



NİŞANTAŞI
UNIVERSITY

ENGLISH PREPARATORY PROGRAMME
2021 – 2022 Fall Semester
Proficiency Exam (SAMPLE)

Name:

Student ID:

Surname:

Duration:

120 minutes

Sections	Grade
I. Use of English	___ / 60
II. Reading	___ / 20
III. Writing	___ / 20
Total Grade	___ / 100

PART I: USE OF ENGLISH (60 POINTS)

A. A1 & A2 Level Questions (30x0,5=15 pts.)

Choose the correct option.

1. Charles was late again, _____ he?"

- A) isn't
- B) doesn't
- C) wasn't
- D) didn't

2.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

3. "Do you like _____ books?"

"Yes, I'm always at _____ library."

- A) the / the
- B) - / the
- C) the / a
- D) - / a

4.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

5.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

6. I'd like to _____ help you, but I'm stuck at work right now.

- A) be able to
- B) can
- C) could
- D) should

7.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

8.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

9.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

10. **Sam:** What _____ your father do?

Ann: He's an office manager.

- A) do
- B) does**
- C) is
- D) are

11.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

12.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

13.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

14. “_____ did you live in Istanbul?”

“For almost 10 years.”

- A) When
- B) What time
- C) How often
- D) How long**

15.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

16.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

17.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

18. “Which one do you _____ : pie or cake?”

- A) rather
- B) prefer**
- C) drink
- D) wear

19.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

20.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

21. I'd buy a new computer if I _____
more money.

- A) having
- B) have
- C) had
- D) to have

22.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

23.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

24.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

25. I love your new shoes. _____ are
fabulous!

- A) Theirs
- B) Their
- C) Them
- D) They

26.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

27.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

28.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

29. “Could you _____ a photo of me with my classmates?”

- A) take
- B) bake
- C) paint
- D) check

30.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

___ / 30

B. B1 & B2 Level Questions (30x1,5=45 pts.)

Choose the correct option.

31. It needed the collective genius of humanity to _____ the wheel.

- A) find
- B) discover
- C) invent
- D) perform

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

34.

32.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

33.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

35. After the accident, he stepped _____ gas and drove _____.

- A) on / away
- B) at / along
- C) with / off
- D) over / in

36. _____ offend anyone, she said both partners were equally good.

- A) Not wanting to
- B) As not wanting
- C) She didn't want
- D) Because not wanting

37.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

38.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

39.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

40.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

41.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

42.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

43.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

44. I recommend getting there at least an hour early. _____, we might not get any good seats.

- A) Furthermore
- B) Otherwise
- C) On the contrary
- D) On the other hand

45.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

46.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

47.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

48. We will have to _____ this horrible noise for a while. The Kowalski family upstairs is redecorating.

- A) look up to
- B) look down on
- C) put up with
- D) do away with

49.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

50.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

51.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

52. “Could you please _____ my essay? I feel like I’ve made a few mistakes.”

- A) break down
- B) knock down
- C) see through
- D) look through

53.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

54.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

55.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

56. It _____ the best idea to pay
the tickets by credit card. It was
expensive for us.

- A) may not be
- B) might not be
- C) must not have been
- D) **may not have been**

59.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

57.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

60.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

58.

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)

___/ 30

PART II: READING (20 POINTS)

Read the texts and answer the questions accordingly.

A. Text 1: ACCOMODATION

Read the text and decide if the statements are **True (T)** or **False (F)**. (5x1=5 pts.)

To: Ellie Crest

Subject: Surfing Holiday

Hi Ellie,

I'm so pleased you can come surfing in August! Paul, Rose and Kevin are coming too, so there will be five of us. We've decided to return to New Sands for a couple of days, because the surfboard hire is so cheap there.

I'm starting to think about accommodation. We won't camp again after last year! I hated staying in a tent in all that rain!

Kevin wants to hire a caravan. There are some nice ones with 3 bedrooms, showers and cooking facilities. The problem is, none of the caravan parks take short bookings in the summer. The minimum stay is a week. It's a shame because there are several nice parks near the beach.

There's a hostel for young people in New Sands. It's the cheapest option after camping, and there's a big kitchen and dining room where we can cook. The problem is, accommodation is in dormitories and I don't really want to sleep with strangers.

There are a few guest houses in New Sands. Some have triple rooms, so we only need to book two rooms. We'll have to book soon if we choose that option, because many guest houses are already full. The hotels in New Sands are too expensive, although I'd love to stay at the Sunrise Pavilion with its large pool!

The final option is to rent a cottage. I found one. It has three bedrooms – a double, a single and a twin, so two of us would have to share a bed! There's a big kitchen diner with a microwave, washing machine and dishwasher. The living room has a TV and DVD player. There's just one bathroom, but there's a separate WC. There's a nice garden too. The problem is, it's 5 miles from the beach.

Let me know which option you prefer.

Natalie

- 1.
2. Staying in a hostel is the cheapest option. **T / F**
- 3.
- 4.
5. If they rent a cottage, they will be far from the beach. **T / F**

B. Text 2: THE FLYNN EFFECT

Read the text and choose the correct option. (5x1=5 pts.)

Over the course of the last century, IQ test scores of people in some countries have got increasingly better. This trend of improving scores is known as “the Flynn effect”, and scientists want to know what is behind it. James Flynn, a professor at New Zealand University, knew that intelligence is partly inherited from our parents and partly the result of our environment and experiences, but the improvement in test scores was happening too quickly to be explained by heredity. So, what happened in the 20th century that led to higher test scores?

Scientists have proposed several explanations for the Flynn effect. Some suggest that the improved test scores reflect an increased **exposure** to tests in general. Because we take so many tests, we learn test-taking techniques that help us perform better. Others have pointed to better nutrition, which results in babies being born healthier, and with more brain development than in the past. Another possible explanation is a change in educational styles - children are encouraged to discover things for themselves rather than just memorizing information. This could prepare people to do the kind of problem-solving that intelligence tests require.

Flynn himself suggested that learning new technologies may have improved people's problem-solving skills. This may be true for the first decade of his tests, however, in recent years, IQ test scores in some countries have started to decline. Data from Norway, Australia, and Great Britain have shown that as these countries become more modern, IQ scores have begun to drop.

While scientists aren't sure what is causing this decline, they think technology is dramatically changing the way that we learn. For example, people are now able to access all kinds of information easily using online resources like *Google* or *Wikipedia*. The danger is when they start to rely too much on **these** and not do any thinking for themselves. Lifestyle changes that come with modern technology may also have a negative effect on intelligence, such as video games and television making people less social. So,

while the world may have got smarter over the 20th century, improving technology and changing lifestyles may soon reverse that trend.

1. Which of the following may NOT be a reason why our IQ test scores have increased?
- A) Improved brain functions
 - B) Becoming more sociable**
 - C) Learning things by ourselves
 - D) Having a healthier diet
- 2.
- A)
 - B)
 - C)
 - D)
- 3.
- A)
 - B)
 - C)
 - D)
- 4.
- E)
 - F)
 - G)
 - H)
5. The pronoun “**these**” in paragraph IV refers to _____.
- A) people
 - B) lifestyle changes
 - C) all kinds of information
 - D) online resources like *Google* or *Wikipedia***

___ / 5

C. Text 3: TASTIER TOMATOES

Read the text and choose the correct option. (5x2=10 pts.)

Over the decades, taste has been disappearing from supermarket tomatoes, but Harry Klee, a professor of horticultural sciences at the University of Florida, thinks he can **recoup** the taste within a couple of years. Because Dr. Klee and his colleagues have identified flavor chemicals that are lacking in most modern varieties of tomatoes. In addition, they have located the genes that produce these chemicals and identified varieties of tomatoes that possess those genes.

The work to improve the taste of tomatoes has taken years. First, the researchers measured the levels of different chemicals in different varieties of tomatoes. Then they sequenced the full genome of nearly 400 varieties. Next, they had panels of taste testers say which varieties were delicious and which were tasteless. The chemistry of tomato flavor has three primary components: sugars, acids and what are known as volatile chemicals — the flavor compounds that carry the fruit’s aroma and enhance sweetness. The taste testers, like people in general, preferred sweeter fruit. However, that is the hardest aspect to improve, because growers, paid by the kilo, prefer larger fruit, but a tomato plant can produce only a limited amount of sugar through photosynthesis.

In addition, even if volatile chemicals are only present in small quantities, their interaction is crucial because it adds significantly to the flavor. “Think of tomato flavor as an orchestra,” Dr. Klee said. “Over the last 50 years, it’s like one instrument at a time has been removed from the orchestra.” One single change has not destroyed the flavor, but the overall effect has been **blandness**, so many people are unhappy with the current taste.

For home gardeners, there already is a new version of tomato available, a cross between a traditional and a modern variety. In exchange for a donation of \$10 or more, Dr. Klee’s laboratory will send a packet of seeds. But maybe it’s too late. In the panels of tasters, Dr. Klee found noticeable differences in preferences: between men and women, between food experts and non-experts, and, most interestingly, between older people and younger people. He recalled one of the students working in his laboratory picking out the supermarket tomato as her favorite in one of the taste tests. “That bothers me a lot,” Dr. Klee said. “Do we have a whole generation that doesn’t really know what a good tomato is?”

1.
A)
B)
C)
D)
2. The word “**recoup**” in paragraph I is closest in meaning to _____.
A) get rid of
B) get used to
C) **put back**
D) put on
3.
A)
B)
C)
D)
4.
A)
B)
C)
D)
5. According to the last paragraph, Dr. Klee _____.
A) has increased the sales of modern tomatoes
B) discovered females are not very sensitive in taste
C) accepted that some supermarket tomatoes are delicious
D) **thinks young people may not understand what a good tomato should taste like**
6.
A)
B)
C)
D)
7.
A)
B)
C)
D)
8.
A)
B)
C)
D) K
9.
A)
B)
C)
D) J
10.
A)
B)
C)
D)

PART III: WRITING (20 POINTS)

Choose **ONE** of the topics below and write an essay with 250 – 300 words. Follow the leading questions and use at least 3 words from the list to achieve a coherent text. (1x20=20 pts.)

Topic 1: Write an essay about learning a foreign language.

- Many people think that learning a foreign language is challenging. Do you agree with that? What are some possible difficulties when you learn a new language?
- What are some effective ways to learn a new language? How can we benefit from technology in this process?
- What are the advantages of speaking in a foreign language?

Given Words: vocabulary – culture – furthermore – pronunciation – job opportunities – travel – memorize – dictionary – skills – native – perception

Topic 2: Write an essay about endangered species.

- In the last decades, there has been an increase in the number of endangered species around the world. What are the main reasons for animals becoming endangered? (Climate change, modern human behavior, etc.)
- What can be done to save endangered species?
- How will the absence of these animals affect our lives in the future?

Given Words: global warming – recycling – pollutants – abstain – as a result – chemicals – climate change – sustainable – precaution – plastic – forest fires

