



**Time limit: 120 minutes**

**Maximum score: 100**

## **READING (15 points)**

### **Task 1. (1-5) Read the text and choose the correct option:**

I charge Gilray's unreasonableness to his ignoble passion for cigarettes; and the story of his flowerpot has therefore an obvious moral. The want of dignity he displayed about that flowerpot, on his return to London, would have made any one sorry for him. I had my own work to look after, and really could not be tending his chrysanthemum all day. After he came back, however, there was no reasoning with him, and I admit that I never did water his plant, though always intending to do so.

The great mistake was in not leaving the flowerpot in charge of William John. No doubt I readily promised to attend to it, but Gilray deceived me by speaking as if the watering of a plant was the merest pastime. He had to leave London for a short provincial tour, and, as I see now, took advantage of my good nature.

As Gilray had owned his flowerpot for several months, during which time (I take him at his word) he had watered it daily, he must have known he was misleading me. He said that you got into the way of watering a flowerpot regularly just as you wind up your watch. That certainly is not the case. I always wind up my watch, and I never watered the flowerpot. Of course, if I had been living in Gilray's rooms with the thing always before my eyes I might have done so. I proposed to take it into my chambers at the time, but he would not hear of that. Why? How Gilray came by this chrysanthemum I do not inquire; but whether, in the circumstances, he should not have made a clean breast of it to me is another matter. Undoubtedly, it was an unusual thing to put a man to the trouble of watering a chrysanthemum daily without giving him its history. My own belief has always been that he got it in exchange for a pair of boots and his old dressing gown.

- 1) The storyteller was ... blamed for not watering the friend's plant.
  - A. rightfully
  - B. wrongly
  - C. pleasantly
  - D. hatefully
  
- 2) The storyteller thought that his friend ... the plant to Mr. John.
  - A. couldn't leave
  - B. must have left
  - C. should have left
  - D. decided to leave
  
- 3) Gilray ... that he had watered the plant every day before leaving.
  - A. wasn't sure
  - B. hinted
  - C. lied
  - D. claimed
  
- 4) The storyteller presupposed that he would have watered the plant if ... .
  - A. someone had reminded him.
  - B. he had had it at his place.
  - C. it hadn't been a chrysanthemum.
  - D. he had been a florist.
  
- 5) The storyteller would like to ... .
  - A. have someone else water the plant
  - B. give the plant back
  - C. know the origin of the plant
  - D. not wind up the watch

**Task 2. (6-10) Find in the text expressions that correspond the following definitions:**

One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied. Three times Della counted it. One dollar and eighty-seven cents. And the next day would be Christmas. There was clearly nothing to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it. Which instigates the moral reflection that life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles, with sniffles predominating.

While the mistress of the home is gradually subsiding from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home. A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad. In the vestibule below was a letterbox into which no letter would go, and an electric button from which no mortal finger could coax a ring. Also appertaining thereunto was a card bearing the name "Mr. James Dillingham Young."

The "Dillingham" had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, though, they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D. But whenever Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called "Jim" and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young, already introduced to you as Della. Which is all very good. Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a gray cat walking a gray fence in a gray backyard.

- 6) a type of thought or belief
- 7) used for a long time, dirty and not in a good condition
- 8) without showing any interest or excitement
- 9) a situation when a person has enough money and other things to live well
- 10) not wanting to be noticed

## **VOCABULARY (20 points)**

**Task 1. For items 1 — 5, choose one word that fits all three sentences. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.**

1. They went up the \_\_\_\_\_, neither of them speaking as they climbed.

Their journey took them through river valleys and over \_\_\_\_\_ passes.

Their company abroad is faced with a \_\_\_\_\_ of bureaucracy.

2. I vaguely \_\_\_\_\_ reading about this event in the local paper.

It is important to \_\_\_\_\_ that each person reacts differently.

“\_\_\_\_\_ me to Lyle, won't you?” I said.

3. There are hundreds of people desperate to \_\_\_\_\_ a child.

We usually \_\_\_\_\_ a southern accent when speaking to family back home.

Try to \_\_\_\_\_ positions of relaxation and lengthening.

4. Betsy looked forward to retirement and a life of \_\_\_\_\_.

Our hotel offers various \_\_\_\_\_ facilities such as a gym, a swimming pool and sauna.

An academy would train the unemployed to work in hospitality and \_\_\_\_\_.

5. The drugs were hidden in a suitcase with a \_\_\_\_\_ bottom.

The girl was wearing \_\_\_\_\_ eyelashes and a sweater two sizes too small.

She bowed her head and smiled in \_\_\_\_\_ modesty.

**Task 2. For items 6 — 10, read the idioms below and decide which idiom fits each gap best. You can use each idiom only once. There are extra idioms. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.**

(A) teacher's pet	(F) out of the blue
(B) once in a blue moon	(G) cat among the pigeons
(C) come up roses	(H) broken reed
(D) down in the mouth	(I) late bloomer
(E) make one's blood boil	(J) bee in one's bonnet

6. A \_\_\_\_\_, she wrote her first novel when she was almost 50.

7. Polly obviously has a \_\_\_\_\_, but her friends are very fond of her.

8. Morella was damn lucky to have Luke as a company \_\_\_\_\_.

9. We saw her the other night, and Max said she looked very \_\_\_\_\_.

10. In fact, she was \_\_\_\_\_, and everyone hated her and didn't want to share secrets.

### GRAMMAR (15 points)

**Task 1. For items 1 — 5, write the missing part of the second sentence using a given word, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Do not change the given word. You must use between three and six words, including the given word. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.**

1. This issue cannot be solved instantly.

**NO**

There \_\_\_\_\_ this issue.

2. Thomas knew what the answer was after reading the letter.

**READ**

By the time Thomas \_\_\_\_\_ knew what the answer was.

3. "I don't think we will get any mail today", Francis said.

**IF**

She doubted \_\_\_\_\_ any email today.

4. He didn't mention the subject of unpaid holidays until the end of the interview.

**BRING**

Not until the end of the interview \_\_\_\_\_ the subject of unpaid holidays.

5. Alice had only just got home when the alarm went off.

**SOONER**

No \_\_\_\_\_ when the alarm went off.

**Task 2. (6-10) Choose the word or phrase a, b, c or d, which best completes each sentence. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.**

6. Well, Ms Smith, I regret ... that you have failed your mid-term test.

a. to tell    b. telling    c. saying    d. to say

7. I can't help ... what would have happened in that case.

a. to wonder    b. wondering    c. to wondering    d. having wondered

8. Confine yourself ... your work well.

a. to doing    b. in doing    c. to do    d. doing

9. I don't know why you ... think that I did it.

a. would    b. should    c. might    d. must

10. That sort of thing ... to happen ever again.

- a. is not likely   b. is not bound   c. it is not likely   d. it is not bound

**CULTURE STUDY (30 points)**

**Tasks (1-5)**

**Task 1:** Arrange these events of the Norman Conquest in the chronological order. Put the appropriate number in the right column. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.

The Battle of Stamford Bridge	
The Capetian Conquest	
The Revolt of the Earls	
The Battle of Fulford	
The Battle of Hastings	
Harold Godwineson crowned king	

**Task 2:** Arrange these events of the American Civil War in the chronological order. Put the appropriate number in the right column. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.

Jefferson Davis elected president	
The Surrender of the Confederates at Appomattox Court House	
The Battle at Shiloh	
The Secession of southern states from the Union	
The Inauguration of Abraham Lincoln	
The Confederate attack on Fort Sumter	
The First Battle of Manassas	

**Task 3:** Arrange these events of British History in the chronological order. Put the appropriate number in the right column. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.

The Good Friday Agreement	
British Petroleum announced striking a large oil field in the North Sea	
The UK voting to leave the EU	
The UK joining the European Communities	
The nationalization of the Bank of England	
The Suez Crisis	
The London Declaration	

**Task 4:** Arrange these ranks of nobility in order of precedence. Put the appropriate number in the right column. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.

Marquess	
Viscount	
Duke or duchess	
Esquire	
Knight	
Earl	
Prince	
Baron	
Baronet	

**Task 5:** Arrange these books according to the year of publishing. Put the appropriate number in the right column. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.

Nineteen Eighty-four	
Atonement	
The Great Gatsby	
The Hobbit, or There and Back Again	
The Jungle Book	
The Adventures of Oliver Twist	
Winnie-the-Pooh	
Robinson Crusoe	
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire	

**Task 6.** Match the tradition with the holiday. Two options are extra. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.

1. The Boxing Day	a. Burning letters in the fireplace
2. Christmas	b. In the past the day servants in wealthy households would receive a Christmas gift from the head of the family
3. The Independence Day	c. Baking and eating hot cross buns
4. The Remembrance Day	d. Arranging boxing matches to commemorate the origin of boxing in the UK
5. St. Patrick's Day	e. Observing a two-minute silence throughout the country
6. Good Friday	f. Wearing a white lily on clothing
	g. Marching in green attire and shamrocks
	h. Firing a salute of one gun for each state at noon by any capable military base

**Task 7:** Match the song with the singer. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.

1. John Lennon	a. "Photograph"
2. Freddy Mercury	b. "Angie"
3. Ozzy Osbourn	c. "Englishman in New York"
4. Adele	d. "Mama, I am Coming Home"
5. Mick Jagger	e. "No Regrets"
6. Robbie Williams	f. "The Show Must Go On"
7. Ed Sheeran	g. "Give Peace a Chance"
8. Sting	h. "Skyfall"

**Tasks (8-10) Choose the correct option. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.**

**8.** Which statement about London is not true?

- 1) Feeding pigeons in Trafalgar Square is prohibited.
- 2) People living in London speak over 300 languages.
- 3) The history of The Globe goes back to Shakespeare's times.
- 4) The British Museum holds the Magna Carta.

**9.** Which statement is true?

- 1) Queen Elizabeth II is head of state of 15 independent states.
- 2) Boris Johnson is the leader of the Labour Party.
- 3) The UK is a founder member of NATO.
- 4) Britain left the European Union in 2019.

**10.** Which statement about employment and education in the USA is false?

- 1) The minimum age for employment is 14 years old.
- 2) Bachelor's degrees typically take 3 years to complete.
- 3) In some states, teens need a permit completed by a school official or signed by parents to get a job.
- 4) A person needs to be at least 17 years old to attend an American university.



## **CREATIVE WRITING (20 points)**

**Choose one topic:**

**1. Governments should offer vocational and higher education free of charge to all students.**

*Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you either agree or disagree with the recommendation and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, describe specific circumstances in which adopting the recommendation would or would not be advantageous and explain how these examples shape your position. You should write about 250 – 300 words.*

**2. In most professions and academic fields, imagination is more important than knowledge.**

*Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position. You should write about 250 – 300 words.*

