

PROVA DI LINGUA INGLESE

EDIZIONE 2021

TEST 6 PHOENIX VERSION A

READING AND USE OF ENGLISH

TIME: 1 HOUR AND 45 MINUTES

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES**

Read the instructions for each part of the test carefully.

Answer all the questions.

**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS TEST BOOKLET.**

**Write your answers on the answer sheet.**

**Use only the black ink pen that is given to you.**

You must complete the answer sheet within the time limit.

At the end of the test, hand in both this test booklet and your answer sheet.

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Ten. Col. ERS. ANGELONI

*M. J. S. U*

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Ten. Col. RS S. Angelo ANGELONI

TEST STRUCTURE

## PART 1—Multiple Choice Cloze

Item 1: 5 gaps

Item 2: 5 gaps

Total—10 questions

## PART 2—Multiple Choice

Item 1: 5 questions

Item 2: 5 questions

Item 3: 5 questions

Item 4: 5 questions

Item 5: 5 questions

Item 6: 5 questions

Total—30 questions

## PART 3—Gapped Text

Item 1: 5 missing sentences

Item 2: 5 missing sentences

Total—10 questions

## PART 4—Multiple Matching


Item 1: 10 statements

Total—10 questions

**TOTAL NO. OF QUESTIONS: 60****SCORING CRITERIA: Each correct answer is awarded 0.5 points.****TOTAL SCORE: 30 POINTS** (Part 1—5 points; Part 2—15 points; Part 3—5 points; Part 4—5 points)



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 Ten. Col. F. ANGELONI



## PART 1

## Multiple Choice Cloze

ITEM 1: For questions 1-5 read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Whoever you are, wherever you live, Crimestoppers is there for you. Crimestoppers is a registered charity that gives you the power to speak (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to crime, 100% anonymously. It allows the general public to alert the police of criminal activities that (2) \_\_\_\_\_ their community, such as drug-dealing, armed robbery, burglary or murder.

The key to its success is due to the fact that callers always retain their anonymity. No names are asked for, calls are not recorded, and no written statement or court appearance is required. Since it was set (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in 1998, Crimestoppers have received over 400,000 calls with useful information, resulting in the arrest of 42,000 suspected offenders. Over £55 million worth of stolen property has been (4) \_\_\_\_\_, as well as drugs to the value of around £32 million.

Crimestoppers also share advice on how to protect the people you care about from crime, so everyone can feel safe. After receiving your call or a completed anonymous online form, Crimestoppers (5) \_\_\_\_\_ up a report that brings together all the information you gave, making sure it doesn't contain anything that could identify you.

Your report is sent to the relevant authority with the legal responsibility to investigate crimes, make arrests and charge people in order to bring them to justice.

- |    |   |            |   |        |   |           |   |           |
|----|---|------------|---|--------|---|-----------|---|-----------|
| 1. | A | up         | B | on     | C | off       | D | over      |
| 2. | A | infect     | B | affect | C | effect    | D | disaffect |
| 3. | A | on         | B | up     | C | off       | D | around    |
| 4. | A | retaliated | B | remade | C | renovated | D | recovered |
| 5. | A | look       | B | draw   | C | find      | D | sign      |

## PART 1

## Multiple Choice Cloze

ITEM 2: For questions 6-10 read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Stuart, a 65-year-old tractor-driver from Kennebunkport, Maine, won a \$100,000 (6) \_\_\_\_\_ from a scratch-off ticket he bought in early September. That win might have been more thrilling, if he hadn't already won a \$1 million jackpot from another Maine Lottery scratch-off ticket in May. You would think that winning \$1.1 million in a matter of five months would (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to some major splurges, but Stuart told *The Boston Globe* that not much had changed for him despite his seven-figure winnings.

"Ain't nothing really different," said Stuart, who still lives in the same "aging trailer" in Kennebunkport, according to *The Boston Globe*. "I do the same things over and over." Stuart even continues to work 11-hour shifts at a local concrete contractor where he drives a front-end loader tractor. In fact, Stuart told the *Globe* that he waited a week to hand (8) \_\_\_\_\_ his million-dollar winning ticket in May—not because he wanted some time to process the win, but because that was the earliest his work schedule would allow to give him enough time off to drive 1.5 hours to the Maine Lottery headquarters in Augusta, Maine.

Stuart also (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to hire any lawyers or accountants to help him manage his newfound wealth—which many experts recommend doing — opting instead to consult his bank's free financial (10) \_\_\_\_\_. "Why should I pay those guys?" Stuart says.

- |     |   |            |   |          |   |             |   |               |
|-----|---|------------|---|----------|---|-------------|---|---------------|
| 6.  | A | price      | B | prize    | C | reward      | D | premium       |
| 7.  | A | cause      | B | takes    | C | lead        | D | result        |
| 8.  | A | in         | B | out      | C | on          | D | over          |
| 9.  | A | turned off | B | declined | C | rejects     | D | stretches out |
| 10. | A | mentor     | B | adviser  | C | consultancy | D | advocacy      |

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about Japan and its ageing population. For questions 11-15 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Paro, the furry seal, cries softly while an elderly woman pets it. Pepper, a humanoid, waves while leading a group of senior citizens in exercises. The upright tree guides a disabled man taking shaky steps, saying in a gentle almost feminine voice, “right, left, well done!” The Japanese government hopes it will be a model for harnessing the country’s robotics expertise to help cope with a swelling elderly population and dwindling workforce. Allowing robots to help care for the elderly—a job typically seen as requiring a human touch—may be a jarring idea in the West, but many Japanese see them positively, largely because they are depicted in popular media as friendly and helpful.

[2] Plenty of obstacles may hinder a rapid proliferation of elder care robots: high costs, safety issues and doubts about how useful—and user-friendly—they will be. The Japanese government has been funding development of elder care robots to help fill a projected shortfall of 380,000 specialized workers by 2025. Despite steps by Japan to allow foreign workers in for elder care, obstacles to employment in the sector remain, including exams in Japanese. As of the end of 2017, only 18 foreigners held nursing care visas, a new category created in 2016.

[3] But authorities and companies here are also eyeing a larger prize: a potentially lucrative export industry supplying robots to places such as Germany, China and Italy, which either face similar demographic challenges now or will be doing so in the near future.

[4] “It’s an opportunity for us,” says the director of the robotic policy office at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. “Other countries will soon follow the same trend.”

11. According to paragraph 1, robotics...

- a) has become a thriving industry throughout the world.
- b) will provide elderly people with some basic support.
- c) costs too much and the government cannot afford it.
- d) will suppress migration flows to Japan.

12. According to paragraph 2, foreign workers...

- a) hold off accepting job opportunities in Japan.
- b) strive hard to get a well-paid job in Japan.
- c) are skilled but are not proficient in Japanese.
- d) find it difficult to mingle with the local people.

13. In paragraph 3, line 1, the word "eyeing" implies that companies...

- a) are not trying to expand their market share.
- b) are not interested in increasing their profits.
- c) are considering exporting their pricy products.
- d) are looking to do away with foreigner workers.

14. The text says that in Japan...

- a) there is an increase in specialized healthcare workers.
- b) there is a shortfall of specialized workers in all sectors.
- c) there is a problem with the flow of illegal migrants.
- d) good robotics have been developed to help the elderly.

15. The greatest challenge for Japan is to...

- a) provide an ageing population with proper social care.
- b) optimize medical treatments to help cure the elderly.
- c) limit the proliferation of Japanese-built robotics.
- d) explore new markets only in developing countries.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 2: You are going to read an article about the advantages of doing team sports. For questions 16-20 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

(1) Team sports are about much more than their physical benefits. This is especially so when group sports activities are incorporated into a young person's life. Studies have shown a direct correlation between physical activity and academic performance. A University of Kansas study that examined the performance of students in grades 9 to 12 showed that more than 97% of student athletes graduated high school—10% higher than students who had never participated in sports. Athletes were also shown to have better GPA outcomes than non-athletes.

(2) This might have to do with the increased cognitive ability that comes from playing sports. Physical activity naturally increases blood flow to the brain and activates endorphins, chemicals that are released when you exercise. Endorphins can impact your mood and work performance, meaning athletes may be more willing and capable of tackling that next big problem.

(3) Team sports can also help with emotional development. Research published by the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute states that exercise can lead to a unique state of short-term relaxation. That relaxation can promote increased concentration, better memory, enhanced creativity, more effective problem solving, and an improved mood—all benefits that extend into the classroom.

(4) Team athletes are constantly working with a slate of other people, many of whom can become positive role models along the way. Team sports foster mentorship between older and younger players, coaches and athletes, and more. Coaches in particular can play an important role in a young athlete's life. Players who have positive sports mentors when they're young are also more likely to seek effective role models throughout their life.

(5) Soft skills are personal attributes that allow people to build positive social relationships. Team sports are an excellent source of soft skills development, as they allow athletes to grow within a supportive environment.



16. According to the text, young people who practice sports...

- a) graduate from high school and obtain good results.
- b) have more chances of tackling challenges in life.
- c) make good decisions thanks to the release of endorphins.
- d) score great only because they work in teams.

17. According to the text, which of the following sentences is **TRUE**?

- a) Stress cannot be relieved by practicing certain sports.
- b) Team members who are uncooperative obtain the same benefits as all others.
- c) Good leaders may be emulated by younger athletes later on in life.
- d) Every benefit of team sports is due to the role played by coaches and advisers.

18. According to paragraph 3, doing sport can...

- a) help people to explore their identity.
- b) play a key role in spotting personal problems.
- c) unlock skills and emotions that will help when coping with problems.
- d) regulate the release of endorphin, thus helping athletes live better.

19. In paragraph 4, line 1, the word "*slate*" can best be substituted by...

- a) guest.
- b) number.
- c) visitor.
- d) traveler.

20. In paragraph 5, we understand that for an environment to be supportive athletes have to...

- a) be able to rely on each other.
- b) depend on their own skills and ask for help when their soft skills are not good enough.
- c) create a network of young people addicted to sports.
- d) unlock to the fullest their soft skills, rely on others and forge good relationships.

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Ten. Col. I RS SERGI ANGELONI

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 3: You are going to read an article about how the world will change in the years to come. For questions 21-25 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Brexit, coronavirus, and trade tiffs may be making economic headwinds, but despite immediate challenges, the world economy is projected to keep growing at a rapid pace over the next few decades. In fact, by 2050, the global market is projected to double its current size, even as the UN forecasts that the world's population will only grow by a modest 26%.

[2] This growth will bring with it plenty of changes. Though it can be challenging to predict exactly how the future will unfold, most economists agree on one thing: today's developing markets will be tomorrow's economic superpowers.

[3] According to *The World In 2050* report by the international professional services firm PwC, in 30 years, six of the world's emerging economies will be tomorrow's largest economies, surpassing the U.S. (which will drop from 2nd to 3rd), Japan (from 4th to 8th) and Germany (from 5th to 9th). Even relatively smaller economies like Vietnam, the Philippines and Nigeria will see huge leaps in their respective rankings over the next three decades.

[4] But despite the double-digit growth and the economic progress recorded in lots of countries, humanity will be likely to fail to solve many of its problems. So far, the world has not weaned itself off fossil fuels or antibiotics, protected the rain forest, or reduced the stigma surrounding mental illness. We have not flood-proofed our cities or protected our energy grids from natural disasters.

[5] With 2050 just a few decades away, major issues await the world. Therefore, the focus should not be only on the economic outlook. It is undeniable that in countries where people live better, there are also fewer chances of witnessing illiteracy, structural social problems and diseases traditionally related to poverty. But science and technology should play their part and start focusing on solutions to make the future appear really brighter for all.

21. According to this article...

- a) the world will face big demographic imbalances.
- b) unprecedented economies, either large or small, will step in and hold the economic power.
- c) larger and smaller economies will fight to claim their supremacy.
- d) the main global problems will all be solved within the next fifty years.

22. In paragraph 2, line 2, the statement "it can be challenging to predict exactly how the future will unfold" means that...

- a) the future will gradually reveal positive and negative sides.
- b) it is difficult to say exactly how events may develop in the future.
- c) nothing will be as bleak as it was in the past.
- d) the future will definitely change people's perspective on things.

23. In paragraph 3, *The World In 2050* report says that...

- a) the global markets will continue to be controlled by the current large economies.
- b) the current large economies will face a number of social challenges.
- c) Nigeria and Vietnam will be as powerful as Japan and China.
- d) the world will see some growing economies of today become tomorrow's largest markets.

24. According to this article, in paragraph 4 we understand that...

- a) the economic growth in the so-called developing markets will prevail over their structural problems.
- b) problems such as climate change and the stigma surrounding poverty are bound to remain completely unsolved.
- c) people have begun to give priority to environmental issues as opposed to economic growth.
- d) striking the right balance between a robust growth and maintaining respect for the Earth is the real challenge.

25. Which definition is **TRUE**?

- a) Science and technology may help solve big global issues, if properly involved.
- b) Disrupting poverty is not key to achieving progress and eradicating widespread diseases.
- c) Nothing can really change and humankind is bound to die out.
- d) Prioritizing a double-digit growth will go hand in hand with good environmental policies.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 4: You are going to read an article about developments in the labor market. For questions 26-30 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] The overall number of women in top business roles is still painfully low—only 5% of CEOs of major corporations in the U.S. are women—but there are reasons for optimism. Since 2015 the number of women in senior leadership has grown, particularly in the C-suite where the representation of women has increased from 17% to 21%. Today, 44% of companies have three or more women in their C-suite, up from 29% of companies in 2015. Corporate America scores much lower than France or Norway, where businesses average more than 40% female representation on a board of directors.

[2] Diversity in leadership is good for business. For example, a Harvard Business School report on the male-dominated venture capital industry found that “the more similar the investment partners, the lower their investments’ performance”. In fact, firms that increased their proportion of female partner hires by 10% saw, on average, a 1.5% spike in overall fund returns each year and had 9.7% more profitable exits.

[3] Evolving job needs are empowering women and levelling the playing field. The new service economy doesn’t rely on physical strength but skills that come easily to women, such as determination, attention to detail and measured thinking. The female brain is naturally wired for long-term strategic vision and community building. The emergence of female leaders can become a centrifugal force for good in the world. For the first time, we’re seeing examples of female leaders emerging from across the generations to cross-weave their knowledge and drive for change.

[4] There’s nothing inherently masculine about blockchain, artificial intelligence (AI) or machine learning; computers are androgynous by nature. That said, the tech sector remains heavily dominated by men. According to the World Economic Forum, the greatest challenge preventing the economic gender gap from closing is women’s under-representation in emerging roles.

[5] More women are now being elected to legislatures across the world: women hold 25.2% of parliamentary lower-house seats and 21.2% of ministerial positions, compared to 24.1% and 19% respectively last year. While there is a long way to go, improving political empowerment for women typically corresponds with increased numbers of women in senior roles in the labour market. Yet, for those countries and political parties—and corporations for that matter—which have never appointed a woman to the top position, the suspicion that the system isn’t fair and that the glass ceilings are unbreakable grows with every election.

[6] The survival of the planet requires new thinking and strategies. We are in a pitched battle between the present array of resources and attitudes and the future struggling to be born. Women get it; young people get it. They are creating a whole different mindset. Ultimately, the problems we face are not technological, but human—the human system is broken. People should always be appointed on merit and the electorate must decide, but more still needs to be done to give all women the best possible chance of rising to the top.

26. According to the text, in paragraph 2 we understand that...
- the rate of women's participation has not changed in the last twenty years.
  - firms that have increased women's participation in top positions have scored overall better results.
  - women's participation is crucial but the female workforce continues to decrease.
  - only 40% of international companies hired top female leaders in 2019.
27. In paragraph 2, the author also states that...
- businessmen prefer doing business with men.
  - companies that have hired more women have fallen behind in their profits.
  - the chances of cutting good deals are higher if the same business pattern is used.
  - the business knowhow of female corporate leaders has led to increased profits.
28. In paragraph 3, line 6, the expression "to cross-weave" means...
- enhance.
  - boost.
  - convert.
  - combine.
29. In paragraph 6, the author states that...
- women have high expectations that can hardly be met.
  - changes will call for a new mindset and women are best equipped to take on the challenges facing the upcoming world.
  - by setting priorities women are best equipped to adapt to changes.
  - in the future women will have more job opportunities than men.
30. The author...
- infers that competition between men and women will become fiercer.
  - states that both men and women can boast long-term strategic vision.
  - states that women can strike a better balance between work and family life.
  - states that in some sectors female representation is still much too low.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

**ITEM 5: You are going to read an article about healthcare in Europe. For questions 31-35 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.**

[1] More than 70% of EU citizens are satisfied with the overall quality of the healthcare in their home country, according to a new survey by the European Commission (EC). However, there are great differences between member states, with western and northern countries being in general more positive. While almost all respondents in Belgium (97%), Austria (96%), Malta and Finland (both 94%) say that the overall healthcare quality in their country is good, only around a quarter of respondents in Romania (25%) and in Greece (26%) say the same.

[2] The Eurozone debt crisis has forced some governments to drastically cut public health budgets in an effort to contain deficits, with Greece having taken the toughest measures. Yet despite the crisis, in some countries, citizens are becoming happier about the quality of the healthcare they receive. Since the last Eurobarometer survey in 2009, there have been some big shifts in opinions, including in Lithuania, where 40% of the respondents said the overall quality of healthcare was good compared to 65% today (+25). Likewise, respondents in Hungary (+19), Portugal and Malta (both +13) are also now considerably more likely to be positive about the overall quality of healthcare in their respective countries.

[3] When asked to name up to three criteria they associated with high quality healthcare, respondents picked well-trained staff (53%), treatment that works (40%) and modern medical equipment (25%). Surprisingly, respondents also said that “cleanliness” was as important as “no waiting lists” and “proximity of hospital and doctor” (24%).

[4] But what are the real problems facing EU countries? **Vytenis Andriukaitis explained what Europe needs to do to safeguard and extend access to high-quality healthcare in challenging times.** A surgeon by profession, and former Lithuanian Health Minister, he says he is unhappy that, in response to the financial crisis, some governments raided their health budgets as part of their efforts to cut public spending, and argues that such a policy is counterproductive.

[5] “The message is clear: The healthcare system creates conditions for jobs and the economy to recover, and spending on health must be seen as an investment because it is the way to fight against poor healthcare,” asserted **Andriukaitis.** It’s an important message to get across, particularly as these healthcare cuts are often perceived as a response to pressure from Europe, which in the wake of the financial crash is taking a tougher line on policing the size of the budget deficits run by Member States. Less widely known is that the Commission now also makes an annual review of how governments’ economic plans align with the EU 2020 strategy for “a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy” – and since 2012, this review has included health spending. This means that the Commission can, and does, now make explicit recommendations in relation to national health systems, which gives added weight to the strong message from the Health Commissioner about increasing investment.

31. According to the article, Vytenis Andriukaitis is...
- a) a family doctor.
  - b) a general practitioner.
  - c) a medical professional specialized in surgery.
  - d) a bureaucrat working in the healthcare sector.
32. The article states that the overall quality of healthcare in Europe is...
- a) currently deteriorating in all countries.
  - b) acceptable in all countries by all counts.
  - c) steadily improving and there is no gap between poor and rich countries.
  - d) steadily improving but there are still great differences among member states.
33. In paragraph 5, line 5, the expression "*in the wake of the financial crash*" means...
- a) following the financial crisis.
  - b) before the financial crisis started.
  - c) **notwithstanding** the financial crisis.
  - d) in spite of the financial crisis.
34. In paragraphs 4 and 5, former commissioner Andriukaitis complains about...
- a) the tough measures adopted by the single countries.
  - b) the fact that some EU countries have disregarded EU recommendations that suggested spending more on healthcare.
  - c) the cuts imposed by the European Commission.
  - d) the way the EU has implemented measures.
35. Which of the following statements is **FALSE**?
- a) The EU 2020 strategy aimed at establishing a sustainable economy.
  - b) Spending on health is sometimes not perceived as a good investment.
  - c) Greece was one of the countries mostly affected by big cuts in public expenditure in healthcare and social services.
  - d) The Commission keeps its annual reviews confidential.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 6: You are going to read an article about multilingualism. For questions 36-40 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Multilingualism is one of the founding principles of the European Union, but only one in five Europeans can speak two languages other than their own—even though the picture is improving. What really makes the difference is the effectiveness of language teaching and exposure to foreign languages.

[2] Multilingualism is understood by European institutions as either the capacity of a single individual to express him-herself in other languages (plurilingualism), or the coexistence of different linguistic communities in a specific geographic area. Beyond the clear commercial and industrial implications, the promotion of language learning means supporting understanding between people of different cultures, facilitating public transnational debate, and strengthening the European identity. Thus, multilingualism has a strategic dimension for Europe: as the Council itself argues, “multilingual competence is at the heart of the vision of a European Education Area.”

[3] Currently, getting European citizens to learn more languages is still just a project on paper. **Looking at the Eurostat data**, little more than half of European citizens claim to be able to hold a conversation in a second language. Only one citizen in five can speak two languages other than their own, and fewer than one in ten know more than three languages. Obviously, these percentages vary from country to country, age-group and employment situations are also important factors (in contrast, there are no major differences between women and men). So, for example, while around 73% of citizens between 25 and 34 years old speak at least one foreign language, the figure gradually drops among all the older age groups, until reaching 55% for citizens aged between 55 and 64.

[4] It's not enough to simply measure how many pupils take lessons in foreign languages. We also need to understand how effectively they learn, and how motivated they are to use these languages. While official data on age and language-learning is encouraging, data from other studies show significant variation in the level of mastery among students from one European country to another.

[5] There are two main factors involved in successfully learning foreign languages: the effectiveness of language teaching in the school system, and exposure to the languages in the lived environment. Thus, beyond strengthening language education in schools (investing in teacher training, improving the continuity between elementary and middle school, etc.), broader exposure to the languages needs to be encouraged—for example, showing foreign films with subtitles instead of dubbing, as is done in northern countries. In this sense, the spread of the internet and streaming video have contributed greatly to the learning of languages, especially English.



36. According to paragraph 2, multilingualism is aimed at...
- a) improving trade policies.
  - b) fostering the geopolitical debate.
  - c) changing people's identities.
  - d) forging the values connected with education.
37. According to paragraph 3, people who speak more than one foreign language...
- a) are mostly men.
  - b) are men and women aged at least 60.
  - c) are generally not older than 35.
  - d) find more job opportunities.
38. In paragraphs 4 and 5, the article states that...
- a) people are interested in learning languages and are traveling more.
  - b) the widespread use of the internet has prevented people from learning better.
  - c) without motivation and opportunities to use languages, learners' performance gets worse.
  - d) students who do not do well in foreign languages usually drop out of school.
39. According to paragraph 5, the effectiveness of language learning depends on...
- a) a set of initiatives aimed at enhancing teachers' motivation.
  - b) the hiring practices in higher education.
  - c) the wide range of learning and teaching activities being implemented.
  - d) the sole commitment of the individual learner.
40. In paragraph 5, line 6, the practice of "dubbing" involves...
- a) adapting films to the audience's cultural values.
  - b) reshooting films after they have been translated.
  - c) translating and re-recording the dialogues in a film.
  - d) having students practice different pronunciations.

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Ten. Col. E. P. Angelo ANGELONI

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## PART 3

## Gapped Text

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about habitable planets and the universe. Five sentences have been removed from the text. For questions 41-45 select the sentence (A-B-C-D-E) that best completes each gap.

The recent announcement by a team of astronomers that there could be as many as 40 billion habitable planets in our galaxy has further fueled the speculation, popular even among many distinguished scientists, that the universe is teeming with life.

The astronomer Geoffrey W. Marcy of the University of California, Berkeley, an experienced planet hunter and co-author of the study that generated the finding, said that it “represents one great leap toward the possibility of life”. [41] \_\_\_\_\_.

But “possibility” is not the same as likelihood. If a planet is to be inhabited rather than merely habitable, two basic requirements must be met. [42] \_\_\_\_\_.

What can be said about the chances of life starting up on a habitable planet? [43] \_\_\_\_\_. “One might as well speculate about the origin of matter,” he quipped. In spite of intensive research, scientists are still very much in the dark about the mechanism that transformed a non-living chemical soup into a living cell. [44] \_\_\_\_\_.

When I was a student in the 1960s, the prevailing view among scientists was that life on Earth was a freak phenomenon, the result of a sequence of chemical accidents so rare that they would be unlikely to have happened twice in the observable universe. “Man at last knows he is alone in the unfeeling immensity of the universe, out of which he has emerged only by chance,” wrote the biologist Jacques Monod.

Today the pendulum has swung dramatically, and many distinguished scientists claim that life will almost inevitably arise in Earth-like conditions. [45] \_\_\_\_\_.

**MISSING SENTENCES:**

- A) Yet this decisive shift in view is based on little more than a hunch, rather than an improved understanding of life's origin.
- B) But without knowing the process that produced life, the odds of its happening can't be estimated.
- C) Darwin gave us a powerful explanation of how life on Earth evolved over billions of years, but he would not be drawn out on the question of how life got going in the first place.
- D) The planet must first be suitable and then life must emerge on it at some stage.
- E) And this likelihood includes intelligent life in the universe.

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Ten. Col. L. ROSSO ANGELO

M. S. Dabas

## PART 3

## Gapped Text

ITEM 2: You are going to read an article about learning a new language. Five sentences have been removed from the text. For questions 46-50 select the sentence (A-B-C-D-E) that best completes each gap.

If you're struggling to learn a new language, *breathe*, you're not alone. Adults famously find language learning more difficult than children, whose super-flexible brains actually grow the connections necessary to learn an additional language. But, why is it so hard to learn a foreign language, anyway? Put simply, it's hard because it challenges both your mind (your brain has to construct new cognitive frameworks) and time (it requires sustained, consistent practice). But there's more to it than that. Three major factors make language learning difficult, but some tips can make it much easier. Some studies suggest that our own brain's unique wiring can pre-determine language success. In a study conducted at McGill University, participants' brains were scanned before and after undergoing an intensive 12-week French course. [46] \_\_\_\_\_.

While this could mean that some people are simply cognitively better equipped for language learning, it doesn't mean that everyone shouldn't try. After-work classes, studying abroad, apps, talking with your foreign partner, working overseas, taking an intensive language course – there are so many ways to learn a language. [47] \_\_\_\_\_. Unfortunately, our more sophisticated grown-up brains *get* in the way of learning. As adults, we tend to learn by accumulating vocabulary, but often don't know how each piece interacts to form grammatically correct language.

Other studies suggest that adults' tendency to over-analyze hinders their ability to pick up a foreign language's subtle nuances, and that straining harder and harder does not result in better outcomes. Vox's Katie Nielson blames this on the idea of 'language as object'. "In history class, you start chronologically and you use dates in the order of how things happened. That's just not how language-learning works," she says. "You can't memorize a bunch of words and rules and expect to speak the language—that is knowledge of 'language as object'—you can describe the language, but you can't use it." [48]. \_\_\_\_\_.

The remedy? Lose the perfection. Get messy in your learning – whether via app, class or travel – be happy to make mistakes and realize that you *will* feel silly at times. We empathize! It's not easy to learn a language that's vastly different than your own (think English speakers struggling with Korean, or a Thai native wrestling with Arabic). [49] \_\_\_\_\_. Research at Donders Institute and Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics indicates that our brains are not indifferent to the similarities between languages. [50] \_\_\_\_\_.

**MISSING SENTENCES:**

- A) So, they will reuse our native tongue's grammar and characteristics to make sense of a similarly-structured foreign language.
- B) Interestingly, studies show that these difficulties are not due to personal aversions to challenge, but rather, to neurological preferences.
- C) It's better, she says, to consider the process "skill learning" (something you do), rather than "object learning" (something you know).
- D) However, it's clear that because adults have to *be adults*, we simply can't learn "implicitly" as young children do, by following around a nurturing native speaker all day.
- E) Researchers found that stronger connections between brain centers involved in speaking and reading were seen in the better-performing participants.

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## PART 4

## Multiple Matching

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about how Lady Diana Spencer changed the British monarchy. The article is divided into five paragraphs (A-E). Following the text you will find 10 statements (marked 51-60). Match each statement to the paragraph in which you can find the information.

[A] When Lady Diana Spencer was born in 1961, there was little to suggest she would shake up the British establishment. She was the youngest of three daughters of the future Earl Spencer, scion of an aristocratic British family that had been prominent since the early 16th century. But her life was scarred early by family instability. Her father, like many of his class, craved a son and an heir. The pressure he put on her mother, Frances, with constant visits to fertility specialists, probably contributed to their divorce after she finally gave birth to a boy, Diana's younger brother Charles.

[B] Diana was a shy child. She loved ballet, but grew too tall to be a professional ballerina. Earl Spencer put little stock in women's education, so Diana left school at age 16 without qualifications. She shone, however, with children, and moved to London to work as a nursery assistant while waiting for a suitable marriage. Diana found a suitable marriage, and the story of its disintegration is well known. By the early 1980s, the Queen's son Charles was facing unbearable pressure to find a publicly acceptable bride: Diana was well-bred, seemingly pliable, and a virgin. When they met Diana was 19—13 years younger than Charles—and he seemed to still be involved with his old girlfriend, the married Camilla Parker Bowles. Diana and Charles' arranged marriage seemed eminently suitable at the time. The cracks only showed slightly. The pair had met 13 times before their engagement; Diana later revealed she was expected to call Charles "sir."

[C] In a public interview, the couple was asked if they were in love. Diana responded, "Yes, of course." Charles merely muttered, "Whatever love means." Diana later recalled that this moment "threw her completely and traumatized her." Within a year of his marriage, Camilla had become Charles' royal mistress. Diana would later tell a TV interviewer, "There were three of us in this marriage, so it was a bit crowded."

[D] Long before the public knew of the royal couple's marital troubles, Diana had a reputation for bringing emotional honesty back to royal palaces. She raised the couple's two sons, William and Harry, as much as possible herself. She laughed, cried and swore in public. No surprise that when her marriage finally crumbled, she chose to call out the royal family on its culture of closed doors and sexual hypocrisy. Thanks to Diana's example, the British royals today have become a family whose members talk publicly about their feelings, who laugh, cry and swear with their subjects. For the first time in history, the royals have become relatable.

[E] Prince William encourages his subjects to be open about their emotions. In a magazine interview, he said: "There may be a time and a place for the 'stiff upper lip,' but not at the expense of your health." This may seem accepted wisdom to some Americans. In Britain, coming from the heart of the repressed aristocracy, it represents a major shift.

MATCH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS TO THE CORRECT PARAGRAPH (A-E).  
THERE ARE TWO STATEMENTS FOR EACH PARAGRAPH.

Which paragraph...

51. suggests that the royals have become empathetic people?
52. describes Lady Diana's early steps towards the Royal family?
53. suggests that Lady Diana was putting the core values of the establishment to a hard test?
54. states that Lady Diana did not grow up in an ideal family setting?
55. states that Lady Diana was well-aware of Prince Charles's affair with Camilla Parker Bowles?
56. suggests that Lady Diana's mother was under heavy pressure?
57. suggests that people should give voice to their emotions?
58. states what Lady Diana loved as a young girl?
59. suggests that Lady Diana and Prince Charles defined love very differently?
60. suggests that the British aristocracy is now less repressed?

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ANSWER KEY

PHOENIX VERSION A - 2021

PART 1	PART 2	PART 2 continued	PART 4
1. A	11. B	31. C	51. D
2. B	12. C	32. D	52. B
3. B	13. C	33. A	53. D
4. D	14. D	34. B	54. A
5. B	15. A	35. D	55. C
6. B	16. A	36. D	56. A
7. C	17. C	37. C	57. E
8. A	18. C	38. C	58. B
9. B	19. B	39. C	59. C
10. B	20. D	40. C	60. E
	21. B	PART 3	
	22. B	41. E	
	23. D	42. D	
	24. D	43. C	
	25. A	44. B	
	26. B	45. A	
	27. D	46. E	
	28. D	47. D	
	29. B	48. C	
	30. D	49. B	
		50. A	

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PROVA DI LINGUA INGLESE

EDIZIONE 2021

TEST 6 PHOENIX VERSION B

READING AND USE OF ENGLISH

TIME: 1 HOUR AND 45 MINUTES

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES**

Read the instructions for each part of the test carefully.

Answer all the questions.

**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS TEST BOOKLET.**

**Write your answers on the answer sheet.**

**Use only the black ink pen that is given to you.**

You must complete the answer sheet within the time limit.

At the end of the test, hand in both this test booklet and your answer sheet.

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TEST STRUCTURE

## PART 1—Multiple Choice Cloze

Item 1: 5 gaps

Item 2: 5 gaps

Total—10 questions

## PART 2—Multiple Choice

Item 1: 5 questions

Item 2: 5 questions

Item 3: 5 questions

Item 4: 5 questions

Item 5: 5 questions

Item 6: 5 questions

Total—30 questions

## PART 3—Gapped Text

Item 1: 5 missing sentences

Item 2: 5 missing sentences

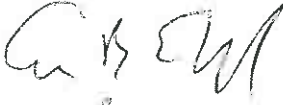

Total—10 questions

## PART 4—Multiple Matching

Item 1: 10 statements

Total—10 questions

**TOTAL NO. OF QUESTIONS: 60****SCORING CRITERIA: Each correct answer is awarded 0.5 points.****TOTAL SCORE: 30 POINTS** (Part 1—5 points; Part 2—15 points; Part 3—5 points; Part 4—5 points)

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## PART 1

## Multiple Choice Cloze

ITEM 1: For questions 1-5 read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Stuart, a 65-year-old tractor-driver from Kennebunkport, Maine, won a \$100,000 (1) \_\_\_\_\_ from a scratch-off ticket he bought in early September. That win might have been more thrilling, if he hadn't already won a \$1 million jackpot from another Maine Lottery scratch-off ticket in May. You would think that winning \$1.1 million in a matter of five months would (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to some major splurges, but Stuart told *The Boston Globe* that not much had changed for him despite his seven-figure winnings.

"Ain't nothing really different," said Stuart, who still lives in the same "aging trailer" in Kennebunkport, according to *The Boston Globe*. "I do the same things over and over." Stuart even continues to work 11-hour shifts at a local concrete contractor where he drives a front-end loader tractor. In fact, Stuart told the *Globe* that he waited a week to hand (3) \_\_\_\_\_ his million-dollar winning ticket in May—not because he wanted some time to process the win, but because that was the earliest his work schedule would allow to give him enough time off to drive 1.5 hours to the Maine Lottery headquarters in Augusta, Maine.

Stuart also (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to hire any lawyers or accountants to help him manage his newfound wealth—which many experts recommend doing — opting instead to consult his bank's free financial (5) \_\_\_\_\_. "Why should I pay those guys?" Stuart says.

- |    |   |             |   |          |   |            |   |               |
|----|---|-------------|---|----------|---|------------|---|---------------|
| 1. | A | reward      | B | premium  | C | price      | D | prize         |
| 2. | A | takes       | B | cause    | C | results    | D | lead          |
| 3. | A | out         | B | in       | C | over       | D | on            |
| 4. | A | rejects     | B | declined | C | turned off | D | stretches out |
| 5. | A | consultancy | B | advocacy | C | mentor     | D | adviser       |

## PART 1

## Multiple Choice Cloze

ITEM 2: For questions 6-10 read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Whoever you are, wherever you live, Crimestoppers is there for you. Crimestoppers is a registered charity that gives you the power to speak (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to crime, 100% anonymously. It allows the general public to alert the police of criminal activities that (7) \_\_\_\_\_ their community, such as drug-dealing, armed robbery, burglary or murder.

The key to its success is due to the fact that callers always retain their anonymity. No names are asked for, calls are not recorded, and no written statement or court appearance is required. Since it was set (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in 1998, Crimestoppers have received over 400,000 calls with useful information, resulting in the arrest of 42,000 suspected offenders. Over £55 million worth of stolen property has been (9) \_\_\_\_\_, as well as drugs to the value of around £32 million.

Crimestoppers also share advice on how to protect the people you care about from crime, so everyone can feel safe. After receiving your call or a completed anonymous online form, Crimestoppers (10) \_\_\_\_\_ up a report that brings together all the information you gave, making sure it doesn't contain anything that could identify you.

Your report is sent to the relevant authority with the legal responsibility to investigate crimes, make arrests and charge people in order to bring them to justice.

- |     |   |            |   |           |   |           |   |           |
|-----|---|------------|---|-----------|---|-----------|---|-----------|
| 6.  | A | up         | B | over      | C | off       | D | on        |
| 7.  | A | infect     | B | effect    | C | affect    | D | disaffect |
| 8.  | A | off        | B | around    | C | on        | D | up        |
| 9.  | A | retaliated | B | recovered | C | renovated | D | remade    |
| 10. | A | draw       | B | look      | C | sign      | D | find      |

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about the advantages of doing team sports. For questions 11-15 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

(1) Team sports are about much more than their physical benefits. This is especially so when group sports activities are incorporated into a young person's life. Studies have shown a direct correlation between physical activity and academic performance. A University of Kansas study that examined the performance of students in grades 9 to 12 showed that more than 97% of student athletes graduated high school—10% higher than students who had never participated in sports. Athletes were also shown to have better GPA outcomes than non-athletes.

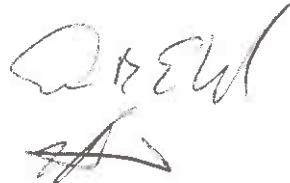
(2) This might have to do with the increased cognitive ability that comes from playing sports. Physical activity naturally increases blood flow to the brain and activates endorphins, chemicals that are released when you exercise. Endorphins can impact your mood and work performance, meaning athletes may be more willing and capable of tackling that next big problem.

(3) Team sports can also help with emotional development. Research published by the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute states that exercise can lead to a unique state of short-term relaxation. That relaxation can promote increased concentration, better memory, enhanced creativity, more effective problem solving, and an improved mood—all benefits that extend into the classroom.

(4) Team athletes are constantly working with a slate of other people, many of whom can become positive role models along the way. Team sports foster mentorship between older and younger players, coaches and athletes, and more. Coaches in particular can play an important role in a young athlete's life. Players who have positive sports mentors when they're young are also more likely to seek effective role models throughout their life.

(5) Soft skills are personal attributes that allow people to build positive social relationships. Team sports are an excellent source of soft skills development, as they allow athletes to grow within a supportive environment.

11. According to the text, young people who practice sports...
- score great only because they work in teams.
  - have more chances of tackling challenges in life.
  - make good decisions thanks to the release of endorphins.
  - graduate from high school and obtain good results.
12. According to the text, which of the following sentences is **TRUE**?
- Good leaders may be emulated by younger athletes later on in life.
  - Every benefit of team sports is due to the role played by coaches and advisers.
  - Stress cannot be relieved by practicing certain sports.
  - Team members who are uncooperative obtain the same benefits as all others.
13. In paragraph 4, line 1, the word "*slate*" can best be substituted by...
- traveler.
  - guest.
  - visitor.
  - number.
14. According to paragraph 3, doing sport can...
- unlock skills and emotions that will help when coping with problems.
  - play a key role in spotting personal problems.
  - help people to explore their identity.
  - regulate the release of endorphin, thus helping athletes live better.
15. In paragraph 5, we understand that for an environment to be supportive athletes have to,...
- unlock to the fullest their soft skills, rely on others and forge good relationships.
  - depend on their own skills and ask for help when their soft skills are not good enough.
  - be able to rely on each other.
  - create a network of young people addicted to sports.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 2: You are going to read an article about Japan and its ageing population. For questions 16-20 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Paro, the furry seal, cries softly while an elderly woman pets it. Pepper, a humanoid, waves while leading a group of senior citizens in exercises. The upright tree guides a disabled man taking shaky steps, saying in a gentle almost feminine voice, "right, left, well done!" The Japanese government hopes it will be a model for harnessing the country's robotics expertise to help cope with a swelling elderly population and dwindling workforce. Allowing robots to help care for the elderly—a job typically seen as requiring a human touch—may be a jarring idea in the West, but many Japanese see them positively, largely because they are depicted in popular media as friendly and helpful.

[2] Plenty of obstacles may hinder a rapid proliferation of elder care robots: high costs, safety issues and doubts about how useful—and user-friendly—they will be. The Japanese government has been funding development of elder care robots to help fill a projected shortfall of 380,000 specialized workers by 2025. Despite steps by Japan to allow foreign workers in for elder care, obstacles to employment in the sector remain, including exams in Japanese. As of the end of 2017, only 18 foreigners held nursing care visas, a new category created in 2016.

[3] But authorities and companies here are also eyeing a larger prize: a potentially lucrative export industry supplying robots to places such as Germany, China and Italy, which either face similar demographic challenges now or will be doing so in the near future.

[4] "It's an opportunity for us," says the director of the robotic policy office at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. "Other countries will soon follow the same trend."

16. According to paragraph 2, foreign workers...

- a) find it difficult to mingle with the local people.
- b) are skilled but are not proficient in Japanese.
- c) strive hard to get a well-paid job in Japan.
- d) hold off accepting job opportunities in Japan.

17. According to paragraph 1, robotics...

- a) will suppress migration flows to Japan.
- b) costs too much and the government cannot afford it.
- c) will provide elderly people with some basic support.
- d) has become a thriving industry throughout the world.

18. In paragraph 3, line 1, the word "eyeing" implies that companies...

- a) are not trying to expand their market share.
- b) are considering exporting their pricy products.
- c) are looking to do away with foreign workers.
- d) are not interested in increasing their profits.

19. The greatest challenge for Japan is to...

- a) limit the proliferation of Japanese-built robotics.
- b) explore new markets only in developing countries.
- c) optimize medical treatments to help cure the elderly.
- d) provide an ageing population with proper social care.

20. The text says that in Japan...

- a) there is a shortfall of specialized workers in all sectors.
- b) there is an increase in specialized healthcare workers.
- c) good robotics have been developed to help the elderly.
- d) there is a problem with the flow of illegal migrants.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 3: You are going to read an article about developments in the labor market. For questions 21-25 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] The overall number of women in top business roles is still painfully low—only 5% of CEOs of major corporations in the U.S. are women—but there are reasons for optimism. Since 2015 the number of women in senior leadership has grown, particularly in the C-suite where the representation of women has increased from 17% to 21%. Today, 44% of companies have three or more women in their C-suite, up from 29% of companies in 2015. Corporate America scores much lower than France or Norway, where businesses average more than 40% female representation on a board of directors.

[2] Diversity in leadership is good for business. For example, a Harvard Business School report on the male-dominated venture capital industry found that “the more similar the investment partners, the lower their investments’ performance”. In fact, firms that increased their proportion of female partner hires by 10% saw, on average, a 1.5% spike in overall fund returns each year and had 9.7% more profitable exits.

[3] Evolving job needs are empowering women and levelling the playing field. The new service economy doesn’t rely on physical strength but skills that come easily to women, such as determination, attention to detail and measured thinking. The female brain is naturally wired for long-term strategic vision and community building. The emergence of female leaders can become a centrifugal force for good in the world. For the first time, we’re seeing examples of female leaders emerging from across the generations to cross-weave their knowledge and drive for change.

[4] There’s nothing inherently masculine about blockchain, artificial intelligence (AI) or machine learning; computers are androgynous by nature. That said, the tech sector remains heavily dominated by men. According to the World Economic Forum, the greatest challenge preventing the economic gender gap from closing is women’s under-representation in emerging roles.

[5] More women are now being elected to legislatures across the world: women hold 25.2% of parliamentary lower-house seats and 21.2% of ministerial positions, compared to 24.1% and 19% respectively last year. While there is a long way to go, improving political empowerment for women typically corresponds with increased numbers of women in senior roles in the labour market. Yet, for those countries and political parties—and corporations for that matter—which have never appointed a woman to the top position, the suspicion that the system isn’t fair and that the glass ceilings are unbreakable grows with every election.

[6] The survival of the planet requires new thinking and strategies. We are in a pitched battle between the present array of resources and attitudes and the future struggling to be born. Women get it; young people get it. They are creating a whole different mindset. Ultimately, the problems we face are not technological, but human—the human system is broken. People should always be appointed on merit and the electorate must decide, but more still needs to be done to give all women the best possible chance of rising to the top.

21. According to the text, in paragraph 2 we understand that...
- a) the rate of women's participation has not changed in the last twenty years.
  - b) women's participation is crucial but the female workforce continues to decrease.
  - c) only 40% of international companies hired top female leaders in 2019.
  - d) firms that have increased women's participation in top positions have scored overall better results.
22. The author...
- a) states that in some sectors female representation is still much too low.
  - b) states that women can strike a better balance between work and family life.
  - c) states that both men and women can boast long-term strategic vision.
  - d) infers that competition between men and women will become fiercer.
23. In paragraph 6, the author states that...
- a) changes will call for a new mindset and women are best equipped to take on the challenges facing the upcoming world.
  - b) women have high expectations that can hardly be met.
  - c) in the future women will have more job opportunities than men.
  - d) by setting priorities women are best equipped to adapt to changes.
24. In paragraph 3, line 6, the expression "to cross-weave" means...
- a) enhance.
  - b) combine.
  - c) boost.
  - d) convert.
25. In paragraph 2, the author also states that...
- a) companies that have hired more women have fallen behind in their profits.
  - b) the chances of cutting good deals are higher if the same business pattern is used.
  - c) the business knowhow of female corporate leaders has led to increased profits.
  - d) businessmen prefer doing business with men.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 4: You are going to read an article about how the world will change in the years to come. For questions 26-30 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Brexit, coronavirus, and trade tiffs may be making economic headwinds, but despite immediate challenges, the world economy is projected to keep growing at a rapid pace over the next few decades. In fact, by 2050, the global market is projected to double its current size, even as the UN forecasts that the world's population will only grow by a modest 26%.

[2] This growth will bring with it plenty of changes. Though it can be challenging to predict exactly how the future will unfold, most economists agree on one thing: today's developing markets will be tomorrow's economic superpowers.

[3] According to *The World In 2050* report by the international professional services firm PwC, in 30 years, six of the world's emerging economies will be tomorrow's largest economies, surpassing the U.S. (which will drop from 2nd to 3rd), Japan (from 4th to 8th) and Germany (from 5th to 9th). Even relatively smaller economies like Vietnam, the Philippines and Nigeria will see huge leaps in their respective rankings over the next three decades.

[4] But despite the double-digit growth and the economic progress recorded in lots of countries, humanity will be likely to fail to solve many of its problems. So far, the world has not weaned itself off fossil fuels or antibiotics, protected the rain forest, or reduced the stigma surrounding mental illness. We have not flood-proofed our cities or protected our energy grids from natural disasters.

[5] With 2050 just a few decades away, major issues await the world. Therefore, the focus should not be only on the economic outlook. It is undeniable that in countries where people live better, there are also fewer chances of witnessing illiteracy, structural social problems and diseases traditionally related to poverty. But science and technology should play their part and start focusing on solutions to make the future appear really brighter for all.

26. According to this article...

- a) larger and smaller economies will fight to claim their supremacy.
- b) the main global problems will be solved within the next fifty years.
- c) the world will face big demographic imbalances.
- d) unprecedented economies, either large or small, will step in and hold the economic power.

27. In paragraph 2, line 2, the statement "it can be challenging to predict exactly how the future will unfold" means that...

- a) the future will definitely change people's perspective on things.
- b) nothing will be as bleak as it was in the past.
- c) it is difficult to say exactly how events may develop in the future.
- d) the future will gradually reveal positive and negative sides.

28. According to this article, in paragraph 4 we understand that...

- a) striking the right balance between a robust growth and maintaining respect for the Earth is the real challenge.
- b) people have begun to give priority to environmental issues as opposed to economic growth.
- c) problems such as climate change and the stigma surrounding poverty are bound to remain completely unsolved.
- d) the economic growth in the so-called developing markets will prevail over their structural problems.

29. In paragraph 3, *The World in 2050* report says that...

- a) the world will see some growing economies of today become tomorrow's largest markets.
- b) the global markets will continue to be controlled by the current large economies.
- c) Nigeria and Vietnam will be as powerful as Japan and China.
- d) the current large economies will face a number of social challenges.

30. Which definition is **TRUE**?

- a) Disrupting poverty is not key to achieving progress and eradicating widespread diseases.
- b) Nothing can really change and humankind is bound to die out.
- c) Prioritizing a double-digit growth will go hand in hand with good environmental policies.
- d) Science and technology may help solve big global issues, if properly involved.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 5: You are going to read an article about multilingualism. For questions 31-35 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Multilingualism is one of the founding principles of the European Union, but only one in five Europeans can speak two languages other than their own—even though the picture is improving. What really makes the difference is the effectiveness of language teaching and exposure to foreign languages.

[2] Multilingualism is understood by European institutions as either the capacity of a single individual to express him-herself in other languages (plurilingualism), or the coexistence of different linguistic communities in a specific geographic area. Beyond the clear commercial and industrial implications, the promotion of language **learning** means supporting understanding between people of different cultures, facilitating public transnational debate, and strengthening the European identity. Thus, multilingualism has a strategic dimension for Europe: as the Council itself argues, “multilingual competence is at the heart of the vision of a European Education Area.”

[3] Currently, getting European citizens to learn more languages is still just a project on paper. **Looking at the Eurostat data**, little more than half of European citizens claim to be able to hold a conversation in a second language. Only one citizen in five can speak two languages other than their own, and fewer than one in ten know more than three languages. Obviously, these percentages vary from country to country, age-group and employment situations are also important factors (in contrast, there are no major differences between women and men). So, for example, while around 73% of citizens between 25 and 34 years old speak at least one foreign language, the figure gradually drops among all the older age groups, until reaching 55% for citizens aged between 55 and 64.

[4] It's not enough to simply measure how many pupils take lessons in foreign languages. We also need to understand how effectively they learn, and how motivated they are to use these languages. While official data on age and language-learning is encouraging, data from other studies show significant variation in the level of mastery among students from one European country to another.

[5] There are two main factors involved in successfully learning foreign languages: the effectiveness of language teaching in the school system, and exposure to the languages in the lived environment. Thus, beyond strengthening language education in schools (investing in teacher training, improving the continuity between elementary and middle school, etc.), broader exposure to the languages needs to be encouraged—for example, showing foreign films with subtitles instead of dubbing, as is done in northern countries. In this sense, the spread of the internet and streaming video have contributed greatly to the learning of languages, especially English.

31. According to paragraph 2, multilingualism is aimed at...
- a) forging the values connected with education.
  - b) changing people's identities.
  - c) improving trade policies.
  - d) fostering the geopolitical debate.
32. In paragraphs 4 and 5, the article states that...
- a) the widespread use of the internet has prevented people from learning better.
  - b) students who do not do well in foreign languages usually drop out of school.
  - c) people are interested in learning languages and are traveling more.
  - d) without motivation and opportunities to use languages, learners' performance gets worse.
33. According to paragraph 3, people who speak more than one foreign language...
- a) find more job opportunities.
  - b) are generally not older than 35.
  - c) are mostly men.
  - d) are men and women aged at least 60.
34. In paragraph 5, line 6, the practice of "dubbing" involves...
- a) adapting films to the audience's cultural values.
  - b) having students practice different pronunciations.
  - c) reshooting films after they have been translated.
  - d) translating and re-recording the dialogues in a film.
35. According to paragraph 5, the effectiveness of language learning depends on...
- a) the sole commitment of the individual learner.
  - b) the hiring practices in higher education.
  - c) a set of initiatives aimed at enhancing teachers' motivation.
  - d) the wide range of learning and teaching activities being implemented.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 6: You are going to read an article about healthcare in Europe. For questions 36-40 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] More than 70% of EU citizens are satisfied with the overall quality of the healthcare in their home country, according to a new survey by the European Commission (EC). However, there are great differences between member states, with western and northern countries being in general more positive. While almost all respondents in Belgium (97%), Austria (96%), Malta and Finland (both 94%) say that the overall healthcare quality in their country is good, only around a quarter of respondents in Romania (25%) and in Greece (26%) say the same.

[2] The Eurozone debt crisis has forced some governments to drastically cut public health budgets in an effort to contain deficits, with Greece having taken the toughest measures. Yet despite the crisis, in some countries, citizens are becoming happier about the quality of the healthcare they receive. Since the last Eurobarometer survey in 2009, there have been some big shifts in opinions, including in Lithuania, where 40% of the respondents said the overall quality of healthcare was good compared to 65% today (+25). Likewise, respondents in Hungary (+19), Portugal and Malta (both +13) are also now considerably more likely to be positive about the overall quality of healthcare in their respective countries.

[3] When asked to name up to three criteria they associated with high quality healthcare, respondents picked well-trained staff (53%), treatment that works (40%) and modern medical equipment (25%). Surprisingly, respondents also said that "cleanliness" was as important as "no waiting lists" and "proximity of hospital and doctor" (24%).

[4] But what are the real problems facing EU countries? **Vytenis Andriukaitis explained what Europe needs to do to safeguard and extend access to high-quality healthcare in challenging times.** A surgeon by profession, and former Lithuanian Health Minister, he says he is unhappy that, in response to the financial crisis, some governments raided their health budgets as part of their efforts to cut public spending, and argues that such a policy is counterproductive.

[5] "The message is clear: The healthcare system creates conditions for jobs and the economy to recover, and spending on health must be seen as an investment because it is the way to fight against poor healthcare," asserted **Andriukaitis**. It's an important message to get across, particularly as these healthcare cuts are often perceived as a response to pressure from Europe, which in the wake of the financial crash is taking a tougher line on policing the size of the budget deficits run by Member States. Less widely known is that the Commission now also makes an annual review of how governments' economic plans align with the EU 2020 strategy for "a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy" – and since 2012, this review has included health spending. This means that the Commission can, and does, now make explicit recommendations in relation to national health systems, which gives added weight to the strong message from the Health Commissioner about increasing investment.

36. According to the article, Vytenis Andriukaitis is...
- a) a general practitioner.
  - b) a bureaucrat working in the healthcare sector.
  - c) a family doctor.
  - d) a medical professional specialized in surgery.
37. In paragraph 5, line 5, the expression "*in the wake of the financial crash*" means...
- a) before the financial crisis started.
  - b) following the financial crisis.
  - c) in spite of the financial crisis.
  - d) notwithstanding the financial crisis.
38. The article states that the overall quality of healthcare in Europe is...
- a) acceptable in all countries by all accounts.
  - b) steadily improving and there is no gap between poor and rich countries.
  - c) currently deteriorating in all countries.
  - d) steadily improving but there are still great differences among member states.
39. Which of the following statements is **FALSE**?
- a) Spending on health is sometimes not perceived as a good investment.
  - b) The EU 2020 strategy aimed at establishing a sustainable economy.
  - c) The Commission keeps its annual reviews confidential.
  - d) Greece was one of the countries mostly affected by big cuts in public expenditure in healthcare and social services.
40. In paragraphs 4 and 5, former commissioner Andriukaitis complains about...
- a) the fact that some EU countries have disregarded EU recommendations that suggested spending more on healthcare.
  - b) the tough measures adopted by the single countries.
  - c) the way the EU has implemented measures.
  - d) the cuts imposed by the European Commission.

IL CAPO FINIS VERIFICHE  
Ten. Col. F. ICS S. ANTONIO ANGELONI

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## PART 3

## Gapped Text

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about learning a new language. Five sentences have been removed from the text. For questions 41-45 select the sentence (A-B-C-D-E) that best completes each gap.

If you're struggling to learn a new language, *breathe*, you're not alone. Adults famously find language learning more difficult than children, whose super-flexible brains actually grow the connections necessary to learn an additional language. But, why is it so hard to learn a foreign language, anyway? Put simply, it's hard because it challenges both your mind (your brain has to construct new cognitive frameworks) and time (it requires sustained, consistent practice). But there's more to it than that. Three major factors make language learning difficult, but some tips can make it much easier. Some studies suggest that our own brain's unique wiring can pre-determine language success. In a study conducted at McGill University, participants' brains were scanned before and after undergoing an intensive 12-week French course. [41] \_\_\_\_\_.

While this could mean that some people are simply cognitively better equipped for language learning, it doesn't mean that everyone shouldn't try. After-work classes, studying abroad, apps, talking with your foreign partner, working overseas, taking an intensive language course – there are so many ways to learn a language. [42] \_\_\_\_\_. Unfortunately, our more sophisticated grown-up brains get in the way of learning. As adults, we tend to learn by accumulating vocabulary, but often don't know how each piece interacts to form grammatically correct language.

Other studies suggest that adults' tendency to over-analyze hinders their ability to pick up a foreign language's subtle nuances, and that straining harder and harder does not result in better outcomes. Voxy's Katie Nielson blames this on the idea of 'language as object'. "In history class, you start chronologically and you use dates in the order of how things happened. That's just not how language-learning works," she says. "You can't memorize a bunch of words and rules and expect to speak the language—that is knowledge of 'language as object'—you can describe the language, but you can't use it." [43]. \_\_\_\_\_.

The remedy? Lose the perfection. Get messy in your learning – whether via app, class or travel – be happy to make mistakes and realize that you *will* feel silly at times. We empathize! It's not easy to learn a language that's vastly different than your own (think English speakers struggling with Korean, or a Thai native wrestling with Arabic). [44] \_\_\_\_\_. Research at Donders Institute and Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics indicates that our brains are not indifferent to the similarities between languages. [45] \_\_\_\_\_.

MISSING SENTENCES:

- A) However, it's clear that because adults have to *be adults*, we simply can't learn "implicitly" as young children do, by following around a nurturing native speaker all day.
- B) Researchers found that stronger connections between brain centers involved in speaking and reading were seen in the better-performing participants.
- C) Interestingly, studies show that these difficulties are not due to personal aversions to challenge, but rather, to neurological preferences.
- D) It's better, she says, to consider the process "skill learning" (something you do), rather than "object learning" (something you know).
- E) So, they will reuse our native tongue's grammar and characteristics to make sense of a similarly-structured foreign language.

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Ten. Col. f. KS STEFANO ANGELONI

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## PART 3

## Gapped Text

ITEM 2: You are going to read an about habitable planets and the universe. Five sentences have been removed from the text. For questions 46-50 select the sentence (A-B-C-D-E) that best completes each gap.

The recent announcement by a team of astronomers that there could be as many as 40 billion habitable planets in our galaxy has further fueled the speculation, popular even among many distinguished scientists, that the universe is teeming with life.

The astronomer Geoffrey W. Marcy of the University of California, Berkeley, an experienced planet hunter and co-author of the study that generated the finding, said that it “represents one great leap toward the possibility of life”. [46] \_\_\_\_\_.

But “possibility” is not the same as likelihood. If a planet is to be inhabited rather than merely habitable, two basic requirements must be met. [47] \_\_\_\_\_.

What can be said about the chances of life starting up on a habitable planet? [48] \_\_\_\_\_.“One might as well speculate about the origin of matter,” he quipped. In spite of intensive research, scientists are still very much in the dark about the mechanism that transformed a non-living chemical soup into a living cell. [49] \_\_\_\_\_.

When I was a student in the 1960s, the prevailing view among scientists was that life on Earth was a freak phenomenon, the result of a sequence of chemical accidents so rare that they would be unlikely to have happened twice in the observable universe. “Man at last knows he is alone in the unfeeling immensity of the universe, out of which he has emerged only by chance,” wrote the biologist Jacques Monod.

Today the pendulum has swung dramatically, and many distinguished scientists claim that life will almost inevitably arise in Earth-like conditions. [50]. \_\_\_\_\_.

**MISSING SENTENCES:**

- A) Yet this decisive shift in view is based on little more than a hunch, rather than an improved understanding of life's origin.
- B) And this likelihood includes intelligent life in the universe.
- C) Darwin gave us a powerful explanation of how life on Earth evolved over billions of years, but he would not be drawn out on the question of how life got going in the first place.
- D) The planet must first be suitable and then life must emerge on it at some stage.
- E) But without knowing the process that produced life, the odds of its happening can't be estimated.

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## PART 4

## Multiple Matching

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about how Lady Diana Spencer changed the British monarchy. The article is divided into five paragraphs (A-E). Following the text you will find 10 statements (marked 51-60). Match each statement to the paragraph in which you can find the information.

[A] When Lady Diana Spencer was born in 1961, there was little to suggest she would shake up the British establishment. She was the youngest of three daughters of the future Earl Spencer, scion of an aristocratic British family that had been prominent since the early 16th century. But her life was scarred early by family instability. Her father, like many of his class, craved a son and an heir. The pressure he put on her mother, Frances, with constant visits to fertility specialists, probably contributed to their divorce after she finally gave birth to a boy, Diana's younger brother Charles.

[B] Diana was a shy child. She loved ballet, but grew too tall to be a professional ballerina. Earl Spencer put little stock in women's education, so Diana left school at age 16 without qualifications. She shone, however, with children, and moved to London to work as a nursery assistant while waiting for a suitable marriage. Diana found a suitable marriage, and the story of its disintegration is well known. By the early 1980s, the Queen's son Charles was facing unbearable pressure to find a publicly acceptable bride: Diana was well-bred, seemingly pliable, and a virgin. When they met Diana was 19—13 years younger than Charles—and he seemed to still be involved with his old girlfriend, the married Camilla Parker Bowles. Diana and Charles' arranged marriage seemed eminently suitable at the time. The cracks only showed slightly. The pair had met 13 times before their engagement; Diana later revealed she was expected to call Charles "sir."

[C] In a public interview, the couple was asked if they were in love. Diana responded, "Yes, of course." Charles merely muttered, "Whatever love means." Diana later recalled that this moment "threw her completely and traumatized her." Within a year of his marriage, Camilla had become Charles' royal mistress. Diana would later tell a TV interviewer, "There were three of us in this marriage, so it was a bit crowded."

[D] Long before the public knew of the royal couple's marital troubles, Diana had a reputation for bringing emotional honesty back to royal palaces. She raised the couple's two sons, William and Harry, as much as possible herself. She laughed, cried and swore in public. No surprise that when her marriage finally crumbled, she chose to call out the royal family on its culture of closed doors and sexual hypocrisy. Thanks to Diana's example, the British royals today have become a family whose members talk publicly about their feelings, who laugh, cry and swear with their subjects. For the first time in history, the royals have become relatable.

[E] Prince William encourages his subjects to be open about their emotions. In a magazine interview, he said: "There may be a time and a place for the 'stiff upper lip,' but not at the expense of your health." This may seem accepted wisdom to some Americans. In Britain, coming from the heart of the repressed aristocracy, it represents a major shift.



MATCH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS TO THE CORRECT PARAGRAPH (A-E).  
THERE ARE TWO STATEMENTS FOR EACH PARAGRAPH.

Which paragraph...

51. states what Lady Diana loved as a young girl?
52. suggests that people should give voice to their emotions?
53. suggests that Lady Diana was putting the core values of the establishment to a hard test?
54. suggests that Lady Diana and Prince Charles defined love very differently?
55. suggests that the British aristocracy is now less repressed?
56. suggests that Lady Diana's mother was under heavy pressure?
57. describes Lady Diana's early steps towards the Royal family?
58. suggests that the royals have become empathetic people?
59. states that Lady Diana did not grow up in an ideal family setting?
60. states that Lady Diana was well-aware of Prince Charles's affair with Camilla Parker Bowles?

CARROLL  
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IL CAPO 1° NUCLEO VERIFICHE  
Ten. Col. ~~ANGELO~~ ANGELO

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ANSWER KEY

PHOENIX VERSION B - 2021

PART 1	PART 2	PART 2 continued	PART 4
1. D	11. D	31. A	51. B
2. D	12. A	32. D	52. E
3. B	13. D	33. B	53. D
4. B	14. A	34. D	54. C
5. D	15. A	35. D	55. E
6. A	16. B	36. D	56. A
7. C	17. C	37. B	57. B
8. D	18. B	38. D	58. D
9. B	19. D	39. C	59. A
10. A	20. C	40. A	60. C
	21. D	PART 3	
	22. A	41. B	
	23. A	42. A	
	24. B	43. D	
	25. C	44. C	
	26. D	45. E	
	27. C	46. B	
	28. A	47. D	
	29. A	48. C	
	30. D	49. E	
		50. A	

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Ten. Col. f. RS *Stefano* ANGELONI  
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PROVA DI LINGUA INGLESE

EDIZIONE 2021

TEST 6 PHOENIX VERSION C

READING AND USE OF ENGLISH

TIME: 1 HOUR AND 45 MINUTES

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES**

Read the instructions for each part of the test carefully.

Answer all the questions.

**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS TEST BOOKLET.**

**Write your answers on the answer sheet.**

**Use only the black ink pen that is given to you.**

You must complete the answer sheet within the time limit.

At the end of the test, hand in both this test booklet and your answer sheet.

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TEST STRUCTURE

## PART 1—Multiple Choice Cloze

Item 1: 5 gaps

Item 2: 5 gaps

Total—10 questions

## PART 2—Multiple Choice

Item 1: 5 questions

Item 2: 5 questions

Item 3: 5 questions

Item 4: 5 questions

Item 5: 5 questions

Item 6: 5 questions

Total—30 questions

## PART 3—Gapped Text

Item 1: 5 missing sentences

Item 2: 5 missing sentences

Total—10 questions

## PART 4—Multiple Matching

Item 1: 10 statements

Total—10 questions

**TOTAL NO. OF QUESTIONS: 60****SCORING CRITERIA: Each correct answer is awarded 0.5 points.****TOTAL SCORE: 30 POINTS** (Part 1—5 points; Part 2—15 points; Part 3—5 points; Part 4—5 points)


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Tsz. Col. F. RS SERGIO ANGELONI





## PART 1

## Multiple Choice Cloze

ITEM 1: For questions 1-5 read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Whoever you are, wherever you live, Crimestoppers is there for you. Crimestoppers is a registered charity that gives you the power to speak (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to crime, 100% anonymously. It allows the general public to alert the police of criminal activities that (2) \_\_\_\_\_ their community, such as drug-dealing, armed robbery, burglary or murder.

The key to its success is due to the fact that callers always retain their anonymity. No names are asked for, calls are not recorded, and no written statement or court appearance is required. Since it was set (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in 1998, Crimestoppers have received over 400,000 calls with useful information, resulting in the arrest of 42,000 suspected offenders. Over £55 million worth of stolen property has been (4) \_\_\_\_\_, as well as drugs to the value of around £32 million.

Crimestoppers also share advice on how to protect the people you care about from crime, so everyone can feel safe. After receiving your call or a completed anonymous online form, Crimestoppers (5) \_\_\_\_\_ up a report that brings together all the information you gave, making sure it doesn't contain anything that could identify you.

Your report is sent to the relevant authority with the legal responsibility to investigate crimes, make arrests and charge people in order to bring them to justice.

- |    |   |           |   |        |   |            |   |           |
|----|---|-----------|---|--------|---|------------|---|-----------|
| 1. | A | on        | B | off    | C | over       | D | up        |
| 2. | A | infect    | B | affect | C | effect     | D | disaffect |
| 3. | A | on        | B | up     | C | off        | D | around    |
| 4. | A | renovated | B | remade | C | retaliated | D | recovered |
| 5. | A | look      | B | draw   | C | sign       | D | find      |



## PART 1

## Multiple Choice Cloze

ITEM 2: For questions 6-10 read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Stuart, a 65-year-old tractor-driver from Kennebunkport, Maine, won a \$100,000 (6) \_\_\_\_\_ from a scratch-off ticket he bought in early September. That win might have been more thrilling, if he hadn't already won a \$1 million jackpot from another Maine Lottery scratch-off ticket in May. You would think that winning \$1.1 million in a matter of five months would (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to some major splurges, but Stuart told *The Boston Globe* that not much had changed for him despite his seven-figure winnings.

"Ain't nothing really different," said Stuart, who still lives in the same "aging trailer" in Kennebunkport, according to *The Boston Globe*. "I do the same things over and over." Stuart even continues to work 11-hour shifts at a local concrete contractor where he drives a front-end loader tractor. In fact, Stuart told the *Globe* that he waited a week to hand (8) \_\_\_\_\_ his million-dollar winning ticket in May—not because he wanted some time to process the win, but because that was the earliest his work schedule would allow to give him enough time off to drive 1.5 hours to the Maine Lottery headquarters in Augusta, Maine.

Stuart also (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to hire any lawyers or accountants to help him manage his newfound wealth—which many experts recommend doing — opting instead to consult his bank's free financial (10) \_\_\_\_\_. "Why should I pay those guys?" Stuart says.

- |     |   |             |   |          |   |         |   |               |
|-----|---|-------------|---|----------|---|---------|---|---------------|
| 6.  | A | premium     | B | reward   | C | prize   | D | price         |
| 7.  | A | cause       | B | takes    | C | lead    | D | result        |
| 8.  | A | in          | B | out      | C | on      | D | over          |
| 9.  | A | turned off  | B | declined | C | rejects | D | stretches out |
| 10. | A | consultancy | B | adviser  | C | mentor  | D | advocacy      |

IL CAPO P... VERIFICHE  
Ten. Col. F. R. ANTONIO ANGELONI

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about Japan and its ageing population. For questions 11-15 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Paro, the furry seal, cries softly while an elderly woman pets it. Pepper, a humanoid, waves while leading a group of senior citizens in exercises. The upright tree guides a disabled man taking shaky steps, saying in a gentle almost feminine voice, "right, left, well done!" The Japanese government hopes it will be a model for harnessing the country's robotics expertise to help cope with a swelling elderly population and dwindling workforce. Allowing robots to help care for the elderly—a job typically seen as requiring a human touch—may be a jarring idea in the West, but many Japanese see them positively, largely because they are depicted in popular media as friendly and helpful.

[2] Plenty of obstacles may hinder a rapid proliferation of elder care robots: high costs, safety issues and doubts about how useful—and user-friendly—they will be. The Japanese government has been funding development of elder care robots to help fill a projected shortfall of 380,000 specialized workers by 2025. Despite steps by Japan to allow foreign workers in for elder care, obstacles to employment in the sector remain, including exams in Japanese. As of the end of 2017, only 18 foreigners held nursing care visas, a new category created in 2016.

[3] But authorities and companies here are also eyeing a larger prize: a potentially lucrative export industry supplying robots to places such as Germany, China and Italy, which either face similar demographic challenges now or will be doing so in the near future.

[4] "It's an opportunity for us," says the director of the robotic policy office at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. "Other countries will soon follow the same trend."

11. According to paragraph 2, foreign workers...

- a) hold off accepting job opportunities in Japan.
- b) find it difficult to mingle with local people.
- c) strive hard to get a well-paid job in Japan.
- d) are skilled but are not proficient in Japanese.

12. The text says that in Japan...

- a) good robotics have been developed to help the elderly.
- b) there is a shortfall of specialized workers in all sectors.
- c) there is a problem with the flow of illegal migrants.
- d) there is an increase in specialized healthcare workers.

13. According to paragraph 1, robotics...

- a) costs too much and the government cannot afford it.
- b) has become a thriving industry throughout the world.
- c) will suppress migration flows to Japan.
- d) will provide elderly people with some basic support.

14. In paragraph 3, line 1, the word “eyeing” implies that companies...

- a) are not trying to expand their market share.
- b) are not interested in increasing their profits.
- c) are looking to do away with foreign workers.
- d) are considering exporting their pricy products.

15. The greatest challenge for Japan is to...

- a) provide an ageing population with proper social care.
- b) optimize medical treatments to help cure the elderly.
- c) limit the proliferation of Japanese-built robotics.
- d) explore new markets only in developing countries.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 2: You are going to read an article about how the world will change in the years to come. For questions 16-20 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Brexit, coronavirus, and trade tiffs may be making economic headwinds, but despite immediate challenges, the world economy is projected to keep growing at a rapid pace over the next few decades. In fact, by 2050, the global market is projected to double its current size, even as the UN forecasts that the world's population will only grow by a modest 26%.

[2] This growth will bring with it plenty of changes. Though it can be challenging to predict exactly how the future will unfold, most economists agree on one thing: today's developing markets will be tomorrow's economic superpowers.

[3] According to *The World In 2050* report by the international professional services firm PwC, in 30 years, six of the world's emerging economies will be tomorrow's largest economies, surpassing the U.S. (which will drop from 2nd to 3rd), Japan (from 4th to 8th) and Germany (from 5th to 9th). Even relatively smaller economies like Vietnam, the Philippines and Nigeria will see huge leaps in their respective rankings over the next three decades.

[4] But despite the double-digit growth and the economic progress recorded in lots of countries, humanity will be likely to fail to solve many of its problems. So far, the world has not weaned itself off fossil fuels or antibiotics, protected the rain forest, or reduced the stigma surrounding mental illness. We have not flood-proofed our cities or protected our energy grids from natural disasters.

[5] With 2050 just a few decades away, major issues await the world. Therefore, the focus should not be only on the economic outlook. It is undeniable that in countries where people live better, there are also fewer chances of witnessing illiteracy, structural social problems and diseases traditionally related to poverty. But science and technology should play their part and start focusing on solutions to make the future appear really brighter for all.

16. According to this article...

- a) larger and smaller economies will fight to claim their supremacy.
- b) the main global problems will all be solved within the next fifty years.
- c) the world will face big demographic imbalances.
- d) unprecedented economies, either large or small, will step in and hold the economic power.

17. In paragraph 2, line 2, the statement "it can be challenging to predict exactly how the future will unfold" means that...

- a) the future will definitely change people's perspective on things.
- b) nothing will be as bleak as it was in the past.
- c) it is difficult to say exactly how events may develop in the future.
- d) the future will gradually reveal positive and negative sides.

18. According to this article, in paragraph 4 we understand that...

- a) the economic growth in the so-called developing markets will prevail over their structural problems.
- b) striking the right balance between a robust growth and maintaining respect for the Earth is the real challenge.
- c) problems such as climate change and the stigma surrounding poverty are bound to remain completely unsolved.
- d) people have begun to give priority to environmental issues as opposed to economic growth.

19. In paragraph 3, *The World In 2050* report says that...

- a) the world will see some growing economies of today become tomorrow's largest markets.
- b) Nigeria and Vietnam will be as powerful as Japan and China.
- c) the global markets will continue to be controlled by the current large economies.
- d) the current large economies will face a number of social challenges.

20. Which definition is **TRUE**?

- a) Prioritizing a double-digit growth will go hand in hand with good environmental policies.
- b) Science and technology may help solve big global issues, if properly involved.
- c) Disrupting poverty is not key to achieving progress and eradicating widespread diseases.
- d) Nothing can really change and humankind is bound to die out.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 3: You are going to read an article about the advantages of doing team sports. For questions 21-25 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

(1) Team sports are about much more than their physical benefits. This is especially so when group sports activities are incorporated into a young person's life. Studies have shown a direct correlation between physical activity and academic performance. A University of Kansas study that examined the performance of students in grades 9 to 12 showed that more than 97% of student athletes graduated high school—10% higher than students who had never participated in sports. Athletes were also shown to have better GPA outcomes than non-athletes.

(2) This might have to do with the increased cognitive ability that comes from playing sports. Physical activity naturally increases blood flow to the brain and activates endorphins, chemicals that are released when you exercise. Endorphins can impact your mood and work performance, meaning athletes may be more willing and capable of tackling that next big problem.

(3) Team sports can also help with emotional development. Research published by the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute states that exercise can lead to a unique state of short-term relaxation. That relaxation can promote increased concentration, better memory, enhanced creativity, more effective problem solving, and an improved mood—all benefits that extend into the classroom.

(4) Team athletes are constantly working with a slate of other people, many of whom can become positive role models along the way. Team sports foster mentorship between older and younger players, coaches and athletes, and more. Coaches in particular can play an important role in a young athlete's life. Players who have positive sports mentors when they're young are also more likely to seek effective role models throughout their life.

(5) Soft skills are personal attributes that allow people to build positive social relationships. Team sports are an excellent source of soft skills development, as they allow athletes to grow within a supportive environment.

21. According to the text, young people who practice sports...
- a) make good decisions thanks to the release of endorphins.
  - b) graduate from high school and obtain good results.
  - c) have more chances of tackling challenges in life.
  - d) score great only because they work in teams.
22. In paragraph 4, line 1, the word "slate" can best be substituted by...
- a) guest.
  - b) traveler.
  - c) number.
  - d) visitor.
23. According to the text, which of the following sentences is **TRUE**?
- a) Stress cannot be relieved by practicing certain sports.
  - b) Good leaders may be emulated by younger athletes later on in life.
  - c) Every benefit of team sports is due to the role played by coaches and advisers.
  - d) Team members who are uncooperative obtain the same benefits as all others.
24. In paragraph 5, we understand that for an environment to be supportive athletes have to...
- a) unlock to the fullest their soft skills, rely on others and forge good relationships.
  - b) be able to rely on each other.
  - c) depend on their own skills and ask for help when their soft skills are not good enough.
  - d) create a network of young people addicted to sports.
25. According to paragraph 3, doing sport can...
- a) help people to explore their identity.
  - b) unlock skills and emotions that will help when coping with problems.
  - c) regulate the release of endorphin, thus helping athletes live better.
  - d) play a key role in spotting personal problems.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 4: You are going to read an article about healthcare in Europe. For questions 26-30 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] More than 70% of EU citizens are satisfied with the overall quality of the healthcare in their home country, according to a new survey by the European Commission (EC). However, there are great differences between member states, with western and northern countries being in general more positive. While almost all respondents in Belgium (97%), Austria (96%), Malta and Finland (both 94%) say that the overall healthcare quality in their country is good, only around a quarter of respondents in Romania (25%) and in Greece (26%) say the same.

[2] The Eurozone debt crisis has forced some governments to drastically cut public health budgets in an effort to contain deficits, with Greece having taken the toughest measures. Yet despite the crisis, in some countries, citizens are becoming happier about the quality of the healthcare they receive. Since the last Eurobarometer survey in 2009, there have been some big shifts in opinions, including in Lithuania, where 40% of the respondents said the overall quality of healthcare was good compared to 65% today (+25). Likewise, respondents in Hungary (+19), Portugal and Malta (both +13) are also now considerably more likely to be positive about the overall quality of healthcare in their respective countries.

[3] When asked to name up to three criteria they associated with high quality healthcare, respondents picked well-trained staff (53%), treatment that works (40%) and modern medical equipment (25%). Surprisingly, respondents also said that “cleanliness” was as important as “no waiting lists” and “proximity of hospital and doctor” (24%).

[4] But what are the real problems facing EU countries? **Vytenis Andriukaitis explained what Europe needs to do to safeguard and extend access to high-quality healthcare in challenging times.** A surgeon by profession, and former Lithuanian Health Minister, he says he is unhappy that, in response to the financial crisis, some governments raided their health budgets as part of their efforts to cut public spending, and argues that such a policy is counterproductive.

[5] “The message is clear: The healthcare system creates conditions for jobs and the economy to recover, and spending on health must be seen as an investment because it is the way to fight against poor healthcare,” asserted **Andriukaitis.** It’s an important message to get across, particularly as these healthcare cuts are often perceived as a response to pressure from Europe, which in the wake of the financial crash is taking a tougher line on policing the size of the budget deficits run by Member States. Less widely known is that the Commission now also makes an annual review of how governments’ economic plans align with the EU 2020 strategy for “a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy” – and since 2012, this review has included health spending. This means that the Commission can, and does, now make explicit **recommendations** in relation to national health systems, which gives added weight to the strong message from the Health Commissioner about increasing investment.

26. In paragraphs 4 and 5, former Commissioner Andriukaitis complains about...
- the fact that some EU countries have disregarded EU recommendations that suggested spending more on healthcare.
  - the cuts imposed by the European Commission.
  - the way EU has implemented measures.
  - the tough measures adopted by the single countries.
27. Which of the following statements is **FALSE**?
- The Commission keeps its annual reviews confidential.
  - Greece was one of the countries mostly affected by big cuts in public expenditure in healthcare and social services.
  - The EU 2020 strategy aimed at establishing a sustainable economy.
  - Spending on health is sometimes not perceived as a good investment.
28. According to the article, Vytenis Andriukaitis is...
- a medical professional specialized in surgery.
  - a family doctor.
  - a general practitioner.
  - a bureaucrat working in the healthcare sector.
29. The article states that the overall quality of healthcare in Europe is...
- steadily improving but there are still great differences among member states.
  - currently deteriorating in all countries.
  - acceptable in all countries by all accounts.
  - steadily improving and there is no gap between poor and rich countries.
30. In paragraph 5, the expression "*in the wake of the financial crash*" means...
- before the financial crisis started.
  - following the financial crisis.
  - notwithstanding the financial crisis.
  - in spite of the financial crisis.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 5: You are going to read an article about multilingualism. For questions 31-35 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Multilingualism is one of the founding principles of the European Union, but only one in five Europeans can speak two languages other than their own—even though the picture is improving. What really makes the difference is the effectiveness of language teaching and exposure to foreign languages.

[2] Multilingualism is understood by European institutions as either the capacity of a single individual to express him-herself in other languages (plurilingualism), or the coexistence of different linguistic communities in a specific geographic area. Beyond the clear commercial and industrial implications, the promotion of language learning means supporting understanding between people of different cultures, facilitating public transnational debate, and strengthening the European identity. Thus, multilingualism has a strategic dimension for Europe: as the Council itself argues, “multilingual competence is at the heart of the vision of a European Education Area.”

[3] Currently, getting European citizens to learn more languages is still just a project on paper. **Looking at the Eurostat data**, little more than half of European citizens claim to be able to hold a conversation in a second language. Only one citizen in five can speak two languages other than their own, and fewer than one in ten know more than three languages. Obviously, these percentages vary from country to country, age-group and employment situations are also important factors (in contrast, there are no major differences between women and men). So, for example, while around 73% of citizens between 25 and 34 years old speak at least one foreign language, the figure gradually drops among all the older age groups, until reaching 55% for citizens aged between 55 and 64.

[4] It's not enough to simply measure how many pupils take lessons in foreign languages. We also need to understand how effectively they learn, and how motivated they are to use these languages. While official data on age and language-learning is encouraging, data from other studies show significant variation in the level of mastery among students from one European country to another.

[5] There are two main factors involved in successfully learning foreign languages: the effectiveness of language teaching in the school system, and exposure to the languages in the lived environment. Thus, beyond strengthening language education in schools (investing in teacher training, improving the continuity between elementary and middle school, etc.), broader exposure to the languages needs to be encouraged—for example, showing foreign films with subtitles instead of dubbing, as is done in northern countries. In this sense, the spread of the internet and streaming video have contributed greatly to the learning of languages, especially English.

31. According to paragraph 3, people who speak more than one foreign language...
- a) are mostly men.
  - b) find more job opportunities.
  - c) are generally not older than 35.
  - d) are men and women aged at least 60.
32. According to paragraph 2, multilingualism is aimed at...
- a) forging the values connected with education.
  - b) fostering the geopolitical debate.
  - c) improving trade policies.
  - d) changing people's identities.
33. According to paragraph 5, the effectiveness of language learning depends on...
- a) the wide range of learning and teaching activities being implemented.
  - b) a set of initiatives aimed at enhancing teachers' motivation.
  - c) the hiring practices in higher education.
  - d) the sole commitment of the individual learner.
34. In paragraphs 4 and 5, the article states that...
- a) students who do not do well in foreign languages usually drop out of school.
  - b) without motivation and opportunities to use languages, learners' performance gets worse.
  - c) the widespread use of the internet has prevented people from learning better.
  - d) people are interested in learning languages and are traveling more.
35. In paragraph 5, line 6, the practice of "dubbing" involves...
- a) reshooting films after they have been translated.
  - b) having students practice different pronunciations.
  - c) adapting films to the audience's cultural values.
  - d) translating and re-recording the dialogues in a film.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 6: You are going to read an article about developments in the labor market. For questions 36-40 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] The overall number of women in top business roles is still painfully low—only 5% of CEOs of major corporations in the U.S. are women—but there are reasons for optimism. Since 2015 the number of women in senior leadership has grown, particularly in the C-suite where the representation of women has increased from 17% to 21%. Today, 44% of companies have three or more women in their C-suite, up from 29% of companies in 2015. Corporate America scores much lower than France or Norway, where businesses average more than 40% female representation on a board of directors.

[2] Diversity in leadership is good for business. For example, a Harvard Business School report on the male-dominated venture capital industry found that “the more similar the investment partners, the lower their investments’ performance”. In fact, firms that increased their proportion of female partner hires by 10% saw, on average, a 1.5% spike in overall fund returns each year and had 9.7% more profitable exits.

[3] Evolving job needs are empowering women and levelling the playing field. The new service economy doesn’t rely on physical strength but skills that come easily to women, such as determination, attention to detail and measured thinking. The female brain is naturally wired for long-term strategic vision and community building. The emergence of female leaders can become a centrifugal force for good in the world. For the first time, we’re seeing examples of female leaders emerging from across the generations to cross-weave their knowledge and drive for change.

[4] There’s nothing inherently masculine about blockchain, artificial intelligence (AI) or machine learning; computers are androgynous by nature. That said, the tech sector remains heavily dominated by men. According to the World Economic Forum, the greatest challenge preventing the economic gender gap from closing is women’s under-representation in emerging roles.

[5] More women are now being elected to legislatures across the world: women hold 25.2% of parliamentary lower-house seats and 21.2% of ministerial positions, compared to 24.1% and 19% respectively last year. While there is a long way to go, improving political empowerment for women typically corresponds with increased numbers of women in senior roles in the labour market. Yet, for those countries and political parties—and corporations for that matter—which have never appointed a woman to the top position, the suspicion that the system isn’t fair and that the glass ceilings are unbreakable grows with every election.

[6] The survival of the planet requires new thinking and strategies. We are in a pitched battle between the present array of resources and attitudes and the future struggling to be born. Women get it; young people get it. They are creating a whole different mindset. Ultimately, the problems we face are not technological, but human—the human system is broken. People should always be appointed on merit and the electorate must decide, but more still needs to be done to give all women the best possible chance of rising to the top.



36. According to the text, in paragraph 2 we understand that...
- a) firms that have increased women's participation in top positions have scored overall better results.
  - b) the rate of women's participation has not changed in the last twenty years.
  - c) only 40% of international companies hired top female leaders in 2019.
  - d) women's participation is crucial but the female workforce continues to decrease.
37. The author...
- a) states that in some sectors female representation is still much too low.
  - b) infers that competition between men and women will become fiercer.
  - c) states that both men and women can boast long-term strategic vision.
  - d) states that women can strike a better balance between work and family life.
38. In paragraph 6, the author states that...
- a) changes will call for a new mindset and women are best equipped to take on the challenges facing the upcoming world.
  - b) by setting priorities women are best equipped to adapt to changes.
  - c) in the future women will have more job opportunities than men.
  - d) women have high expectations that can hardly be met.
39. In paragraph 3, line 6, the expression to "cross-weave" means...
- a) enhance.
  - b) boost.
  - c) combine.
  - d) convert.
40. In paragraph 2, the author also states that...
- a) the business knowhow of female corporate leaders has led to increased profits.
  - b) businessmen prefer doing business with men.
  - c) companies that have hired women have fallen behind in their profits.
  - d) the chances of cutting good deals are higher if the same business pattern is used.

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## PART 3

## Gapped Text

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about learning a new language. Five sentences have been removed from the text. For questions 41-45 select the sentence (A-B-C-D-E) that best completes each gap.

If you're struggling to learn a new language, *breathe*, you're not alone. Adults famously find language learning more difficult than children, whose super-flexible brains actually grow the connections necessary to learn an additional language. But, why is it so hard to learn a foreign language, anyway? Put simply, it's hard because it challenges both your mind (your brain has to construct new cognitive frameworks) and time (it requires sustained, consistent practice). But there's more to it than that. Three major factors make language learning difficult, but some tips can make it much easier. Some studies suggest that our own brain's unique wiring can pre-determine language success. In a study conducted at McGill University, participants' brains were scanned before and after undergoing an intensive 12-week French course. [41] \_\_\_\_\_.

While this could mean that some people are simply cognitively better equipped for language learning, it doesn't mean that everyone shouldn't try. After-work classes, studying abroad, apps, talking with your foreign partner, working overseas, taking an intensive language course – there are so many ways to learn a language. [42] \_\_\_\_\_. Unfortunately, our more sophisticated grown-up brains get in the way of learning. As adults, we tend to learn by accumulating vocabulary, but often don't know how each piece interacts to form grammatically correct language.

Other studies suggest that adults' tendency to over-analyze hinders their ability to pick up a foreign language's subtle nuances, and that straining harder and harder does not result in better outcomes. Voxy's Katie Nielson blames this on the idea of 'language as object'. "In history class, you start chronologically and you use dates in the order of how things happened. That's just not how language-learning works," she says. "You can't memorize a bunch of words and rules and expect to speak the language—that is knowledge of 'language as object'—you can describe the language, but you can't use it." [43]. \_\_\_\_\_.

The remedy? Lose the perfection. Get messy in your learning – whether via app, class or travel – be happy to make mistakes and realize that you *will* feel silly at times. We empathize! It's not easy to learn a language that's vastly different than your own (think English speakers struggling with Korean, or a Thai native wrestling with Arabic). [44] \_\_\_\_\_. Research at Donders Institute and Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics indicates that our brains are not indifferent to the similarities between languages. [45] \_\_\_\_\_.

MISSING SENTENCES:

- A) However, it's clear that because adults have to *be adults*, we simply can't learn "implicitly" as young children do, by following around a nurturing native speaker all day.
- B) Researchers found that stronger connections between brain centers involved in speaking and reading were seen in the better-performing participants.
- C) It's better, she says, to consider the process "skill learning" (something you do), rather than "object learning" (something you know).
- D) Interestingly, studies show that these difficulties are not due to personal aversions to challenge, but rather, to neurological preferences.
- E) So, they will reuse our native tongue's grammar and characteristics to make sense of a similarly-structured foreign language.

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**MISSING SENTENCES:**

- A. But without knowing the process that produced life, the odds of its happening can't be estimated.
- B. Yet this decisive shift in view is based on little more than a hunch, rather than an improved understanding of life's origin.
- C. And this likelihood includes intelligent life in the universe.
- D. **Darwin** gave us a powerful explanation of how life on Earth evolved over billions of years, but he would not be drawn out on the question of how life got going in the first place.
- E. The planet must first be suitable and then life must emerge on it at some stage.

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## PART 4

## Multiple Matching

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about how Lady Diana Spencer changed the British monarchy. The article is divided into five paragraphs (A-E). Following the text you will find 10 statements (marked 51-60). Match each statement to the paragraph in which you can find the information.

[A] When Lady Diana Spencer was born in 1961, there was little to suggest she would shake up the British establishment. She was the youngest of three daughters of the future Earl Spencer, scion of an aristocratic British family that had been prominent since the early 16th century. But her life was scarred early by family instability. Her father, like many of his class, craved a son and an heir. The pressure he put on her mother, Frances, with constant visits to fertility specialists, probably contributed to their divorce after she finally gave birth to a boy, Diana's younger brother Charles.

[B] Diana was a shy child. She loved ballet, but grew too tall to be a professional ballerina. Earl Spencer put little stock in women's education, so Diana left school at age 16 without qualifications. She shone, however, with children, and moved to London to work as a nursery assistant while waiting for a suitable marriage. Diana found a suitable marriage, and the story of its disintegration is well known. By the early 1980s, the Queen's son Charles was facing unbearable pressure to find a publicly acceptable bride; Diana was well-bred, seemingly pliable, and a virgin. When they met Diana was 19—13 years younger than Charles—and he seemed to still be involved with his old girlfriend, the married Camilla Parker Bowles. Diana and Charles' arranged marriage seemed eminently suitable at the time. The cracks only showed slightly. The pair had met 13 times before their engagement; Diana later revealed she was expected to call Charles "sir."

[C] In a public interview, the couple was asked if they were in love. Diana responded, "Yes, of course." Charles merely muttered, "Whatever love means." Diana later recalled that this moment "threw her completely and traumatized her." Within a year of his marriage, Camilla had become Charles' royal mistress. Diana would later tell a TV interviewer, "There were three of us in this marriage, so it was a bit crowded."

[D] Long before the public knew of the royal couple's marital troubles, Diana had a reputation for bringing emotional honesty back to royal palaces. She raised the couple's two sons, William and Harry, as much as possible herself. She laughed, cried and swore in public. No surprise that when her marriage finally crumbled, she chose to call out the royal family on its culture of closed doors and sexual hypocrisy. Thanks to Diana's example, the British royals today have become a family whose members talk publicly about their feelings, who laugh, cry and swear with their subjects. For the first time in history, the royals have become relatable.

[E] Prince William encourages his subjects to be open about their emotions. In a magazine interview, he said: "There may be a time and a place for the 'stiff upper lip,' but not at the expense of your health." This may seem accepted wisdom to some Americans. In Britain, coming from the heart of the repressed aristocracy, it represents a major shift.

MATCH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS TO THE CORRECT PARAGRAPH (A-E).  
THERE ARE TWO STATEMENTS FOR EACH PARAGRAPH.

Which paragraph...

51. suggests that Lady Diana was putting the core values of the establishment to a hard test?
52. suggests that Lady Diana's mother was under heavy pressure?
53. states that Lady Diana was well-aware of Prince Charles's affair with Camilla Parker Bowles?
54. states that Lady Diana did not grow up in an ideal family setting?
55. suggests that people should give voice to their emotions?
56. suggests that the royals have become empathetic people?
57. suggests that Lady Diana and Prince Charles defined love very differently?
58. describes Lady Diana's early steps towards the Royal family?
59. suggests that the British aristocracy is now less repressed?
60. states what Lady Diana loved as a young girl?

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ANSWER KEY

**PHOENIX VERSION C - 2021**

PART 1	PART 2	PART 2 continued	PART 4
1. D	11. D	31. C	51. D
2. B	12. A	32. A	52. A
3. B	13. D	33. A	53. C
4. D	14. D	34. B	54. A
5. B	15. A	35. D	55. E
6. C	16. D	36. A	56. D
7. C	17. C	37. A	57. C
8. A	18. B	38. A	58. B
9. B	19. A	39. C	59. E
10. B	20. B	40. A	60. B
	21. B	PART 3	
	22. C	41. B	
	23. B	42. A	
	24. A	43. C	
	25. B	44. D	
	26. A	45. E	
	27. A	46. C	
	28. A	47. E	
	29. A	48. D	
	30. B	49. A	
		50. B	

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PROVA DI LINGUA INGLESE

EDIZIONE 2021

TEST 6 PHOENIX VERSION D

READING AND USE OF ENGLISH

TIME: 1 HOUR AND 45 MINUTES

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES**

Read the instructions for each part of the test carefully.

Answer all the questions.

**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS TEST BOOKLET.**

**Write your answers on the answer sheet.**

**Use only the black ink pen that is given to you.**

You must complete the answer sheet within the time limit.

At the end of the test, hand in both this test booklet and your answer sheet.

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TEST STRUCTURE

## PART 1—Multiple Choice Cloze

Item 1: 5 gaps

Item 2: 5 gaps

Total—10 questions

## PART 2—Multiple Choice

Item 1: 5 questions

Item 2: 5 questions

Item 3: 5 questions

Item 4: 5 questions

Item 5: 5 questions

Item 6: 5 questions

Total—30 questions

## PART 3—Gapped Text

Item 1: 5 missing sentences

Item 2: 5 missing sentences

Total—10 questions

## PART 4—Multiple Matching

Item 1: 10 statements

Total—10 questions

**TOTAL NO. OF QUESTIONS: 60****SCORING CRITERIA: Each correct answer is awarded 0.5 points.****TOTAL SCORE: 30 POINTS** (Part 1—5 points; Part 2—15 points; Part 3—5 points; Part 4—5 points)

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## PART 1

## Multiple Choice Cloze

ITEM 1: For questions 1-5 read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Stuart, a 65-year-old tractor-driver from Kennebunkport, Maine, won a \$100,000 (1) \_\_\_\_\_ from a scratch-off ticket he bought in early September. That win might have been more thrilling, if he hadn't already won a \$1 million jackpot from another Maine Lottery scratch-off ticket in May. You would think that winning \$1.1 million in a matter of five months would (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to some major splurges, but Stuart told *The Boston Globe* that not much had changed for him despite his seven-figure winnings.

"Ain't nothing really different," said Stuart, who still lives in the same "aging trailer" in Kennebunkport, according to *The Boston Globe*. "I do the same things over and over." Stuart even continues to work 11-hour shifts at a local concrete contractor where he drives a front-end loader tractor. In fact, Stuart told the *Globe* that he waited a week to hand (3) \_\_\_\_\_ his million-dollar winning ticket in May—not because he wanted some time to process the win, but because that was the earliest his work schedule would allow to give him enough time off to drive 1.5 hours to the Maine Lottery headquarters in Augusta, Maine.

Stuart also (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to hire any lawyers or accountants to help him manage his newfound wealth—which many experts recommend doing — opting instead to consult his bank's free financial (5) \_\_\_\_\_. "Why should I pay those guys?" Stuart says.

- |    |   |            |   |          |   |             |   |               |
|----|---|------------|---|----------|---|-------------|---|---------------|
| 1. | A | prize      | B | price    | C | reward      | D | premium       |
| 2. | A | takes      | B | cause    | C | result      | D | lead          |
| 3. | A | over       | B | on       | C | out         | D | in            |
| 4. | A | turned off | B | rejects  | C | declined    | D | stretches out |
| 5. | A | mentor     | B | advocacy | C | consultancy | D | adviser       |

## PART 1

## Multiple Choice Cloze

ITEM 2: For questions 6-10 read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Whoever you are, wherever you live, Crimestoppers is there for you. Crimestoppers is a registered charity that gives you the power to speak (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to crime, 100% anonymously. It allows the general public to alert the police of criminal activities that (7) \_\_\_\_\_ their community, such as drug-dealing, armed robbery, burglary or murder.

The key to its success is due to the fact that callers always retain their anonymity. No names are asked for, calls are not recorded, and no written statement or court appearance is required. Since it was set (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in 1998, Crimestoppers have received over 400,000 calls with useful information, resulting in the arrest of 42,000 suspected offenders. Over £55 million worth of stolen property has been (9) \_\_\_\_\_, as well as drugs to the value of around £32 million.

Crimestoppers also share advice on how to protect the people you care about from crime, so everyone can feel safe. After receiving your call or a completed anonymous online form, Crimestoppers (10) \_\_\_\_\_ up a report that brings together all the information you gave, making sure it doesn't contain anything that could identify you.

Your report is sent to the relevant authority with the legal responsibility to investigate crimes, make arrests and charge people in order to bring them to justice.

- |     |   |        |   |            |   |           |   |           |
|-----|---|--------|---|------------|---|-----------|---|-----------|
| 6.  | A | over   | B | on         | C | off       | D | up        |
| 7.  | A | effect | B | affect     | C | infect    | D | disaffect |
| 8.  | A | up     | B | on         | C | off       | D | around    |
| 9.  | A | remade | B | retaliated | C | recovered | D | renovated |
| 10. | A | draw   | B | look       | C | sign      | D | find      |

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Ten. Col. *[Signature]* ENZO ANGELONI

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about how the world will change in the years to come. For questions 11-15 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Brexit, coronavirus, and trade tiffs may be making economic headwinds, but despite immediate challenges, the world economy is projected to keep growing at a rapid pace over the next few decades. In fact, by 2050, the global market is projected to double its current size, even as the UN forecasts that the world's population will only grow by a modest 26%.

[2] This growth will bring with it plenty of changes. Though it can be challenging to predict exactly how the future will unfold, most economists agree on one thing: today's developing markets will be tomorrow's economic superpowers.

[3] According to *The World In 2050* report by the international professional services firm PwC, in 30 years, six of the world's emerging economies will be tomorrow's largest economies, surpassing the U.S. (which will drop from 2nd to 3rd), Japan (from 4th to 8th) and Germany (from 5th to 9th). Even relatively smaller economies like Vietnam, the Philippines and Nigeria will see huge leaps in their respective rankings over the next three decades.

[4] But despite the double-digit growth and the economic progress recorded in lots of countries, humanity will be likely to fail to solve many of its problems. So far, the world has not weaned itself off fossil fuels or antibiotics, protected the rain forest, or reduced the stigma surrounding mental illness. We have not flood-proofed our cities or protected our energy grids from natural disasters.

[5] With 2050 just a few decades away, major issues await the world. Therefore, the focus should not be only on the economic outlook. It is undeniable that in countries where people live better, there are also fewer chances of witnessing illiteracy, structural social problems and diseases traditionally related to poverty. But science and technology should play their part and start focusing on solutions to make the future appear really brighter for all.

11. In paragraph 2, line 2, the statement “it can be challenging to predict exactly how the future will unfold” means that...

- a) the future will gradually reveal positive and negative sides.
- b) nothing will be as bleak as it was in the past.
- c) the future will definitely change people’s perspective on things.
- d) it is difficult to say exactly how events may develop in the future.

12. According to this article, in paragraph 4 we understand that...

- a) people have begun to give priority to environmental issues as opposed to economic growth.
- b) striking the right balance between a robust growth and maintaining respect for the Earth is the real challenge.
- c) the economic growth in the so-called developing markets will prevail over their structural problems.
- d) problems such as climate change and the stigma surrounding poverty are bound to remain completely unsolved.

13. In paragraph 3, *The World in 2050* report says that...

- a) Nigeria and Vietnam will be as powerful as Japan and China.
- b) the global markets will continue to be controlled by the current large economies.
- c) the world will see some growing economies of today become tomorrow’s largest markets.
- d) the current large economies will face a number of social challenges.

14. Which definition is TRUE?

- a) Prioritizing a double-digit growth will go hand in hand with good environmental policies.
- b) Disrupting poverty is not key to achieving progress and eradicating widespread diseases.
- c) Nothing can really change and humankind is bound to die out.
- d) Science and technology may help solve big global issues, if properly involved.

15. According to this article...

- a) larger and smaller economies will fight to claim their supremacy.
- b) the main global problems will all be solved within the next fifty years.
- c) unprecedented economies, either large or small, will step in and hold the economic power.
- d) the world will face big demographic imbalances.

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IL CAPO I' NELLE VERIFICHE  
Ten. Col. E. NE S. ANGELONI

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 2: You are going to read an article about multilingualism. For questions 16-20 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Multilingualism is one of the founding principles of the European Union, but only one in five Europeans can speak two languages other than their own—even though the picture is improving. What really makes the difference is the effectiveness of language teaching and exposure to foreign languages.

[2] Multilingualism is understood by European institutions as either the capacity of a single individual to express him-herself in other languages (plurilingualism), or the coexistence of different linguistic communities in a specific geographic area. Beyond the clear commercial and industrial implications, the promotion of language learning means supporting understanding between people of different cultures, facilitating public transnational debate, and strengthening the European identity. Thus, multilingualism has a strategic dimension for Europe: as the Council itself argues, “multilingual competence is at the heart of the vision of a European Education Area.”

[3] Currently, getting European citizens to learn more languages is still just a project on paper. **Looking at the Eurostat data**, little more than half of European citizens claim to be able to hold a conversation in a second language. Only one citizen in five can speak two languages other than their own, and fewer than one in ten know more than three languages. Obviously, these percentages vary from country to country, age-group and employment situations are also important factors (in contrast, there are no major differences between women and men). So, for example, while around 73% of citizens between 25 and 34 years old speak at least one foreign language, the figure gradually drops among all the older age groups, until reaching 55% for citizens aged between 55 and 64.

[4] It's not enough to simply measure how many pupils take lessons in foreign languages. We also need to understand how effectively they learn, and how motivated they are to use these languages. While official data on age and language-learning is encouraging, data from other studies show significant variation in the level of mastery among students from one European country to another.

[5] There are two main factors involved in successfully learning foreign languages: the effectiveness of language teaching in the school system, and exposure to the languages in the lived environment. Thus, beyond strengthening language education in schools (investing in teacher training, improving the continuity between elementary and middle school, etc.), broader exposure to the languages needs to be encouraged—for example, showing foreign films with subtitles instead of dubbing, as is done in northern countries. In this sense, the spread of the internet and streaming video have contributed greatly to the learning of languages, especially English.

16. According to paragraph 3, people who speak more than one foreign language...
- a) are men and women aged at least 60.
  - b) are mostly men.
  - c) find more job opportunities.
  - d) are generally not older than 35.
17. In paragraphs 4 and 5, the article states that...
- a) without motivation and opportunities to use languages, learners' performance gets worse.
  - b) students who do not do well in foreign languages usually drop out of school.
  - c) people are interested in learning languages and are travelling more.
  - d) the widespread use of the internet has prevented people from learning better.
18. According to paragraph 2, multilingualism is aimed at...
- a) changing people's identities.
  - b) improving trade policies.
  - c) forging the values connected with education.
  - d) fostering the geopolitical debate.
19. In paragraph 5, line 6, the practice of "dubbing" involves...
- a) having students practice different pronunciations.
  - b) translating and re-recording the dialogues in a film.
  - c) reshooting films after they have been translated.
  - d) adapting films to the audience's cultural values.
20. According to paragraph 5, the effectiveness of language learning depends on...
- a) the hiring practices in higher education.
  - b) a set of initiatives aimed at enhancing teachers' motivation.
  - c) the sole commitment of the individual learner.
  - d) the wide range of learning and teaching activities being implemented.

EL CAPO 1° NUCLEO VERIFICHE  
Ten. Col. F. R. S. ANGELO ANGELONI

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 3: You are going to read an article about healthcare in Europe. For questions 21-25 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] More than 70% of EU citizens are satisfied with the overall quality of the healthcare in their home country, according to a new survey by the European Commission (EC). However, there are great differences between member states, with western and northern countries being in general more positive. While almost all respondents in Belgium (97%), Austria (96%), Malta and Finland (both 94%) say that the overall healthcare quality in their country is good, only around a quarter of respondents in Romania (25%) and in Greece (26%) say the same.

[2] The Eurozone debt crisis has forced some governments to **drastically** cut public health budgets in an effort to contain deficits, with Greece having taken the toughest measures. Yet despite the crisis, in some countries, citizens are becoming happier about the quality of the healthcare they receive. Since the last Eurobarometer survey in 2009, there have been some big shifts in opinions, including in Lithuania, where 40% of the respondents said the overall quality of healthcare was good compared to 65% today (+25). Likewise, respondents in Hungary (+19), Portugal and Malta (both +13) are also now considerably more likely to be positive about the overall quality of healthcare in their respective countries.

[3] When asked to name up to three criteria they associated with high quality healthcare, respondents picked well-trained staff (53%), treatment that works (40%) and modern medical equipment (25%). Surprisingly, respondents also said that “cleanliness” was as important as “no waiting lists” and “proximity of hospital and doctor” (24%).

[4] But what are the real problems facing EU countries? **Vytenis Andriukaitis explained what Europe needs to do to safeguard and extend access to high-quality healthcare in challenging times.** A surgeon by profession, and former Lithuanian Health Minister, he says he is unhappy that, in response to the financial crisis, some governments raided their health budgets as part of their efforts to cut public spending, and argues that such a policy is counterproductive.

[5] “The message is clear: The healthcare system creates conditions for jobs and the economy to recover, and spending on health must be seen as an investment because it is the way to fight against poor healthcare,” asserted **Andriukaitis.** It’s an important message to get across, particularly as these healthcare cuts are often perceived as a response to pressure from Europe, which in the wake of the financial crash is taking a tougher line on policing the size of the budget deficits run by Member States. Less widely known is that the Commission now also makes an annual review of how governments’ economic plans align with the EU 2020 strategy for “a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy” -- and since 2012, this review has included health spending. This means that the Commission can, and does, now make explicit recommendations in relation to national health systems, which gives added weight to the strong message from the Health Commissioner about increasing investment.



21. The article states that the overall quality of healthcare in Europe is...
- a) acceptable in all countries by all accounts.
  - b) steadily improving and there is no gap between poor and rich countries.
  - c) currently deteriorating in all countries.
  - d) steadily improving but there are still great differences among member states.
22. According to the article, Vytenis Andriukaitis is...
- a) a family doctor.
  - b) a medical professional specialized in surgery.
  - c) a bureaucrat working in the healthcare sector.
  - d) a general practitioner.
23. In paragraph 5, line 5, the expression "*in the wake of the financial crash*" means...
- a) before the financial crisis started.
  - b) notwithstanding the financial crisis.
  - c) following the financial crisis.
  - d) in spite of the financial crisis.
24. Which of the following statements is **FALSE**?
- a) Spending on health is sometimes not perceived as a good investment.
  - b) The EU 2020 strategy aimed at establishing a sustainable economy.
  - c) The Commission keeps its annual reviews confidential.
  - d) Greece was one of the countries mostly affected by big cuts in public expenditure in healthcare and social services.
25. In paragraphs 4 and 5, former commissioner Andriukaitis complains about...
- a) the way EU has implemented measures.
  - b) the tough measures adopted by the single countries.
  - c) the fact that some EU countries have disregarded EU recommendations that suggested spending more on healthcare.
  - d) the cuts imposed by the European Commission.

IL CAPO 1° NUCLEO VERIFICHE  
Ten. Col. E. RS Stefano ANGELONI

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 4: You are going to read an article about Japan and its ageing population. For questions 26-30 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] Paro, the furry seal, cries softly while an elderly woman pets it. Pepper, a humanoid, waves while leading a group of senior citizens in exercises. The upright tree guides a disabled man taking shaky steps, saying in a gentle almost feminine voice, "right, left, well done!" The Japanese government hopes it will be a model for harnessing the country's robotics expertise to help cope with a swelling elderly population and dwindling workforce. Allowing robots to help care for the elderly—a job typically seen as requiring a human touch—may be a jarring idea in the West, but many Japanese see them positively, largely because they are depicted in popular media as friendly and helpful.

[2] Plenty of obstacles may hinder a rapid proliferation of elder care robots: high costs, safety issues and doubts about how useful—and user-friendly—they will be. The Japanese government has been funding development of elder care robots to help fill a projected shortfall of 380,000 specialized workers by 2025. Despite steps by Japan to allow foreign workers in for elder care, obstacles to employment in the sector remain, including exams in Japanese. As of the end of 2017, only 18 foreigners held nursing care visas, a new category created in 2016.

[3] But authorities and companies here are also eyeing a larger prize: a potentially lucrative export industry supplying robots to places such as Germany, China and Italy, which either face similar demographic challenges now or will be doing so in the near future.

[4] "It's an opportunity for us," says the director of the robotic policy office at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. "Other countries will soon follow the same trend."

26. The greatest challenge for Japan is to...

- a) explore new markets only in developing countries.
- b) optimize medical treatments to help cure the elderly.
- c) provide an ageing population with proper social care.
- d) limit the proliferation of Japanese-built robotics.

27. In paragraph 3, line 1, the word “*eyeing*” implies that companies...

- a) are not interested in increasing their profits.
- b) are looking to do away with foreign workers.
- c) are not trying to expand their market share.
- d) are considering exporting their pricy products.

28. According to paragraph 1, robotics...

- a) costs too much and the government cannot afford it.
- b) will suppress migration flows to Japan.
- c) has become a thriving industry throughout the world.
- d) will provide elderly people with some basic support.

29. According to paragraph 2, foreign workers...

- a) find it difficult to mingle with the local people.
- b) are skilled but are not proficient in Japanese.
- c) hold off accepting job opportunities in Japan.
- d) strive hard to get a well-paid job in Japan.

30. The text says that in Japan...

- a) there is an increase in specialized healthcare workers.
- b) there is a problem with the flow of illegal migrants.
- c) good robotics have been developed to help the elderly.
- d) there is a shortfall of specialized workers in all sectors.

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 5: You are going to read an article about the advantages of doing team sports. For questions 31-35 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

(1) Team sports are about much more than their physical benefits. This is especially so when group sports activities are incorporated into a young person's life. Studies have shown a direct correlation between physical activity and academic performance. A University of Kansas study that examined the performance of students in grades 9 to 12 showed that more than 97% of student athletes graduated high school—10% higher than students who had never participated in sports. Athletes were also shown to have better GPA outcomes than non-athletes.

(2) This might have to do with the increased cognitive ability that comes from playing sports. Physical activity naturally increases blood flow to the brain and activates endorphins, chemicals that are released when you exercise. Endorphins can impact your mood and work performance, meaning athletes may be more willing and capable of tackling that next big problem.

(3) Team sports can also help with emotional development. Research published by the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute states that exercise can lead to a unique state of short-term relaxation. That relaxation can promote increased concentration, better memory, enhanced creativity, more effective problem solving, and an improved mood—all benefits that extend into the classroom.

(4) Team athletes are constantly working with a slate of other people, many of whom can become positive role models along the way. Team sports foster mentorship between older and younger players, coaches and athletes, and more. Coaches in particular can play an important role in a young athlete's life. Players who have positive sports mentors when they're young are also more likely to seek effective role models throughout their life.

(5) Soft skills are personal attributes that allow people to build positive social relationships. Team sports are an excellent source of soft skills development, as they allow athletes to grow within a supportive environment.

31. According to the text, young people who practice sports...
- a) make good decisions thanks to the release of endorphins.
  - b) score great only because they work in teams.
  - c) graduate from high school and obtain good results.
  - d) have more chances of tackling challenges in life.
32. In paragraph 4, line 1, the word "slate" can best be substituted by...
- a) traveler.
  - b) guest.
  - c) visitor.
  - d) number.
33. According to the text, which of the following sentences is **TRUE**?
- a) Every benefit of team sports is due to the role played by coaches and advisers.
  - b) Good leaders may be emulated by younger athletes later on in life.
  - c) Team members who are uncooperative obtain the same benefits as all others.
  - d) Stress cannot be relieved by practicing certain sports.
34. In paragraph 5, we understand that for an environment to be supportive athletes have to...
- a) depend on their own skills and ask for help when their soft skills are not good enough.
  - b) unlock to the fullest their soft skills, rely on others and forge good relationships.
  - c) be able to rely on each other.
  - d) create a network of young people addicted to sports.
35. According to paragraph 3, doing sport can...
- a) unlock skills and emotions that will help when coping with problems.
  - b) help people to explore their identity.
  - c) regulate the release of endorphin, thus helping athletes live better.
  - d) play a key role in spotting personal problems.

IL CAPO PUNTO VERIFICHE  
Ten. Col. FRS Angelo ANGELONI

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## PART 2

## Multiple Choice

ITEM 6: You are going to read an article about developments in the labor market. For questions 36-40 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think is correct according to the text.

[1] The overall number of women in top business roles is still painfully low—only 5% of CEOs of major corporations in the U.S. are women—but there are reasons for optimism. Since 2015 the number of women in senior leadership has grown, particularly in the C-suite where the representation of women has increased from 17% to 21%. Today, 44% of companies have three or more women in their C-suite, up from 29% of companies in 2015. Corporate America scores much lower than France or Norway, where businesses average more than 40% female representation on a board of directors.

[2] Diversity in leadership is good for business. For example, a Harvard Business School report on the male-dominated venture capital industry found that “the more similar the investment partners, the lower their investments’ performance”. In fact, firms that increased their proportion of female partner hires by 10% saw, on average, a 1.5% spike in overall fund returns each year and had 9.7% more profitable exits.

[3] Evolving job needs are empowering women and levelling the playing field. The new service economy doesn’t rely on physical strength but skills that come easily to women, such as determination, attention to detail and measured thinking. The female brain is naturally wired for long-term strategic vision and community building. The emergence of female leaders can become a centrifugal force for good in the world. For the first time, we’re seeing examples of female leaders emerging from across the generations to cross-weave their knowledge and drive for change.

[4] There’s nothing inherently masculine about blockchain, artificial intelligence (AI) or machine learning; computers are androgynous by nature. That said, the tech sector remains heavily dominated by men. According to the World Economic Forum, the greatest challenge preventing the economic gender gap from closing is women’s under-representation in emerging roles.

[5] More women are now being elected to legislatures across the world: women hold 25.2% of parliamentary lower-house seats and 21.2% of ministerial positions, compared to 24.1% and 19% respectively last year. While there is a long way to go, improving political empowerment for women typically corresponds with increased numbers of women in senior roles in the labour market. Yet, for those countries and political parties—and corporations for that matter—which have never appointed a woman to the top position, the suspicion that the system isn’t fair and that the glass ceilings are unbreakable grows with every election.

[6] The survival of the planet requires new thinking and strategies. We are in a pitched battle between the present array of resources and attitudes and the future struggling to be born. Women get it; young people get it. They are creating a whole different mindset. Ultimately, the problems we face are not technological, but human—the human system is broken. People should always be appointed on merit and the electorate must decide, but more still needs to be done to give all women the best possible chance of rising to the top.

36. According to the text, in paragraph 2 we understand that...

- a) the rate of women's participation has not changed in the last twenty years.
- b) only 40% of international companies hired top female leaders in 2019.
- c) women's participation is crucial but the female workforce continues to decrease.
- d) firms that have increased women's participation in top positions have scored overall better results.

37. The author...

- a) infers that competition between men and women will become fiercer.
- b) states that in some sectors female representation is still much too low.
- c) states that women can strike a better balance between work and family life.
- d) states that both men and women can boast long-term strategic vision.

38. In paragraph 6, the author states that...

- a) changes will call for a new mindset and women are best equipped to take on the challenges facing the upcoming world.
- b) women have high expectations that can hardly be met.
- c) by setting priorities, women are best equipped to adapt to changes.
- d) in the future women will have more job opportunities than men.

39. In paragraph 3, line 6, the expression "to cross-weave" means...

- a) enhance.
- b) combine.
- c) boost.
- d) convert.

40. In paragraph 2, the author also states that...

- a) the chances of cutting good deals are higher if the same business pattern is used.
- b) companies that have hired women have fallen behind in their profits.
- c) businessmen prefer doing business with men.
- d) the business knowhow of female corporate leaders has led to increased profits.

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Ten. Col. A. RS S... ANGELONI

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## PART 3

## Gapped Text

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about learning a new language. Five sentences have been removed from the text. For questions 41-45 select the sentence (A-B-C-D-E) that best completes each gap.

If you're struggling to learn a new language, *breathe*, you're not alone. Adults famously find language learning more difficult than children, whose super-flexible brains actually grow the connections necessary to learn an additional language. But, why is it so hard to learn a foreign language, anyway? Put simply, it's hard because it challenges both your mind (your brain has to construct new cognitive frameworks) and time (it requires sustained, consistent practice). But there's more to it than that. Three major factors make language learning difficult, but some tips can make it much easier. Some studies suggest that our own brain's unique wiring can pre-determine language success. In a study conducted at McGill University, participants' brains were scanned before and after undergoing an intensive 12-week French course. [41] \_\_\_\_\_.

While this could mean that some people are simply cognitively better equipped for language learning, it doesn't mean that everyone shouldn't try. After-work classes, studying abroad, apps, talking with your foreign partner, working overseas, taking an intensive language course – there are so many ways to learn a language. [42] \_\_\_\_\_. Unfortunately, our more sophisticated grown-up brains get in the way of learning. As adults, we tend to learn by accumulating vocabulary, but often don't know how each piece interacts to form grammatically correct language.

Other studies suggest that adults' tendency to over-analyze hinders their ability to pick up a foreign language's subtle nuances, and that straining harder and harder does not result in better outcomes. Voxy's Katie Nielson blames this on the idea of 'language as object'. "In history class, you start chronologically and you use dates in the order of how things happened. That's just not how language-learning works," she says. "You can't memorize a bunch of words and rules and expect to speak the language—that is knowledge of 'language as object'—you can describe the language, but you can't use it." [43]. \_\_\_\_\_.

The remedy? Lose the perfection. Get messy in your learning – whether via app, class or travel – be happy to make mistakes and realize that you *will* feel silly at times. We empathize! It's not easy to learn a language that's vastly different than your own (think English speakers struggling with Korean, or a Thai native wrestling with Arabic). [44] \_\_\_\_\_. Research at Donders Institute and Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics indicates that our brains are not indifferent to the similarities between languages. [45] \_\_\_\_\_.



**MISSING SENTENCES:**

- A) So, they will reuse our native tongue's grammar and characteristics to make sense of a **similarly-structured** foreign language.
- B) However, it's clear that because adults have to *be adults*, we simply can't learn "implicitly" as young children do, by following around a nurturing native speaker all day.
- C) It's better, she says, to consider the process "skill learning" (something you do), rather than "object learning" (something you know).
- D) Interestingly, studies show that these difficulties are not due to personal aversions to challenge, but rather, to neurological preferences.
- E) Researchers found that stronger connections between brain centers involved in speaking and reading were seen in the better-performing participants.

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## PART 3

## Gapped Text

ITEM 2: You are going to read an about habitable planets and the universe. Five sentences have been removed from the text. For questions 46-50 select the sentence (A-B-C-D-E) that best completes each gap.

The recent announcement by a team of astronomers that there could be as many as 40 billion habitable planets in our galaxy has further fueled the speculation, popular even among many distinguished scientists, that the universe is teeming with life.

The astronomer Geoffrey W. Marcy of the University of California, Berkeley, an experienced planet hunter and co-author of the study that generated the finding, said that it "represents one great leap toward the possibility of life", [46] \_\_\_\_\_.

But "possibility" is not the same as likelihood. If a planet is to be inhabited rather than merely habitable, two basic requirements must be met. [47] \_\_\_\_\_.

What can be said about the chances of life starting up on a habitable planet? [48] \_\_\_\_\_."One might as well speculate about the origin of matter," he quipped. In spite of intensive research, scientists are still very much in the dark about the mechanism that transformed a non-living chemical soup into a living cell. [49] \_\_\_\_\_.

When I was a student in the 1960s, the prevailing view among scientists was that life on Earth was a freak phenomenon, the result of a sequence of chemical accidents so rare that they would be unlikely to have happened twice in the observable universe. "Man at last knows he is alone in the unfeeling immensity of the universe, out of which he has emerged only by chance," wrote the biologist Jacques Monod.

Today the pendulum has swung dramatically, and many distinguished scientists claim that life will almost inevitably arise in Earth-like conditions. [50]. \_\_\_\_\_.

**MISSING SENTENCES:**

- A) But without knowing the process that produced life, the odds of its happening can't be estimated.
- B) Yet this decisive shift in view is based on little more than a hunch, rather than an improved understanding of life's origin.
- C) And this likelihood includes intelligent life, in the universe.
- D) The planet must first be suitable and then life must emerge on it at some stage.
- E) Darwin gave us a powerful explanation of how life on Earth evolved over billions of years, but he would not be drawn out on the question of how life got going in the first place.

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Ten. Col. L. RS VITO ANTONI

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## PART 4

## Multiple Matching

ITEM 1: You are going to read an article about how Lady Diana Spencer changed the British monarchy. The article is divided into five paragraphs (A-E). Following the text you will find 10 statements (marked 51-60). Match each statement to the paragraph in which you can find the information.

[A] When Lady Diana Spencer was born in 1961, there was little to suggest she would shake up the British establishment. She was the youngest of three daughters of the future Earl Spencer, scion of an aristocratic British family that had been prominent since the early 16th century. But her life was scarred early by family instability. Her father, like many of his class, craved a son and an heir. The pressure he put on her mother, Frances, with constant visits to fertility specialists, probably contributed to their divorce after she finally gave birth to a boy, Diana's younger brother Charles.

[B] Diana was a shy child. She loved ballet, but grew too tall to be a professional ballerina. Earl Spencer put little stock in women's education, so Diana left school at age 16 without qualifications. She shone, however, with children, and moved to London to work as a nursery assistant while waiting for a suitable marriage. Diana found a suitable marriage, and the story of its disintegration is well known. By the early 1980s, the Queen's son Charles was facing unbearable pressure to find a publicly acceptable bride: Diana was well-bred, seemingly pliable, and a virgin. When they met Diana was 19—13 years younger than Charles—and he seemed to still be involved with his old girlfriend, the married Camilla Parker Bowles. Diana and Charles' arranged marriage seemed eminently suitable at the time. The cracks only **showed** slightly. The pair had met 13 times before their engagement; Diana later revealed she was expected to call Charles "sir."

[C] In a public interview, the couple was asked if they were in love. Diana responded, "Yes, of course." Charles merely muttered, "Whatever love means." Diana later recalled that this moment "threw her completely and traumatized her." Within a year of his marriage, Camilla had become Charles' royal mistress. Diana would later tell a TV interviewer, "There were three of us in this marriage, so it was a bit crowded."

[D] Long before the public knew of the royal couple's marital troubles, Diana had a reputation for bringing emotional honesty back to royal palaces. She raised the couple's two sons, William and Harry, as much as possible herself. She laughed, cried and swore in public. No surprise that when her marriage finally crumbled, she chose to call out the royal family on its culture of closed doors and sexual hypocrisy. Thanks to Diana's example, the British royals today have become a family whose members talk publicly about their feelings, who laugh, cry and swear with their subjects. For the first time in history, the royals have become relatable.

[E] Prince William encourages his subjects to be open about their emotions. In a magazine interview, he said: "There may be a time and a place for the 'stiff upper lip,' but not at the expense of your health." This may seem accepted wisdom to some Americans. In Britain, coming from the heart of the repressed aristocracy, it represents a major shift.

MATCH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS TO THE CORRECT PARAGRAPH (A-E).  
THERE ARE TWO STATEMENTS FOR EACH PARAGRAPH.

Which paragraph...

51. states that Lady Diana did not grow up in an ideal family setting?
52. suggests that people should give voice to their emotions?
53. suggests that Lady Diana was putting the core values of the establishment to a hard test?
54. suggests that the royals have become empathetic people?
55. states that Lady Diana was well-aware of Prince Charles's affair with Camilla Parker Bowles?
56. suggests that Lady Diana's mother was under heavy pressure?
57. describes Lady Diana's early steps towards the Royal family?
58. states what Lady Diana loved as a young girl?
59. suggests that the British aristocracy is now less repressed?
60. suggests that Lady Diana and Prince Charles defined love very differently?

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 Ten. Col. F. ROSSI ANGELONI

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ANSWER KEY

**PHOENIX VERSION D - 2021**

PART 1	PART 2	PART 2 continued	PART 4
1. A	11. D	31. C	51. A
2. D	12. B	32. D	52. E
3. D	13. C	33. B	53. D
4. C	14. D	34. B	54. D
5. D	15. C	35. A	55. C
6. D	16. D	36. D	56. A
7. B	17. A	37. B	57. B
8. A	18. C	38. A	58. B
9. C	19. B	39. B	59. E
10. A	20. D	40. D	60. C
	21. D	PART 3	
	22. B	41. E	
	23. C	42. B	
	24. C	43. C	
	25. C	44. D	
	26. C	45. A	
	27. D	46. C	
	28. D	47. D	
	29. B	48. E	
	30. C	49. A	
		50. B	

*C. S. M.*  
*A*

*[Signature]*

IL CAPO 1° NUCLEO VERIFICHE  
Ten. Col. f. RS *[Signature]* ANGELONI

*MR* *LM*