



Codice del candidato:

Državni izpitni center



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SESSIONE PRIMAVERILE

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, 30 maggio 2026 / 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.

Queenie

'I am going to marry a lady that has a little girl about your age,' my father had said. 'And this little girl has not got any father. So you have to promise me one thing and that is that you will never tease her or say anything mean to her about that. There'll be times when you may get in a fight and disagree with each other the way sisters do but that is one thing you never must say. And if other kids say it, you never take their side.'

For the sake of argument, I said that I did not have a mother and nobody said anything mean to me. My father said, 'That's different'.

He was wrong about everything. We did not seem anywhere near the same age, because Queenie was nine, when my father married Bet, and I was six. Though later, after I had skipped a grade and Queenie had failed one, we came closer together in school. And I never knew anyone to try to be mean to Queenie. She was somebody everybody wanted to be friends with. She was chosen first for a baseball team even though she was a careless baseball player, and first for a spelling team though she was a poor speller. Also, she and I did not get into fights. Not once. She showed plenty of kindness towards me and I had plenty of admiration for her. I would have worshipped her for her dark-gold hair and her sleepy-looking dark eyes and her giggly easy-going confidence, even if she had not been kind. But for a pretty girl she had an extraordinarily sweet nature.

As soon as I woke up on the morning of Queenie's disappearance, that morning in early winter, I felt her absence.

It was still dark and the house was cold. I pulled on the big woolly brown bathrobe that Queenie and I shared. We called it Buffalo Bill and whichever of us got out of bed first in the morning would grab it. Her bed was empty and she wasn't in the bathroom. I went down the stairs not turning any lights on, not wanting to wake Bet.

My father slept in what had been a pantry, off the kitchen. He had an iron bed and a broken-backed chair he kept his stack of old National Geographics on, to read when he couldn't sleep. He turned the ceiling light off and on by a cord tied to the bed-frame. This whole arrangement seemed to me quite natural and proper for the man of the house, the father. He should sleep like a guard with a coarse blanket for cover and an unhousebroken smell about him, of engines and tobacco. Reading and wakeful till all hours and alert all through his sleep.

Even so, he hadn't heard Queenie. He said she must be somewhere in the house. 'Did you look in the bathroom?'

I said, 'She's not there.'

Line 32 'Maybe in with her mother. Case of the heebie-jeebies.'

Line 33 My father called it the heebie-jeebies when Bet woke up – or didn't quite wake up – from a bad dream. She would come blundering out of her room unable to say what had frightened her, and Queenie had to be the one to guide her back to bed. Queenie would curl against her back making comforting noises like a puppy lapping milk, and Bet would not remember anything in the morning.

I had turned the kitchen light on.

'I didn't want to wake her,' I said. 'Bet.'

The door to the side porch had been unlocked.

'Somebody came in,' I said. 'Somebody came in and took Queenie.'



My father came out with his trousers on over his long underwear and Bet was slapping downstairs in her slippers, saying, 'What's this about Queenie?'

'She might just have felt like a walk,' my father said.

Bet ignored this. She had a mask of some pink stuff dried on her face. She never sold any cosmetic she had not tried on herself.

'You get over to Vorguilla's,' she said to me. 'She might've thought of something she was supposed to do over there.'

This was a week or so after Mrs Vorguilla's funeral, but Queenie had kept on working there, helping to box up dishes and linens so that Mr Vorguilla could move into an apartment. He had the Christmas concerts to get ready for and could not do all the packing himself. Bet wanted Queenie to just quit, so that she could get taken on for Christmas help at one of the stores.

I put on my father's rubber boots that were by the door, and stumbled across the yard to the Vorguillas' porch and rang the bell.

No answer. I pounded on the wood. Mr Vorguilla was going to be in a bad temper when I finally woke him. I pressed my head to the door, listening for stirrings.

'Mr Vorguilla. Mr Vorguilla. I'm sorry to wake you, Mr Vorguilla. Is anybody home?'

A window was heaved up in the house on the other side of the Vorguillas'. Mr Hovey, an old bachelor, lived there with his sister.

'Use your eyes,' Mr Hovey called down. 'Look in the driveway.'

Mr Vorguilla's car was gone.

When I returned home I saw my father and Bet sitting at the table with cups of tea in front of them. For a minute I thought that order had been restored.

But my father pushed a piece of paper across the table.

'I am going to marry Mr Vorguilla,' it said. 'Yours truly, Queenie.'

Bet dropped her spoon and shouted, 'I want him prosecuted, I want her in reform school. I want the police.'

My father said, 'She's 18 years old and she can get married if she wants to. The police aren't going to set up a road-block.'

(Adapted from a short story by Alice Munro)

**Example:**

0. What did the narrator's father tell her not to tease Queenie about?

Not having a father.

1. What reduced the grade gap between the narrator and Queenie?

2. Why was Queenie the first one to be chosen for a spelling team?

3. What did the narrator particularly like about Queenie's beautiful appearance?

4. Why did the narrator think that Queenie's kindness was somewhat unexpected?

5. What advantage did the girl getting up first have?

6. In the narrator's eyes, what was the father's role at night?

7. What does the expression "heebie-jeebies" in lines 32 and 33 refer to?

8. What did Bet do to make money?

9. Why did Bet want Queenie to stop working for Mr Vorguilla after his wife had died?

10. What sign indicating that Mr Vorguilla wasn't at home did the narrator overlook?

11. What was the difference between Bet's and the father's reaction to Queenie's disappearance?



Pagina vuota

VOLTATE IL FOGLIO.



Task 2: Gapped sentences

Read the text and choose from the sentence parts below the one that 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.

Hold your noses: the smells, sounds and sights of Elizabethan England

Here is what our senses can tell us about life in Elizabethan England...

Six months of every year, there is less than 12 hours of daylight, and street lighting is almost unheard of in Elizabethan England, [0]. Dimness is always an aspect of seeing indoors too, even in summer. Domestic glass is rare, due to the shortage of glassmakers in 16th-century England. Candles are expensive and, if unprotected by a lantern casing, they constitute a serious fire hazard, [1].

When you do have light, you will notice that Elizabethans see colour differently from you, due to the restricted range of dyes in nature. The only natural red in England is madder (taken from the plant of that name); most women have their petticoats dyed this colour. If you want different colours, you will need to obtain them from abroad, [2].

What about sounds? In modern times, there have been various brave attempts to recreate the 'authentic' sounds of the past by playing the music on instruments [3]. But even if you can recreate the sound, you cannot recreate the experience of hearing it, for listening to music takes place in a different context in Elizabethan times. There is no backdrop of motor, train and air traffic, no blaring sirens, no background of recorded music or radio, and no hum of electrical appliances. In fact, there are few loud noises. There is thunder; occasionally there is the report of a gun or cannon; and certain instruments, such as large bells and trumpets can create a striking impression, [4]. But all these things are occasional or only heard in specific situations. The general range of aural experience is therefore much narrower and more sensitive to sounds, which are normally heard in isolation.

People listen to music more intently because it stands out from their normal day-to-day silence. A large number of people play an instrument of some sort. At the bottom end of society it is the bagpipes and fiddle that you will most often encounter. Walk into an alehouse in London at the end of the day and you will frequently be encouraged to dance by a smiling musician or two.

Moving on to noses, popular culture would have you believe that all Elizabethans are smelly. In reality, the personal and public olfactory landscape is far more complex. At one end of the scale, if you are circumnavigating the world with Francis Drake in the years 1577–80, it is true that you will not bathe. Your hair and clothes will have lice and you will stink to high heaven, and so will everyone else on the ship (as will the ship itself). Your breath will reek. But in the context of the psychological pressures of such a voyage, [5], your shipmates' aroma is the least of your worries.

At the other end of the spectrum, wealthy people wash themselves daily by rubbing themselves in clean linen and washing their hands and faces in clean water. They immerse themselves occasionally in hot water carefully selected for its purity. They wash their hands before, after and during every meal. They wash their hair in lye, clean their teeth with tooth powder, and sweeten their breath with mouthwashes and liquorice.

Water availability is the key. If you live in a rented room on the fourth or fifth floor of an old timber-framed townhouse, [6] and to carry it up the stairs and heat it up. In any case, you probably won't be able to afford the firewood to heat the water if you are staying in such a tenement. Nor will you be able to afford fresh linen every day to rub yourself clean. So you will go filthy. Those of a comparable wealth to you will understand because [7]. They smell each other and know that they themselves smell too; but they know how much it costs to smell like a perfumed lady or gentleman. Living in close proximity to one another, and recognising that the alternatives are unaffordable, they get used to their own smells and the smells of those they know.



The aforementioned darkness of Elizabethan England explains why people rely on their sense of touch far more than we do in the modern world. In short, they often cannot see where they are going, [8]. Another variation in feeling relates to the things with which people surround themselves. Clothes vary hugely in texture, from fine linen to coarse canvas. At the top end of society, the finest fabrics, such as silk, lawn and velvet, allow a much greater range of soft tactile sensations [9].

There is also the permanent problem of how to keep warm. This is not to be underestimated, especially during a harsh Elizabethan winter. Firewood is scarce and expensive, and coal used only for industrial work, so fires are not left burning in every room. Many bed chambers have no fireplaces at all, and most windows are without glass. Even when shuttered, cold draughts get in and out. The only way to be sure of keeping warm is to wear lots of layers and keep active. It is no wonder that the elderly do not last long. For the old, and especially the aged poor, winters are deadly.

(Adapted from a *HistoryExtra* article, published on 12 October 2021)

- A as can the galloping of many horses together
- B so most people make do with just one or two, and carry them between rooms
- C so finding objects or going from room to room is much more a matter of touch than sight
- D but they are not easily available to English merchants and are extremely expensive
- E people of a similar social standing accept similar conditions
- F constructed to contemporary designs
- G the cleanliness of the bedding will be something you can feel
- H including the awareness that most of the crew will die along the way
- I than are available to those at the bottom, who have to make do with canvas
- J then it will simply be too much effort to go to the public conduit to fetch enough water for a bath
- K normally have just one or two fires burning through the day
- L so time outdoors in autumn and winter is characterised by darkness

0.
L

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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.

Vapes 'could cause life-threatening allergic reactions' in children

A charity is calling _0_ manufacturers to start labelling e-cigarettes with clear allergen information

Vapes could cause life-threatening allergic reactions in teenagers, experts have warned. Some children have been admitted to hospital in the UK with allergic reactions from the vapour in e-cigarettes, amid a surge in youth vaping. Doctors say the flavourings in vape liquid can contain traces of allergens, _1_ as nuts, dairy or gluten, especially if the devices mimic the flavours of food or desserts.

A charity is calling on vape manufacturers to start labelling e-cigarettes with clear allergen information as, _2_ food products, vapes are not legally required to include this. Allergic reactions to vaping can also be caused by propylene glycol, a common liquid used in e-cigarettes that can cause wheezing, asthma attacks and hives. In some cases, they can be triggered by second-hand vape fumes, in people _3_ are simply standing near someone vaping.

Concerns over vapes have _4_ highlighted by the *Natasha Allergy Research Foundation* (Narf), set up in memory of Natasha Ednan-Laperouse, who died aged 15 in 2016 shortly _5_ suffering a severe allergic reaction to sesame baked into a Pret baguette. It is one of three charities chosen for *The Times* and *Sunday Times Christmas Appeal*.

Nadim Ednan-Laperouse, founder of Narf, said: "Reports of allergic reactions from second-hand vape smoke are extremely concerning. Young people are disproportionately affected by food allergies, and many teenagers and their parents will _6_ unaware of this potential risk from vapes. We would urge everyone to consider this possible risk. The evidence linking vape smoke and allergic reactions is still emerging and labelling law should keep _7_ with it. It should be stated on the packaging where the e-liquid may contain nuts or one of the 14 allergens."

National Health Service (NHS) figures show that dozens of children and teenagers are being admitted to hospital each year due to complications of vaping, some of _8_ have suffered allergic reactions. In 2019, Ewan Fisher, 19, was treated on life support at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust after suffering an allergic reaction to a component of e-cigarette vapour.

Becky Gittins, the Labour MP for Clwyd East, and a parliamentary ambassador for the foundation, said that flavoured vapes should have allergy information displayed clearly on _9_ labels. She said: "Vapes are a really big topic in politics at the moment. But _10_ a lot of people aren't aware of is that there have been reports of allergic reactions from second-hand vape smoke. We hear people talking about vapes and young people and asthma, but you don't necessarily hear them talking about the possibility of allergic reactions and anaphylaxis and vapes and that's something I want to explore."

There has been a dramatic rise in vaping since the Covid-19 pandemic, with mounting concern about the toll of vaping on children's health and lung development. Last year, more than 350 people _11_ admitted to NHS hospitals because of vaping complications, including 50 children.

It is illegal to sell vapes _12_ under-18s, but NHS data shows that a quarter of 11- to 15-year-olds have tried vaping and nearly one in ten do it frequently. In November, MPs passed the *Tobacco and Vapes Bill* to tighten restrictions on e-cigarettes, including banning certain flavours that appeal to children. Disposable vapes are also due to be banned _13_ 1 June 2025 onwards, under separate environmental legislation. _14_ an attempt to tackle the danger of second-hand vaping, the government are considering banning vapes in certain outdoor spaces including playgrounds and outside schools.

Wes Streeting, the health secretary, _15_ recently warned that children and teenagers are facing a "life imprisoned by addiction" because of the marketing tactics of vape manufacturers and fruity flavours, adding: "It is unacceptable that these harmful products are being deliberately targeted at children with brightly coloured packaging and flavours like 'gummy bear' and 'rainbow burst'."

(Adapted from an article in *The Times*, 9 December 2024, by Eleanor Hayward)



Example:

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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 Industrial Revolution saw thousands of women enter the workplace alongside men – but it was far from **0 (LIBERATE)**, writes Elinor Evans*

As machines replaced individual labour and burgeoning industries demanded a growing workforce, women became integral to the expanding working class, finding **_4_ (EMPLOY)** in mines and mills. In the late 18th century, families often sought work together, with husbands, wives, and children employed at the same factory or mine. For single women, factory work offered a path towards financial **_5_ (DEPENDENT)**.

Despite the wage gap, the working conditions in many factories were no less **7_ (HAZARD)** for women. They endured physically demanding schedules, often working up to 80 hours a week with minimal breaks and **8_ (ADEQUATE)** food. In 1832, Elizabeth Bentley, a 23-year-old textile worker, testified before a parliamentary investigation into factory conditions. She described the harsh realities of working in the card room of a flax mill near Leeds: “It was so dusty, the dust got up my lungs, and the work was so hard... I got so bad in health, that when I pulled the baskets down, I pulled my bones out of their places.”

The long hours and physical demands of factory labour were worsened by the continued expectation of **_9_ (PAY)** domestic work, such as cooking, cleaning, and childcare. Employers, **_10_ (SURPRISING)**, showed little understanding of this dual burden.

Another common role for women was in the coal mines of Lancashire and Yorkshire, where they worked alongside men in physically demanding roles until the mid-19th century. Isabel Wilson, a 38-year-old coal putter (a worker who pushed tubs of coal from the coal face to the pit eye), was interviewed as part of Lord Ashley's Mines Commission of 1842. She described the immense hardship of balancing 11 **(MOTHER)** with the demands of mine labour. Wilson's testimony revealed the brutal reality of women's lives in the mines.

While the physical hardships faced by women in the mines were undeniable, it was a **_12_ (SEEM)** minor detail in Lord Ashley's report that sparked the most public outcry. The intense heat of underground labour often led both men and women to strip down to their trousers to stay cool. The report noted that some women worked topless alongside men. This detail fuelled a moral panic in the press, leading to the **_13_ (BELIEVE)** that mining girls were being corrupted by their surroundings and becoming unfit wives and mothers. This outrage was amplified despite the investigators finding only one pit where women worked topless.

The public outcry ultimately led to the passage of the *Mines and Collieries Act* of 1842, which banned women from underground work, ostensibly to protect their health and morals. As new **_14_ (LEGISLATE)** forced more women out of the workplace, for better or worse, societal ideas of gender evolved to reflect this new dynamic. Men who worked outside the home were increasingly viewed as breadwinners and providers, while the female ideal shifted towards that of the mother, moral **_15_ (GUARD)**, and homemaker. This shift solidified the traditional gender roles that would continue to shape society for decades to come.

(Adapted from www.historyextra.com/period/industrial-revolution/womens-lives-roles-industrial-revolution/)



Example:

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Pagina vuota