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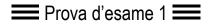
#### Državni izpitni center



SESSIONE AUTUNNALE

# **Livello superiore**

INGLESE



- A) Comprensione di testi scritti
- B) Conoscenza e uso della lingua

## Martedì, 28 agosto 2012 / 60 minuti (35 + 25)

Al candidato è consentito l'uso della penna stilografica o della penna a sfera. Al candidato viene consegnata una scheda di valutazione.

### **MATURITÀ GENERALE**

#### **INDICAZIONI PER IL CANDIDATO**

Leggete con attenzione le seguenti indicazioni.

Non aprite la prova d'esame e non iniziate a svolgerla prima del via dell'insegnante preposto.

Incollate o scrivete il vostro numero di codice negli spazi appositi su questa pagina in alto a destra e sulla scheda di valutazione.

La prova d'esame si compone di due parti, denominate A e B. Il tempo a disposizione per l'esecuzione dell'intera prova è di 60 minuti: vi consigliamo di dedicare 35 minuti alla risoluzione della parte A, e 25 minuti a quella della parte B.

La prova d'esame contiene 2 esercizi per la parte A e 2 esercizi per la parte B. Potete conseguire fino a un massimo di 20 punti nella parte A e 25 punti nella parte B, per un totale di 45 punti. È prevista l'assegnazione di 1 punto per ciascuna risposta esatta.

Scrivete le vostre risposte negli spazi appositamente previsti **all'interno della prova** utilizzando la penna stilografica o la penna a sfera. Scrivete in modo leggibile e ortograficamente corretto. In caso di errore, tracciate un segno sulla risposta scorretta e scrivete accanto ad essa quella corretta. Alle risposte e alle correzioni scritte in modo illeggibile verranno assegnati 0 punti.

Abbiate fiducia in voi stessi e nelle vostre capacità. Vi auguriamo buon lavoro.

La prova si compone di 12 pagine, di cui 4 vuote.

# A) COMPRENSIONE DI TESTI SCRITTI

### **Task 1: Short Answers**

Answer in note form in the spaces below. Use 1–5 words for each answer.

How long did Nick practise for the marathon?
A year.
Why did the Polar Circle marathon meet the author's expectations?
What counterbalanced the author's agony?
Why were numerous expressions for snow irrelevant to the participants
How are new words constructed in Inuit languages?
What intensified the feeling of extreme cold?
Which footwear does the author regret not taking with him?
Where did the author plan to gain an advantage?
Why did the author go off track?
What was the author's fatal mistake during the marathon?
Besides coming in 6th, what was the author's other achievement?

# **Running the Polar Circle marathon**

After a year of training, Nick Mead tackles the *Polar Circle marathon*, and finds that unseasonally warm temperatures of -10C have led to some treacherous footing.

A full-length trail marathon across the icecap and through Arctic desert and frozen tundra always promised to be tough – and the *Polar Circle marathon* didn't disappoint.

But the beauty of the undulating course run over the harsh ice, past jagged blue glaciers and grey frozen lakes was worth the pain – the eerie silence broken only by the sounds of my breathing and my shoes hitting the track.

Unseasonably good weather and perfect blue skies meant the 60 or so runners on the 26.2-mile course had no need for any Inuit words for snow. As Geoffrey Pullum pointed out in the Great Eskimo Vocabulary Hoax, Inuit languages are polysynthetic. They use a root such as "snow on the ground" aput, and add suffixes. For example, "a patch of snow on the ground" is aputitaq. So the number of words you can create is in fact only limited by your patience. The flip side of the lack of snow, which looked as though it would make the course easier, was that the ice cap had no covering to offer grip. This made the initial section of the race treacherous, like running up and down a steeply pitched 100m-thick ice cube. With the ambient temperature at the start recorded at -10C - and with a biting wind coming straight down from the north pole making it feel far colder than that - the race was living up to its "coolest marathon on Earth" nickname.

Race organisers *Albatros* had prepared us for the worst and recommended we bring spikes that slipped over ordinary running shoes to provide grip – but to be honest, the few millimetres of carbide steel provided scant purchase on the hard ice and I might have been faster in mountain boots and crampons.

My race plan was to try to keep up with the leaders on the steep climb to the ice cap and over the ice, gambling that I could recover on the downhill section, and see what happened after that. This worked well enough until we came to run down a slope of solid ice, my feet disappeared from under me and my teeth jarred together as my left thigh connected with the ice. I could do nothing to stop myself sliding another 30ft downhill and off course. Adrenaline helped me pick myself up and gingerly make my way back to the marked path

and off the ice cap – but I had a feeling I would pay for it later.

The rest of the route followed an undulating rock and gravel track back to the race's base at Kangerlussuaq, an old US air force headquarters that is now the country's main transport hub. Most tourists only stop here to catch a connecting flight to see the icebergs at Ilulissat. Greenland is the most sparsely populated country in the world, with 56,450 people in 840,000 square miles – so, like any town here, you only have to wander a few minutes in one direction to find yourself in pristine wilderness.

When I crossed the finish line after 3 hours and 31 minutes it had warmed up to a balmy -6C and I found myself in a creditable 6th place.

After the initial post-race euphoria I realised my leg was hurting more than it should, and within minutes I could no more than hobble. There are no doctors or dentists in Kangerlussuaq. Luckily, the marathon organisers had flown two doctors in from Denmark. Collaring one at the finish line, I was told that if I'd stayed lying on the ground with my leg pressed against the ice, my thigh might have been fine – once I made the decision to get up and run, the damage was done, he said with a smile.

When I decided to train for the *Polar Circle marathon* a year ago I was tipping the scales at 18st 9lbs and my waist had expanded to 40-inches – meaning I couldn't buy clothes in most high street stops. A group of old friends had rather unkindly started calling me "the bear".

After four three-month marathon training schedules back to back, and 12 months of good old-fashioned calorie counting (no more bacon sandwiches; a daily bottle of wine cut back to one or two good bottles a week) I'm four-and-a-half stone lighter, need a belt to hold up 36-inch trousers and feel fitter than I have for more than a decade.

In the end, my time was 14 minutes behind the winner, Danish Ironman triathlon champion Jesper Rygaard Hansen, whose regular marathon PB is 2:40. More experienced runners reckon I've got a chance of knocking off a sub-3-hour marathon on a flat course, so that's my next challenge – that should help keep the weight off.

(Adapted from an article in *The Observer*, 23 November 2010, by Nick Mead)

### Task 2: Matching

You are going to read some reviews of films.

For questions 1–10, choose from the review (A–D). Some of the reviews may be chosen more than once. When more than one answer is required, these may be given in any order.

There are three examples at the beginning (0), (00) and (000).

### Which film(s)

involves a lot of action?	0 <u>B</u>
set a new trend in film-making?	00 <u>C</u> and 000 <u>A</u>

is based on real events?	1
fails to live up to the spectator's expectations?	2
handles social misfortunes with an air of cheerfulness?	3
has been remade twice?	4
makes references to other films?	5

## Which character(s)

meet accidentally?	6
face opposition from their superiors?	7 and 8
plans the destruction of the civic community?	9
is a fugitive?	10

### A Splice (2009)

The thing about Frankenstein's monster wasn't that he was monstrous, but that he had human feelings. He couldn't stand rejection. He was a sensitive soul. But how would the doctor's creation have behaved if he'd been created as a baby? This is the ingenious puzzle behind *Splice*. It offers numerous allusions to other movies of its kind, but brings its own style and pitch-dark humour, thus creating a new approach to modern horror-sci-fi film-making.

Adrien Brody and Sarah Polley are genetic engineers Clive and Elsa, working for a US pharmaceuticals company. Their special expertise is to splice together DNA from different animals to create hybrid organisms that can give up new vaccines for a range of diseases.

Elsa wants to take things further. She wants to put human DNA together with animals, to see what would result. The company, shrewdly noting that such experimentation is illegal, forbids them. But impulsive Elsa goes ahead. "What's the worst that can happen?" she asks, not for the last time. You don't need to comprehend all the science stuff; all you need to know is that something's been impregnated in a glass vitrine and it's coming to get you.

#### B Knight and Day (2010)

We are meant to be dazzled by the sophisticated locations and puzzled by the plot, but the real mystery is why anyone bothered. Look up the words "movie star" in your mental dictionary, and there's a fair chance that they'll be illustrated by pictures of Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz. They may not be the audience-magnets they once were, but there aren't many actors above them on Hollywood's A-list, so when they make a summer blockbuster together, you'd expect it to be ... well, not *Knight and Day*.

Cruise plays Roy Miller, and Diaz is June Havens. These two strangers bump into each other in a Kansas airport. Booked on the same Boston-bound flight, once they're airborne, their flirtatious small talk goes so well that Havens excuses herself to check her make-up in the loo. But when she emerges, she finds that Miller has killed the plane's half-dozen other passengers with his bare hands. He is, he explains, a secret agent on the run from a traitor in the ranks. Everyone else on the plane was an assassin. For some reason or other, it's imperative that they stick together, so off they go on a jet-setting adventure which involves sundry car chases and gun fights.

#### C Metropolis (2010)

Is Fritz Lang's 1927 epic *Metropolis* the most influential film ever? It certainly gave rise to the cinema of futurism, and watching it today – now in an important new restoration – it's uncanny to see how many shadows of cinema vet to come it already contains.

But pop admirers haven't always been kind to Lang's vision. In the 1980s, a disco producer supervised a colourised, abridged restoration. That version would feel completely archaic compared with the vitality of the *Metropolis* released last week. Originally, the film was substantially cut by its producers, resulting in plot incoherences that have endured till now. Thanks to lost footage discovered in Argentina, the film has been expanded by some 25 minutes, and the result is dazzling.

Set in a futuristic city, the story depicts a battle between Metropolis's overlord Fredersen and an inventor, Rotwang, who engineers urban apocalypse by having his robot impersonate social activist Maria. The anti-Maria incites unrest among the city's oppressed workers, while driving the city's wealthy sons to lustful violence with her astonishingly deceptive dancing.

#### Made in Dagenham (2010)

D

The true story of how the 1968 Ford Dagenham Strike by 187 sewing machinists is told in genteel almost jolly fashion. The emphasis is placed firmly on light-heartedness, domestic relationships and the value of friendship. Sally Hawkins plays fictional Rita O'Grady and her character, despite poverty and hardship, breezes through life and faces her obstacles and battles with humour and honesty.

Trouble starts when the machinists are designated "unskilled" workers by their paymasters, ensuring they are paid at the lowest end of the scale. Encouraged by sympathetic union representative Albert, Rita becomes their designated spokesman. He offers paternal advice and encouragement to the girls. He's the only man shown in a positive light.

The British Ford bosses are portrayed as seriously compromised by a need to calm down their US overseers. It's only when Ford send over an American big gun from Michigan that the women have an enemy with sufficient power to heighten the sense of drama, and give a sense of how great their fight was.

#### B) CONOSCENZA E USO DELLA LINGUA

#### **TASK 1: GAP FILL**

For gaps 1-15, write one missing word in the spaces on the right.

There is ONE word missing in each gap.

There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

# Blood, sweat and tears: The truth about how your sportswear is made

Factories used by biggest brands abuse staff, employ children and pay pitiful wages – while stars \_\_0\_ a fortune.

Many football tops, running vests and trainers on sale in the UK are made by sweatshop workers toiling long hours in hazardous conditions without trade union-rights, according to documents published by sportswear companies.

Two days before the Commonwealth Games begin, an analysis of labour inspections identified 281 rogue factories, \_\_1\_ failings ranged from the unsatisfactory to the abysmal.

Low pay and long \_\_2\_ are common in workshops but some also use bonded or prison labour, ban collective bargaining, threaten and harass workers and \_\_3\_ women to undergo pregnancy testing. "Less productive" workers face the sack.

A decade after some shoppers boycotted Nike over the issue, the leading players in the global sportswear industry seek to protect their reputations against allegations they profit from sweated labour by inspecting factories and blacklisting the worst. However, \_\_4\_\_ own reports show they have had only partial success in cleaning up the industry, and that they continue to outsource production to countries \_\_5\_\_ trade unions are banned or restricted.

Instead of the "living wage" sought by campaigners, they pay the legal minimum wage, which can be half **\_\_6\_\_** amount deemed necessary by unions and academics to meet the cost of food, shelter, healthcare and education for a small family. When challenged by *The Independent*, none of the firms denied that some of their supplier factories **\_\_7\_\_** "sweatshops".

Nike's corporate responsibility report for 2007/09 paints the most vivid picture of conditions for the million of mostly Asian workers stitching and glueing sports shoes and apparel. It shows occasional or routine abuse by 35 per cent of Nike's suppliers – affecting \_\_8\_ to 280,000 workers.

Of 479 factories checked last year, on average 168 failed to meet Nike's standards, meaning they had "serious system failures" or a "general disregard" for codes of conduct. One in five failed to provide contracts, honour collective bargaining, occasionally used children or worked staff seven days a week \_\_9\_\_ a break. One in 20 flouted wage laws, used bonded, indentured, prison or child labour, abused staff, or carried \_\_10\_\_ mandatory pregnancy tests.

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Campaigners say that despite their willingness to document abuses, sportswear firms could do more to tackle long hours and low pay. In a report for the 2008 Olympics, Playfair noted that substantial violations of workers' \_\_13\_\_ were "still the norm" and there was a "tendency to consolidate production" in states that restricted trade unions. Anna McMullen, of Labour Behind the Label, said they \_\_14\_\_ not acknowledged there was something called a living wage, never mind working towards it."

All three brands admitted that conditions could – and should – improve. Nike said: "Although we work quickly to address issues identified in audits, we know that challenges remain in some contract factories, including reducing excessive overtime and protecting the right \_\_15\_\_ freedom of association."

Puma said the industry had made progress by effectively combating child labour and improving health and safety, adding: "In other areas, such as freedom of association and wage levels beyond the legal minimum requirements we still see challenges ahead."

(Adapted from an article in *The Independent*, 1 October 2011, by Martin Hickman)

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#### Task 2: Gap Fill (Word formation)

For gaps 1–10, write the correct form of the word in brackets in the spaces on the right. There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

## A best friend and a carer

For the past few weeks, our readers have been responding \_\_0\_(GENEROSITY) to tales of the versatile assistance dogs trained by Dogs for the Disabled. Not only do these canine helpers provide welcome \_\_1\_ (COMPANION), they are capable of everything from emptying washing machines to calling lifts, opening doors, turning on lights, spotting epileptic fits and helping to dress and undress their charges. They have transformed the fortunes of hundreds of severely disabled adults and children, and in several cases they have saved people's lives.

And yet, according to Peter Gorbing, chief \_\_2\_\_ (EXECUTE) of Dogs for the Disabled, we are only scratching the surface of human-canine interaction. Despite the fact that dogs play a central role in the lives of millions of families, the man-dog relationship has still not been properly evaluated to see how it can be harnessed in a more systematic way.

"One of my frustrations," he says, "is that, although everyone who owns a dog knows \_\_3\_\_ (INSTINCT) that they are good for them, there are many things that we are yet to pick up on from a public health point of view. If someone is in a wheelchair, for example, other people often feel \_\_4\_\_ (COMFORT) when making contact. Give them a dog, however, and people will cross the road to come and talk to them."

"So how do we harness this sort of goodwill? I don't want to sound too fanatical about it – and I'm certainly against too much state \_\_5\_ (INTERVENE) – but dogs can provide new, low-tech, low-cost, community-focused \_\_6\_ (SOLVE) to some old problems."

One example would be to help carers of Alzheimer's patients – part of the central idea of shifting the focus from the notion of the dog as a primary helper to a secondary, \_\_7\_\_ (SUPPORT) role. "Looking after someone 24 hours a day can be very stressful," says Gorbing. "I know friends caring for relatives who wander out into the street. A dog can be trained to block the door or alert someone to movement, providing another pair of eyes and four extra legs."

Another area of canine potential that excites Dogs for the Disabled lies in helping adults with autism cope with the stress and \_\_8\_\_ (ANXIOUS) of work. According to the National Autistic Society, only 15 per cent of adults with autism are in full-time paid employment. "Bringing a dog to the office makes people feel more secure," says Gorbing.

In Britain, meanwhile, the fastest growing area of canine research is into the \_\_9\_\_ (BENEFIT) effect of assistance dogs for children with autism. Two years ago, Dogs for the Disabled extended its work to include children as young as three with autism: such children don't always need a fully trained assistance dog, so last year the charity started a programme called Paws to teach families how their pet dogs can help \_\_10\_\_ (SOCIAL) a child.

(Adapted from an article in *The Telegraph*, 30 December 2010, by Iain Hollingshead)

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