



**ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE  
EXAMINATIONS**

**DECEMBER  
2008**

NAME .....

**LAAS**  
**LANGUAGE ATTAINMENT ASSESSMENT SYSTEM**

**Level A2**

Certificate Recognised by ICC

INSTRUCTIONS

- Be sure you have written your name at the top of this page.
- Do not open this booklet until the exam starts.
- The order of the exam papers is: PART A Listening, PART B Reading & Usage, PART C Writing.
- Time allowed for all three parts: 120 minutes

**A LISTENING (25 points) Time: approximately 20 minutes**

- As you listen to the recording, mark your answers in this booklet.
- Answer all the questions. Give only one answer for each question.
- After the end of the recording, you will have 3 minutes to transfer your answers onto Answer Sheet **A**. Mark them in 2H or HB pencil.

**LISTENING EXERCISE 1: Numbers 1 to 10**

**TWO CITIES – TWO CARNIVALS**

**Choose the correct word or phrase to complete each sentence, 1 to 6.**

**Circle its letter, A, B or C.**

- Kostas is talking about \_\_\_\_ .  
 A. the carnival parade in one city  
 B. carnival celebrations around Greece  
 C. big and small carnival parades
- A ‘float’ is a \_\_\_\_ in a parade.  
 A. group of musicians  
 B. group of people who walk  
 C. stage on a lorry or car
- The fancy dress that Kostas’s group will wear will \_\_\_\_ .  
 A. be an advertisement for a kind of beer  
 B. show a serious problem in nature  
 C. suggest a great way to have fun
- The carnival in Hattie’s city is \_\_\_\_ .  
 A. the biggest in the world  
 B. known as ‘Mardi Gras’  
 C. only three years old
- Hattie didn’t go to the New Orleans Carnival because \_\_\_\_ .  
 A. a storm forced her to leave the city  
 B. New Orleans didn’t have a carnival  
 C. the celebration was too small
- Hattie will \_\_\_\_ this year’s Carnival parade in New Orleans.  
 A. miss      B. watch      C. organise



**Listen to statements 7 to 10 and decide whether they are true or not. Write A for True or B for False in the space next to the number.**

7. \_\_\_\_      8. \_\_\_\_      9. \_\_\_\_      10. \_\_\_\_

**LISTENING EXERCISE 2: Numbers 11 to 20****NEW FOOTBALL STADIUM**

Choose the correct word or phrase to complete each sentence, 11 to 16.

**Circle** its letter, A, B or C.

11. The new Rangers' stadium will be \_\_\_\_ next spring.  
 A. started                      B. half finished                      C. ready to use
12. Gary is \_\_\_\_ .  
 A. a football player    B. the manager                      C. a builder
13. Gary doesn't work with \_\_\_\_ .  
 A. the team and team's owner  
 B. the planner and the builders  
 C. the people who live near the stadium
14. They wanted the stadium to be good for sport and for \_\_\_\_ .  
 A. nature                      B. business                      C. factories
15. The stadium will \_\_\_\_ .  
 A. improve the neighbourhood around it  
 B. be in the middle of ugly, old factories  
 C. be built on land that has never been used
16. The problem with most car parks is that they \_\_\_\_ .  
 A. are too far from the stadium  
 B. have too many trees around them  
 C. get very hot in summer

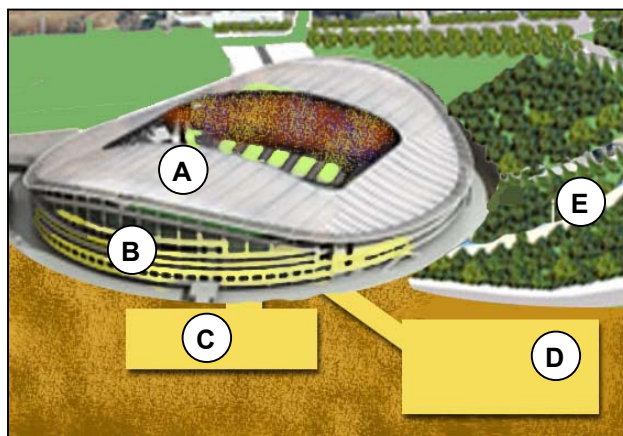
Match a part of the picture with each statement, 17 to 20.

Write its letter, A to E, in the space beside each number.

You will use only **four** of the letters.

This is where they will ....

17. \_\_ park cars when there are matches.  
 18. \_\_ invite neighbourhood children to play.  
 19. \_\_ make electricity to use and sell.  
 20. \_\_ sort cans and paper after the matches.



# B

## READING & USAGE (50 points)

- You are advised to spend about 1 hour on this part of the test.
- You may mark your answers on this booklet while you are working on them.
- Answer all the questions. Give only one answer for each question.
- When you have finished, mark your answers on Answer Sheet **B** using a 2H or HB pencil.

### READING & USAGE EXERCISE 1: Numbers 1 to 10

**Read this story about two young travellers.  
Then do the exercises on page 4.**

## Maria and Stavros Help Children in Haiti

Last winter, in the Christmas holidays, Maria and Stavros went on a boat trip with their parents. First, they flew from Greece across the Atlantic Ocean to Miami, Florida, in the USA. And then they got on a large ship and sailed around the Caribbean Sea. That's a sea south of the USA.

The ship stopped at several islands and they walked around the harbours. Their mother went shopping and bought lots of gifts to take back to Greece. Their father liked to look at the little boats in the harbours, but Maria and Stavros preferred to taste the strange food. It was sweet and spicy with fruit and pepper in the sauces. They also talked to young people their age to find out about life on these islands. Once or twice, they had time to go swimming and sunbathing before they got back on the ship and sailed to the next island.

Maria and Stavros saw that some islands were quite rich and others were very poor. But they loved all the islands with their blue sea, white beaches and beautiful palm trees. They had a great time and they learned a lot. When they came home to Greece, they told all their friends at school about the places they had seen.

Then, in the summer, Maria and Stavros heard some very sad news. Some of the islands they had visited had some bad storms. In fact, there were three big storms in one month! The storms came across the Atlantic Ocean and brought strong winds and lots of rain.

Haiti is a country that covers one half of a beautiful island in the Caribbean Sea, but its people are very poor. Maria and Stavros knew that, because they had seen it. People in Haiti already had problems before the storms. Also, someone had cut down a lot of trees in the mountains. So, when the storms came, and there was a lot of rain with no trees to hold back the water, there were terrible floods.

Maria and Stavros saw a news programme on television about two children in Haiti, Alina and Sebastian. They had lost their home. The second storm blew down their house, and then the flood water carried it away.

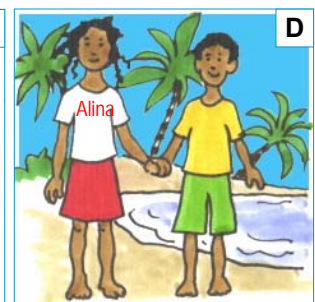
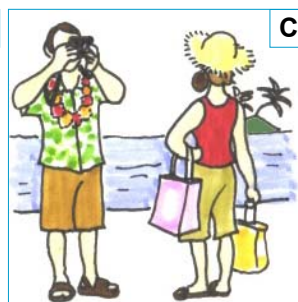
Maria wanted to help Alina and Sebastian. She got everyone in her class at school to bring a little money. Then the teacher gave it to Habitats for Humanity. This is an organization that helps people build new homes. Maria was happy the money went to help children like Alina and Sebastian and their families. And Stavros was very proud of his sister.

Choose the correct phrase to complete each sentence, 1 to 7.  
Mark its letter, A, B or C, on Answer Sheet B.

1. This story is about \_\_\_\_ .  
A. a trip by sea around the Greek islands  
B. great travel ideas for winter holidays  
C. a trip and events that happened afterwards
2. Maria and Stavros enjoyed \_\_\_\_ .  
A. the same activities their parents liked  
B. learning about life in the places they visited  
C. going to a different beach every day
3. Maria and Stavros liked \_\_\_\_ .  
A. the rich islands                      B. the poor islands                      C. all the islands
4. After their trip, Maria and Stavros heard about \_\_\_\_ .  
A. some very bad weather      B. children at their school      C. better places to visit
5. Maria and Stavros knew that life in Haiti was \_\_\_\_ .  
A. easier after the storms than before  
B. difficult for most of the people  
C. a lot like their life in Greece
6. Maria and Stavros \_\_\_\_ Alina and Sebastian.  
A. did not know                      B. were friends with                      C. had met
7. Habitats for Humanity \_\_\_\_ .  
A. builds schools                      B. teaches poor people                      C. helps build houses

Match a picture with each sentence.  
Mark its letter, A to D, on Answer Sheet B.  
You will use only three of the letters.

8. These people went swimming on holiday.
9. These people lost their home in a storm.
10. One of these people works for Habitats for Humanity.



**READING & USAGE EXERCISE 2: Numbers 11 to 20**

Read this story about Anne.

Choose the correct word or phrase to fill each gap.

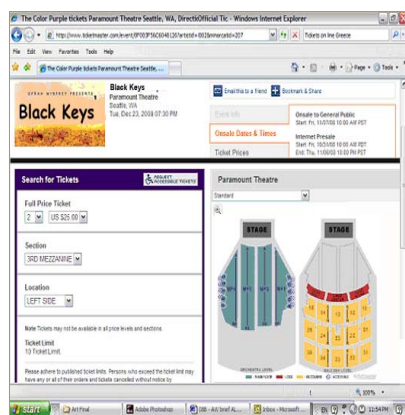
Mark its letter, A, B or C, on Answer Sheet B.

## TICKETS FOR A CONCERT

The Black Keys were one of Anne's favourite bands, but she **(11)** them on CD and radio. So, when she read in the newspaper that they were going **(12)** at the Lifestyle Centre in her town **(13)** night, she wanted to see them.

Anne knew the Centre would **(14)** crowded. "If I **(15)** a seat, I'll have to buy the tickets before the concert," she said to herself. They sold tickets at the Centre and also at Seats-For-You, an office that had tickets **(16)** all kinds of events.

The problem was that Anne had school all day and practice for a play **(17)** school. And then it would be too late. The Seats-For-You office would be closed. She knew she didn't have **(18)** time to solve the problem. So she phoned **(19)** mother and asked her to buy tickets on the Internet. The next night, Anne and her friend Tara had great seats for the concert, right **(20)** front of the band!



- |     |              |                   |                 |
|-----|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 11. | A. only hear | B. had only heard | C. only hearing |
| 12. | A. to play   | B. play           | C. playing      |
| 13. | A. next      | B. a next         | C. the next     |
| 14. | A. be        | B. to be          | C. being        |
| 15. | A. wanted    | B. will want      | C. want         |
| 16. | A. by        | B. for            | C. with         |
| 17. | A. behind    | B. later          | C. after        |
| 18. | A. many      | B. much           | C. lot of       |
| 19. | A. from her  | B. to her         | C. her          |
| 20. | A. the       | B. in the         | C. in           |

**READING & USAGE EXERCISE 3: Numbers 21 to 25**

## FOOD WE EAT

Match a reply from the box with each question on the left.

Mark its letter, A to F, on Answer Sheet B. You will use only **five** of the letters.

21. I hate carrots, don't you?
22. Mum, can I have some ice-cream?
23. Excuse me. Can I have a cheese pie, please?
24. Do you want cherries or a slice of melon?
25. How often do you buy a bag of crisps?

- A. Once a week. They're not very good for you.
- B. No, I love them! They're great in a salad!
- C. Either. They're both healthy.
- D. Here you are. That'll be one euro.
- E. No, I think they're too hot.
- F. Well, you'll have to finish your dinner first.

**READING & USAGE EXERCISE 4: Numbers 26 to 30****SCHOOL DAYS**

Choose the correct word or phrase to fill each gap.

Mark its letter, A, B or C, on Answer Sheet B.

26. You can use a pencil to make notes, but please write your essay in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. ink                                      B. paper                                      C. notebook
27. 'Look, everyone! Ben brought his pet frog for our \_\_\_\_\_ lesson!'  
A. arithmetic                              B. dictionary                              C. biology
28. To find the price of each pencil in the box, \_\_\_\_\_ the total price by ten.  
A. subtract                              B. multiply                              C. divide
29. My 18-year-old brother went away to \_\_\_\_\_ this year, and I really miss him.  
A. kindergarten                              B. university                              C. language school
30. Mary and I have been friends since we were \_\_\_\_\_ at primary school.  
A. dentists                              B. professors                              C. classmates

**READING & USAGE EXERCISE 5: Numbers 31 to 35****STEVE WASHES HIS CLOTHES**

Here's Steve's advice about washing your own clothes.

Put the parts in the correct order.

Mark the letter of each part, A to G, on Answer Sheet B.

You will use only **five** of the letters. The first one is done for you.

EX. Part 1 \_\_\_\_\_

The answer is A. *My mother is a teacher. She doesn't have much time, so I help by washing my own clothes. Here's what I do.*

**A** **B** **C** **D** **E** **F** **G** **H**

EX. Part 1 A

31. Part 2 \_\_\_\_\_

32. Part 3 \_\_\_\_\_

33. Part 4 \_\_\_\_\_

34. Part 5 \_\_\_\_\_

35. Part 6 \_\_\_\_\_

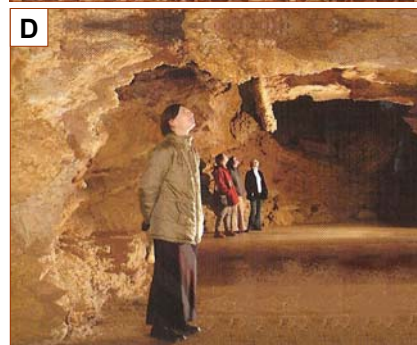


- A. *My mother is a teacher. She doesn't have much time, so I help by washing my own clothes. Here's what I do.*
- B. **I like to wash the white clothes first. I put them into the washing machine. It's important to fill the machine, but not too full.**
- C. **I start by looking under my bed for socks I've dropped. Then, I put all my clothes together in a big pile.**
- D. **I have lots of expensive, new clothes. So, I leave these for my mother to wash.**
- E. **When the white clothes are done, I take them out and put in the coloured clothes. While they're washing, I hang the white things.**
- F. **I never wash white, coloured and black clothes together. The white things will turn grey. So, the next thing is to sort them.**
- G. **Then I set the temperature (hot for whites) and measure the soap into the machine. The next step is easy. Just press 'start'.**

**READING & USAGE EXERCISE 6: Numbers 36 to 45****TRAVEL TO BUDAPEST**

**Match a picture with each of the statements.  
Mark its letter, A to E, on Answer Sheet B.  
You will use some letters more than once.**

36. \_\_\_ "Budapest is actually two cities, Buda and Pest, which are on two sides of a great river. You can go from one side to the other by car or by boat."
37. \_\_\_ "The Buda side of the river is the 'green belt', with parks and paths and many caves to explore."
38. \_\_\_ "On the Pest side is the Parliament, a beautiful, white building with many towers and hundreds of windows."
39. \_\_\_ "The Danube is the longest river in Europe and carries a lot of trade between countries. You can watch large ships sail by, under the high bridges."
40. \_\_\_ "There's always something to do in Budapest, especially in the summer. You'll find 40 theatres, 200 museums and seven concert halls. There are also pop and rock concerts for young people."
41. \_\_\_ "Because the twin cities are built on the high hills along the river, you may find it easier to travel up and down on a special train, instead of climbing the steps."
42. \_\_\_ "Many young people in Budapest take piano, violin or other music lessons. They hope to play in shows someday for tourists who visit the city."
43. \_\_\_ "When people think of Budapest, they often think of the great, old buildings on the Pest side. Many of these were built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the famous architect, Odon Lechner."
44. \_\_\_ "Under the ground, you can walk for hours through the system and see different rock shapes. Palvolgyi Cave, for example, is 7200 metres long!"
45. \_\_\_ "You can get around Budapest by ten different types of public transport. There are buses, trolley buses, trains and even chair lifts."





# C

## WRITING (25 points)

- You are advised to spend about 40 minutes on this part of the test.
- You may use a blank sheet of paper as a draft.
- Write your task in the space provided on Answer Sheet **C** in blue or black pen.

You have **ONE** writing task to do. Choose either Topic A or Topic B.

Write your task in about 120 words on Answer Sheet C.

Choose **ONE** of these two topics. Do the task in about 120 words.

**TOPIC A:** This summer, you had a holiday in a famous European city. Now, you want to tell your pen friend about what you saw and did.

Write an **e-mail** to your friend.

Tell him or her:

- where you went
- what you saw and did
- whether or not you liked it



OR

**TOPIC B:** Do you help your parents?

Write a **story** about something that happened while you were helping your mother or father.

Your story can be funny or serious.



ΕΞΕΤΑΣΕΙΣ LAAS - ΔΕΚΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ 2008  
ΛΥΣΕΙΣ ΑΓΓΛΙΚΩΝ

A2- BASIC	
Part A	Part B
1 A	1 C
2 C	2 B
3 B	3 C
4 B	4 A
5 A	5 B
6 B	6 A
7 B	7 C
8 A	8 C
9 B	9 D
10 A	10 A
11 C	11 B
12 B	12 A
13 C	13 C
14 A	14 A
15 A	15 C
16 C	16 B
17 D	17 C
18 E	18 B
19 A	19 C
20 C	20 C
	21 B
	22 F
	23 D
	24 C
	25 A
	26 A
	27 C
	28 C
	29 B
	30 C
	31 C
	32 F
	33 B
	34 G
	35 E
	36 A
	37 D
	38 B
	39 A
	40 C
	41 E
	42 C
	43 B
	44 D
	45 E