



L-Università  
ta' Malta

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAM-  
INATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL  
2018 SUPPLEMENTARY SESSION**

SUBJECT:	<b>English Language</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
PAPER NUMBER:	I – Part 2	
DATE:	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.	

### LANGUAGE USE

**1. Fill in each blank with ONE suitable preposition. The first one has been done for you.**

Eel Pie Island is one of (0) around 180 islets on the River Thames, born of the river's 296-kilometre path spanning (a) \_\_\_\_\_ the Cotswold hills (b) \_\_\_\_\_ the North Sea. (c) \_\_\_\_\_ the 17<sup>th</sup> century, when according to a 1635 map there was a bowling alley (d) \_\_\_\_\_ the island, it has been a favourite place for music lovers. The island is named (e) \_\_\_\_\_ the eel pies sold (f) \_\_\_\_\_ its 19<sup>th</sup> century hotel. Rarely spotted nowadays, the slippery, snake-like fish were once abundant (g) \_\_\_\_\_ this part of the Thames. The hotel burned down in a mysterious fire in 1971 but the decades (h) \_\_\_\_\_ entertainment, from ballroom dancing and jazz to early performances (i) \_\_\_\_\_ well-known musicians, with the Rolling Stones and Rod Stewart (j) \_\_\_\_\_ the most popular, are still mentioned today.

**(Total: 5 marks)**

***Please turn the page.***

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**2. Complete the following passage by forming ONE word from the one in brackets. The first one has been done for you.**

(0) Counting (**count**) sheep to fall asleep is a method that seems to be as old as time but have you ever stopped to think why they're sheep, not dogs or cats? Well, we (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (**final**) have an answer. While the origin of why people count sheep has no (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (**define**) root, there are a number of (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (**speculate**). The most popular belief has to do with shepherds in medieval Britain because apparently, if shepherds used (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (**community**) grazing land, they were made to keep a headcount of their sheep each night. However, at least one book claims that the link between sheep and sleep goes back even (e) \_\_\_\_\_ (**far**) with a 12<sup>th</sup> century book of fables suggesting that counting sheep had already been a (f) \_\_\_\_\_ (**culture**) symbol in Islamic countries for centuries. So does counting sheep actually work? Engaging the brain in relaxing and (g) \_\_\_\_\_ (**repeat**) tasks slows the mind and stops our (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (**race**) thoughts from taking over. In addition to this, (i) \_\_\_\_\_ (**breathe**) techniques are also useful, although someone who always finds it very hard to fall asleep will find these aids (j) \_\_\_\_\_ (**effect**).

**(Total: 5 marks)**

**3. Fill in the blanks with the adverb form of the following words. Use the word you choose ONLY ONCE. The first one has been done for you.**

age	hard	easy	argue	fair	practical	soft
significant	hungry	bright	long	increasing		consequent

Travelling in China 20 years (0) ago, I filled my stomach (a) \_\_\_\_\_ with instant noodles during train journeys which were sometimes three days (b) \_\_\_\_\_. The recipe for noodles is (c) \_\_\_\_\_ straightforward and they can be prepared (d) \_\_\_\_\_ when you're on the go. However, now that train journeys are quicker and the range of food options is more varied, noodle sales have been hit (e) \_\_\_\_\_ and they have dropped (f) \_\_\_\_\_. In addition, the number of Chinese people who travel by air has risen and (g) \_\_\_\_\_, making a pot of noodles while travelling, has become impossible. Now that 730 million people in China have access to the internet, they are (h) \_\_\_\_\_ making use of apps to order food from companies that will deliver (i) \_\_\_\_\_ anywhere. Their menus are more expensive than an instant pot of noodles but this simple snack is (j) \_\_\_\_\_ more tasty.

**(Total: 5 marks)**

**4. Fill in each blank with ONE suitable word. The first one has been done for you.**

Oxford Dictionaries has (0) announced that the word 'youthquake' is its word of the year for 2017 to acknowledge the (a) \_\_\_\_\_ in young people making their presence (b) \_\_\_\_\_ in elections. Picked via a multi-stage selection (c) \_\_\_\_\_ and announced since 2004, Oxford Dictionaries' word of the year is the one which is judged (d) \_\_\_\_\_ to reflect the mood of that particular (e) \_\_\_\_\_. Oxford Dictionaries selects the word based on a host of different (f) \_\_\_\_\_ of information by (g) \_\_\_\_\_ millions of English words from newspapers, books, blogs and transcripts of spoken English. Not (h) \_\_\_\_\_ do the editors record notable words (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the year, but suggestions from the public are encouraged. Based on this (j) \_\_\_\_\_ of data and opinion, a word of the year is chosen.

**(Total: 5 marks)**

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5. Fill in the blanks by choosing **ONE** of the modals in the table below and the correct form of the verb in brackets. Use the word you choose **ONLY ONCE**. The first one has been done for you.

<del>have to</del>	might	can	would	need	must
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No matter how careful you are, you (0) have to admit (**admit**) to having dropped your phone at least once. You (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (**not worry**) since Japanese researchers say they have developed a new type of glass that (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (**heal**) itself. The properties of the glass were originally discovered by accident by a student who found that the edges (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (**stick**) together after being pressed by hand for 30 seconds. All users have to do is press the cracks together by hand since the new material (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (**not heat**) to high temperatures. This (e) \_\_\_\_\_ (**make**) life easier for the 21 per cent of the population who live with a broken screen.

(Total: 5 marks)

**6. Copy the following sentences inserting all the necessary punctuation.**

(a) discarded laptops tablets mobile phones and electronic goods are now the worlds fastest growing waste problem

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(b) a new report which was published last week found that the amount of electronic junk has risen by eight per cent in two years with just 20 per cent recycled

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(c) most e-waste is not properly documented and not treated through appropriate recycling chains said dr jakob rhyner from the united nations university

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**(Total: 5 marks)**

***Please turn the page.***

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**7. Fill in the blanks with ONE word to complete the idiomatic expressions. The first one has been done for you.**

For someone who heads an international coffee empire, Mark Dundon is surprisingly laid (0) back. Sixteen years after opening his first café, Mark has numerous businesses and a great deal of experience under his (a) \_\_\_\_\_. When he started out, it was his parents who called the (b) \_\_\_\_\_ and so he did a science degree but he later switched to art. This led him to open a bar with fellow artists before he decided to go it (c) \_\_\_\_\_ with his own café. He was really (d) \_\_\_\_\_ coffee and since he was never one to do things by (e) \_\_\_\_\_, he wanted to know more about where his coffee came from and how it was roasted. So he took a calculated (f) \_\_\_\_\_, sold his café and began to travel to learn more about speciality coffee. In 2005, he opened a roastery and café in his native city, Melbourne, and while his decision raised a few (g) \_\_\_\_\_ at first, it was a great success. Mark believes that enjoying roasted coffee is an acquired (h) \_\_\_\_\_ and that once you get used to it, you can't live without it. He is regarded as the coffee pioneer in Melbourne but he doesn't take any of the (i) \_\_\_\_\_ for it, being the down to (j) \_\_\_\_\_ person that he is.

**(Total: 5 marks)**

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**8. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. The first one has been done for you.**

Researchers from the University of New South Wales (0) made **(make)** an important discovery during a project devised (a) \_\_\_\_\_ **(monitor)** local wildlife. A tiny marsupial called mulgara (b) \_\_\_\_\_ **(discover)** by researchers in a region of Australia in which it was thought to (c) \_\_\_\_\_ **(go)** extinct a century ago. It is the first time a live mulgara (d) \_\_\_\_\_ **(find)** in this part of the country. It was once widely distributed across the desert in this region but it (e) \_\_\_\_\_ **(decline)** due to the effect of rabbits, cats and foxes. The researchers (f) \_\_\_\_\_ **(plan)** to create two fenced enclosures in the natural park to restore species that have not been seen there for 90 years. This fence (g) \_\_\_\_\_ **(help)** keep out predators such as wild cats and foxes. Authorities in Australia (h) \_\_\_\_\_ **(control)** pests for a number of years and if it (i) \_\_\_\_\_ **(not be)** for this, more than 30 native mammals (j) \_\_\_\_\_ **(lose)**.

**(Total: 10 marks)**

***Please turn the page.***

**9. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one. The first one has been done for you.**

(0) Someone gave a talk on animal rights last week.

A talk on animal rights was given last week.

(a) People often disagree that animals have rights.

There is much \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

(b) 'How many of you are in favour of animal rights?' said the speaker.

The speaker \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

(c) Supporters of animal rights believe that animals do not exist for human use.

It is the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

(d) You don't want any animal to suffer, do you?

You wouldn't \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?

(e) We have to take action in order to protect our animals from becoming extinct.

If we don't \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**(Total: 5 marks)**





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**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL  
2018 SUPPLEMENTARY SESSION**

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SUBJECT:	<b>English Language</b>
PAPER NUMBER:	IIB – Question 1
DATE:	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2018
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.

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### **WRITING TASK**

**Write between 180 and 200 words on ONE of the tasks below.**

**You are advised to:**

- **pay attention to layout, paragraphing, vocabulary, grammar, spelling and punctuation;**
- **keep your writing to the number of words indicated. You will be penalised if you write less than 180 or more than 200 words.**

1. Write a story for the school magazine which starts as follows: 'I woke with the thought that something wonderful was about to happen...'
2. Write an article with the title 'All sixteen-year-olds should be home by 9 pm on a Saturday night' to be published on the school website.
3. You've been stuck in a traffic jam for two hours. Write a description of the scene to be published on the school website. Describe the people, the surroundings and the way you felt.

**(Total: 40 marks)**









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SUBJECT:	<b>English Language</b>
PAPER NUMBER:	IIB – Question 2
DATE:	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2018
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.

<b>TOTAL</b>
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## READING COMPREHENSION AND SUMMARY

### Passage 1

**Read the following passage carefully and answer ALL the questions that follow.**

If loving your dog too much is wrong, then we don't want to be right. Not only is your dog your best friend, your dog has superpowers, including sensing bad weather even before **it** happens. As the rain starts to pound on the windows, you may find your dog hiding in a corner or under a low piece of furniture, like a bed or a sofa, or perhaps even in the basement. Pet lover Sally Morgan says that it's not unusual for a dog during a thunderstorm also to attempt to seek some place adjacent to the house's plumbing.

But why? As you might suspect, noise is a reason, but it's only part of the equation. "Thunderstorms can be a trigger for dogs with noise phobia," says veterinarian Kelly Ryan. "It is an irrational, intense fear of a noise or sound that poses no real threat. If your dog has a noise phobia, you will probably see **it** with other loud noises, such as fireworks, since loud sounds confuse the dog into believing that something of intense proportions is happening. Noise phobias can start at any age and worsen over time if left untreated."

In order to keep your dog's anxiety in check, it could be helpful to gently lead your dog to the bathroom and into the bathtub, suggests Patra de Silva, renowned maker of herbal and plant-based supplements. **This** is one place that your dog might like to be during a storm. As de Silva explains, the porcelain may actually help block static electricity. At the same time, try not to give him too much positive reinforcement for his freak out. Although it's a natural human response to pat your best friend and tell him it's going to be okay, he may perceive that you're telling him his freaking out is something you'd like to see **him** do again.

Another place your dog may prefer to be during a storm is in a dark, quiet room, with quiet calming music, says Dr. Ryan. If your dog is trained to sleep in a crate, you can try encouraging him to go **there**.

Dr. Ryan also recommends trying body compression options such as the Thundershirt, a jacket with adjustable fasteners that fits dogs of most sizes. It is made from durable and washable fabric and it seems to provide comfort to some dogs.

Sarah Nold, who works for a pet insurance company, suggests closing the window blinds or curtains and leaving a light on to minimize flashes of light from the storm. Some dogs will do best with anti-anxiety medication, she says, and Dr. Ryan agrees. But these are prescription pills that you must obtain from your veterinarian after discussing the treatment options **that** will be best for your dog. Or try a natural supplement.

Just remember that your dog does not choose to be scared of thunderstorms, and you need to understand that this fear is not a failure in your dog, but something that doesn't make sense to them.

*Adapted from: <https://www.rd.com>*

**Questions on passage 1**

1. What does the writer mean by 'If loving your dog too much is wrong, then we don't want to be right' (line 1)? (2)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Explain why dogs are said to have superpowers (line 2). (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Write down **FOUR** places where dogs hide during a thunderstorm. (2)

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_

4. In a paragraph of **not less than 50 words and not more than 60 words**, explain what you learn about noise phobia in dogs. Use your own words. (7)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Between lines 1 and 27, find **single** words that match the following meanings as used in the passage. (3)

- a. hit hard \_\_\_\_\_
- b. try \_\_\_\_\_
- c. strong \_\_\_\_\_
- d. danger \_\_\_\_\_
- e. think \_\_\_\_\_
- f. long-lasting \_\_\_\_\_

6. What do the words below refer to in the passage? (3)

a. it (line 2) \_\_\_\_\_ b. it (line 10) \_\_\_\_\_

c. This (line 15) \_\_\_\_\_ d. him (line 19) \_\_\_\_\_

e. there (line 22) \_\_\_\_\_ f. that (line 29) \_\_\_\_\_

7. Write down **SIX** things that can be done to calm down dogs during a storm. (3)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_

f. \_\_\_\_\_

8. What is the purpose of this passage? (2)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Why does the writer say 'Just remember that your dog does not choose to be scared of thunderstorms, and you need to understand that this fear is not a failure in your dog' (lines 31-32)? (2)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**(Total: 25 marks)**

Passage 1
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***Please turn the page.***

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**Passage 2**

**Read the following passage carefully and answer ALL the questions that follow.**

Karate master Morio Higaonna is supervising the training session of 12 karate practitioners. His attention turns to me. "It's no good just watching," he says. "You have to take part." Higaonna takes one of my hands, interlaces his fingers with mine and with shocking rapidity, he pulls my fingers up and back. I scream and, in tears, flap my hand to relieve the pain.

5 Normally, in Japan, loss of decorum is frowned upon but on this occasion there is laughter. With a mischievous smile, Higaonna apologises. I look over at his hands. Decades of karate have distorted them into knuckly clubs. Higaonna is 78 but he doesn't want to stop practising karate. Okinawa is an archipelago in southern Japan with tasty cuisine, coral reefs to dive for and perfect beaches. It is also the historic home of karate. The main karate attraction here is the  
10 Karate Kaikan (or complex) that opened last year at the right moment: karate is to be included in the Olympics for the first time, at the Tokyo 2020 games. We are in the *dojo*, or training hall, where visitors watch practice sessions and tournaments.

The kaikan is on a hill overlooking Naha City, the Okinawan capital, set amid cherry, palm and pine trees. The building is spare and low slung, made of local cream limestone. Natural light  
15 floods the interior, with gleaming pine flooring stretching in all directions.

Nursing my hand, I check out the kaikan's museum, which tells the story of karate. Interactive exhibits are prominent.

The kaikan is not the only karate attraction in Okinawa. For long periods, the martial art was banned and enthusiasts practised in secret, using secluded beaches, graveyards and caves. The  
20 most spectacular of the latter is the Bugei-do cave in Gangala valley. Wandering down what is actually a series of caves is relaxing enough although, rather than karate, the guided tour emphasises archaeological finds and natural history, notably stalactites, stalagmites, and an enormous banyan tree.

After a hike, refreshments are welcome. A popular hang-out for karate enthusiasts is the Dojo  
25 Bar in Naha City, owned and run by James Pankiewicz, which acts as an information centre for visiting enthusiasts, drawn by the island's reputation.

Pankiewicz is impressed with the new kaikan. "It's a great step forward. It will become a focal point for karate." He is pleased the Olympics is to admit karate because the exposure should boost its popularity, though he acknowledges that local practitioners have mixed feelings. In  
30 fact, Karate master Tetsuhiro Hokama has a few reservations about the Olympics. "My heart is divided 50-50," he says. "If you just concentrate on the physical side of karate, that's no good. The mental side is very important. Karate is not really a 'sport' sport."

*Adapted from: <https://www.theguardian.com>*

**Questions on passage 2**

1. Write down **TWO** consecutive words which: (3)
    - a. show that the writer was taken by surprise when Higaonna made a sudden movement with the writer's fingers;
-



b. show that the writer’s reaction to Higaonna’s hurting him would not usually be accepted

\_\_\_\_\_

c. show that Higaonna has a sense of humour.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why does the writer state that the kaikan was opened ‘at the right moment’ (line 10)? (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Write down **FOUR** part-sentences found between lines 1 and 16, of **not more than 3 words each**, that show that Higaonna hurt the writer. (2)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Write down **FOUR** facts about Okinawa that we learn from the passage. (2)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Write down **EIGHT** facts about the Karate Kaikan that we learn from the passage. (4)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_

f. \_\_\_\_\_

g. \_\_\_\_\_

h. \_\_\_\_\_

6. What hike is the writer referring to in line 24? (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What is meant by 'local practitioners' (line 29)? (1)

8. Are the following statements **True** or **False**? Circle the correct answer and give a reason for each of your answers. (7)

a. Karate can have a negative effect on the human body.

(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

b. At the kaikan museum, visitors do not just look passively at what's on exhibition.

(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

c. Okinawans were not always allowed to practise karate.

(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

d. The writer had to walk up to get to Bugei-do Cave.

(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

e. People go to Dojo bar simply to have a drink.

(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

f. Pankiewicz likes the new kaikan very much.

(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

g. Local people are completely in favour of Karate at the Olympics.

(True/False) because \_\_\_\_\_

9. **In your own words**, explain why Pankiewicz is in favour of karate being admitted in the Olympic games. (2)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Explain why Hokama 'has a few reservations about the Olympics' (line 30). (2)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**(Total: 25 marks)**



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