

ESCUELA SUPERIOR POLITÉCNICA DEL LITORAL Centro de Lenguas Extranjeras CELEX – ESPOL Advanced B Mid Term Exam v3



I. Use of English Section (20 marks)

Fill the gaps with the correct forms of these verbs. (5 marks)

have not seem		decorate	
not know	listen	meet	

Example: My sister <u>has</u> five children. 1. I ______ how to use this machine.

 2. The boss ______ to be in a good mood.
3. I ______ to the radio when you phoned.
4. I ______ Fran for a coffee at six.
5. It's about time we ______ the kitchen. The walls are looking rather dirty.

Fill in the gaps in the conversations with these words/phrases. (3 marks)

get	line	ring	catch
delay	phone	run out	breaking up
г			
Exam			
	Sorry I did		
JIM	The <i>line</i> isn	't very goo	d here.
			a bit. 9 (7) you
	There's a b Do you wa (9)	nt me to giv	on the line. ve you a
			all of that. out to (11)
(2 mai	the synony rks) ple: usually		
12. exa	act \rightarrow p		

13. insulted \rightarrow 0 _____ 14. differ \rightarrow v ____

15. strange \rightarrow 0 _ _

Re-write these sentences using passive verb forms. (3 marks)

Example: They show a new film every week. A new film *is shown every week.*

Complete these sentences with these words/phrases. (3 marks)

such as	like	SO	so much	
so many	as	such		

Example: I love sci-fi films such as The Matrix.

19. That book has an exciting
story.
20. I can see why people admire
him.
21. The play was good I saw it
twice.
22. Daniel Craig is amazing James
Bond.
23. Why do some film stars make
money?
24. He looked he'd run a marathon.
Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the
verbs in brackets. (4 marks)
25. I wish we (not have to) go to
work tomorrow.
26. It's time (leave) for the airport.
27. If we'd known about the problem sooner,
we (help) you with it.
28. I wish I (not eat) all those
sweets before lunch.

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II. Reading Section (15 marks)

Read the online review of the film, Rogue Trader (1999), starring Ewan McGregor and Anna Friel.

Film review: Rogue Trader

Ewan McGregor: In over his head as Nick Leeson in Rogue Trader Starring: Ewan McGregor, Anna Friel Director/Screenwriter: James Deardon Time: 1hr, 32 mins Certificate 15 (UK)

By BBC News Online's Rebecca Thomas

Nick Leeson, as the story goes, was the man who had everything - intelligence, charm, dream wife and job - and spectacularly lost it.

Unfortunately, *Rogue Trader* – the film version of his downfall - <u>fares little better</u>. It under-exploits the ability of class A actors - Ewan McGregor and Anna Friel. It also fails to make the most of a potentially gripping and illuminating drama.



Tension rises on the trading room floor

Notoriety came winging Nick Leeson's way in 1995 when he lost millions of his employer's, (Barings Bank) money on the Far Eastern financial markets. Barings, a 200-year-old institution in the City of London, went bankrupt. Leeson was sentenced to six and a half years in prison.

If the story *Rogue Trader* tells - based on Leeson's book - is to be believed none of the catastrophe was really his fault. Leeson was the victim of his own eagerness to prove himself in a world traditionally only accessible to Oxbridge* graduates. The subsequent massive losses he incurs, and hides, are not only made to look easy but inevitable, as the incompetent Barings management ignore the alarm bells rung by their funds manager. Instead, they focus their attention on the exaggerated profits Leeson is seemingly making. The message is hammered home by Leeson's (McGregor's) continuous narrative of what's going on.

Maybe the audience would be better convinced by his story if it was backed up by the developed characterisation of the rest of the cast. As it stands, you learn little about the Barings bosses and Anna Friel, Leeson's wife Lisa, comes across as painfully naïve. Moreover, the film tries to explain the complexities of the financial market, which makes the action slow, although leaving you feeling none the wiser.

But to give credit where it's due, there are moments of seat-gripping excitement as the action moves towards disaster. The ringing of unanswered phones intensifies. Sweat pours as the figures go through the roof. And a first-rate performance by McGregor does much to win over hearts and minds.

But all in all, *Rogue Trader* could leave you feeling irritated with everyone involved. And there is the sneaking feeling that the story might have been better as a 45-minute TV film.

*Oxbridge = Oxford and Cambridge University

Source: www.bbc.co.uk

29. What did the critic think of the film *Rogue Trader*? Choose the best answer (a, b, c or d) (1 mark)

a. It's a really bad film with terrible acting.

- b. The plot has potential, but it's slow-moving and the characters are not fully developed.
- c. The acting is first-rate; you should definitely watch it.
- d. It's a gripping, exciting film from start to finish.

Answer the following questions. (5 marks)

30. What did Nick Leeson do to become famous?

31-32. What are the problems with the film, according to the critic? Write two things.

(2 marks)

33. What did the critic like about the film?

34. According to the film and the book, who was responsible for the problems at Barings Bank?

What do these expressions mean? Choose the best answer (a, b or c). (3 marks) 35. fares little better (paragraph two) a. is much better b. isn't much more successful

c. becomes far-fetched

36. leaving you feeling none the wiser (paragraph six) a. you feel you haven't learned anything b. you feel you've learned a lot c. you feel wiser than the average person

37. go through the roof (paragraph seven) a. damage the building b. become extremely high

c. go upstairs

Read the article about some research carried out on elephants.

Elephants pass mirror test of self-awareness

Alok Jha, science correspondent Tuesday October 31, 2006 The Guardian

Elephants have been found to recognise themselves in a mirror, putting them in an exclusive club of self-awareness whose other members are great apes, bottlenose dolphins and humans.

"The social complexity of the elephant, its wellknown altruistic behaviour and, of course, its huge brain, made the elephant a logical candidate species for testing in front of a mirror," said Joshua Plotnik, a psychologist at Emory University in Atlanta, who led a team whose study was published yesterday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

An 8ft mirror was put in the elephant enclosure at the Bronx zoo in New York and a watch kept on its three inhabitants. The first question was if they greeted their reflection as if meeting another individual - they did not make this mistake, and used the mirror to inspect themselves, for example, moving their trunks to look at the inside of their mouths.

"Elephants have been tested in front of mirrors before, but previous studies used relatively small mirrors kept out of the elephants' reach," Dr Plotnik said. "This study is the first to test the animals in front of a huge mirror they could touch, rub against, and try to look behind."

Inspecting the mirror and trying to look behind it - as did the Bronx elephants - is another indicator of self-awareness. One of the three also passed the "mark" test when painted in a place it would normally be unable to see. It touched the paint mark on its head after looking in the mirror.

Diana Reiss of Columbia University in New York said that the research helped explain the society in which elephants lived: "Humans, great apes, dolphins and elephants, well known for their superior intelligence and complex social systems, are thought to possess the highest forms of empathy and altruism in the animal kingdom."

Source: www.guardian.co.uk

Mark the following statements true, false or information not given? If the statements are false, re-write them so that they're true. (6 marks)

38. The elephants first thought that their reflection was another elephant.

39. This is the first experiment with an 8 foot mirror.

40. The mirror was kept away from the elephants.

41. Humans, great apes, dolphins and elephants are similar because they live in societies and care for each other.

42. One elephant couldn't find a mark painted on its head when it looked in the mirror.

43. Diana Reiss was involved in carrying out the research.

III. Listening Section (15 marks)

Listen to four people talking about what they would do if they won the lottery. Choose the correct answers. (7 marks)

Speaker One 44. If he won the lottery, he would be interested in buying ... b. many houses or flats in a variety of places. a. several houses in the same country. c. a house in the Seychelles with a swimming pool. 45. He would also ... a, hire a chef to cook for him all the time. b. be concerned about his diet and lifestyle. c. open a restaurant. Speaker Two 46. He hates ... b. cold English weather a. hot weather c. sailing 47. If he won the lottery, he'd ... b. move to a hotter country. a. stay in England. c. buy a yacht and hire people to sail him around the world. **Speaker Three** 48. According to the speaker, having a lot of money ... a. would be fantastic b. would be OK c. would be a problem 49. She would ... a. buy a big house in the country. b. buy a big house in the city. c. buy a big house and live on her own. Speaker Four 50. If he won a lot of money, he wouldn't ... a. pay off his family's debts. b. stay in the UK. c. invest the money in a high interest bank account.

Listen to an interview with the daughter of a Hollywood film star. Are the sentences true or false? If they are false, re-write them so that they are true. (8 marks)

51. Hannah watched Harrison Ford making a film once.

52. Hannah's mother discouraged her from becoming an actress.

53. Hannah looks a lot like her mother, particularly her nose which is identical to her mother's.

- 54. One day, Hannah thought she had seen her mother in a shop, but it was another person.
- 55. Acting was more important to Hannah's mother than Hannah herself.

56. Hannah became an accountant because she is very practical.

57. Hannah's mother thinks that her daughter spends a bit too much money.

58. Her voice is extremely loud because she had to learn to project her voice in the theatre.

IV. Writing Section (15 marks)

Question One: A foreign friend wants to come and visit you in Ecuador. Write him/her an email about the town/city where you live. What do you like about it? How has it changed? What can your friend do there if he/she decides to visit? (Write approximately 100 words.)

Question Two: Write a review of the new ESPOL website or the website of your faculty. How is the site organised? What is good and bad about it? What information can you get there? (Write approximately 100 words.)

V. Oral Exam (15 marks)

VI. Homework and Tests (20 marks)

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