



Nacionalni centar  
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INCOLLARE ATTENTAMENTE

# ENG A

## LINGUA INGLESE

livello superiore

ESAME DI LETTURA

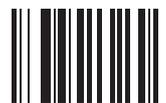
(Reading Paper)

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# Lingua inglese

Pagina vuota

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## INDICAZIONI GENERALI

Leggi attentamente tutte le indicazioni e seguile.

Non voltare pagina e non risolvere i quesiti senza il permesso dell'insegnante di servizio. Incolla gli adesivi di identificazione su tutti i materiali d'esame che hai ricevuto nella busta sigillata.

L'esame di lettura dura **70** minuti.

L'esame di lettura comprende quesiti a corrispondenza, quesiti a scelta multipla e quesiti a completamento.

- Nei quesiti a corrispondenza collega **ogni** contenuto contrassegnato da un numero con un altro contrassegnato da una lettera (quesiti 1 e 3).
- Nei quesiti a scelta multipla scegli solo una delle risposte offerte (quesiti 2 e 4).

Puoi utilizzare le pagine di questo fascicolo se hai bisogno di spazio per risolvere i quesiti.

**Le risposte esatte devono essere segnate con una X sul foglio per le risposte.**

- Nel quesito a completamento inserisci negli spazi vuoti il contenuto mancante (quesito 5). Scrivi le risposte **solo** nel posto previsto in questo fascicolo d'esame. Scrivi in modo leggibile. Le risposte illeggibili verranno valutate con zero (0) punti.

Usa esclusivamente una penna biro di colore blu o nero.

Una volta risolti i quesiti, controlla le risposte. In caso di errore, correggi mettendo l'errore tra parentesi e barrandolo, poi apponi una breve firma. **È proibito firmarsi per intero con nome e cognome.**

Buona fortuna!

Questo fascicolo d'esame ha 16 pagine di cui 2 vuote.

Se hai sbagliato a scrivere la risposta correggi in questo modo:

### a) quesito di tipo chiuso

Giusto



Correzione dell'errore



Sbagliato



### b) quesito di tipo aperto



# Lingua inglese

Reading Paper

## Task 1 Questions 1-12

You are going to read an article in which people talk about taking a gap year.  
For questions 1-12, choose from the people **A-F**.  
Mark your answer on the answer sheet.  
There is an example at the beginning (0).

### Gap year

#### A Annabelle

A gap year is supposed to be a road test of life opportunities for graduates prior to figuring out what important step to take next, but before they know it, it can become an escape from responsibility. Plus, with the current expenses it has become the privilege of the affluent few – thus creating another gap. My gap year was the result of one long year trying to persuade my unenthusiastic parents to finance it. On my way, I mostly picked places with free internet spots so I could follow the news at home. Only on my return did I realise I had neither met the real world nor the real me.

#### B Bradley

As the economic picture for graduates darkens, don't start your work path without trying out the wonders of freedom. Yes, gap years cost, but funded programmes that fairly well level off inequalities on the social scale are widely accessible. A gap year spent volunteering or gaining work experience makes your job application stand out. On a more social note, by consuming the local products, staying in small guest houses, and using locally owned facilities you might be helping the locals in the country of your choice to put their children through school.

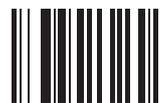
#### C Cheryl

With the government announcing that it is going to raise university fees next year, the number of young people taking a gap year is expected to fall dramatically. This is for the better, since useful gap year work experience programmes might end up placing you hopefully hanging around by the photocopier or enthusiastically carrying trays of coffee at a law firm – admittedly overwhelming experiences! My friends dived into their gap year fearlessly, while I spent mine looking for an excuse to return home. Ironically, it took me a whole year to find one.

#### D Dominic

The necessary skills for camping in the wild while working on a preservation project are hardly something that three years of university could provide, but when I look back on the work I completed during my gap year, it makes writing a dissertation and academic deadlines seem more manageable. With such an investment of time and money, you must ensure your gap year is worthwhile. Expect the unexpected and don't let yourself be surprised. Attend predeparture education programmes and choose organisers who accurately match their volunteers to projects of their interest.

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## Reading Paper

E Elaine	F Forrest
<p>Far from the deceptive holiday image of self-indulgent sunburnt teenage backpackers crowding Thai beaches whilst taking time to decide what to do with life, in reality, overseas volunteer project work is hard going and not for the faint-hearted. Yet a more concerning issue is that of impact. Somewhere along the line it's been forgotten that the major point of volunteer trips is to benefit the community you're going out to help. Now projects seem to have become far more about the benefit to the person making the trip, or the travel agency organising it.</p>	<p>Despite the present economic difficulties, there's never been a better time to get away from it all by taking your well-deserved holiday in an exotic destination. The pound still goes a fair way in certain countries, and your initial dismay at the absence of the internet in remote corners of the world will turn into a rewarding excuse to cut yourself off from the news. My gap year made me the person I am today and no amount of work experience could have given me the joy of a summer sprawling ahead, with nothing but an open road and not a clue about what I was going to do from one day to the next.</p>

### Which person...

- 0 says that the exchange rate of the British currency is favourable for a gap year?
- 1 sarcastically refers to job preparation schemes in gapyear programmes?
- 2 says they did **not** make any serious plans for activities during their gap year?
- 3 says that a gap year can be mistaken for a vacation?
- 4 mentions the benefits of a gap year experience for later academic work?
- 5 says a gap year is an excuse for avoiding making life decisions?
- 6 claims an administrative educational decision might prevent students from taking a gap year?
- 7 says that gap year trends reinforce social inequality?
- 8 claims that gap year students have better career opportunities?
- 9 questions if gap year students bring any advantages to the places they stay in?
- 10 says planning is crucial for a beneficial gap year?
- 11 sees benefits in being uninformed about world affairs?
- 12 says that they did their gap year unwillingly?

	A	B	C	D	E	F
0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
1	<input type="checkbox"/>					
2	<input type="checkbox"/>					
3	<input type="checkbox"/>					
4	<input type="checkbox"/>					
5	<input type="checkbox"/>					
6	<input type="checkbox"/>					
7	<input type="checkbox"/>					
8	<input type="checkbox"/>					
9	<input type="checkbox"/>					
10	<input type="checkbox"/>					
11	<input type="checkbox"/>					
12	<input type="checkbox"/>					



# Lingua inglese

Reading Paper

## Task 2

### Questions 13-18

Read the text below.

For questions 13-18, choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Mark your answer on the answer sheet.

### Going up?

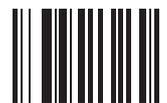
It is estimated that in 40 years 75 per cent of the whole population will live in cities, making urban areas even more densely populated: densely in terms of 9 billion people in search of a roof over their heads. Modern architects all agree that meeting standards of urban planning is getting more and more complex. Planners need to take into account climate changes and resource scarcity and predict future natural or man-made disasters. But it is the novel concept of vertical layered structures that will revolutionize the contours of future cities, changing not only the appearance, but also the purpose, of tall skyscrapers completely.

An engineering giant proposed an urban ecosystem as a response to the pressure of urban demands. Their buildings will no longer be passive shells but connected “living” buildings that will create living space and craft the environment. These modern skyscrapers will not only produce energy and food, but will also provide their occupants with clean water. No matter how outlandish this all may seem, the idea is in development. Even the financing scheme has been worked out – both future owners and local authorities bear the costs of construction and point out that the price for a square metre will not exceed current market prices.

Josef Hargrave, a consultant at Arup, a company that has worked on similar projects, explains his vision: “Modern housing has reached the peak in its development and has taken construction materials to their limits. However, we tend to apply a new principle within existing boundaries and to focus on the dwellers. People are ignorant of the fact that numerous modern ailments are seriously aggravated by inappropriate housing conditions. Living so high up surely affects the fragile human *modus operandi*. Our buildings will have a so-called nervous system, which will be sensitive to all the conditions around us and create comfortable homes. The skyscraper will use the surroundings to create sustainable living. Green spaces inside the tower will turn the dense concrete jungle into real jungles.

Building facades will become super-complex by using cement that can absorb carbon dioxide, and paint that can harness solar energy to power the whole system. Many of the building’s energy needs will be met by bio fuel created by algae grown in water tanks on the roof, while wind turbines could manufacture drinking water from humid air.”

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## Reading Paper

Another superb idea is the choice of construction material. “We kept the jungle image in our minds. The majority of constructors will, logically, continue using long steel beams and construct a solid frame with stone-like supports. This, as well as bricklaying techniques, undermined our efforts to build not only respecting the laws of nature but also in tune with nature. Enough trees to build a 20-story skyscraper grow every 13 minutes. We are going to use super-compressed mass timber panels in giant blocks. These are very fire resistant and are also safe for earthquake zones,” explains Mr Hargrave.

Even though this whole idea seems like science fiction, we need to know that changes are inevitable. However, our future need not be an exaggerated version of current concerns. Few would dare to even propose such a brave idea, yet the bottom line here is not to change the engineering, but the concepts in our heads. And that is the most demanding task of all!

**13** What will impact modern urban planning most?

- A** Rapid population growth.
- B** Environmental changes.
- C** Potential catastrophes.
- D** Innovative constructions.

<b>A</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>B</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>C</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>D</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**14** What will urban ecosystems be like?

- A** Spacious.
- B** Productive.
- C** Landlocked.
- D** Expensive.

<b>A</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>B</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>C</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>D</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**15** According to paragraph 3, what will architects do?

- A** They will cross construction limits in architecture.
- B** They will irritate tenants in the surrounding houses.
- C** They will use a building’s environment to its maximum.
- D** They will only build in areas with dense green forests.

<b>A</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>B</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>C</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>D</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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<p><b>16</b> What will <b>not</b> be produced by skyscrapers?</p> <p><b>A</b> Electricity. <b>B</b> Bio fuel. <b>C</b> Water. <b>D</b> Clean air.</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>17</b> What will be the main material used in constructing new skyscrapers?</p> <p><b>A</b> Steel. <b>B</b> Concrete. <b>C</b> Wood. <b>D</b> Brick.</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>18</b> What is the main idea expressed in the last paragraph?</p> <p><b>A</b> Altering our thinking is a challenge. <b>B</b> Fictional images are our future. <b>C</b> The need for change is exaggerated. <b>D</b> Current science is to be changed.</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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Reading Paper

## Task 3

### Questions 19-24

Read the text below.

For questions **19-24**, choose from the sentences **A-H** the one which best fits the gap.

There are **two** sentences that you do **not** need. Mark your answer on the answer sheet.

There is an example at the beginning (**0**).



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# Lingua inglese

## Reading Paper

### Lake Malawi's lost resort

It was that dangerous twilight time, when the roads are swarming with villagers, children, runaway piglets and wayward goats all dashing to get home before nightfall. (0) \_\_\_\_\_. Road accidents are frequent in this dusky light.

It became obvious that we'd have to stop somewhere overnight. We tried a couple of lodges, but they were closed, or had no vacancies, or just didn't like the look of us. (19) \_\_\_\_\_. We were beginning to get worried. Suddenly, out of the dusk, a crooked, hand-painted sign flickered across our headlights: "Maia Beach Cafe Accommodation."

After a kilometre or so, the track we'd taken divided into a number of less distinct tracks. (20) \_\_\_\_\_. One was signposted towards the beach and we took it. There was no light ahead apart from the stars, which hung so bright you almost felt you could reach up and pick them out of the sky like low-hanging fruit.

Suddenly, our wheels hit a patch of soft sand and sank in. The tyres were spinning, but not gripping. We were stuck. (21) \_\_\_\_\_. Three wheels were hopelessly churning up the sand; the fourth was spinning free with a four-foot drop beneath. If we slipped down there, we would never get the car out again.

What happens in a situation like this, I wondered, in pitch dark, without a farmer with a tractor to call on? We held our breath and listened to the silence. There must be a village – but where? Then we heard voices, coming from somewhere beyond the bushes. (22) \_\_\_\_\_. They greeted us, smiling. We asked for directions to the Maia Beach resort. It had closed down, they said. But someone in a nearby village had a key.

We left the car and followed them down a series of dark winding tracks, without knowing who they were or where they were taking us. (23) \_\_\_\_\_. Seeing a man emerge from one of the houses we had reached I was relieved. "You are welcome to stay at the Maia Beach accommodation", he smiled, apparently unsurprised by the pale strangers on his doorstep in the middle of the night. He fetched the keys, and we followed him down a winding track through the bushes.

After a while, the bushes thinned out and I could see a cluster of small bamboo huts. This beach resort, we were told, had been created by a couple from Birmingham who intended to fund a school and a health centre in the village with the profit from the resort. But few tourists had ever made it here. There was the wooden skeleton of a restaurant and a scattering of decrepit huts, gradually returning to nature. The Birmingham couple had not been back for a while. (24) \_\_\_\_\_. Our rescuer smiled and shrugged, and vanished into the night. After he'd gone, we stitched up the biggest holes in the mosquito nets, and fell into a deep sleep.



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## Reading Paper

- A** The three of them and the boyfriend all got behind the car and started to shove.
- B** We were directed to other, more remote places, which either didn't exist, or were also full.
- C** No one knew whether they would ever come again.
- D** They were definitely not well-trodden – they were hardly more than faint trails.
- E** We were woken by bright sunlight, needling through the cracks in the bamboo wall, and the sound of their voices.
- F** Getting out to assess the situation, we saw it was even worse than we had imagined.
- G** As they drew closer, two boys appeared, followed by an older man.
- H** I felt alternating waves of fear and comfort, for I realised that if they wanted to rob or kidnap us, they could have done so already.
- I** **For twilight is short in Malawi, and when night comes, the darkness is absolute.**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
19	<input type="checkbox"/>								
20	<input type="checkbox"/>								
21	<input type="checkbox"/>								
22	<input type="checkbox"/>								
23	<input type="checkbox"/>								
24	<input type="checkbox"/>								



# Lingua inglese

Reading Paper

## Task 4 Questions 25-32

Read the text below.

For questions **25-32**, choose the answer (**A, B, C** or **D**) that best completes each sentence.

Mark your answer on the answer sheet.

There is an example at the beginning (**0**).

### Adrenaline

On top of your kidneys, there (**0**) \_\_\_\_ two little yellow, plum-sized adrenal glands in your body, just chilling out. Most of the time they are inactive, (**25**) \_\_\_\_ guards protecting a palace.

However, if anything startling (**26**) \_\_\_\_ happen that requires your attention, they leap into action. Such occasions are when you are about to give a speech (**27**) \_\_\_\_ a wedding or you hear a twig crack outside your tent or your doorbell rings in the middle of the night. Then your glands jump out of (**28**) \_\_\_\_ peaceful slumber to squeeze out a big dose of adrenaline right into your body, pump you up, and turn you into a primal, warrior-like version of yourself.

The so-called fight-or-flight response can happen (**29**) \_\_\_\_ tension runs high and adrenaline is secreted into your body. Your heart rate increases, your pupils dilate, you get tunnel vision, and your body gets ready to boot. Adrenaline is a natural stimulant, helping you nail the big speech, ace the final exam, or perhaps (**30**) \_\_\_\_ such scenes.

There is a reason some people become adrenaline junkies. The boost you get from your adrenal glands when you wake up and get out of bed is intoxicating. It messes (**31**) \_\_\_\_ your thinking a bit but it sure does empower you. When something important in your life is about to happen, you can (**32**) \_\_\_\_ on your good pal adrenaline to be there. It will boost you, helping you fight the good fight.

**0**

- A** are
- B** were
- C** is
- D** was

- |          |                                     |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>B</b> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>C</b> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>D</b> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

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# Lingua inglese

## Reading Paper

<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>A</b> similar <b>B</b> like <b>C</b> as <b>D</b> to</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>A</b> could <b>B</b> would <b>C</b> should <b>D</b> might</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>A</b> in <b>B</b> at <b>C</b> on <b>D</b> to</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>A</b> there <b>B</b> them <b>C</b> they're <b>D</b> their</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>A</b> whether <b>B</b> even <b>C</b> when <b>D</b> during</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>

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# Lingua inglese

## Reading Paper

<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>A</b> run <b>B</b> flee <b>C</b> get away <b>D</b> take off</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>31</b></p> <p><b>A</b> up <b>B</b> off <b>C</b> on <b>D</b> in</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>32</b></p> <p><b>A</b> work <b>B</b> put <b>C</b> fall <b>D</b> count</p>	<p><b>A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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# Lingua inglese

## Reading Paper

### Task 5

#### Questions 33-40

Read the text below.

For questions 33-40, write **one** word that best completes each sentence.

Write your answer on the lines **below** the text.

There is an example at the beginning (0).

### Multi-tasking

Your computer screen shows you have eight different websites open, along (0) \_\_\_\_ two email accounts, three documents, a spreadsheet and one social networking site. You seem to be working on at (33) \_\_\_\_ five different things and just as you get into one of them, you get an email. And you move onto that one instead. And it's not just at work where the trend for multi-tasking is increasing. (34) \_\_\_\_ average, people do this for two hours each day.

Doing two things at (35) \_\_\_\_ makes us feel as though we're somehow saving time. Yet there's still a nagging feeling that finishing one job before starting (36) \_\_\_\_ might be more efficient. We are led to believe that trying to juggle too much at the same time means we don't pay enough (37) \_\_\_\_ to each task.

Multi-tasking is hardest when the tasks are similar (38) \_\_\_\_ each other, but a bit easier if they are different. Chatting on the phone and writing an email is difficult because they both involve similar thinking processes in (39) \_\_\_\_ to generate meaningful sentences. Talking while playing the piano isn't as hard. The intriguing thing about multi-tasking is that although it can increase our cognitive load, many of (40) \_\_\_\_ still can't resist working in this way. So multi-tasking may have its downsides, but it isn't always bad.

0      **with**  
\_\_\_\_\_

33      \_\_\_\_\_

34      \_\_\_\_\_

35      \_\_\_\_\_

36      \_\_\_\_\_

37      \_\_\_\_\_

38      \_\_\_\_\_

39      \_\_\_\_\_

40      \_\_\_\_\_



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