Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH: PRELIMINARY READING AND WRITING PRACTICE TEST

INSTRUCTIONS

Read the instructions for each part of the test carefully.

You must complete the test within the time limit.

INFORMATION

Reading

Questions 1–35 carry one mark.

Writing

Question 1–5 carry five marks.

Part 2 (Question 6) carries five marks.

Part 3 (Question 7 or 8) carries fifteen marks.

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READING AND WRITING – PART 1

Questions 1–5

Look at the text in each question. What does it say?

Mark the correct letter A, B or C.

0

Please leave your phone on the teacher's desk.

A Keep your phone in your pocket.
B Give your phone to the teacher.
C Put your phone on the teacher's desk.

1

FOR SALE
STORMWHIRL
washing machine
Used only once. Perfect condition.
Was £500. Now £300.
Delivery included.

The advert says that …
A the buyer collects the washing machine.
B the washing machine is cheaper than before.
C the washing machine is new.

2

Dad.
Can you do me a big favour?
I haven't got any credit on my phone. Could you top it up for me before this evening?
Love you!
Sharon

A Sharon's lost her phone.
B Sharon is going out this evening.
C Sharon cannot make a phone call with her phone.

3

Hi Jill. Change of plan.
We're meeting at John's house, not Bill's. We're going in his car. Don't forget to bring the present!
Joelle

Joelle wants Jill to …
A go to John's house.
B buy a present.
C drive to Bill's.

4

From: Rebecca
To: Sandy

The test was more difficult than I expected. There were ten questions to do in only thirty minutes. Good luck with yours.

What does Rebecca say about the test?
A She didn't pass.
B There wasn't much time.
C It was very difficult.

5

ST. ALBAN'S CAR PARK
Opening hours: 6 am – Midnight
First hour - £3
Second hour - £2
All other hours - £1
Do not leave personal objects in your car.
Pay at automatic ticket machine.

Drivers who use the car park …
A pay five pounds for two hours.
B pay a person who works in the car park.
C can leave their car in the car park all night.

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PART 2

Questions 6–10

These teenagers are planning to spend some time at a summer camp.
Read the descriptions of eight summer camps.

Decide which summer camp would be best for each teenager.

0 [E] **Layla** wants to spend time with other people her age. She'd like to stay somewhere with a historical past and she'd like to go in August.

6 [ ] **Fatima** wants to spend some time during the summer in a town or city. She doesn't like sport but loves finding out about new and interesting places.

7 [ ] **Bob** loves spending time outdoors in the open air and likes water sports. He can only go away in July.

8 [ ] **Kurt** has a real sense of adventure and wants to have an exciting holiday. Unfortunately he can't swim but he loves woods and woodlands.

9 [ ] **Paolo** reads fantasy novels about old, historic castles and houses and he wants to stay in one. He doesn't want to share a room.

10 [ ] **Maria** lives in a big city and so she wants to see what life in the country is like. She is very active and doesn't mind working during the summer camp.

A **Sandhaven Summer Camp** is on the coast near a beautiful, sandy beach where you can swim, sail and even surf. Campers sleep in dormitories and there are six beds in each room. The camp runs from mid-June to mid-August.

B **Jubilee House** is an unusual summer camp because it is in the centre of a city. This means that you can explore all the sights on foot. Lots of museums and art galleries are free. Another advantage is that you can stay out late at night because they give you a key.

C **St. Peter's College**, a famous old school in a large town, organises a summer camp for boys in the month of July. There are lots of activities to choose from including treasure hunts in the town and a theatre group.

D **Everton Hills Teen Camp** is located in the mountains in a forest. You spend a lot of your time outdoors and some nights you camp out in the forest. Rock climbing is a popular activity at this camp. You need to have your own sleeping bag.

E **Rockford Castle** is a Tudor castle that becomes a summer camp from July to September. There is hostel-style accommodation with four people to each room. There are lots of things to do, from playing cricket to making cakes but what is very special is the atmosphere. When you are in the castle you feel like you are living in a magical past.

F **Riverside House**, as the name suggests, stretches along the banks of a river. You can learn how to fish or try canoeing or rafting. The camp is only open in August and there are two people to each room.

G **Oatlands Farm** welcomes summer campers in the months of July and August. This is a normal farm with cows, sheep and pigs. You can learn all about farm life and help in the fields and with the animals. All the food you eat comes from the farm.

H **Pembroke Heights** is a very large 17th century country house set in majestic parkland. Horse riding and cycling in the countryside are the main activities. There are single rooms but most people prefer to share. The food is excellent.

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PART 3

Questions 11–20

Look at the sentences below about the city of Dublin.

Read the text to decide if each sentence is correct or incorrect.

Mark A for correct and B for incorrect.

0	Dublin is a lively city.	(A)	B
11	There is a lot to see and do in Dublin.	A	B
12	Trinity College is an 18th century building.	A	B
13	The Book of Kells is eight hundred years old.	A	B
14	The National Gallery is near Trinity College.	A	B
15	All the paintings in the National Gallery are Irish or British.	A	B
16	You can only shop on the south side of the city.	A	B
17	People play music on Grafton Street.	A	B
18	The O2 is a small event centre.	A	B
19	The train that goes around Dublin Bay passes through the city.	A	B
20	People play baseball in Croke Park.	A	B

Darling Dublin

Why visit Dublin?

Dublin is a young, vibrant city and when you walk down Grafton Street, the main shopping street in the city, there is a real buzz in the air. Shopping, sightseeing, sport, the sea and nightlife – you name it, Dublin's got it.

Sightseeing

Dublin is full of historic buildings, museums and galleries. Take a walk through the grounds of Trinity College, right in the heart of the city and imagine you are back in the 17th century. While you are there, go to see *The Book of Kells*, a beautiful manuscript dating from 800 AD. From Trinity it's a short walk to the National Museum and the National Gallery. In the museum you can read about Irish history from pre-Celtic times until the 20th century. The Gallery contains hundreds of famous paintings from Ireland, Britain and the rest of Europe. Trinity, the Museum and the Gallery are some of the things you can see in Dublin but there's lots, lots more.

Shopping

The River Liffey divides the centre of Dublin into two parts (the north side and the south side) but you can shop to your heart's content on both sides. On the north side, Henry Street is car-free so it's ideal for walking and browsing around for souvenirs. On the south side, you can shop in Grafton Street and stop along the way to listen to the musicians and singers who perform on the street.

Nightlife

Dublin is one of the leading entertainment centres in Europe. Many of the world's best-known artists perform at the O2, the city's major concert and events venue. There are seats for 14,000 people. You can visit one of the many multiplexes and see the latest films but don't miss out on the theatre. Dublin has three famous old theatres, The Gaiety, The Olympia and The Gate. You can also, of course, spend an evening in one of the many historic pubs in the city centre and very often there is live music.

Dublin Bay

Dublin is on the Irish Sea and one of the best ways to see all the city is to take the train that travels around Dublin Bay. Starting from the fishing village of Howth to the north, the train travels into the city centre and continues south to the picturesque seaside town of Greystones.

Sport

Croke Park is a great place for sports fans. Two sports, Gaelic football and hurling, are unique Irish sports and all the big matches are in Croke Park.

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PART 4

Questions 21–25

Read the text and questions below.

For each question, mark the correct letter A, B, C or D.

EXCHANGE STUDENT

Fatima Yener from Turkey talks about her year as an exchange student in Ireland.

I went to Ireland when I was 17 so I was in fifth year, which is the second to last year in secondary school. For the first few days I didn't say very much because everything was so new and I was a little scared. My teachers and classmates understood that it was very hard for me but they were very friendly and really helped me to feel at home. In a very short time I made some very good friends.

School was quite hard but I don't think it was harder than school in Turkey. We did lots of subjects and some were great fun. The lesson I enjoyed most was music because we had a great teacher and … can you believe it – I learned how to play Irish tunes on the tin whistle? The most difficult thing for me was the Irish language, because I didn't understand anything, but I'd like to see my Irish friends trying to learn Turkish!

Nancy and Pat O'Neill were my host Mum and Dad and they had twin boys, Declan and Glenn. They were always helpful and cheerful and at the weekends they took me everywhere. I felt like I was their daughter and the boys became my brothers. I am now back in Turkey but I keep in touch with my family and schoolmates on Skype and next month a couple of my closest friends are coming here to Istanbul. I'm so excited!

The exchange year changed my life and made me a better and more sensible person. It opened my mind and if you get the chance to go to another country to study, do it!

0 How did the other students make Fatima feel?

- **A** They made her feel scared.
- **B** The weren't friendly.
- **C** They made her feel relaxed.
- **D** They made it hard for her.

21 Why did Fatima write the text?

- **A** To talk about life in Ireland and Turkey.
- **B** To encourage other students to go on exchanges.
- **C** To compare Irish and Turkish schools.
- **D** To talk about music.

22 What does Fatima think of her Irish school?

- **A** There was too much to study.
- **B** She didn't like it because she didn't understand anything.
- **C** It was a friendly place.
- **D** All the teachers were fantastic.

23 What does Fatima say about her host family?

- **A** They never talked to her.
- **B** She felt lonely when she was with them.
- **C** They didn't do many things together.
- **D** They were a happy family.

24 How does Fatima feel about her experience of being an exchange student?

- **A** It was a waste of time.
- **B** It was a great thing to do.
- **C** She is sad because she lost touch with her Turkish friends.
- **D** She doesn't want to go abroad again.

25 Which text message would Fatima send to her Irish friends?

- **A** I'm so happy to be back home. I hated Ireland.
- **B** That music teacher was so boring!
- **C** Can you send me a book in Irish?
- **D** You're coming! I can't wait!

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PART 5

Questions 26–35

Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space.

For each question, mark the correct letter A, B, C or D.

HOUSEWORK

There are seven people in my family, so there is (**0**) _____ housework to do. The worst thing for me is making my bed every morning, so sometimes I pay my brother to do it. He's the (**26**) _____ brother in the world!

Last week my mum asked me (**27**) _____ wash her car and I couldn't say 'no.' If she (**28**) _____ me again, I'll say I'm not feeling (**29**) _____ and go to bed.

My dad says I'm too (**30**) _____ but there are some things I like doing. We have bought a lovely, little dog and I take it for a walk every evening because that's better (**31**) _____ washing the dishes.

My brothers and sisters think I don't do (**32**) _____ , so I promise (**33**) _____ do more in the future. I have (**34**) _____ started helping Mum with the cooking and she says I do it very well. This is only the start. From next week I'm (**35**) _____ to take out the rubbish every day. I'll be the hardest worker in the family.

0	**A**	much	**B**	too	**C**	a lot of	**D**	many
26	**A**	good	**B**	best	**C**	better	**D**	well
27	**A**	too	**B**	for	**C**	to	**D**	by
28	**A**	asks	**B**	asked	**C**	asking	**D**	will ask
29	**A**	bad	**B**	best	**C**	badly	**D**	well
30	**A**	charming	**B**	brave	**C**	lazy	**D**	active
31	**A**	than	**B**	of	**C**	from	**D**	that
32	**A**	every	**B**	enough	**C**	all	**D**	already
33	**A**	I am	**B**	I'll	**C**	I would	**D**	I have
34	**A**	always	**B**	already	**C**	yet	**D**	ever
35	**A**	go	**B**	do	**C**	doing	**D**	going

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WRITING

PART 1

Questions 1–5

Here are some sentences.

For each question, complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first.

Use no more than three words.

1 Talent shows are the most interesting programmes on TV.
Talent shows are more _____ sports programmes.

2 Julie watches sitcoms. She really likes them.
Julie really _____ sitcoms.

3 This is the first time I've watched this film.
I _____ this film before.

4 'This film is boring.'
She said that _____ boring.

5 Every day after school, I watched cartoons when I was young.
I _____ cartoons every day when I was young.

PART 2

Question 6

You have just been on a long trip. Write an email to your friend, James.

In your email you should say:

- how you travelled
- what you did during the trip
- what you liked or didn't like about the trip

Write **35–45** words.

PART 3

Write an answer to one of the questions (7 or 8) in this part.

Write about 100 words.

Question 7

This is part of a letter you received from an English friend, Annie.

I have lots of hobbies and I love playing the guitar. I also go swimming every day. What hobbies do you have and what sports do you play? Do you play a musical instrument? Tell me about them!

Now write a letter, answering Annie's questions.

Question 8

Your English teacher has asked you to write a story.

The title is:

A terrible mistake

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