

SECTION 1-LISTENING (30 points)

Part 1 (5 questions; 2 points each)

Instructions:

Listen to the answer phone message from a travel agency. Make notes on the pad about the message. Do not use more than three words for each note. First, look at the notes. The first one is done for you. You will hear the message twice.

Message Pad

Message from: **Apex Travel**

Reason for call: (1)

Reason for cancellation: (2)

New flight departure date: (3)

New departure time: (4)

New flight number: (5)

Part 2 (5 questions; 2 point each)

- You will hear **FIVE DIFFERENT PEOPLE TALKING**.
- You will hear them twice with a break between each listening.
- **CHOOSE WHO EACH SPEAKER IS TALKING TO**.
- Use each letter only once. There is one extra letter which you do not need to use.
- Mark your answers on the optic answer sheet.
- Now, you have one minute to study this task.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. SPEAKER 1: _____ | A) a car mechanic |
| 2. SPEAKER 2: _____ | B) a doctor |
| 3. SPEAKER 3: _____ | C) a driving teacher |
| 4. SPEAKER 4: _____ | D) a shop assistant |
| 5. SPEAKER 5: _____ | E) a taxi driver |
| | F) a policeman |

Part 3 (5 questions; 2 point each)

- **You will hear PEOPLE TALKING IN FIVE DIFFERENT SITUATIONS.**
- **You will hear them twice with a break between each listening.**
- **CHOOSE THE BEST ALTERNATIVE (A, B or C) ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION YOU HEAR.**
- **Mark your answers on the optic answer sheet.**
- **Now, you have one minute to study this task.**

6. You hear a young woman talking about a pop concert. Why is she complaining?

- a) The ticket was expensive.
- b) The hall was crowded.
- c) The songs were new.

7. You hear a radio announcement which gives details of a future programme about books. What will the experts on the programme tell you?

- a) where you can sell the books
- b) how old the books are
- c) how much the books are worth

8. You hear a woman talking on the phone. Who is she talking to?

- a) a doctor
- b) a friend
- c) a shop assistant

9. You hear two people talking about an evening class. What kind of class was it?

- a) fitness
- b) dancing
- c) tennis

10. You hear a man talking about his job. What does he do?

- a) He is a chef.
- b) He is a fisherman.
- c) He is a farmer.

SECTION II – READING (20 questions; 1.5 points each)

Instructions: Read Text 1 and answer the questions on the next page.

Text 1

21

I. Since he was a child, Don Cameron has always **been into** anything which flies. He grew up on the outskirts of Glasgow and, as a student at Glasgow University, joined the University Air Squadron. Interest in the mechanics of movement, if not flight, was a family tradition. His grandfather was an engineer who turned his hand to making model steam engines and boats.

II. Don Cameron’s first job was at Bristol Aircraft, where he worked as an engineer. He then had jobs in the steelworks at Llanwern and at Rio-Tinto Zinc in Bristol, working with computers. In the mid-sixties, news of American experiments with hot air balloons crossed the Atlantic, and he and a couple of friends decided to build their own balloon. This was probably the first hot air balloon used for sport in Western Europe, and they called it *The Bristol Belle*. Soon after this, there were 300 balloons in the U.K. alone – and at least two-thirds of them had been made by the firm Don Cameron set up, Cameron Balloons.

III. At the age of 40 he had already been halfway round the world by balloon. In 1972, he piloted the first hot air balloon to cross the Swiss Alps; and later that year, he took part in what he calls ‘an odd expedition’ to the Sahara Desert, with two balloons and a truck to carry the gas. He crossed the English Channel by balloon and even flew over the Arctic Circle in one. “Before you fly there,” he remembers, “you are taught how to build igloos and survive in the snow and ice. It’s a lovely place to fly over.”

IV. “In the early days,” he recalls, “I used to work night and day.” He looks down at his schedule for the following few days. It includes a drive to France to make a delivery, plus reading proofs of a ballooning handbook he has written. “I still don’t take it very easy,” he says. He started the business in the basement of the large Victorian house where he lives with his wife Kim and their two children. Now, Cameron Balloons has its own premises in an old church hall in Bristol, making about 350 balloons a year. They include specially designed balloons for advertising purposes. The firm exports all over the world and has **set up** a factory in America, where balloons are being made for them under licence. The turnover is now around £7,000,000 a year.

Instructions: Choose the best alternative according to the information in Text 1. Mark your answers on the optic answer sheet.

15. Which of the following is **true** according to **paragraph I**?
- a) Cameron's interest in flying started at university.
 - b) Cameron's family was also interested in ballooning.
 - c) His grandfather worked at the University Air Squadron as an engineer.
 - d) His grandfather's hobbies were related to mechanics.
16. Cameron's first hot air sports balloon _____.
- a) was built in America
 - b) was built by some American experts
 - c) was built after some American experiments
 - d) crossed the Atlantic in 1960's
17. In the 1960s, Don Cameron's company, Cameron Balloons, _____.
- a) built the first hot air sports balloon in America
 - b) was the only firm of its kind in Britain
 - c) made most of the sports balloons in Britain
 - d) was the largest hot air balloon firm in Europe
18. The success of Don's firm can be measured by the fact that he _____.
- a) made 350 of the balloons in Britain
 - b) had orders to employ some people
 - c) delivered balloons to France
 - d) opened a factory in America
19. **'been into'** in **paragraph I** means _____.
- a) part of
 - b) interested in
 - c) afraid of
 - d) discouraged by
20. **'set up'** in **paragraph IV** means _____.
- a) established
 - b) trained
 - c) found
 - d) used
21. Which of the following could be the best title of the text?
- a) Don Cameron's family life
 - b) Hot air balloons in Europe
 - c) Don Cameron's Passion
 - d) Experiments on hot air balloons

Instructions: Read Text 2 and answer the questions on the next page.

Text 2

Europe on Smoking

I. Europe is once again trying to get serious about the smoking problem. Greece has rolled out new limits on tobacco use and advertising. The Italian Senate has recently approved similar laws to support the country's earlier rules.

II. The European Court of Justice has upheld rules that will force manufacturers to reduce levels of tar and nicotine in cigarettes, increase the size and darken the language of health warnings, and stop the use of terms like 'mild' and 'light' in packaging. Eight days before, EU health ministers had approved a measure that would ban print tobacco advertising within months, and prohibit cigarette brands from sponsoring international spectator sports like Formula One racing, beginning in 2005.

III. Both smokers and non-smokers now describe themselves as victims, and smoking wars are breaking out all over Europe. So far, the smokers appear to be winning. The door of the Paris power-lunch restaurant Le Pichet carries a rebellious message: 'Non-smokers Tolerated'. A client at The Clarence, one of London's oldest restaurants, asks a waiter to stop the smokers at the next table, and the waiter tells him, "Smoking is encouraged here to increase the enjoyment of the meal." In Denmark, there is no minimum age for purchasing tobacco, so 10-year-olds are free to light up just about anywhere except the classroom.

IV. However, slow and painful progress is being made. Around 80% of British companies have voluntarily applied bans or restrictions on workplace smoking — a revolution that has also swept France, and that is now coming to Greece as well. On the sidewalks outside Athens office buildings and hospitals, puffing workers stand together and the cigarette ends pile up, but the air inside is clean. In France, anti-smoking activists say they're far happier seeing 10 smokers break the law than the 100 who used to puff away legally.

V. If the philosophical argument against smoking restrictions is weak, the influence of those who profit from the weed is not. Estimates put the tobacco industry's worldwide annual sales at \$300 to \$400 billion, and 12% of that comes from Europe. And despite the spread of anti-smoking legislation and increased tobacco taxation across Europe, industry profits remain solid — around €134.8 billion in 2001 for the six largest firms alone. Those **dissuasive** measures have helped reduce smoking levels from 47% of the EU's adult population in 1987 to around 30% today.

VI. With smoking rates declining fastest among adult males, tobacco companies are now successfully roping in women and young people. The percentage of women who smoke is on the rise throughout the EU, and now averages around 27%. The smoking population of people aged 15-24 is 36.8%. In France, the overall number of smokers is in decline, but the ranks of young tobacco fiends have expanded to include 6% of 13-year-olds, 36% of 16-year-olds, and a whopping 51% of 19-year-olds.

2021-22 SPRING EPS Proficiency Exam Sample

*This is a tentative sample and the number of questions and question types are subject to any change when/if necessary.

TASK A

Instructions: Read Text 2 and match each paragraph (I-VI) with the correct summary (a-g). There is **ONE EXTRA** summary. One has been done as an example (e.g., I-d).

- e.g. Paragraph I **__d__** a) difficulties in public between smokers and non-smokers
22. Paragraph II _____ b) improvements in the application of the current laws about smoking
23. Paragraph III _____ c) the number of people dying every year due to smoking
24. Paragraph IV _____ **d) some European countries fighting against smoking**
25. Paragraph V _____ e) some statistical information about the gender and age of smokers
26. Paragraph VI _____ f) the latest decisions made by the EU about the tobacco industry
- g) the amount of the profit gained by tobacco companies

Task B

Instructions: Choose the best answer according to the information in Text 2.

27. According to **Paragraph IV** _____.
- a) Most companies in Britain are against the idea of banning smoking in workplaces
- b) People who are against smoking in France are not satisfied with the new restrictions
- c) People complain that most offices in Athens are smoky
- d) There has been a considerable improvement in making restrictions on smoking.
28. **'dissuasive'** in **paragraph V** means _____.
- a) reflective
- b) effective
- c) selective
- d) conservative

Instructions: Read Text 3 and answer the questions on the next page.

Text 3

The Sands of Time

I ___(e.g.) i ___ you're stepping on ancient mountains, skeletons of animals, and even tiny diamonds. Sand provides a record of earth-changing processes. If we look at **it**, we can discover there an account of a geological past and a history of marine life that ___29__.

II What exactly is sand? Well, it is larger than fine dust and smaller than shingle. In fact, according to the most generally accepted measure, grains qualify if their diameter is greater than 0.06 of a millimetre and less than 0.6 of a millimetre. ___30__ sand can be made of tiny pebbles or porous granules. Its grains may have the shape of stars or spirals, their edges jagged or smooth. They come from the erosion of rocks, from the skeletons of marine organisms, or even from volcanic eruptions.

III Colour is another clue to sand's origins. If it is dazzling white, its grains may come from nearby coral. On Pacific islands, jet black sand is made of volcanic minerals. Red iron oxide sand ___31__. Yellow sand in Germany and Poland are remains from the Ice Age. The most precious sand is in Namibia, Angola, and Zaire, where ___32__. Most of the world's sand, though, is mainly largely transparent quartz.

IV ___33__ and later carried to the shore by the waves. Calcium carbonate dissolved in water, for example, becomes too concentrated to remain in solution any longer and precipitates out in greyish-white, egg-shaped grains. Sand made of the remains of marine organisms can include both plant and animal debris and their colour ranges from cream to orange.

V ___34__ but it has one vital function you might never even notice. Sand cushions our land from the sea's impact, and geologists say it often does a better job protecting our shores than the most advanced coastal technology.

TASK A

Instructions: Match each phrase below (a-i) with the correct gap in Text 3. The first one has been done as an example (*e.g.*, i). There are two extra phrases. Mark your answers on the optic answer sheet.

- a. More sands are generated on the sea bed or in the ocean waters themselves,
- b. diamond deposits on some beaches make it worth collecting and selling
- c. volcanic sand is usually not very good for plants
- d. Depending on its age and origin,
- e. goes back thousands, and in some cases, millions of years
- f. Sand is an irreplaceable industrial ingredient with many uses,
- g. Children play on it and make castles from it,
- h. is often found on beaches along the coast of north Africa
- i. **When you are on the beach,**

Answer Key

SECTION I-LISTENING

Listening Part 1:

1. Reason for call:	New/changed flight details
2. Reason for cancellation:	(the) unsold seats/not enough profit/not profitable
3. New flight departure date:	August 31/31 August
4. New departure time:	9.15
5. New flight number:	BT 612

Listening Part 2:

- 1- F
- 2- E
- 3- B
- 4- D
- 5- C

Listening Part 3:

- 1. B
- 2. C
- 3. A
- 4. B
- 5. A

SECTION II – Reading

Question	Correct Answer	Question	Correct Answer	Question	Correct Answer
15.	D	25.	G		
16.	C	26.	E		
17.	C	27.	D		
18.	D	28.	B		
19.	B	29.	E		
20.	A	30.	D		
21.	C	31.	H		
22.	F	32.	B		
23.	A	33.	A		
24.	B	34.	G		