



**ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
EXAMINATIONS**

**DECEMBER
2009**

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: 90 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 your Answer Sheet. Mark them in 2H or HB pencil.

LISTENING EXERCISE 1: Numbers 1 to 8

EURO COIN COLLECTION CLUB

Choose the correct word, phrase or picture to complete each sentence, 1 to 4.

Circle its letter, A, B or C.

1. There are now ____ students in the coin collecting club at Jack and Ellen's school.
A. two B. three C. five

2. The members of the club collect ____ .
A. just six of the euro coins
B. all eight euro coins
C. fifty different coins

3. The coins that Joe Bain finds difficult to use are ____ .



4. The front side of euro coins ____ .
A. is the same for all countries in the European Union
B. has pictures of famous people and buildings
C. shows a different number for each country

Decide if statements 5 to 8 are true or not.

Write A for True or B for False in the space beside each number.

5. ____ A full collection may have almost 170 coins in it.
6. ____ Jack and Ellen have to travel a lot to collect all the coins.
7. ____ Jack and Ellen look for euro coins when they buy things in the shops.
8. ____ Coin club members share extra coins with each other.

LISTENING EXERCISE 2: Numbers 9 to 15**HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS**

Choose the correct phrase to complete each statement.

Circle its letter, A, B or C.

9. John is calling because ____ .

- A. he's going to move house soon
- B. he doesn't have any friends
- C. it's hard for him to talk

10. John's brother ____ .

- A. is older than him
- B. isn't allowed to go out
- C. doesn't go to the same school

11. John wants to ____ .

- A. go out with a friend
- B. change schools
- C. go to a café with his brother

12. Because he doesn't talk to friends on the phone, John ____ .

- A. has problems with his school work
- B. stays at school later than others
- C. studies more and gets good marks

13. Dr. Carter tells John to ____ .

- A. join a club
- B. start a sports team
- C. stay at home more

14. John may make new friends if he ____ .

- A. is nicer to his teachers
- B. does well in tests
- C. helps others to study

15. Dr. Carter's most important idea is for John to ____ .

- A. say strange things
- B. smile and be friendly
- C. only talk to people he knows



B

READING & USAGE (50 points)

- You are advised to spend about 40 minutes 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 your Answer Sheet using a 2H or HB pencil.

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 1: Numbers 16 to 25

Read this magazine story about cars of the future.

Then do the exercises on page 4.

CARS OF THE FUTURE

In the future, cars won't run on petrol. How soon? Well, that's hard to say. But, nowadays, people are looking for cars that don't need petrol. Petrol is expensive, and it makes smoke that's bad for us to breathe and bad for nature, too. Also, we use so much petrol that in a few years, there won't be any left.

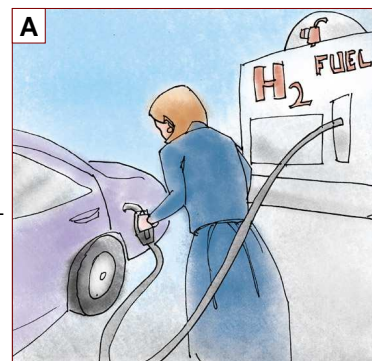
The good news is that some cars already use other kinds of fuel, and there are new ideas every day. So, in a few years, we may see many different types of cars on the road. They will be better for nature than the ones we have now.

Electric Cars	<p>About 30 years ago, some car companies started making electric cars. The cars didn't go very fast or very far, but they were good for nature. Still, not many people wanted them, so the car companies didn't make very many. Now, the electric idea is back again. If we can make electricity from the sun or the wind, then electric cars can be both cheap and clean. We can plug the car in at night and drive it again the next day.</p>
Gas Cars	<p>Another idea is a car that runs on hydrogen* gas. When we burn hydrogen, we don't get smoke. We get water! Imagine that! A German company has made 100 hydrogen cars for people to try. Another company in England will be ready to sell their cars by 2012. Of course, they'll need hydrogen stations everywhere, just as we have petrol stations now. They'll have to make it easy to find fuel or people won't buy gas cars.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">* hydrogen = υδρογόνο</p>
Water Cars	<p>Someday, we may even have cars that use water. A few people have been experimenting with this idea, but it's not ready yet. But think about it. First you wash your car, and then you fill it up, and then ... you water the garden!</p>
Plant Cars	<p>Two new fuels come from vegetables. There's one called ethanol. It's made from corn. This isn't such a good idea, because corn is food and people need to eat. But we can make ethanol from other plants, or the parts of plants we don't eat.</p> <p>The other new fuel is called bio-diesel. We can make it from plant oils or cooking oil after we finish frying our potatoes. We can mix bio-diesel with regular petrol. It's cleaner and cheaper. Several companies here in Greece already make it.</p>

Choose the correct phrase to complete each sentence, 16 to 22.
Mark its letter, A, B or C, on your Answer Sheet.

16. We may not use petrol cars in the future because ____ .

- A. they're dirty and expensive
- B. people will have to look for them
- C. we'll have more petrol than we need



17. Companies didn't make many electric cars at first because ____ .

- A. people drove them too fast
- B. they weren't good for nature
- C. they were not very popular

18. Electric cars will be a good idea if ____ .

- A. we use the sun or wind to make electricity
- B. they cost too much for many people to buy
- C. people only drive them at night

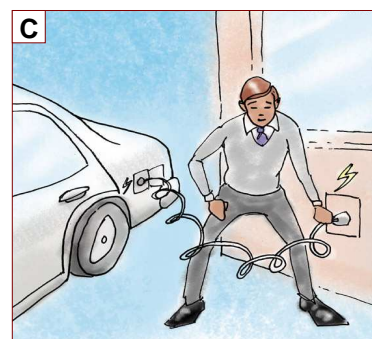


19. The hydrogen gas car seems a good idea, but ____ .

- A. no one knows how to make one
- B. there won't be any for at least 10 years
- C. it will only be used if fuel is easy to find

20. A car that runs on water ____ .

- A. is already for sale
- B. is not ready to sell yet
- C. needs special water to run

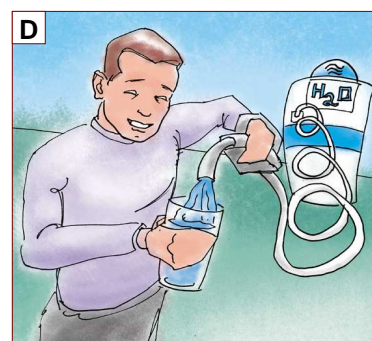


21. The problem with corn ethanol is ____ .

- A. it is made from food
- B. it comes from leaves we can't eat
- C. people may try to eat it

22. Bio-diesel is made from ____ .

- A. fried potatoes
- B. used cooking oil
- C. regular petrol



Match a picture to each description below.

Mark its letter next to the number on your Answer Sheet.

You will use only three of the pictures.

23. Shai connects his car when he gets home from work.

24. Angela fills up her gas car in Germany.

25. Dionysis pours the first pan of oil at his new bio-diesel factory.

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 2: Numbers 26 to 35

Read this text about boys and girls.

Choose the correct word or phrase to fill each gap.

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

BOYS and GIRLS

For most of history, we have **_(26)_** boys and girls different things, so they could be successful men and women. Long ago, mothers **_(27)_** after the young children, and men had to protect them and **_(28)_** out to find animals to eat. So, little girls learned to be kind and boys learned to be strong and brave. However, things have changed a **_(29)_** since the days **_(30)_** people lived in caves.



Nowadays, most men work **_(31)_** shops, offices, and factories, or on ships and farms. Women may work there, too. In some families, the father watches the children if the mother earns good money outside the home. In others, both parents **_(32)_** the work. Many modern parents try to prepare **_(33)_** children for this new situation. They encourage their girls to play football and



learn maths, and they let their boys cook and play with dolls. Someday, their daughters may be athletes or professors and their sons **_(34)_** own restaurants or write children's books. Girls and boys both have more choices **_(35)_** they used to have.



- | | | | |
|-----|------------|-------------|--------------|
| 26. | A. taught | B. teaching | C. teach |
| 27. | A. look | B. looked | C. will look |
| 28. | A. go | B. going | C. gone |
| 29. | A. many | B. lot | C. lots |
| 30. | A. when | B. who | C. how |
| 31. | A. to | B. by | C. in |
| 32. | A. share | B. sharing | C. to share |
| 33. | A. her | B. his | C. their |
| 34. | A. have to | B. may | C. should |
| 35. | A. that | B. than | C. then |

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 3: Numbers 36 to 40**WHEN IT RAINS**

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

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

Jim: What do you do when it rains?

Pam: (36)

Jim: Fine! But what if you have to go out?

Pam: (37)

Jim: Has the rain ever come into your house?

Pam: (38)

Jim: What a mess! Do you think it'll happen again?

Pam: (39)

Jim: Well, I hope they did a good job!

Pam: (40)

Jim: Why wait? Just throw some water on the door!
That way you can see if it comes in.

A. I hope not. We've had the door repaired.

B. Yes, that's happened. Once, during a bad storm, water ran under the door, 1 cm deep!

C. Then, I carry an umbrella.

D. Oh, there were chairs and tables everywhere!

E. So do I! But, we'll have to wait until the next storm to see if the rain comes in.

F. Well, I stay inside if I can.

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 4: Numbers 41 to 45**MARY'S LETTER ABOUT HOLIDAY PLANS**

Put the parts of the letter in the correct order.

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

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

EX. Part 1 A

The answer is A. *First of all, I'm sorry I haven't written for a long time. I've been so busy!*

A B C D E F G H

Dear Aunt Margaret,

EX. Part 1 A

41. Part 2

42. Part 3

43. Part 4

44. Part 5

45. Part 6

A. *First of all, I'm sorry I haven't written for a long time. I've been so busy!*

B. I'm really excited about this, because I haven't seen you for such a long time. Well, also, I love the roast lamb you always make!

C. I think she'll be happy with the skirt I got for her. It's a lovely purple colour with large buttons on the front.

D. However, Mum has just told me that we're coming to visit you during the winter holiday.

E. I hope you'll let me help you make it, because I really want to learn how. Mum says I'm old enough to learn to cook a few things.

F. Please let me know what he wants for a present. I know he likes music, so maybe I can buy him a CD.

G. I also want to see Richard while we're there. We always have a lot of fun playing with his computer. Will he be home from university?

Well, I have to do my homework. So, bye for now!

READING & USAGE EXERCISE 5: Numbers 46 to 50**FAVOURITE SPORTS**

Match a picture with each of the descriptions.
Mark its letter, A to D, on your Answer Sheet.
You will use some letters more than once.

46. ___ “I do my sport all year round. In the summer, it’s such good fun! I love it, out there, all alone on the water. It’s great! In the winter, I wear a special suit, made of nylon, to keep dry. But the wind is strong and I can really get some good practice!”
47. ___ “I felt like a fool when I was a beginner. I couldn’t keep one foot off the other and I fell a lot. I always seemed to have snow inside my jacket! But, I stayed at it and improved a lot. Now, I’m practising for a downhill race next month. You have to turn quickly, and sometimes jump up over small hills. I think I may win, though.”
48. ___ “When I first went to the class, an older boy tried to make me fight with the others. That’s called ‘sparring’. I never liked it much. Once, I hit a boy, by accident, and made his nose bleed. I almost quit going to lessons. But the teacher suggested I change classes. I’m very glad I did!”
49. ___ “I take my board to school and use it on the way home. Then, my friends and I go out every Saturday. There are some good squares around town, with steps and benches to jump over. We try harder and harder moves, like jumping up and turning in the air.”
50. ___ “Most sports have competitions and you have to practise very hard to get ready. Mine is difficult, because I can only do it for part of the year, when there’s snow. The rest of the time, I have to do other training. It’s important to keep my legs strong. So, I go running every day for at least an hour. I also go to the gym. When the weather gets cold again, I go back out to the mountain and the practice gets serious.”



C

WRITING (25 points)

- You are advised to spend about 30 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 the back of your Answer Sheet 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 your Answer Sheet.

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

TOPIC A: You are going to visit your relatives next weekend.
You want to tell your friend about what you think will happen.

Write an **email** to your friend.

Tell him or her:

- where you are going and who you will visit
- what you plan to do while you are there
- whether or not you are looking forward to it



OR

TOPIC B: When you were on your way to school, you saw something very strange.

Write a **story** about what happened.

Your story can be funny or serious.

