Livello superiore

INGLESE

Prova di esame 1

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

Sabato, 26 maggio 2007 / 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.

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 soluzioni degli esercizi della prova d’esame non vanno scritti a matita.
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 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.
Abbia fiducia in voi stessi e nelle vostre capacità.
Buon lavoro.
The elephant whisperer: 
A haven for mistreated animals

1. Where are the elephants fed?

2. What does Lek fight against?

3. What happens to many elephants that don't die during the weaning process?

4. What is Lek sceptical about?

5. How old are the youngest elephants Lek is helping?

6. What do the locals think of Lek?

7. What were the older elephants wounded by?
Lek flings slices of sweet white bread into the maw of a frisky five-year-old male elephant she calls Hope, whom she has hand-reared from babyhood. Hope loudly kisses her cheeks and lips with his trunk. In the afternoon, she will romp with the whole herd as they take their river-baths and talcum off with dust. A while back, Lek had broken ribs after a training session with Hope as he got unruly and he stabbed her with his tusks. But all is forgiven now. A flimsy bamboo hut on stilts sways alarmingly as two dozen unfettered elephants, their hides scarred by years of abuse, logging in Thailand's jungles, jostle for a luncheon buffet of bananas stalks, turnips and pumpkins spread out on Lek's front porch. Known to everyone as Lek, or "Tiny", Sangduen Chailert is a diminutive Hill Tribe woman with mammoth plans to look after her country's declining population of domesticated elephants. Her forthright challenges to elephant owners to behave responsibly have made her something of an endangered species herself: death threats are common when she is out on the road inspecting injured or orphaned animals.

Lek averages just four hours sleep a night, in a hammock, surrounded by 35 neutered feral dogs who warn of any strangers' approach. She insists elephants should no longer be subjected to phajaan, a week of elephant abuse and torture, despite its centuries long rural Asian tradition. Heated irons and sharpened metal spikes are jabbed continuously into roped juveniles during their first separation from their mothers. The process is designed to wean them and break their spirit so they can become beasts of burden. Lek has documented scores of these brutal sessions, during which half of the animals die. "Of the survivors, about half will go mad," she says. "These brutal teaching methods can make them aggressive and dangerous also to those who never cause them any harm. I do not believe elephants need to taste pain to learn how to listen." About 100 elephant trainers are killed every year by their charges. Lek's dream is to release working elephants back to the forest, and she has assembled 25 abused or neglected creatures, ranging in age from six months to 85 years, to test her theories of rehabilitation in two wooded refuges north of Chiang Mai.

The granddaughter of a Khamu shaman and healer, Lek has been more vilified than lauded during almost a decade of conservation work that has disclosed widespread mistreatment of elephants, the animal Thais hold most sacred.

She took the brunt of the local backlash after the radical animal rights group Peta (People for Ethical Treatment of Animals) used some of her footage of savage training sessions and called for international sanctions against Thailand until phajaan was eliminated. Lek was branded a traitor and had to go into hiding. Even her family disowned her. Night raiders injected her favourite baby elephant with arsenic and killed it almost instantly. "I won't tell people to boycott elephant safaris, as long as the animals are well treated," she says. Lek points at infected pressure sores along the spines of two elderly elephants who used to have to wear metal chairs to give tourists rides in comfort. The massive neck muscles are better suited to bearing weight than their curved spines.
READING TASK 2: GAPPED TEXT

In the following extract 9 sentences have been removed. Choose from sentences A–J the one which fits each gap 1–9. There is one EXTRA sentence which you do not need. Write your answers in the spaces next to the numbers and shade in the appropriate circles on your answer sheet.

There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0 (K).

In the government yard in Trench Town...
Adapted from an article in The Observer, 24 July 2005, by Akim Ojumu

In 1987 I won a school prize – a book token, naturally, meant to encourage us to become serious readers. (0 ) Dostoyevsky would have to wait. After a search through my nearest bookshop (WH Smith in Catford, London), I scribbled down the details of two books: a history of Olympic athletes and a Bob Marley biography.

When I read his story, Marley had been dead for six years after succumbing to cancer aged 36, but his legend had grown. Marley put Jamaica on the map. (1 ) Through listening to his music, I learnt about the Caribbean, which as a black Briton of Nigerian descent, seemed like the exotic end of the black diaspora.

But by the time I left university I had seen so many giant posters on bedroom walls of the singer smoking a traffic-cone sized spiff, he no longer seemed like a musical rebel. Everyone had claimed him; he wasn't cool any more. Besides, I often found his socially aware lyrics and spiritual philosophy rather dull. My tastes widened, and eventually I started writing about music for a living. (2 )

So the prospect of going on a Bob Marley-themed holiday inspired nostalgia and amusement. I had visions of a marijuana-flavoured tour through downtown Kingston with a Rasta guide. This would be gonzo travel reporting.

(3 ) Created by Chris Blackwell, the man who signed Marley to Island Records and launched his international career, it is a luxury package that includes accommodation at Strawberry Hill, a beautiful resort overlooking Jamaica's capital. (4 ) But Strawberry Hill does have a musical pedigree because Marley fled there in 1976 after gunmen tried to assassinate him during an election campaign. The Rolling Stones partied here during the Seventies. (5 ) After my partner, Natasha, saw the website, she decided my solo cultural homage had to be upgraded to a family holiday, for us and Noah, our one-year-old son.

(6 ) The pushchair for Noah wasn't there, so we spent our first half hour in Jamaica in a line with other tired and emotional parents, demanding to know where our buggies were. Er, Heathrow.

The half-hour midnight drive up to Strawberry Hill was scary and spectacular, a long and winding road featuring a sheer drop at every turn. (7 ) Next morning, all was forgiven. Built 3,100ft above sea-level, the resort comprises nine white cottages, each with its own verandah providing postcard views over Kingston and the ocean. The staff were casual yet attentive and the only thing that
threatened the peace was the wall-to-wall Bob Marley soundtrack. Even the most die-hard fan would weary of a diet of 'Satisfy My Soul' five times a day.

Because the staff were so laidback, and we didn’t have a pushchair, no one seemed in a hurry for us to start the Marley experience. It was hot and humid at sea level, but cooler up the hill, so we waited by the pool for the first couple of days, going to the Aveda spa and enjoying the excellent house piña coladas in the evening. (8 ___) The only other guests for the first couple of days seemed to be Grace Jones and her entourage, who were filming a travel documentary about the island’s most glamorous hotel. Our Hello! magazine moment came at lunch one day when she lowered her sunglasses and chattered to us.

On the third day we met our guide, Macgyver. He told us cheerfully that he knew everyone in Kingston, and he did seem to have a friend on every street corner. He revered Marley, who remains a powerful figure, seen by many as a cultural hero and statesman as well as a tourist beacon. His image adorned the city, not least because many of the local social and political concerns tackled in his songs persist. When I listened to him as a teenager he seemed to be the voice of Jamaica, but in his homeland he was the voice of the oppressed and marginalized.

Our first stop was the 'Culture Yard', a small estate of about eight houses deep in the heart of Trench Town, where Marley spent his teenage years with his mother. Notorious for political gang violence during the Seventies, it was once a showpiece housing project, long fallen into disrepair. Now, with the help of domestic and foreign funding, there are regeneration plans to transform it into a cultural centre. This, Macgyver informed me, was the real Kingston, which visitors loved because they could interact with the people. (9 ___)

The difference between downtown Trench Town and Strawberry Hill was striking and humbling. The streets were dusty and almost deserted, and many buildings looked derelict. At Culture Yard, the air was thick with sweetly pungent fumes, half a dozen men sat around smoking and a giant bong was being passed around.

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A  The setting is a far cry from Trench Town, the poor suburb where Marley lived in the Sixties.
B  Don’t worry about its reputation, he insisted: Trench Town is safe.
C  The road was even bumpier than the guidebook had warned.
D  The Marley industry will flourish.
E  His songs were marked by references to his homeland, especially Kingston.
F  In fact, the Bob Marley One Love holiday is quite different.
G  We arrived at Kingston frazzled after a 10-hour flight.
H  It was low season and the hotel was almost empty.
I  Today it is a jet-set destination.
J  I put my Marley CDs away and rarely played them.
K  Like so many 14-year-old boys, however, my main interests were sport and music.
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>TRUE</th>
<th>FALSE</th>
<th>NOT GIVEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0. Treadwell studied at university.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A bear-faced liar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>TRUE</th>
<th>FALSE</th>
<th>NOT GIVEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Treadwell got famous by appearing in TV shows.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Treadwell often fed the bears in his camp.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Some people believe bears to be less endangered than Treadwell claimed.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Treadwell was mainly a performance artist.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Bears seem to have had a therapeutic role in Treadwell's life.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Treadwell's focus was the interaction between the bears and the landscape.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Treadwell wanted to create a grizzly research centre in Alaska.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Treadwell first encountered wilderness in the Australian bush.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Treadwell's early life was difficult.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In environmental circles, Tim Treadwell was something of a legend. A self-proclaimed eco-warrior, he devoted the past 13 years of his life to documenting the world of grizzly bears in Alaska and attempting to protect them from hunters and poachers. He gloried in his nickname of "the bear whisperer" and attracted widespread attention when he told the TV talk-show host David Letterman that ferocious grizzlies were really nothing more than big "party animals". Friends compared him to Jane Goodall and Dian Fossey, and celebrities, such as Leonardo DiCaprio and Pierce Brosnan, offered their support to Grizzly People, a non-profit group he formed devoted to educating people about bears.

But when Treadwell, 46, and his girlfriend Amie Huguenard, 37, were killed by a grizzly outside their tent in Katmai National Park, Alaska, in October 2003, the legend began to unravel. Critics said he broke park rules and wrongly believed he had a kinship with bears. They said that the hunters he claimed to be protecting the bears from, did not exist, and he had got the sort of death for which he had asked.

The flamboyant Treadwell had found redemption with the bears, but, while his fearlessness earned him fame, his recklessness proved his undoing. Part-activist, part-conman, part-educator and part-performance artist, Treadwell was charming and vulnerable, but also tough enough to spend much of his time living in a tent in the wilderness. A man with a troubled past and no naturalist training, he reinvented himself as a wildlife photographer and documentarian, spending his summers perilously close to wild grizzlies in Alaska.

His life of half-truths, outright lies and passionate environmental activism have now been documented by Werner Herzog in Grizzly Man. The award-winning film-maker – whose documentaries have tracked tribes in the Sahara and the oil fires of the 1991 Gulf war – paints a chilling portrait of Treadwell, shining a light into the soul of a man constantly treading the fine line between ambition and madness. With an innovative mixture of Treadwell's Alaska footage, interviews with friends, family and investigators and his own narration, Herzog has come up with a nature film about human nature. Like some of the characters in Herzog's other films, Treadwell was driven by a grand obsession.

"There's a family of men out there and Timothy fits seamlessly into it," says Herzog. "I think being near the bears and believing in his role – which was largely fictitious, that he was needed to protect the bears – redeemed him from his demons. Probably he needed the presence of bears more than they needed him. In his 100 hours of footage and in my film, over and over he tells the bears how much he loves them. He repeats and repeats it. I think you should not love the bear, you should respect the bear and stay away."

While his whole focus was upon interacting with the bears, Treadwell also captured some wonderful shots of the Alaskan wilderness, something Herzog believes he was oblivious to. "He captured landscapes of great magnificence, probably unbeknown to him," he says. "He left us footage that you could not get for millions and millions of dollars. He was not an amateur; he was very, very professional."

It is probable that nobody knows or will ever learn the entire truth about Treadwell's background because he reinvented himself so many times. He occasionally adopted an English accent, explaining he had been brought up in an English orphanage. At other times he spoke like an Australian, saying he had lived down under. After his death a family spokesman said he had no Australian connections and had never been there. In fact, Treadwell's story is a variation on a classic American tale: battered by an aimless life in California and ravaged by drugs, he saw the Alaskan wilderness as his salvation.

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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.

Tsunami effect lifts gap teens
Adapted from an article in The Guardian, 14 August 2005, by Martin Bentham

Devastating images of the Asian tsunami have put paid to the traditional gap year: __0__ of going on a drink-fuelled tour of the world's bars and beaches, __1__ increasing number of young Britons are putting off university to work in developing countries.

Gap year organizations say the sight of aid workers pouring into Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the other places affected __2__ the Boxing Day tragedy has led to a 'tsunami effect'.

Among the placements which __3__ seen a surge in demand are those involving building hospitals and schools, and teaching or caring for street children in Africa, Asia and South America. Placements on environmental schemes are also reported to be growing __4__ popularity. The new trend emerged as figures released by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service __5__ that more than 35,000 prospective undergraduates have so __6__ applied to defer their studies by a year.

The increase comes despite the growing burden of debt faced by students, __7__ the National Union of Students estimates to be more than £1,000 by the time the typical undergraduate completes their studies. This will be added to in 2006 with the introduction of top-up fees of up to £3,000 per year, although those __8__ agreed their gap year with their chosen university before 1 August __9__ not have to pay the extra charge when they start their studies.

Louise Clark, a spokeswoman for STA, the student travel service which organizes trips for 500,000 British students each year, said that despite the increasing debt, __10__ was a significant jump both in the __11__ of teenagers wanting to take a gap year and of those who wanted to use their time off to benefit others. She said: 'The majority of students we are dealing __12__ are now doing constructive gap years, building schools or working on some other __13__ in the developing world. We think it's the tsunami effect – students saw all the relief work that went on there __14__ now want to do something themselves. There is real scope to do something constructive, __15__ it be building a hospital in Honduras or working with street kids in Brazil.'

'Post-tsunami everyone is becoming more altruistic,' she said. 'It's not really possible to work on dealing with the aftermath of the tsunami itself because that's still at the disaster relief
stage, but there are lots of other options for gap year placements __16__ something worthwhile. Projects helping street children around the world are popular and there are also many opportunities to work on helping other young people in developing countries __17__ community projects or building schools everywhere from South America to Africa and Asia.'

__18__ those taking a gap year is Ceara East, 18, from Peasenhall, Suffolk, who intends to take a degree __19__ acting next year but is first going to __20__ three months teaching English at a village __21__ in India followed by two months working at a children's sports camp in South Africa. Some of __22__ money she is paying for her South African placement will fund a place for a child from a deprived background to attend the camp.

'I wanted to take a gap year and experience different cultures, and I thought it would be much better if, __23__ than just take as a tourist, I could do something that could help people and put something back. A lot of my friends are doing similar things – teaching English, working in conservation and things __24__ that – and I think there's a lot of awareness now about __25__ needs to be done in the world.'
Diving in at the shark end
Adapted from an article in *The Independent*, 26 October 2005, by Michael Park

Perhaps it should come as no surprise that the inventor of a submarine that looks and moves like a great white shark __0__ (CALL) Cousteau. For 60 years, this family name __1__ (BE) synonymous with undersea adventure and award-winning documentaries. The family patriarch and pioneer, Jacques Cousteau, died in 1997, but now his grandson is carrying on the family tradition.

Fabien Cousteau __2__ (INVOLVE) in his family's business since he was a boy, sailing regularly with his father and grandfather to remote archipelagos to film the silent, undersea world. Now an oceanographer and film-maker in his own right, he has just completed work on a project that would have made his grandfather proud.

__3__ (INSPIRE) by no less than the fictional comic character Tintin, Cousteau has devised and co-designed a submarine the size and shape of a great white shark. Encased within the shark, Cousteau has for the first time been able to swim with great whites and film them without __4__ (CONFINE) within a submerged steel cage.

Cousteau __5__ (ALREADY MAKE) two shark documentaries when he was asked to produce a third. He was reluctant to commit to it unless he could film the sharks in a way that __6__ (PRODUCE) genuinely revelatory footage. It was then that he remembered Tintin. "When I was a kid, I received a copy of the Tintin story *Red Rackham's Treasure,*" he says. The journey from the picture in his Tintin book to a working submarine was a huge endeavour. Cousteau knew that getting great whites __7__ (BELIEVE) that his creation was one of them would require it to do much more than just look like a shark. Cousteau contacted the Hollywood designer Eddie Paul, a family friend. "It was a really difficult challenge," says Paul, who has built hi-tech vehicles for films, including *Terminator 2*, but never a submarine. "There were so many factors to take into consideration, and all had to __8__ (INCORPORATE) into one machine." At a cost close to £150,000, Paul built the shark around a set of stainless-steel ribs with a flexible spine. Cousteau would use a joystick to control left to right movement.

The skin, __9__ (MAKE) from a material called Skinflex, was painted to look like a great white. The Skinflex was stitched together along the top but sealed underneath with Velcro, thus __10__ (ALLOW) water to seep in and out. In case anything went wrong, Paul designed the head to be removable, but hinged it. Finally, two monitors __11__ (PLACE) inside the head so Cousteau could see where he __12__ (GO).

Where to position and how to disguise the monitor's cameras proved more of a challenge. "Initially we had cameras looking out of the eye sockets," Cousteau says, "but it was so disconcerting to try to make sense of those images that it just didn't work."

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Here's a tricky little __0__. Can you tell the difference between these terms used to sell bottled water: "spring water", "purified water", "natural mineral water", "artesian water", "well water", "artesian well water", "drinking water"?

The answer is probably no, as not even the EU can currently determine precisely what the labels on bottled water mean, and has raised concerns about the labelling with the industry.

But what an industry. Not many other sectors in the food and drinks business can boast such __1__ growth. According to Mintel, sales of bottled water in the UK increased by 46% between 2000 and 2004 to stand just under 2bn litres. With per capita consumption of bottled water in the UK now at 35.7 litres a year, and a further 9% growth anticipated for 2005, the industry's worth is fast approaching the £2bn-a-year mark. Worldwide it's a similar story, with the __2__ industry now valued at $46bn.

But as sales rise, so does the chorus of __3__. Not only are there grave __4__ concerns about the practice of bottling water and shipping it around the world, other critics are outraged at the sheer __5__ of consumers in western countries paying up to 10,000 times the price of tap water to drink water from a chilled bottle when fresh water is in such dangerously short supply in so many countries. Two-thirds of the world's population live in areas receiving only one-quarter of the world's annual rainfall and some countries, such as Israel, Jordan and Yemen, now withdraw more ground water each year than is __6__ replenished.

Then there are the objections that water is being sold to us as a "lifestyle product", billed as the right __7__ for the health-minded, always-on-the-go individual. Bottled water is now even being marketed at children for __8__ in their lunch boxes. Anything to get them to stop drinking fizzy drinks is welcome, but that's absurd, especially considering that the vast __9__ of people wouldn't be able to tell the difference between bottled water and tap water in a blind taste test.

But are these objections really justified? Yes. The WWF says that 22m tonnes of bottled water are transported each year between countries, resulting in many thousands of tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. One trendy brand called Fiji – which, __10__ was first established to counter the trend of Fijian holiday resorts importing water from abroad – is now shipped thousands of miles from the south Pacific. The WWF argues that bottling all water from local sources would make far more sense.

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PAGINA BIANCA