



Codice del candidato:

Državni izpitni center



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SESSIONE AUTUNNALE

Livello di base
I N G L E S E
≡ Prova d'esame 1 ≡

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

Sabato, 23 agosto 2025 / 60 minuti (35 + 25)

Materiali e sussidi consentiti:

Al candidato è consentito l'uso della penna stilografica o della penna a sfera.

MATURITÀ GENERALE

INDICAZIONI PER I CANDIDATI

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.

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 30 punti nella parte B, per un totale di 50 punti. È prevista l'assegnazione di 1 punto per ciascuna risposta esatta.

Scrivete le vostre risposte all'interno della prova, **nei riquadri appositamente previsti**, 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 12 pagine, di cui 2 vuote.



A) COMPrensione DI TESTI SCRITTI

Task 1: Short answers

Read the text and answer the questions in note form in the spaces below. Use 1–5 words for each answer. All contracted forms with the exception of *can't* count as two words. There is an example at the beginning: Answer 0.

Example:

0. Where was ketchup first sold? *In America.*

1. Why was ketchup frequently looked down on?

2. What was used to make the sauce look more appealing?

3. What concern brought Heinz and Wiley together?

4. What suggests that the government was not much interested in national food safety in Wiley's time?

5. What did Heinz and other food manufacturers disagree on?

6. What did Heinz introduce to build up a greater trust with his customers?

7. Which fact about ketchup is still debatable?

8. Besides high costs of developing preservative-free products, which other financial consequence was Mueller afraid of?

9. In what way did the consistency of Heinz's new ketchup differ from the original one?

10. Which argument was used to prove that sodium benzoate was harmless?



How Henry Heinz used ketchup to improve food safety

Ketchup – that cheerful red sauce sold in handy glass bottles – first came on the American market in the 19th century. But its ingredients were shockingly different than they are today.

Food advocates complained that the sauce was frequently made from tomato scraps thickened with ground pumpkin rinds, apple pomace (the skin, pulp, seeds, and stems left after the fruit was pressed for juice), or cornstarch, and dyed a deceptive red. One French cookbook author described the ketchup sold in markets as “filthy, decomposed and putrid.”

By the late 19th century, it would become less putrid, as manufacturers added chemical preservatives to slow decomposition in the bottle. But the real change – the invention of modern ketchup – occurred in the 20th century, and it’s a story of both politics and personality. It begins with an unlikely alliance between one of the country’s richest food manufacturers, Henry J. Heinz, and an underpaid federal chemist. The two men bonded over a mutual belief that unsafe and untrustworthy food was a growing national problem.

Harvey Washington Wiley’s position on the matter surprised no one. As chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s chemistry bureau, Wiley had been pushing for food safety standards since the 1880s. At that time, his tiny department was the only federal division responsible for the country’s food quality. His chemists had exposed both widespread fraud – from gypsum in flour to brick dust in cinnamon – and a dismayingly reckless use of untested preservatives, ranging from formaldehyde to borax.

Heinz’s stance was a shock, especially to his fellow industrialists. He refused to fall in line with other U.S. corporations, which were mostly moving to block any effort to establish food and drink standards. And to understand that, we need to take a look at the man himself as well as the successful businessman.

He was born in 1844 in Pittsburgh, the son of German immigrant parents. As a child Henry sold extra vegetables from the family’s kitchen garden to neighbors; by age 10 he had his own garden and carried produce by wagon to local grocers. By 1888, at age 44, he had his own food manufacturing business, the H.J. Heinz Company, and from there he never looked back.

Heinz’s company made some 60 products in 1896 – and that would rise to 200 by the turn of the century. The company still offered horseradish but also pickles, ketchup, vinegars, chili sauces, tomato sauce, mincemeat, fruit butters, baked beans, preserved cherries, mustard dressings, currant jelly, pineapple preserves, an assortment of mustards, canned pastas. Heinz was a master promoter – the company used everything from lighted billboards to painted wagons to displays at World Fairs to advertise its products. But Heinz also believed that for promotion to succeed, the product itself had to be good, the manufacturer trustworthy. He allowed public tours of his Pittsburgh factory so that people could admire its cleanliness and well-treated workers. He built greenhouses to experiment with the best varieties of fruits and vegetables.

And it was ketchup itself that would inspire him to go even further.

As the story goes, ketchup began as an Asian sauce made of fermented fish. Some say it was invented in China in the sixth century and named “ke-tsiap”. Others say it came from Vietnam, and still others argue for a different beginning in the West Indies.

In other words, we don’t really know. What we do know is that the early tomato-based ketchups on U.S. shelves were rich environments for bacteria, mold, and other microbes – until bottlers began dosing the sauce with chemical preservatives.

Heinz, however, set his company on a quest to be a leader in preservative-free products. He asked the company’s general manager – his cousin, Sebastian Mueller – to begin developing condiments that would need no chemical additives. Mueller warned him these would be costly to develop. Heinz had always offered a money-back guarantee, and the general manager also feared that a preservative-free ketchup would spoil easily, leading to costly returns.

But Heinz was not deterred. And Mueller became increasingly committed to the idea. A believer in scientific principles, he began to experiment with recipes for a homemade ketchup that would have a longer shelf life. He wanted a bacteria-killing acid concentration in the formula and so sought the right balance of vinegar and pectic acid, the latter occurring naturally in tomatoes. To get the acid levels right, Mueller discovered, he needed both high-quality tomatoes and high pulp content. Ketchups had traditionally been thin sauces of mixed content. To create its preservative-free ketchup, the company switched to a thicker, tomato-rich version – the foundation for the condiments of today.



The preservative sodium benzoate, which Heinz removed from its ketchup at the turn of the 20th century, was enormously controversial at the time. Synthesized by German chemists in 1860, it was one of the additives tested for safety by federal chemist Harvey Washington Wiley, and it was, he insisted, a serious health risk.

His critics claimed that Wiley was exaggerating the dangers. The preservative was based in nature, they said: a salt of a naturally occurring compound, benzoic acid, found in a wide variety of plants, from tobacco to cranberries.

(Adapted from <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2019>)



Pagina vuota

VOLTATE IL FOGLIO.



Task 2: Gapped sentences

Read the text and choose from the sentence parts below the one which fits each gap. Each sentence part can be used only once. There are two extra sentence parts which you do not need to use. There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

St Petersburg in winter: 'Like stepping into a Russian novel'

On the edge of a frozen lake, somewhere outside St Petersburg, I am stretched out on the wooden racks of a rickety banya, or sauna. Clouds of steam part to reveal several lobster-pink Russians on the racks below. Some maniac has just thrown a bucket of water on to the hot stones in the corner, and the temperature rises dramatically. I feel my bone marrow is melting. Meanwhile, my new best friend, Seva, is whipping me with birch twigs – “For improving circulation,” he grunts.

Russian banya are the Baltic equivalent of ginseng; [0]: liver complaints, skin conditions, muscle ache, sexual dysfunction, broken hearts, spiritual unease. They are an integral part of the Russian winter, for the thing about the banya is you need a freezing lake to get the full benefit. The door opened momentarily. Snow wafted in [1], clutching tiny bath towels, down an icy path to where a hole had been cut in the ice of the lake.

In our islands, most of us don't get a great deal of winter. We get rough weather, especially this year, but not proper winters – frozen lakes, white sculptural landscapes, startling blue skies, snowdrifts groping the windowsills, a dry, sharp cold [2]. In real winters, your breath plumes into the air like a steaming kettle, and the blood starts to pump. A proper winter is not just ravishingly beautiful, it is exhilarating. Winter is St Petersburg's natural season. Perched on the edge of the Gulf of Finland barely 500 miles from the Arctic Circle, the one-time Russian capital is at its most beautiful [3]. The Neva River is a wilderness of ice, and in the squares of black, bare trees the winter light is pale and watery. Along the frozen canals and the wide avenues there is a muffled stillness.

St Petersburg is the city [4]. As the afternoons draw in, the fat globes of the street lamps blossom along the Nevsky Prospect, and the frosted windows of the shops glow invitingly. In Theatre Square ballet fans hurry towards the brightly lit Mariinsky Theatre, where Nijinsky and Nureyev both performed; its season begins in autumn and runs through the winter. Across the city, frost patterns decorate the windows of the Winter Palace. Not far away, the great dome of St Isaac's hovers like a vision in the early dark, while the statue of Peter the Great rearing on his horse above the bare trees carries a mantle of snow around his shoulders.

St Petersburg is not an old city, or an Asian one, like Moscow. It was built [5]. In the spring of 1703, Peter the Great, flush from victory over the Swedes, got down from his horse in the marshes that bordered the Neva River and cut two slices of turf with his bayonet. Laying them in the form of a cross, he announced, here there shall be a city.

So began the 18th century's most extraordinary building project. A quarter of a million serfs, soldiers and prisoners of war were press-ganged into Peter's grand new project. Millions of logs were floated down the Neva, [6] so that the nation's supplies could be diverted here.

The nobility was commandeered, too. A thousand of Russia's best families were ordered to construct houses and palaces in the new city. In muddy fields and clapboard towns across the sprawling distances of Siberia, peasants listened to tales of how Peter was creating his city in the heavens [7]. Within 50 years, St Petersburg was one of the most sophisticated and opulent cities in Europe. Palaces and academies, cathedrals and theatres, ministries and state institutions lined the avenues and canals as they radiated from the golden spire of the Admiralty. Peter's new capital, his window to the West, had turned its back on its creaky empire and on “Asiatic” Moscow.

Seva was born in St Petersburg [8]. I met him through mutual friends and he guided me around the city he loves. “Peter,” he said – he had the curious habit of calling the city by this single name – “we are always falling in love with Peter. It is a city of romance.” An artist, a bohemian, a romantic, Seva could have been the archetypal St Petersburg citizen.



Real and imagined, romantics have always loomed large in Peter's life. For instance, it was in St Petersburg that Anna Karenina fell in love with Count Vronsky. Tchaikovsky studied at the St Petersburg Conservatory and conducted the premiere of his Sixth Symphony in the city only nine days before his death; he is buried in the Tikhvin Cemetery alongside other St Petersburg romantics – Borodin, Mussorgsky, Rimsky-Korsakov and Dostoevsky. But it was Pushkin, the great Russian poet, [9], conducting numerous love affairs and fighting no less than 28 duels. He succumbed in the 29th, fatally injured by a man he accused of trying to seduce his wife. His seconds carried his body to his home on the Moika River Embankment. It was midwinter.

Russian winters have made St Petersburg a world of interiors and, with 500 palaces in the city, many are magnificent. Step inside the double doors, shed the overcoat and fur hat, and you enter a world of sweeping staircases and gilded moulding, of forests of chandeliers and ballrooms measured in acres, of battalions of nude statues and regiments of headscarfed babushkas with mops [10].

In the Yusupov Palace, you can follow the assassination of Rasputin by the cross-dressing Prince Felix or attend a concert in the tiny rococo theatre. The best of the palaces are a carriage's drive from the city – Peterhof, Tsarskoye, Pavlovsk, the Catherine Palace. To see them in winter when snow drifts across the parklands is to step into the pages of a Russian novel.

(Adapted from article in *The Telegraph*, 4 January 2016)

- A to be Russia's window on the West
- B when the snow starts to swirl
- C who eventually bring him to the throne
- D that crackles and snaps and presses your nostrils
- E where everyone looks fabulous in furs and rosy cheeks
- F trying to keep up with the cleaning
- G who set the bar for gallant St Petersburg romantics
- H and would never live anywhere else
- I and finally returns to St Petersburg
- J and stone work was forbidden elsewhere in Russia
- K as two enormous men set off easily
- L then lowering it down to earth
- ~~M~~ they cure everything

0.
<i>M</i>

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.



B) CONOSCENZA E USO DELLA LINGUA

Task 1: Gap fill

Read the text below and write the missing words in the spaces provided. There is one word missing in each gap. All contracted forms with the exception of *can't* count as two words. There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

Lord of the Flies is still a blueprint for savagery

"I'm afraid. Of us."

Those words first appeared in print 60 years ago when William Golding published his 0 famous novel, *Lord of the Flies*.

It's easy to see how Golding got the inspiration for his tale of humanity red in tooth and claw: he 1 served in the Royal Navy during the Second World War and wrote *Lord of the Flies* while teaching boys at Bishop Wordsworth's School.

For our book *No Mercy*, we spent five years researching 2 accurately Golding's novel reflects the behaviour of real-life groups of disaster survivors stranded in isolated corners of the globe, asking: did Golding get it right?

It turns out he did.

Accounts of survivor groups through history, 3 the siege of Numantia in BC 134 to the Chilean miners trapped under the Atacama desert in 2010, mirror what happened on Golding's imaginary tropical island. When Ralph tells Piggy he's afraid "of us", reality shows he was right to be afraid. The destructive processes Golding described are astonishingly accurate. When groups of people are clinging to life, the greatest threat may 4 be the harsh environment, starvation or dehydration, but the other survivors standing next to them on the deserted beach or the remote, snow-covered mountain.

Group fragmentation, leadership struggles, personal hatred, theft, abuse, frenzied violence, the discarding of empathy and compassion – these are all things that afflicted both Golding's schoolboys and many real survivor groups.

The real-life 'Lord of the Flies'

The Robbers Cave Experiment

A group of boys find 5 stranded in a beautiful but isolated environment. For a brief period things go well, but then human nature starts to assert itself, and their mini-society descends swiftly into antagonism, hostility and violence. That was the fascinating premise of not one, 6 two books published in 1954.

But 7 *Lord of the Flies* was a novel, *The Robbers Cave Experiment* was factual: a scholarly text that also became highly influential, although much less famous.

The spark 8 lit Golding's creative fuse was his scorn for the books he had been reading to his children, particularly RM Ballantyne's *The Coral Island*. As a teacher, Golding found the depiction of boys living in an island utopia deeply unconvincing.

While Golding worked 9 way through rejections and rewrites, an experiment was taking place in Oklahoma that would start with a very similar premise. Twenty-two boys were let loose in a deserted scout camp in the Robbers Cave State Park by a team of psychologists headed by Muzafer Sherif. The boys were given food, shelter and almost-complete autonomy, with the researchers there only to observe them. The aim of the experiment was to generate friction 10 two groups of strangers, then bring them together to resolve their differences by forcing them to co-operate. The participants, who thought they were attending a normal summer camp, were 11-year-old boys.

Sherif carefully selected intelligent, well-adjusted boys from middle-class families. The researchers pretended to be camp staff, and melted into the background. The boys were divided into two groups before arriving: later called the "Rattlers" and the "Eagles".

In phase one of the experiment, each group was left alone for a week of camping, hiking and swimming. Both established their own hierarchies, unaware of the other group's existence.



Non scrivete nel campo grigio. Non scrivete nel campo grigio. Non scrivete nel campo grigio. Non scrivete nel campo grigio. Non scrivete nel campo grigio.

Then Sherif allowed them to hear the other group in the distance, _11_ sparked immediate signs of rivalry and territorialism in both groups. The announcement by the staff of a tournament between the two tribes caused even greater hostility: as soon as they set eyes on _12_ other, the insults started to fly. The first day ended with the Eagles seizing and burning the Rattlers' flag; the next day, the Rattlers destroyed the Eagles' flag. Brawls erupted and the researchers had to break them up.

Later, the Rattlers executed a night raid on the Eagles camp, wearing full war paint to terrify the enemy. The Eagles carried out a counterattack on the Rattlers camp armed with sticks and baseball bats. Mission accomplished, they retreated and rearmed, this time filling socks with stones.

The psychologists watched the arms race escalate over the following days. Finally, one violent mob brawl became _13_ sustained that the researchers were forced to step in. They dragged the boys _14_ and removed them to separate locations.

How long did it take _15_ mere friction to escalate into a juvenile war, in an idyllic setting where everyone had plenty of food? Phase two lasted just six days from the first insult ("Fatty!") to the final all-out brawl. Golding would have loved it.

(Adapted from an article from *The Independent*, 16 March 2014, by Eleanor Learmont)

Example:

0. most _____

1. _____

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15. _____



Task 2: Gap fill (word formation)

Read the text below and change the words in brackets so that they fit in the gaps. Write your answers in the spaces provided. There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

The helpful upside of office personality tests

Which element are you?

No, I'm not talking about an online quiz. I'm talking about an official test my colleagues and I took at an internal company team-building event **_0_ (EARLY)** this year. We answered some questions, and we were told whether we were Earth – decisive, practical, Wind – organised, analytical, Water – empathetic, compassionate or Fire – creative, enthusiastic. We got into groups and had to give presentations about our **_1_ (STRONG)** and weaknesses.

My group, the Fires, was too creative for its own good and not organised enough: our 'presentation' was mostly playing a fire-breathing dragon because we hadn't prepared well enough. So although in an office we bring a fiery energy that sparks inspiration, according to this **_2_ (ASSESS)**, maybe what we need is to work with more practical types who can actually implement those ideas properly.

...Right? It's easy to draw a **_3_ (CONCLUDE)** like this from the kinds of tests that are used in the workplace: the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, the Big 5, DISC... odds are, you've taken at least one of these or something similar either online for fun or at work on request.

Of course, whenever something becomes popular it gets scrutinised, quite rightly. Personality tests are one of the internet's favourite snackable diversions and they've been formally used in workplaces for decades. And critics are not wrong: there's plenty to be **_4_ (SCEPTICISM)** of.

One of the most famous **_5_ (MEASURE)**, for example, Type A versus B – you're A if you're driven and organised; B if you're laid-back and **_6_ (ADAPT)** – purportedly has its roots in the 1950s American tobacco industry, where cigarette companies invented 'Type A' as a high-strung target demographic who needed to buy its product right away to take the edge off.

These days, there's no **_7_ (SHORT)** of news pieces pointing out the flaws: that some of the most popular tests were made by people with no formal psychology training and hinge on unproven theories, that people get different results when they take the same test at a different time, that they shove complex humans into boxes, that the self-reporting they require is biased by nature, that it's all a huge snake-oil money-making scheme, how the traits the tests measure don't **_8_ (RELY)** predict what kind of employee the test-taker would be.

Yet we still take them, discuss them and maybe even become a bit more aware of our workplace **_9_ (BEHAVE)** based on what we've learned. So despite the flaws, are there some advantages to performing these tests – and is it how we implement what we've learned that is key?

Proponents of personality tests say there's more to them than **_10_ (ENTERTAIN)** if you know how to use them properly.

Alisa Cohn, an **_11_ (EXECUTE)** coach based in New York City who's administered hundreds of personality tests, says people should **_12_ (SURE)** that there's no negative outcome. She's not just talking about using them in hiring decisions to preserve a company culture – selecting particular personalities, which is **_13_ (ETHIC)** and possibly illegal – but also about the dangers of using them to explain away actions without trying to really understand or improve them.

Cohn points to one of the scales used in Myers-Briggs: 'P', which stands for 'Perceiving'. If you're a P, according to the test, you're supposed to prefer flexibility and spur-of-the-moment plans, not schedules. "I'm a P, so I'm always late, so you'll have to forgive me." No, if you're a P, you should leave 20 minutes early," Cohn gives as an example.



Susan Stehlik, director of New York University's management communication programme, says she's used personality tests in her classes. She likes to think of them as "great **_14_ (CONVERSE)** starters" for "discussions that maybe you're not comfortable having".

She says that occasionally marketing teams use personality labels ineffectively: it is easy to **_15_ (CHARACTER)** somebody as an 'introvert' if they don't speak up in big meetings and therefore other team members don't engage with him.

(Adapted from the www.bbc.com, 1 November 2019, by Bryan Lufkin)

Example:

0. *earlier* _____

1. _____

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13. _____

14. _____

15. _____



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