

From PET – Examination Papers. Book 1. Reading Test 3.

Part 1 - Questions 1-5

Look at the test in each question. What does it say? Write the correct letter A, B or C on the answer sheet.

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| 1 ON HEARING A CONTINUOUS ALARM EVACUATE THE BUILDING BY YOUR NEAREST SAFE EXIT AND PROCEED TO THE FIRE ASSEMBLY POINT. | <p>A The nearest exit must be reached immediately after hearing a continuous alarm.</p> <p>B If a continuous alarm is heard, you must leave the building unless different orders are given.</p> <p>C A continuous alarm orders you to take the nearest safe exit and reach the assembly point.</p> |
| 2 Newspapers and magazines must be replaced on shelves under appropriate labels. | <p>A Shelves have labels for newspapers and magazines.</p> <p>B After reading a newspaper or a magazine replace it on any shelf.</p> <p>C A label on the shelves shows where to replace newspapers and magazines.</p> |
| 3 Trainers only when walking on the gymnasium floor. | <p>A You must wear special shoes to walk in the gymnasium.</p> <p>B You must take off your shoes to walk in the gymnasium.</p> <p>C Special equipment is needed to go into the gymnasium.</p> |
| 4 Do not leave packages, briefcases, etc. unattended. Unattended items arouse suspicion and cause major disruption. | <p>A If you leave objects unattended they may be removed.</p> <p>B Do not leave objects unattended because they may be stolen.</p> <p>C Unattended packages and briefcases are considered dangerous.</p> |
| 5 Use of telephones for private calls is strictly prohibited. | <p>A It is forbidden to use this telephone.</p> <p>B Making calls to friends or family is absolutely forbidden.</p> <p>C If you want to make a private call, ask for permission.</p> |

PART 2. Questions 6-10

The people below all want to go to the cinema. Read the eight films and decide which film (letters A-H) would be the most suitable for each person or group (numbers 6-10). There are three extra letters which you do not need to use. Write the letters on the answer sheet.

6 Robert is a passionate reader of history of the Second World War. He would like to see a film reconstructing important episodes of that period.

7 Tom and Shirley are fond of science fiction films but so far they have seen all the Star Wars series. What else in the same line can they find?

8 Mr Baxter has been a film goer for decades but he finds that nowadays films are either too violent or too noisy and superficial. He would like to see a classic film of his time.

9 Anne is politically committed and a pacifist. She likes films that investigate the political issues of the present.

10 A group of teenagers are appointed by their science teacher to choose a film that they will see together and then report to the class.

WHAT'S ON THE BIG SCREEN?

A *Darwin's nightmare* (2014). This documentary film clearly shows how, in this age of globalisation, things can evolve in the worst possible way for mankind. It presents how the introduction of some non-native fish into Lake Victoria killed off most native species, changing the way of living of the human population, too.

B *Kingdom of Heaven* (2015). In Scott's intelligent Crusades epic, Jerusalem is in the hands of the Christians. The Muslim leader Saladin and the tolerant Christian ruler Baldwin IV are in conflict with the villainous Knights Templar. Extraordinary battle scenes and historical reconstruction.

C *Private* (2015). Set in Palestine but made in Italy, the film illustrates the relationships between a Palestinian family and an Israeli army platoon compelled to live together in a relatively isolated house. In spite of the mutual diffidence of the two groups the film suggests that violence cannot solve anything.

D *Robots* (2015). A follow-up to *Ice Age, Robots* is a very imaginative computer-generated animation. The film is set in a world entirely inhabited by robots but deals with capitalism, consumerism, individualism. It is astonishing and at the same time can be very funny.

E *Downfall* (2014). The film about Hitler's final days is based on two books, one of which written by Hitler's young secretary. The film reconstructs the claustrophobic atmosphere of the bunker and makes you experience three hours in the madhouse of Hitler's final decisions.

F *Revenge of the Sith* (2015). This is a breathless, dramatic, effect-filled experience in the Star Wars series moving towards its conclusion. Anakin Skywalker, Jedi knight and ambitious student of Obi-Wan Kenobi, is the protagonist of numberless incredible adventures.

G *Cutter's Way* (1991). First released in 1991, the film is a captivating crime thriller. A disabled Vietnam veteran witnesses a murder and believes he recognises the culprit in an oil magnate. He is helped by a friend who is determined to denounce the super-rich killer. A thriller that never ceases to impress.

H *Million Dollar Baby* (2014). At his gym in downtown LA, Frankie, a boxers' trainer, refuses to train Maggie who wants to become a boxer. Frankie's ex-boxer friend, Scraps, recognises her real talent and finally Frankie accepts to train her. Maggie becomes a successful boxer but This is Clint Eastwood at his best.

PART 3 - Questions 11-20

Look at the sentences below about the future of the world. Read the text and decide if each statement is correct or incorrect. If it is correct, write A and if it is incorrect, write B on the answer sheet.

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| 11 | A pessimist thinks that what happens around him is always bad. | A / B |
| 12 | Hunger kills millions of people all over the world. | A / B |
| 13 | Men, animals and plants are poisoned by chemical products. | A / B |
| 14 | Computers may prevent dictatorship. | A / B |
| 15 | Mankind may come to an end because of robots. | A / B |
| 16 | Nuclear bombs and radioactivity could destroy civilization as we know it. | A / B |
| 17 | Survivors of a nuclear disaster would live in caves. | A / B |
| 18 | Optimists don't think that automation will give us more free time. | A / B |
| 19 | Poor countries will not be helped by rich countries. | A / B |
| 20 | In an optimist's view, "Love your neighbour as yourself" will become the rule. | A / B |

ARE YOU A PESSIMIST OR AN OPTIMIST?

Being a pessimist means believing that everything is going the wrong way, but it sometimes means drawing conclusions from what you see happening in the real world. For example, the world's population is growing at a dramatic rate. Cities are becoming enormous. In the poor countries millions of people are dying of hunger because there is not enough food for everybody.

A second example? We are poisoning ourselves because our industries and cars fill the air with dangerous gases, and pollute rivers and the sea. We create huge mountains of rubbish. Finally, we are destroying many of the animals and plants that live on our planet by using chemicals as pesticides.

Even the most celebrated and useful of modern man's inventions - the computer - may become a danger for our lives: a dictator might use computers for spying people and everything they do. In an electronic police state, revolt is practically impossible.

What about man becoming redundant? Programmes for the breeding of supermen, or for making super-intelligent robots, are possible and they might cause our human species to die out. Moreover, mankind might go back to the Stone Age if the huge stocks of nuclear weapons were let loose in a third and final World War. Most of the cities of the world and their inhabitants would be vaporized. Radioactive fallout would make life impossible over vast areas. If there were survivors, they would live a desperate life; they would live like cavemen.

Let us try to be optimistic. What if we were intelligent enough to avoid all these dangers and learn how to live well? An example: all the dull work that human beings have been obliged to do for thousands of years can be eliminated by machinery and automation. Everyone has a lot of time to enjoy life.

Poverty, hunger and preventable diseases will be abolished because the richer countries will help the poor ones towards a better standard of living. A strong world government will help to provide solutions and to avoid war. Human beings will be convinced that it is better to love their neighbours as themselves than spend most of their time fighting them.

Which of the two points of view seems more convincing? In other words, are you a pessimist or an optimist?

PART 4 - Questions 21-25

Read the text and the questions below it. For each question write A, B, C or D on the answer sheet.

TOYS AND GAMES

Children are given toys according to their sex. This would not matter much if the point of playing with toys was simply to amuse oneself - but there is more to it than that. Playing is important - it teaches skills and patterns of behaviour.

Look at the toys labelled "suitable for girls" on the whole, they represent in miniature what the girl can expect later on in life - sewing sets, cookers, tea-sets, dolls and prams. These tend to teach skills that are peaceful and domestic. They also prepare girls for their expected roles of wives and mothers.

Toys for boys reflect quite a different world and teach a different set of skills: trains, cars, guns, model planes, Lego and construction sets, and so on. Whatever they are, they demand more thought and action. Boys want to know how they work. Being given these toys encourages behaviour that is inquiring, adventurous and aggressive - like running, fighting and competing.

When boys play together, the games are often active and involve a great deal of physical movement: tree climbing, building, cowboys and Indians, spacemen, cops and robbers and so on. Girls are excluded for the simple reason that it is assumed they cannot keep up.

21 What does the writer want to do in this text?

- A To prove that girls are less active and aggressive than boys.
- B To criticize the type of education given to girls.
- C To convince parents that girls should be educated in the same way as boys.
- D To prove that choices in education are often connected with sex.

22 How do toys and games influence behaviour?

- A They condition the future choices of boys and girls.
- B They give boys and girls different forms of amusement.
- C They reinforce natural tendencies.
- D They provide a way of learning by playing.

23 Who do you think the writer is?

- A Nursery school teacher.
- B A feminist writer.
- C A professional educationalist.
- D A psychiatrist.

24 What makes boys more inquiring and active?

- A Climbing trees and playing cowboys and Indians.
- B Playing with toys like construction sets and guns.
- C Having to understand how toys are made.
- D Excluding girls who are more passive.

25 Which slogan shows the main idea of the text?

- A Boys and girls should be free to choose their toys.
- B Parents should not impose traditional toys and games on their children.
- C Girls' toys encourage them to be good wives and mothers.
- D Future behaviour can be heavily conditioned by children's ways of playing.

PART 5 - Questions 26-35

Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space. For each question, mark the correct letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet.

Is there life on other planets?

Many scientists today are convinced that life exists elsewhere in the universe - life probably much like that on our own planet.

As far as astronomers can determine, the entire (26) is built of the same matter. They have no reason to doubt that matter obeys the same (27) in every part of the universe. (28) it is reasonable to assume that other stars, with their own planets, came to life in the same way as our own (29) system. What we know of life on earth suggests that life will arise wherever the right conditions exist.

Life requires the right amount and kind of atmosphere. This eliminates all those planets in the universe that are not about the same (30) and weight as the earth. If the earth were a smaller planet, it would lose atmosphere; if it were a (31) one, it would hold too much.

Life also requires a steady supply of heat and (32) Only single stars that are steady sources of heat and light (33) our sun would qualify. Finally, life could evolve only if the planet is just the right (34) from its sun. With a weaker sun than our own, the planet would have to be closer to it. With a (35) sun, it would have to be farther away.

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| 26 | A earth | B world | C planets | D universe |
| 27 | A laws | B principles | C regulation | D matter |
| 28 | A Then | B Therefore | C However | D But |
| 29 | A star | B general | C universe | D solar |
| 30 | A depth | B size | C colour | D shade |
| 31 | A larger | B great | C large | D big |
| 32 | A humidity | B water | C oxygen | D light |
| 33 | A equal to | B the same | C like | D parallel |
| 34 | A proximity | B closeness | C position | D distance |
| 35 | A hotter | B stronger | C colder | D bigger |