

EURO TEST

TEST 1: READING

Task One: Short texts (10 minutes) Questions 1-5

You are looking at a travel guide and browsing through programmes for the summer.

- Match the type of the sights with their description that fits best.
- Tick (✓) the appropriate letter on the separate answer sheet.
- The first one has been done for you.
- There are two types of sights that you DO NOT need.

Example:	C
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The garden, at Menton near the Italian border, was created in the twenties by Major Lawrance Johnston, from the exotic plants he had collected over 30 years of travel. It fell into disrepair after his death but is currently undergoing a massive restoration.

1:	
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In 1916 the American socialite Mabel Dodge Luhan fell in love with the area's spectacular scenery, and established a "salon" at Taos, 7,000 feet above sea level. Today, Taos is a thriving community of weavers, glass-blowers and sculptors.

2:	
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The best way to visit there is travelling along the coast, past thousands of tiny islands. As a tourist, you can only sit and stare, and the views are astonishing. The rich Alpine pastures and dramatic scenery of the fjords is amazing. The service calls at 43 ports.

3:	
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The palazzo, which has both a land and a water entrance, is set a little off Venice's tourist trail, in the Castello district. Even though you can't have this crowded city to yourself, the canals here at least are strictly for business and you can see the real Venice from the balcony.

4:	
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The decline of home cooking in Italy is a national crisis. As more and more people eat ready-made food, traditional family recipes are being forgotten. Home Food is trying to reverse that trend. The group has tracked down a number of old-fashioned experts, and asked them to open up their kitchens so that visitors can sample their expertise.

5:	
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Drive just ten minutes out of Wellington, and you can experience an altogether different and much older country. The place is a sanctuary. It has turned the clock back by reintroducing plants and animals that had been there before the settlers arrived. The difference is subtle but rather wonderful.

SIGHTS TYPES

- A. A PLACE TO STAY
- B. A BOAT RIDE
- C. AN EXOTIC GARDEN
- D. A RESTAURANT
- E. A TRAIN JOURNEY
- F. A VENUE FOR CRAFTSMEN
- G. A CULINARY PROGRAMME
- H. AN AUTHENTIC WILDLIFE PARK

Task Two: Paragraph Headings (10 minutes – Question 6-11)

Read this magazine article on the Coca Cola Company. The paragraphs have lost their headings. Choose the paragraph heading that best matches each paragraph. The first has been done for you. There are two extra paragraph headings that you DO NOT need.

Paragraph Headings

- A. COKE BEHIND THE FRONT LINES
- B. PRODUCT QUALITY SHORTCOMINGS
- C. THE BIRTH OF COCA-COLA
- D. WRONGDOING AND CHARITY
- E. A VARIETY OF BRANDS
- F. THE PRINCIPLE OF ORGANISATION
- G. STILL THE BEST TODAY
- H. A SUCCESSFUL TAKE-OVER
- I. THE RISE OF THE BOTTLING INDUSTRY

Example:	C
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In May, 1886, Coca Cola was invented by Doctor John Pemberton a pharmacist from Atlanta, Georgia. The name was a suggestion given by his bookkeeper Frank Robinson.

Being a bookkeeper, Frank Robinson also had excellent penmanship. It was he who first scripted „Coca Cola” into the flowing letters which has become the famous logo of today.

6:	
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In 1887, another Atlanta pharmacist and businessman, Asa Candler bought the formula from John Pemberton for \$2,300.

By the late 1890s, Coca Cola was one of America's most popular fountain drinks, largely due to Candler's aggressive marketing of the product. The company increased syrup sales by over 4000% between 1890 and 1900. By the turn of the century, the drink was sold across the United States and Canada.

7:	
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Around the same time, the company began selling syrup to independent bottling companies licensed to sell the drink. Even today, the US soft drink industry is organized on this principle.

Until the 1960s, the young enjoyed carbonated beverages at the local soda fountain or ice cream saloon. Often housed in the drug store, it served as a meeting place for people of all ages. The soda fountain declined in popularity as fast food restaurants became popular.

8:	
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When the United States entered World War II, Coca-Cola began providing free drinks for American soldiers. The Army permitted Coca-Cola to operate Coke's system of providing refreshments for soldiers. Coca-Cola set up bottling plants in several locations overseas to assure the drink's availability, setting the stage for the company's post-war expansion. The popularity of the drink exploded as American soldiers returned home from the war with a taste for the drink.

9:	
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Coca-Cola only produces syrup concentrate which is then sold to various bottlers throughout the world who hold a Coca-Cola franchise. Bottlers produce finished product in cans and bottles from the concentrate in combination with filtered water and sweeteners. The bottlers then distribute and merchandise the resulting product to stores, vending machines and restaurants.

10:	
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Coca-Cola also produces a number of other soft drinks. Fanta's origins, for example, date back to World War II when Coca-Cola in Germany ran out of the ingredients for Coke during the war, which could be supplied only from the United States. He started producing a different soft drink, Fanta, which proved to be a hit. After the war, Coca-Cola adopted the Fanta brand as well. The German "Clear Lemon Fanta" variety became Sprite, another of the company's bestsellers.

11:	
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Coca-Cola has been involved in a number controversies and law suits. These cases include monopolistic practices, pesticides in the product and even hiring mercenaries to kill union leaders. However, Coca-Cola is more famous for its giving. It supported the Hurricane Katrina evacuees, donated millions to Tsunami relief and the September 11 disaster relief efforts – just to mention some recent causes.

Task Three: Scanning for Information (10 minutes) – Questions 12-18

Read the film reviews below and decide if the information is in the text A, B, C, or D.

Example:

it is based on a real story of a shooting

The correct answer is **A**.

	Letter of text
12. characters are not adequately described	
13. viewers tend to know what happens next	
14. the director allows the viewers to form their own opinion	
15. a couple living in a huge house	
16. not a very persuasive biography	
17. critics from different countries view the movie differently	
18. the main character does now show a balanced performance	

A. ELEPHANT

Gus Van Sant's fictionalised account of the 1999 massacre at Columbine High School won the Palme d'Or at last year's Cannes Film festival. Shot in documentary style, Elephant is deliberately banal. For about an hour we watch ordinary scenes of high school life, until two armed male students suddenly stride in to blow everybody to hell. It is an undoubtedly shocking high point of the film, but what is the audience to make of it?

Van Sant makes no effort to provide any insights into the central characters, nor to offer an explanation for their motives in killing so many students. But does an explanation exist? Isn't it simply that Van Sant has the courage to treat his audience as adults and to invite them to draw their own conclusions?

B. SYLVIA

Brave is the moviemaker who ventures into the life of Sylvia Plath. Ever since Plath killed herself in 1963, an unholy flock of vengeful academics, conspiracy theorists and agenda-driven historians has hovering over her literary reputation like ravenous vultures. Christine Jeffs' film attempts to portray the stormy relationship between Plath (Gwyneth Paltrow) and Ted Hughes (Daniel Craig), but it fails to convince. Paltrow is good in the early stages at

portraying Plath as an ambitious middle-class American girl torn between conformity and revolt but she ends up resembling a passive-aggressive Mia Farrow on a bad hair day. It's also hard to escape the feeling that, without her fame, Plath's story would seem rather ordinary.

C. COLD CREEK MANOR

Moving to the country isn't all it's cracked up to be, especially if you're Dennis Quaid and Sharon Stone. Tired of city life, they move into a remote manor against the advice of locals. They should have listened. The previous owner, Stephen Dorff, whom they employ as a handyman, turns out to be a raging psychopath. There's never any doubt what's going to happen in this clichéd and overlong thriller. The film has more signposts than a highway. It all adds up to one of the silliest and most predictable thrillers in recent memory and it's just astonishing that director Mike Figgis became involved in such project.

D. MYSTIC RIVER

As children, Jimmy (Sean Penn), Dave (Tim Robbins) and Sean (Kevin Bacon) were bound by a terrible secret. Years later, they are reunited by the murder of Jimmy's daughter, of which Dave finds himself accused. Clint Eastwood has directed good movies before, but nothing as haunting as *Mystic River*. This extraordinary film, an outburst of tragic realism and grief, may be as close as we are likely to come on the screen to the spirit of Greek tragedy.

Several American critics have said much the same thing but that's only because their idea of a decent film is a Hollywood drama that addresses big, time-honoured themes through a tale of ordinary people played by esteemed actors. In Britain critics view things rather differently: *Mystic River* is undoubtedly an ambitious and serious-minded film, but by no stretch of the imagination could it be termed a masterpiece.

Task Four: Reading for detailed Information (10 minutes) – Questions 19-25

Read the following text taken from a British magazine about cannibalism. Answer the multiple-choice questions about it and choose the best answer: A, B, C, or D.

Cannibalism: our man-eating past

There have been reports of cannibalism throughout history, but perhaps the most influential came from Cristopher Columbus, after his second voyage to the New World in 1495. He claimed that, on the island of Guadeloupe, he had discovered a recently abandoned feast of human limbs roasting on spits. It was, he said, the work of the “Canib” tribe – a mispronunciation of “Carib” which gave rise to the Spanish word “canibales”. Other explorers told of cannibalism among tribes in the Amazon basin, Africa, Australia, Fiji, Sumatra, New Guinea, Melanesia, and Polynesia (where humans still sometimes known as “long pig”, on account of their similarity to pork).

Such travellers’ tales have been discredited for a time. In as late as 1979, for example, William Arens, an anthropologist argued that these stories of cannibalism were racist lies invented by Western colonialism. His book proved to be hugely influential and welcomed a period of cannibalism denial. Recent scientific discoveries have proved beyond doubt that cannibalism was once commonplace. The Fore tribe of New Guinea was the last society to admit cannibalism. They stopped in the mid-Fifties after an outbreak of a brain disease which is contracted through eating human flesh. British scientists studying the tribe discovered that many of them had developed a genetic resistance to the disease. They took samples from populations around the world and found the same result.

Cannibalism was so commonplace that humans evolved a genetic resistance to the diseases associated with. But why did people eat human flesh in the first place? In many cultures eating one’s deceased relatives was a mark of respect for the dead. The Fijians ate their vanquished enemies in a spirit of reverence. The Aztecs, on the other hand, captured their enemies in order to sacrifice them to the gods. Each prisoner represented one of the gods: eating him brought the participant contact to the deity.

However, cannibalism is not primarily a symbolic act. The most common reason for cannibalism is survival. In early hunter-gatherer societies it would have been insanely wasteful not to eat the deceased. Humans quickly revert to old habits when deprived of food. Napoleon’s troops resorted to cannibalism during the retreat from Moscow in 1812; so did the starving citizens of Leningrad during Hitler’s siege of the city. In 1972, a plane full of

footballers crashed in the Andes. Some of the survivors ate the dead: those who refused died of starvation.

The invention of farming made cannibalism unnecessary and unfashionable, thus it became taboo. "It is likely," says the archaeologist Dr Timothy Taylor, "that the cannibalism taboo arose for status reasons: that being able to farm your own food, raise your own livestock and bury your dead on your own land came to be seen as an expression of wealth and power."

19. The word "cannibalism" comes from

- A the name of a Spanish tribe.
- B the name of an explorer who found an abandoned feast once.
- C the name of a tribe that used to roast limbs on spits.
- D incorrect use of a tribe's name.

20. Cannibalism

- A is a symbol of reverence.
- B a mean of survival.
- C all the above.
- D none of the above.

21. Modern day cannibalism

- A does not exist but is only a legend.
- B happens whenever circumstances force people.
- C is common because human flesh is similar to pig meat.
- D is insanely wasteful.

22. Cannibalism became a taboo because

- A farming produced better tasting food than human flesh
- B people could afford to avoid it
- C it was against the law
- D wealth and power wasn't in fashion anymore.

23. In early hunter-gatherer societies

- A they ate the dead for status reasons.
- B they didn't eat the dead at all.
- C eating the dead was a matter of being economical.
- D they only eat the dead when they ran out of pig.

24. What proved that cannibalism was once wide-spread?

- A people from different populations are resistant to a certain brain disease
- B a tribe admitted being resistant to a certain brain disease
- C Aren, an anthropologist proved it scientifically in his book

- D many people died from a disease being contracted through human flesh
25. The main purpose of the text is
- A help people accept cannibalism
 - B reason in favour of cannibalism
 - C give a general overview of cannibalism
 - D discourage cannibalism

ANSWERS

19	20	21	22
23	24	25	-----

TEST 2: LISTENING (not included here)

TEST 3: WRITING

Task One: Compulsory Task (30 minutes)

You must answer both questions.

You are planning to move in together Jane, with another student at your London school, to save money.

1.1 Write a note to Jane outlining your choice AND reasons. **(60-80 words)**

AND

1.2 Write a letter to the real estate agency asking for more information about your choice **(60-80 words)**

Hi!

I found these ads yesterday in the Week. These places look promising but I'm still at the hospital and I couldn't look through them. Let me know which one we should pick and why.

Also consider

- affordable but not run down?
- enough room for both of us?
- commuting to the university?

- what about shops and entertainment nearby?

Could you write a nice letter of inquiry to the real estate agent? Ask them about:

- availability (from/to)
- what about deposit? how much?
- can they show it? when?

Regards,

Jane

TO LET

2-room flat in a busy area with all amenities nearby

In prime condition

5 minutes from tube station

GBP 1300

TO LET

2-room converted office close to London (20km)

Nice, refurbished flat

Quiet, peaceful neighbourhood

GBP 980

TO LET

2 room flat with nice living room

in need of minor repairs

10-minute walk to tube

Bars, restaurants, shopping in the neighbourhood

GBP 1150

Task Two: Extended Writing (30 minutes)

- Choose ONE of the following questions – 1, 2, or 3.
- Write 110-150 words.

- You can include addresses, dates etc. if you want to, but they will not be marked.
- DO NOT answer more than one question.

1. You have read a new book recently that you especially enjoyed.

Write a **review** and recommend it to others.

2. These are the opening lines of a short story:

Last week I ate out with a friend. The restaurant was close to the office so I went there straight from work. I had my usual brown leather bag with me in which I carried some vital documents to work on them later at home. The hostess seated us at a table near the entrance. I immediately noticed that the man next to us has a very similar bag to mine....

Continue the **story**. You do not have to finish it.

3. “Old relatives are often abandoned.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Write an **essay**.

TEST 4: GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY

Task one: Dictation (not included here)

Task Two: Multiple Choice Gap Fill (10 minutes) Questions 1-10

Complete the following article by choosing the most suitable word from each of the 4 possible options.

...**Example**... as it sounds, we could learn a few things about urban regeneration from Albania, says Andrew Mueller. ...1.... I visited Tirana, I imagined that the capital of Europe’s poorest country would2.... a large, dismal housing estate. And a couple of years ago it probably did. But under its current ...3..., a conceptual artist named Edi Rama, the city has had a radical makeover. Almost every building in downtown Tirana is now painted in a ...4... of bright colours, zigzags, stripes and polka-dots. From space, the city must ...5... like a giant Hawaiian shirt. If the visual transformation is amazing, ...6... too is the effect it has had on

the city's residents. Not everyone likes the colour scheme, but they are talking about it. After years of meekly ...7... their depressing surroundings, the population has been shocked into thinking about what constitutes an ideal urban environment.

Tirana shares many of the ...8... problems as London: crime, drugs, apathy, and low expectations. These can't9... be cured with a lick of paint. But many studies show that people undoubtedly ...10... to their surroundings – so why not try Edi's plan here?

EXAMPLE:

A unlikely B probably C possible D possibly

The correct answer is **A**.

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. A Prior | B After | C Before | D When |
| 2. A remember | B resist | C resemble | D resume |
| 3. A dean | B mayor | C major | D president |
| 4. A variety | B difference | C manner | D lot |
| 5. A see | B watch | C stare | D look |
| 6 A so | B like | C then | D even |
| 7 A expecting | B accepting | C excepting | D expressing |
| 8. A similar | B alike | C same | D likely |
| 9. A every | B all | C whole | D entire |
| 10. A respond | B answer | C reaction | D act |

Task Three: Gap Fill (10 minutes) – Questions 11-21

Please read the following text and fill each gap with ONE appropriate word. The first one has been done for you as an example.

For questions 11-20, complete the following article by writing the missing words in the table below. Use only ONE word for each space.

YOU MUST THINK OF THE WORD – THERE ARE NO MULTIPLE CHOICES.

Less heart attacks when banning smoking

When the local authorities in a small town in Montana banned smoking in ...**Example...** public places, many local residents were none too pleased. But the effect on their health was

dramatic: heart attack rates fell ...11... nearly 60% in the first six months. Researchers said ...12... were amazed by the results. “We know from longer-term studies ...13... effects of second-hand smoke occur within minutes,” Stanton Glantz of the University of California told the International Herald Tribune. “But it was quite stunning ...14... see this large effect so quickly.” ...15... happened next was no less remarkable. When the state legislature lifted the ban, ...16... response to pressure from the tobacco industry, heart attack rates bounced back again, almost as quickly ...17... they had fallen. Helena was a perfect place to conduct such a study. The town is relatively isolated, and ...18... is only one cardiac-care hospital within a 60 mile radius. This made ...19... easy to control the study sample and methodology. Researchers also found there was no change in heart attacks for those living outside the city, ...20... there was no ban.

Example: The correct word is “**all**”

ANSWERS

11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20