

ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ, ΔΙΑ ΒΙΟΥ ΜΑΘΗΣΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ  
ΚΡΑΤΙΚΟ ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΤΙΚΟ ΓΛΩΣΣΟΜΑΘΕΙΑΣ

Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs  
**English Language Certification**

**LEVEL**

**B2**

on the scale set by the Council of Europe

**MODULE**

**1**

Reading comprehension and language awareness

**Period**

**May 2010**

**ATTENTION**

- Do not open this booklet until the exam begins.
- Mark your answers on Answer Sheet 1 [ΑΠΑΝΤΗΤΙΚΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1].
- Provide a single answer for each item.
- You have **65 minutes** to complete this part of the exam.

**ACTIVITY 1**

**1.1** Read the text below and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 1-2.

1. The text concentrates on the connection between children’s behaviour and
  - A. their attitude to siblings.
  - B. their birth order.
  - C. parental success.
2. The text is
  - A. formal and academic.
  - B. factual and informative.
  - C. amusing and entertaining.

## Born Lucky

**Y**ou may not realise it, but your behaviour is often linked to your place in the family, and there is a great deal of evidence to suggest that birth order can have a profound effect on your adult life.



Children who have no brothers or sisters tend to do well at school, becoming responsible, high-achieving adults. Like first-borns, children with no siblings get a lot of attention and become involved in their parents' world from an early age. This makes them seem very mature. However, despite this apparent maturity, because they are the sole focus of their parents' attention, they tend to remain more dependent on their parents as adults. An only child also has to cope with isolation from other children, and becomes very well organised and good at arranging social encounters.

The eldest children also get a lot of parental attention when they are very young, and develop traits similar to only children. They are responsible and successful and tend to share their parents' values and beliefs rather than try to rebel. As pioneers in the family, they are open to new experiences, and because they dominate their younger siblings, they tend to demand attention and respect. Interestingly, 21 out of the first 23 astronauts were first-borns, as were over half of all U.S. presidents.



When it comes to the youngest in the family, parents are generally more relaxed and experienced, making youngest children more outgoing, light-hearted and socially successful. Parents expect less of the youngest and are usually much less demanding. There is a danger, though, that children will 'live down' to these expectations. They may struggle with responsibility and resist growing up. They are also without doubt the rebels, and research has found that many revolutionary thinkers were the youngest.

Of all the places in the birth order, being the middle child seems to have the greatest influence. The shock of no longer being the youngest member of the family can affect the child until well into adulthood. Many go through a period of destructive, attention-seeking behaviour. On the positive side, this position makes a child develop coping strategies. Middle children have to negotiate for every bit of attention and time. As a result, they become skilful negotiators and develop excellent diplomatic skills.

Of course, we all display many of these tendencies to different degrees, and individual parental relationships also play a part in our development. Nevertheless, an awareness of the influence of birth order can help us towards a better understanding of friends, partners and ourselves.


**1.2** Read the text again and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 3-9.

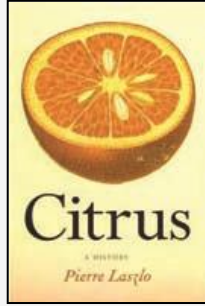
3. The assumption that one's place in the family influences one's behaviour has
  - A. not been proven right.
  - B. been supported by rumours.
  - C. been based on research data.
4. When they become adults, children who have no brothers or sisters tend to be
  - A. antisocial.
  - B. successful.
  - C. disorganised.
5. An only child's close relationship with his or her parents makes him or her
  - A. highly independent.
  - B. leave home at an early age.
  - C. behave in an adult-like way.
6. The eldest children are most similar in personality to
  - A. only children.
  - B. middle children.
  - C. youngest children.
7. The text implies that the youngest child in the family
  - A. is the most free-spirited.
  - B. has the toughest time.
  - C. gets away with everything.
8. When a new member is added to a family, the middle child
  - A. simply accepts its new position in the family.
  - B. develops skills to deal with the new situation.
  - C. is strongly affected, but only for a very short period of time.
9. The text says that the child affected most by birth order is
  - A. the only child.
  - B. the eldest child.
  - C. the middle child.

**ACTIVITY 2**

**2.1** Read the text below and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 10-11.

10. The full title of the book advertised here is
  - A. Citrus: A Tall Tale
  - B. Citrus: Exotic Fruit
  - C. Citrus: A History
11. Prior to writing this book, Pierre Laszio seems to have
  - A. written poetry about the citrus.
  - B. carried out experiments with oranges.
  - C. read a lot about the citrus tree.





**Citrus:** [REDACTED]

*by Pierre Laszio*  
 University of Chicago press, price \$25,  
 239 pages

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When the German poet Goethe wrote about Italy, he **(12)** described the beauty of its orange and lemon trees, which were a symbol of the country's warmth and abundance. In Northern Europe, citrus fruits have always been **(13)** associated with health, prosperity and luxurious ease.

Today there are more than a billion citrus trees across the world, and more than 1,500 different species, including the Clementine, which was **(14)** created in France in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and the Ugli, developed in California in the 1940s.

Citruses were originally cultivated in Persia, and seeds more than 6,000 years old have been found in Iraq. Alexander the Great **(15)** brought them to the Mediterranean, and the Arabs cultivated them when they had conquered southern Spain. After the discovery of the new World, citruses **(16)** spread to Brazil, Florida and California, where the climate was perfect for them.

Professor Pierre Laszio's short but brilliant new book looks at the eventful history of citrus and describes its global importance in agriculture, industry, nutrition, religion and even architecture. He also provides some excellent recipes...

**2.2** Match the underlined words in the text (12-16) with the best synonym (A-F). There is one option you do not need.

<b>A.</b> discovered	<b>B.</b> depicted	<b>C.</b> connected
<b>D.</b> transported	<b>E.</b> expanded	<b>F.</b> produced

**ACTIVITY 3**

For items 17-21, match the extracts from articles with the kind of magazine they come from (options A-F). There is one option you do not need.

<b>A.</b>	a celebrity gossip magazine	<b>B.</b>	a political magazine	<b>C.</b>	a fashion magazine
<b>D.</b>	a gardening magazine	<b>E.</b>	a horse riding magazine	<b>F.</b>	a science magazine

17.	The valley wants to be a lake, but the heat and constant winds cause water to evaporate and leave behind a residue of minerals, mainly salts.	
18.	He defied a popular Eurosceptic mood at home, arguing that the treaty was needed to update the institutions for an enlarged union of 27 members.	
19.	Designers weren't loyal to just one material when crafting a jacket or other topper this season. Andreas Melbostad, for example, showed a wool style with quilted leather sleeves, and Pamela Schouler, a grey mink number which featured knit arms.	
20.	Halloween was full of hectic times for Britney Spears, as the troubled pop star juggled multiple parties, including a trip out with her two sons, Sean Preston and Jayden James.	
21.	Although not fussy, this is a crop which grows best in a moist, but free draining, fertile soil and since it is likely to be in place for some time, it is worth paying some attention to improving conditions prior to planting.	

**ACTIVITY 4**

Fill in the gaps in items 22-26 with the best option (A-F). Use each option only once. There is one option you do not need.

<b>A.</b>	the blame	<b>B.</b>	the sun	<b>C.</b>	the ice
<b>D.</b>	the heart	<b>E.</b>	the way	<b>F.</b>	the light

22.	After years of hard work, he finally began to see [ ] at the end of the tunnel.	
23.	He accepted full responsibility and took [ ] for the accident.	
24.	I needed to break [ ], so I started talking about the weather.	
25.	She's no expert in matters of [ ]. Her own relationships are living proof of that.	
26.	Your face is a bit red –it looks like you've caught [ ] today.	

**ACTIVITY 5**

**5.1** Read the text and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 27-28.

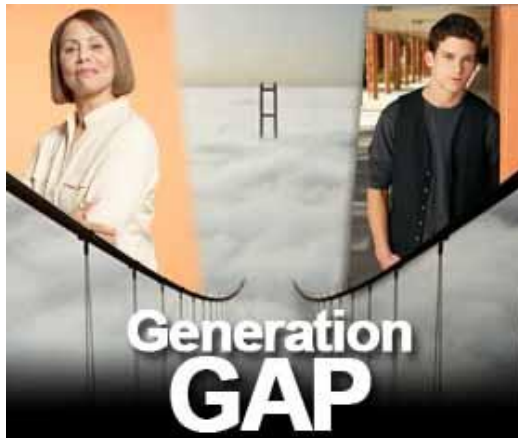
- 27. The text is probably from a
  - A. psychology journal.
  - B. men’s magazine.
  - C. school newspaper.
- 28. The purpose of this article is to help
  - A. teenagers deal with the intolerance of their parents.
  - B. guys and girls understand each other.
  - C. parents see their children in a different light.

**Filling the generation gap**

*Rebecca Sandy*

Ever feel like your parents don’t understand you at all? I know it sounds horribly stereotypical but you can’t deny feeling misunderstood. This is common and it isn’t just our teen-angst making us feel like we’re in ‘no man’s land’. Parents really just don’t appreciate us; it is as simple as that.

This lack of understanding is mainly due to the rather large generation gap between us and our parents. Times have changed, but for some reason they often find it difficult to understand this. Back when they were growing up, things that we find socially acceptable today were considered horribly inappropriate. For example, guys and girls just hanging out is a lot more common than in the ’60s and ’70s. And don’t



even get me started on conduct at dances. Back then a guy politely asked a girl if she would like to dance. Now they just come up behind a girl, grab her and sweep her to the floor, and all this while the girl’s wondering, “Do I know him? Is he attractive or what?” In the older days, girls wouldn’t have to wildly signal to their friends to help them out of a dance.

So considering we are a much more desensitised and open generation, it is only fair that people who grew up before us may have a hard time comprehending our actions. And, while I’m not trying to completely justify their intolerance, we do have to understand that it’s just new to them. Try explaining what you are doing and remind them that times have changed; in the nicest way possible of course.

**5.2** Read the text again and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 29-33.

- 29. According to the text, young people
  - A. adopt stereotypical values about life.
  - B. believe they are mistreated by others.
  - C. feel their parents have difficulty in understanding them.
- 30. The generation gap is due to parents’ unwillingness to accept
  - A. intimacy between the young.
  - B. social change.
  - C. their children’s maturity.
- 31. The way today’s teenage boys act at dances is
  - A. no different than before.
  - B. totally inappropriate.
  - C. as if they won’t take ‘no’ for an answer.
- 32. When it comes to their kids, parents sometimes seem
  - A. to be behind the times.
  - B. without a sense of truth.
  - C. to have no sense of fairness.
- 33. Which of the three synonyms of the word ‘gap’ is most fitting in this context?
  - A. opening
  - B. mismatch
  - C. discontinuity

**ACTIVITY 6**

**6.1** Read the text below and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for item 34.

34. This text emphasizes that the forest

- A. has connections with the royal family.
- B. is an important industrial area.
- C. is ideal for all sorts of activities.



forest  
of DEAN

Tour Guide 2010

The “Forest of Dean” is a place of natural beauty and rich history. Covering 35 square miles, the forest was formerly a royal hunting ground and for centuries it was valued for its resources of iron, stone, coal and timber.

Located in the western part of Gloucestershire, close to the border with Wales, the Forest of Dean is a peaceful haven, and a wonderful place to see woodland butterflies and flowers or to explore the waymarked trails for walkers and cyclists.



**6.2** Now read the rest of the text, on the NEXT PAGE of your test paper (p.7), and decide which part of the text (A-G) refers to the statements (35-40) below. There is one option you do not need.

35.	This is a spot where you can eat outdoors.	
36.	Here, you can find information updated every day.	
37.	This is the starting point of a path, where you can enjoy works of art displayed in the open air.	
38.	This spot is particularly suitable for people with disabilities.	
39.	This place is designed to appeal to people with young children.	
40.	This is an excellent vista from where you can see the spectacular landscape.	

## FOREST OF DEAN tour guide 2010



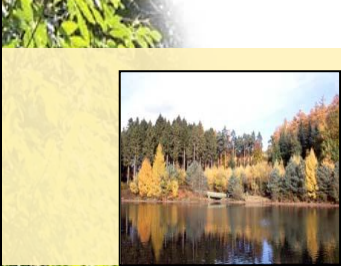
### A. Nagshead Nature Reserve

A small car park serves the Nature Reserve, which is a joint project with the RSPB. A daily bulletin board lets you know which species of birds may be seen in the locality.



### B. Wenchford

The Blackpool Brook trickles through this picnic site which is very popular in the summer months when the oak trees provide dappled shade.



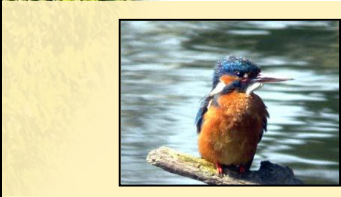
### C. Cyril Hart Arboretum

Near Speech House, the collection started in 1910. There is a trail for the visually impaired and the level paths make the arboretum ideal for less able visitors and wheelchair users.



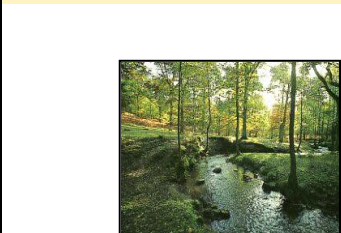
### D. Edge End

On the north western edge of the forest, there are panoramic views of the surrounding countryside towards Wales. Access is up a steep rough path and is not suitable for everyone.



### E. Symonds Yat Rock

Lots to see and do at this internationally famous point. Nearby cliffs soar above the valley of the River Wye 120m below. Site of Iron Age fort.



### F. Speech House Woodland

Almost opposite the most famous building in the Forest of Dean is the Speech House. It was built in 1676, by the King, as a 'court' where local people could have their say. You may join the circular Sculpture Trail here.

### G. Beechenhurst

Formerly the site of Speech House colliery, it is now the ideal base for a family day out – adventure play area, flat games area, refreshments, gifts and information available at the Lodge.

**6.3** The words in Column A (41-45) appear in the text. Change them so that they are in the right form for the sentences in Column B.

COLUMN A		COLUMN B	
WORDS FROM THE TEXT		STATEMENTS	
know	41.	She told Parliament she had no [redacted] of the affair.	
popular	42.	Recently the [redacted] of the government has fallen dramatically.	
explore	43.	I really enjoyed Nielsen's book. Basically, it's an [redacted] of the human mind.	
valued	44.	I don't know exactly what the ring is worth, but I think it's quite [redacted].	
north	45.	He comes from the North, so naturally he's got a [redacted] accent.	

**ACTIVITY 7**

Word puzzle ▣ Word puzzle ▣ Word puzzle ▣ Word puzzle ▣ Word puzzle ▣ Word puzzle ▣ Word puzzle

The word missing in each pair of sentences below (46-50) is the same, even though it has a different meaning in each case. Find these words. Their first letter is given.

46.	I don't like politics and I've never been a member of a political [redacted]. It's Ann's birthday next week and she wants to invite Jason to her [redacted].	p _____
47.	I can't accept this job if it [redacted] moving to another country. If trains are on strike, you can use another [redacted] of transport.	m _____
48.	I would just like to [redacted] out that I was right all along. I can't really see the [redacted] of getting a new bike – the one you have is fine.	p _____
49.	If we want to arrive by lunchtime, we ought to [redacted] off at about 10.30. If you are thinking of buying a new TV [redacted], there's a lot to consider these days.	s _____
50.	My friend went up to the [redacted] to order another drink. There was a heavy metal [redacted] across the window that prevented it from opening.	b _____

**ΣΑΣ ΥΠΕΝΘΥΜΙΖΟΥΜΕ ΟΤΙ ΠΡΕΠΕΙ ΝΑ ΜΕΤΑΦΕΡΕΤΕ ΟΛΕΣ ΤΙΣ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΙΣ ΣΤΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1  
ΤΕΛΟΣ ΜΗΝΥΜΑΤΟΣ**