Codice del candidato:


## Comprensione di testi scritti

## Sabato, 31 maggio 2014 / 60 minuti

Materiali e sussidi consentiti:
Al candidato sono consentiti I'uso della penna stilografica o della penna a sfera e la consultazione dei dizionari monolingue e bilingue.
Al candidato vengono consegnate due schede di valutazione.

## MATURITÀ PROFESSIONALE

## 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 e sulle due schede di valutazione.

La prova d'esame si compone di 4 esercizi, risolvendo correttamente i quali potete conseguire fino a un massimo di 30 punti. Il punteggio conseguibile in ciascun esercizio è di volta in volta espressamente indicato.

Scrivete le vostre risposte negli spazi appositamente previsti all'interno della prova utilizzando la penna stilografica o la penna a sfera. Scrivete in modo leggibile: in caso di errore, tracciate un segno sulla risposta scorretta e scrivete accanto a 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.

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## Esercizio 1: Quesiti a risposta breve

## Leggete il testo e eseguite l'esercizio.

## It's a farm favourite: Muddy fields and smelly animals on the perfect family break in Devon

By William Cook



Before I became a dad, a week on a working farm in Devon would have been the last sort of holiday I would have chosen. My idea of a perfect break was a plush foreign hotel with round-the-clock room service, not a load of smelly animals standing around in muddy fields.

So how did I end up here, at West Middlewick Farm, ankle-deep in cow poo, having the time of my life? As usual, I blame my children. My eight-year-old daughter, Thea, has always adored animals. She dreams of running her own farm, and when I found a place in Devon that gave kids a chance to muck in with all the farmyard jobs, she couldn't wait to go.

We spent a weekend there last year, just the two of us, and had a great time, so this summer we booked a week for all four of us.

My wife, Sophie, was slightly apprehensive, especially about our 12-year-old son, Edward (he doesn't really share my daughter's love of animals), but she needn't have worried - it was the nicest holiday we'd had in years.
Arriving at West Middlewick, our first impressions were fairly underwhelming: a few rudimentary barns and cowsheds, just an ordinary, everyday dairy farm. There are no rides or attractions - this is a place of work, not a theme park.

My son was nervous of the hens at first but he soon got the hang of it, and it was wonderful to see our daughter herding cattle across the lush green fields as if she'd been doing it for years.

We stayed in one of these log cabins, feasting on freshly laid eggs, scrumptious pork and apple burgers (sorry, pigs) and rich vanilla ice cream (thank you, cows), all fresh from the farm.

It was more homely than our house in London, and the uninterrupted view, in both directions, across rolling fields towards Dartmoor and Exmoor, was divine. OK, we were lucky with the weather, but even on our (one) rainy day, our cabin was snug and cosy, and there was plenty to do around the farm.

I never thought I'd end up saying this, but I think we'll be back on the farm again next year.

Rispondete alle seguenti domande. In ciascuna risposta potete inserire solo una delle seguenti parole: William, Sophie, Thea, Edward, everyone.

## Example:

0. Who used to believe that vacation should be spent at a fancy hotel abroad?

William

1. Who has always loved animals?
$\qquad$
2. Who would like to operate a farm in the future?
$\qquad$
3. Who was worried about a family member spending time on the farm?
$\qquad$
4. Who was not very excited after arriving at the farm?
$\qquad$
5. Who was initially anxious about the chickens?
$\qquad$
6. Who learned how to move groups of animals around the farm?
$\qquad$
7. Who enjoyed fresh farm food?

## Esercizio 2: Completamento

Leggete il testo e eseguite l'esercizio.

## The secret of how to live longer

Nick Clark, 3 July 2012

A group of scientists is developing a treatment to combat the "disease" of ageing. They aim to keep people younger for longer __0_, which share 60 per cent of human genes and age in remarkably similar ways.


The Institute of Health Ageing at University College London is studying genetics and lifestyle factors, particularly diet, to develop treatments to fight ageing. It is showing its research as part of this year's Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition, __8_.

The show reveals a range of fresh research to the public from some of Britain's finest scientific minds.

Matthew Piper, __9_ of the team working at the institute, said that if they discovered the genes involved with ageing, they should be able to delay ageing itself.

The scientists have been using special diets and drug treatments to prolong healthy lifespan in flies and mice. They say the results indicate such treatments might have beneficial effects for humans. However, the field, __10__, is "all theoretical at the moment", Dr Piper added that there was no timeline on when it could be used for humans.

The team argues the treatments will also tackle age-related diseases, such as $\qquad$ 11 _.

Dr Piper is taking the new approach of viewing these chronic illnesses as being symptoms of a common problem: ageing itself. If ageing can be treated, we can probably cancel out the diseases that come with it. It's not just about living longer, __ 12 .

The research is carried out studying yeast, worms and flies. Fruit flies age in a similar way to humans. "It's very easy to spot how old flies react. They fall over a lot, $\qquad$ 13 $\qquad$ they eat less, and their memory declines. These are all associated with human ageing," Dr Piper said.

The scientists have successfully extended the life of organisms in the lab by mutating single genes and have shown they can lessen the effects of a mutation which can cause Alzheimer's. Another way to extend life is to target the diet. Dr Piper claims that if you reduce the diet of a rat by 40 per cent, _14_. So in that way they would be adding 20 years to a person's life.

Another Royal Society exhibit will explain how facial features are determined by genetic make-up and why a child __15__ or a mouth like their mother. A team from the University of Leicester is also studying genetics to see if some smokers are predisposed to a higher level of lung disease.

The exhibits include the dynamics of avalanches; studies of undiagnosed cardiac conditions; the science of laughing; and genetically modifying mosquitoes. There is even a team of robots designed to play football.

Collocate le frasi (A-K) nei punti a essi corrispondenti (8-15) del testo The secret of how to live longer. Due frasi sono di troppo. Scrivete le risposte sulle linee numerate.

## Example:

0 . $\qquad$
8. $\qquad$

A they don't walk as fast
9. $\qquad$
B may have a hand like their father
10. $\qquad$
C one of the key members
10.

D which is only 10 years old
11. $\qquad$ E may have a nose like their father
F it's about living healthy
12. $\qquad$
G it will live for 20 or 30 per cent longer
13. $\qquad$ H which starts today
14. $\qquad$ I they run every day
$\perp$ by studying fruit flies
15.

K cardiovascular conditions, cancer and neurodegeneration

## Esercizio 3: Quesiti a scelta multipla

## Leggete il testo e eseguite l'esercizio.

## Vincent van Gogh did not kill himself, authors claim

## Vincent van Gogh did not kill himself, the authors of new biography Van Gogh: The Life have claimed.

Steven Naifeh and Gregory Smith say that, contrary to popular belief, it was more likely he was shot accidentally by two boys he knew who had "a malfunctioning gun". The authors came to their conclusion after 10 years of study with more than 20 translators and researchers.

The Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam called the claim "dramatic" and "intriguing". In a statement, however, curator Leo Jansen said "plenty of questions remain unanswered" and that it would be "premature to rule out suicide". He added that the new claims would "generate a great deal of discussion".

Van Gogh died in Auvers-sur-Oise, France, in 1890 aged 37. The Dutch master had been staying at the Auberge Ravoux inn from where he would walk to local wheat fields to paint. It has long been thought that he shot himself in a wheat field before returning to the inn where he later died.

But author Steven Naifeh said it was very clear to us that he did not go into the wheat fields with the intention of shooting himself. The accepted understanding of what happened in Auvers among the people who knew him was that he was killed accidentally by a couple of boys and he decided to protect them by accepting the blame.

He said that renowned art historian John Rewald had recorded that version of events when he visited Auvers in the 1930s and other details were found that corroborated the theory. They include the assertion that the bullet entered Van Gogh's upper abdomen from an oblique angle not straight on as might be expected from a suicide. These two boys, one of whom was wearing a cowboy outfit and had a
malfunctioning gun that he played cowboy with, were known to go drinking at that hour of day with Vincent. So you have a couple of teenagers who have a malfunctioning gun, you have a boy who likes to play cowboy, you have three people probably all of whom had too much to drink. He said accidental homicide was far more likely.
"It's really hard to imagine that if either of these two boys was the one holding the gun - which is probably more likely than not - it's very hard to imagine that they really intended to kill this painter."

Other revelations claimed by the authors include that Van Gogh's family tried to commit Vincent to a mental asylum long before his voluntary confinement later or that Van Gogh fought so furiously with his parson father that some of his family accused him of killing Vincent or that Van Gogh's affliction, viewed as a mix of mania and depression, was a result of a form of epilepsy.

Gregory Smith, meanwhile, said Van Gogh did not "actively seek death but that when it came to him, or when it presented itself as a possibility, he embraced it". He said Van Gogh's acceptance of death was "really done as an act of love to his brother, to whom he was a burden". He said Van Gogh's brother, Theo, was funding the artist who, at that time, "wasn't selling". Gregory Smith said the biography, published on Monday, helped to give a greater understanding of a "frail and flawed figure" and that his art would be seen "as even more of an achievement".

Thousands of previously untranslated letters written by the artist were among documents studied by the authors to create a research database containing 28,000 notes.

Cerchiate le lettere che precedono i completamenti corretti per ciascuna delle seguenti affermazioni riguardanti il testo Vincent van Gogh did not kill himself ... . Per ogni affermazione è possibile dare solo una risposta.

## Example:

0. Naifeh and Smith claim that

A Van Gogh shot two boys.
B Van Gogh had a broken gun.
(C) Van Gogh's death was accidental.

D Van Gogh's homicide was premeditated.
16. The curator Jansen stated that the new findings
A would start a debate.
B would prevent a debate.
C were misleading.
D were conclusive.
17. Van Gogh died

A while painting his self-portrait.
B while taking a relaxing walk.
C in the tavern where he was staying.
D in the local wheat fields.
18. Van Gogh 's acquaintances in Auvers

A claimed Van Gogh's death wasn't researched.
B thought Van Gogh's death wasn't planned.

C believed Van Gogh committed suicide.
D stated Van Gogh was intentionally murdered.
19. According to Rewald, Van Gogh's death was the result of

A misfortunate circumstances.
B carefully planned actions.
C self-destructive tendencies.
D early morning drinking.
20. The authors believe that Van Gogh

A was forced to enter the asylum.
B was held in the asylum.
C willingly entered the asylum.
D never went to the asylum.
21. Smith claims that Van Gogh's brother Theo

A was a successful painter.
B never supported Van Gogh.
C was Van Gogh's financial supporter.
D was a burden to Van Gogh.
22. Naifeh and Smith based Van Gogh's biography

A on different rumours.
B on Van Gogh's letters.
C on Rewald's findings.
D on thorough research.


## Esercizio 4: Abbinamento

Leggete il testo e eseguite l'esercizio.

## Parents fined in crackdown on pupils playing truant

A Parents in the South Wales Valleys are being fined up to $£ 350$ in court as part of a crackdown on poor attendance and truancy in schools.

B Six people have been brought before magistrates for allowing their children to miss school since Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT) council launched its campaign in March. Prolonged pupil absence cost the parents a total of $£ 1,605$ in fines ranging from $£ 35$ to $£ 350$ - along with costs and surcharges.


C RCT is consistently ranked among the worst local authorities in Wales for school attendance and figures revealed last month showed that for every 12 years of schooling, the average pupil only attends for 11.

D It comes as the Westminster Government considers plans to cut child benefits from parents in England who do not ensure their children attend school.

E Behaviour tsar Charlie Taylor, commissioned by Education Secretary Michael Gove to look at the growing issue of school attendance, believes the current system of penalty notices is ineffective. Mr Gove and Prime Minister David Cameron have both expressed support for tougher sanctions on persistent truancy through the benefits system.

F Although education is devolved to Wales, changes introduced in Whitehall could dictate the direction of the Welsh Government, which said it would consider the implications of Mr Taylor's recommendations if they were approved.

G However, Owen Hathway, of NUT Wales, warned against "financial punishment" and said: "Deducting money from child benefit will simply create a whole new set of problems. There will be questions around families where one child may be truant but other children are attending school regularly. Parents need to be part of the solution and not be further alienated from the education of their children."

H Dr Philip Dixon, director of ATL Cymru, added: "We know that lack of attendance stems from a variety of complex issues: health of parents and child, bullying, and the like. We also know there are strong correlations between attendance and poverty.

I "Cutting benefits in this way would impact most on the children concerned and reinforce the impact that poverty has on them. It would also place heads in an invidious position." The Welsh Government said it had held meetings to discuss their performance on school attendance and behaviour.

Abbinate le seguenti definizioni alle parole a esse corrispondenti e contenute in ciascun paragrafo del Parents fined in crackdown on pupils playing truant. A ogni definizione corrisponde una sola parola.

## Example:

| 0. | the practice of staying away from school without permission (par. A) | truancy |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |


| 23. | the occasion or period of time when somebody is away (par. B) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 24. | the act of being present at a place (par. C) |  |
| 25. | money provided by the government to people who need financial help (par. D) |  |
| 26. | an important topic that people are discussing or arguing about (par. E) |  |
| 27. | suggestions about the best thing to do (par. F) |  |
| 28. | the answer to a problem (par. G) |  |
| 29. | the state of being poor, lacking money (par. H) |  |
| 30. | the group of people responsible for controlling a country (par. I) |  |

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