FIRST YEAR EXAM PREPARATION AND PRACTICE

READING AND WRITING (ERROR CORRECTION)

B1 – FIRST YEAR ENGLISH (FIRST LANGUAGE)

BOTSFORD/BOYD
The following text comes from a student's essay. On each numbered line there is ONE error of grammar, word order, vocabulary or spelling. There are no punctuation mistakes. Find the mistake on each numbered line, UNDERLINE it and WRITE the correction in the space provided to the right of the text.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>My name's Rosaria Mangiagatti and I'm from Fondi, a small town of Lazio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>I live in a flat in the centre of the town with my family. There are five persons in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>my family – my mother, my father, my two brothers and myself. My mother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>name is Laura and she's a teacher. My father's name is Pietro and he is also</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>teacher. My brothers' names are Luigi and Gian Franco. They are more young than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>me and they are both still at the school. We have got a dog called Flash.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>I am 19 years and I am a student at the Third University of Rome. I'm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>study English and French. I have been studying English for 3 years but my</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>English is not very good. I speak French enough well.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>I don't have very free time, but I like dancing and playing the guitar. I go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>to dance classes twice a week. I also like go to the cinema and to the disco.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>I haven't a boyfriend at the moment. I went out with a boy called Massimo for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>three years but we have split up two months ago. So I'm free!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>In the summer I'm going to the USA for visit some relations but apart from that I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>haven't got any plans for the future. I just want get my degree and find a job.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following text comes from a student's essay. On each numbered line there is ONE error of grammar, word order, vocabulary or spelling. There are no punctuation mistakes. Find the mistake on each numbered line, UNDERLINE it and WRITE the correction in the space provided to the right of the text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line</th>
<th>Original Text</th>
<th>Correction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>My boyfriend's name is Francesco. He's 22 years but he's</td>
<td>My boyfriend's name is Francesco. He's 22 years old but he's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>quite mature for his age. He works for 3 years in a bank.</td>
<td>quite mature for his age. He has worked for 3 years in a bank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Our relationship has begun two years ago and now I know</td>
<td>Our relationship began two years ago and now I know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>him very well, but I must to be frank, at first I was only</td>
<td>him very well, but I must be frank, at first I was only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>interested in his looks. He has black short hair and brown</td>
<td>interested in his looks. He has black short hair and brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>eyes. He isn't very tall but he's more tall than me. I don't</td>
<td>He isn't very tall but he's more tall than me. I don't</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>think is particularly good-looking, but he has something</td>
<td>think is particularly good-looking, but he has something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>that make him a special person to me.</td>
<td>that make him a special person to me.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>He has a character very complex. He's usually very sweet</td>
<td>He has a character very complex. He's usually very sweet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>and kind to me and always listens my problems but he gets</td>
<td>and kind to me and always listens to my problems but he gets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>hungry very quickly, especially with his parents. This is</td>
<td>hungry very quickly, especially with his parents. This is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>because he has a stressful work and he is always tired.</td>
<td>because he has a stressful work and he is always tired.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>He's generous to everyone he knows, but sometime he's</td>
<td>He's generous to everyone he knows, but sometimes he's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>too much generous and his friends take advantage of him.</td>
<td>too much generous and his friends take advantage of him.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>But the worse thing about Francesco is his jealousy. If I</td>
<td>But the worse thing about Francesco is his jealousy. If I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>just look at another man he goes mad. He would like marry</td>
<td>just look at another man he goes mad. He would like to marry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>me, but I say him that I'll only marry him if he learns to trust me</td>
<td>me, but I say to him that I'll only marry him if he learns to trust me</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ERROR CORRECTION EXERCISE 3**

The following text comes from a student's essay. On each numbered line there is ONE error of grammar, word order, vocabulary or spelling. There are no punctuation mistakes. Find the mistake on each numbered line, UNDERLINE it and WRITE the correction in the space provided to the right of the text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MY FIRST JOB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am only 19 years, so I have not had much experience of work, but</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>last year I have worked for two days at a trade fair in Rome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 My brother work for a big company in Rome that makes tractors and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 other agricultural equipment and he said me that his company was</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 looking for young women to work like sales representatives at the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 trade fair. He asked me if I would like apply for the job. I said that I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 would, and the next day I went to the company for an interview.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 The interview has been very strange because the interviewers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 not ask me questions about my school, or my work experience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 They only asked me questions like this: ‘How tall you are? How much do you weigh?’ I was very surprised by these questions but</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 I really wanted have the job, so I answered them very politely.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 A few days later, the company telephoned me and offered me the job. They said that I should arrive to the fair at 7am the next day and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 go directly to the company’s stand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 The next morning I went to the stand, where I met other two girls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Then arrived the company person and he gave us all bikinis and told us to put on them. Our job was to lie on the tractors in sexy poses. I was very angry and refused to do it so that was the end of my first job!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some of the lines in this letter contain a word that shouldn’t be there. Write the word in the column on the left. Other lines are correct. Put a tick (v) against the lines which are correct.

Dear Carlo,

I’m very sorry I couldn’t come to the your leaving party last night, but I had a terrible stomach ache so I went to the doctor’s. I had to wait two hours for to see her because a lot of other people were there, but the doctor gave to me some medicine and I feel fine now.

I hope you like your new job when you will get back to Italy. When you have a time please write and give me your new address so I can write to you. I would like that to keep in touch with you.

I think we all enjoyed our English class and I hope we have been all passed the exam. However, I don’t think of Jorge wanted to pass the exam because he wants to stay in London with his new girlfriend, Maria. If he fails the exam, and his company will pay for him to stay at the school and take the exam again. He said me he was in love!

I’m going to stay in London for two more weeks so I can to visit all the places I haven’t seen yet. Then I’m going to go back to Moscow.

I hope you have had a great party yesterday and I hope we can meet again some day in the future. I’ll miss everyone which I met at the school but it’ll be much nice to see my home and family again.

| 1. the       |
| 2. v         |
| 3. for       |
| 4.           |
| 5.           |
| 6.           |
| 7.           |
| 8.           |
| 9.           |
| 10.          |
| 11.          |
| 12.          |
| 13.          |
| 14.          |
| 15.          |
| 16.          |
| 17.          |
The following text comes from a student's essay. Some of the lines in this letter contain a word that shouldn’t be there. Write the word in the column on the left. Other lines are correct. Put a tick (✓) against the lines which are correct.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>I was about five years old. It was very late at the night and my parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>were asleep. I was awake because of I wanted to go to the toilet. I went</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>to the toilet and I saw a light under the living room door. So I have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>opened the door and went in, and I saw a man in the living room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>I looked at him, and he looked at me, and he smiled at me and said,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>“Hi! What’s your name?” And I said him, “Sam”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>“Do you want to play a game, Sam?” he asked to me, and I said, “Yes.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>He had a big bag in his hand, and he said, “Let’s to put things in this.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>So we played the game. I gave things to him, and he put them in his bag.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>I took my father’s wallet out of his jacket, and I took also my mother’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>purse out of her coat, and the man put both them in his bag.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Then I went into my parents’ bedroom very much quietly and took their</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>watches and rings, and my mother’s earrings, and gave them to the man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>I gave to him some other things too – our silver knives, forks and spoons,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>two clocks and a lots of old books – and he put everything in his bag.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>And in the end he said, “OK, Sam. It’s bedtime. You go back to the bed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Now. Goodnight.” So I said goodnight and after I went back to bed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following text comes from a student’s essay. Some of the lines in this letter contain a word that shouldn’t be there. Write the word in the column on the left. Other lines are correct. Put a tick (v) against the lines which are correct.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Here is some advice on how to eat the spaghetti by Antonio Carluccio.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>My first memory of eating pasta is how much I loved to sucking strings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>of spaghetti into my mouth. My mother told to me this wasn’t polite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>When I have used a spoon to get the spaghetti around the fork, she told</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>me not to do. But apart from these basic rules, eating spaghetti is easy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>First, only use a spoon if the pasta is in a soup or if it is very small pasta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>in a sauce. For long thin pasta you have must to be more careful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>If you’re eating spaghetti, should mix it with the sauce. If all the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>spaghetti is coated in sauce, it is more easier to lift a few strings at a time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Then push the pasta to the side of your plate to make space. Turn the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>fork so you have a mouthful on it which it is not to big. When the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>forkful is tidy, put it into your mouth. Don’t let the spaghetti hang out.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>You must never cut pasta with a knife. If you want, you can to break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>spaghetti in half before that you cook it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>There should not be too much of sauce. English people tend to put a lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>of sauce on their pasta but when you’ve eaten your spaghetti, the plate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>should have be almost dry Finally, don’t put cheese over a fish sauce.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following text comes from a student's essay. Some of the lines in this letter contain a word that shouldn’t be there. Write the word in the column on the left. Other lines are correct. Put a tick (v) against the lines which are correct.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Line</th>
<th>Correction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>In the late 1900s, my grandfather was been a poor young teacher in London.</td>
<td>been -&gt; been</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>He was in love with a young woman called Gwendolyn of whose family</td>
<td>of -&gt; of whose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>was quite rich. One weekend he went down to the family's large country</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>home near Lewes, because of he wanted to ask her to marry him. On his</td>
<td>because of -&gt; because</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>first night, he woke at three in the morning because he was much thirsty.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>While that he was trying to find his way to the kitchen in the darkness, he</td>
<td>that -&gt; when</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>has knocked something off a table in the corridor. Next morning he</td>
<td>has -&gt; had</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>discovered he had broken a very valuable porcelain figure, which it was the</td>
<td>which it was the -&gt; which was the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>pride and joy of Gwendolyn’s mother, Mrs Thompson. When he saw Mrs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Thompson in the morning, he told to her what had happened and she was</td>
<td>to -&gt; of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>obviously quite angry but he tried hard not to show it. He apologised to her</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>all through breakfast, and then he went into the sitting room to wait for his</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>girlfriend, who was upstairs for getting dressed. He sat down on what he</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>thought was a cushion in an armchair. When he has got up five minutes</td>
<td>has -&gt; had</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>more later he realised it was not a cushion, but the family’s Pekinese dog.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Unfortunately, by then, it was already too much late and to his horror he</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>saw it was dead. He could not face the family again and left the house</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>without seeing Gwendolyn. In the end they both married other two people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following text comes from a student's essay. Some of the lines in this letter contain a word that shouldn’t be there. Write the word in the column on the left. Other lines are correct. Put a tick (v) against the lines which are correct.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Chris Eubank, the British boxer talks about how he keeps healthy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>At the moment I’m more healthier than any man in the street. I’m fit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>again, although I had chicken pox not long ago. I have had a temperature of 102 degrees and my face was swollen. Apart from colds and flu,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>chickenpox is the only illness who I’ve had.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>When we were children my mother gave to us basic food like fish, rice,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>fresh vegetables and fruit. Junk food like the hamburgers and sweets are expensive and we couldn’t afford them. The kitchen is the most important room in the house because food is medicine. We weren’t ill when we were been young because we ate the right things.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Now I don’t eat until after three in the afternoon because I like to training on an empty stomach, but I do miss the big breakfasts I used to have.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>I began smoking when I was six years, but when I was sixteen my chest began to burn whenever I ran too much fast, so I gave it up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>My favourite drink is water or pineapple juice. I never drink alcohol.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>I don’t feel as if I’m getting old yet – I haven’t got no grey hair and my teeth are all mine.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ERROR CORRECTION EXERCISE 9

The following text comes from a student's essay. Some of the lines in this letter contain a word that shouldn’t be there. Write the word in the column on the left. Other lines are correct. Put a tick (v) against the lines which are correct.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The most famous diary in English language was written by Samuel Pepys.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>It gives a detailed and interesting account of everyday life in the England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>in 1660 and 1669. Pepys writes about the much important news stories of the time, like the Great Plague, the enemy navy sailing up the River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Thames, and the Great Fire of London. He writes also about himself too,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>even about his faults – he often slept during the sermon in the church or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>looked at the pretty girls who they were there. He describes his home life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>– he writes about an argument with his wife, and how they became friends again, and his worry about her illness. He loved to reading and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>was always buying books for his very large library. As well as books, he</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>liked the music, the theatre, card games, and parties with good food and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>a lots of fun. But although he enjoyed life, there was a serious side to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Pepys. He was a busy man who has had many important duties – he</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>was been a Member of Parliament and the President of the Royal Society. He is also remembered for his work for the British Navy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following text comes from a composition by an English schoolchild. Some of the lines in this composition contain a word that shouldn’t be there, either because it’s incorrect or because it’s in the incorrect position.

Write the word in the column on the left. Other lines are correct. Put a tick (v) against the lines which are correct. There are 4 correct lines.

The first three are examples.

**WHY MY TEACHER IS THE BEST IN BRITAIN**

| I am dyslexic, and I think the most best teacher in Britain is the teacher, | most |
| Mrs Davies, who helps me with my problems. She is the best teacher | v |
| because she understands the things what I find difficult. | what |
| She never shouts at me or tells to me I am lazy or careless if I can’t | |
| spell a word. She just shows me the my mistake and asks me if I can | |
| correct it by myself. She always gives me a lots of time to do this. | |
| Mrs Davies never laughs at me, only with me. For instance, I find | |
| it much difficult to tell the difference between a “b” and a “d” but Mrs | |
| does not never laugh at the funny mistakes I make, like writing | |
| ‘baddy’ instead of ‘daddy’. She just tries to find special ways of | |
| helping me remember the letters which give to me problems. | |
| Although Mrs Davies is very kind and patient she only praises me | |
| when the work I have do is good. If I give her a piece of work that | |
| is not very good, she doesn’t get cross but she says me that she | |
| thinks I can to do it better if I concentrate and try really hard. | |
| So when Mrs Davies says “Well done!” after that I have given | |
| her a composition or a letter, I feel really pleased because of I know | |
| she understands that I have tried really hard to do my best. | |
There is one mistake in each sentence. Find it and correct it:

1. Isn’t that your brother’s girlfriend car over there in front of John’s house?
2. My children don’t have to go to the school tomorrow as it’s a holiday.
3. I think this chocolate mousse would be more nice if you put a bit more sugar in it.
4. I wanted to buy the book but it was enough expensive so I got it out of the library instead.
5. My boyfriend doesn’t like go to the disco because he isn’t any good at dancing.
6. I have been to London in 1999 and I enjoyed myself very much.
8. My family is composed of four people, my mother, my father, my brother and myself.
9. My mother has to go to the hospital to have an operation on her leg.
10. I went to the church on Sunday because I wanted to go to Mass.
11. I want to open a window for let some fresh air into this room.
12. My husband is unemployed at the moment, but he would like a job as computer programmer.
13. I’m work in a restaurant at the moment but I’d like a more interesting job.
14. This party is really boring. I’m tired and I want go home.
15. I’m afraid we’ll have to get the bus. I haven’t the car with me.
There are two mistakes in each of the following sentences

1. It happened to me a terrible thing while I have been on holiday last summer.
2. My brother is a teacher for three years but he doesn't like her school.
3. In the morning she wake up and has the breakfast.
4. It was a film very violent and I no liked it very much.
5. The party is at the my house and will be there all my friends.
6. What you do think about these beautifuls flowers?
7. I like very much watching videos in English and I think is a good way of improving my listening comprehension.
8. I love go to foreign countries because it's interesting to know about different ways of life.
9. I waited my boyfriend for 2 hours and then it was too much late so I went home.
10. When I arrived to the airport I telephoned to my parents.
11. The dog of my friend was ill so she brought it to the vet.
12. I had a very nice travel to France and talked to a lot of interesting persons on the train.
13. He said me that he was from Fondi, a country in Lazio.
14. When I finish university I would work like an air hostess for Alitalia, but I know this is just a dream.
15. My parents don't want that I go on holiday whit my boyfriend.
There is one mistake in each sentence. Find it and correct it:

1. I have had a good time at the disco last night.
2. My English teacher lives in Italy for fifteen years.
3. Have you known your friend since a long time?
4. What will you do when you’ll finish university?
5. My husband work in an insurance agency.
6. I didn’t liked the concert very much, so I left early.
7. Where you did go last night? I looked everywhere for you.
8. He hasn’t a job at the moment but he’s looking for one.
9. I hate get up early in the morning, especially when it’s raining.
10. It’s very nice to have a little sleep after have lunch.
11. I have never tried Japanese food but I would eat it very much.
12. Do you want go to the cinema with me this evening?
13. My parents don’t want that I go on holiday by myself.
14. People in Italy must to carry an identity card with them at all times.
15. I’m afraid I don’t have the informations that you wanted.
16. I think that being a flight attendant would be a terrible work.
17. Our travel from England back to Italy was very long and tiring.
18. At the station some foreign persons were trying to find a policeman.
19. This is one of the worst disco I’ve ever been to.
20. My brother works in a shop but he hates your job and wants to find a new one.
21. I can’t stand queuing at the post office because is so boring.
22. At the party I met the boss of my mother, who is really very nice.
23. The table’s cloth was very dirty, so I changed it.
24. At the beach I couldn’t see the my family anywhere, as it was so crowded.
25. In the meantime, my parents, which were very worried, had called the police.
There is one mistake in each sentence. Find it and correct it.

1. He plays the piano enough well, but he should practise a little bit more often.
2. I always love my husband even though he is often very cruel to me.
3. It’s more sunny today than yesterday but it isn’t as windy.
4. Why are you so late? I’ve been waiting you since half past three.
5. I like listening the radio while I’m having a bath.
6. I telephoned to my parents to ask them to come and get me at the station.
7. When he arrived to the station, there was nobody there to meet him.
8. When I went in the USA last year I had such a wonderful time.
9. Gianni is the most intelligent boy of the class but he’s also the laziest.
10. I would really like to work like a flight attendant for an airline like Alitalia.
11. There were stalls selling all kinds of things as toys, sweets, Christmas decorations and so on.
12. I took my dog to the vet for have an anti-rabies injection.
13. I never usually have anything for the breakfast as I don’t like eating in the morning.
14. The man went to the prison for fifteen years for armed robbery.
15. When I leave school I would like to go to the university.
16. I went to the Vasco Rossi concert by my friend’s car.
17. The money is very important but it can’t buy you happiness.
18. The last time the Vesuvius erupted was in 1944, during World War II.
19. When people ask me what nationality I am, I say I’m an European.
20. My mother hasn’t got a job, but my father is porter in an elementary school.
21. When I go on holiday I prefer staying in an hotel to staying on a camping site.
22. What will you do if you will miss the last bus home after the party?
23. I went to Britain to work last year but I didn’t stay very long as I was been very homesick.
24. Will you stop telling me all these lies? I want that you tell me the truth!
25. I think The Dark Side of the Moon is one of Pink Floyd’s best album.
There is one mistake in each sentence. Find it and correct it.

1. I met a very good-looking young at the party, whose name was Massimo.
2. The book was much expensive so I didn’t buy it.
3. There isn’t much water left in the fridge, but there’s lot of orange juice.
4. I made a lot of stupids mistakes in the exam because I was in such a panic.
5. At the market you can buy all kind of vegetables and lots of different fruit.
6. The beach was too much crowded so we decided to go somewhere else.
7. He hasn’t gone home – he’s always there, waiting for you.
8. He isn’t enough old to go on holiday by himself, according to his parents.
9. Why don’t we go to the pizzeria on the corner? It’s more near home than the other one.
10. Can we watch something else? I already have seen this film.
11. My sister is very fatter than me and she isn’t as tall as me either.
12. I think I’ll buy this book. It’s a bit expensive but it looks enough interesting.
13. Why are you so late? I have waited for you from an hour!
14. The Fiddler’s Elbow is one of the nicest pub in Rome.
15. The travel from Rome to Milan took us more than five hours.
16. As soon as I’ll get home, I’m going to have a nice hot bath.
17. Before to go out, I watered the plants and fed the cat.
18. My parents don’t want that I go out with Fabio because they think he’s too old for me.
19. I could hardly breathe at all in the disco because was so full of cigarette smoke.
20. Last year I went to the USA on holiday and I have had such a good time!
In the first year exam you will be asked to write a descriptive or narrative composition. You will have to write between 150 and 180 words.
You will not have to write a discursive composition. (a composition where you discuss an argument)
This is a delight in store for you in the second year.

Examples:
A morning in your life.
A day in the life of a student at secondary school in your country.
A day in the life of an English teacher at Rome 3 university.
A day in the life of a prisoner.
A day in the life of a homeless person.

A week in the diary of an Italian teenager.
A week in the diary of a student at Roma 3.

Describe yourself.
Describe a person you love.
Describe a person you hate.
Describe your favourite actor/actress.
Describe the best (or the worst) teacher you had at secondary school.
Describe one of your grandparents.

Describe a holiday you had where everything went wrong.
Describe a study holiday.
Describe a film you have seen.
Describe a car (or moped/motorbike) accident you have had (or seen).
Have you ever been robbed? Describe what happened.
Describe the best meal you have ever had.
Describe your first day at university.

A ghost story.
A horror story.
An urban legend.

Finish this story: It was a cold dark night in December, and Jane was driving along a lonely country road.
BASIC RULES FOR WRITING COMPOSITIONS.

1. Use A4 paper.
2. Draw a 4 centimetre margin on the left hand side of the page.
3. Put your name and the date in the top right hand corner.
5. Write on every other line. The ‘look’ of your composition has a definite effect on the reader. A composition written in illegible handwriting on a scrappy bit of paper will have an adverse effect on the reader. On the other hand, it is normal to make mistakes, to want to change something, add something, or eliminate something. If you leave a space between the lines, you will have room to do this without making a mess. It also makes it easier for me to correct it.
6. If possible, use a computer for your homework. Never write in pencil in the exam.
7. In the exam you do not have much time to write your composition. You do not have time to do a rough copy (brutta) and then a neat copy (bella). It is better to use the time to think about what you are going to write or to proofread what you have written. It is not considered a crime if there are neat crossings out in an English composition in exam conditions. So start learning to do a one copy composition.
8. Cross out mistakes with one straight line, rather than a ‘bush’. Do not use tippex.
9. If you leave out a word, use an inverted v to indicate where the missing word should go. If you want to change the place of a word in a sentence, circle it and draw an arrow from the circle to the place where it should be.
10. Do not use ‘ dot,dot,dot’ (…….) or exclamation marks (!) except in direct speech.
11. If you divide a word at the end of a line, use a single hyphen (-) in the middle of the word. But be careful. Even native speakers do not always know where a word can be divided. If in doubt, just put the entire word on the next line.
12. When you read English, start to be aware of English punctuation. For example, in informal written English, you will see a lot of dashes but not very many semi-colons. Remember that you cannot connect two unconnected sentences with a comma. For example, My name is Giovanna, I’m a student. should be My name is Giovanna and I’m a student.
13. Divide your composition into paragraphs. A new paragraph indicates a change in subject, or a new idea or a new event. They help your reader to follow your thoughts. As a rough guide, in a composition of 180 words you should have about 3 or 4 paragraphs. Before you start writing, think about what the idea will be in each paragraph.
14. Paragraphs should have more than one sentence. Short paragraphs are unusual in English compositions and should only be used to create strong dramatic effect.
15. Indicate the start of a new paragraph by indenting (going in the space of a 4-letter word, or TAB on the computer).
16. Try and have a good first sentence and a good last sentence. These are the sentences that strike the reader the most, so make sure they are in accurate English.
17. Do not use a dictionary. There are 2 reasons for this. Firstly, you are not allowed to use a dictionary in the exam so you should train yourself to be ‘dictionary independent’. Secondly, using a bilingual dictionary tends to encourage you to translate directly from Italian, which will mean that your English will probably be very ‘Italianised’.
18. When you do compositions for homework, it is perfectly acceptable for you to copy ‘chunks’ (parts of sentences) from your course and skills material and from other material that you find on internet, for example. Learning a language is basically ‘copying’, so if you see a new phrase that you like, use it. However, don’t copy entire sentences – try to incorporate the chunks into your own sentences.
19. Remember that grammar and vocabulary mistakes are not the only mistakes there are. There are also mistakes in style. For example, words like ‘moreover’, ‘furthermore’ ‘notwithstanding’, are appropriate in a formal essay on an academic subject, but not in a composition about your boyfriend. Words like eg. or etc. are fine in a list of instructions or a scientific essay but not in a narrative composition.
20. When you have finished, read your composition with an eagle eye for mistakes. In the exam, you should leave yourself at least 5 minutes to do this. If a composition is for homework ask a classmate to proofread it for you. Mistakes that I have circled in your corrected compositions are mistakes in basic English and they are the mistakes which lose you marks.
TEXT 1
On December 22, 1980 a Saudi Arabian aircraft was flying 29,000 feet above the Persian Gulf when an explosion tore a hole in the side of the plane. The sudden decompression sucked out Samina Khatoon, aged 10, and her twin brother Ahmed. The plane immediately made an emergency landing but the search for the children was fruitless. The children’s parents thought their children were lost for ever, but three years later, they were watching television in Abu Dhabi when they saw their daughter being interviewed. The girl said she and her brother had fallen into the sea from a plane and been found by an Arab fisherman. “He thought we were a present from Heaven, and raised us as if we were his own children.”

TEXT 2
In 1984 George Veriopoulos, a Greek Orthodox priest, was preparing a dish of boiled sheep’s head when he noticed something shiny at the bottom of the sheep’s teeth. He scraped away some meat with his knife and saw gold all along the sheep’s jawbone. It turned out to be 14 carat with an estimated value of $6000. The eight-month-old sheep had been given to the priest by his brother, who had a farm in Patission, near Athens. The Greek ministry of agriculture investigated and confirmed that the story was true and they also examined the other sheep in the herd. No-one can explain how the gold got into the sheep’s mouth. George split the money he earned from the sale of the jawbone with his brother and donated his half to various good causes.

TEXT 3
Yuliya Vorobyeva, aged thirty-seven, was driving a crane in a mine in Donetsk in the Ukraine in 1978 when she received a 398 volt shock. Everybody thought she was dead but while a doctor was carrying out an autopsy two days later, he suffered a shock of a different kind when the ‘corpse’ suddenly regained consciousness. After coming to she didn’t sleep at all for six months, and then slept for three weeks and woke to find she could see right through people – literally. She was later employed at Donetsk hospital to diagnose rare illnesses, such as diseases of the pancreas.

TEXT 4
When she was a child, Marianne Atkins from New York had an imaginary friend that she used to play with. She told her parents that her little pal’s name was Betty Louty and that she lived far away. Several years later, the family went on holiday to Jamaica, and while they were strolling around a market on the island, they saw a stall with hundreds of beautiful hand made dolls. Marianne’s mother said she could have one, and the little girl finally chose a lovely black doll after looking at all of them with great care. Back in New York Marianne’s mother was washing the doll’s clothes when she discovered a label on the inside of her dress with the name: Betty Louty.

TEXT 5
On New Year’s Day 1984, Fred Simons, aged 79, was sitting on his patio in Lakewood, near Los Angeles when something crashed from the sunny sky into his backyard. To his amazement, he discovered it was a nine-inch twenty-two-pound shell of the kind used in World War II. It left a crater four feet deep in Fred’s backyard. Neighbours said that they heard a whistling sound before the shell plummeted to the ground, but no-one could see or hear a plane. A bomb squad from the sheriff’s department found that the shell contained no explosives.

TEXT 6
In July 1991 Robert Lindsey was boating on a reservoir in Green River, Wyoming with some friends and their children. A small girl fell into the water and he dived in to rescue her. While he was in the water, the boat ran over him and the outboard motor cut off three of his fingers, two of which were found and reattached. Nearly seven months later a fisherman on the lake hooked a trout. When he gutted it, he found a severed thumb in its stomach. A policeman remembered the boating incident and contacted Lindsey, who said, “As soon as I saw it, I was pretty sure it was mine.” He added, “I think I’ll probably just put it on a shelf to show people.”

TEXT 7
Edwin Robinson, from Portland, Maine, suffered a severe head injury in a road accident in 1971 and gradually lost his sight and hearing. On June 4th, 1980, he went out of his house during a thunder storm, and was struck by lightning. He was knocked out for half an hour, but he survived because he was wearing rubber-soled boots. They saved his life. While he was being rushed to hospital in an ambulance he regained consciousness and found to his delight that his central vision was back and he could hear perfectly again.
READING COMPREHENSION    STRANGE BUT TRUE

QUESTION 1
Choose the best title for each text from the list below. (NB: There are 5 extra titles) Write the letter of the title (a, b, c etc) in the space provided.

a. X-RAY VISION
b. SURPRISE IN FISH
c. SHOCK BRINGS MAN TO HIS SENSES
d. TOO VALUABLE TO EAT
e. A DOLL NAMED MARIANNE.
f. BOMB FROM THE SKY
g. A GIFT FROM GOD
h. THE WEST INDIAN PLAYMATE
i. KIDS FALL INTO BACKYARD
j. MAN’S THUMB IS REATTACHED
k. SHEEP WITH GOLD TEETH.
l. MINER STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

Text 1………Text 2………Text 3………Text 4………Text 5………Text 6………Text 7………

QUESTION 2
Below are 7 sentences which have been taken out of the texts. In the space provided, write the number of the text that the sentence comes from.

1. Five years later he was totally blind and deaf.    Text…………
2. When he had recovered from the shock, he went to have a look  Text…………
3. She would spend hours talking to her.     Text…………
4. He took it to the police       Text…………
5. They were all perfectly normal.      Text…………
6. He had taken them home.    Text…………
7. She impressed the reporter who came to interview her by telling  Text…………
   him what he had had for breakfast.

QUESTION 3 Are the following sentences true or false? Circle the right answer.

1. Samina and Ahmed were both ten years old when they fell out of the plane.  TRUE  FALSE
2. The Greek priest sold the gold jawbone and gave all the money to charity.  TRUE  FALSE
3. Yuliya got a job scanning patients’ insides.      TRUE  FALSE
4. Both Marianne’s imaginary friend and the black doll had the same name.   TRUE  FALSE
5. The shell in Fred’s backyard was later detonated by a bomb squad.   TRUE  FALSE
6. Robert’s fingers were eaten by a fish.       TRUE  FALSE
7. After he was hit by lightning, Edwin was unconscious for half an hour.   TRUE  FALSE
QUESTION 4
Below are twelve words and expressions from the text. In the text they are underlined. For each one, choose an expression from the box which has a similar meaning IN THIS CONTEXT. (NB: There are extra words in the box.)
Write the expression against the word below. The first one has been done as an example.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>behind</th>
<th>caught</th>
<th>attractive</th>
<th>plane</th>
<th>friend</th>
<th>cut</th>
<th>unsuccessful</th>
<th>waking up</th>
<th>jumped</th>
<th>quite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>restored</td>
<td>walking</td>
<td>doll</td>
<td>fell</td>
<td>going to sleep</td>
<td>ate</td>
<td>unnecessary</td>
<td>buying</td>
<td>exploded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. aircraft (Text 1)  ..........plane......
2. fruitless (Text 1)  .................
3. scraped (Text 2)  .................
4. coming to (Text 3)  .................
5. pal (Text 4)  .................
6. strolling (Text 4)  .................
7. plummeted (Text 5)  .................
8. dived (Text 6)  .................
9. hooked (Text 6)  .................
10. pretty (Text 6)  .................
11. back (Text 7)  .................

QUESTION 5 What nouns (words or phrases) do the pronouns and possessive adjectives in bold (grassetto) substitute in the text? The first two are examples.

1. He thought we were… (Text 1)  ..........the Arab fisherman
2. ..to the priest by his brother..(Text”)  ..........the priest’s…….
3. they were watching television(Text 1)  .................
4. It turned out to be… (Text 2)  .................
5. he suffered a shock.. (Text 3)  .................
6. she could have one… (Text 4)  .................
7. inside of her dress… (Text 4)  .................
8. It left a crater… (Text 5)  .................
9. As soon as I saw it… (Text 6)  .................
10. They saved his life. (Text 7)  .................
READING COMPREHENSION 2

USELESS CRIMINALS

TEXT 1
A robber at a post office in Manchester wrote his instructions on a piece of paper because he didn’t want to attract attention to himself. ‘This is a hold-up and I’ve got a gun,’ he wrote and then held up the paper for the post mistress to read.
The post mistress waited in astonishment while he scribbled, ‘Put all the money in a paper bag,’ and pushed the message across the counter. The post mistress read it and then wrote on the bottom, ‘I haven’t got a paper bag,’ and passed it back.
The bank robber was completely at a loss and fled in panic, without taking any money.

TEXT 2
Police in Sussex arrested a six-foot 20-year-old youth who tried to mug a five-foot 74-year-old woman. The youth pounced on Mrs Ethel West while she was walking past Chichester cathedral. He should have had no trouble snatching her handbag, but when Mrs West took hold of his arm, he cried, ‘Oh God! oh no! Stop!’ Encouraged by this cowardly response, Mrs West pulled his arm behind his back at which the mugger cried, ‘Oh, no, oh Christ!’ and ran away.
‘If I hadn’t been carrying my shopping, I would have thrown him to the ground,’ said Mrs West, who took a course in judo when she was younger.

TEXT 3
Dennis Newton was on trial for robbery in Oklahoma City. One of the witnesses, the manager of the store which had been robbed, was asked by the prosecuting attorney to identify the robber. When she pointed at Dennis, he jumped to his feet, accused her of lying, and said, ‘I should have blown your head off, you stupid *****!’
There was a moment of stunned silence in court. Dennis realised what he had said and added hurriedly, ‘I’d have shot you, if I’d been the robber who was there.’ The jury sentenced him to thirty years.

TEXT 4
Christopher Fleming intended to break into a Chinese takeaway in Tiverton, Devon, through the kitchen window, steal as much money from the till as possible and leave by the same route. Unfortunately for him, as he was climbing through the window, he lost his balance and fell into a huge chip fryer which was full of fat. Covered in grease, he managed to get out, and opened the till. He couldn’t find any bank notes and had to be content with £20 in coins. Jingling with loose change and with the grease congealing, he walked out of the front door straight into the arms of a policeman.

TEXT 5
A burglar, Mr J Ealey, took his dog, a pit bull terrier called Arnold, with him when he broke into a house in a Yorkshire village one night. He left the dog in the sitting room while he went upstairs to the bedroom and filled a bag with jewellery and other valuables. The owners of the house returned just as he was about to leave with his loot, so he had to make a quick getaway out of a back window and forgot about his dog.
When the police arrived, they said ‘Home, boy!’ to the dog and then followed it back to the burglar’s house, arriving only a few seconds after Mr Ealey. Arnold was given a good home while Mr Ealey was serving his 10-year sentence for burglary.

TEXT 6
Three men carrying shotguns were on their way to rob the Royal Bank of Scotland at Rothesay, when they got stuck in the revolving doors at the entrance of the bank. They had to be helped free by the staff, and, after thanking everyone, left the building sheepishly.
A few minutes later they returned and announced their intention of robbing the bank, but none of the staff believed them. When, at first, they demanded £5,000, the head cashier laughed at them, convinced that it was a practical joke. Considerably disheartened by this, the gang leader reduced his demand first to £500, then to £50 and ultimately to 50 pence. By this time the cashier was splitting her sides.
Then one of the men jumped over the counter and fell awkwardly on the floor, clutching his ankle, which he had broken. The other two made their getaway, but got trapped in the revolving doors for a second time, desperately pushing the wrong way.

TEXT 7
A Parisian burglar broke into a house in the village of Lachelle. His plan was to steal some paintings but once inside he began to feel decidedly peckish and so he went in search of the fridge. There he found his favourite cheese which it would have been a shame not to try. He also found some biscuits and three bottles of champagne. After a while he began to feel sleepy and decided that he would just have a little nap. He was arrested the next morning fast asleep in the spare bedroom.
QUESTION 1
Choose the best title for each text from the list below. (NB: There are 5 extra titles)
Write the letter of the title (a, b, c etc) in the space provided

Text 1………Text 2………Text 3………Text 4………Text 5………Text 6………Text 7………

QUESTION 2
Answer these questions by putting the number of the relevant text or texts next to the questions. NB: Sometimes the answer is more than one text.

1. does the crime occur in a private house? …5,7……
2. did the crime take place in a shop? …………………
3. did the crime take place in France? …………………
4. did the crime take place in a restaurant? …………………
5. is there a description of a court scene? …………………
6. was the criminal hurt? …………………
7. were women involved? …………………
8. are we told that the criminal went to prison? …………………
9. was the criminal 12 inches taller than his victim?………..
10. did the criminal use bad language? …………………
11. was the criminal armed? …………………
12. was there very little money in the cash register?………..
13. did the criminal have trouble getting into the scene of the crime?………………
Below are fifteen words and expressions from the text. In the text they are underlined. For each one, choose an expression from the box which has a similar meaning IN THIS CONTEXT. (NB: There are 8 extra words in the box.)
Write the expression against the word below. The first one has been done as an example.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Armed robbery</th>
<th>Breaking</th>
<th>Carrying</th>
<th>Embarrassedly</th>
<th>Frightened</th>
<th>Going solid</th>
<th>Holding</th>
<th>Hungry</th>
<th>Jumped</th>
<th>Laughing</th>
<th>Making a metallic noise</th>
<th>Ran away</th>
<th>Said</th>
<th>Shouted</th>
<th>Sleep</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Snack</td>
<td>Stupidly</td>
<td>Taking</td>
<td>Trapped</td>
<td>Uncourageous</td>
<td>Very surprised</td>
<td>Violent</td>
<td>Wrote</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**QUESTION 3**

1. hold-up (text 1) ...........................................
2. scribbled (text 1) ...........................................
3. fled (text 1) ..............................................
4. pounced (text 2) ............................................
5. snatching (text 2) ..........................................
6. cowardly (text 2) ...........................................
7. stunned (text 3) ............................................
8. jingling (text 4) ...........................................
9. congealing (text 4) ......................................
10. stuck (text 6) .............................................
11. sheepishly (text 6) ....................................... 
12. splitting her sides (text 6) ............................
13. clutching (text 6) ........................................
14. peckish (text 7) .......................................... 
15. nap (text 7) ..............................................

**QUESTION 4 (7 marks)**

Find words in the texts that mean:

1. a person who steals money from banks ...................... robber ........
2. a person who robs someone in the street, often with violence ..........................
3. a lawyer ................................................................
4. a person who sees a crime ....................................
5. to enter a place illegally ........................................
6. a person who steals things from private houses ...................
7. things stolen from a house by a thief ........................
8. an escape after committing a crime ..........................
TEXT 1.
Not so long ago children drank water or milk. Now fizzy drinks are the tipple of their choice – and they drink an awful lot of them.
One in eight British teenagers drinks more than 22 cans of cola a week.
This revolution in the taste buds has been manna for the soft drinks industry – UK sales were £8.6 billion in 2001 - but what are the health implications?
The industry has fought a long battle to persuade the public that its products are safe.
But now the World Health Organisation is calling on governments to clamp down on TV ads pushing junk food to children.

TEXT 2.
Bookworms take heart: a love of reading is far more important for child’s academic success than their family’s wealth and class.
An international study into the literacy of children found that young people from deprived backgrounds who enjoyed reading books, newspapers or comics in their spare time performed better in literacy tests than those from more affluent homes who did little reading. “Being more enthusiastic about reading and a frequent reader was more of an advantage than having well-educated parents in good jobs,” said the report.

TEXT 3.
British teenagers are drinking more heavily than ever before – and they do it with the sole purpose of getting seriously drunk. Alcohol consumption among children aged 11 to 15 has almost doubled in the past decade, from 5.3 units a week in 1990 to 9.8 a week in 2001. Of the 85% of 15-year-olds who drink, boys admit to consuming an average of 13.8 units a week – the equivalent of seven pints of beer – and girls 10.7 units. Andrew McNeill of the Institute of Alcohol Studies says “By the time teenagers are 15, getting slaughtered at the disco is a central part of their social activities.”

TEXT 4.
An aching back is usually associated with the onset of middle age, but now children are starting to develop back problems because of their sedentary lives. In a survey carried out by the British Chiropractic Association (BCA) 29% of parents with children aged 11-18 said their children had complained of backache, and a further 38% expressed concern about their child’s posture.
Specialists from the BCA say that the problem is that modern children spend too long sitting in front of computers and don’t take enough exercise. To make matters worse, most children have to lug their textbooks around with them. The weight of their schoolbags – equivalent to an adult carrying a 15 kilo backpack around all day – can do serious damage to the spine.

TEXT 5.
Parents have been advised to cut their children’s salt intake by half. According to the Food Standards agency, children aged between one and six should consume no more than 2g of salt a day – about a third of a teaspoonful – and children aged seven to fourteen no more than 5g.
Nutritionists fear that many children are currently eating the same amount of salt as their parents – in the region of 9g per day (Adults should limit their intake to 6g) But it’s not enough just to hide the salt cellar: 75% of the salt in the average person’s diet is ‘hidden’ in processed foods. For instance, a 225g slice of pizza contains more than 4g – twice the maximum recommended daily intake for a six-year-old.

TEXT 6.
Teachers at Windhill school in North Yorkshire ran a year-long study to see whether pupils performed better while listening to music. They installed a sound system throughout the school and played a variety of CDs during lessons. Beethoven calmed them down while pop music motivated them for physical tasks. As a control test, one class was played Mozart during mathematics, while another was taught normally. The pupils in the first group performed 10% better than those who didn’t listen to Mozart. Head teacher Doulla Simon said “We have found that Mozart symphonies with complicated patterns stimulated mathematical thinking. The music reaches parts of the brain which other composers do not.”
READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1

Choose the best title for each text from the list below. (NB: There are 6 extra titles)
Write the letter of the title (a, b, c, etc) in the space provided.

a) LISTENING TO MUSIC MAKES MATHS EASIER.
b) HALF OF MODERN CHILDREN SUFFER FROM BACKACHE
c) TEENAGE DRINKING IS ON THE INCREASE
d) BRITISH TEENAGERS DRINK 22 COKES A WEEK.
e) CHILDREN WHO SIT AROUND TOO MUCH MAY HAVE BAD BACKS
f) BOOKLOVERS DO BETTER AT SCHOOL
g) CHILDREN ARE PUTTING TOO MUCH SALT ON THEIR FOOD.
h) CHILDREN FROM BOOKLOVING FAMILIES DO WELL ACADEMICALLY
i) KIDS ARE EATING TOO MUCH SALT.
j) ARE SOFT DRINKS BAD FOR OUR KIDS?
k) BRITISH TEENAGERS DRINK TOO MUCH BEER.
l) BEETHOVEN SYMPHONIES STIMULATE MATHEMATICAL THINKING.

Text 1………Text 2………Text 3………Text 4………Text 5………Text 6………

QUESTION 2

Are the following sentences true or false? Circle the right answer.

1) British fizzy drink companies made more than £8 billion profit in 2001. TRUE  FALSE
2) The World Health Organisation wants soft drink adverts to be banned. TRUE  FALSE
3) According to Text 2, children from poor families have more problems with reading than children from rich families. TRUE  FALSE
4) British teenagers now drink almost twice as much alcohol as they did ten years ago. TRUE  FALSE
5) One reason for the increase in children with backache is that they do very little physical activity. TRUE  FALSE
6) Back specialists think that schoolchildren’s bags are too heavy. TRUE  FALSE
7) Children under 6 should eat about half the salt that an adult should eat. TRUE  FALSE
8) The children at Windhill school only listened to classical music during lessons. TRUE  FALSE
9) The children who did mathematics to Mozart did ten times better than the children who didn’t listen to anything. TRUE  FALSE
QUESTION 3
There is a sentence missing from each text. The sentences which were taken out of the texts are below. Which sentence goes with which text? Write the text number in the space provided next to the sentence.

1) British children did particularly well in the study, finishing seventh out of 31 countries.  
Text…………

2) Most of this drinking occurs in just two nights- Friday and Saturday.  
Text…………

3) Their parents are eating too much anyway.  
Text…………

4) They found that what was played affected the pupil’s behaviour.  
Text…………

5) Their muscles and joints don’t develop properly and they become vulnerable to stiffness and injury.  
Text…………

6) It won’t even take the responsibility for the rising numbers of obese children.  
Text…………

QUESTION 4 (9 marks)
Below are some words and expressions from the text. In the text they are in bold. For each one, choose an expression from the box which has a similar meaning IN THIS CONTEXT. (NB: There are some extra words in the box.) Write the expression against the word below. The first one has been done as an example.

alcohol  drunk  people who love reading  carry  people who hate reading  organised  
with gas  drink  trying to sell  richer  killed  are worried  snack  
walked quickly  wealthy  are happy  giving  read  more uneducated  poor

1) fizzy (text 1)  with gas…………

2) tipple (text 1) ………………………

3) pushing(text 1) ………………………

4) bookworms (text 2) ………………………

5) deprived (text 2) ………………………

6) more affluent (text 2) ………………………

7) slaughtered (text 3) ………………………

8) lug (text 4) ………………………

9) fear (text 5) ………………………

10) ran (text 6) ………………………
UNUSUAL MEDICAL CONDITIONS

TEXT 1
Fine art can really make you sick. Or so says Dr. Graziella Magherini, author of *The Stendhal Syndrome*. She has studied more than a hundred tourists in Florence, Italy, who became ill in the presence of great works of art. The typical sufferer is a single person between the ages of twenty-six and forty who rarely leaves home. Dr. Magherini believes the syndrome is a result of jet lag, travel stress and the shock of an overwhelming sense of the past. The *disorder* was named after the nineteenth century French novelist who became overwhelmed by the frescoes in Florence’s Santa Croce Church. Particularly upsetting works of art include Michelangelo’s statue of David, Caravaggio’s painting of Bacchus and the concentric circles of the Duomo cupola.

TEXT 2
On February 26, 1992, Beijing worker Xu Denghai was hospitalised with a twisted intestine after playing excessively with a Hula-Hoop. Apparently, he had been swinging the hoop around his middle for over three hours a day. His was the third such case in the several weeks after a *craze* for Hula-Hooping had swept China. The Beijing Evening News advised people to warm up properly before starting and to avoid Hula-Hooping immediately after eating.

TEXT 3
In its August 1992 issue, the highly respected *British Journal of Addiction* described three unusual cases of carrot dependence. One of the patients was a forty-year-old man who had given up smoking and had replaced cigarettes with carrots. As soon as he felt the need for a cigarette he would *munch* a carrot instead, but unfortunately, after a couple of months, he was eating as many as five bunches a day. According to the psychiatrists who were treating them, he and the other patients showed withdrawal symptoms similar to that of nicotine — when deprived of carrots they became *fretty* and were unable to concentrate on the simplest of tasks.

TEXT 4
The desire to eat metal objects is comparatively common. Occasionally there is an extreme case, such as that of Englishman Alec Johnson. A thief with a compulsion to eat cutlery, Johnson has had thirty operations to remove knives and similar objects from his stomach. In his last operation in 1992 eight spoons were extracted. He has been imprisoned repeatedly for stealing. Each time he is released from prison he goes immediately to a restaurant and orders an enormous meal, which he never actually eats. Unable to pay the *huge* bill, he then tells the owners to call the police and eats all the cutlery on the table until they arrive.

TEXT 5
This bizarre neurological disorder afflicts thousands of people. It is caused by damage to certain parts of the brain, and makes one of a person’s hands act independently of the other and of its owner’s wishes. For example, the misbehaving hand may do the opposite of what the normal one is doing: if a person is trying to button a shirt with one hand, the other will follow along and undo the buttons. If one hand pulls up trousers, the other will pull them down. Sometimes the hand may become aggressive — pinching, slapping or punching the patient. Says neurologist Rachelle Doody, “Often a patient will sit on the hand, but eventually it gets *loose* and starts behaving badly again.”

TEXT 6
During a sports day at the University of Washington twenty-four men and women took part in a mud wrestling competition. Within thirty-six hours, seven wrestlers were covered with big red spots filled with pus and the rest succumbed later. According to the wrestlers, the rash was very painful and extremely itchy. The spots were on the areas not covered by the contestants’ swimsuits — one unlucky victim had wrestled in the nude and was afflicted much more seriously than the others. The *dermatitis palmastrie limosae* or ‘muddy wrestling rash’ may have been caused by the presence of manure in the mud.

Mud= fango      manure=concime

TEXT 7
According to British paranormalist Hilary Evans, some people are ‘human electric pylons, capable of generating charges strong enough to *knock out* streetlights and damage electronic equipment.’ Cases of ‘electric people’ date back to 1786, but in recent times the most famous is that of fourteen-year-old Angelique Cottin whose electrically charged presence caused lights to go out, electrical equipment to malfunction and the telephone to ring. According to her parents a normal home life was impossible with her around because nothing worked properly. Unable to cope with the situation, they had the poor girl put in a clinic, where her case was studied by doctors.
READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS  UNUSUAL MEDICAL CONDITIONS

QUESTION 1 Choose the best title for each text from the list below. (NB: There are 5 extra titles)
Write the letter of the title (a, b, c, etc) in the space provided.

a) VEGETABLE ADDICTS
b) BOY CAUSES ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS
c) A CRAVING FOR KNIVES AND FORKS
d) TRAVEL SICKNESS AFFECTS TOURISTS
e) CHINESE DIET PROBLEMS
f) ALLERGIC TO CARROTS
g) ART ATTACK
h) SKIN PROBLEMS
i) ALIEN HAND SYNDROME
j) STOMACH IN A TWIST
k) HIGHLY CHARGED TEENAGER
l) BOTH HANDS MISBEHAVING

Text 1………Text 2………Text 3………Text 4………Text 5………Text 6………Text 7………

QUESTION 2 Are the following sentences true or false? Circle the right answer.

1. Dr. Magherini has written a book about the condition described in Text 1.  TRUE FALSE
2. The writer Stendhal suffered from the condition described by Dr. Magherini. TRUE FALSE
3. Xu Denghai was the only person in Peking to be hospitalised due to Hula-Hooping. TRUE FALSE
4. The man in Text 3 was eating 5 carrots a day. TRUE FALSE
5. Alec Johnson likes eating expensive food in restaurants. TRUE FALSE
6. People with the condition in Text 5 often have trouble getting dressed. TRUE FALSE
7. The wrestlers affected by mud were all wearing swimsuits. TRUE FALSE
8. Only 7 of the wrestlers were covered with spots. TRUE FALSE
9. The first known case of an ‘electric person’ was in the eighteenth century. TRUE FALSE
10. Angelique’s parents were obliged to send her to a clinic. TRUE FALSE
QUESTION 3

There is a sentence missing from each text. The sentences which were taken out of the texts are below. Which sentence goes with which text? Write the text number in the space provided next to the sentence.

a) “I spent all my free time doing it,” he is reported to have said.   Text………….
b) In at least one case, it even tried to strangle its owner.    Text………….
c) “We could not stop scratching,” they said.     Text………….
d) The fridge, the tv and the toaster were always out of order.   Text………….
e) Their symptoms include heart palpitations, dizziness and stomach pains. Text………….
f) “The things I eat are expensive,” he says in his defence. Text………….
g) When he began to think obsessively about them, he decided he needed help.   Text………….

QUESTION 4

Below are eight words and expressions from the text. In the text they are in bold. For each one, choose an expression from the box which has a similar meaning IN THIS CONTEXT. (NB: There are some extra words in the box.) Write the expression against the word below. The first one has been done as an example.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>free</th>
<th>extinguish</th>
<th>normal</th>
<th>smoke</th>
<th>medical condition</th>
<th>eat</th>
<th>very disturbing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>irritable</td>
<td>enormous</td>
<td>happy</td>
<td>chaos</td>
<td>passion</td>
<td>mad</td>
<td>break</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. overwhelming (text 1) .......... *very disturbing* ..........
2. disorder (text 1) .........................
3. craze (text 2) .........................
4. munch (text 3) .........................
5. tetchy (text 3) .........................
6. huge (text 4) .........................
7. loose (text 5) .........................
8. knock out (text 7) .........................
SCAMS ARE EVERYWHERE

The cover feature on tourism scams last week prompted dozens of letters from readers who have fallen victim to similar tricks. Here are some examples:

TEXT 1.
Michael Pritchford of Watford tells this tale: ‘Walking along 5th Avenue in broad daylight, a man bumped into me and his sunglasses “fell” off. He picked them up, claimed that they were an expensive designer pair and demanded I pay him $200 so he could get some new ones. They were both big guys so I must say I was a bit nervous and although I resisted at first, when they started to get more and more threatening, I “settled” the affair with $20.

TEXT 2.
John and Kate Smallwood, from Widnes, were in a car park in Salo, on the shores of Lake Garda, when an English person drove up, pointed to one of the car windows, which was shattered, and said that his car had been broken into and all his documents and money stolen. He asked them to lend him some money for fuel and promised to send them a cheque when he returned to England. Feeling that they couldn’t leave a fellow Brit in trouble the Smallwoods gave him £50. Needless to say, the cheque never arrived.

TEXT 3.
Colm Cantillon, from Ireland, describes a common scam in bus stations, shops and other places, especially if the person sees you are in a rush. When you hand over a large note like a 100 peso bill, your change is handed back at a snail’s pace, starting with small coins and going on to small denominations of notes. Then the person pauses at 50 pesos in the hope that you will go away, forgetting that you handed over 100 pesos.

TEXT 4.
Mark Neale wrote: We crossed the border on a Sunday, so with no local currency and all of the banks closed, we were forced to change our traveller’s cheques at a dodgy-looking stall on a street corner. Fellow travellers had already warned us about counterfeit currency, showing us what to look for on a note or a coin, so we were very careful and checked every single one that we were given. The following day in another town, the owner of a restaurant handed my cash back to me with a shake of his head.’

TEXT 5.
When George Moffat and his wife went to leave their cases at left luggage lockers at Lisbon station, they were approached by an old man who spoke to them in French and seemed to be saying that he didn’t know how to use the lockers. He asked them if he could watch them deposit their luggage so that he could find out how to do it. They felt the couldn’t really refuse and he watched them with an eagle eye as they put their bags in the lockers. Fearing that he had memorised their PIN number, they stayed around and saw him trying to get into their locker.

TEXT 6.
Going through the airport security gate at Sharm El Sheikh, Adam Cherrett was asked to empty his pockets. To his amazement, the policeman on duty palmed his loose change – about £10 in pound coins - and then handed them to a local who passed through the security gate and vanished. When Mr Cherrett objected, the policeman told him that to keep quiet unless he wanted to miss his plane.

TEXT 7.
Mr and Mrs Jensen from Bournemouth were on holiday in Bangkok and decided to take advantage of the low prices to buy a new camera. They went to a small shop near the hotel where they were staying which was recommended to them by the hotel receptionist. The shop assistant was very helpful and shows them several different models. They made their choice and the shop assistant put the camera into its box, wrapped it up and put the box into a carrier bag. When the Jensens opened the box back in Bournemouth, they discovered all it contained was a large stone. ‘We don’t know how he did it, as we watched him the whole time,’ they wrote.

(from The Observer September 2002)
Glossary: scams: truffe
READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS SCAMS

QUESTION 1

Choose the best title for each text from the list below. (NB: There are 5 extra titles)
Write the letter of the title (a, b, c, etc) in the space provided.

a) THE FELLOW TRAVELLER IN DISTRESS SCAM, ITALY.
b) THE TRAVELLERS’ CHEQUES THIEF, PERU.
c) THE SUITCASE THIEF , PORTUGAL.
d) THE SUNGLASSES THIEF, PARIS.
e) THE EMPTY BOX SCAM, THAILAND.
f) THE CAR THIEF, LAKE GARDA.
g) THE BROKEN SHADES SCAM , NEW YORK.
h) THE DISAPPEARING £10 POUND NOTE, SHARM EL SHEIKH.
i) THE MONEY CHANGING SCAM, LIMA.
j) THE CHANGE COUNTING SCAM, BUENOS AIRES.
k) THE BROKEN CAMERA SCAM, BANGKOK.
l) THE METAL DETECTOR SCAM, EGYPT.

Text 1........Text 2........Text 3........Text 4........Text 5........Text 6........Text 7........

QUESTION 2

Are the following sentences true or false?
Circle the right answer.

1. The man in Text 1 dropped his sunglasses by accident.
   TRUE FALSE
2. The English person in Text 2 said he needed some money for petrol.
   TRUE FALSE
3. The scam in Text 3 works if you are in a hurry.
   TRUE FALSE
4. Mark Neale wouldn’t have changed his money at the stall if it hadn’t been a Sunday. TRUE FALSE
5. The restaurant owner wouldn’t accept Mark’s money. TRUE FALSE
6. The old man had a copy of George Moffat’s locker key. TRUE FALSE
7. The policeman in Text 6 kept Mr Cherret’s money. TRUE FALSE
8. The policeman would not let Adam get on his plane. TRUE FALSE
9. The shop assistant must have substituted the carrier bag with another in Text 7. TRUE FALSE
QUESTION 3
There is a sentence missing from each text. The sentences which were taken out of the texts are below. Which sentence goes with which text?
Write the text number in the space provided next to the sentence.

a) They gave him £150 and left.
   Text………….
b) He had a friend with him who kept backing him up.
   Text………….
c) He was so convincing that they never once suspected it wasn’t true.
   Text………….
d) They moved their bags.
   Text………….
e) If you object, he just hands you the rest.
   Text………….
f) Without a second thought, he took everything out and went through.
   Text………….
g) They all seemed fine.
   Text………….

QUESTION 4 (7 marks)
Below are eight words and expressions from the text. In the text they are in bold. For each one, choose an expression from the box which has a similar meaning IN THIS CONTEXT. (NB: There are some extra words in the box.)
Write the expression against the word below. The first one has been done as an example.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>claimed (text 1)</th>
<th>said...........</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>threatening (text 1)</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shattered (text 2)</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at a snail’s pace (text 3)</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dodgy (text 4)</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>counterfeit (text 4)</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with an eagle eye (text 5)</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palmed (text 6)</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

honest  lost  very slowly  said  convincingly  open  took  attentively  suspicious

helpfully  false  changed
menacing  changing  broken
SPEAKING EXAM

In the speaking exam you will be in pairs (with another student). You will be given a piece of paper with a topic on it and some questions in Italian. You have to ask the questions in English and have a conversation about the topic.

Most students do quite well in the Speaking exam at first year. The best students are those who:

- speak English fairly fluently with not too many pauses and hesitations.
- speak English fairly accurately
- listen to what the other student says and ask appropriate follow-up questions
- respond appropriately to what the other students says (eg. really, do you? etc)
- help the other student if they get into difficulties (eg. by giving them words they can’t remember)
- don’t hog the conversation
- don’t answer questions with one word answers (ie. Yes, No)
- use natural, colloquial English
- have comprehensible pronunciation
- never use Italian during the exam

TOPICS
1. University
2. Cinema
3. Music
4. Home/Family
5. Reading
6. Computers
7. Clothes
8. Food
9. Travel
10. Sport

In this section you will find examples of the kind of questions you will have to ask and some useful vocabulary.
UNIVERSITY
1. What university do you go to?
2. What faculty are you in?
3. What year are you in?
4. What degree course are you doing?
5. Which branch of the degree course are you following?
6. What languages are you studying?
7. Why did you choose this university?
8. Why did you decide to study Arabic/English etc?
9. Did you enjoy your first year at university?
10. What do you think of this faculty?

Roma Three/the Third University of Rome
The Faculty of Arts
Languages and International Communication
Language and Linguistics
Cultural Mediation
English, German, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese

I’m in my first year.
I’m good at languages
I like learning languages.
I like finding out about other countries. (NOT I like knowing different cultures)
It’s easy to get to. It’s near where I live.
I chose this university because it’s smaller than La Sapienza.
choose/chose/chosen (verb) choice (noun)
I’m interested in languages.

It was very strange at first, but then I got used to it.
I was very disoriented at first because it’s so different from school.
The timetable is very confusing.
A lot of the lessons clash.

Lectures, timetable, laboratory, professors, exams, oral exams, library
CINEMA

1. What sort/kind of films do you like?
2. Who is your favourite actor/actress?
3. How often do you go to the cinema?
4. What was the last film you saw?
5. Who do you usually go to the cinema with?
6. Do you ever go the cinema by yourself/on your own?
7. Have you ever cried during a film?
8. Which do you prefer – going to the cinema or watching a dvd at home?
9. What’s the worst/best/funniest/most frightening film you’ve ever seen?
10. Have you ever seen a film in English?
11. Do you prefer a foreign film to be dubbed or subtitled?

Feature films, documentaries
Horror films, thrillers, cartoons, computer animated films, westerns, romantic comedies, comic films, science fiction films

heroine, hero, main character, character actor, bit part, extra

director, cameraman, costume designer, scriptwriter

The special effects, plot, acting, setting, script, soundtrack, trailer was/were very good.

moving, touching
sentimental, soppy, a tearjerker

It was scary, frightening, gory, shocking
It was funny, it made me laugh,
It was boring, predictable,

What’s it about? It’s about a ship that hits an iceberg.
Who’s in it? It’s got Kate Winslet in it. It stars Kate Winslet.

It’s set in California.
It’s based on a true story.

It’s cheaper to rent a dvd than to go to the cinema.
I prefer watching a dvd at home because it’s more comfortable, I can lie on the sofa, smoke, have a snack, rewind the dvd if I don’t understand something or want to see something again.
Going to the cinema is better because there’s a bigger screen, more atmosphere.

NB: I’ve used the word ‘film’ throughout as I’m British, but you may use the American word ‘movie’ if you prefer.
MUSIC

1. What sort/kind of music do you like?
2. Who is your favourite singer/group?
3. Where and when do you usually listen to music?
4. Do you buy CDs or do you download your music from the internet?
5. Have you got an i-pod?
6. Have you ever been to a concert?
7. Do you like classical music?
8. Can you play a musical instrument?
9. What musical instrument would you like to be able to play?
10. Do you like singing?

I like all kinds sorts of music.
It depends on what mood I’m in.

I like listening to music while I’m studying.
I find music distracting while I’m studying.

My favourite track on this cd is this one.
I really love this song by Bob Dylan.
Bob Dylan wrote the lyrics/music to this song.

I’ve got all Claudio Baglione’s albums.
I can’t stand Claudio Baglione. Claudio Baglione makes me throw up.

I went to a Zucchero concert.
Who was playing at the concert? Oasis was playing.

I can play the guitar, piano, drums, recorder, saxophone, flute.
I’m the lead/bass guitarist in a band.
I sing in a group/band/in a choir.

She’s got a lovely voice. She’s very good at singing.
I’m hopeless at singing. I’m tone deaf.
HOME/FAMILY

1. Where do you live?
2. Where is Casteldelmare?
3. Do you live at home?
4. Do you live in a flat or a house?
5. Who do you share a flat with?
6. How much rent do you pay?
7. How many of you are there in your family/your flat?
8. Have you got any brothers and sisters?
9. Do you get on well with your parents/your brothers and sisters/your flatmates?
10. Have you got any pets?
11. How far do you live from the university?
12. How do you get to the university?

I live in a village, a small town in Lazio. (NOT a country)
I live in the suburbs of Rome, just outside Rome, in the country, by the sea.
I don’t live very far from the university.
I live a long way from the university. NB (don’t use FAR in positive statements)

It’s a few miles/100 miles from Rome.
It’s to the north/south/east/west of Rome.
It’s in the south etc of Italy.
It’s in the middle of nowhere.

I live in Via Roma.
I live on the fourth floor of a block of flats.

I pay 500 euros rent a month. That includes bills.
Deposit, landlord, contract, unfurnished flat

I get on very well with my flatmates.
My flatmate drives me mad/gets on my nerves.

My parents are very easygoing/strict.
I never argue with my parents.
My parents let me do what I want.

What’s your cat called? His name’s Ginger.
I’ve got a dog called Toffee. He/she is an Alsatian, a Yorkshire terrier, a Labrador.
What kind of dog is he? He’s a mix (between a pit bull and a gundog).
(The word ‘mongrel’ is a bit negative.)

My cat can’t have kittens because she’s been doctored.
My dog had puppies last month.

Canary, parrot, budgie,
Hamster, rabbit, guinea pig
Tortoise, turtle. Goldfish.
BOOKS/READING

1. What sort of books do you like?
2. Who’s your favourite writer?
3. What book are you reading at the moment?
4. What was the most boring book you studied at school?
5. When and where do you usually read?
6. How many books do you read a month?
7. Have you ever read a book in English? What was it?
8. What book would you suggest to someone who is learning Italian?
9. Why do you think Italian students don’t read very much?
10. Do you ever go to a public library?
11. What was your favourite book when you were a child?
12. What newspapers or magazines do you read?

non-fiction/fiction
Short stories, novels, whodunits, biographies, thrillers, (comics=fumetti), classics, bestsellers, science fiction, spy stories, detective novels, romantic novels

Paperback/hardback newspapers, periodicals, magazines
I have a subscription to a gardening magazine.

Who wrote it? It was written by Jane Austen.
Writer, author, novelist

Who published it? It was published by Picador. The publisher is Picador.

What’s the title? What’s it called? What’s the name of the book?
What’s it about? It’s about a man who turns into a beetle. (NOT it tells about..)

The main character is a woman called Elizabeth Bennet.
It’s set in England.
The plot, characterisation, dialogue is very good.
I
It was a real page-turner, it was really gripping. I couldn’t stop reading it. I stayed up all night reading it.
It was so boring I fell asleep in the middle of it.

I like reading in bed, on the toilet, on the train while I’m eating.

Can I borrow this book? Would you lend me this book?
I had to pay a fine because I had the book out of the library for too long.

Bookshop, bookstall, newspaper kiosk,

Fairy stories: Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Snow White and the Seven Dwarves, Little Red Riding Hood, Beauty and the Beast, the Little Mermaid, Tom Thumb,
COMPUTERS

1. Have you got a personal computer?
2. What programmes do you usually use?
3. What do you use your computer for?
4. Do you download music or films from the internet?
5. Have you ever taken part in a chat room?
6. Do you write e-mails?
7. How did you learn to use a computer?
8. What are your favourite internet sites?
9. Do you play games on your computer? If so, what?
10. How long do you spend on your computer/playstation every week?

If you use a computer you probably know all the vocabulary, so this is very brief!

Internet, world wide web, website, surfing the internet, search engine, to google

e-mail address, @ = at, spam, virus,

monitor, keyboard, mouse, printer, video-cam, speaker, hard disc, floppy,

Save the file before you turn off the computer.
Print a copy of the document.
Download a programme from the internet
Key in a pin number.
Cut and paste.

information technology (IT)
I did an IT course.
I just picked it up as I went along.
Are you computer literate? I know how to use a computer, but I don’t know anything about them really. I get stuck if anything goes wrong.

He spends hours on his playstation.
He sits in front of his computer all day.
CLOTHES

1. What do you usually wear to university?
2. Do you ever wear a skirt?
3. What would you wear on a special occasion?
4. What is the most expensive thing in your wardrobe?
5. What colour are most of your clothes?
6. Where do you usually buy your clothes?
7. Do you ever buy second-hand clothes?
8. How many pairs of shoes have you got?
9. How would you describe your style of clothes?
10. What is your favourite piece of jewellery?

NB= vestiti= clothes (u)
That man always wears very nice clothes. If a man wears dresses he is a transvestite.

Top= in English a top is a generic word for anything you wear on the top part of your body.
For example, you have a pyjama top (and pyjama bottoms) and a tracksuit top and bottoms
Other tops: Jumper, pullover, sweater, sweatshirt, hoodie, blouse, shirt, t shirt
Skirt, dress, jeans, trousers
Jacket, coat, waistcoat, raincoat/mac
Matching skirt and jacket = a suit Matching trousers and jacket = a suit

Underwear: Underpants, knickers, bra, vest,
NB: pants(UK) = mutande pants(US) = pantaloni

Nightwear: Pyjamas, nightdress, dressing gown, bathrobe
Footwear: Flip-flops, slippers, boots, sandals, shoes,
Hosiery: socks, tights, stockings
Accessories: gloves, belt, hat, scarf/scarves
Jewellery: Earrings, necklace, chain, bracelet, anklet, brooch, badge
Jewels: Ruby, diamond, pearl, emerald, sapphire
A short-sleeved/low-necked/cropped top. A polo-necked/v-necked jumper
A knee-length skirt
High-heeled /flat shoes

Doctors wear white coats. Engineers wear hard hats. Workers wear overalls. Cooks wear aprons
Motorcyclists should wear helmets. Soldiers wear uniforms. English schoolchildren wear uniforms. Italian elementary schoolchildren wear smocks.

He took off his clothes. He put on his pyjamas.
He always dresses in black. He wears black clothes.
He looks very smart. He wears very smart clothes. He always dresses very smartly.
What are you going to wear to the fancy-dress party? I’ll be dressed as a cowboy.
You look really nice in that dress. That dress really suits you.
That dress is too big/small for you. That dress doesn’t fit you.
I wouldn’t be seen dead in that hat.
FOOD

1. What kind of food do you like best?
2. What do you usually have for your evening meal?
3. Do you often go out to restaurants or pizzerias?
4. What is the best place to eat in your home town?
5. What was the best/worst meal you have ever had?
6. Who does the cooking in your house?
7. Are you a good cook?
8. What would you cook for a special occasion?

Meals: Breakfast, brunch, elevenses, lunch/dinner, tea/ supper/ dinner. The word ‘meal’ is often used to substitute lunch or dinner. eg. Let’s go out for a meal. That was a lovely meal.

Starters, main course, dessert/sweet leftovers seconds

Menu, wine list, dish
How would you like your steak, sir? Rare, medium or well done?

It was tasty, delicious, yummy. It was crisp, crunchy, tender
It was disgusting, tough, greasy, too salty, watery. It was burnt, overcooked, undercooked, raw.
The bread was stale. The fruit was rotten. The meat/milk was off.

Eat, munch, chew, chomp
Let’s have a snack/a bite to eat.
I’m a bit hungry, peckish.
I’m very hungry, starving, famished, dying of hunger.
I can’t eat anymore, I’m full.
I’ve eaten so much I think I’m going to burst.
I’ve got a sweet tooth.
He’s very fussy – he won’t eat a lot of things.

Cutlery: knife, fork, spoon, teaspoon, tablespoon
Crockery: plate, side plate, bowl, glass, cup and saucer
Kitchen equipment: frying pan, sauce pan, oven, cooker, food processor, toaster, coffeepot, teapot

Recipe, cookbook, ingredients, instructions

Condiments: salt, pepper, oil, vinegar, tomato sauce, mayonnaise, chili
Meat: lamb, beef, chicken, pork, sausages, ham, bacon, steak, chops, mince
Vegetables: Garlic, onions, peas, green beans, cauliflower, cabbage, asparagus, artichokes, aubergines, peppers, mushrooms, carrots
Legumes: Beans, lentils, chick peas
Salad ingredients: Lettuce, tomatoes, rocket, sweet corn, cucumber
Dairy products: milk, cream, yoghurt, butter, cheese
Fruit: apples, oranges, plums, peaches, grapes, strawberries, cherries, pears, grapefruit, pineapple, melon, water melon,
Things to spread on toast: Jam, marmalade, honey, chocolate spread (nutella)
Boiled/fried/mashed/ roast/ baked potatoes chips crisps
Bread, rolls, toast (uncountable in English) croissants, buns, muffins
TRAVEL

1. How far do you live from the university?
2. How do you get to university?
3. Have you got a car? What kind of car is it?
4. When did you pass your driving test?
5. Do you prefer travelling by car to travelling by train?
6. Have you ever been in a plane?
7. Do you like flying?
8. Have you ever been abroad? Where have you been?
9. Which do you prefer – travelling by yourself or with other people?
10. What do usually put in your suitcase when you go away for a weekend?

I live a long way from the university. (NB: FAR is not used in positive statements)
I don’t live far from the university,

I go to university by bus, on the 22 bus, on the underground, by train, by car, in my car.

It’s a Fiat. It was second-hand. It’s an old banger. It’s brand new.

I failed my driving test 7 times. I have got a driving licence.

You don’t always get a seat on the train. They are overcrowded especially in the rush hour. They are often delayed.
On the other hand, you don’t get stuck in traffic jams. It’s not so stressful. You don’t get carsick. You don’t have to deal with people driving like maniacs or people with road rage. You don’t have to spend hours trying to find a parking space.

Platform, single ticket, return ticket, season ticket, stamp your ticket, ticket inspector, luggage rack

I’m afraid of flying. I don’t mind flying but I can’t stand hanging around in airports.

baggage reclaim area, gate, departure lounge, arrival hall, passport control, security checkpoint, check-in desk, duty free shop, customs, departure hall
take off, land
boarding pass, hand luggage,

He always travels light. He just takes an overnight bag.
Have you packed your suitcase?
I’m afraid your bag is overweight. You’ll have to pay excess baggage. This case is so heavy I can’t carry it.

Wheelie case, rucksack, backpack, sleeping bag,

NB: the word ‘travel’ is uncountable in English. You should use one of the following:
Journey
Trip
Flight
Voyage
SPORT

1. Do you do any sport?
2. How often do you play football/go swimming etc?
3. What kind of sport do you like watching on tv?
4. Do you ever go to football matches?
5. What team do you support?
6. Do you go to a gym?
7. How often do you go to the gym?
8. How long have you been going to dance classes?
9. Have you ever taken part in a show?
10. Do you like playing cards?

I play football, baseball, basketball, volleyball.
I go skiing, swimming, running, jogging.
I do karate, kickboxing, judo
I go to the gym, to dance classes.

I’m very keen on tennis but I’m not very good/hopeless/useless at it.
I would be better

An armchair sportsperson is a person who only watches sport on tv.
I hate blood sports like fishing and hunting.
I love water sports like sailing, canoeing, windsurfing, water skiing.
I like track sports like running, throwing the javelin, long jumping.
I like martial arts like judo, karate and kung fu.

I go to the stadium once a month.
I go to see Lazio play once a month.
I support Lazio. I’m a Lazio fan.
Lazio is playing at home/away this week.

World cup, premier league,
score: two all, two one, two nil.
Foul, corner, penalty, offside
He was sent off. He was given a red card.

Indoor activities: playing cards/chess/draughts, doing crossword puzzles, doing jigsaw puzzles, playing board games (Monopoly),

Places: football field/pitch, tennis court, boxing ring, skating rink, racetrack
Equipment: tennis racquet, golf club, baseball bat, skis, ski sticks, ski boots,
LISTENING

The listening exam takes place in the laboratory so you will have headphones. The material you will hear is very similar to the listening exam in the PET exam. If you can’t come to the Listening lesson you can do the practice tests by yourself in the self study lab on the computer. You have to click on English, B1 Test 1-2 etc.

VOCABULARY
I have noticed that one of the main problems with the listening exam is not that the students cannot understand the words people are saying but that they don’t know what a lot of the words mean. You will find some vocabulary lists in this section. Check that you understand what they mean and how they are pronounced. Then learn them.

You will also find some proverbs, sayings and idiomatic expressions.

1. WEATHER

1. hurricane
2. fog
3. mist
4. tornado
5. thunder and lightning
6. flood
7. storm
8. rain
9. sunshine
10. wind
11. cloud
12. snow

It’s pouring with rain.
It never rains but it pours.
Every cloud has a silver lining.
It’s s storm in a teacup.
She was in floods of tears.

2. PARTS OF A CAR

1. windscreen
2. wheel
3. brake
4. tyres
5. boot
6. engine
7. accelerator
8. seats
9. petrol
10. seat belt
11. clutch
12. car door

3. HOUSEWORK

1. laying the table
2. clearing the table
3. washing up
4. sweeping
5. dusting
6. hoovering
7. doing the washing
8. hanging out/up the clothes
9. ironing
10. making the beds
11. cleaning the windows
12. tidying up

you’ve made your bed, now lie in it.
To make a clean sweep of something

4. PARTS OF THE BODY

1. elbow
2. wrist
3. bottom
4. neck
5. shoulders
6. fingers
7. toes
8. ankle
9. knee
10. chin
11. thigh
12. waist

to elbow someone out of the way
to be a pain in the neck
to give someone the cold shoulder
to keep your chin up

5. DESIGNS

1. patterned
2. plain
3. striped
4. checked
5. tartan
6. flowery
7. dotted
6. IN THE KITCHEN

1. saucepan
2. frying pan
3. bowl
4. mug
5. knife
6. fork
7. spoon
8. jug
9. plate
10. teapot
11. kettle
12. corkscrew

Out of the frying pan into the pan
The pot calling the kettle black
A spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down
Born with a silver spoon in his mouth
To be spoon fed

7. COMMON ILLNESSES

1. headache
2. stomach ache
3. earache
4. backache
5. toothache
6. sore throat
7. a cold
8. a cough/ to cough
9. to sneeze
10. hay fever
11. a temperature
12. mumps/measles/chickenpox

8. BAGS

1. luggage/baggage
2. suitcase
3. overnight bag
4. briefcase
5. rucksack/backpack
6. handbag
7. pencil case
8. wallet
9. purse
10. make up bag
11. kit bag
12. carrier bag
9. IN THE BATHROOM

1. toothbrush
2. toothpaste
3. soap
4. shampoo
5. conditioner
6. hairdryer
7. sponge
8. hairbrush
9. toilet paper
10. bubble bath
11. face cream
12. razor

10. IN THE GARDEN

1. lawn
2. path
3. wall
4. gate
5. fence
6. hedge
7. back door
8. front door
9. bush
10. flower bed
11. plant pots
12. grass

The grass is always greener on the other side.
To sit on the fence
To beat about the bush
A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

11. CLOTHES

1. dress
2. pants
3. knickers
4. hoodie
5. sweatshirt
6. coat
7. scarf
8. tie
9. belt
10. gloves
11. shorts
12. skirt
12. FOOTWEAR

1. sandals
2. trainers
3. slippers
4. flip-flops
5. boots
6. flippers
7. high-heeled shoes
8. flat shoes

I wouldn’t want to be in your shoes.
He was booted out.

13. AT THE STATION

1. platform
2. single ticket
3. return ticket
4. seat
5. season ticket
6. ticket inspector
7. carriage
8. compartment
9. luggage rack
10. ticket office

14. MEANS OF TRANSPORT

1. double decker bus
2. coach
3. lorry
4. truck
5. van
6. hovercraft
7. ferry
8. bike
9. scooter
10. balloon
15. FURNITURE

1. armchair
2. sofa
3. bedside table
4. chest of drawers
5. cupboard
6. wardrobe
7. shelf
8. lamp
9. desk
10. mirror
11. single/double bed
12. bookcase

16. SOFT FURNISHINGS

1. curtain
2. cushion
3. pillow
4. tablecloth
5. sheet
6. pillowcase
7. blanket
8. duvet
9. bedcover
10. carpet
11. bathmat
12. towel

17. STATIONERY

1. sharpener
2. rubber
3. scissors
4. exercise book
5. felt tips
6. pen
7. pencil
8. highlighter
9. notebook
10. file
18. MAIL
1. letter
2. envelope
3. stamps
4. parcel
5. post box
6. wrapping paper
7. birthday card
8. postcard
9. junk mail
10. address

19. BUILDINGS/SHOPS
1. block of flats
2. skyscraper
3. town hall
4. butcher’s
5. baker’s
6. department store
7. chemist’s
8. shopping centre
9. stadium
10. stationer’s

20. FRUIT AND VEGETABLES
1. pineapple
2. strawberry
3. grape
4. grapefruit
5. water melon
6. blackberry
7. aubergine
8. artichoke
9. garlic
10. bean
11. celery
12. cabbage
3.
   a. 2
   b. 5
   c. 6
   d. 7
   e. 1
   f. 4
   g. 3
4.
   2. medical conditions
   3. passion
   4. eat
   5. irritable
   6. enormous
   7 free
   8. extinguish

ERROR CORRECTION
1
   1. in (of)
   2. people (persons)
   3. mother’s (mother)
   4. a teacher (teacher)
   5. younger (more young)
   6. at school (the school)
   7. 19 years old (19 yrs)
   8. I’m studying (study)
   9. quite well (enough)
   10. very much (very)
   11. like going (go)
   12. don’t have/haven’t got (haven’t)
   13. we split up (have split up)
   14. to visit (for visit)
   15. want to get (want get)

ERROR CORRECTION
2
   1. began (has begun)
   2. I must be (to be)
   3. short black hair
   4. taller than (more tall)
   5. he is (is)
   6. that makes him (make)
   7. a very complex character
   8. listens to (listens)
   9. angry (hungry)
   10. job (work)
   11. sometimes (sometime)
   12. too generous (too much generous)
   13. the worst (the worse)
   14. would like to marry (would like marry)
   15. I tell him (I say him)

ERROR CORRECTION
3
   1. works (work)

ERROR CORRECTION
4
   1. the
   2. Ok
   3. for
   4. to
   5. will
   6. a
   7. that
   8. been
   9. of
   10. ok
   11. ok
   12. me
   13. to
   14. ok
   15. have
   16. which
   17. much

ERROR CORRECTION
5
   1. have
   2. ok
   3. ok
   4. him
   5. to
   6. to
   7. ok
   8. also
   9. them
   10. much
11. ok
12. to
13. a
14. the
15. after

ERROR CORRECTION
6
1. to
2. have
3. do
4. ok
5. must
6. should
7. more
8. ok
9. ok
10. ok
11. to
12. that
13. of
14. ok
15. have

ERROR CORRECTION
7
1. been
2. of
3. ok
4. of
5. much
6. that
7. has
8. it
9. ok
10. to
11. he
12. ok
13. for
14. was
15. more
16. much
17. ok
18. two

ERROR CORRECTION
8
1. ok