Livello di base

INGLESE

Prova d’esame 1

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

Sabato, 31 maggio 2014 / 60 minuti (35 + 25)

Materiali e sussidi consentiti:
Al candidato è consentito l’uso della penna stilografica o della penna a sfera.
Al candidato viene consegnata una scheda di valutazione.

INDICAZIONI PER IL CANDIDATO

Leggete con attenzione le seguenti indicazioni.
Non apriate 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 27 punti nella parte B, per un totale di 47 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 8 pagine, di cui 1 vuota.
A) COMPRENSIONE DI TESTI SCRITTI

Task 1: Short answers

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

Example:
0. What is unusual about the geographical location of the Dead Sea?
   The lowest place on earth.

1. What makes little wounds irritating while swimming in the Dead Sea?

2. What political benefit will the successful outcome of the campaign have?

3. Where was the spa building originally located?

4. What does the former campsite remind the author of?

5. What prevents the guests from entering the unstable terrain?

6. What demonstrates that the pier pillars were once below the sea level?

7. Where can the early descriptions of the sea shrinking be found?

8. What motivates the irrational Israeli water consumption?

9. Why are Israeli and Jordanian efforts to win the nomination paradoxical?
Now you Dead Sea it...

Here at the lowest place on earth, in 75 degree sunshine, Olga Alexarkin is sitting on a deckchair in bathing suit and gazing eastwards across the radiantly blue, imponderably deep, Dead Sea towards the Jordanian cliffs 11 miles away.

In a moment she will plunge into the little waves thrown up by the desert breeze, and bob effortlessly on her back supported by the planet's most buoyant water, so saturated with salt that it will sting scratches she never knew she had. But first, she talks about why she has come here. This is simply, she sighs, "the best place in the world".

The government of Israel is hoping enough people will agree with Mrs Alexarkin to have voted for the Dead Sea to be one of the "New 7 Wonders of Nature" when the results of an international contest run by a website of the same name are announced this morning.

It has spent some £1.5m on a PR campaign; Israeli supermodel Bar Refaeli, pictured yesterday in the mass circulation daily Yedhiot Ahronot caked in therapeutic Dead Sea mud, has tweeted a last minute appeal for votes. And Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said: "A win will transform the Dead Sea as one of the leading tourism sites in the world, contributing not only to us, but to other countries in the region, promoting regional cooperation." This reflects a rare joint initiative between Israel, the Palestinian Authority and Jordan.

All of which is welcome. But it cannot disguise the fact that the Dead Sea is also on the way to becoming a man-made environmental disaster zone. For decades, water has been pillaged for agriculture and domestic use from its main water provider, the River Jordan; and secondly from the Sea itself, for the hugely lucrative extraction of its vital minerals.

Now the Sea is shrinking with alarming rapidity. Its level is falling at a rate of 1.1 metres a year. Back in 1986, when the local kibbutzniks built this spa, the waters lapped at the building's edge. 25 years later Mrs Alexarkin and her fellow-guests are transported to the water's edge on a toytown-like road train. The journey takes five minutes and is 1.5 kilometres long. The lifeguard post is on wheels, to prevent it having to be rebuilt each time the shore moves a metre or two. "We are spending half a million shekels a year just to chase the sea," explains Nir Wranger, the spa's deputy manager.

Less than a kilometre away, the eerily cratered remains of the kibbutz's once highly profitable beachside campsite testifies to the devastation left by the inexorably receding sea.

The terrain is now a moonscape of gaping sinkholes and yawning fault lines that will turn into more sink holes.

So unstable is the land here that it is fenced off to visitors. The campsite was closed in 1998 when the ground suddenly opened up under a young woman employee and she fell eight metres into the pit, mercifully, sustaining only light injuries.

"It's like there's been an earthquake," says beach manager Simon Shukrun as we gingerly step over the cracks in what's left of the concrete flooring. Far above what is now the shore, Mr Shukrun points to the rusting steel supports of a pier that were once underwater and now jut out of the dry land.

The level of the Dead Sea has fluctuated dramatically before. Indeed, geologists now think that "slime pits" in the Vale of Siddim, as the Dead Sea Area was called, mentioned in Genesis 14.10, refer to similar sinkholes. But the decline then in levels was created by huge climate changes. By contrast more than 1,000 sinkholes round the Dead Sea now, says Friends of the Earth Middle East's Gidon Bromberg are "nature's revenge for a man-made catastrophe. Nature is saying that what you are doing is wrong. I am not going to tolerate it and I am not going to keep quiet about it."

Between 60 and 70 per cent of the problem, says Mr Bromberg, results from the rape of the once mighty River Jordan. And of this half, he says, was caused by Israel's pumping, since the 1950s, of 400-450m cubic metres per year of fresh water from the Sea of Galilee, not least for transmission south through the national pipeline to help realise the old Zionist dream of "making the desert bloom."

Syria comes next, at around 26 per cent, by virtually drying up the Yarmouk, the Jordan's main tributary, with around 70 dams; and Jordan, third at 23 per cent, thanks to the King Abdullah Canal, its own dams, and huge water subsidies for water which mean that "half the farmers in Jordan flood their fields" because there is no incentive to drip-irrigate.

Mr Bromberg points to the paradox that Jordan and Israel "are promoting the Dead Sea as one of the seven wonders and encouraging their people to vote for it; so why allow for its demise, one resulting directly from their own decisions?" He will be glad if the Dead Sea qualifies, but adds: "The governments must not greenwash what has been happening. We have to be honest about it and this needs to be followed by the reversal of these decisions."

(Adapted from an article in The Independent, 11 November 2011, by Ein Gedi)
**Task 2: Matching**

Match statements 1–11 with paragraphs from A–G. **MORE THAN ONE STATEMENT may refer to THE SAME PARAGRAPH.** Write your answers in the spaces on the right.

Example:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>0. Anderson was institutionalized.</td>
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<p>| | |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. A project is launched to stop the Government activities in favelas.</td>
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<td>3. Favelas offer fascinating views of the Rio area.</td>
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<td>4. Innocent people were often victims of police operations.</td>
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<td>5. Maria was aided by a local organisation.</td>
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<td>6. The average life expectancy for young males in favelas is low.</td>
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<td>7. People from favelas are helped by foreign organisations.</td>
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<td>8. Some members of the police are on gangs' pay lists.</td>
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<td>9. The police wanted to cover up their violent actions.</td>
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<td>10. There were special control measures during an international sports event.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Anderson's prospects are encouraging.</td>
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Harnessing hope for the families who live in fear

Life in a favela, a term generally used for a shanty town in Brazil, can be short and brutal. But one charity is hoping to change that.

A When her son Anderson did not come home one night, Maria feared the worst. Her 16-year-old son already had a police record for stealing a mobile phone when he was 14. She knew he was keeping bad company. In the Rio shanty-town where they lived, drug dealers were all around, riding stolen motorbikes, carrying guns. Most young men did not live long beyond their mid-20s. Maria was afraid that Anderson, who was only six when his father had left them in poverty, after months of beating her up in front of the children, would be tempted into crime.

B Life in a Rio favela is dangerous. That became clear last month when almost 3,000 members of Rio’s police and the Army – assisted by tanks and armoured vehicles – launched a mass raid on a complex of slums known as Alemão. Their targets were the organised drug gangs who were terrorising the population on main roads in the city as a protest against police pacification units, which have been installed in 13 favelas. The police and the army have now occupied Alemão on a permanent basis, which has brought temporary peace although many residents still fear the police, many of whom are frequently accused of being in the pay of the drug barons.

C Many of Rio's 750 favelas cling to the city's steep hillsides that rise high above the blocks of middle class apartments. The haphazardly-built brick homes, up steep narrow alleyways, often have spectacular vistas of the stunning Sugarloaf Mountain and Guanabara Bay. But they lack basic services like sewage and rubbish collection. Alemão sits next to the highway that connects most of Rio to the international airport. The authorities want to make the city safe before it hosts the World Cup in 2014 and the Olympic Games two years later. The question, though, is safe for who?

D Three years ago residents of some of the most deprived favelas in the city were caught in the crossfire of similar armed raids in which more than 50 people were killed. Some 12,000 children were affected by school closures after a 14-year-old girl died from a stray bullet. Many more residents could not leave their home or attend work. That all happened the last time Rio hosted a major sporting event, the 2007 Pan American games. Then the authorities conducted arbitrary sweeps of the city to clear and pick up children and adolescents considered “at risk” from the streets that were part of the tourist areas or nearby the sporting circuit creating outcry from human rights organisations.

E Almost as soon as Anderson disappeared Maria set off to find him. At the local police station, they said they knew nothing but told her to try a young offenders’ institute. Maria found her way there, but again, nobody knew anything of Anderson. They sent her to another institute. Nothing. For several days Maria sought her son. At last, back at the first institute, they produced him. He was covered in bruises and deaf in one ear. He told her that he had stolen a motorbike with a friend, but the police had caught them almost immediately. They had beaten him and kicked him in the head, leaving him partially deaf. They had deliberately hidden him until the bruises had faded a little.

F As a minor, Anderson could not be charged, but he was detained in a youth offenders institute. A few weeks later when Maria saw him again he looked awful. He told her that the police had tortured him to make him confess to murdering a policeman. He said he had been tortured to make him confess to a crime he had not committed. Fearful for her son’s life, Maria began to look for help. She eventually found her way to the offices of ProjetoLegal, in the centre of Rio. After listening to her story, they took up Anderson’s case. As a result of their intervention, the boy is being monitored and is having treatment for his deafness. He has begun to have lessons to catch up with all the schooling he has missed. He is doing technical courses, like ceramics and electricity. When he is released, he hopes to get a job.

G A British agency called ChildHope is working with ProjetoLegal to ensure that the real victims of such crackdowns are not mothers like Maria or her teenage son Anderson. With global attention now focusing on Rio de Janeiro as host for the 2014 World Cup, ProjetoLegal are organising a campaign against government attempts to round up children from the streets in what is widely seen as social cleansing. ProjetoLegal are also challenging what they see as the repressive and short-term focus of mega-operations like the raid on Alemão which it fears puts at risk the safety and well-being of the broader community.

(Adapted from an article in The Independent, 13 December 2010, by Ali Rocha)
B) CONOSCENZA E USO DELLA LINGUA

Task 1: Gap fill

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.

How green is their valley? Ebbw Vale residents asked to test eco homes

The United Welsh Housing Association is running a competition
find people to live in and assess two homes built on the site of
a former steel works at Ebbw Vale in south Wales. The homes built to showcase the "Passivhaus" concept in 2010. Two families will get the opportunity to live rent free in one of two new eco homes in return for evaluating well the properties function. The average rent a similar sized UWHA property is £74.03 a week. The occupants of the two houses, the three-bed Larch House, will also avoid energy bills. The design and insulation of a so-called Passivhaus, or "passive house", means they need very heating. Instead, body heat and heat from electrical appliances as fridges and computers is enough to ward off the worst winter chills. The house also has a mechanical heat recovery and ventilation system extracts warmth from outgoing air and mixes it with incoming fresh air.

Passive houses are designed to be carbon neutral over the course of their lifetime, the origin of materials is an important part of the equation. Larch House is built from local timber, and all the other components are sourced as locally as possible. Large, south-facing windows, closed-panel timber framing to minimise draught, high insulation, all add the zero-carbon footprint of the property.

The UWHA says that the monitoring of the houses, most of which will be done remotely, will enable the innovative techniques used in building these homes to be shared and used in the future.

The Green House competition is open to anyone who either lives in Blaenau Gwent has a connection to the area, and can include students as well as families. Applicants will be asked to write about themselves and their interest in environmental matters, as they must be prepared to adopt a green lifestyle. Research shown that eco features alone will not reduce energy bills. Richard Mann, head of development for the UWHA, says: "People have to change the way they use their home. Basic things like not opening windows when the heating is on make the difference. In fact, it can end up costing more to run you don't use an eco house properly."
The housing association advises that the winners may need access to a car. Although the properties are minutes from the hospital, and the Ebbw Vale Parkway railway station is than a mile from the site, the nearest school and supermarket are about 1.5 miles away. Finalists will have been selected for interview by mid-February.

Once the Green House competition has come to an end, an affordable social rent for the Blaenau Gwent area will be set on both properties.

(Adapted from an article in The Guardian, 18 January 2012, by Jenny McBain)
Task 2: Multiple choice

For gaps 1–12, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits according to the text.
There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

**Sherlock Holmes's origins revealed**

A "lost" first novel by Arthur Conan Doyle, the __0__ of Sherlock Holmes, is to be published tomorrow for the first time, 128 years after it was written. __The Narrative of John Smith__ provides a fascinating glimpse into the young __1__ mind.

Many years after writing __The Narrative__, Conan Doyle said that he would be horrified if the book ever __2__ in print. But academics have defended the publication because of its contribution to understanding his __3__ work.

Conan Doyle was living and working as a doctor in Portsmouth when he embarked __4__ the novel in 1883. His father had been taken __5__ due to alcoholism, and the 23-year-old had to support his mother and __6__ the education of his 10-year-old brother. He had started writing short stories and submitting them to magazines to supplement his __7__.

But he was frustrated by the Victorian practice of omitting the author's name, especially when one of his works in __The Cornhill Magazine__ was hailed as being by Robert Louis Stevenson. For that reason, he attempted a novel, which __8__ his name on the cover. He then suffered a major blow when the manuscript of __The Narrative__ got lost in the post, __9__ to be found again. So he rewrote it from memory, the result of __10__ is thought to be the British Library's manuscript.

Although the novel suffers __11__ a lack of plot, it does picture a world of boarding houses and pipe-smoking, which fans of Sherlock Holmes will recognise. The book also hints at themes that would appear in the Holmes books, __12__ an interest in logical reasoning.

An introduction to the new edition says: "__The Narrative__ is not successful fiction, but offers remarkable insight into the thinking and views of a raw young writer who would shortly create one of literature's most famous and durable characters, Sherlock Holmes."

(Adapted from an article in __The Independent__, 25 September 2011, by Matthew Bell)

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<th>Gap</th>
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<td>0</td>
<td>A maker B narrator C creator D producer</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A writer B writers C writer's D writers'</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>A appears B appeared C will appear D would appear</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>A late B lately C latter D later</td>
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<td>A sick B invalid C unwell D ill</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>A found B fund C founded D funds</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>A income B money C payment D interest</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>A had to have B would have C will have D can have</td>
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<td>A only B once C just D never</td>
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<td>A what B that C which D those</td>
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<td>A as B it is C such as D such</td>
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Pagina vuota