



L-Università
ta' Malta

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAM-
INATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
2019 SUPPLEMENTARY SESSION**

SUBJECT:	English Language	TOTAL
PAPER NUMBER:	I – Part 2	
DATE:	4 th September 2019	
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.

When (0) in Edinburgh, the pleasant walk around the Grassmarket area takes (a) _____ an hour though there are plenty (b) _____ cafés and restaurants to delay you as you walk (c) _____ the way. Each Saturday there is also an excellent food, gifts and crafts market that runs (d) _____ 10 am and 5 pm. The walk begins (e) _____ the foot of Granny's Green Steps and finishes just outside the entrance (f) _____ the Beehive Inn. One of Edinburgh's liveliest spots, the Grassmarket was probably laid out to its current dimensions (g) _____ the end of the 14th century. Today, it is largely dominated by the entertainment and tourist industries and it is at its most vibrant (h) _____ weekends. However, in the past, this is where, (i) _____ centuries, a number of major markets were held (j) _____ they were stopped in 1911.

(Total: 5 marks)

Please turn the page.

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

Cat lovers like to think that their (0) favourite (**favour**) pet can smile at them but is that true? Cats have a (a) _____ (**muscle**) ability to make (b) _____ (**face**) expressions that resemble smiling but it's nothing to do with (c) _____ (**happy**). Certain smells, especially ones like urine, can trigger a response where cats draw scent particles to the roof of their mouth to be analysed. This (d) _____ (**behave**) is characterised by (e) _____ (**curl**) lips, a tilting head and (f) _____ (**squint**) eyes. These can all look like smiling. Cats may also bare their teeth in a kind of grin when feeling (g) _____ (**aggression**). Positive signs of a (h) _____ (**satisfy**) cat include purring, slow-blinking and meowing so you may be forgiven for thinking that your (i) _____ (**adore**) pet is smiling when you reach for the treat bag. While there's nothing wrong with doting on your cat, experts warn that reading too much into these signs can lead to (j) _____ (**communicate**) between you and your pet.

(Total: 5 marks)

3. Complete the following dialogue with a suitable question tag. The first one has been done for you.

Sam: You're coming to the party tonight, (0) aren't you?

Max: Yes, I am. You've got a lift there, (a) _____

Sam: Yes, I do but ...

Max: You're not thinking of letting me go to the party alone, (b) _____

Sam: I wouldn't do that, (c) _____

Max: Well, I can never tell when you're in one of your moods, (d) _____

Sam: Oh come on. Let's go, (e) _____

(Total: 5 marks)

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

The (0) benefits of speaking many languages are well-documented. They stave off dementia, can (a) _____ concentration and problem-solving skills and earn you more money. The rise of cheap (b) _____ free apps that make learning fun has big implications for children (c) _____, unlike adults, are often not even (d) _____ that they're learning something. Experts point out that children learn better when they're doing something like playing games (e) _____ realising that they're absorbing information. They say that children get hooked playing and in fact, they're (f) _____ another language. As children become teenagers, they are more (g) _____ to be self-conscious and, as a result, they fear (h) _____ mistakes in front of others. This is (i) _____ technology helps because teens can experiment with (j) _____ language they are learning and get instant feedback.

(Total: 5 marks)

5. Fill in the blanks by choosing ONE of the link words or phrases in the table below. The first one has been done for you. Use each link word or phrase only ONCE.

since	nonetheless	significantly	as a result of	unless	ever since
although	firstly	initially	despite	secondly	indeed
on the other hand	rather				

(0) Since it began in 2005, the show, *Jersey Boys*, has become a musical phenomenon around the world. (a) _____ much of the audience already having seen the show, they still come back for more. Why is that? (b) _____, you can put it down to the fact that music is timeless and (c) _____, it is a true story. (d) _____, the group which began back in 1960, was named Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons and it has been a success (e) _____. The latest four new cast members of the show have an excellent rapport (f) _____ the eight shows they put up every week. (g) _____ the cast members do have good times together when they are not performing, theirs is a tough schedule but a satisfying one, (h) _____. According to their manager, (i) _____ they do that, they will not be able to keep it up. (j) _____, they are a cast who work hard and play hard.

(Total: 5 marks)

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

(a) researchers at villanova university asked 372 students about their phone use and sleep quality and 20% said that they had at some point texted in their sleep

(b) the behaviour is defined as the act of responding to a text message while in a sleeping state and its when you instinctively respond to a message even while youre sleeping

(c) its a new kind of sleepwalking and sleeptexters as theyre called are more likely to keep their phone in bed said the survey published in february this year

(Total: 5 marks)

Please turn the page.

7. Fill in the blanks to complete the phrasal verbs. The first one has been done for you.

Artist Shilpa Mitha's creation of miniature classic Indian dishes made (0) with clay went viral on social media, prompting her to give (a) _____ her job. She came (b) _____ the idea by accident when she was looking (c) _____ a hobby. When she posted a few pictures online, everyone seemed to want them and now she comes up (d) _____ a vast array of items. She makes around 200 rice pancakes a month and they sell (e) _____ in under an hour. Indeed, her creations are so good that you can't blame her for showing them (f) _____. Mitha keeps looking (g) _____ for new food items which she can produce and luckily, she hasn't run (h) _____ of ideas yet. Although her repertoire includes mostly Indian dishes, she also makes some western food. You will be blown (i) _____ by her delicately coloured macaroons and they will only set you (j) _____ 50 euro a box.

(Total: 5 marks)

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

Last year, academics at Finland's Aalto University (0) created (**create**) a dress made of wood using new sustainable technology in an effort (a) _____ (**reduce**) environmental damage caused by the fashion industry. Since it is thought that consumers (b) _____ (**persuade**) to try sustainable fashion if it (c) _____ (**wear**) by influential people, Finland's first lady (d) _____ (**choose**) to make an appearance in this dress at a state gala dinner last week. In eastern Finland's forests there is currently a process of removing some trees to make room for others to grow and these smaller birch trees (e) _____ (**become**) the source for the new clothing. This process produces textile fibres from materials like wood and recycled newspaper which (f) _____ (**turn**) into dresses, scarves and even cases for tablets. Pleased with the feedback on the dress, the academics at the university said that it (g) _____ (**design**) by a young fashion student who (h) _____ (**join**) the university two years before. They added that unless consumers (i) _____ (**use**) their purchasing power, the industry (j) _____ (**not have**) the incentive to produce more sustainable clothes.

(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) A website carried out a study among parents.

A study was carried out among parents.

(a) Parents save all year round so that their children can have the latest tech gadgets.

In order _____
_____.

(b) Parents often consider second-hand tech gadgets a good deal.

Second-hand tech gadgets are _____
_____.

(c) Forty per cent of parents felt that a new tech gadget is better than a second-hand one.

Forty per cent of parents felt that a second-hand gadget is _____
_____.

(d) Most people think that second-hand tech gadgets look the same as new ones.

You can't tell _____
_____.

(e) 'Is it that hard for parents to keep up with the latest advances in technology?' said a spokesperson for the website.

A spokesperson for the website asked _____
_____.

(Total: 5 marks)



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EXAMINATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
2019 SUPPLEMENTARY SESSION**

SUBJECT:	English Language
PAPER NUMBER:	IIB – Question 1
DATE:	4 th September 2019
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.

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 entitled 'Stuck in a lift'.
2. Write an article for a local teenage magazine in which you suggest ways of reducing the use of plastic at home.
3. You're Kim (kim@mail.com) and you've been invited to join your friend Matty (matty@mail.com) and her family for a week at their summer house abroad. Write an email in which you decline the invitation and explain why you cannot join them.

From	
To	
Subject	

(Total: 40 marks)



SUBJECT:	English Language
PAPER NUMBER:	IIB – Question 2
DATE:	4 th September 2019
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.

TOTAL

READING COMPREHENSION AND SUMMARY
Passage 1

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

Recently released statistics from the UK Office for National Statistics have found that the majority of adults aged 65 plus use the internet. **This** challenges the assumption that millennials 'own' this digital age and that **their** senior counterparts are digital morons.

5 Statistics also show that almost 25% of adults aged 65 plus now use social networking sites. These sites are becoming increasingly crucial for the housebound elderly looking for ways to stay connected to society. This has a massive positive effect on feelings of isolation and depression in the elderly and their general wellbeing.

10 This same age group is the most likely to live apart from friends and family and often more susceptible to feeling isolated and insecure. A recent study by Age UK revealed that as many as 1.2 million elderly people in England experience chronic loneliness. Social media such as Facebook and Skype go a long way to tackling this issue by offering instant interaction with loved ones at the click of a mouse. Skype can bring grandchildren who live on the other side of the planet virtually into their front room and into **their** lives.

15 Quite naturally, though, this age group is hampered by ill health, with the majority of **them** suffering long-term conditions, so discovering ways to remain in optimum health for as long as possible is a high priority. Technology has the capacity to do just **this**.

20 Today, digital devices are helping prevent the development of disease in the elderly. And often in a surprising manner. Take the hearing aid as an example. Research suggests that the devices used to treat the loss of hearing are also helping delay the onset of dementia. Fitness trackers such as Fitbit, are helping monitor individuals' activity levels and spurring **them** on to adopt more active and healthier lifestyles, which is having a positive effect on illnesses such as hypertension. Devices such as the Amazon Echo, are giving back valuable independence to those suffering from the loss of mobility **which**, when taken away, can leave one feeling worthless, humiliated and vulnerable. This artificial intelligence assistant allows the elderly to

25 carry out numerous tasks through voice control e.g. lighting, heating, and a swathe of appliances. This enables users not to rely on others for the smallest of tasks and giving back priceless independence and pride. These devices have also been proven to help overcome memory issues—a leading cause of independence loss in old age.

30 There are many over 65-year-olds, of course, that do struggle with the technology, but there is help out there. The biggest barrier is, not surprisingly, the unknown, but with a short introduction, as **that** offered by charities such as Age UK who run computer training courses for the elderly, they become keen digital users with the time on their hands to surf the internet at their leisure.

(Adapted from <https://www.readersdigest.co.uk>)

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

Questions on passage 1

1a. What is the assumption about 'millennials' (line 3)? (1)

b. Explain the meaning of 'digital morons' (line 3). (1)

2. Write down **THREE** ways, found between lines 4 and 12, in which the elderly may benefit from social networking sites. (3)

a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

3. Between lines 1 and 15, find **single** words that match the following meanings as used in the passage. (4)

a. published _____ e. long-standing _____
b. important _____ f. dealing with _____
c. great _____ g. immediate _____
d. showed _____ h. excellent _____

4. Write down **THREE** benefits of technology for the elderly found between lines 17 and 28. (3)

a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

5. **In your own words**, explain what the biggest barrier referred to in line 30 is. (2)

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

6. Are the following statements **True** or **False**? Circle the correct answer and give a reason for each of your answers. (3)

a. The hearing aid is only beneficial for aiding with hearing loss.

(True/False) because _____

b. Fitness trackers are beneficial only because they monitor the elderly’s activity levels.

(True/False) because _____

c. With some help, the elderly become enthusiastic users of the internet.

(True/False) because _____

7. List **TEN** problems mentioned in the passage that the elderly face in their lives. (5)

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

f. _____

g. _____

h. _____

i. _____

j. _____

8. What do the words below refer to in the passage? (4)

a. This (line 2) _____ e. this (line 16) _____

b. their (line 3) _____ f. them (line 20) _____

c. their (line 13) _____ g. which (line 23) _____

d. them (line 14) _____ h. that (line 31) _____

(Total 26 marks)

Passage 1

Passage 2

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

There can hardly be a more exciting holiday for a four-year-old than a trip to Lapland. This is the forested region that makes up the northern third of Finland in which there are more reindeer than humans. It is also easily accessible by plane from many European airports.

5 As we walked out of the airport the snow crunched beneath our feet. Icicles inched from awnings. Our bus cruised past white forests and frozen rivers. With temperatures of minus six degrees (it can drop to -20°C and beyond in December), our first stop was at a warehouse where we got kitted out with snowsuits, boots and gloves. We felt like spacemen waddling around, but were super toasty inside. It all felt like a fairytale. By the time Nicholas, my four-year-old, and I settled in for the night, collapsing in one of the many chalets in front of Finnish Netflix, we were ruddy-cheeked, wet-nosed and truly wiped out. Over the next two days we had the time of our lives and also learnt so much about the place.

15 Reindeer are the cultural symbol of Lapland. The biggest town, Rovaniemi, which was levelled by bombing in World War II, was rebuilt on a plan that resembles the head of a reindeer. Lapps wear sweaters which feature reindeer. Tasty reindeer stews and soups are served in most restaurants, and gift shops sell almost anything you can imagine made out of antlers. At first, I felt sorry for all these reindeer getting the chop to make chandeliers. Then I learned the truth: no deer dies in the name of antler ornaments. The males drop their antlers naturally after each mating season. I bought half a dozen antler bottle-openers and thought to myself: presents sorted.

20 Nicholas and I enjoyed splendid outdoor activities. At the reindeer camp, an actual Finnish man (a rarity on this trip), decked out in traditional furs, teaches children about his way of life as a reindeer herder. After you feed the deer by hand you take an eerily silent trip on a reindeer-pulled caravan of sleighs – through spectacular woods. At Joulukka, a park deep in the forest, time is spent with elves who give us a crash course in elvish ways, we decorate gingerbread and go sledging down a mountain path lit by flickering candles. In the Arktikum museum, you learn about the Northern Lights. The Ranua Wildlife Park has two lumbering polar bears, a grey wolf, a vicious wolverine, and owls. At the Bearhill Husky Farm, you can enjoy a helter-skelter sleigh ride, dragged by Arctic Huskies.

30 On our last morning, Nicholas and I fitted in a Finnish experience. We crossed the bridge and took a dip in the icy River Kemijoki. It is a local tradition, good for your heart and treating a range of ailments. Nicholas said he wanted to do it. I warned him, but he insisted. So I carried him down the wooden steps and dunked him in the freezing water. The next few minutes were the only time he was silent on the entire trip.

(Adapted from: www.dailymail.co.uk)

Questions on passage 2

1. Underline the most appropriate title for this passage:
- i. Travelling with a child
 - ii. Visiting Lapland
 - iii. Visiting Finland (1)

2. What does 'were super toasty inside' (line 8) tell us about how the writer and his son were feeling? (1)

3. Between lines 4 and 11, find **ONE** single verb and **ONE** phrasal verb that show that the writer was very tired.

a. **ONE** single verb _____

b. **ONE** phrasal verb _____

(1)

4. Write down **SIX** facts about Lapland found between lines 1 and 11 of the passage. (3)

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

f. _____

5. Write down **FOUR** facts that show that reindeer are 'the cultural symbol of Lapland' (line 12). (2)

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

This component continues on next page.

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

6. Explain what the writer means by:

a. getting the chop (line 16) (1)

b. presents sorted (line 18) (1)

7. Why was the writer mistaken for feeling sorry in line 15? (1)

8 a. What is the Finnish experience referred to in the passage (line 28)? (1)

b. Mention **TWO** benefits of this experience. (1)

i. _____

ii. _____

9. What do you think the writer warned Nicholas about (line 30)? (1)

10. Why do you think Nicholas was silent after the experience? (1)

11. Write **SINGLE** words found between lines 19 and 25 used by the writer to show that:

a. in Lapland one can have fun _____ (1)

b. the writer hardly met any local men _____ (1)

c. the reindeer sleigh ride has a creepy quality to it _____ (1)

d. the reindeer sleigh ride takes place in beautiful surroundings _____ (1)

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

12. List **TEN** different activities that can be carried out on a visit to Lapland. (5)

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

f. _____

g. _____

h. _____

i. _____

j. _____

(Total: 24 marks)

Passage 2

Please turn the page.

