PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: You will hear the text Memoirs of a survivor twice. Before you listen to it, you have 3 minutes to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 8 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, C or D. Then you will hear the text again and will have 2 minutes to check your answers.

1. To modern man running water, electricity, heat and plumbing are
   A) a must.
   B) a means of survival.
   C) basics.
   D) a means of adaptation.

2. The narrator’s bunker
   A) had a waterproof roof.
   B) was wet and poorly lit.
   C) was full of rats and snakes.
   D) had some basic conveniences.

3. The Bamboo Viper
   A) is among the most poisonous snakes.
   B) had been laying an ambush for Pete.
   C) is one of the most widespread snakes.
   D) had been carefully avoiding Pete.

4. The food that the narrator and his guys ate
   A) didn’t taste like real food.
   B) was a technological innovation.
   C) was fresh and tasty.
   D) was varied and nutritious.

5. On his return to the States, the narrator
   A) had lost nearly 70 kilos.
   B) had returned to his normal weight.
   C) felt fit and in good health.
   D) looked starved and miserable.
6. The narrator and his guys were
   A) explorers.
   B) adventurers.
   C) hunters.
   D) soldiers.

Directions: You will hear a story about The Beatles twice. Before you listen to it, you have 2 minutes to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 6 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.

   A) True.
   B) False.
   C) No information in the text.

8. The Japanese were crazy about the Beatles.
   A) True.
   B) False.
   C) No information in the text.

9. In the Philippines, the band felt things were going wrong.
   A) True.
   B) False.
   C) No information in the text.

10. The Beatles did not go to Imelda Marcos’s party because they did not approve of her husband’s government.
    A) True.
    B) False.
    C) No information in the text.

11. Just before boarding the plane the band’s manager was asked to pay back all the money from the concert.
    A) True.
    B) False.
    C) No information in the text.

Directions: You will hear a story about Dolphins twice. Before you listen to it, you have 2 minutes to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 5 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.

12. Dolphins can remember details of their own appearance.
    A) True.
    B) False.
13. Dolphins and chimps share some peculiar abilities.
   A) True.
   B) False.
   C) No information in the text.

14. In the trials scientists put different black marks on the mirror.
   A) True.
   B) False.
   C) No information in the text.

15. Behavioural habits of animals may influence their mental abilities.
   A) True.
   B) False.
   C) No information in the text.

PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

Directions: Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among A, B or C, marking the answer on your answer sheet.

BRITAIN’S FUNNIEST CITIES

Part One

The British are famous for their sense of humour, but we don’t just rely on professional comedians to make us laugh. All of us use humour in daily life – joking about a nasty boss, telling tall tales to children or teasing friends in the pub. But are some parts of the country funnier than others?

To find out we sent a team of researchers to eight cities round the country, stopping 50 passers-by in each one and challenging them to tell a joke or a funny story, sing a silly song, do a silly dance – whatever it took to make us laugh. One point was awarded for every victim who accepted the challenge, giving each city a score out of 50. Then each researcher gave marks for how funny they thought the end result was. The average for the whole city was calculated to give a further mark out of 50 and a potential total of 100.

Here is what we discovered.

16. There are a lot of professional comedians in Britain.
   A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

17. A team of researchers interviewed 400 passers-by to check their sense of humour.
   A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

18. The passers-by were asked to behave in a stupid way.
   A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
21. Bristol was the city which won
A) 72 percent. B) the first place. C) 68 percent. D) 72 points.

22. Londoners fared quite well
A) in spite of the expectations. B) because they wanted to make money. C) because of the fast pace of life. D) in spite of the cosmopolitan population.

23. With its 52 points London ranked
A) third. B) fourth. C) fifth. D) last but one.

24. The citizens of Liverpool managed to score
A) 53 points. B) 52 points. C) 51 points. D) 50 points.
25. The people of Brighton ranked rather low in the tests most probably because

A) Brighton is a seaside resort. B) of the alternative lifestyles of the young people there. C) they live mainly at night. D) of the bad weather on that particular day.

Directions: Read the final part of the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among A, B, C or D, marking the answer on your answer sheet.

BRITAIN’S FUNNIEST CITIES

Part Three

Among the fairly reserved Glasgow population there were flashes of wit. All too often people were quick to praise the Glaswegian talent for observational humour, but slow to come up with any material themselves. They scored 48 points and ranked immediately after Londoners. Glasgow did claim one comedy title, however – the person determined to do anything for a laugh.

Another city where local expectation didn’t match up to reality was Newcastle. The people we stopped were warm and many desperately tried to think of something funny to say but less than a third managed it. That brought them the sixth place with 45 points in all.

In Birmingham humour came from the most unexpected sources, helping it to second overall in our rankings with a total of 59 points.

“No many people will make you laugh round here,” a plump woman in her thirties pushing a pram informed our researchers outside a clothes shop in Cardiff. “People take life too seriously and they are too reserved.” She wasn’t wrong. Only 11 out of 50 people made an attempt at comedy in the Welsh capital and it ranked a distant last in our tests with only 29 points.

The funniest age groups were the under-20s and the over-70s.

When you average all the ratings given by the researchers, Britain scores six out of ten. Given that everyone was caught by surprise as they tried to take their lunch break or go shopping, often in wind or rain, that’s a result to be proud of.

26. The Glaswegians failed to show

A) any flash of wit. B) their sense of spontaneous humour. C) their talent for observation. D) their determination.

27. Few people in Newcastle were

A) warm. B) desperate. C) funny. D) cooperative.

28. Which of the following statements about Birmingham is NOT true?

A) It ranked second after Bristol. B) No one expected to meet funny people there. C) It ranked second from bottom. D) Its citizens proved quite witty.

29. The researchers met the greatest enthusiast to entertain them in


30. The researchers find the results satisfactory, bearing in mind that
A) the interviewed people were in a hurry. B) the interviewed people were unprepared. C) the weather was sometimes bad. D) All of the above.

PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

Section One: Cloze Test

Directions: Read the text and for each numbered gap choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best suits each space. Then enter your answer on your answer sheet.

DOING TIME, MAKING STEAK

Italy has long been famous (31) ___ its exclusive restaurants, but this time it has excelled itself, according to a (32) ___ in The Daily Telegraph.

The (33) ___ fashionable eating place in the home of (34) ___ is located inside the Fortezza Medicea high-security prison at Volterra, near Pisa, and is (35) ___ by robbers, murderers and (36) ___ Mafiosi.

Under the watchful (37) ___ of armed guards in the otherwise charming setting of a once beautiful chapel, members of the (38) ___ can enjoy the £17-a-head set menu, while being serenaded by Bruno, a pianist (39) ___ life sentence for murder.

Chef Egidio, 50, another lifer, (40) ___ his work seriously. “I like to be sure that (41) ___ enjoy the food with the same passion that I prepare it,” he said. “I haven’t had any (42) ___,” he adds, unsurprisingly.

“The fact that the (43) ___ are prepared by criminals doesn’t really (44) ___ me,” one customer commented. “Though I might be worried if someone had been (45) ___ of poisoning.”

31. A) with B) for C) by D) in
32. A) report B) notice C) show D) remark
33. A) last B) late C) later D) latest
34. A) paste B) pasta C) pasty D) pastry
35. A) commanded B) directed C) governed D) run
36. A) past B) former C) previous D) formal
37. A) eye B) look C) care D) attention
38. A) auditorium B) auditory C) public D) publicity
39. A) making B) doing C) suffering D) lying
40. A) takes B) gets C) bears D) stands
41. A) peoples B) users C) diners D) dinners
42. A) complains B) complaints C) complexities D) complexes
43. A) servings B) portions C) dishes D) plates
44. A) annoy B) mind to C) excite D) bother
45. A) convicted B) sentenced C) blamed D) charged

Section Two: Sentence Completion

Directions: Read the dialogue and for each of the numbered gaps below, choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best suits each space.

Успех с Курс за мatura по английски с The Passionate Shepherd!
the word or phrase that best completes its meaning. Then enter your answer on your answer sheet.

A: How do you do, my dear Ernest? What brings you up to town?
B: Oh, pleasure, pleasure! (46) ___ should bring one anywhere? Eating (47) ____, I see!
A: I believe it is customary in good society to take some slight refreshment at five o’clock.
B: Yes, of course. But hullo! Why all these cups? Why cucumber sandwiches? Why such extravagance in
(48) ___ young person? Who is coming to tea?
A: Oh, just Aunt Augusta and Gwendolen; but I’m afraid Aunt Augusta won’t quite approve of your being
here. The way you flirt with Gwendolen is perfectly shameless. It is almost (49) ___ the way
Gwendolen flirts with you. Please don’t touch the cucumber sandwiches! They are ordered specially
for Aunt Augusta.
B: Well, you have been eating them all the time.
A: That is (50) ___ different matter. She is my aunt.

47. A) as usual B) as usually C) like usual D) like usually
48. A) such a B) a so C) a such D) a too
49. A) worst than B) so badly as C) as worse as D) as bad as
50. A) a quite B) quite C) too D) a so

Section Four: Sentence Transformations

Directions: On your sheet for open-ended answers complete the second sentence so that it is as close as
possible in meaning to the first one.

51. People have often asked themselves: “Does it pay to do good?”
People have often asked themselves if _____________________________________________________________________.
52. Although it was snowing heavily, Mrs Pumpkin went out for her usual evening walk.
In spite ____________________________________________________________________________________.
53. Mrs Simmons entered the nursery and found everything in a terrible mess.
Mrs Simmons entered the nursery and found that the children ______________________.
54. Unless you tease the dog he will not bark at you.
If ________________________________________________________________________________________.
55. Shall we invite all your classmates to your birthday party?
How ____________________________________________________________________________________?
56. Kevin hasn’t spoken to his brother since my birthday party when they quarrelled about that
Murdoch girl. Kevin last ________________________________________________________________________.
57. “Why don’t you come with us, Jane? We have one more seat in the car,” said Martha. Martha
offered ____________________________________________________________________________________.
58. We will give excellent marks only to the students who have attended lectures regularly. Only the
students ____________________________________________.
59. I am very sorry that I didn’t come with you to that concert on Saturday. I
regret ________________________________________________.
60. Usually boys don’t care so much about their appearance as girls. Girls care
__________________________________________________________.
Directions: On your sheet for open-ended answers write a composition of about 140-170 words on ONE of the following topics:

1. What do you do when you are in a hurry and a stranger stops you in the street with the words: “Excuse me, would you…”?

2. Describe your most precious “possession” – a person, a pet, an object, a place, a memory etc. Explain why it is so valuable to you.

Успех с Курс за матура по английски е The Passionate Shepherd!
Humans are an adaptable species. We can tolerate incredible hardship. We have risen to the top of the food chain in every area of the globe, and we inhabit its most remote corners. We're undoubtedly the most intelligent of all creatures, but that doesn't fully explain our ability to cope. Wild animals are given too much credit when compared with us. When it comes to survival, we're the champs.

Civilized man in much of the world has become used to basics such as hot and cold running water, electricity, heat, and plumbing. These are conveniences rather than necessities when humans are in the basic survival mode. We lived without them for our entire term of duty.

Much of the time my guys and I lived in bunkers. They were nothing more than holes in the ground with re-enforced roofs, covered with sandbags. They didn’t keep out the rain, cold, bugs, nor the many other creatures that called Vietnam their home. For a part of the time that Pete and I lived in one of these we were surprised that we weren’t bothered by mice, rats, or other creatures that like dark, damp places.

One day when Pete was coming out of our bunker, he knocked over a few of the sandbags that lined the entrance. The accident uncovered a Bamboo Viper that had been living with us the entire time. That was the reason we hadn't been bothered by the local wildlife.

The Bamboo Viper is one of the world's deadliest snakes. I have no idea how he had avoided us or we him.
We were provided with some of the innovations of the twentieth century – in the form of individual packets of a couple of canned delights like beef stew and ham with beans. Occasionally we got a can of cookies that nearly tasted like cookies, and a small tin of peanut butter which fell from the tin like a cookie. When I left the States I was a slightly overweight 107 kilos. When I returned from Vietnam I was 76. The Marines said I was lean and mean. Actually, I was closer to starving and desperate.

Text II

In June 1966, the Beatles were in Hamburg to begin a new tour. Then they flew to Tokyo and the tour began to go wrong. There were many Beatles fans in Japan but some people there thought the group was a bad example to young people.

Things became worse in the Philippines. In George’s words, it was ‘bad news from the beginning’. The real problem, however, came after the concert in Manila. Imelda Marcos, the wife of the country’s leader, invited the band to a garden party. The band’s answer was a polite no. The next day, something was clearly wrong. Nobody at the hotel brought breakfast for the band. Then they turned on the television and suddenly they understood: they saw Imelda Marcos in tears! The camera showed crying children and the empty dinner table. In George Harrison’s words, ‘We watched ourselves not arriving’.

The people of the Philippines were angry. As the band drove to the airport, crowds shouted, ‘Beatles go home!’ Before they could leave, their manager was called off the airplane and asked to give back all the money from the band’s concert.

Text III

A study found that dolphins not only can recognize themselves in a mirror but also can notice changes in their appearance. Before this research, only humans and chimpanzees, had demonstrated self-recognition in mirrors. Scientists first marked the dolphins with "sham" marks, then exposed them to a mirror. After several repetitions, the scientists put temporary black ink on parts of the dolphins' bodies, which the animals could see only in a mirror. In each of the trials, the dolphins went to the mirror to examine the areas which the scientists had marked. The results provide definitive evidence that the two dolphins in this study used the mirror…to investigate the parts of their body that were marked.

While the test has been used with many other animals, including primates,
elephants, and parrots, this is the first time non-primates have reacted to a mirror by using it to examine themselves. This study shows that the ability to recognize one's own appearance is not specific to primates.

An interesting difference between primates' and dolphins' behavior is that the dolphins paid attention to the markings on their own bodies but not to similar markings on other dolphins. Similar research on chimpanzees has shown that they notice markings on their peers. The scientists speculate that the difference may be related to the fact that chimps clean each other but dolphins do not.