

KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

مملكة البحرين

EDUCATION & TRAINING QUALITY AUTHORITY

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Grade 12 National Examinations

الامتحانات الوطنية للصف الثاني عشر

ENGLISH 2026

امتحان اللغة الإنجليزية ٢٠٢٦

Paper 2 Listening and Reading

الورقة ٢ الاستماع والقراءة

Duration: 90 minutes

مدة الامتحان: ٩٠ دقيقة

Read the following instructions:

Answer **all** the questions on the answer sheet.

Read the instructions on the answer sheet.

Use **pencil** only.

The use of dictionaries is NOT permitted during the exam.

You must complete the answer sheet within the time limit.

At the end of the test, hand in both question paper and your answer sheet.

This document consists of **15** printed pages and **1** blank page.

Listening

Part 1

Questions 1 – 8

You will hear a series of four short extracts.

For each extract there are two questions.

Choose the correct letter **A**, **B** or **C**.

Example

You hear a man talking about winning a competition.

0 What kind of child was the speaker?

A He was jealous.

B He was lonely.

☒ **C** He was shy.

Who inspired the speaker to develop his talent?

A his father

☒ **B** his teacher

C his friend

Extract 1

You hear Mary leaving a voice note for Fatima.

- 1 Mary can't go to the cinema because she has to
- A entertain guests.
 - B look after her sister.
 - C buy things for her mother.
- 2 Which day does she suggest going to the cinema instead?
- A Tuesday
 - B Wednesday
 - C Friday

Extract 2

You hear a speaker welcoming students to a competition.

- 3 What kind of competition is it?
- A a spelling competition
 - B an essay competition
 - C a poetry competition
- 4 Who can participate in the competition?
- A under 16-year-olds
 - B only 16-year-olds
 - C over 16-year-olds

Extract 3

You hear a headteacher talking to students.

- 5** When will the semester finish?
- A** on the 8th
 - B** on the 9th
 - C** on the 10th
- 6** Which classes can students attend during the holiday?
- A** acting
 - B** singing
 - C** drawing

Extract 4

You hear a brother talking to his sister about their mother's birthday.

- 7** What present does he decide on?
- A** a silver bracelet
 - B** a nature painting
 - C** a pretty vase
- 8** Their mother prefers reading books based on
- A** the future.
 - B** real people.
 - C** love stories.

[8 marks]

Part 2**Questions 9 – 14**

You will hear part of a radio interview with the author Oscar Robbins.

Choose the correct letter **A**, **B** or **C**.

Example

0 When Oscar Robbins was young, he was employed as

A a worker.

B a sailor.

☒ **C** a fishmonger.

9 Why does Oscar think he became rich and famous?

A He worked very hard.

B He had an amazing story.

C He met the right person.

10 Children believe Oscar's stories because he makes

A objects dance.

B vehicles think.

C animals talk.

11 How does Oscar succeed in protecting his personal life?

A He uses different nicknames.

B He disguises his appearance.

C He moves from place to place.

- 12** Oscar got his first million dollars in
- A** 2018.
 - B** 2017.
 - C** 2016.
- 13** Besides being a writer, Oscar is a
- A** film director.
 - B** sales representative.
 - C** children's ambassador.
- 14** Oscar's advice to be a successful writer is to
- A** find a publisher for your stories.
 - B** keep writing your stories till you succeed.
 - C** be creative and imaginative in your stories.

[6 marks]

Remember to copy your answers onto the answer sheet.

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Reading

Part 3

Questions 15 – 20

Read the texts by four students about summer courses they did.

Match the information in each question (15 - 20) to one of the texts (A - D).

Choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

There is an example (0) at the beginning.

Which student

Example

- | | | |
|----|--|----------------|
| 0 | would not hesitate to do another such course right away? | A B C D |
| 15 | benefited from assistance received from fellow students who had done the course? | A B C D |
| 16 | did much better in the course than what was expected? | A B C D |
| 17 | was given a lot of academic backup by the teaching staff? | A B C D |
| 18 | managed to reach the end of the course by using a laptop? | A B C D |
| 19 | had other plans for the summer before doing the course? | A B C D |
| 20 | was able to succeed in the course without doing a test? | A B C D |

[6 marks]

Summer Courses**A**

My course gave me something productive to do in the holidays, although it was disappointing not to do it online. I struggled to keep up with other students despite their efforts to be cooperative. My grades were lower than my expectations. Even though I worked hard and received constant professional support from tutors. I believe I would have done better working on my laptop!

B

After my dream trip to Turkey was cancelled, the only thing that encouraged me was my instructor and the thought of the certificate. I was lucky that all I had to do was a project. Fortunately, my parents rewarded me with a new laptop on completing the course. Some of my colleagues are trying to persuade me to do the next course, but I'm not sure.

C

My course didn't give me exactly what I expected. Occasionally, a teacher tried to help me academically. It was no use. Almost all of the time I worked alone on my laptop. This certainly increased my marks enough to succeed which is all I wanted. Thanks to helpful former students, the exam questions were familiar. I was glad when the course was over.

D

I wouldn't have done this course because I don't like studying in the holidays and prefer to play sports. However, my classmates were very enthusiastic and inspired me to do well in the final test. Although I am not hard-working, I somehow achieved a good result that was beyond my dreams. Now I can't wait to start the next course.

Part 4**Questions 21 – 25**

Read the article about how to write a good CV.

Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **(A – F)** the one which fits each gap **(21 – 25)**.

There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

There is an example **(0)** at the beginning.

What Makes an Effective CV?

Example

CV writing is not an exact science, and opinion varies as to what works and what doesn't. However, some basic principles of the art of CV writing are true no matter what. **(0)** ____ **G** _____. Really, you're trying to get an employer interested. Remember you are in competition with 1000's of others. Beating them is your aim.

First impressions are important. **(21)** _____. Employers and job agencies prefer an attractive and easy to read CV. If you're unsure of how to design a CV, check examples online to get some useful ideas. Another point to note is to get as much information about the job as possible. The CV should be 100% relevant to the job's requirements. Including everything the job asks for increases your chances.

The person reading your CV is likely to be busy, so keep your CV short. However, leave yourself enough room to demonstrate your potential. **(22)** _____. On the other hand, not giving enough details regarding experience, skills and achievements won't give you the result you're after either.

A good CV tells a story. **(23)** _____. You need to grab the employer at the start of your CV with your achievements and how you've developed. Always remember that somebody is reading about your journey. The main section should back up your skills and demonstrate how you've progressed.

Information such as education, hobbies and interests are important, although employers give far more attention to work history at this stage. **(24)** _____. Will your CV raise their interest, and will it win you an interview?

It's also important to get someone else to read your CV thoroughly to check for any errors. Make sure that you punctuate the text correctly, using commas and full stops where appropriate. **(25)** _____. The purpose of your CV is 'to raise interest and get you to the interview stage'. Fill it with positive information, but don't confuse the reader with too much detail.

- A** It needs a beginning, a middle and an end.
- B** However, this could make a big difference to the reader.
- C** But most importantly, never forget why you are doing this.
- D** Too many pages of information will put the employer off!
- E** Make sure that your CV layout is good, so it isn't rejected straight away!
- F** If something doesn't relate to the job you are applying for, then leave it out.
- G** It must be a sales brochure rather than the story of your life.

[5 marks]

Part 5**Questions 26 – 30**

Read the text about foxes.

Choose the correct answer **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.

There is an example **(0)** at the beginning.

The Life of Foxes

Foxes and wolves both belong to the dog family although they have different characteristics. Unlike wolves, foxes do not travel in groups, called packs. Many people believe they live alone because they move about, hunt and feed independently. However, they occasionally meet other foxes and play together for a while before moving on.

Weighing from five to ten kilograms, foxes are generally smaller than most dogs. They have light bodies, long, thin legs and pointed noses. It is their tails that distinguish them from other foxes. Foxes reach speeds of up to 48 kilometres per hour, which helps them catch their food and escape from danger. Although their eyes are adaptable and switch to night vision when hunting in the dark, they also need their strong sense of smell to locate their victims. Depending on the season, the length and thickness of a fox's fur varies.

Foxes are found on every continent apart from Antarctica. Their natural environment varies from forests, grasslands and mountains to deserts. Nowadays they are seen in human environments such as farms, the suburbs of towns and cities, and even large urban areas. Foxes dig their homes, called dens, where they rest and breed. There are several exits, so foxes can run away in an emergency. Their adaptability has earned them a reputation for being remarkably clever. Their flexible diet, enabling them to survive on whatever food is available, means they can live almost anywhere.

A fox hunts alone and marks out its large hunting territory which can be anywhere from 4 to 8 square kilometers. This is to satisfy the feeding needs of the fox and his family. While continuously searching its territory for food, a fox must fight other foxes entering its land. When hunters enter a fox's territory, it escapes through lots of tunnels it has made under the ground. These tunnels are also used to save spare meals.

Female foxes have between four and six babies a year. When raising their young, foxes live with their families underground. It takes seven months before young foxes leave home to hunt and sleep alone. Baby foxes are born blind and deaf, without teeth and
28 unable to walk. They remain that way for approximately nine days. During **that time**, they stay with their mother while the father fox brings them food. After one month, the babies start emerging from their homes. When they begin to grow older, the mother brings live animals to teach the young foxes to hunt. Eventually, the babies learn survival skills by watching their parents.

So why do people in Britain hunt foxes? This custom started in the 16th century when farmers used dogs to catch foxes as a practical way to protect their animals. By the 17th century, foxhunting had replaced deer hunting as the fashionable hobby for rich people. It became more accessible throughout the 19th century when trains allowed more people to visit the countryside. Some European countries banned the sport because people believed it to be cruel. However, in Britain foxhunting remained popular into the 20th century.

Example

0 Which of the following words best describes the common behaviour of foxes?

- A** lonely
- B** playful
- C** social
- D** individual

26 Which of the following statements is true about foxes?

- A** Their fur remains the same throughout the year.
- B** Their size is similar to their domestic relatives.
- C** They are fast runners and good hunters.
- D** They can't see well in the dark.

27 What makes foxes highly adaptable to various environments?

- A** They feed on a variety of food from different sources.
- B** They dig homes with multiple ways out for quick escape.
- C** They live in both natural and human-made environments.
- D** They are known to be exceptionally intelligent.

28 Foxes mark their hunting area to

- A** store food underground.
- B** protect their homes.
- C** hide from their enemies.
- D** establish a broad feeding area.

- 29** In line 28, what does "**that time**" refer to?
- A** The period when the parents teach the young foxes survival skills.
 - B** The days when the baby foxes are unable to see, hear or walk.
 - C** The time when the baby foxes begin to come out of their homes.
 - D** The period when the father fox brings food to the family.
- 30** When did fox hunting become a leisure activity in the UK?
- A** in the 16th century
 - B** in the 17th century
 - C** in the 19th century
 - D** in the 20th century

[5 marks]

Remember to copy your answers onto the answer sheet.

ENG12/02

ENGLISH 2026

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الورقة ٢ الاستماع والقراءة

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