

## ESCUELA SUPERIOR POLITECNICA DEL LITORAL Centro de Lenguas Extranjeras CELEX - ESPOL Intermediate A Questions v5

# I. Reading Section (20 marks)

Read about three different experiences with taxis.

# The USA

Well, imagine how my sister felt when she went off for the first time to New York for a business trip. After a few days she was still amazed at how friendly everyone was

to her until she took a taxi back to her hotel one night. First she gave just the name of the hotel, but when asked she said the address too. Then she was asked how to get there but, of course, <u>she hadn't</u> <u>a clue</u>. Imagine how frightened she was when he started shouting at her for not knowing the way. She said it was awful.

# The UK

A friend of a friend was in London for a conference. He took a cab and there were no problems: the driver knew the way and was very cheerful. The problem started when he realised he had stupidly left his laptop on the back seat! He called the company up and, in a panic, went straightaway to their Lost and Found office (and missing some of the conference as a result). <u>He was over the moon</u> to find the laptop waiting for him, and then very surprised that it was one of 2,900 left in taxis over the past six months!

## Tunisia

Well, my brother took a Mediterranean cruise one summer and had a day in Tunis. He spent most of the afternoon in the Medina buying presents when he suddenly realised <u>he'd completely lost track</u> <u>of time</u> and there was only half an hour before the ship left the port. There had been loads of yellow taxis in the centre so he wasn't too bothered until he stood on the pavement and waited for one to appear - and of course there wasn't a single one in sight! Nothing! Frantic, he questioned a passerby who explained that the cost for the taxi ride goes up in the evening so the taxi drivers disappear until they can charge higher prices! Luckily for my brother the man then offered to give him a lift and <u>he caught the boat in the nick of time</u>!

Source: Macmillan publishing (taken from <u>www.onestopenglish.com</u>) Answer the questions about the article. (8 marks)

- 1. Why was the woman in New York?
- 2-3. How did the taxi driver in the USA feel? Why? (2 marks)
- 4. Why did the man in the UK feel worried?
- 5. What was surprising for the man in the UK?
- 6. What was the man doing in the Medina?
- 7. Why are there no taxis in the Medina in the afternoon?
- 8. How did the man get back to the cruise ship?

## 9. Which person had the worst experience, do you think? Why? (1 mark)

## Choose the best definitions for the phrases from the article. (2 marks)

10. ... she hadn't a clue (paragraph one)

a. She didn't have a map b. She didn't know at all c. She couldn't understand the taxi driver



CELEX

11. He was over the moon (paragraph two) b. He was quite angry a. He was extremely pleased

12. ... he'd completely lost track of time... (paragraph three)

a. the time had passed really quickly and he hadn't noticed

b. he had got lost in the city centre

13. ... he caught the boat in the nick of time (paragraph three)

- a. he missed the boat because he was too late
- b. he got on the boat a few hours before it left
- c. he got on the boat a few minutes before it left

#### Read the newspaper article.

# **One Way to Get Even**

WELLINGTON Monday September 25 (Reuters) -People who live in apartments have a new weapon to use more than 4,000 have been snapped up by local on noisy neighbors, with a New Zealand man recording retailers, Marsland said. The album is his second. a compact disc of 64 minutes of lawnmower noise.

"If your neighbors have a party Saturday night fairly late ... what you do is you get up at seven o'clock in the morning, put the hour of lawn mowing sound on and go out to a cafe," Wellington noise man and cafe owner Geoff Marsland told Reuters Monday.

The CD offers listeners general lawnmower sounds along with feature moments such as the emptying of the catcher and stones hitting the blades.

Five thousand of the CDs are on the market, of which

He previously sold around 4,200 copies of an album of urban noise such as a car alarm sounding off and a revving motorcycle. That album -- entitled Urban Assault -- also featured three minutes of a baby crying.

#### Vocabulary

lawnmower – a machine used in the garden to cut the grass

Article © 2000 Reuters Limited.

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

14. Wellington is a city in Australia.

15. The CD is for people who are angry with their neighbours.

16. The CD can be used during Saturday night parties.

17. There are only 5,000 CDs in total.

18. This is the first CD that Geoff Marsland has made.

19. Geoff uses the CD to entertain customers in his café.

#### Read the newspaper article and do the activities.

VIENNA Wednesday October 3 (Reuters) -After being identified as a customer by a bank Austrian police arrested a 28-year-old man who employee, the man was detained by police at a laterobbed the Salzburg branch of Austrian savings night bar in Klagenfurt. bank Sparkasse where he was known as a customer, the APA news agency reported By the time of his arrest Tuesday, the man, with Wednesday. several bar workers, had drunk five bottles of champagne. APA said the robber did not resist arrest.

The Austrian man held up the bank at gunpoint Monday, escaping on foot with \$20,070.

at gunpoint – with a gun or fire arm

Source: Reuters

## 20. Choose the most appropriate headline for the article. Think about which headline describes the main idea of the article. (1 mark)

a. Robber Found in Night Bar With Champagne b. Bank Employee Identifies Robber

c. Man Robs Bank Branch Where He Was Customer d. Bank Held at Gunpoint By Austrian Robber

c. He was upset

c. someone had stolen his watch

#### Put the events in chronological order from one to five. (2 marks)

Example: The man robbed the bank. one21. The man went to a bar to have some drinks.22. An employee identified him.

# II. Use of English Section (50 marks)

Complete the following phrases with your own ideas using the correct form of the first or second conditional. (8 marks) Example: If she doesn't pass her exams, <u>her</u>

parents will be extremely angry.

- 25. I'd be happier if ...
- 26. If I have time tomorrow, ...
- 27. If she learnt to drive, ...
- 28. He'll get bad grades if ...
- 29. If you arrive late, ...
- 30. If I oversleep, ...
- 31. If I could travel anywhere, ...
- 32. I'd study more if ...

# Complete the table with nouns or adjectives. (3 marks)

noun	adjective
fashion	fashionable
knowledge	33
34	lazy
35	honest
36	famous
nature	37
adventure	38

### Choose the correct word. (6 marks) Example: Do you remember you *dreams/sleep*?

- 39. I fell *sleep/asleep* on the train.
- 40. Tom is a very *light/fast* sleeper.
- 41. Do you want *everything/anything* from the shops?
- 42. *No one/Anyone* came to her party last Saturday.
- 43. That blue jacket is *my/mine*.
- 44. We didn't bring *much/many* sun cream with us?
- 45. I've only got a bit of/a few toothpaste.
- 46. Dave is bored *about/with* his new course.
- 47. We were really angry *by/about* what happened.
- 48. My cousin George is good *at/with* football.
- 49. Will you please turn *out/off* the TV?
- 50. I often save/lend money to my friends.

.....

- 23. The police arrested him.
- 24. The man ran away with the money.

**Read Alex's email to his girlfriend, Martina. Complete the gaps with verbs in the** Past Simple, Present Perfect **or** Present Perfect Continuous. **(11 marks)** 

#### Dear Martina,

l <u>´ve</u> just <u>finished</u> (finish) my homework, so l´ve got a
few minutes to write to you.
Life at university is really fun. I (51) (meet)
so many interesting people! Last night, for example, I
(52) (go) to the theatre with some other
students and after the show we (53) (meet)
some of the actors. It (54) (be) fascinating
talking to them!
I (55) (spend) lots of time with my new
friends. They're really funny. We (56) (go
out) a lot at the weekend and we often study together
during the week.
Anyway, how are you? In your last email, you
(57) (say) that you (58) (be) sick.
How long (59) you (feel) bad? I
think you should go to the doctor. I'm worried about
you. (60) you (eat) something bad?
Let me know what the doctor says.
I have to go! My friends (61) just
(arrive). We're going to the cinema this evening.
Take care,
Alex

Make questions with *you* using these words. Then, <u>answer</u> the questions. (10 marks) Example: Why / learn / English?

> Why are you learning English? Because I need it to get my degree.

- 62-63. How often / go to parties / when / be / a child?
- 64-65. What time / usually / have lunch?
- 66-67. What / do / now?
- 68-69. What / do / last night?
- 70-71. How / feel / at the moment?

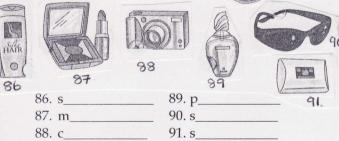
# Write the following sentences in the passive. (4 marks)

**Example:** The Beatles sang Yesterday. <u>Yesterday was sung by the Beatles.</u>

- 72. The men repaired the air conditioning.
- 73. They don't manufacture cars in Ecuador.
- 74. James Cameron directed Titanic.
- 75. Over 1 billion people use the Internet.
- 3

Fill in the gaps in the conversation with these words and phrases. (5 marks)

	/	
	the matter a good idea have you tried	
	why you're upset it's worth a try you ought to	
	why don't you might try that how awful	
	a bit of a problem I've tried that	
	JOHN You look terrible, Lucy. What's the matter?	
	LUCY I've got (76) I think I'm going	
	to lose my job.	
	JOHN Oh, no, (77)! What happened?	
	LUCY My boss told me that he's disappointed	
2	with my work.	
on bages too / too / haves too	JOHN Oh dear. I can see (78)	
6	Are you working hard at the moment?	
has	LUCY Well, Mum's ill and I've had to have a	
-	few days off.	
2	JOHN So (79) telling your boss about	
1	your mum?	
-	LUCY (80), but he doesn't listen.	
	JOHN Hmmm,(81) write him a letter? LUCY Well, (82) I guess.	
-	LUCY Well, (82) I guess.	
	JOHN Maybe (83) give it to him on	
1110	Friday so he can think about it over the	
	weekend.	
	LUCY Yes, that's (84)	
)	JOHN I'd also ask to talk to him about it on	
	Monday.	
	LUCY I (85) Thanks John.	
	and the second	
	Write the words. (3 marks)	
	Example: sandals	
1	The sea a pro-	



# III. Listening Section (20 marks)

Listen to two voicemail messages. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? (8 marks) Example: The two people are calling a woman named Juliet. *T* 

### First message

92. Sandy and some friends want to go to the cinema on Sunday night.

93. Some of the group are going to meet at Sandy's house first.

94. Everyone is meeting at 10pm outside the club.95. They will probably go home by taxi.

#### Second message

96. Juliet's father wants to organize a party for his wife.

97. The party is going to be on the 8th.

98. Juliet's grandmother is going to stay for a few days.

99. It's OK for Juliet to talk to her mother about the party.

## Listen to the man talking about his life. Choose the correct answer. (7 marks)

100. How did the man feel when he worked for a multinational company?

a. bored b. stressed c. satisfied

101. How many hours a day did he work? a. 10 hours b. 12 hours c. 14 hours

102. His friends thought that he should ...a. find an easier jobb. work harderc. move to the country

103. How long has he had his own company? a. a year and a half b. a year c. six months

104. Where do his wife's parents live?a. in the same village b. in the next village.c. in London

105. Who has he borrowed money from? a. his wife's parents b. his friends c. the bank

106. What would he do if he won the lottery?

a. He'd stop working.

b. He'd continue working.

c. He'd move back to the city.

A woman is talking about the last time she played golf. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)? (5 marks)

**Example:** She has played golf many times since she was a teenager. *F* 

107. The last time she played golf, it was two friends.

108. They played in sandals.

109. The hot sun made conditions difficult.

110. She lost nine golf balls.

111. On the whole, the experience was good.

## **IV. Writing Section (10 marks)**

Question One: Where do you live? What's it like? Describe the city or town where you live. Use lots of adjectives in your description. (5 marks)

Question Two: Nowadays it is easy to get free music on the Internet on websites like *YouTube*. Do you think this is a good thing? Write your opinion. Write at least five sentences. (5 marks)

4

Source first two listening exercises: Face2Face Pre-Intermediate Teacher's Book / Rachel Clark and Anna Young with Chris Redston and Gillie Cunningham / CUP / 2005 / pages 223