the picnic, most of ~~whom~~ which didn't get eaten.
4. We explained to him the new system/ the new system to him but he told me he didn't understand it.
5. I offered helping to help him but he said he would prefer to do it on his own.
6. I'm sorry, I have no time now and I'd rather you ~~come~~ came tomorrow, if you don't mind.

### II. TRANSLATION

(7 points)

(give half a point for each underlined item)

1. She said that she would organise my birthday party and that she had already sent out the invitations.(1)
2. You must have seen Tom – he was here all day yesterday because he was (had been) asked to write a report.(1)
3. He threatened to fire / that he would fire me unless I signed that document.(1)
4. I have always respected/looked up to your father – he's never refused to help me. (1)
5. Remember not to call Susan before 8pm – she may/might/could be busy then. (1)
6. But for the rain, we could go for a walk. Let's take the dog and go anyway, shall we?(2)

### III. TRANSFORMATION

(5 points)

(give one point for each underlined item)

1. The proposed legislation is thought to be unthinkable.
2. Lily would have read the chapter if she had known she had to do it. (1 point if both parts are correct)
3. The children were made to tidy/ were forced to tidy their room.
4. Easy though it may sound/ though it sounds, it's really rather difficult.
5. Greg finally succeeded in passing his driving test.

## READING

### EX. 1 (one point for each correct answer)

1. world population / world's population
2. (nearly) twice
3. Crop

### EX. 2 (one point for each correct answer)

1. C
2. C
3. C



4. A
5. D

**EX. 3 (half a point for each correct answer)**

1. fertilizers
2. edible
3. patchy
4. watchdogs