

First Certificate in English

Placement Test a. a. 2017/2018

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Surname: _____

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Date: _____

PLACEMENT TEST
by Elena MONTI

PART I: GRAMMAR

!! NOTA BENE !!

- Il Placement Test-Part I è stato preparato dalla **prof. Elena Monti** – **non si trova su Internet**
- Leggere attentamente le istruzioni per ogni singolo esercizio
- NON SCRIVERE le risposte sul Paper – usare il foglio a parte (Answer Sheet)
- Scrivere con grafia CHIARA E COMPRENSIBILE
- Usare **fogli A4** – non saranno accettate dimensioni diverse
- Non cancellare/sbarabocchiare/pasticciare/scrivere di lato/scrivere storto
- **OGNI TEST PASTICCIATO E/O DISORDINATO VERRÀ RESPINTO**

prof. Elena Monti

EX. 1 – Which of the following words must be written with an initial **capital letter**?

1. the pope
2. week
3. wednesday
4. december
5. the prince of wales
6. the rhapsody in blue
7. kings and queens
8. the first saturday in july
9. mount everest
10. british people
11. the scots
12. queen elizabeth
13. the bank
14. the south pole
15. the northern lights
16. the palace court hotel
17. the swiss alps
18. victorian times
19. the sales manager
20. the ceo

0.5 points each item = 10 points

EX. 2 – Put the correct form of the article (*the/a/an/--*) into the following sentences:

1. Josh - Do you like (21) ___ pizza?
Susan - Yes, I do! I simply adore it.
Josh - What's (22) ___ your favourite pizza topping?
Susan - I think it's (23) ___ pepperoni.
Josh - Wow, (24) ___ bit spicy...!
Susan - Yes, I like (25) ___ spicy food indeed.
2. This is (26) ___ best pizza I've ever eaten.
3. (27) ___ cats eat (28) ___ mice.
4. This test is too hard. I can't make (29) ___ head nor (30) ___ tail of it.
5. (31) ___ last night my daughter said she wants (32) ___ dog.
6. This is (33) ___ last time I do you (34) ___ favour.
7. It's (35) ___ shame that (36) ___ university like this doesn't have (37) ___ facilities for (38) ___ disabled.
8. - What will you have for (39) ___ breakfast?
- I'll just have (40) ___ yogurt.

0.5 pts each item = 10 pts

EX. 3 – Complete the following table:

SINGULAR	PLURAL
a. mouse	(41) _____
b. child	(42) _____
c. (43) _____	geese
d. (44) _____	feet
e. roof	(45) _____
f. (46) _____	teeth
g. potato	(47) _____
h. disco	(48) _____
i. passer-by	(49) _____
j. series	(50) _____

1 pt each item = 10 pts

EX. 4 – Correct the wrong forms only:

- (51) logistic
- (52) politic
- (53) gymnastics
- (54) childrens
- (55) tomatos
- (56) mouses
- (57) sandwiches
- (58) son-in-laws
- (59) dictionarYES
- (60) grandchildren

1 pt each item = 10 pts

EX. 5 – Match the expressions in column A with the words in column B:

A		B
(61)	a bunch of	hair
(62)	a slice of	birds
(63)	a lump of	matches
(64)	a bar of	flowers
(65)	a tube of	cards
(66)	a pack of	bread
(67)	a box of	cows
(68)	a herd of	sugar
(69)	a flock of	toothpaste
(70)	a strand of	chocolate

2 pts each item = 20 pts

EX. 6 – Choose the correct alternative in *italics*:

1. Smoking heavily can result (71) *in/on/to* lung cancer.
2. Dover is known (72) *by/thanks/for* its white cliffs.
3. She's very satisfied (73) *for/of/with* her new job.
4. I'm not interested (74) *to/in/by* your offer.
5. It took me some time to get used (75) *to/at/in* English food.
6. He was very disappointed (76) *by/for/with* your behaviour.
7. I totally disagree (77) *with/on/to* you (78) *on/for/about* that issue.
8. When we went to the restaurant, he insisted (79) *for/in/on* paying.
9. I'm sorry, I can't make it on Friday. I need to put (80) *off/forward/on* the meeting until Monday.

2 pts each item = 20 pts

EX. 7 – Put the following prepositions into the correct collocation for each expression/short phrase:
on, by (2), under, out of

- (81) ___ pressure
(82) ___ order
(83) ___ accident
(84) ___ foot
(85) ___ mistake

1 pt each item = 5 pts

EX. 8 – Put the verbs in *italics* into the correct form – **Simple** or **Continuous**:

1. Jean (86) _____ (*stay*) with us quite often. We (87) _____ (*love*) having her here.
2. Susan (88) _____ (*stay*) with us at the moment.
3. Yesterday I (89) _____ (*have*) a shower when the water (90) _____ (*stop*).
4. This car is much too old. I (91) _____ (*think*) of selling it.
5. What (92) _____ you _____ (*think*) about his new book? Is it good?
6. When we (93) _____ (*leave*) London last night, it (94) _____ (*rain*) as usual.
7. - How long (95) _____ you _____ (*teach*) ?
- For 30 years now.

3 pts each item = 30 pts

EX. 9 – Choose the correct alternative – **Past Simple** or **Present Perfect**:

1. Donald – When (96) _____ (*meet*) Marsha?
Brian – We (97) _____ (*meet*) five years ago.
Donald – And how long (98) _____ you _____ (*be married*) ?
Brian – Well, (99) we _____ (*be married*) for two years now.
2. I (100) _____ (*not see*) any good movie recently.

3 pts each item = 15 pts

EX. 10 – Put the verbs given into the correct form – **-ing** or **to-Infinitive** :

1. Please remember (101) _____ (*buy*) the bread before (102) _____ (*come*) home.
2. When I was a child, I remember (103) _____ (*have*) a lovely rag doll named Perla.
3. After six hours of driving, we had to stop (104) _____ (*take*) a break.
4. The students (105) stopped _____ (*talk*) when the teacher came in.

3 pts each item = 15 pts

EX. 11 – Make the following sentences **passive**:

- (106) The boss has made an important decision about the company.
(107) They're building a new road here.
(108) They asked me to give a lecture at the university.
(109) Perry Mason proved the man wrong.
(110) She remembers that they took her to the seaside as a child.

2 pts each item = 10 pts

EX. 12 – Choose the correct alternative:

1. I'm sick. I wish (111) *I hadn't eaten/not to have eaten* so much!
2. I wish (112) *you were/you to be* here. I miss you.
3. I wish (113) *to make/I make* a complaint.
4. Bob – Shall we try the new Japanese restaurant tonight?
John – I'd rather (114) *go/to go/going* to our usual pizzeria, if you don't mind...
5. Mike – Is your son finding a job after high school?
Sally – Actually, I'd rather (115) *he goes/he'll go/he went* to the university, but it's his choice after all.

5 pts each item = 25 pts

EX. 13 – Complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in *italics*:

1. If you haven't finished the book by Friday, I (116) _____ (*take*) it back.
2. If you leave now, you (117) _____ (*be able to*) catch the 7pm train.
3. If you (118) _____ (*eat*) less, you'd keep fit.
4. I (119) _____ (*help*) you if you had told me.
5. If he (120) _____ (*shovel*) the path yesterday, we would be able to go out now.

4 pts each item = 20 pts

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EX. 1	10 PTS
EX. 2	10 PTS
EX. 3	10 PTS
EX. 4	10 PTS
EX. 5	20 PTS
EX. 6	20 PTS
EX. 7	5 PTS
EX. 8	30 PTS
EX. 9	15 PTS
EX. 10	15 PTS
EX. 11	10 PTS
EX. 12	25 PTS
EX. 13	20 PTS
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TOTAL SCORE	200 PTS

PASS: 120/200

ANSWER SHEET

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
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- (7) _____
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- (117) _____
- (118) _____
- (119) _____
- (120) _____

PART II: FCE SKILLS

DO NOT WRITE ON THE PAPERS.

USE THE ANSWER SHEET

EX. 1 – READING AND USE OF ENGLISH – PART 1

For questions 121-130, read the text and decide which answer (A,B,C,D) best fits each gap.

EXAMPLE

0 A well B much C lots D far

Space junk

The Space Age began (0) well over half a century ago, and ever since the area just (121) _____ the Earth's atmosphere has been filling up with all kinds of man-made objects that have become (122) _____ as 'space junk'. The items up there (123) _____ from old satellites and parts of rockets to hundreds of thousands of pieces smaller than one centimetre, all of them travelling at extremely (124) _____ speed. Over the last five years, the number of such objects in space is (125) _____ to have risen (126) _____ 50 per cent, and this has (127) _____ increased the risk of damage to working satellites or space vehicles with crews on board.

International agreement has therefore now been (128) _____ on limiting the amount of new space junk. Scientists have also (129) _____ some interesting suggestions for tidying up space. These include laser beams, giant nets and even an enormous umbrella-(130) _____ device to collect tiny bits of junk.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| 121 | A along | B away | C out | D beyond |
| 122 | A referred | B known | C called | D named |
| 123 | A include | B enclose | C cover | D range |
| 124 | A high | B rapid | C light | D fast |
| 125 | A assessed | B supposed | C estimated | D regarded |
| 126 | A at | B by | C of | D in |
| 127 | A largely | B greatly | C importantly | D absolutely |
| 128 | A arrived | B reached | C finished | D closed |
| 129 | A caught up with | B put up with | C come up with | D kept up with |
| 130 | A similar | B like | C type | D kind |

1 pt each item = 10 pts

EX. 2 – READING AND USE OF ENGLISH – PART 2

For questions 131-140, read the text and think of the word which best fits each gap.
Use only ONE word in each gap.

EXAMPLE

0 of

Cycling

These days, most people are aware (0) of the environmental impact of motor vehicles, and they realise that cars are responsible (131) _____ many of the problems facing their cities. Not (132) _____ people, however, ever stop (133) _____ think about how much money they would save by switching (134) _____ driving to cycling.

Cars cost a lot to buy, and (135) _____ other major investments such (136) _____ houses, they quickly lose their value. On (137) _____ of that, there are running costs such as repair bills, tax and insurance, all of (138) _____ seem to go up every year.

Bicycles, by contrast, are far (139) _____ expensive to purchase and maintain, do not require petrol and are easy to park. And if a lot more people took up cycling, the government could spend less of the nation's resources on roads, which at present their taxes help pay for (140) _____ they drive on them or not.

2 pts each item = 20 pts

EX. 3 – READING AND USE OF ENGLISH – PART 4

For questions 141-145, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given.

DO NOT CHANGE the word given.

You must use BETWEEN TWO AND FIVE words, including the word given.

EXAMPLE

0 She does not want to work for her uncle any longer.

CARRY

She does not want _____ for her uncle.

> She does not want **to carry on working** for her uncle.

141 My car needs fixing again.

GET

I'll have to _____ again.

> _____

142 The boss said sales had fallen on account of our wrong campaign.

FALL

The boss blamed _____ our wrong campaign.

> _____

143 Susan carried the kettle very carefully so that she wouldn't spill the coffee in it.

AVOID

Susan carried the kettle very carefully so _____ the coffee in it.

> _____

144 They're giving the award to an unknown actress.

BEING

The award _____ to an unknown actress.

> _____

145 He promised that he would think carefully about their offer.

GIVE

He promised _____ their offer.

> _____

4 pts each sentence = 20 pts

WRITING – PART 1

This task is compulsory.

Write your ESSAY in 140-190 words in an appropriate style on a SEPARATE SHEET.

Use ALL the notes and give reasons for your point of view.

Is it better to earn a lot of money or to enjoy your job?

Notes

Write about:

1. how much time is spent at work
2. how much money you need to survive
3. (your own idea)

10 pts

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EX. 1	10 PTS
EX. 2	20 PTS
EX. 3	20 PTS
WRITING	10 PTS
<hr/>	
TOTAL SCORE	60 PTS

PASS:

- EX. 1-2-3: 30/50
- WRITING: 6/10

ANSWER SHEET

- (121) _____
- (122) _____
- (123) _____
- (124) _____
- (125) _____
- (126) _____
- (127) _____
- (128) _____
- (129) _____
- (130) _____
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- (132) _____
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- (142) _____
- (143) _____
- (144) _____
- (145) _____