



Codice del candidato:

Državni izpitni center



M 2 6 1 2 4 2 1 1 I

SESSIONE PRIMAVERILE

Livello superiore

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 3 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.

Salma

The first thing you see when you wake up is the Pan Am bag hanging from your mother's shoulder. It is blue and white and has a hole in one corner. You're in your father's arms, still groggy with sleep, and as he carries you off the plane, you ask, "Is this where I go to school?" School is all you've been talking about for weeks, the carrot your parents dangled to get you to leave home. All you had to do was take the plane, they said, school would be at the other end. "Yes, here," your father says, but distractedly. At the gate, your uncle is waiting. He hoists you up, kisses you, rubs his unshaved chin against your cheek. He smells like cigarettes, and he laughs easily, like your father. Yet not like your father at all.

Line 13 Your uncle and his wife live in Culver City. They have a foldout couch, a backyard with a swing set, and two boys who pinch you when nobody is looking. On days off, the adults cook elaborate meals, drink mint tea, and talk for hours about politics. The children are supposed to play outside, but most of the time you have no idea what your cousins are saying, so you mimic the way they walk, the way they laugh, and finally the way they talk. You become a perfect little ape.

In the spring, you move with your parents to a small town in the Mojave, where they buy a donut shop. You ask about school again. "Maybe next year," your father says, casually. "Right now, you're too young." Betrayal is still new to you, and hard to swallow. Leafing through the magazines from the dispenser outside the shop, you pretend to read. Eventually, you learn to recognize the letters that go with the pictures. You ask for more magazines. Your mother gets a library card and checks out five books at a time, and sticks you in a corner with them. She has a shop to run, trays to wash, floors to clean, and no time to play. But at night, when everything is quiet, she sings you lullabies in Arabic and lets you fall asleep with your head in her lap. One weekend, your uncle and his family come for a visit. When your cousins try to pinch you, you bite them.

The day finally arrives: you start school at Yucca Mesa Elementary. You already know your alphabet and raise your hand and answer correctly every time Mrs. Hamilton calls on you. You are not an ape any more. Now you are a circus seal. In your repertoire, there are many tricks: you sing "I'm a Little Teacup"; you spell *girl* and *home* and *want*; you get an A on your first test. Your mother starts taking you everywhere with her.

Then all of a sudden, there is a crib in your parents' room, a stroller in the hallway, a yellow activity mat you're not allowed to touch. Your father coos over the new baby like she is something special, even though she can't add two and two, or tell the time. She has dark skin and chubby legs and big eyes that seem to track you everywhere you go. When nobody is watching, you pinch her. She cries inconsolably.

You still speak Arabic, but you no longer dream in it.

You grow to be tall. You play volleyball, compete in the science fair, collect box tops for the school's fundraiser, correctly guess the number of jelly beans in the jar. You're never late, never sick, never rude. All your friends' parents love you.

After college, you go to dentistry school at Loma Linda. There you meet a clear-eyed man who is never late, never sick, never rude. When he speaks Arabic, it is as if music is streaming from his mouth. You marry him, open a practice together, make your parents proud. "Why can't you be more like Salma?" your mother tells your sister.

Day after day, you stare at open mouths, smell rancid breath, scrape rot from cavities. Increasingly you have to spend your afternoons arguing with insurance companies about billing and payments. The whole thing gives you a headache. You take a Vicodin. You are no longer a trained seal. Now you are a bird. You float away, free. When your husband complains that the painkiller samples are disappearing, you say it's not your fault you had three root canals in one week.



But someday you will have to meet his eyes across the dinner table, answer his questions, and agree to let him take over your surgeries. He will ask that you see a substance abuse specialist, but you will say you're fine. At least talk to someone, he will beg. Talk to your mother. The thought of your mother finding out is excruciating. Her approval is a prison you do not wish to escape. I'll see a specialist, you say, and never make an appointment. After he goes to bed, you take another pill.

This is where the plane took you.

(Adapted from the novel *The Other Americans* by Laila Lalami)

0. What means of transportation does Salma's, the narrator's, family use to reach their destination?

The plane.

1. What do Salma's parents promise her to persuade her to take the flight?

2. What makes Salma "a perfect little ape" (line 13)?

3. What causes Salma to feel betrayed when moving to the Mojave?

4. What shows Salma's changed attitude towards her cousins?

5. In what way is Salma like a circus seal performing tricks?

6. What is the breaking point in Salma's assimilation?

7. Why does Salma try so hard in everything she does?

8. How do painkillers make Salma feel?

9. Why does Salma avoid talking to her mother about her condition?

10. What does "this" in the closing sentence refer to?



Task 2: Matching

Read the text and match the statements with the paragraphs. More than one statement may refer to the same paragraph. There are two examples at the beginning: Example 0 and Example 00.

Inventors Who Came to Regret Their Creations

Just because someone's invented something, it doesn't mean that they're happy with the end result.

A. Robert Oppenheimer / Albert Einstein – the atomic bomb

It's Robert Oppenheimer, the director of the Los Alamos Laboratory during World War II, who is credited with the creation of the atomic bomb. But Albert Einstein's work made it possible. Despite past associations with left-wing organizations, Oppenheimer welcomed the opportunity to play a part in the war effort. Later, however, he had mixed feelings about the bomb. "I have no remorse about the making of the bomb... As for how we used it, I understand why it happened and appreciate with what nobility those men with whom I'd worked made their decision. But I do not have the feeling that it was done right," he said.

Years later, Einstein regretted having signed a letter to President Roosevelt urging him to support the research of physicists into nuclear chain reactions and their use as a weapon, because he believed the Germans were already working on it. "Had I known that the Germans would not succeed in producing an atomic bomb," he said, "I would have never lifted a finger."

B. Mikhail Kalashnikov – AK-47

Kalashnikov designed the rifle that bore his name for the Russian army at the end of the Second World War after witnessing terrible casualties in battle and being injured himself. Designed to be a simple automatic rifle that could be made by using the mass production methods available at the time, Kalashnikov, who died in 2014, lived long enough to see his creation be responsible for more deaths than any other assault rifle.

"I keep coming back to the same questions. If my rifle claimed people's lives, can it be that I..., an Orthodox believer, am to blame for their deaths, even if they are my enemies?" he wrote in a letter to the head of the Russian Orthodox church in 2010.

C. Ethan Zuckerman – the pop-up advert

If you've ever found yourself yelling at your computer screen in frustration as yet another pop-up ad leaps into view, obscuring the content behind it, Zuckerman is the person to blame. Working as an employee of the web host Tripod at the time, Zuckerman explained that the company, which provided free web pages for consumers, had spent five years looking for a way to generate revenue.

"At the end of the day, the business model that got us funded was advertising. The model that got us acquired was analyzing users' personal homepages so we could better target ads to them. Along the way, we ended up creating one of the most hated tools in the advertiser's toolkit: the pop-up ad."

Explaining that the intention had been to allow adverts to appear when users visited a page without necessarily associating the advert with the content of the page, Zuckerman stated, "We came up with it when a major car company freaked out that they'd bought a banner ad on a page that celebrated pornography. I wrote the code to launch the window and run an ad in it. I'm sorry. Our intentions were good."

D. Dong Nguyen – Flappy Bird

Flappy Bird was a sensation a year ago. What looked like a crude and simple game proved to be hugely addictive thanks to it hitting that sweet spot between infuriatingly difficult and being just playable enough to make you think that next time you'll do better. Downloads soared and controversy raged until, after 50 million downloads and advertising revenue that was hitting around \$45,000 a day, Nguyen had had enough and announced that he was going to withdraw it from app stores. "I cannot take this anymore," he tweeted. Apparently, the publicity generated by the game had attracted the attention of the world's press and Nguyen was bombarded with calls, tweets, and emails, pointing out that he added to a growing obsession.

The removal of the game from app stores did little to quell the publicity. Nguyen received death threats, while phones with the game already installed sold on eBay for small fortunes, and app stores were flooded with copycat titles.

**E. Bob Propst – the office cubicle**

While working as a consultant for Herman Miller in the 1960s, Bob Propst introduced America to the open-plan office and with it, the office cubicle. It was, he told the *New York Times* in 1997, designed to give knowledge workers a more flexible, fluid environment than the rat-maze boxes of offices, and to save money, doing away with individual offices by using open plans and cubicles instead. Propst came to lament his invention. "The cubicizing of people in modern corporations is monolithic insanity," he said.

F. Vincent Connare – Comic Sans

"If you love it, you don't know much about typography." An anonymous critic of the font Comic Sans didn't say that, for those are the words of its designer, Vincent Connare, talking to the *Wall Street Journal*. Connare followed up that comment, however, with this: "If you hate it, you really don't know much about typography, either, and you should get another hobby."

Connare's view, and one shared by lots of others, is that the problem with Comic Sans is not with the font itself, but its overuse and misuse. Designed for a Microsoft application aimed at children to be used as a replacement in speech bubbles for Times New Roman, Connare never imagined it would become so widely used and ridiculed.

G. Tom Karen – Raleigh Chopper

Before the BMX arrived on the scene in the late 1970s, if you wanted a bike that wasn't of the drop-handlebarred racing variety, Raleigh's Chopper was one of the few options. Loved by millions for its comfortable saddle, laid-back seating position, and those huge Harley Davidson-esque handlebars, it was one of Raleigh's best-selling bikes in the 1970s.

However, its designer, Tom Karen, wasn't enthusiastic when a comeback for the Chopper was proposed last year. He told *The Telegraph*: "The Chopper wasn't a very good bike. It was terribly heavy so you wouldn't want to ride it very far. There was some guy who rode it from Land's End to John O'Groats for a good cause and by the end he was cursing it."

H. John Sylvan – coffee capsules

When John Sylvan invented coffee pouches and machines which could turn them into steaming cups of joe, he had no idea of the monster he had created. Sylvan's invention gave rise to systems like Nespresso and Tassimo and made it easier than ever for millions of us to grab a regular caffeine fix. "I feel bad sometimes that I ever did it," he said a few years ago. "It's like a cigarette for coffee, a singleserve delivery mechanism for an addictive substance."

(Adapted from www.mentalfloss.com/article/67288/10-inventors-who-came-regret-their-creations)

Example:**Paragraph**

The public doesn't like the invention.

(0) C and (00) F

The inventor was not in favour of bringing back his invention years after its initial popularity.

(1) _____

The inventor regrets contributing to an unhealthy habit.

(2) _____ and (3) _____

One of the reasons the invention was created was financial.

(4) _____ and (5) _____

Although the invention was removed from the market, people could still get hold of it.

(6) _____

The inventor believed that the public lacked understanding of the original purpose of his creation.

(7) _____

The inventor collaborated because he believed the same invention was already being worked on.

(8) _____

The invention was mocked because people did not use it as intended.

(9) _____

The creation was the inventor's reaction to his personal experience.

(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.

Giant lake suddenly reappears 130 years after vanishing

Tulare Lake, located in California's San Joaquin Valley, was once one of 0 largest bodies of freshwater in the whole of the US. But, some 130 years ago it disappeared because of the greed of colonialists, who drained 1 waters to create arable farmland. And yet, last year, the once-cherished lake suddenly reemerged, bringing with it both positive and painful effects.

Back in the late 19th century, Tulare was the largest body of freshwater west of the Mississippi River. At this time, it contained so much water that a steamship could carry agricultural supplies from the Bakersfield area up to Fresno and then up to San Francisco. However, in the succeeding decades, the ancestral lakes and connecting waterways that 2 such a route possible all but vanished due to irrigation.

Tulare Lake was fed primarily by snowmelt out of the Sierra Nevada mountains, as opposed to rainfall, 3 is scarce in the region. Fresno receives just over 10 inches of rain a year on average and sometimes as little as three, according to the National Weather Service.

However, in the 1800s, Fresno was a lakeside town. Located at the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, it is a dry place that receives 4 rainfall. The researcher, who specialises in ethnography and environmental justice, explained that the lake first began disappearing in the late 1850s and early 1860s, due to the state of California's desire to take indigenous land and put it into private ownership. This process was called reclamation and it involved 5 draining flooded land or irrigating desert land to create cultivable farmland.

The first 6 the lake fully disappeared was around 1890, when its water was essentially used to irrigate all of the arid lands around that area. Now the valley is crisscrossed by hundreds of irrigation canals, all of 7 were originally built to take that lake water and put it onto irrigated fields. And yet, in 2023, Tulare Lake came back from the dead when California was 8 in snow in the winter and then flooded with rain in the spring.

If there is a rain and snow event, the snow 9 very fast, and water then runs into the depression 10 Tulare Lake once sat. Months after the lake's resurgence, the impacts could be seen in the local wildlife. Birds of all kinds, such as pelicans, hawks, and waterbirds are returning. Also, human communities have been greatly affected by the lake's rebirth. For the Tachi Yokut tribe, the return of the lake has been just an incredibly powerful and spiritual experience.

However, for the region's farmworkers and landowners, the picture has been 11 from rosy. Many of these agricultural workers have suffered devastating losses as a 12 of the flooding, with many losing their homes entirely. Efforts are already underway to drain the lake once again, and are expected to continue in some form for about two more years, although new atmospheric river events over California this year could complicate the endeavour. Because of climate change, floods of this magnitude or higher will happen 13 increasing frequency.

Last year's resurrection hadn't been the lake's first return 14 the 1800s. It had happened multiple times. This landscape has always been one of lakes and wetlands while the current irrigated agriculture is just a century-long blip in this larger geologic history.

Abraham Valencia, with the office of emergency services, said: "15 unexpected snowmelt causes upstream flooding, we can expect it will soon disappear again." In March this year, a reporter for *The Guardian*, Dani Anguiano, went to visit the iconic lake and encountered "sprouts of grass and thick mud". Less than a year after its revival, Tulare Lake had shrunk to 2,625 acres. The process hasn't stopped. In other words, the lake is nearly gone.

(Adapted from www.indy100.com/science-tech/tulare-lake-2024-2669365399)



Example:

0. the

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

Read the text below and write the correct form of the verbs in brackets in the spaces provided. There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

It was not good news. Last spring my husband **_0_ (RETURN)** from the vet with a grave expression while Woody, our four-year-old British shorthair, shook off the indignation of a journey in his cat carrier. My husband reassured me that Woody was not ill and he **_1_ (NOT ATTACK)** the vet. He was, however, officially “chubby”. He had reached almost 6 kg. “The vet,” my husband said, “has prescribed a diet.”

We humanise Woody often, usually in the context of food and drink. Woody would appreciate red wine and always opt for the cheese course. Woody would never, ever share dessert. If Woody 2 (BE) a human, he would be a grumpy English gentleman who dressed in tweed and did not rouse before eleven. In other words, Woody wouldn't be a person inclined to diet.

But diet he must. We were advised to reduce Woody's food by a third and cut out treats entirely. This **_3_ (SURELY / ADD)** to a list of recent ills we had imposed upon him, the most grievous of which had been procreation. On the two occasions we had brought home small, wailing human beings, Woody had sniffed them. **4 (TURN)** to us with a look of abject disgust.

The diet began. “I’m sorry, Woods,” we would say, saving half a tin of food for later. “It’s for your own good.” **_5_ (PRESENT)** with dry food for breakfast, Woody stared at us in bewilderment. It was the face of a man who had been served a cereal bar instead of a croissant.

For a few weeks, it seemed things were going rather well. Woody was looking leaner, albeit furious; he no longer deigned to sleep in our bed. It 6_ (MUST / BE) around this time, stewing on his cat tree, that he hatched his plan: “Unless you 7_ (PROVIDE) me with food worthy of my station, I will have to take it. Even better: I will take it from the slower, more vulnerable members of the household.”

Indeed, he would take it from the children.

His first conquest was a Weetabix. As I manoeuvred a grumpy toddler into his high chair, Woody **8** **(GRAB)** the chance. My son was ready to eat and, inevitably, impatient. I turned for the bowl but the bowl was full of Woody's face. He had annihilated the cereal and the milk. He had left us only the banana.

And so **_9_ (BEGIN)** his campaign of terror. I remember a time when we would put food out on the counter and simply leave the room, safe in the knowledge that it would be there when we returned. Not any more. **_10_ (EAT)** within minutes, a wheel of soft cheese suddenly became a distant memory. Woody took a very, very small bite from every single slice of a loaf of bread. Only vegetables, it seemed, were safe.

Six months after the vet's indictment we went back. Expectations were low. Sure enough, Woody _11_ (NOT LOSE) any weight. "But then again, he _12_ (NOT GAIN) weight since we last saw the vet either," my husband said.

In response, Woody **_13_ (COMMIT)** his most serious theft yet. The toddler had just sat down for his morning pancake when he announced he needed a wee. In his haste, my husband failed to hide the pancake in a cupboard. When they returned, the pancake had disappeared. Woody sat on the table, unrepentant. It was, of course, the final pancake of the packet. After quite some tears, the toddler decided that he **_14_ (ACCEPT)** a crumpet and forgive Woody. But toddlers do not forget. “Woody snatched my pancake,” he kept saying – to us, to grandparents, to strangers in the supermarket – for several weeks afterwards.

More importantly, has Woody forgiven us? In recent nights, he has crept back into the bedroom, his warm weight settling between us. I suspect he is buoyed by the arrival of the festive season and the many opportunities it will bring. Woody has been summoned to the vet in January – a time of year when nobody really wished **_15_ (WEIGH)** – and so the stakes remain high. In the meantime, we explain endlessly and stupidly that his diet is only a form of caring, and that caring, as usual, is an expression of love.



Example:

0. returned

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____



Pagina vuota



Pagina vuota



Pagina vuota