

QUESTIONS ON GRAMMAR, VOCABULARY AND DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

Practice 4

MULTIPLE MEANINGS – 1 point

1. For questions 1-5, think of **one** word only which can be used appropriately in all three sentences. Each correct word is worth 0.2 points.

1 _____

The riots presented a considerable risk to _____ and property.
The building began _____ as a church.
Try to put some _____ into your painting.

2 _____

At the age of 17, he went _____ the building trade as an apprentice.
Eight _____ twenty-four is three.
I'm really _____ folk music.

3 _____

I invited them to _____ us for dinner.
A lot of people want to _____ the club, so there's a long waiting list.
Her parents are going to London next week and she will _____ them later.

4 _____

He is a tall, clumsy-looking boy with two _____ feet
How much milk is _____ in the fridge?
All that's now _____ to show for our hard work is an empty office.

5 _____

It's just a _____ to them. They don't care what happens.
John gave the _____ away by laughing when Jim walked in.
We've been in this _____ for twenty years.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

2. For questions 1-6, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Planetary Artistry

For me, the highlight of this past week's science news was the images (1) back from the Curiosity rover, providing (2) geologic evidence that water flowed on Mars. Of course, this wasn't exactly a surprise; for decades, planetary scientists have suggested the channel networks visible in spacecraft imagery couldn't have been made by anything else. The evidence has been (3) as well, as various clay minerals and iron oxides have been identified through hyperspectral imagery.

Comentado [AB1]: This type of exercise has actually never come up in the real exam. If it did, it would include 10 items, 0.1 point each (or 5 items, 0.2 point each).

Nonetheless, I suspect that the image of definitely water-lain (4) made the heart of more than one geologist (5) a beat. Ground truth. You could argue that the scientific exploration of the extra-terrestrial is, at least (6) part, a search for meaning: to position us within a larger cosmology. But our fascination with, and connection to, what we see in the night sky comes not just through science, but also through art. So it should come as no surprise that scientific images of planetary surfaces have (7) inspiration to a range of artists from Galileo - whose first sketches of the moon through a telescope are (8) beautiful - to Barbara Hepworth - whose interpretations of the lunar surface are far less literal.

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. A thrown | B shot | C beamed | D fired |
| 2. A final | B conclusive | C proven | D guaranteed |
| 3. A swelling | B expanding | C increasing | D mounting |
| 4. A sediments | B dross | C grounds | D matter |
| 5. A slip | B lose | C skip | D jump |
| 6. A with | B in | C at | D for |
| 7. A offered | B provided | C given | D made |
| 8. A totally | B doubtlessly | C surely | D truly |

CLOZE TEST A – 1 point (This very same exercise came up in 2016 in Andalucía)

3. For questions 1-10, read the text below and fill in each space with the word which best fits in there. Use one word only in each space. Each item is worth 0.1 point.

How can you tell if you'll stick it (1) _____ with your partner and grow old together or whether, (2) _____ some corner down the road, (3) _____ is an unpleasant and expensive break-up waiting? It seems that luck and determination may not be the (4) _____ factors involved.

Pinning (5) _____ exactly how and why people fall in love, and whether they are likely to (6) _____ a success of life together is a subject that is challenging the skills of scientists around the world.

In the USA, relationship analysis is a well-developed science. Nearly 50 per cent of American marriages (7) _____ in divorce, which is costly both (8) _____ material and emotional terms. The Family Research Laboratory at the University of Washington wants to know why this happens and what can be done about it. This institution is run by Dr John Gottman, who believes that he is able to distinguish happy relationships that

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will (9) _____ the test of time from unhappy (10) _____ that will break off, with an accuracy rate of 90 per cent.

SPOTTING MISTAKES – 1 point (this very same question came up in 2016 in Andalucía)

4. Some of the following sentences include a mistake. Write OK for the sentences which are correct and write the sentence correctly for the ones which are wrong. The mistakes may involve changing or adding words or structures. The sentences which are correct cannot be modified. Each item is worth 0.1 point.

- a) I suppose that the time when I was happier was when I was at university.
- b) He says he prefers literature, but it is music what he loves more than anything else.
- c) It is difficult to imagine his accepting the proposal.
- d) The author stressed his books to be aimed at teenagers.
- e) Not until did I see him I remembered I had met him before.
- f) You are not to leave the country without legal permission.
- g) The injury will stop him playing football for three months.
- h) He is nowhere like as stubborn as his older brother.
- i) The United Nations have conducted a study about the situation of refugees in Europe.
- j) This is the first time he forgets his phone.

WORD-FORMATION – 1 point

5. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the space. Each item is worth 0.1 point.

Ancient music

In ancient Greece, which is usually considered to be the (0) BIRTHPLACE BIRTH
of Western civilization, music was both ubiquitous and (1) _____ SUPREME
important. Although we know little about how ancient Greek music actually
sounded, classical scholars refer to it as ‘an art which was
(2) _____ into the very texture of people’s lives’. As in modern WEAVE
European culture, elaborate instrumental skills were the preserve of
(3) _____ musicians; but the ancient Greeks considered that PROFESS
instruction in singing and in the playing of musical instruments such as the
lyre should be an (4) _____ part of education for every citizen. Music ESSENCE
as an important feature of domestic celebrations, (5) _____ rituals RELIGION
and feasts, and musical competitions were held alongside

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(6) _____ contests.	ATHLETE
For the ancient Greeks, music and poetry were (7) _____. The poet and the composer were frequently the same person, so that often words and music were created together. It is worth noting that, in spite of its (8) _____ connections, music was regarded as the natural	SEPARATE
(9) _____ to the subjective language of poetry rather than the objective language of (10) _____ argument.	MATHEMATICS
	ACCOMPANY
	INTELLECT

LEXICAL FIELDS – 1 point (verbs of sounds)

6. Underline the most suitable option in each sentence. Each correct item is worth 0.1 point.

- A bee was *humming/buzzing/crashing* angrily against the window pane, unable to get out.
- The crowd *banged/rustled/booed* in disagreement as the politician left the platform.
- The bus stopped at the traffic lights with a *screech/howl/grind* of brakes.
- I had to put some oil on the hinges to stop the door *whining/squeaking/whimpering*.
- The sack of potatoes fell from the lorry with a heavy *crunch/splash/thud*.
- The helicopter passed overhead with a *grinding/chirping/whirring* sound, like a giant insect.
- The mirror fell from the Wall with a *whoosh/crash/screech*.
- Air was escaping from the punctured tyre with a *hissing/bubbling/puffing* sound.
- The tiny bells on the Christmas tree were *clanging/ringing/tinkling* in the draught.
- The saucepans fell onto the floor with a great *clatter/crunch/ping*.

IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS – 1 point.

7. The following sentences include idiomatic expressions. Write down the exact word that complete each sentence in the right form. Each item is worth 0.1 point.

- He wasn't sure about starting up the business, but I told him to strike while the _____'s hot.
- Working late again? No rest for the _____.
- After ten minutes we realised that we were talking at _____ purposes.

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- d) My grandmother has the same routine every day. She's very _____ in her ways.
- e) He must be the laziest person I've ever met. He's a total _____ potato.
- f) She sometimes gets out of control. She's a bit of a loose _____
- g) He complains whenever we try to have fun. He's a bit of a _____ blanket.
- h) I'm going to play devil's _____. Let's imagine the company goes bankrupt. What happens to the employees?
- i) If you have to make a decision, it's no use sitting on the _____. You must choose one or the other.
- j) We pretended we didn't know it was her birthday, but Sam gave the _____ away.

IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS B – 1 point.

- 8. List 10 idioms related to "colour". Explain their meaning and exemplify. Each item is worth 0.1 point.**

ANSWER KEY

1. MULTIPLE MEANINGS – 1 point

1 life

2 into

3 join

4 left

5 game

2. MULTIPLE CHOICE

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. A thrown | B shot | C beamed | D fired |
| 2. A final | B conclusive | C proven | D guaranteed |
| 3. A swelling | B expanding | C increasing | D mounting |
| 4. A sediments | B dross | C grounds | D matter |
| 5. A slip | B lose | C skip | D jump |
| 6. A with | B in | C at | D for |
| 7. A offered | B provided | C given | D made |
| 8. A totally | B doubtlessly | C surely | D truly |

3. CLOZE TEST

How can you tell if you'll stick it (1) **OUT** with your partner and grow old together or whether, (2) **AT/AROUND** some corner down the road, (3) **THERE** is an unpleasant and expensive break-up waiting? It seems that luck and determination may not be the (4) **ONLY** factors involved.

Pinning (5) **DOWN** exactly how and why people fall in love, and whether they are likely to (6) **PUT** a success of life together is a subject that is challenging the skills of scientists around the world.

In the USA, relationship analysis is a well-developed science. Nearly 50 per cent of American marriages (7) **END** in divorce, which is costly both (8) **IN** material and emotional terms. The Family Research Laboratory at the University of Washington wants to know why this happens and what can be done about it. This institution is run by Dr John Gottman, who believes that he is able to distinguish happy relationships that will (9) **STAND** the test of time from unhappy (10) **ONES** that will break off, with an accuracy rate of 90 per cent.

Comentado [Office2]: To stick it out with someone.

Comentado [Office3]: To pin down, another interesting phrasal verb meaning "locating, determining". It is usually employed in structures to explain the reason for something: this can be pinned down to...

Comentado [Office4]: Collocation. Pass the test of time is not an option.

4. SPOTTING MISTAKES – 1 point

- a) I suppose that the time when I was **HAPPIEST** was when I was at university.
- b) He says he prefers literature, but **it is music THAT** he loves more than anything else.
- c) It is difficult to imagine his accepting the proposal. **OK**
- d) The author stressed **(THAT) HIS BOOKS WERE/ARE** aimed at teenagers.
- e) Not until **I SAW HIM DID I REMEMBER** I had met him before.
- f) You are not to leave the country without legal permission. **OK**
- g) The injury will stop him playing football **for** three months. **OK**
- h) He is nowhere **NEAR** as stubborn as his older brother.
- i) The United Nations have conducted a study **ON** the situation of refugees in Europe.
- j) This is the first time he **HAS FORGOTTEN** his phone.

Comentado [Office5]: Cleft sentence: *It is ... that ...*

Comentado [Office6]: Inversion in the second part with the following adverbials: *not until, only when, only if, only after.*

Comentado [Office7]: The pattern *stop sb from doing something* is possible, but the one suggested here is perfectly fine as well, so you should write **OK**.

Comentado [Office8]: *This is/was the 1st/2nd/3rd time... + present perfect.*

5. WORD-FORMATION

In ancient Greece, which is usually considered to be the (0) <u>BIRTHPLACE</u>	BIRTH
of Western civilization, music was both ubiquitous and (1) <u>SUPREME</u>	SUPREME
important. Although we know little about how ancient Greek music actually	
sounded, classical scholars refer to it as ‘an art which was	
(2) <u>WOVEN</u> into the very texture of people’s lives’. As in modern	WEAVE
European culture, elaborate instrumental skills were the preserve of	
(3) <u>PROFESSIONAL</u> musicians; but the ancient Greeks considered that	PROFESS
instruction in singing and in the playing of musical instruments such as the	
lyre should be an (4) <u>ESSENTIAL</u> part of education for every citizen. Music	ESSENCE
as an important feature of domestic celebrations, (5) <u>RELIGIOUS</u> rituals	RELIGION
and feasts, and musical competitions were held alongside	
(6) <u>ATHLETIC/ATHLETISM</u> contests.	ATHLETE
For the ancient Greeks, music and poetry were (7) <u>INSEPARABLE</u> The	SEPARATE
poet and the composer were frequently the same person, so that often	
words and music were created together. It is worth noting that, in spite	
of its (8) <u>MATHEMATICAL</u> connections, music was regarded as the natural	MATHEMATICS

(9) **ACCOMPANIMENT/COMPANION** to the subjective language of poetry rather than the objective language of (10) **INTELLECTUAL** argument. ACCOMPANY INTELLECT

6. **LEXICAL FIELDS – 1 point**

- a) A bee was *humming/buzzing/crashing* angrily against the window pane, unable to get out.
- b) The crowd *banged/rustled/boomed* in disagreement as the politician left the platform.
- c) The bus stopped at the traffic lights with a *screech/howl/grind* of brakes.
- d) I had to put some oil on the hinges to stop the door *whining/squeaking/whimpering*.
- e) The sack of potatoes fell from the lorry with a heavy *crunch/splash/thud*.
- f) The helicopter passed overhead with a *grinding/chirping/whirring* sound, like a giant insect.
- g) The mirror fell from the Wall with a *whoosh/crash/screech*.
- h) Air was escaping from the punctured tyre with a *hissing/bubbling/puffing* sound.
- i) The tiny bells on the Christmas tree were *clanging/ringing/tinkling* in the draught.
- j) The saucepans fell onto the floor with a great *clatter/crunch/ping*.

Comentado [AB9]: Lexical fields have come up both in the exam in 2016 and 2018. In both cases, the candidate was presented with 8 words related to the same semantic field (e.g. verbs of looking, verbs of movement, etc.), out of which s/he had to explain and exemplify 5. This exercise is a different version, which also allows you to learn the meanings of different verbs related to the same field. Make sure you learn the three options in each sentence, and understand why they are (not) the right one.

7. **IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS – 1 point.**

- a) He wasn't sure about starting up the business, but I told him to strike while the **IRON'S** hot.
- b) Working late again? No rest for the **WICKED**.
- c) After ten minutes we realised that we were talking at **CROSS** purposes.
- d) My grandmother has the same routine every day. She's very **SET** in her ways.
- e) He must be the laziest person I've ever met. He's a total **COUCH** potato.
- f) She sometimes gets out of control. She's a bit of a loose **CANNON**.
- g) He complains whenever we try to have fun. He's a bit of a **WET** blanket.
- h) I'm going to play devil's **ADVOCATE**. Let's imagine the company goes bankrupt. What happens to the employees?
- i) If you have to make a decision, it's no use sitting on the **FENCE**. You must choose one or the other.
- j) We pretended we didn't know it was her birthday, but Sam gave the **GAME** away.

8. **IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS B – 1 point.**

To be green with envy: “to be very jealous, envious”. *When Bill saw my new car he was green with envy.*

To give/be given the green light: “to grant permission”. *The builders were given the green light to begin the tower.*

To have a green thumb: “be skilful in the garden”. *You can tell by her flower garden that Sheila has a green thumb.*

Once in a blue moon: “very rarely”. *Tina never comes home now. We only see her once in a blue moon.*

Out of the blue: “unexpectedly”. *Julie’s letter was unexpected. It arrived completely out of the blue.*

To do something till one is blue in the face: “to work as hard and as long as one possibly can (usually without success)”. *You can talk until you’re blue in the face, but he still won’t listen.*

Red carpet treatment: “treat someone like royalty”. *When the visitors from Japan arrived, the company gave them the red carpet treatment.*

In the red: “in debt”. *When we were in the red we almost had to sell the house.*

Red tape: “official or bureaucratic tasks”. *There is still some red tape to deal with in terms of the inheritance.*

Red eye: “an airplane flight that takes off after midnight”. *I caught the red eye so that I would see the sunrise over the mountains.*

To see red: “to be/become very angry”. *I saw red when that boy grabbed my sister’s purse.*

To be caught red-handed: “to catch someone in the act of doing something”. *He was caught red-handed while stealing those candy bars.*

To be tickled pink: “to be extremely pleased and appreciative / to be a bit tipsy”. *Your grandma was tickled pink that you called on her birthday!*

Browned-off: “to be bored or annoyed with something or someone”. *I’m fed up with this job. I feel completely browned-off.*

A white lie: “a small lie that is told to be polite or avoid hurting someone’s feelings”. *I didn’t like her dress, but I told a white lie not to offend her.*

To be black and blue (all over): “to be bruised and beaten”. *We found the poor guy black and blue near the train tracks.*

Black and white: “straight forward, very clear”. *The rules we gave the kids were black and white. No answering the phone or the door.*

To be the black sheep: “to be the outcast, odd one out, unlike the others”. *Rachel is the black sheep in the family because she is an artist whereas everyone else is an economist.*

With flying colours: “with distinction”. *I passed my driving test with flying colours.*

Comentado [AB10]: According to the instructions of the exercise, you would have to include 10 idioms only. Here you have a more comprehensive list, though more idioms could be added, by all means.

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Rose-coloured glasses: “unrealistic view”. *Paula imagines Hollywood with rose-coloured glasses.*