

ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ, ΑΘΛΗΤΙΣΜΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΝΕΟΛΑΙΑΣ
ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΗ ΜΕΣΗΣ ΓΕΝΙΚΗΣ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΣΗΣ
ΚΡΑΤΙΚΑ ΙΝΣΤΙΤΟΥΤΑ ΕΠΙΜΟΡΦΩΣΗΣ

ΤΕΛΙΚΕΣ ΕΝΙΑΙΕΣ ΓΡΑΠΤΕΣ ΕΞΕΤΑΣΕΙΣ
ΣΧΟΛΙΚΗ ΧΡΟΝΙΑ 2025 – 2026

Μάθημα: Αγγλικά Επίπεδο: Ε5 Διάρκεια: 2:00 ώρες Ημερομηνία: 18 Μαΐου 2026

ΔΟΚΙΜΙΟ ΚΑΤΑΝΟΗΣΗΣ ΓΡΑΠΤΟΥ ΛΟΓΟΥ

ΤΟ ΕΞΕΤΑΣΤΙΚΟ ΔΟΚΙΜΙΟ ΑΠΟΤΕΛΕΙΤΑΙ ΑΠΟ ΕΠΤΑ (7) ΣΕΛΙΔΕΣ
ΟΛΕΣ ΟΙ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΙΣ ΝΑ ΓΡΑΦΟΥΝ ΣΤΟ ΤΕΤΡΑΔΙΟ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΩΝ
ΠΡΙΝ ΑΠΟ ΚΑΘΕ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΗ ΝΑ ΣΗΜΕΙΩΣΕΤΕ ΤΑ ΣΤΟΙΧΕΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΕΡΩΤΗΣΗΣ

PART II: READING COMPREHENSION

(60 MARKS)

1. Read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.
(8x1=8 marks)

Students wanted!

Are you an employer in Cyprus who is interested in (1) _____ hard-working staff, but is worried about the cost added to the already high (2) _____? If you are, then we can help you while you help an EU student improve their (3) _____. Here's how it works: according to current laws, students from the EU who must (4) _____ work experience as part of their course, are considered trainees and not employees. This means that you, the employer, can save money because these students ask for (5) _____ money than a regular employee would. In addition, these students, many of whom speak several (6) _____, can help your company develop business in other European countries.

There are thousands of students looking for job placements – temporary or permanent – who can fill almost any position you may have for them. At present, we have a wide range of customers, including (7) _____ that help those in need, information technology companies that set up (8) _____ and install computer systems, and tourism-based businesses that arrange accommodation for tourists and travellers. We've got your attention now, haven't we? Why not contact us today? We're sure to have the perfect student for your business!

1	A	applying	B	hiring	C	quitting	D	retiring
2	A	benefits	B	standards	C	robotics	D	salaries
3	A	journals	B	horoscopes	C	qualifications	D	interviews
4	A	own	B	gain	C	win	D	make
5	A	less	B	least	C	more	D	most
6	A	traditions	B	languages	C	cultures	D	concepts
7	A	bonuses	B	editors	C	charities	D	bloggers
8	A	web pages	B	food banks	C	soap operas	D	text messages

2. Read the text below and think of the word that best fits each gap. Use only ONE word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning. (8x1=8 marks)

The Platypus

The platypus is an unusual creature because it looks (0) like a bird that can swim, but it also lives on land.

The platypus has soft brown fur, feet like a duck, a tail, and a bill.

The platypus lays eggs and keeps them in a nest. It belongs (1) _____ a species called monotremes.

The platypus lives on an island called Tasmania, which is just south of Australia. It (2) _____ time in small rivers and streams, (3) _____ it builds a home just above the water. (4) _____ the platypus can live on land, it prefers the water and passes about 12 hours per day swimming in the river.

One of the (5) _____ interesting features of the platypus is its special electric sense. This means a platypus (6) _____ locate its prey using an electric field in its bill. Only the dolphin shares this same ability. The platypus is a meat-eater, so it eats fish and worms in the river. (7) _____, the platypus has predators, too. It is a delicious meal for crocodiles and owls, so it must watch (8) _____ for these animals.

3. Complete the text with the correct form of the words in capitals. (8x1=8 marks)

Museum Work Employment Application Form

One of the 1. _____ (**REQUIRE**) for a position at our museum is to make sure that all exhibits are clean and safe. There are many 2. _____ (**HISTORY**) artifacts in the museum that need to be handled carefully.

An equally important responsibility of the position is to provide all guests with accurate 3. _____ (**INFORM**) about everyday life in England. This will allow all 4. _____ (**VISIT**) to learn more about English culture and traditions.

Additionally, you may have to give some details about the 5. _____ (**LOCATE**) of the museum, since it is relatively new and many people have not visited it yet. Moreover, you will be responsible for providing 6. _____ (**INSTRUCT**) about where the guests can find the parking area and the cafeteria.

With your valuable 7. _____ (**ASSIST**), we can make the museum one of the best in the country. Once you graduate from our intensive three – month training programme, you will become part of the most 8. _____ (**EXCEPTION**) team in the area.

4. Choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

(4x3=12 marks)

Harry Parnell: Photographer of the Stars

I've always been interested in photography. When I was a child, I used to borrow my parents' camera. This annoyed them, so when I was about ten years old, they bought me my own camera. After that, I spent my free time going around and taking pictures. I enjoyed taking pictures of flowers, trees and animals, but most of all, I liked taking pictures of people. I still have my first photo albums. Most pictures weren't that great, but I love looking at them. They remind me of what I first felt when I started taking pictures.

When I finished school, I did a photography course and then got a job working for a local newspaper. I liked the people I worked with, but I found it quite boring after a while. I used to have to take dull pictures of local buildings and new car models. After a couple of years, I trained in digital photography and portraits with another photographer. Then I moved to a national newspaper, which was more interesting, but I eventually decided to work for myself, taking pictures of famous people. I enjoy exploring how settings and people interact. Many famous people got to know me and appreciated my artistic talent. I have been working as a portrait photographer for many years now.

When I tell people what I do for a living, they imagine that I'm an unpleasant person who follows famous people, takes embarrassing pictures of them and makes a lot of money. Actually, I don't do that. Usually, the people I photograph approach me to have their pictures taken. I create an atmosphere in their garden or outdoors where they can feel comfortable. The only thing that can happen is that sometimes they suddenly change their minds and don't want to be photographed. That can be annoying, especially if they've invited me to go there in the first place. But that doesn't happen very often.

I find my job exciting and challenging. It has a creative side and also a technical side. I have to imagine and take the best photo and I also have to use different accessories to create various effects.

(Adapted from: <https://englishpracticetest.net/harry-parnell-photographer-of-the-stars-b1-english-reading-test/>)

1. What did the writer do in his first job as a photographer?

- A. He took pictures of ordinary people.
- B. He photographed uninteresting things.
- C. He travelled around the country a lot.
- D. He stayed in the office most of the time.

2. According to the writer, people believe that

- A. He doesn't earn much money.
- B. He has an embarrassing job.
- C. He will probably be famous one day.
- D. He isn't an enjoyable person.

3. When talking about the people he photographs now, the writer says

- A. they are usually happy to be photographed.
- B. they're often unpleasant.
- C. nobody ever upsets him.
- D. they sometimes forget to pay him.

4. Which of the following is the best description of the writer?

- A. A talented photographer who has worked in different places and enjoyed his career.
- B. A photographer who preferred taking pictures of people, embarrassing the rich and famous.
- C. A photographer who liked working for himself and enjoys his work most of the time.
- D. A photographer who has taken pictures for many years and wanted to be famous.

5. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A – G the one which fits each gap (). There is one extra sentence, which you do not need to use.

(6x2=12 marks)

The story of the carrot and the ring

Have you ever lost something that was precious to you, and thought you'd never see it again?

(1) _____.

Mary had worn her engagement ring for more than half a century when she suddenly lost it. One day, she was working in her garden on the family farm, pulling out a plant. **(2)** _____. When she discovered it was missing, she searched everywhere for it for days before eventually giving up.

Mary realised she probably wouldn't find the ring again. So, she decided not to tell anyone what had happened, apart from her son. Instead, she thought she would replace it with a much cheaper ring from a jeweller. **(3)** _____. In fact, it was so similar that no one else in her family even noticed her original ring was missing.

But the story has a happy ending. Mary eventually got her engagement ring back – 13 years after it was lost! One day, Mary's daughter-in-law, Colleen, was working in the same garden where Mary had been all those years ago.

(4) _____. But this time it looked a bit different – because there was a carrot growing right through the middle of it!

As soon as Colleen saw the ring, she knew immediately who the owner was. The farm had been in the family for over 100 years. (5) _____. So, when Colleen heard the story of the lost ring, it became clear that there was only one person it could possibly have belonged to, and the ring was returned to Mary.

Mary decided to remove her ring from the carrot and wear it again. (6) _____. Then the ring was washed, and Mary put it back on her finger – and it still fit perfectly!

(Adapted from: <https://englishpracticetest.net/the-story-of-the-carrot-and-the-ring-b1-english-reading-test/>)

- A She was digging up vegetables there when she discovered the ring.
- B That gave her a very good idea about what to do with the carrot.
- C And that was probably when the ring came off her finger.
- D So she carefully cut the carrot in half.
- E That's what happened to Mary Grams from Canada.
- F And only two women had lived there in all that time.
- G Luckily, she managed to find another one that looked just like it.

6. Getting away with a crime isn't easy. Read about some criminals who tried to commit a crime and failed. For questions 1-12, choose the correct answer from texts (A-E). The texts may be chosen more than once. (12x1=12 marks)

BORN LOSERS

A. NO GETAWAY

Some criminals just don't have any luck. Such was the case of two men who robbed a bank in Detroit. They rushed out of the bank with a bag full of money trying to find a getaway to their car. Imagine their surprise when they found that their car wasn't there. It had been stolen! Another robber, faraway in Malta, heard the story of the stolen getaway car. So, this robber decided to escape using public transport. He robbed the Bank of Valletta, grabbed the money and ran across the street to the bus-stop. After 15 minutes, the bus still hadn't come, but a policeman walked by. He probably wouldn't have become suspicious, except that the robber was holding 3,000 new banknotes in his hands. Needless to say, the unlucky criminal did not get away with his crime.

B. THE LETTER OF THE LAW

David Morris was convinced he had discovered the perfect way to become rich fast without saying a word. His plan was to walk into a shop and silently display a note that said he had a gun and would use it if the money wasn't handed over. Although he didn't actually have a weapon, he still entered a nearby store and showed the message to the owner. The plan failed when the shopkeeper stared at the note and apologised, explaining that he couldn't read English. Refusing to give up, David went on to a Chinese takeaway restaurant. There, the manager calmly told him he couldn't see properly without his glasses. He then went into another room, supposedly to look for them, but instead contacted the police.

C. THE NOT-SO-GREAT ESCAPES

Breaking out of prison is not as easy as it looks in films. In one instance, a prisoner sprained his ankle, jumping over the prison wall. He didn't give up and walked slowly but bravely into the countryside. After several painful kilometres, he went up to a cottage and knocked on the door. The door was opened by the same policeman who had reported him to the police a few weeks before. This reunion was not a happy one for the escaped prisoner! In another case, 75 prisoners serving time in a Mexican prison failed to escape, after digging a secret tunnel. Instead of reaching the other side of the prison wall, the prisoners had dug their way into a nearby courthouse where the judges lost no time in putting all 75 back into prison.

D. SOME GOOD ADVICE

Although it is sometimes true that practice makes perfect, this was not the case for Philip McCutcheon. After driving his getaway car into two parked vans, Philip was arrested. When he appeared in court, the judge looked at McCutcheon's criminal record and advised him to change professions. "I wish you would give up burglary," he said. "You have a clumsy hand, an artificial leg and only one eye. You have been caught in Otley, Leeds, Harrogate, Norwich, Beverley, Hull and York. How can you hope to succeed?" McCutcheon had been arrested for burglary 20 times! It was clear that he should never have taken up burglary in the first place.

E. SIZE AND AGE AREN'T ALWAYS IMPORTANT

It never pays to be overconfident. Police detectives in Sussex, England, were once looking for a suspect - a 1.8-metre tall, dark-haired youth of about 20. This young man had tried to pickpocket Ethel West and run away with her wallet. Mrs West was a 1.5-metre, 74-year-old grandmother. Because he was so much younger and stronger, the youth probably thought she would be an easy victim. Instead, he got the fright of his life when Mrs West grabbed him by the wrist and got him in an arm lock. The terrified youngster cried out, "Oh no! Stop!" Luckily for him, he managed to break free and get away. Mrs West explained to the police that she had done judo when she was younger. She wished she hadn't had her hands full of shopping bags and insisted that if her hands had been free, she would have really arrested him.

Which text talks about (a) criminal(s) who:

1. lost his/her car?	
2. underestimates the victim?	
3. had a record of failures?	
4. gave a written message to the owners?	
5. got career advice?	
6. couldn't manage to escape using public transport?	
7. was taught a lesson by the victim?	
8. did not manage to escape from an underground secret path?	
9. was almost injured by the victim?	
10. forgot to hide evidence of his guilt?	
11. was injured while escaping from prison?	
12. chose the wrong way to communicate with his victims?	

(Adapted from the book Update for Pre-FCE-Teacher's book- Dianne Lloyd & Craig Stevens-Unit 12-p.117-Crime doesn't pay)

PART III: WRITING

(40 MARKS)

You must answer **BOTH** writing tasks, 7 and 8.

7. Write an essay of 140 - 180 words on the following topic in an appropriate style.

(1x20=20 marks)

“Artificial Intelligence (AI) is not always seen as good, especially in schools. Many people think it can have bad effects on education”. Do you agree?

Notes:

Write about:

- AI can contribute to teaching.
- AI is used for cheating.
-(your own idea)

8. Choose **ONE of the THREE topics**. Put the number of the topic of your choice: **8A, 8B OR 8C** on your answer booklet.

Write your answer in **140 – 180 words** in an appropriate style.

(1x20=20 marks)

8A – Here is part of an email you have received from an English-speaking friend.

I'm doing a project at college about how people use the internet these days. I know you enjoy using the Internet more than I do so I hope you can help! How has the Internet changed the way you do things? What is your favourite website? What makes this website useful?

Write your **email**.

8B - You see this announcement in your college English-language magazine.

More and more teenagers are victims of bullying at school.

Write an article in which you:

- Explain the problem.
- Suggest ways to prevent bullying.

Write your article. Use 140-180 words.

8C

A teen magazine wants its readers to send in stories that begin with:

“It was a dark and stormy night. John was on his way home.”

Write your story. Use 140-180 words.

GOOD LUCK!