



I. Reading Section (15 marks)

Read the newspaper article.

Are the statements true or false? If they are **false**, re-write them so that they are **true**. (6 marks)

1. Simon Calder paid Securicor £200 to work for them.
2. Express delivery companies normally use their own staff to send urgent documents because they are more reliable.
3. Being a courier often means you have to travel alone.
4. Couriers can choose where they fly to.
5. If you are working as a courier, the express delivery company may arrive at the last-minute to give you your hand baggage.
6. It is difficult to work as a courier more than once.

Using the article, match the verbs (7-12) with the correct definitions (a-f). (3 marks)

7. hang around (line 6)
8. fare-paying (line 18)
9. on a casual basis (lines 28-29)
10. steady nerves (lines 47-48)
11. alarmed (line 49)
12. come up with (lines 63-64)

- a. without a fixed contract
- b. surprised and worried
- c. wait in one place for a while
- d. the ability to remain calm in a difficult situation
- e. buying a ticket
- f. invent; create

PSST – Do you fancy a fortnight in Rio for only £200?

It could be yours if you're prepared to fly around the world as a courier, explains Simon Calder.

THE BEST job I've ever had was working for Securicor. It was so good that I paid them. The job lasted just seven hours, half of which was spent hanging around baggage check-ins. The rest of the time I was 11 miles high, travelling at twice the speed of sound and enjoying an excellent meal en route to New York. I flew the Atlantic on Concorde for £150. Express delivery companies use couriers like me to provide a fast service at low cost. The best way to send urgent documents is as accompanied baggage, but then a fare-paying passenger has to travel with them. The companies would prefer to use their own staff; they are familiar with customs procedures and are reliable, but they are also expensive, as salaries have to be added to the cost of fares. So it's much cheaper for the companies to use people off the street on a casual basis.

There are drawbacks to using a courier flight for your

holiday trip. The range of destinations is restricted; the dates of both the outward and return flights are fixed. It can also be anti-social; since only one person is needed on most days, a couple must split up and travel on successive days or buy a full-fare ticket for one of them.

The day of the flight is not without its problems. You must check in at least two hours in advance, and look reasonably smart – no jeans or training shoes. Steady nerves are necessary: you must not be too alarmed if the company's representatives show up with only 30 minutes remaining. You may find yourself with loads of hand luggage, especially if television companies are keen to get video tapes across the Atlantic quickly.

But Susan Griffiths, author of *Work Your Way Around the World*, says that becoming a regular and reliable casual courier can be valuable. 'The company may start coming up with some real last-minute bargains – one reader told me he had been offered a fortnight in Rio for £200!'

Read the report of a shark attack in the United States.

Moonstone Beach — On September 27, 2007 Sue Snyder was surfing with eight other individuals at Moonstone Beach in Humboldt County, California. It was 8:15 AM and she had been on the water about 60 minutes. Scott Paynton and the other surfers were 50 yards from shore with Snyder about 20 yards further out. Air and water temperatures were estimated to be 50 degrees Fahrenheit. It was sunny and clear with a glassy sea surface and 2 – 3 feet of water visibility. The water was 5 – 10 feet deep over a sandy ocean floor. A single seal was observed in the area prior to the attack.

The following report was provided by Scott Paynton, a witness in the water at the time of the attack. *“There were nine people in the water at the time of the attack. Seven people were within a radius of approximately 50 yards. The other two were about 50 yards further south. The victim stated that she felt a bump and was pushed off her board. As she fell, she fell onto the shark as it swam by, running her hand along it and kicking it. As she screamed during the initial bump, another witness turned to see the dorsal fin and tail splashing past the board. The dorsal fin was 18 – 22 inches in height. At this point, the seven of us close together made our way into shore. On shore we discovered the 16" diameter bite mark in the back of the board. As best we can determine, the shark hit the fin of her board as it tried to bite. Fragments of teeth were left in the board. Parts of the board were punched through so you could see through the board where the bite occurred. Because the surfer was sitting, no injuries were sustained.”*

Vocabulary

Source of text: unknown website

yard – one yard is about 91.5cm. There are three *feet* in a yard.

Are the statements true or false? If they are false, re-write them so that they are true. (6 marks)

13. Sue Snyder died in the shark attack.
14. Snyder was on her surfboard when she was attacked.
15. There were nine people close to where the shark attacked.
16. Snyder touched the shark with her hand.
17. The weather was very changeable.
18. Scott Paynton watched the attack from the beach.

II. Use of English Section (20 marks)

Choose the correct word. (4 marks)

Example: I've met the doctor which/who looks after Sarah.

19. He's the man who/whose car was stolen.
20. Although/In spite of Erich was well-qualified, he couldn't find a good job.
21. I go to restaurants that/where serve organic food.
22. We had a great flat in London. However/Even though, we wanted to move to Oxford.
23. Fred decided to leave his job although/despite needing to earn some money.
24. That was the year where/when I lived in India.
25. I've been living here for/since I was young.
26. Don't bother go/going to see that film.

Tick the correct sentences. Change the incorrect sentences. (5 marks)

Example: Why didn't you point out the mistake to ~~at~~ her?

27. The answer is uncorrect.
28. I can't stop sneezing.
29. He hasn't still called me.
30. Mark was taken to hospital yesterday.
31. If I were you, I go home.

Complete these reported questions. (4 marks)

Example: Where's Derek going?
She asked where Derek was going?

32. Did you see Marian at the concert?
He wanted to know _____
33. Which other countries has Fred visited?
She asked me _____
34. Can you help me with the gardening?
He asked _____
35. Who's taking Susan to the cinema?
He asked _____

Complete the table with verbs, nouns and adjectives. (4 marks)

Verb	Noun	Adjective
attract	attraction	attractive
enjoy	enjoyment	36. _____
37. _____	pollution	polluted
disappoint	38. _____	disappointed/ disappointing
entertain	entertainment	39. _____
depend	dependence	40. _____
protect	protection	41. _____
reserve	42. _____	reserved
43. _____	employment	employed

Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. (3 marks)

Example: I wish he were (be) more patient.

44. I wish I _____ (have) my own swimming pool.
45. I wish I _____ (know) how to speak Chinese.
46. I wish I _____ (can) play the piano.
47. I wish we _____ (go) on holiday tomorrow.
48. My parents wish they _____ (not live) in such a cold country.
49. I wish we _____ (eat) Thai food tonight, not burgers again.

III. Listening practice (15 marks)

A. Listen to the description of Earth Day. Are the statements true or false? (5 marks)

- 50. The woman is concerned about the environment.
- 51. To celebrate Earth Day, people go to parks to clean them and they plant new trees.
- 52. There aren't any events.
- 53. Earth Day is on the weekend before or after April 2nd.
- 54. She thinks Earth Day is pointless because people should think about the environment every day.

B. Listen to the description of Valentine's Day. Choose the correct answers. (3 marks)

- 55. What don't couples buy each other on Valentine's Day?
a. chocolate b. cards c. rings d. flowers
- 56. What adjective does the man use to describe the day?
a. lovely b. fantastic c. emotional d. romantic
- 57. According to the man, what do couples do together on Valentine's day?
a. have a party b. go to the cinema c. have dinner d. spend time alone

C. Listen to the description of Thanksgiving. Are the statements true or false? (4 marks)

- 58. In the United States, the fourth Thursday in November is Thanksgiving.
- 59. It's the custom to eat roast chicken, potatoes, and cranberry sauce.
- 60. For dessert, most people have apple pie.
- 61. The Friday after Thanksgiving is a normal work day.

D. Listen to the description of April Fool's Day. Complete the text with the six words or phrases from the box. (3 marks)

yell play tricks 21 st yellow get out of trouble play cards you know 1 st get into trouble trick or treat special nightmare have problems um get angry shout normal well 31 st
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I love April Fool's Day. It's a lot of fun, (62) _____, 'cause everyone can (63) _____ on everybody else and not (64) _____. It's not really a holiday. It's just a (65) _____ day, but I really like it. It's April (66) _____, that's when April Fool's Day is. After you play a trick on somebody, you (67) _____ "April Fools"

IV. Writing Section (15 marks)

Question One: What has been the most important moment in your life so far? Describe the moment. How did you feel? What happened? (Write about 75 words) (7½ marks)

Question Two: Think of one of your university friends. How did you meet? What does he/she look like? What's his/her personality like? Describe him/her. (Write about 75 words) (7½ marks)

V. Oral (15 marks)

VI. Homework and tests (20 marks)