



Codice del candidato:

Državni izpitni center



PRIMA SESSIONE D'ESAME

Livello di base
INGLESE
≡ Prova d'esame 1 ≡

A: Comprensione di testi scritti
B: Conoscenza e uso della lingua

Sabato 4 giugno 2005 / 80 minuti (40 + 40)

*Al candidato è consentito l'uso della penna stilografica
o della penna a sfera, della matita HB o B, della gomma
e del temperamatite. Al candidato va consegnato un foglio per le risposte.*

MATURITÀ GENERALE

ISTRUZIONI PER I CANDIDATI

Leggete attentamente le istruzioni. Non tralasciate nulla.

Non voltate le pagine e non iniziate a risolvere gli esercizi prima del via dell'insegnante preposto.

Le risposte scritte con la matita si valutano con zero (0) punti.

Incollate oppure scrivete il vostro codice (nella casella in alto a destra su questo foglio e sul foglio per le risposte).

La prova consiste di due parti, la parte A e la parte B. Il tempo a disposizione è di 80 minuti complessivi: 40 minuti per la parte A e 40 minuti per la parte B. L'insegnante responsabile Vi informerà quando potrete iniziare a risolvere la parte B. Non è consigliabile tornare alla parte A.

La prova contiene tre esercizi nella parte A e tre esercizi nella parte B. Ogni risposta esatta si valuta con un (1) punto.

Scrivete le risposte **nella prova d'esame** negli appositi spazi usando la penna stilografica o la penna a sfera, per gli esercizi 2 e 3 della parte A vanno pure annerite le rispettive caselle con la matita **sul foglio per le risposte**. Scrivete in modo leggibile. Se sbagliate, cancellate la risposta e riscrivetela. Le risposte illeggibili e le correzioni non chiare si valutano con zero (0) punti.

Abbiate fiducia in voi stessi e nelle vostre capacità.

Buon lavoro.

Questa prova d'esame ha 12 pagine, di cui 2 vuote.

A: COMPrensione DI TESTI SCRITTI (Durata: 40 minuti)**READING TASK 1: SHORT ANSWERS**

Answer ***in note form*** in the spaces below.

Example:

0. When was record banana consumption recorded?

Over the last 12 months

We're all going bananas

1. What is one of the reasons for the banana boom in the UK?

2. When could the people in Britain taste a banana for the first time?

3. Besides being the ultimate food, what else speaks of bananas' versatility?

4. Who does not benefit from the rise of the nation's favourite fruit?

5. What proves that bananas were brought to the UK before Victorian times?

6. What prevented the refrigerated shipment of bananas to the UK?

7. Who took advantage of the banana day (in 1946)?

We're all going bananas

Adapted from an article in *The Observer*, 30 June 2002, by Robin McKie

Britain has gone bananas. Over the past 12 months we have consumed an unprecedented 3.5 billion pieces of the tropical fruit, forcing our native apple into a poor second place.

The nation's banana boom is one of the most remarkable nutritional phenomena of recent years, a guide not just to the flowering health consciousness of the British people but also to the country's economic health.

We spend more money on bananas than any other supermarket item apart from petrol and lottery tickets, and more than 95 per cent of our households buy them every week. Bananas are us, it seems.

Yet a century ago hardly anyone in Britain had tasted or even seen a banana. The first commercial refrigerated shipment arrived 100 years ago this month, triggering a national love affair from which we have never looked back.

The banana has everything going for it, so its popularity should not seem that surprising. It is easy to open; it is packed with energy, fibre and vitamins; it is rich in potassium and low in calories. It is also a first-class hangover cure, stabilises blood pressure and soothes heartburn. You can even use the skins as garden fertiliser when you have finished. It is astonishingly versatile. On top of all this, bananas contain chemicals that stimulate the production of serotonin and dopamine, the same neurotransmitters set off by Prozac and Ecstasy. In short, bananas are healthy – and they give you a buzz. It is the ultimate food: ambrosia in a colourful skin.

The rise and rise of the nation's favourite fruit has also been the result of some skilful and cunning marketing by traders and producers – as well as the influx of cheap 'dollar bananas' from Latin America and the Caribbean.

And here lies the downside to the banana's popularity. As campaigners point out, banana plantation workers are usually paid a pittance. Many have to live in miserable housing in near-starvation and are left sterile by toxic agricultural chemicals. Some of their trade union leaders risk being attacked and killed.

As a result, some supermarkets, such as the Co-op, now offer Fairtrade bananas which have been bought directly from growers who are guaranteed realistic prices for their product.

Bananas were virtually unheard of during Victorian times. Early attempts to introduce them to our northern climes met with failure because by the time they had been picked, packaged and then shipped to the UK they had rotted beyond recognition. (Some did reach our shores, however, as was revealed by a recent archeological excavation in London in which the remains of a sixteenth century banana were dug up.)

The development of refrigerated shipping changed everything. Then, as now, bananas were imported in bunches to ripening houses in dockyards where they were stored until they had turned a greenish-yellow colour. Then they were broken into individual fingers and transported to stores and markets.

At times of war, however, bananas disappeared from Britain. In World War I, this shortage led to the popularity of the music hall song 'Yes, we have no bananas', written by Leon Trotsky's nephew. Similarly, during World War II bananas disappeared from shops. When transatlantic shipping re-commenced at the end of the war, the return of the banana was hailed as heralding an end to austerity and to the curse of the ration book. The Labour government even instigated a national banana day in 1946. Every child should have a banana that day, it was decreed – sometimes with unfortunate results, as the writer Auberon Waugh recalled. He and two of his sisters received their quota of three precious bananas, an exotic fruit whose deliciousness they had heard of but never experienced.

"They were put on my father's plate, and before the anguished eyes of his children he poured on cream, which was almost unprocurable, and sugar, which was heavily rationed, and ate all three," Waugh wrote. "From that moment, I never treated anything he had to say on faith or morals very seriously."

READING TASK 2: MATCHING (Paragraphs and Statements)

Match all statements 1–9 with paragraphs from A–H.

MORE THAN ONE STATEMENT may refer to **THE SAME PARAGRAPH**.

Write your answers in the spaces on the right and shade in the appropriate circles on your answer sheet.

Example:

0.	The exhibition of Aztec culture in England will be an outstanding one.	A
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When Mexico had its day in the sun

1.	Spanish buildings in Tenochtitlan were knocked down to help archaeologists work.	
2.	In the end, Motecuhzoma was too indecisive to defeat the Spaniards.	
3.	Stories about Aztecs fascinated the author when he was very young.	
4.	Cortez conquered Tenochtitlan despite having only a small army.	
5.	When in Mexico, the author could not believe how many valuable pieces of Aztec civilisation have been preserved.	
6.	There is more than one theory on how the famous Aztec king passed away.	
7.	The Aztecs' symbol of power was destroyed by the European invaders.	
8.	It is difficult to understand how cruelty and a sense of art could go hand in hand.	
9.	You feel respect when you see what sort of buildings the Aztecs were capable of building.	

When Mexico had its day in the sun

Adapted from an article in *The Independent*, 9 November 2002, by Chris Coplans

- A** What is it that so fascinates us about the Aztecs? They were a nomadic tribe who, in less than 200 years, built up a huge and powerful empire. Then, with the arrival of the Spanish, the flourishing empire collapsed in just a few short years. This remarkable tale of a civilisation's decline and fall is to be vividly retold in a forth-coming exhibition in London. The most ambitious ever staged outside Mexico, it will feature more than 350 exhibits, some never seen in public.
- B** As a schoolboy I was intrigued by stories of this great warrior race, once led by a bloodthirsty king with the ferocious-sounding name of Motecuhzoma. I lapped up tales about the tzompantli skull rack, where thousands of trophy-heads of sacrificial victims were strung up in public. I knew that the Aztecs had long since disappeared, but the modern city that replaced their ancient capital was just as frenetic. There were bullfights in huge arenas, serenading Mariachi bands and señoritas who could break your heart with the lowering of an eyelid.
- C** Earlier this year, I finally made it to Mexico City and found myself in the Museo Nacional de Antropología. I was mesmerised by the abundance of treasures they left. The museum houses the greatest collection of Aztec art in the world and is a great starting point for an insight into their civilisation. The museum is the home of the sun or calendar stone, decorated with intricate detail and bearing the face of Tonatiuh at its centre. A haunting statue of Coatlicue is equally impressive. It seems somewhat incongruous that the same people who created some of these exquisite pieces would also sacrifice up to 20,000 victims a day.
- D** The vast archaeological site of Teotihuacan had been abandoned for nearly 1,000 years before the Aztecs claimed it. They believed that time itself started here. Like today's visitor, they must have been equally in awe of the huge size of the city's main buildings and planned layout. The Pyramid of the Sun, the world's third largest pyramid, stands aligned to the place on the horizon where the sun rises on the equinox. A few hundred yards away lies the equally impressive but slightly smaller Pyramid of the Moon. Together they dwarf the landscape, rising dramatically against the hills.
- E** When the Spanish expedition led by Hernan Cortez arrived at Tenochtitlan in 1520 they were awestruck. They had entered a city which at its height was home to more than 250,000 people, making it one of the largest in the world. The Aztecs thought Tenochtitlan was the centre of the Universe and built their symbol of power, the Templo Mayor, in 1325, on the exact spot where they first saw a symbolic eagle with a snake in its beak. Unfortunately, when the Spanish gained control of the city they demolished the temple, using its plundered stone to build their own religious monument, the imposing Cathedral Metropolitana. To add insult to injury they then erected colonial buildings on the vandalised site.
- F** In an ironic twist in 1978, these buildings were demolished so that archaeologists could excavate the site. The adjoining Museo del Templo Mayor now houses many of the recovered artefacts. A wheel-like stone of a decapitated Coyolxauhqui rightfully takes pride of place in the museum. She was murdered by her brother Huitzilopochtli, who also killed 400 of his brothers.
- G** How did the Spaniards get their hands on this prize city and all its riches? Cortez's band of conquistadors was undermanned, without funds and a long way from home. His adversary, the enigmatic Motecuhzoma, on the other hand, was a strong and battle-experienced leader with a vast army. He had known about Cortez from the moment that the Spaniard had set foot on the Yucatan peninsula in 1519. However, from the outset something about the Spaniards spooked him and he may even have thought of Cortez as the incarnation of a deified king.
- H** Cortez was an opportunist and, with a combination of guile and patience, tricked his way into the city. Motecuhzoma could still have disposed of him, but he hesitated and the longer he left it the more he lost his nerve. Cortez, sensing victory, moved in for the kill. In a daring raid he kidnapped the Aztec leader from his palace and the great god-king was soon little more than a puppet. Motecuhzoma died shortly afterwards as a result of a stoning by his own followers, although according to later Indian accounts he was secretly strangled by the Spaniards. In less than a year the Spanish had seized power and were busy building their own empire.

READING TASK 3: TRUE / FALSE / NOT GIVEN

Decide whether the following statements are TRUE, FALSE, or NOT GIVEN.

Tick (✓) the appropriate column below and shade in the appropriate circles on your answer sheet.

Example:

	TRUE	FALSE	NOT GIVEN
0. The author felt strange when he arrived in Edinburgh because of two things.	✓		

How my office was turned into a five-star bedroom

	TRUE	FALSE	NOT GIVEN
1. From the very beginning the building was meant to be a hotel.			
2. <i>The Scotsman</i> was delivered to many parts of Scotland.			
3. Being editor at <i>The Scotsman</i> was an important promotion for the author.			
4. The lower part of the building was in poor condition.			
5. The building became difficult to use towards the turn of the century.			
6. A lot of people saw an opportunity to turn the building into a hotel.			
7. At the time of the author's visit all the rooms in the hotel were in use.			
8. The author used to sleep in his office.			
9. Smoking during meetings was banned in the editor's office.			

How my office was turned into a five-star bedroom

Adapted from an article in *The Observer on Sunday*, 6 May 2001, by Alan Ruddock

For twenty-four hours I found it hard to shake off a sense of unreality. Arriving in Edinburgh to be greeted by bright sunshine was unsettling enough, but wandering around the old offices of *The Scotsman*, now a five-star hotel, was downright weird.

There was nothing five-star about the old building when I was there: purpose built at the start of the last century as a newspaper office, it was a phenomenon of its time. It sprawled over nine different levels, a one-stop newspaper production plant that opened straight on to the sidings at Waverley station.

It was a seamless production process, from scribbling, to hot metal, to bundles of newspapers on a train heading for far-flung parts of Scotland. Or at least the outer edges of the Lothians.

By the time I arrived as editor in May 1998, the idea of the building being purpose built for newspapers was absurd. The lower levels, where the presses used to be, were dark cavernous spaces, filled with the detritus of years of newspaper production. It was a place you hurried through on your way to the car park and where, inevitably, you got lost.

The Scotsman operated from the third floor, with its departments scattered in a variety of cubby-holes and dark offices. The editor's suite was wonderfully grand, with oak-panelled walls and imposing portraits of former editors. In stark contrast, the newsroom was a dreadful place lit by mind-altering yellow uplights and was horribly overcrowded.

What was ideal in the early 1900s had become unmanageable by the end of the century: there was a real sense of relief when we finally moved out in October 1999 to the sleek modernism of a new building down by the site of Scotland's new Parliament.

Quite how anybody could look at that building and see a five-star hotel was

something none of us could understand at the time. The man who did was Jonathan Wix, who had already created the highly regarded 42 The Calls in Leeds. Eighteen months and £19.5 million later, he has got his five-star hotel.

Or very nearly. Although open for business, the hotel is far from finished. Builders hammer away as they rush to finish restaurants, a leisure centre complete with stainless steel swimming pool, a night club and several conference areas. Of the 68 bedrooms and suites, about 40 are ready for guests, with the rest due on stream within weeks. The ultimate deadline has to be the series of festivals that take over Edinburgh for most of August.

Soon after I arrived last Monday I started to poke around, trying to work out what had gone where. The newsroom, mercifully, is no more. In its place is a collection of bedrooms: people will now pay – rather than be paid – to sleep there. The old features department is, suitably, a bar, its wall lined with back-lit bottles of malt whiskies – it claims to have 399 in stock and on display.

My old office is a bedroom, and quite an impressive one at that. It was always an imposing room, with a sweeping view of the New Town through its three-cornered windows. It was a strange feeling, standing in the middle of that room. It used to host smoky conferences enlivened by occasional spats. In my first month at the paper I had sat dutifully by the window and listened to the Chancellor's views on macro-economics and why Scottish nationalism was a busted flush; now, the office will host excitable tourists and dour financiers unaware of what went before.

© *The Observer on Sunday*

B: CONOSCENZA E USO DELLA LINGUA (Durata: 40 minuti)**TASK 1: GAP FILL**

Write the missing words in the spaces on the right.

There is ONE word missing in each gap.

There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

Life support

Adapted from an article in *The Observer Magazine*, 3 March 2002, by Lucy Siegle

Sharon Maguire and Tracey MacLeod were the inspiration for Shazza and Jude in Helen Fielding's *Bridget Jones's Diary*.

Sharon Maguire: Tracey is the queen of the Salon. She loves those kinds of literary parties ___0___ she drops one of her little witticisms and everyone falls about laughing.

Of course, I was fiercely intimidated by her when I first saw her at one of these functions being tall and willowy and articulate. I remember feeling profoundly grateful that she even spoke to me. Since ___1___ I just sort of shuffle behind her like a little mascot.

She used to sweep into the office at midday when we ___2___ working together on the *Late Show* in the late 80s. She was the glamorous presenter in designer clothes; I was the put-upon director, trolling away in the corner. I was quite relieved ___3___ I overheard her discussing *Coronation Street* and realised she might be human.

She's from Ipswich and I'm from Coventry – we're both small-town girls. We also lost our fathers ___4___ impressionable ages. And we both have trailer-park names. We used to get pissed off when people referred generically to Sharons and Traceys, but ___5___ was quite a lot of mileage to be had from turning ___6___ at posh parties and announcing: 'I'm Sharon and she's Tracey.'

When I directed *Bridget Jones's Diary* ___7___ was similar to Tracey having her baby. Everything was suddenly different. It felt like the end of ___8___ era. Now I can't imagine Tracey without David. I was shocked that she's such a cuddly, natural mum.

In 12 years we've never fallen out properly. We had a tiff on holiday once, but then I am an insomniac with a gruelling exercise regime which tests Tracey's patience. She's gone to great lengths ___9___ extend my musical tastes but now she realises I like crap things like handbag house. In fact, I'd never want to have a big argument ___10___ her because I'd be too scared of losing her for good.

Tracey MacLeod: I remember a few years ago when Sharon said, 'Bye, I love you' at the end of a phone call. I sort of grunted, put the phone ___11___ and went really pink. Now I say it to her all the time, and also to my mum and brother. In fact, I think she's changed my whole attitude to love.

I was immediately drawn to Sharon ___12___ she's a funny mimic. Our sense of humour is quite similar and tends to be a cataloguing of our gaffes and inadequacies. Nowadays I forage for nuts and berries in the media forest, whereas Sharon shines ___13___ a star. Where work's concerned she's amazingly focused ___14___ diligent, whereas I'm a slacker ___15___ avoids stress at all costs.

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TASK 2: GAP FILL

Write the correct form of the verbs given in brackets in the spaces on the right.

There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

'Disoriented' doctor seen weeks after he vanished

Adapted from an article in *The Independent*, 16 August 2003, by Martin Hickman

A doctor who disappeared almost four weeks ago from the hospital where he worked __0__ (**SPOT**) wandering through an airport in a "confused and disoriented" state. Police said there __1__ (**BE**) a confirmed sighting of Dr Richard Stevens, a consultant haematologist, at Liverpool's John Lennon airport in the early hours of Thursday.

Closed-circuit television pictures showed Dr Stevens, 54, who has three children, sitting with a black bag on a bench, __2__ (**STARE**) forlornly into the distance. One of the lenses in his glasses was broken. He told a member of staff he __3__ (**HEAD**) north, and took a cab to Lime Street train station, after which he went missing again.

Dr Stevens' family is convinced the man __4__ (**SEE**) on the CCTV footage at the airport is the doctor. The sighting is the first firm news they have had since he __5__ (**DISAPPEAR**) from the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital in Pendlebury last month. There was no indication he was about __6__ (**GO**) missing.

Monday, 21 July started as an ordinary day. Dr Stevens set his alarm for 6.38 am, as usual, kissed his wife, Eirwen, and __7__ (**LEAVE**) his home in Sale, Greater Manchester, at 6.50 am. Shortly after 7.10 am he arrived at the hospital, parked his car, and walked through the main entrance to his office.

Then, nothing. His Audi remained in the car park. CCTV cameras did not record him __8__ (**LEAVE**) the building. Police searches of the 19th-century hospital found no trace of him. His mobile phone was switched off and he __9__ (**MAKE**) no contact with his family since. His passport was still at home. No money __10__ (**WITHDRAW**) from his bank accounts.

Dr Stevens was highly respected at the hospital, working with children suffering from leukaemia and haemophilia. Professor Tim Eden, his closest colleague, described him as "one of the most personable people you could meet".

Yet there may have been discord in Dr Stevens' mind – he had a family argument the day before his disappearance. His work with sick children, which he found difficult __11__ (**TALK**) about with his wife, may, finally, have got to him. Members of the public have come forward with sightings of the doctor. He was thought wrongly __12__ (**BOARD**) a London-bound train, and a woman reported this week that she believed she had given him a lift in Devon. But until now no sighting __13__ (**CONFIRM**).

A spokeswoman for Greater Manchester Police said Dr Stevens' family had seen the airport footage and were convinced the man was Dr Stevens. Sergeant Julie Connor said: "The man in the footage appears confused and disoriented and we are concerned that Richard __14__ (**MAY / SUFFER**) some sort of breakdown and does not know where he __15__ (**LIVE**)."

0. has been spotted

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TASK 3: WORD FORMATION

Write the correct form of the words in the spaces on the right.

There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

Meals make us human

Adapted from an article in *The Guardian*, 14 September 2002, by Felipe Fernandez-Armesto

Fat can be fatal. Obesity is the great new **__0__** health scare. Heart disease and late-onset diabetes grow out of grease.

The danger is baffling because it is paradoxical. For ours is the most diet-conscious era and diet-obsessed culture in the history of the world. We think thin and we get fat. This is more than a **__1__** peculiarity: it bucks the whole trend of human evolution. Our species has long been conspicuously more **__2__** in absorbing fat than any other land-based animal – why is that going wrong now? The experts' favourite explanations are all ideologically biased. Some blame capitalism for force feeding us sugar and starch, or industrialisation and urbanisation for distancing millions from healthy food. Dieting, say others, makes you fat by disturbing the metabolism and **__3__** faddish eating. Some blame poverty, some blame abundance. Some of these explanations are wrong; the rest are inadequate. Really, fat is a function of deeper **__4__** in our eating habits. It's the outward and visible sign of a profound social disaster: the decline of the meal. We have to face this threat if we want to face it down.

Mealtimes are our oldest rituals. The companionable effects of eating together help to make us human. The little links which bind households together are forged at the table. The **__5__** of our homes probably depends more on regular mealtimes than on sexual fidelity or filial piety. Now it is in danger. Food is being desocialised. The demise of mealtimes means unstructured days and undisciplined appetites. The **__6__** of the fast-food eater is uncivilising. In microwave households, family life fragments. The end of home cooking has long been both **__7__** predicted and ardently desired. The anti-cooking **__8__** started, rather feebly, more than 100 years ago, among socialists who wanted to liberate women from the kitchen and replace the family with a wider community. In 1887, Edward Bellamy imagined a paradise of kitchenless homes. Workers would order dinner from menus printed in newspapers and eat them in people's palaces. Twenty years later, Charlotte Perkins wanted to make cookery "**__9__**": in effect, eliminating it from most lives, while professionals in meal-making factories maintained energy levels for a world of work. It would have been insufferably dull – institutional eating can never beat home cooking. But at least it was **__10__** conceived, with socialising effects in mind.

0. GLOBE

global

1. CULTURE

2. SUCCESS

3. ENCOURAGE

4. DISTURB

5. STABLE

6. LONELY

7. TEARFUL

8. MOVE

9. SCIENCE

10. NOBLE

PAGINA VUOTA

PAGINA VUOTA