PRACTICE TESTS for FIRST CERTIFICATE ENGLISH Book 1

Kathy Gude

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TEST ONE

Time allowed 1 hour

PAPER 1 Reading comprehension

SECTION A	In this section you must choose the word or phrase which best completes each sentence. Indicate the lettter A, B, C or D against the number of each item 1 to 25 for the word or
	phrase you choose.

1	She set in business on her own and was very successful. A by B aside C up D off
2	Could you please me to the nearest post office? A explain B point C indicate D direct
3	This is Mr Evans, invention has helped hundreds of deaf people. A whose B which C that D whom
4	We would contact your nearest relative any accident occurring. A on account of B in spite of C in the event of D in place of
5	There is no in applying for that job as you are not properly qualified. A reason B point C result D chance
6	They turned at the party, despite the awful weather. A round B in C back D up
7	We shall have to the meeting until next week, I'm afraid. A reorganise B forward C postpone D replace
8	A new Minister for Agriculture has been A determined B appointed C admitted D assumed
9	The team lost their last football of the season. A contest B match C set D play
10	He is very of his conduct and promises never to behave like that again. A sorry B miserable C ashamed D guilty.
11	You have nothing to by refusing to listen to our advice. A gain B win C reach D profit
12	The fact is, doctor, I just cannot this dreadful cough. A get out of B get rid of C get down to D get round to
13	The headmaster had been trying for years to money for a new science block. A increase B deal C raise D only

The agent was _____ for carrying a false passport.

	A arrested B accused C trapped D suspected
	15 I do not particularly like the climate here I believe it is very healthy. A because B when C as D although
	16 I wish it stop raining. A had to B did C would D might
	17 We that we are unable to attend the reception on 18 September. A regret B sympathise C beg D apologise
	18 These leather shoes are all made A at hand B in hand C on hand D by hand
· .	19 He is very much looking forward visiting your country. A by B with C to D at
•	20 If it too much trouble, I'd love a cup of coffee. A hadn't been B isn't C weren't D may not be
	21 I am of making excuses for your rudeness to our friends. A annoyed B worried C tired D angry
	22 You must try not to so many mistakes. A do B make C tell D perform
	23 Our committee has elected a new A chief B principal C head D chairman
,	24 He finished the paintings for the exhibition. A in good time B for the time being C from time to time D time after time.
	25 They have not seen their uncle 1975. A until B since C in D from
SECTION B	In this section you will find after each of the passages a number of questions or unfinished statements about the passage, the first two passages being followed by four suggested answers or ways of finishing the answers. You must choose the one which you think fits best: A, B, C or D
First passage	Large companies need a way to reach the savings of the public at large. The same problem on a smaller scale, faces practically every company trying to develop new products and create new jobs. There can be little prospect of raising the sort of sums needed from friends and people we know, and while banks may agree to provide short-term finance.

they are generally unwilling to provide money on a permanent basis for long-term projects. So companies turn to the public, inviting people to lend them money, or take a

share in the business in exchange for a share in future profits. This they do by issuing stocks and shares in the business through The Stock Exhange. By doing so they can put into circulation the savings of individuals and institutions, both at home and overseas.

When the saver needs his money back, he does not have to go to the company with whom he originally placed it. Instead, he sells his shares through a stockbroker to some

other saver who is seeking to invest his money.

Many of the services needed both by industry and by each of us are provided by the Government or by local authorities. Without hospitals, roads, electricity, telephones, railways, this country could not function. All these require continuous spending on new equipment and new development if they are to serve us properly, requiring more money than is raised through taxes alone. The Government, local authorities, and nationalised industries therefore frequently need to borrow money to finance major capital spending, and they, too, come to The Stock Exchange.

There is hardly a man or woman in this country whose job or whose standard of living does not depend on the ability of his or her employers to raise money to finance new development. In one way or another this new money must come from the savings of the country. The Stock Exchange exists to provide a channel through which these savings can

reach those who need finance.

- 26 Almost all companies involved in new production and development must
 - A rely on their own financial resources.
 - B persuade the banks to provide long-term finance.
 - C borrow large sums of money from friends and people they know.
 - D depend on the population as a whole for finance.
- 27 The money which enables these companies to go ahead with their projects is
 - A repaid to its original owners as soon as possible.
 - B raised by the selling of shares in the companies.
 - C exchanged for part ownership in The Stock Exchange.
 - D invested in different companies on The Stock Exchange.
- When the savers want their money back they
 - A ask another company to obtain their money for them.
 - B look for other people to borrow money from.
 - C put their shares in the company back on the market.
 - D transfer their money to a more successful company.

- 29 All the essential services on which we depend are
 - A run by the Government or our local authorities.
 - B in constant need of financial support.
 - C financed wholly by rates and taxes.
 - D unable to provide for the needs of the population.
- The Stock Exchange makes it possible for the Government, local authorities and nationalised industries
 - A to borrow as much money as they wish.
 - B to make certain everybody saves money.
 - C to raise money to finance new developments.
 - D to make certain everybody lends money to them.

Test One 7

Second passage More than three years after moving from Australia to this remote part of England, we are still learning how things are done here.

Not too long after we arrived and unpacked, we were invited for a 'drink on Sunday morning' by a retired couple nearby. We got there about noon, to find the living-room

crowded – lots of chat and discussions, and in all a very jolly occasion.

Trouble was, there was no food – no self-respecting Australian would regard a tray of crisps as food. In Sydney, when you are invited for a drink any time after midday on a Sunday, you know you will be fed as well as watered and you plan accordingly. Meaning the hardworked little woman makes no plans to cook lunch because you are eating out.

By one-fifteen my stomach was sending up 'please explains' to me. Even the crisps had gone. There was nothing we could do except wait, and wonder if the hostess was going to perform some magic and feed us fashionably late. Then, as quickly as if word had spread that there was free beer at the local pub, the room emptied. By one-forty-five there were only a few guests left, so we decided to go home. Tinned soup for lunch that day because the little woman was not really interested in real cooking for us.

A few weeks ago we were invited out for 'supper' and the hostess suggested 8.15. Ah,

we thought greedily, this is going to be the real thing.

We dressed with some care – I putting on my one dark suit – and arrived on time. My wife looked pretty good, I thought – little black dress and so on. But when we walked in I had a terrible feeling we had got the night wrong because the hostess was dressed in a daytime kind of way and the husband was in jeans and an open-neck shirt. But no, we

were greeted and shown into the sitting-room.

After a drink I looked around and saw that this was indeed a superior cottage because it had a (more or less) separate dining-room. But there were no signs of a table-setting. Not again! I thought. Were we meant to eat before we came? I decided that in future my wife and I would always carry a chocolate bar. About 9.30 our hostess went out of the room, saying something about food. Ten minutes later she returned and asked us to follow. We were led out to the kitchen . . . There on the table were country-style plates and a huge bowl of soup, rough bread and all the makings of a simple meal. And that is what it was. In other words we had not read the signals right when we were invited for 'supper'. If they want you to come to dinner, they say so, and you know that means dark suits and so on. If they mean supper, they say it, and you get fed in the kitchen.

If they make such a distinction between 'dinner' and 'supper' does this mean we were

not worth making an all out effort for? Candles, best silver and all the rest?

It is enough to give a person a complex. When you think about it, it's pretty depressing. They must use the dining-room sometimes, because they had all those high-backed chairs and candle-holders.

- 31 When the author and his wife were invited out for a 'drink on Sunday morning', they thought
 - A they would be the only people there.
 - B they would be given lunch as well.
 - C they would be taken to a restaurant for lunch.
 - D they would be asked to take some food with them.
- 32 The 'party' had been going on for about an hour and three quarters when
 - A the hostess decided to feed her guests.
 - B everyone had tinned soup for lunch
 - C most of the guests went to lunch at the pub.
 - D the author realised he would go home hungry.

- When invited out for 'supper' a few weeks later, the writer
 - A expected to be served a proper dinner.
 - B arrived on the wrong evening.
 - C interpreted the invitation correctly this time.
 - D realised there was no dining-room in the cottage.
- 34 As the evening wore on, the writer became aware that
 - A no one used their dining-rooms in the countryside.
 - B he should have had a meal before going out.
 - C 'supper' meant a simple, informal meal.
 - D he should, in future, eat only chocolate in the evening.

- 35 The writer eventually came to the conclusion that
 - A no one considered him important enough to invite to dinner.
 - B no one wished to be friendly with him and his wife.
 - C no one had time to spend cooking formal meals.
 - D no one possessed the right cutlery and crockery for formal meals.

Third passage

In this passage the items are numbered 1 to 5. Indicate your answer by referring to the number only.

ACTIVITY HOLIDAYS

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FREE HOLIDAY IN CANADA

Camps for youngsters in Canada require qualified nurses and teachers or students for summer vacation. Return flight paid, free accommodation and pocket money plus a week's free time. Write to:

Camp Canada 64 Widow's Walk London WC2



Warm hospitality in peaceful and picturesque surroundings. Mini-guide and leaflet on farmhouse accommodation from: Tourist Information Centre, 9 Market St, Lichfield.

36	Which advert promises payment in return for services given?
37	Which advert seems to promise teenagers some academic improvement?
38	Which advert seems to be offering the most unusual physically active holiday?
3.9	Which advert promises some improvement in your ability to play a game?
4 0	Which advert specifically offers a holiday for children and adults?

Time allowed

PAPER 2 Composition

Write two only of the following compositions. Follow the instructions exactly. Each composition must be between 120 and 180 words.

- 1 Should we try to encourage people to live in the countryside rather than in the bigger towns and cities? Give reasons for your opinion.
- Write a letter thanking your friends for the weekend you have just spent with them. Make the beginning and ending like those of an ordinary letter but do not count the address in the number of words.
- 3 A friend of yours is thinking of going to see a film which you have seen and did not enjoy. Write the dialogue you have with your friend when you try to persuade him/her not to go and see the film. Give only the name of each speaker followed by his/her words.
- 4 You arrived at the airport by taxi to catch a plane to take you on a summer holiday. While getting out of the taxi you realised that you had left your tickets at home. Describe what happened next.

Note The following is a typical literature question:

5 Based on your reading of G. B. Shaw's Arms and the Man, write an answer to the following question: Explain how the 'chocolate cream soldier' changed Raina's outlook on life when he returned to her as Captain Bluntschli.

Time allowed 2 hours

PAPER 3 Use of English

SECTION A	1	Fill in each of the numbered blanks in the passage with one suitable word.
		He discovered from the timetable that the train was
		As he climbed (6) he noticed his ticket was second-class. He (7) always travelled first-class before and again he felt that everything
		had changed. There were differences he had never
		imagine how much it could be. He became(14) for the first time that he

	wa	is accustomed as a matter of(15) to an air of comfortable ease in his
	life	e, and there was so much he knew nothing about.
]	Edgar began to see many things from that narrow compartment with its windows to
	the	e(16) world. He(17) out of the window with new eyes.
	An	id it seemed to him that he saw everything in its proper light for the first time.
	Ho	ouses fled by as (18) blown away by the wind, and this made him
	thi	nk about the people who lived in them. Were they (19) or poor,
	ha	ppy or miserable? Did they (20), as he did, to know everything?
2		nish each of the following sentences in such a way that it means exactly the same as esentence before it.
	EX.	AMPLE: It was such a terrible snowstorm that we decided to turn back.
	AN	swer: The snowstorm was so terrible that we decided to turn back.
	a)	It would be nice to have a swimming pool in our garden. I wish
	b)	Our correspondent in Paris sent this report. This report
:	c)	'How long have you been waiting here?' the girl asked me. The girl asked
	d)	Passing your driving test is not easy nowadays. It is not
	e)	It is ages since I saw you. I have not
	f)	'Do not write on the walls,' said the teacher to the boys. The teacher told
	g)	A semi-detached house is cheaper than a detached one. A detached house
	h)	We must answer this letter immediately. This letter
	i)	Why can't we go abroad for our holidays this year? If only
	j)	This town has three cinemas. There are

3 Write in each of the following sentences the correct phrase made from GO.

	a) b) c) d) e)	The Pleas They	ever on his word. bomb killing two soldiers. e with your story. I won't interrupt you again. r never anywhere in the evenings! I never want to see you again.
4	of i Suz	vords ie and	the changes and additions necessary to produce, from the following eight sets and phrases, eight sentences which together make a conversation between the friend Tom. Note carefully from the example what kind of alterations e made. Write each sentence in the space provided.
	EXA	MPLE:	Have / you / find / flat yet / Suzie.
			Have you found a flat yet, Suzie?
			Well, I / go / estate agent's / last week.
	a)	SUZIE	
			Oh, / you / have / any luck?
	b)	том	
			There / be / several flats / I / decide / I / be / interested in.
	c)	SHZIF	
	ς,	JOZIL	
-			You / go / see them?
	d)	TOM	
			Yes, / I / go along / yesterday.
	e)	SUZIE	
			You / be / successful?
	f)	TOM	Tour ber succession.
	1)	TOM .	
			Well, / you / not / believe it / but I / do / find one.
	g)	SUZIE	
			I / know / you / find / something sooner or later.
	h)	том	
5	Eq.	uality, <i>plain i</i>	our information from the following TV programme entitled A Question of write two paragraphs in 175-200 words altogether on sexism in education. In the first paragraph the attitudes of teachers towards girls, and in the second des of teachers towards boys.
	ref	ected	ety values boys and their experience more than it values girls, and this is in the education system. But education is not responsible for this and it is to make the point that it isn't the teachers' fault that schools are organised

SECTION B

for the interests of boys. I thought that if I could show that every member of society believes that boys are more important – and deserve more attention – then I would have 'set the stage' for the discussion about sexism as it appears in education.

I had absolutely no doubt that I could go into any classroom and find evidence that teachers operate on the supposition that boys were more important. (This does not mean that they realised this. It was not necessarily a conscious thing on their part.) I had done my homework for years as a teacher, and as a researcher. I knew if I asked teachers to tell me about the students they taught they would almost always begin with the names of the boys, and they would end with such statements as 'and the rest are girls'. I knew they would be able to give me much more information about the boys they taught. If I interviewed them they would probably tell me that they thought the boys were brighter, that education was more important for them, that the subjects boys were interested in were the more significant ones, and that boys were enjoyable (although more demanding) to teach. Most of them said they planned their lessons with the interests of the boys in mind, because if they didn't there would be trouble in the classroom. When they taught something the boys were interested in, the girls would co-operate and go along with it, but when they taught something the girls were interested in, there was always a protest.

I knew I could find a teacher in one classroom spending more time with the boys because they were more demanding or needed 'drawing out', or for any one of a hundred reasons, in fact — but it was unlikely that there would be a teacher spending more time with the girls — for any reason.

If tomorrow I were to produce research results that indicated boys were not getting fair treatment in schools, it would probably be headline news because it is important that boys do well in comparison with girls. But that girls are not getting the same opportunities as boys strengthens society's values; it is not news – it is the way the world works.

I didn't want to make a programme suggesting there was something wrong with girls, and that a few in-service courses for teachers, and a few special programmes for girls, would solve the problem. I wanted to propose that what happens in schools is a natural outcome in a society which believes that males are important — and if we don't like what is happening in schools, we had better look at ourselves and our society.

eachers' at	titudes towards g	gırls:		 	<u></u>
		•			
			,	 	
eachers att	itudes towards b	oys:			
•					
		•		 	
3000-4-00	****			 	
*			•		

Time allowed

approx. 30 mins PAPER 4 Listening comprehension

FIRST PART

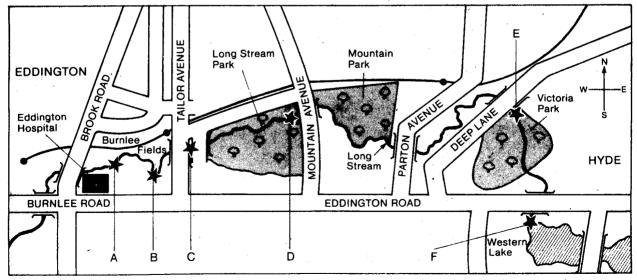
You will hear a conversation which took place between a representative of an insurance company and a reporter. Enter the correct figures in the form below. You will see that the first has already been done for you. Read through the form before you listen to the conversation.

Statistics for insurance companies 1980-1981

		£	%
1	Losses caused by bad winter weather	200 million	
2	Proposed increase in the cost of household insurance		
3	Increase in income from motor insurance		
4	Increase in average cost of each claim in 1981		·
5	Increase in household theft in 1981		
6,	Total paid out in claims for household theft	ь	
7.	Losses on fire and accident business 1980		
8	Losses on fire and accident business 1981		

SECOND PART

You will hear a conversation between a mother and a member of the local council. The places where the tragic events described took place are lettered A, B, C, D, E and F on the map below. For questions 9-14 write the letter corresponding to the event described. The first is done for you.



- Robin Archer fell here. __D
- 10 Robin Archer was found here.
- 11 Paul Dunn fell here. _
- 12 Paul Dunn was found here.
- 13 Tom Rush fell here.
- Tom Rush was found here.

Test One

17 Tom Rush

For questions 15-17 write in the ages of the boys:

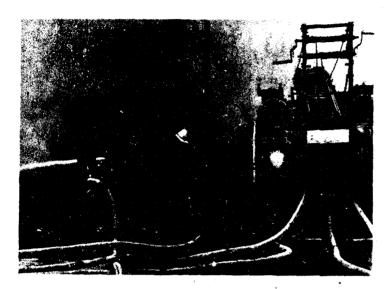
15 Robin Archer ____ 16 Paul Dunn _____

THIRD PART	The the	vill hear a conversation between two men and a woman. They are discus hird speaker works with a camera crew reporting news items. Read throi ions 18-22 before you listen to the conversation. For each of the question ne of the boxes A, B, C or D	ugh
	18 7	The first speaker seems to feel that the man in the street	
	A	A enjoys being the centre of attention.	A
	F	B is eager to express his feelings to the camera.	В
	(is afraid of trying to protect his privacy.	С
	I	D should enjoy more privacy if he wishes.	D
	19 A	According to the second speaker, it would appear that in America people	
	A	A take their right to privacy less seriously.	A
	F	B have given up fighting for their privacy.	В
	(recognise the right to privacy only in the courts.	С
	I	D have more legal rights in terms of privacy.	D
	20 A	Any right to privacy we have in Britain depends on	
	A	A the size of house we live in.	Α
	F	3 the things we own.	В
	(C the kind of person we are.	С
,	I	D the money that we earn.	D
	21 I	n Britain a camera crew wanting to film you	
		A must get your permission to film you outside.	A
:	F		В
	(may film you inside with your permission.	C
,	Ι	Connot legally be thrown out of your house.	D
	22 7	Fhe third speaker states that once people know you are a reporter, they	<u> </u>
		A behave in a totally different way.	Γ_Λ
	E		A
	(В
			C
	Ι	try to be nice to one another.	D

Time allowed approx 20 mins

PAPER 5 Interview

SECTION (i) Look at this photograph and be prepared to answer some questions about it.



What can you see in the picture? What are they doing? What has happened? What do you think caused it?

Talk about:
Dangerous jobs.
Means of preventing fires, etc.
Importance of emergency services.
Dealing with disasters.

SECTION (ii) Can you explain who might be saying the words in the following passages and under what circumstances? Can you then read the passages aloud?

- What sort of time would you expect me to have with a wife and four children? We were asked to leave the first camp site after Sam had let down the ropes on two tents. It wouldn't have been so bad if the woman inside one hadn't been ill. On the next one we were stuck next to a man suffering from nightmares. It was terrifying. That time we moved on without being asked.
- I have a certain amount of sympathy for the nurses but I don't approve of uniforms being done away with. They're protective uniforms both for the patients, because of the risk of cross-infection, and for the nurses themselves. Life is tough for them; they work jolly hard under very difficult conditions and, considering the responsibility they take, their salaries are ridiculous.
- 3 From a standing position place your feet apart and cross your wrists over your stomach. Keeping your arms straight, swing them upwards and outwards and return, but this time raise your heels and push your chest out as you raise your arms. From a standing position, with feet slightly apart and hands on your shoulders, bend the body from the waist, left then right, reaching down the side of your leg as far as you can.

SECTION (iii) Situation: It is 8.30 in the evening. You suddenly remember that a friend invited you for supper at 8 o'clock. Ring up and

- apologise for not remembering the invitation and causing any bother
- suggest another day when your friend could come to your house
- ask politely about your friend's family, health, etc.
- bring the conversation to a suitable end

TEST TWO

Time allowed one hour

PAPER 1 Reading comprehension

SECTION A	this section you must choose the word or phrase which best completes each sentence. licate the letter A, B, C or D against the number of each item 1 to 25 for the word or rase you choose.
	You really ought to apologise what you said yesterday.
	A over B about C for D of
	He to accept the blame for having caused the accident. A denied B refused C disagreed D resigned
	If you want to learn something, you had better pay in class. A care B respect C attention D notice
	I'm sorry I didn't 'phone you last night. I was up to my in work. A head B ears C shoulders D eyes
	Open the window, you? It's very hot in here. A will B do C must D need .
	After failing his driving test four times, he finally trying to pass. A gave up B gave away C gave off D gave in
	The discovery of oil can bring great to a country. A property B wealth C purchases D belongings
	The President made his last public before his term of office ended. A engagement B meeting C appearance D gathering
	there was a fisherman who lived with his wife in a small cottage near the sea. A For the time being B Time after time C At times D Once upon a time.
	He borrowed a dictionary me but he has never returned it. A for B from C to D of
*	Although the patient's condition is serious, she seems to be out of A place B control C danger D order
	The at the football match became violent when their team lost. A spectators B groups C observers D customers
	There has been a sharp in the number of burglaries in this area recently.

B result

C increase

D appearance

A advance