Livello di base

INGLESE

Prova d’esame 1

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

Mercoledì, 26 agosto 2015 / 60 minuti (35 + 25)

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

Maturità Generale

Indicazioni per il candidato

Leggete con attenzione le seguenti indicazioni.
Non aprire la prova d’esame e non iniziare 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 corretta 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. Why was climbing the highest mountain in South Sudan a special achievement?
   
   The first tourist expedition.

1. What kind of expeditions does Secret Compass specialise in?

2. What qualifies Tom, an ex-paratrooper, as a trustworthy leader?

3. Why did the team disapprove of Donato’s setting a fire?

4. What seemed to be the hidden motive for Donato’s action?

5. How do the inhabitants of Juba compensate for the city’s poor infrastructure?

6. Why does the name ‘Bedouin Camp’ seem to be badly chosen?

7. Why were the roads in the south-east in bad condition?

8. How did many Torit taxi drivers get their vehicles?

9. Why was it impossible for the team to put up the tent immediately after reaching the campsite?

10. What pointed to the presence of other humans during their climb?
South Sudan: The wildest frontier

Standing exultantly on the summit of Mount Kinyeti, our small band of explorers boisterously congratulated each other. At a mere 3,187m, we were barely half as high as the brave summiters of Kilimanjaro. However, it wasn’t the height of Kinyeti that was cause for celebration; we were the first tourist expedition team to conquer the highest mountain in South Sudan.

Our trip, run earlier this year by the expedition company Secret Compass, which takes small groups of tourists into some of the most unexplored regions in the world, was not without its risks. South Sudan, created on 9 July 2011, is a country born out of years of conflict and civil war and it remains an unpredictable place. Happily, the leader of our 10-strong team, Tom Bodkin, is an ex-paratrooper, who has been in charge of many Secret Compass expeditions. ‘I wanted to show that this remote area, which before had been thought of as inaccessible and dangerous, can actually be enjoyed if organised responsibly,’ said Tom.

At the top of Kinyeti, he pulled a bottle of champagne out of his rucksack and shared it around our battered metal camping mugs to hearty approval. However, just as we’d had the chance to catch our breath, we heard the familiar crackling of burning bushes and the pungent odour of wood smoke. Donato, self-proclaimed ‘Landlord of the Mountain’ and our local guide, had set fire to vegetation on the mountainside, cutting short our little celebration and obscuring the fantastic panoramic view across the Imatongs. Ignoring our protestations, he shrugged and lit his cigarette from a nearby flaming branch.

Clearing the ground like this is a common hunting method used to encourage new grass growth and coax bushbuck out into the open. But I had an inkling that this time it was the result of a little bragging, proving to everyone for miles around that he really was the ‘landlord’, despite the fact that his blue overalls said ‘water pump mechanic’ across the back.

Our journey had started five days previously in the world’s newest national capital, Juba. Since independence from the north was declared, Juba has become one of the fastest-growing cities in the world. Its infrastructure is struggling to maintain such growth; ministries and embassies are housed in crude, corrugated shacks, and there are just a handful of paved roads. A layer of litter and dust covers every surface. Yet having been just released from centuries of persecution and brutality, it is also a city full of hope and excitement.

We spent just a night here at a place called ‘Bedouin Camp’, where the accommodation consists of converted shipping containers. It’s a quirky yet necessarily cheap and simple solution for the sort of swiftly constructed accommodation that seems prevalent all over the city.

The following day, we headed south-east in a rugged converted ex-RAF vehicle through scrubby brown wasteland and several mud-hut villages. Some of these used to belong to sympathisers of the Sudanese People’s Liberation Army, which fought against the Sudanese government. A bitter second civil war for autonomy for the south lasted 22 years. Not surprisingly, the roads are terrible. The 150km to Torit took us more than three hours to complete. At a roadside stop on the way, we were warned not to stray far from the road, as mines still abound. Secret Compass carries out extensive risk assessment before each trip. ‘It takes a considerable time for a country to recover after conflict and around 10 to 15 years for the general public to deem it “safe”,’ said Tom.

On arrival in Torit, we ventured into the colourful, haphazard Lomoliha market. Rows of women sat behind small piles of beans, greens and cassava. Others had stalls selling bright African sarongs or tables covered in mountains of dried fish. An immense number of motorbikes buzzed around: after the referendum, young men were persuaded to trade in their Kalashnikovs for a motorbike, so now many make a living by using them as a taxi.

In the morning, just after sunrise, we packed our rucksacks carefully; for the next four days we would be carrying everything we need on our backs. The trail began steeply and didn’t relent for the next seven hours. At about four in the afternoon, Tom stopped: we’d reached our campsite. I looked around in disbelief – there were trees and thorny bushes everywhere. He grinned and handed me a machete. Twenty minutes later, sweaty and exhausted, I’d hacked out my own little space and felt very pleased with myself. The evening routine soon became familiar – and fun. After pitching camp, washing out my own little space and fetching water, foraging for wood and building a fire, our troop sat around the fire, entertaining each other with stories of past adventures.

For the next two days we continued the steep ascent, hopping over rivers, crawling under fallen trees and sidestepping traps laid for antelopes by local hunters. Finally, we emerged through the canopy and saw the rocky summit ahead. Bruised, battered and bitten we looked out over the jungle-covered mountains and on to the savannah of South Sudan beyond.

(Adapted from an article in The Independent, 26 October 2012, by Celia Topping)
Task 2: Gapped sentences

In the following extract, ten sentence parts have been removed.

Choose from sentence parts A–K the one which fits each gap (1–10). There is one extra sentence part which you do not need to use.

Write your answers in the spaces next to the numbers.

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

Who was Andy Warhol?

More than thirty years after his death, Andy Warhol remains one of the most influential figures (0 L). Warhol’s life and work inspires creative thinkers worldwide thanks to his enduring imagery, his artfully cultivated celebrity, and the ongoing research of dedicated scholars. His impact as an artist is far deeper and greater than his visionary words that ‘(1 ___)’. He created an enormous body of work that spanned every available medium and most importantly contributed to the collapse of boundaries between high and low culture.

A skilled social networker, Warhol built up his fame to the status of a globally recognized brand. Decades before the widespread use of portable media devices, (2 __). Warhol captured life’s every minute detail in all its messy, ordinary glamour and broadcast it through his work to a wide and open-minded audience.

Andy Warhol grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with his two older brothers and his parents, both of whom had emigrated from Czechoslovakia. Even as a young boy, Warhol liked to draw, color, and cut and paste pictures. His mother, who was also artistic, would encourage him by giving him a chocolate bar every time he finished a page in his colouring book. Elementary school was traumatic for Warhol, especially once he contracted chorea, a disease that attacks the nervous system and makes someone shake uncontrollably. Warhol missed a lot of school during several month-long periods of bed-rest. On top of that, large, pink blotches on Warhol’s skin, also from chorea, (3 __).

During high school, Warhol took art classes both at school and at the Carnegie Museum. He was somewhat of an outcast (4 __), and had shockingly pale skin and white-blond hair. Warhol also loved to go to movies and started a collection of celebrity memorabilia, especially autographed photos. A number of these pictures appeared in Warhol’s later artwork. Warhol graduated from high school and then went to Carnegie Institute of Technology, where he graduated in 1949 with a major in pictorial design.

It was during his college years that Warhol discovered the blotted-line technique. The technique required Warhol to tape two pieces of blank paper together (5 __). Before the ink dried, he would press the two pieces of paper together. The result was a picture with irregular lines that he would color in with watercolor. Right after college, Warhol moved to New York. There, (6 __) for using the blotted-line technique in numerous commercial advertisements. Some of Warhol’s most famous ads were for shoes for I. Miller, but he also drew Christmas cards for Tiffany & Company, created book and album covers, as well as illustrated Amy Vanderbilt’s Complete Book of Etiquette.

Around 1960, Warhol had decided to make a name for himself in pop art. Pop art was a new style of art that began in England in the mid-1950s and consisted of realistic renditions of popular, everyday
items. Warhol turned away from the blotted-line technique and chose to use paint and canvas but (7 ____). Eventually, he began with Coke bottles and comic strips but his work wasn't getting the attention he wanted. In December 1961, Warhol gave $50 to a friend of his who had told him she had a good idea. Her idea was for him to paint what he liked most in the world, perhaps something like money or a can of soup; (8 ____).

Warhol's first exhibition in an art gallery came in 1962 at the Ferus Gallery in Los Angeles. He displayed his canvases of Campbell's soup, one canvas for each of the 32 types of Campbell's soup. He sold all the paintings as a set for a $1000.

Soon, Warhol found that he couldn't make his paintings fast enough on canvas. Luckily in July 1962, (9 ____). This technique uses a specially prepared section of silk as a stencil, allowing one silk-screen to create similar patterns multiple times. He immediately began making paintings of celebrities, most notably a large collection of paintings of Marilyn Monroe. Warhol would use this style for the rest of his life.

In the 1960s, Warhol continued to paint and he also made films. From 1963 to 1968, he made nearly 60 movies. One of his movies, Sleep, is a five-and-a-half hour film of a man sleeping. In 1968 Warhol suffered a nearly fatal gun-shot wound from aspiring playwright and radical feminist author, Valerie Solanas. The shooting, which occurred in the entrance of the Factory, forever changed Warhol. Some point to the shock of this event as a factor in his further embrace of an increasingly distant persona. However, (10 ____) or his cunning ability to infiltrate the worlds of fashion, music, media, and celebrity.

On February 21, 1987, Warhol underwent a routine gall bladder surgery. Though the surgery went well, for an unknown reason Warhol unexpectedly passed away the following morning. He was 58 years old.

(Adapted from http://www.warholfoundation.org/legacy/biography.html)
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.

Open for business and pleasure

Expatriates who decide to come to London can be certain of one thing: they are arriving in a city that has had centuries _0_ sharpen its appeal.

London’s attributes include a thriving cultural scene, restaurants _1_ rival anything on the continent and generous green spaces. But underpinning this allure is its role as Europe’s leading financial centre.

The city’s success has depended on trade and commerce _2_ the Romans arrived in the first century. For much of the 20th century, it was the world’s biggest port, and its bankers and brokers developed _3_ enviable network of international contacts to further trade.

Over time, other merits emerged: a stable legal system with strong property rights, low levels of corruption, _4_ a predictable political environment.

London’s stability was something that struck Ricardo Figueira, a Brazilian who arrived in the capital earlier this year to take up a role as digital executive creative director with JWT, the advertising agency. ‘I felt it _5_ so safe compared with the chaos of São Paulo. It makes _6_ very easy to settle here,’ he says.

Married, with a young child, Mr Figueira made a conscious decision _7_ avoid local Brazilian networks, preferring to form relationships with Britons and people of other nationalities through work and his son’s school. ‘I didn’t want to be part of a Brazilian ghetto,’ he says.

His native São Paulo may be more populous, but London is catching up fast. Official population projections were recently revised upwards, showing that the UK capital will be home _8_ 9m people by 2020.

This will bring strains. Parts of the city’s transport system, built in Victorian times, are already _9_ maximum capacity. But the government is investing in flagship projects _10_ as Crossrail, an ambitious scheme linking points east and west of the city, and an upgrade programme for _11_ Tube.

A frequent bugbear for businesspeople is Heathrow, the biggest airport serving London. Its ability to expand is constrained, as it has reached capacity on its two runways. Mr Figueira says: ‘It’s very annoying _12_ you face incredibly bad queues at the airport. How can I spend two hours in a queue _13_ having travelled for 12, 13 hours? It needs sorting out.’

His view finds ready agreement with Nao Muramatsu, a Japanese executive who arrived in 2010, having done a London tour a year before. As automotive practice leader at Marsh, Mr Muramatsu travels regularly. He thinks the airport issue is ‘a killer for business growth’.

Mr Muramatsu is based at Leadenhall Market, which he describes _14_ ‘a canteen for the insurance workers’. The elegant Victorian market building is at the heart of the City of London – the oldest business district of the capital. It has cafés, bars and shops, and sits adjacent to Lloyd’s building, the industry’s hub. London’s business culture is admirably open to outsiders, he believes. ‘If you’ve got the right talent, _15_ isn’t any limit because of your nationality or background. You can go anywhere you want.’

(Adapted from an article in The Financial Times, 17 July 2012, by James Pickford)
Task 2: Gap fill (verbs)

For gaps 1–12, write the correct forms of the verbs in brackets in the spaces on the right.

There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

After the divorce my friends queued up to wed him

Cecilia Attias left Nicolas Sarkozy shortly after his election in 2007. For six years she remained silent, more or less. In a book which is due to publish next month, Nicolas Sarkozy’s second wife, Cécilia, speaks out… a little.

Cecilia Attias, 53, currently lives with her third husband in New York, says that she left Mr Sarkozy ‘because he had sort of forgotten me’. She reveals that several of her friends immediately scrambled to divorce their husbands in the hope of achieving wealth and power by marrying the bachelor President. ‘I saw women give him their phone number even when I was next to him.’ All of them were disappointed, when Mr Sarkozy married Carla Bruni six months after Cecilia left.

The former first lady explains that, once inside the Elysée Palace, Mr Sarkozy transformed from a dynamic politician to an agitated president, prone to terrible rages. The world already knows that? Yes, but Cecilia goes on to offer an interesting, if self-serving, psychoanalysis of the man with whom she lived for 25 years. ‘It is strange,’ she writes ‘that this man who was totally placid in his private life, a man who never raised his voice at home managed to project such an impulsive public image.’ She further explained that as a candidate, Mr Sarkozy was concerned for all victims and those left by the wayside. In power, he disturbed public opinion with his worrying impulses and shocking comments.

Ms Attias is especially critical of former President Sarkozy’s unsuccessful re-election campaign last year in which he borrowed hard-right and populist themes and language from the National Front. She said: ‘He ran after voters on the extremes, and scarcely found any, when every political expert will tell you that elections in France, like most great democracies, win in the centre.’ The unspoken implication is that Mr Sarkozy did not lose his political bearings if he hadn’t lost Cecilia, who had been his informal political adviser and spokeswoman for common sense. However, she rejects suggestions she was the driving force behind Mr Sarkozy’s rise to power. ‘Contrary to what has been written, I never attempted to influence my former husband,’ she writes. ‘I never advised him to take one direction rather than another.’

The book, Une envie de vérité (A Desire for the Truth) – has been the subject of much advance speculation and curiosity. The news magazine Le Point published extracts, which turned out to be largely bland. There were no bitter recriminations against Mr Sarkozy; no catty comments about Carla. A journalist of Le Monde predicted that those who expected the settling of accounts wouldn’t get what they hoped for.

Cecilia Attias divorced Mr Sarkozy in October 2007, four months after he elected president. She is now married to a French PR executive, Richard Attias, for whom she had left Mr Sarkozy for 12 months in 2005–6. She says that she fell for Mr Attias because he was solid, precise and reassuring – the opposite of the superficial political world that she had come to detest. ‘I am just a simple person who has so far had a complicated life,’ she wrote.

(Adapted from an article in The Independent, 3 October 2013, by John Lichfield)
Pagina vuota