

## I. Reading Section (15 marks)

Read the article and do the activities.

TELEGRAPH COVE, British Columbia Sun July 14 (Reuters) - A young female killer whale rescued near Seattle swam to freedom on Sunday to join her relatives in what scientists hope will be a permanent and groundbreaking reunion.

Scientists said it was too early yet to declare their effort a complete success, because it remained to be seen how long the whale known as A-73 and her family **pod** would remain together.

"It's not over yet, but we're very optimistic," said Clint Wright, a vice president of the Vancouver Aquarium.

Source: Reuters

If the effort is successful, it will mark the first time a lost wild orca has been reunited with its family by scientists.

The whale -- nicknamed Springer -- had clearly been anxious to leave her holding pen off Telegraph Cove on northern Vancouver Island after she was transported there from the U.S. Puget Sound on Saturday.

The 2-year-old, 1,200-pound whale was sick when she was discovered in January in a busy shipping channel near Seattle. She has since been nursed back to health, and as soon as the net was opened to free her on Sunday she dashed off to join the other whales.

### A. Choose the best title (a, b or c). (1 mark)

- a. The Problems of an Orphan Orca
- b. Orphan Orca Swims to Freedom
- c. Scientists rescue an Orphan Orca from Death

### B. Fill the gaps in the following summary with suitable words. (5 marks)

On Sunday, scientists set free a young \_\_\_\_\_ whale. They had rescued the whale near \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ hope the whale, known as Springer, will reunite with her \_\_\_\_\_ permanently. If she does, it will be the first time scientists have \_\_\_\_\_ a lost orca with its family.

### C. Choose the correct definition for the words in bold. (3 marks)

1. Scientists said it was too early yet to **declare** their effort a complete success ...  
a. confirm, announce      b. find out      c. given
2. ... her family **pod** would remain together.  
a. group      b. home      c. musical equipment
3. ... it will mark the first time a lost **wild** orca has been reunited with its family by scientists.  
a. pet      b. not a pet      c. violent



Read the article and do the activities.

## Study: Marriage Brings As Much Happiness As \$100,000

HANOVER, N.H. Tuesday November 16 (Reuters) - Marriage brings as much happiness as an additional \$100,000 in income, two researchers reported on Monday in a study called "Well-Being in Britain and the U.S."

Dartmouth College economist David Blanchflower and his University of Warwick in Great Britain colleague Andrew Oswald studied 100,000 people during a 25-year period.

They found that the overall level of happiness among Americans has declined in the last 25 years while the happiness level for Britons has remained "relatively flat," Blanchflower said in a telephone interview.

"Women are happier than men, but that gap is closing. You see women have equality now and they're less happy than they were," Blanchflower said, attributing the drop to increased pressures and opportunities. "You're more equal, but life's tougher."

Money does buy happiness, but less than is generally thought, Blanchflower noted, saying, "You have to have a lot of money to compensate you for a family breakdown."

When the amount of happiness generated by lasting marriages was compared to the happiness produced by financial circumstances, the authors' statistical calculations showed that a lasting marriage brought as much happiness as an additional \$100,000 in annual income.

The chance of subsequent marriages making people happy, however, were slimmer.

"Most people said they were less happy in their second marriage than in their first. And being separated is worse than being divorced," he said.

The researchers graphed happiness and found that it had a U-shape with the lowest point falling at around age 40. After that happiness was on the upswing.

### Vocabulary

**lasting** - continues for a long time  
on the upswing - increase

Article © 1999 Reuters Limited. ~~Reprinted by permission of the publisher.~~ [www.english-to-go.com](http://www.english-to-go.com)

### D. Are the statements true or false? (6 marks)

1. David Blanchflower works for the University of Warwick.
2. According to the research, Americans are less happy now than 25 years ago.
3. Blanchflower believes that women are becoming happier because they have more equality with men.
4. Just a small amount of money will make you feel better if your personal relationships are very bad.
5. People are usually happier in their second marriage.
6. According to research, the unhappiest part of your life is when you are 40 years old.



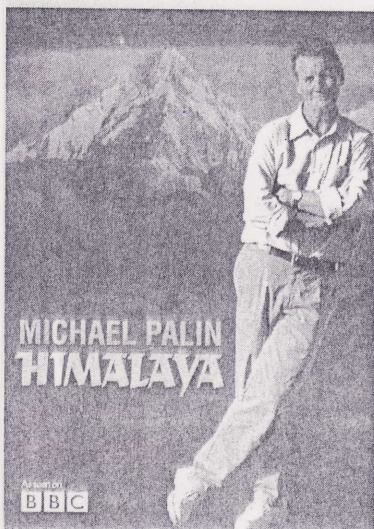
## II. Use of English Section (25 marks)

A. Read about Michael Palin. Put the verbs in brackets in the Present Perfect Simple or the Past Simple. (10 marks)

### Michael Palin

Michael Palin, the British comedian and television presenter, <sup>1</sup> was (be) born in 1943 in Sheffield. After leaving school he <sup>2</sup> ..... (study) history at the University of Oxford. He first <sup>3</sup> ..... (become) famous for his work in the comedy programme *Monty Python's Flying Circus*. Since then he <sup>4</sup> ..... (be) one of the most popular comedians in the UK. After *Monty Python*, Palin <sup>5</sup> ..... (start) writing comedy series such as *Ripping Yarns*, and in the last 20 years he <sup>6</sup> ..... (also appear) in some very successful films.

In 1980 Palin <sup>7</sup> ..... (make) his first travel documentary as part of the series *Great Railway Journeys of the World*. Since then, he <sup>8</sup> ..... (present)



six successful series of TV travel programmes on television. For example, in 2004 he <sup>9</sup> ..... (make) a series called *Himalaya*.

In his lifetime Michael Palin <sup>10</sup> ..... (visit) every continent in the world and thousands of his fans <sup>11</sup> ..... (follow) in his footsteps.

B. Choose the correct words. (3 marks)

- 1 We've been here (for) / since five years.
- 2 My uncle has *directed* / *been directing* 20 films in his life.
- 3 She's been to ten countries *for* / *since* she left school.
- 4 How long have you *known* / *been knowing* your teacher?
- 5 *I've been living* / *I lived* here since March.
- 6 We've been waiting at the bus stop *for* / *since* ages.
- 7 How long have you *had* / *been having* your car?

C. Tick the correct sentences. Change the incorrect sentences. (4 marks)

- 1 My sister <sup>is doing</sup> ~~does~~ a cooking course at the moment.
- 2 You shouldn't to work too hard.
- 3 Our last exam was incredibly difficult.
- 4 That film was very brilliant.
- 5 My husband's a great cooker.
- 6 You've been to Chile, haven't you?
- 7 That music is getting on my nerves.
- 8 I didn't talk to no one at the party.
- 9 I can't stand washing up.

D. Fill in the gaps with one word. (4 marks)

- 1 He loves his new MP3 player. He thinks it's brilliant.
- 2 Tania hates mobile phone ring tones. She just can't ..... them.
- 3 I'm very ..... on cooking. It's a great way to relax.
- 4 Listening to other people's conversations really gets on my .....
- 5 Computer games are OK, I suppose. I don't ..... them.
- 6 My mum doesn't like loud music. It drives her .....
- 7 My sister loves exhibitions, but I don't like them at .....
- 8 I'm very ..... in sailing.
- 9 Janet ..... loves watching her children sleep.

E. Change the sentences into reported speech. Use *said* or *told*. (4 marks)

- 1 'I want to earn more money.' (John)  
John said that he wanted to earn more money....
- 2 'I need to learn English for my career.' (Anna)  
Anna .....
- 3 'We're looking for a good language school.' (Carlo and Maria)  
Carlo and Maria .....
- 4 'I'll study in the evenings and at weekends.' (Johann)  
.....
- 5 'I can't take any time off work to study.' (Robert to his teacher)  
.....



### III. Listening practice (10 marks)

A. Cindy is talking about her vacation. Are the statements true or false? (6 marks)

1. Cindy hated her trip to San Francisco.
2. The food in China Town was great.
3. She took photos of the Golden Gate Bridge.
4. Napa Valley is well-known for its wine.
5. Cindy hit another car on the road.
6. She had to get a taxi back to the hotel.

B. Listen to the four conversations. Where are the people? Choose the best answers. (4 marks)

One

The students are ...

- |                   |                     |                   |                  |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| a. in the library | b. in the cafeteria | c. in a classroom | d. in the street |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|

Two

The two men are ...

- |                   |             |                  |                  |
|-------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| a. in an elevator | b. in a car | c. in a workshop | d. in the street |
|-------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|

Three

The two women are ...

- |                     |               |             |                  |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|
| a. in a coffee shop | b. in a train | c. in a car | d. in the street |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|

Four

They're ...

- |                     |                 |                   |                  |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| a. in a call centre | b. in an office | c. in an elevator | d. in the street |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|

### IV. Writing Section (15 marks)

A. What are you allowed to do in English class? What can't you do? What are you supposed to do? Write an email to a new student in your class. Describe the class rules. (5 marks)

B. What are your goals for next year? Write about them. (5 marks)

C. What would you do if you won \$1,000,000 in the lottery? (5 marks)

### V. Oral (15 marks)

### VI. Homework and tests (20 marks)