Livello superiore

**INGLESSE**

Prova d’esame 1

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

**Mercoledì, 27 agosto 2008 / 80 minuti (40 + 40)**

Al candidato sono consentiti l’uso della penna stilografica o della penna a sfera, della matita HB o B, della gomma e del temperamatite.

Al candidato viene consegnato un foglio per le risposte.

**Maturità Generale**

**INDICAZIONI PER IL CANDIDATO**

Leggete con attenzione le seguenti indicazioni.
Non apriete la prova d’esame e non iniziaste a svolgerla prima del via dell’insegnante preposto.
Non è consentito usare la matita per scrivere le risposte all’interno della prova d’esame.

Incollate o scrivete il vostro numero di codice negli spazi appositi su questa pagina in alto a destra e sul foglio per le risposte.

La prova d’esame contiene tre quesiti per la parte A e tre quesiti per la parte B. Potete conseguire fino a un massimo di 25 punti nella parte A e 47 punti nella parte B, per un totale di 72 punti. È prevista l’assegnazione di 1 punto per ciascuna risposta esatta.

Scrivate le vostre risposte negli spazi appositamente previsti all’interno della prova utilizzando la penna stilografica o la penna a sfera. Limitatamente ai quesiti 2 e 3 della parte A, ricordatevi di scegliere una sola risposta per ciascuna asserzione - la scelta di più risposte verrà valutata con il punteggio di zero (0) - e di ammenire con la matita lo spazio a essa corrispondente sul foglio per le risposte. Scrivete in modo leggibile: in caso di errore, tracciate un segno sulla risposta scritta e scrivete accanto ad essa quella corretta. Alle risposte e alle correzioni scritte in modo illeggibile verrà assegnato il punteggio di zero (0).

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

La prova si compone di 12 pagine, di cui 1 bianca.
A) COMPRENSIONE DI TESTI SCRITTI (Tempo consigliato per la risoluzione: 40 minuti)

TASK 1: SHORT ANSWERS
Answer in note form in the spaces below.

Example:
0. Why was Matt Damon with the cops?
   To prepare for his role

Matt Damon: A true Hollywood player

1. Who, besides himself, does he want to protect?

2. Why were there more policemen than usual involved in the raids?

3. What was his private experience with the police?

4. Who will appear in the film besides actors?

5. Why does the film have a positive message?

6. Whose script would he likely direct first?

7. What can directing the first film be compared to?

Matt Damon: A true Hollywood player

Adapted from an article in The Independent, 4 October 2006, by Gill Pringle

Matt Damon sweats beneath his bullet-proof vest. He's part of a team of heavily armed detectives about to raid a Boston crack house. "What the hell am I doing here?" the actor asks himself as the cops give the signal to kick down the door. Just another day on the set for one of Hollywood's most successful young actors? Actually, no. The raid was all too real – a drug bust Damon took part in as preparation for his role in Scorsese's thriller The Departed.

"I was a lot closer to the action than I was comfortable with," says Damon, talking in the relative safety of a New York hotel room. "I'm not so sure I would do something like that again." The actor, now the proud and very much involved father of three-month-old Isabella and adopted eight-year-old Alexia, didn't enjoy putting his new found domesticity in jeopardy. "That said, I'm sure I was in no real danger. They went in with twice as many people as they would normally, so..." he says, not looking entirely convinced.

"I also did a couple of other things with the police. I listened in on a wire and went on these things called "buy walks", where they send somebody in to buy drugs and then they walk away. They slowly build a case and then they do a "buy bust" when the guy goes up, makes the sale, and then they come running from all directions and then the state police come and go, "You're under arrest!"

"Coming from Boston, I didn't need to learn the accent although, prior to this, all I knew of state police was limited to the times I'd been pulled over on the pike for speeding! So to get in there and really see what these guys do was great. Once you get on a film set the clock is ticking; every minute costs a lot of money. But when you're researching you can go at your own pace and so I spent a lot of time with these guys; just soaking it in, and you just start to pick stuff up," says Damon, whose crack house raid is echoed in a similar scene in The Departed, using some of the actual Boston cops from the real-life bust.

But the drug raid wasn't the first time the actor has taken risks with his life, having shed 18kg for his role as a Gulf War veteran in Courage Under Fire. After the film finished, he piled on the pounds even faster. "I got an anorexia-like digestive condition that took me a long time to recover from," he said at that time. "I'll never do that again. No career or dream is worth paying for with your health."

While The Departed is in true Scorsese tradition – a gritty urban drama filled with violence and bad language – Damon himself espouses non-violence, something he inherited from his mother Nancy Carlsson-Paige, a professor of early childhood education. "My mother is a very radical lady and gave me an excellent education. She specialises in non-violent conflict resolutions. So I hear from her about a portrayal of violence in cinema all the time. The violence in The Departed, none of it is gratuitous and it doesn't pay off. And that's a good message to send out to people," he says.

Next on Damon's to-do list is directing: "I can't wait. I have a couple of things that I'm looking at but it will probably be something ultimately that I write. Just do it small. My friend Ben [Affleck] just did it this year and he loved it. It's like having kids, you know. In five years, you'll wanna do it, man!"

© The Independent
The real Wolfgang

Adapted from an article in The Guardian, 13 July 2006, by András Schiff

The year 2006 will be remembered as Mozart year, in which the whole world pays homage to one of the greatest artists of all time, on the anniversary of his 250th birthday. (0 K) Performances of his works are ubiquitous, and books and articles about him are so numerous that they could fill a whole library. This is indeed a cause to rejoice. So why does he need to be defended? (1 ___)

Really? Let me quote from a recent newspaper article, published on the paper's arts blog: "Armando Iannucci recently had the sheer bottle to stand up in front of many of Britain's most distinguished classical musicians. (2 ___)" Now, this is very important indeed. (Forgive my ignorance, but who is Armando Iannucci?) Yet another journalist has attacked Wolfgang Amadeus in a most unfair manner. I refuse to quote from his writings because they represent – to me – musical journalism at its most disagreeable. The third author wrote an essay in which he tries to explain why the C minor Piano Concerto is not a good work. He also didn't care for the piano sonatas. However, he recorded them to prove their mediocrity.

Why is it that certain people get such immense pleasure from this kind of iconoclasm? Does attacking the greatest artists in history make them feel better? (3 ___) Let's remember the recent affair with the Danish cartoons and not ever take it for granted. But Mozart's greatest admirers included Haydn, Goethe, Kierkegaard, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Nietzsche, Debussy, and Britten. (4 ___) How can we understand Mozart? His wonderful letters are an invaluable source of information, but is it acceptable to read other people's most private thoughts – would he have given us permission to eavesdrop? Hardly so. Today, everyone feels an urge to contribute to our image of Mozart. Scientists try to explain the neurological phenomenon of genius, psychologists see him as a victim of his tyrannical father, stage directors – many of whom can neither speak Italian nor read music – use his operas as vehicles to express present-day social and political ideas that are totally alien to the works in question.

The mysteries are not in the biography, they are in the music itself. Many feel that the Milos Forman film Amadeus has helped us to a deeper appreciation of the composer's art. I beg to differ. Great artists eat, drink, sleep, laugh and cry – just like us. (5 ___) In our quest to understand Mozart
we should be concerned with the differences, not the similarities. I'm afraid that Amadeus has told us more about the latter.

"Too easy for children, too difficult for adults," said pianist Artur Schnabel of Mozart's solo piano music. A musical child can certainly play a Mozart sonata well, even beautifully. There are not too many notes – contrary to what the Emperor Joseph II stupidly says in Amadeus – only as many as necessary. For a child it all seems natural: melody, harmony and rhythm coexist in perfect equilibrium. Later, at the ripe age of 18 he begins to think about the music and begins discovering its complexities. It is not as simple as it first seemed. (6 ___) Paradise lost. If he or she is lucky then there is a good chance that it may return with old age. The pianist Mieczyslaw Horszowski amazed us all at the age of 102 with interpretations of Mozart that combined the purity of childhood with the wisdom of experience.

One of the misconceptions about Mozart is that he composed effortlessly. (7 ___) When he wanted to write something extraordinary – like his six string quartets dedicated to Haydn – he took great care of all the details and needed a long time to accomplish his goals. Studying his autograph manuscripts, we can find numerous corrections in them, contrary to the common belief that the music flowed effortlessly from his pen.

In about 1780, in the library of Baron van Swieten, Mozart discovered the works of J S Bach. (8 ___) The public only wanted to hear the newest creations. (Today it's almost the other way around.) This encounter with Bach was a very significant event for the young composer. In his subsequent compositions, melodic genius and youthful exuberance are coupled with a mastery of counterpoint and polyphony that he had learned from the older master. The tiny piano piece, Eine Kleine Gigue, was written in Leipzig and is a homage to Bach. (9 ___) There will be some strange guesses because the music is so daringly modern. Another piano piece, the A minor Rondo sounds like a forerunner of Chopin – no wonder Mozart was Chopin's idol.

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A Try playing this to someone who is unfamiliar with it and ask them who the composer is.
B He confessed that he didn't much care for Mozart.
C It is a privilege to play his music in the very room where Mozart was born.
D In those days nobody was interested in the music of the past.
E After all, everybody loves Mozart.
F It's good to enjoy the benefits of democracy, such as freedom of speech.
G This was not always true, although he did possess the greatest possible facility.
H Putting this list against that of a few detractors, whose side would you like to be on?
I But they also do something else that others cannot begin to comprehend.
J He realises with horror that he can no longer play it with natural innocence.
K Mozart's popularity has reached new heights.
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>TRUE</th>
<th>FALSE</th>
<th>NOT GIVEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0. Cortez conquered the Aztec empire with a big army. ☑

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Montezuma's revenge:
Cannibalism in the age of The Conquistadors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRUE</th>
<th>FALSE</th>
<th>NOT GIVEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Traditional Aztec hospitality contributed to their defeat.

2. Today the Mexicans still feel uneasy about these historic events.

3. The Aztecs were partly responsible for the loss of their own freedom.

4. Cortez showed gratitude for Montezuma's hospitality.

5. Foreigners might still have problems consuming Mexican food.

6. Aztec warriors learnt how to ride horses from the Spaniards.

7. The Aztecs were misled by the invaders' complexion.

8. The king's loss of freedom encouraged the Aztecs' uprising.

9. The Aztecs drove the Spaniards out of their capital for good.
Montezuma's revenge:
Cannibalism in the age of The Conquistadors
Adapted from an article in *The Independent*, 25 August 2006, by David Usborne

As every Mexican schoolchild knows, theirs is a nation forged nearly 500 years ago by the conquests of a Spanish adventurer named Hernando Cortez who subdued the once-proud Aztec Empire with just a few hundred men. They also know that Cortez was helped by European disease – which eventually wiped out much of the indigenous population – and, most importantly, by misplaced Aztec kindness.

The story is told every day still, lingering like an arrow in Mexico's national pride. As Cortez marched towards the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan, on the same site as today's Mexico City, defeating other tribes and forging alliances along his way, the then Aztec King, Montezuma II, failed to put up a fight, instead welcoming Cortez into the city as his guest. By way of thanks, Cortez put the king in prison and the colonisation of the greatest culture in Mesoamerica by Spain and the Catholic Church had begun. The only revenge taken by Montezuma that anyone will tell you about is, of course, of the gastrointestinal variety suffered by foreign tourists unaccustomed to Mexico's cuisine. Until now, that is.

An archaeological dig in Calpulalpan in the state of Tlaxcala, about 100 miles east of modern Mexico City, has surrendered evidence suggesting that at least at this place the Aztecs got their chance for a shocking payback. Experts say that in 1520, Aztec warriors captured a caravan of Spanish conquistadors as they travelled towards Tenochtitlan and did not treat them mercifully. Instead they caged them, sacrificed them individually over a period of months and then – most grisly of all – they ate them.

It is a discovery revealed by the study of hundreds of skeletons and bones unearthed at the site since excavations began in 1990, which will demand revisions in Mexico's history books and a readjustment of our perception of Aztec culture and how foolishly compliant it really was.

"This is the first place that has so much evidence that there was resistance to the conquest," said the archaeologist Enrique Martinez, director of the dig at Calpulalpan. "It shows it wasn't all submission. There was a fight."

There is little mystery, meanwhile, over how such a proud and cultivated people succumbed so quickly to the Spanish marauders. Two factors seemingly informed the decision of Montezuma to open the gates of his capital city to Cortez and his men. On the one hand, the Aztecs were reportedly dazzled and also intimidated by the Spanish soldiers, their firearms and in particular the horses they rode. More importantly, however, they were distracted by the teachings of their gods.

Legend had taught them that one day a "white god" would descend among them and that they should be ready at all times to welcome him. The quandary for Montezuma was this: perhaps Cortez, with his pale European skin, was the returning white god and his arrival therefore a celestial gift.

The fall of Tenochtitlan did not happen all at once. Angry at the imprisonment of Montezuma, the Aztecs did finally lose their illusions about their visitors and mounted a rebellion in June 1520. The Spanish fled the city. Cortez rounded up more allies from rivals of the Aztecs and the following year laid siege to the capital for three months until it eventually fell. But it was hunger and primarily disease that finally sealed the fate of the capital, of the empire and of Aztec society, beginning with a plague of smallpox in 1520 which was followed up later in the century by two huge outbreaks of typhus. Scholars believe that smallpox alone killed off as much as half of the Aztec population.

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B) CONOSCENZA E USO DELLA LINGUA (Tempo consigliato per la risoluzione: 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.*

Boycott the dolphin parks
Adapted from an article in *The Independent*, 2 July 2006, by Jonathan Owen

British holidaymakers are urged to boycott dolphin shows amid growing concerns over the plight of the aquatic mammals in captivity.

Environment campaigners fear that aquariums dolphins are put on display trap them in areas a tiny fraction of the size they enjoy in the wild. Dolphins are capable of covering distances of up to 150km a day.

The Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society argues that the basic of dolphins cannot be met in captivity and that they suffer extreme physical and distress, which can result in aggressive behaviour as well as a lower survival rate and higher infant mortality their wild counterparts.

Campaigners are also concerned that dolphins may become troubled because main way of seeing the world, the natural sonar called echolocation, becomes redundant.

The boom in people paying to see dolphins swim with them was largely inspired by the 1960s TV series *Flipper*, about a dolphin that helped to human dilemmas. But now, during a worldwide week of action for captive dolphins, Flipper's former trainer is calling a boycott of dolphin attractions.

The death of the performing mammal, cradled in his arms, changed Ric O'Barry's life. "She just seemed to give up on life," he said. "At that moment I realised that I had been doing was wrong and decided to dedicate my life to getting dolphins to the wild where they belong."

"The captive dolphin business is growing considerably, and people going to these places should know that this abuse is based on supply and demand, so do not buy a ticket to a captive dolphin. That is the solution to stopping the misery of animals."

Few animals have the box-office appeal of dolphins, and their price has shot up the days of Flipper, when they sold for $300 (£162). has been an explosion in dolphin attractions, particularly in the US and Caribbean, and dolphins now fetch more than $100,000 – not surprising given that a one can generate $1m a year.

it has been more than a decade since dolphins and killer whales were kept on display in this country, Britons
continue to be regular customers at dolphinariums overseas. While swimming with dolphins may be an attractive proposition for many, campaigners warn of the potential dangers of jumping __18__ a confined area with what is a large wild animal. A report by the World Society for the Protection of Animals predicts that the growth of these attractions will be paralleled by __19__ increased risk of human injuries and deaths. Some of the larger marine parks, such as Sea World in Florida, boast of large pools in __20__ their marine mammals are kept. However, even in the largest facilities, a captive dolphin __21__ access to less than one-10,000th of 1 per cent of its normal habitat size. "Dolphins are free ranging, intelligent and highly complex marine mammals. The vastness and biological diversity of the open __22__ cannot be duplicated in captivity," said Mr O'Barry, __23__ now works as a marine mammal specialist with the French animal protection organisation One Voice. "They belong in the oceans, not playing the clown and suffering for our amusement. People who are truly __24__ in dolphins should go dolphin watching instead. The world's biggest marine park operator, Sea World in Florida, did not respond to requests for an interview but has previously stated that there is __25__ evidence that dolphins suffer in captivity at its facilities.

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From Robben Island to the red carpet
A new film about the apartheid era is winning accolades.
Adapted from an article in The Observer, 5 November 2006, by Andrew Meldrom

At the orphanage he runs, deep in the far-flung hills of Mpumalanga province in eastern South Africa, Patrick Chamusso is suffering from jet lag.

But he grins with pride at the laughing children playing in the dirt with a little Oscar statuette and a snowstorm paperweight containing a plastic White House. "You should have seen me in New York," he says. "I have my own car and driver! The Four Seasons Hotel! But that was not true life. This is my home and working with these children is what makes me happy. That is not going to change."

But however reluctant a hero, Chamusso is about to find fame. The remarkable story of his life in South African apartheid has been made into a film already being tipped for an Oscar. When The Observer tracked him down to the home he runs for children orphaned by AIDS, he just returned from a tour of North American premieres – Los Angeles, New York, Toronto and Atlanta – where his infectious, unaffected spark made him as sought-after on the red carpets as the stars.

The film Catch a Fire, shown last week at the London Film Festival and which opens in the UK next year, is set this unassuming, unknown man into an international inspiration. "I'm an ordinary man," he says. "I only did what was right in fighting for South Africa's freedom. Now I am living where I want, here in this township."

Chamusso is a hero twice over. First he fights to end South Africa's apartheid regime and, despite torture and 10 years in jail, he embraces the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation that is the hallmark of the new South Africa. Short, plump and pleasant, his extraordinary life story encompasses much of the country's compelling history.

It was 1981. Nelson Mandela was enduring the seventeenth year of imprisonment on the fortress of Robben Island when the most audacious and spectacular sabotage attack against the apartheid regime was carried out with a bombing of South Africa's Secunda power plant. Elated by the success of the attack, which cost no lives, the ANC's military mastermind, Joe Slovo, said: "If you ever want to tell a story about this period in our history, you must tell the story of operative Patrick Chamusso, code name Hotstuff. A maverick. A live wire."

After achieving considerable success in apartheid South Africa as a black manager at the Secunda power plant, Chamusso wrongly suspected of sabotage, tortured by police and jailed for six months. He outraged by the abuse, the previously apolitical Chamusso joined the armed wing of the African National Congress and devised a plan to destroy the plant. The plan, which is the basis of the film, creating a diversionary 'incident' that causes all the plant workers to flee, then setting off the main bombs.

© The Observer
Research by __0__ at Trinity College Dublin reveals that one in 12 Irishmen are descended from a fifth-century warlord. As reported, science has for once revealed the man to be more impressive than the myth. He was already a splendid quasi-mythical __1__ who trailed clouds of ancient glory, bestriding Irish pre-history as one of the greatest of all the high kings of Ireland. But now Niall of the Nine Hostages has emerged as an even mightier man than previously supposed.

It looks as though he was literally one of the fathers of his nation – a man who, 1,500 years after his __2__, has up to three million living descendants in Ireland and elsewhere. Scientific research has revealed that around one in 12 men in Ireland are descended from Niall, while in the north-west of the island that figure rises to a __3__ twenty per cent of the male population. More descendants of Niall are to be found in Scotland and in New York, reflecting Irish emigration patterns.

Niall of the Nine Hostages was a fifth-century warlord who took on the English, the Scots, the French and even the __4__, at the same time establishing a series of dynasties that lasted for centuries. Known for his marauding raids, it turns out that his appendage was even mightier than his sword.

He will now be viewed as a smaller-scale Irish version of Genghis Khan, who has been shown by similar research to be the ancestor of millions in Asia and Europe. Genghis's many millions mean he will remain number one in the progeny stakes but Niall's __5__ is already being hailed as formidable. His family dominated the High Kingship of Ireland, __6__ describing themselves as the successors of Niall – the Ui Neill – down through the centuries. Their extensive power lasted right up until the Elizabethan conquest in 1558–1603. Saint Columba is said to be his great-great grandson.

His legend was so potent that to this day many prominent Irish families boast of their lineage from him. Now the new research indicates that this is no empty claim. The science of genetics has now made a firm connection between a particular chromosome and the genes of families with a __7__ link to Niall.

For once modern science has not debunked an ancient myth – rather, its __8__ of Niall's prodigious offspring has confirmed and enhanced what was once thought to be a dubious legend. In this case at least, the man has proved more impressive than the myth.

The research was conducted at the Genetics Department of Trinity College Dublin by PhD student Laoise Moore and others in a team supervised by Dr Dan Bradley. Niall's lineage was exposed by a study of the Y-chromosome, an element of DNA, which __9__ is passed down from father to son through the generations, and which can provide a __10__ genetic fingerprint.

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Pagina bianca