

# SAMPLE ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

QUESTION PAPER

SEPTEMBER 2019  
DURATION: 120 Minutes

## LISTENING (20 points)

**PART A:** Listen to five conversations twice and choose the correct answer A, B, C or D for each question. Write the answers on the answer sheet. You have one minute to read the questions. (1 point each)

### Conversation 1

1. Where does the girl want to go at the weekend?  
A Ice skating  
B Rock concert  
C Art gallery  
D Music festival

### Conversation 2

2. What do they decide to buy Ivan for his birthday?  
A A backpack  
B A t-shirt  
C Trousers  
D Sunglasses

### Conversation 3

3. What time does the last bus leave? At \_\_\_\_\_.  
A 10.50  
B 11.10  
C 11.30  
D 11.50

### Conversation 4

4. What will the woman take to the party?  
A Cake  
B Bread  
C Cheese  
D Fruit

### Conversation 5

5. How does the boy spend most of his time? By \_\_\_\_\_.  
A playing tennis      B playing football      C swimming      D walking

**PART B: SECTION A. Listen to the first part of the conversation twice. Choose the best answer A, B, C or D for questions 6 to 10. Write the answers on the answer sheet. You have one minute to read the questions. (1 point each)**

**6. Westfield Radio's annual competition is on \_\_\_\_\_ night.**  
A Friday  
B Saturday  
C Sunday  
D Monday

**7. The competition this year is to find the best \_\_\_\_\_.**  
A dancer  
B actor  
C singer  
D musician

**8. Entries are only accepted \_\_\_\_\_.**  
A on the phone  
B by fax  
C through the post  
D via email

**9. The new theatre group is specially for \_\_\_\_\_.**  
A teenagers  
B children  
C adults  
D elderly people

**10. To get more information, you should phone \_\_\_\_\_.**  
A the theatre  
B St Paul's school  
C Westfield Radio  
D the secretary of the group

**SECTION B. Listen to the second part of the conversation twice and complete the notes with one word only and numbers from 11 to 15. Write the answers on the answer sheet. You have one minute to read the questions. (2 points each)**

This week, the sports hall opens at 8 am and closes at 10. 30 pm.

For popular activities, you should **(11)**\_\_\_\_\_ and book.

The swimming pool is not ready and will open before the end of this

**(12)**\_\_\_\_\_.

It's free of charge for the whole of the first week. The **(13)**\_\_\_\_\_

of the swimming pool is the same as the old one but has much better facilities.

The rock group called Switch has four members. **(14)**\_\_\_\_\_ of

these members were born in Westfield.

This world famous rock group is having a **(15)**\_\_\_\_\_ on Saturday

evening in Town Hall.

## **READING (20 points)**

**PART A. Read the text carefully and circle the best answers for questions 1 to 4. Write yours answers on the answer sheet. (1 point each)**

### **Life as a Hotel Manager**

By Kirsty Jenkins

Some hotels have hundreds of rooms, some have just a few. You might think small hotels are friendlier, but making guests feel welcome isn't a question of size but of attitude. Guests can be made to feel at home in a 900- room hotel with a swimming pool and half a dozen restaurants, and just a small breakfast room. It all depends on the employees, from receptionists to cleaners to managers.

Many people start working in hotels to meet people, or to provide a good service. My own reason was much less interesting: I left university, my parents had moved abroad, and I had to find a job with accommodation. I went into the first hotel I saw, and asked if they had any jobs. Luckily, a receptionist had just left, and I was offered the job - together with a room in the staff part of the hotel.

I loved the work and soon decided to aim for the hotel management. Now, ten years later, I run a 20-room, **independent** hotel which is run freely by one owner. It was recently named 'Small Hotel of the Year' by a national newspaper. Of course it's great when guests tell you that they've really enjoyed their stay or their meal and want to return. And our restaurant menu attracts both guests and local people. Hotel staff often don't stay in their jobs long because they're unhappy with the manager. Before I started at this hotel, almost all its employees left within a year. My main achievement so far is that now only a third do. My aim is to reduce that figure even more.

1. **What is Kirsty Jenkins main purpose in the text?**
  - A Describe her experience of working in hotels.
  - B Encourage people to become hotel managers.
  - C Explain the difficulties of working in a hotel.
  - D Compare different kinds of hotels.
  
2. **What is important for making guests enjoy their stay in a hotel?**
  - A The facilities
  - B The number of rooms
  - C The number of staff
  - D The way the staff behaves
  
3. **Kirsty started working in hotels because \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - A she wanted to meet a large number of people
  - B she was contacted by a hotel that needed staff
  - C she was looking for somewhere to live
  - D she wanted to be able to provide a good service.
  
4. **What does the word "*independent*" mean in the last paragraph?**
  - A high quality
  - B on it's own
  - C big in size
  - D very successful

**PART B. Read the text again and write True (T) OR False (F) for questions 5 to 10.  
(1 point each)**

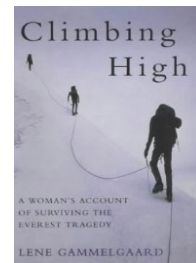
5. **If employees have positive attitudes, guests are more likely to return to the hotel. \_\_\_\_**
  
6. **It was very difficult for Kirsty to find her first job. \_\_\_\_**
  
7. **Kirsty Jenkins stayed and worked in the same hotel. \_\_\_\_**
  
8. **The food in the hotel is very interesting. \_\_\_\_**
  
9. **Hotel staff are always happy with their jobs and work for long periods. \_\_\_\_**
  
10. **Kirsty is planning to stay in and work for this hotel in the future. \_\_\_\_**

**PART C. Choose the most appropriate heading (A-G) from the list below for each paragraph (1 -5) that follows. There are two extra headings. Write the answers on the answer sheet. (2 points each)**

- A Killer storm
- B You can't buy life
- C Weather conditions change
- D Problems working in a team
- E Facing danger alone
- F The prizes received
- G How it all started

## ***STAYING ALIVE***

***"The dream of most mountain climbers is to reach the top of Mount Everest. Sometimes, however, this dream can turn into a nightmare."***



**1** \_\_\_\_\_

Lene Gammelgaard is the first Scandinavian woman to reach the top of Mount Everest. She was asked to join a team of professional and non-professional climbers on an Everest climb in May 1996. At midnight on 9 May the team set off for the roof of the world. The climb was painful and difficult, but everybody was thrilled to finally make it. It was a magnificent achievement, but Lene knew that only half the job had been done, as she says "On a big climb like that, going back down is the most dangerous part."

**2** \_\_\_\_\_

What Lene feared most was not far from the truth. As the team began the climb down, Lene noticed dark clouds below. Within 45 minutes, a terrible storm had hit them and snow up to a metre deep covered their route and ropes. The team members were exhausted and had trouble staying on their feet. All of them were trying hard to keep moving and started using oxygen. "It's really scary being trapped in a snowstorm. Even though you can't see anything around you, you have to keep walking," Lene says. "The biggest danger was falling off the edge of a cliff."

### 3 \_\_\_\_\_

The wind was blowing at 100 kph and the temperature was a chilling -30 C; it was impossible to hear anything because of the noise. They soon ran out of oxygen and started shaking with cold. They had been up there without food, drink or sleep for 24 hours. Eventually the storm died down, but by that time eight members of the team had lost their lives.

### 4 \_\_\_\_\_

“You learn a lesson from tragedies but, above all, you learn you are powerless next to nature,” Lene admits. “Being in a team makes you feel stronger and safer. Of course, when you’re in a team, you stay in a team; but in the end, you’re responsible for your own decisions. And to tell you the truth, it’s not heroic to risk your life to save another. I know it’s terrible to say this, but it is a really stupid thing to do.

### 5 \_\_\_\_\_

Since this tragedy there has been a lot of discussion about the risks involved when climbing Mount Everest, especially now that any non-professional with enough money can get a permit and equipment to take on the climb. Reaching the top of the world is something incredible that most people would love to say they have achieved. But the question is, are the risks too high?

## VOCABULARY AND USAGE (20 points)

**PART A. Complete the text below (1 - 5) with the correct forms of the words.  
Write the answers on the answer sheet. (1 point each)**

### Nettie Polano

Nettie Polano is 14 years old but she does not go to school with other girls her age. She does not go to school 1 she is a university student. Nettie is a teenage genius – a teenager with amazing abilities. She finished primary school in four years and secondary school in only three!

She has decided to study science because she dreams of one day becoming the 2 person to travel into space. Her teachers noticed she was different from other students in her class when she was only 7 years old. They told Nettie's parents how brilliant she was and her parents took Nettie out of school when she was only 9 years old. Nettie 3 her secondary education at home with teachers who tutored her on her own. They, too, noticed how brilliant Nettie was and 4 her to study science at university.

But is she happy? Nettie says she 5. She still sees her old school friends and she still does things other teenagers her age enjoy.

- |                  |             |                 |              |
|------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. A because     | B so        | C but           | D and        |
| 2. A elder       | B young     | C youngest      | D old        |
| 3. A developed   | B completed | C specialized   | D designed   |
| 4. A experienced | B separated | C congratulated | D encouraged |
| 5. A is          | B are       | C am            | D be         |



**PART B. Read the text and circle the correct answer for questions 1 - 10. Write the answers on the answer sheet. (1 point each)**

It is said 1 technology has helped us live a better life. Gadgets, like computers, mobile phones, CD and MP3 players, give us a sense of comfort and luxury. Thinking about it more 2, though, have they really made our lives better? A lot of people argue that technology has changed our real needs and, as result, we cannot do 3 our favourite gadgets. Now, let me 4 you this simple question: Has technology made us happier? I'm sorry to say that it has not. I can't see why teenagers enjoy 5 the Net so much, when they can hang 6 with their friends and have fun! After all, you will not be fifteen forever! What I am trying to 7 is that technology is OK, but instead of 8 to music on your MP3 player alone, how about trying to be more social? Personally, I would 9 invite some friends over to share the experience, than be all on 10 own.

- |                  |             |            |            |
|------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 1. A to          | B that      | C which    | D of       |
| 2. A careful     | B carefully | C care     | D careless |
| 3. A without     | B with      | C off      | D from     |
| 4. A tell        | B say       | C ask      | D make     |
| 5. A going       | B surfing   | C running  | D shopping |
| 6. A on          | B over      | C out      | D off      |
| 7. A to question | B to ask    | C to say   | D to tell  |
| 8. A listening   | B listens   | C listened | D listen   |
| 9. A better      | B rather    | C prefer   | D like     |
| 10. A me         | B myself    | C mine     | D my       |

**PART C. There is a mistake in each of the sentences below (1 - 5). Read the sentences and circle the mistake. There is an example. Write the answers on the answer sheet. (1 point each)**

**Example: (0)** Mary and Johnson should to go to the pharmacy to obtain some medicines now.  
A      B      C      D

1. Sam and his family will visit Disneyland again last year in June.  
A      B      C      D

2. You can gets spam email even if you give your email address to your friends.  
A      B      C      D

3. The Tasmanian devil is a unusual animal found only on the island of Tasmania.  
A B      C      D

4. Dance school is a teen drama about a group of students which all want to become dancers.  
A      B      C      D

5. There are a lot different types of shark but the most famous of all is the Great White Shark.  
A      B      C      D

## **WRITING (20 points)**

**Write an essay for ONE of the following topics:**

**An argumentative essay (for or against) of 150 - 200 words for the following topic:**

- “Are cell phones dangerous?”

**Organize your essay according to the stages below:**

- Introduction
- for/against body paragraph 1
- for/against body paragraph 2
- for/against body paragraph 3
- Conclusion

**OR**

**Write a cause essay of 150 – 200 words for the following topic:**

- *“Three causes of traffic accidents”*

**Organize your essay according to the stages below:**

- Introduction
- First cause with supporting details.
- Second cause with supporting details.
- Third cause with supporting details.
- Conclusion

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**WRITE THE ESSAY ON THE ANSWER SHEET**