Livello di base

INGLESE

Prova d'esame 1

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

Sabato, 25 agosto 2018 / 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.

Maturità Generale

INDICAZIONI PER IL CANDIDATO

Leggete con attenzione le seguenti indicazioni.
Non aprite 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 28 punti nella parte B, per un totale di 48 punti. È prevista l'assegnazione di 1 punto per ciascuna risposta esatta.

Scrive 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 scorsa 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. Bear in mind that all contracted forms with the exception of can’t count as two words. There is an example at the beginning: Answer 0.

Example:

0. What is surprising about the sounds produced by frogs?
   They sound like people yelling.

1. What has contributed to the huge population of frogs?

2. What does the author point out about the Casamance night sky?

3. According to Simon, what distinguishes a night out in the Casamance from the one in London?

4. How has Simon responded to the increase in tourism in the region?

5. Why are the locals interested in the Abene festival?

6. Which practice demonstrates the superstitiousness of the locals?

7. What symbolises the co-existence of different beliefs?

8. Why did the author need to reward himself with a relaxing night in a hotel?

9. What proof of human presence does a traveller to Oussouye come across in the jungle?

10. Which material enables the locals to earn money?

11. How is the religious belief reflected in local architecture?
Sacred trees and deserted beaches: Holidaying in the Casamance, Senegal’s 1970s tourist hub

I wake up to a commotion. It’s the middle of the night and it sounds like a crowd of people are yelling in the street below my flat. Then I remember I’m not in my flat and those aren’t people, but frogs.

Spawned in vast ponds left by the recent rains, thousands of them are croaking into the night, backed by a cacophony of crickets. It’s so loud that the walls of my cabin seem to be made of paper instead of mud. Peeping outside, I can’t imagine so many creatures lurking in the near-total darkness, the only light coming from a jaw-dropping canopy of stars above. Welcome to the Casamance.

The bulk of Senegal’s one million tourists a year head for the Petite Côte, south of Dakar, where luxury resorts have been springing up lately. It wasn’t always this way. Back in the 1970s, the country’s emerging tourist hub was in the Casamance region in southern Senegal. Then came the Casamance separatist movement of the 1980s, and although foreigners were rarely caught up in the sporadic conflict, airlines stopped flying here and most of the hotels closed.

“Mention a separatist struggle in Africa and of course people panic,” says Simon Fenton, whose eco-lodge in Abene is the setting for my late-night encounter of the amphibian kind. “But I’d say you’ve more to worry about on a night out in London than you would here.”

All has been calm in the Casamance for years, and as the Senegalese government and separatists have now signed a peace agreement, Oxford-born Simon is banking on a tourist revival. After building a traditional thatched home here, he added a few huts for visitors and opened the Little Baobab in 2013 with his Senegalese wife Khady Mane. He says more tourists are coming to Abene every year.

Khady assures me that in December Abene is full of life. From 26 December to 2 January, the town hosts Abene Festivalo, an increasingly popular festival in which Senegal’s various ethnic groups showcase their traditional music and dance. While Abene is mostly Muslim, the age-old traditions of the Diola people remain very important. Like most children here, Khady and Simon’s two lively sons wear gris-gris – necklaces and bracelets that ward off evil.

I learn more about this when Khady leads me off the main road, down a track to Bantam Wora, Abene’s sacred tree. On closer inspection, the mighty sacred tree is, in fact, six trees. “The different trees grow together. Senegal is the same – Diola, Mandinka, Wolof, Muslim and Christian. Living together. No problem,” says the resident guide, Amdou, who for a few coins will tell you all you need to know about the Bantam.

A few days later, I’m hurtling south from Abene in a ‘sept-place’; battered old station wagons like this one are the main form of transport in the Casamance. After being crammed in with six other passengers for two hours, and humidity outside nearing 100 per cent, I cross the wide Casamance River and arrive in Ziguinchor, where I decide to treat myself to a night in the regional capital’s best hotel. An oasis of calm from the relative bustle, Hotel Kadiandumagne has a beautiful garden promenade, with steps leading up to a pool overlooking the mangrove-lined river.

The next day, driving south from Ziguinchor towards the Diola king’s hometown of Oussouye, scents of mint and mango enter the car windows. Jungle teems on either side and tropical birds glide above. The roofs of mud huts can be glimpsed through the thick vegetation, so green I’d think it radioactive if this were Europe.

Like Abene, the real Oussouye is scattered through the trees – a mix of cashew, mango, banana and ceiba. There’s nothing like exploring it by bicycle, says local guide Carlos, and so we spend an afternoon trundling down beguiling jungle tracks, stopping at villages, which successfully cash in on their woodcarvings. Most fascinating of all are the religious shell-studded altars attached to several houses. Animal horns, used for various rituals, hang above them. Oussouye is Catholic, but animist beliefs thrive beneath the Christian layer, Carlos says. As in Abene, the people see no contradiction in this.

(Adapted from an article in *The Independent*, 25 October 2016, by Darren Loucaides)
**Task 2: Matching**

You are going to read about some great toys. For statements 1–9, choose from toys A–E. Some of the toys may be chosen more than once. When more than one answer is required, these may be given in any order. There are three examples at the beginning: (0), (00) and (000).

**Great toys**

**Examples:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Toy(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The toy was originally meant for therapeutic purposes.</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The toy was invented by chance.</td>
<td>(00) B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The toy encourages children to explore their identity.</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The launch of the new toy was well-timed.</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The toy consists of two separable components.</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A part of the toy has an unnatural shape.</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The toy is now used as a modern substitute for a traditional custom.</td>
<td>(6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The success of the toy can also be attributed to its media coverage.</td>
<td>(7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The origin of the toy dates centuries back.</td>
<td>(9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**A Finger Paint**

Now synonymous with tiny handprints adorning bulletin boards around the globe, finger paint was first used in art education in 1931. American teacher Ruth Faison Shaw was working in an elementary school in Italy when she developed a system that not only would teach youngsters about art but could also act as an efficient technique for treating emotional disorders in children and adolescents, a cause Shaw devoted her life to. In her 1934 book *Finger Painting, a Perfect Medium for Self-Expression*, Shaw wrote that adults should let children be children, even if it meant letting them make a mess. She believed finger paints allowed children to express themselves creatively in a new way free of restrictions. The theory was embraced by educators, and in 1936, the painting technique reached massive popularity. Finger painting peaked in the 1930s during the progressive education movement and was widely used in education systems until the end of the 1960s.
**B Slinky**

“A spring, a spring, a marvellous thing! Everyone knows it’s Slinky!” Though its popularity can’t be called into question, ‘everyone’ may not know that the Slinky, created by mechanical engineer Richard James in 1943, was the unintended by-product of a new line of sensitive springs that would help keep fragile equipment steady on ships. After knocking one of his newly created springs from a shelf, James watched as it ‘walked’ down from its spot instead of falling to the ground. With a machine designed to coil 80 ft. of wire into a 2-in. spiral and a name chosen by his wife Betty, James began producing his novelty Slinky – but at first to little notice. Slinky got its big break during the Christmas shopping season of 1945, when the Gimbels department store in Philadelphia let James demonstrate his new creation. Within minutes, he sold 400 Slinkys. Sixty-six years and 250 million Slinkys later, we’re still just as delighted with James’ serendipitous toy as we ever were.

**C Silly Putty**

Silly Putty was originally invented by James Wright, working at General Electric’s New Haven, Connecticut lab in 1943. At the time, the Allies were desperately short on rubber thanks to Japan invading various rubber producing countries in the Pacific Rim. This shortage on rubber was negatively affecting certain wartime production efforts. As a result, the U.S. government enlisted the aid of various companies to try and invent a synthetic rubber that could be made of readily available materials. It was during one of these attempts to create synthetic rubber that Wright mixed boric acid and silicone oil, and stumbled upon one of the greatest materials in toy history, making the first Silly Putty, which initially became known as ‘Nutty Putty’. A ‘solid liquid’, the new, stretchable material was a marvel of science – and of absolutely no use to the American war effort. Thanks in part to a ‘Talk of the Town’ New Yorker article, as well as being debuted reasonably close to Easter, which was the inspiration for packaging it in a plastic egg, Silly Putty became an instant nation-wide hit selling 250,000 units in the first three days at $1 an egg, making it one of the fastest selling toys in history. The year 1991 saw the introduction of glow-in-the-dark Silly Putty, while NASA learned the substance could be used to restrain objects in zero gravity, taking it aboard Apollo 8 to hold down tools.

**D Bubble Solution**

Seventeenth century Flemish painters show children blowing bubbles with clay pipes. Generations of 18th- and 19th-century mothers gave their children their leftover washing soap to blow bubbles. At the beginning of the 20th century, street peddlers and pitchmen were among the first to sell bubbles as a toy. Despite this popularity of bubbles, it wasn’t until a Chicago cleaning-supplies company named Chemtoy began bottling its own bubble solution in 1940 that a true enthusiasm for the activity erupted. Now with millions of bottles sold each year, bubble solutions, paired with wands of various sizes, have worked their way into our culture even outside their role as a children’s toy. In the 1960s they became a universal symbol of peace and harmony as the hippie movement popularized the sport of bubble blowing and blew bubbles into the air en masse. More recently they’ve become a regular feature at weddings – a nice alternative to pelting the bride and groom with rice.

**E Cabbage Patch Kids**

Xavier Roberts was a 21-year-old art-school student paying his way through college when he designed a doll with an unusual, disproportionally big head in 1976. Xavier utilized the quilting skills passed down from his mother and the historic technique of ‘needle molding’ to develop his own line of fabric sculptures. At first calling them Little People dolls, he began exhibiting hand-made Little People Originals at arts and crafts shows in the southeast. To his surprise, he found that many parents were happy to pay good money for one of his hand signed Little People Originals. After a TV appearance on the television show Real People in 1980, the iconic dolls’ sales spiked, sending America’s kids into a ‘Gimme!’ frenzy. Fearful of disappointing their young ones, parents camped outside toy stores during the Christmas season of 1983, determined to bag one of the coveted moppets. By New Year’s Day, more than 3 million Cabbage Patch Kids had been sold; the madness eventually inspired the 1996 Arnold Schwarzenegger movie Jingle All the Way.

(Adapted from http://content.time.com)
B) CONOSCENZA E USO DELLA LINGUA

Task 1: Gap fill

There is one word missing in each gap. Write the missing words in the spaces on the right. Bear in mind that all contracted forms with the exception of can’t count as two words. There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

**My swimming odyssey:**

‘It felt like a last chance to prove what I was capable of’

I had always thought I could swim. It may have been because I wanted to swim. Or because I only ever did 10 minutes of breaststroke at a time, or splashed off a warm beach. But I really couldn’t swim. It took 12 months of lessons and practice before I was able to swim in open water, beyond the pool or my home beach in Brighton. Then I could let myself believe I was up taking on a challenge I had been dreaming of for more than a year: I wanted to swim in the Greek waters of the Ionian Sea. Specifically, I wanted to swim to Ithaca, island home of Greek hero Odysseus.

Since childhood, I had been fascinated by Greek myths and the heroic tales of the Trojan war. As I grew older and read classics at university, it became Odysseus who captured my imagination more than any other. Legend has that Odysseus was within sight of Ithaca when he was blown hundreds of miles off course. It took him several years to get home after that. Meanwhile, his wife Penelope stayed at home on Ithaca, spending every night unpicking the embroidery she completed during the day. She promised her suitors that she would marry one of them just as soon as her sewing was finished. Eventually, a decade after Odysseus set out from Troy to return home, they were reunited.

I never wanted to be Penelope; instead, I had fought for years to be my own hero, my own Odysseus. I wanted my sense of belonging to come from within, and as soon as I found that, I found D, my husband. Now that I had my own Ithaca, I wanted to see the real one.

There was a deadline to contend with: after a year of marriage and even longer of trying for a baby, we had recently been referred for IVF treatment. I was shaken by the news. My relationship with my body had changed radically over the last few years. Finally learning to have a little faith in what it was capable of had been one of the rewarding experiences of my life. Now, I was being told that positive thinking was not going to be enough.

Six weeks later, I was on my way to the island of Lefkada. I was going to spend a week on a guided swimming trip around the islands of the Ionian Sea. It would be an opportunity to see what I was capable of in the water, and to remind myself of the barriers I had overcome, even as I was now confronting a new one.

The evening I arrived was heavy heat. We all gathered on a terrace overlooking the sea to introduce and eat together under the vines. J, the leader of the trip, encouraged us to go around the table, saying a little about our lives.

“Hi, my name is Jess and I recently swam the English Channel as part of a relay with some mates.”

“Hi, I’m on this trip with my teenage daughter as a rest before her Olympic tryouts.”

And so it went, on and on. These were people who had swum for their country, across their country and to their country. They may as well have been different species.

The first morning, we boarded a beautiful wooden boat with a taciturn, pessimistic Greek captain who made effort whatsoever to hide the fact that he despaired of us all and our sanity. The pattern for the week was quickly set. The boat headed out to wherever the swim was to begin, then we would be briefed on deck about what type of swim it would be. Some were coastal, all the way around an island, with plenty to look at below us; some would be crossings from island to island – more satisfying, but potentially harder work. And some would be a combination of the two. For most of the week, we would have a morning swim, lunch somewhere nearby, followed by a bit of time on the boat before a second swim.

Being in an entirely unfamiliar environment was all-consuming. I was used to wading into the water; a slow walk with a gradual drop-off. Now, we were clambering or jumping a boat, straight into deep water. The most striking thing was its clarity. I had never seen anything like it.

(Adapted from an article in The Guardian, 6 January 2017, by Alexandra Heminsley)
Task 2: Gap fill (word formation)

For gaps 1–13, write the correct form of the words in brackets in the spaces on the right. There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

What it means to have a child with selective mutism

Like many girls her age, Isla loves drawing, swimming lessons and arguing with her older sister. She is a boisterous, spirited six-year-old who, at home, is forever being asked to _0_ (QUIET) down by her mother Charlotte Maddams, 35.

But at school, or in front of strangers, Isla is a very different child: her voice disappears, her mouth locks shut and her _1_ (ABILITY) to articulate words becomes even more obvious. For the last four years, Isla has suffered from selective mutism, a growing and devastating anxiety-based mental health disorder.

The condition – that affects 1 in 150 children in the UK – means, while able to speak fluently and freely at some times, those affected remain _2_ (CONSISTENT) silent at others. It can be debilitating, humiliating and interfere with educational development.

While most cases are solved with early _3_ (INTERVENE) from therapists, sympathy and time, others progress throughout adult life. Experts attribute the latter to a lack of awareness for a disorder that is frequently misunderstood, and is often seen as _4_ (SHY) or even extreme surliness.

Alison Wintgens, the national _5_ (ADVISE) for selective mutism for the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists says: “I think that the name is difficult because people still think of the word ‘selective’ in connection with _6_ (CHOOSE).”

At worst, Isla, who is asthmatic and has dairy and citrus allergies, hasn’t been able to ask for her inhaler or anti-histamines at school.

“Once,” recalls her mother Charlotte, a child-minder from Buckinghamshire, “her asthma had got so bad that she was coughing and coughing. She had to wait two hours in awful _7_ (COMFORT) until I arrived at school to collect her to ask for her inhaler.”

Now Charlotte gives her daughter cue cards to avoid such emergencies, with written pointers such as ‘I need my inhaler’, ‘I’m thirsty’ or ‘I need the toilet’. It has still taken a while for Isla to feel confident enough to use them and during her first year at nursery she would return home with the cards anxiously chewed to pieces rather than show them to the teacher.

October is selective mutism awareness month and experts are hoping to raise awareness around the condition that is thought to be more common than autism. There is no single cause although emotional, psychological, _8_ (GENE) and social factors are believed to influence its development. It’s more common in girls and multi-lingual children, although little research has been done into why, and it usually impacts children in early childhood when they start to interact with those outside of the immediate family.

What’s more, Alison Wintgens says instances of selective mutism in this country are on the rise.

“There is no doubt there are more stresses and pressures around,” she says. “Schooling has become more verbal because of changes to the curriculum. You can’t be a silent _9_ (ACHIEVE) anymore; you have to work in groups, give speeches and present experiments. While a good thing (selective mutism aside), it puts pressure on those who struggle with social interaction.”

Charlotte Maddams believes as well as being a _10_ (NATURAL) anxious child, Isla’s early experiences may have contributed to her disorder.

“She was poorly with asthma and chest and ear _11_ (INFECT) and so she saw people in white coats around her a lot. It may have had an impact because it was the doctors she stopped talking to first.”

Charlotte googled her daughter’s symptoms, stumbled upon selective mutism and arranged for Isla to see a speech and language therapist and child psychologist, who have helped. Where previously Isla would only speak to her 11-year-old sister Phoebe at school, she now whispers with a teaching _12_ (ASSIST) and a dinner lady.

While most young children overcome selective mutism over time, or with help from triggers such as moving school, for others, it can cast a shadow over their adult lives leading to other mental health difficulties, depression and _13_ (SUICIDE) thoughts.

(Adapted from an article in The Telegraph, 26 October 2015, by India Sturgis)
Pagina vuota