

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОБРАЗОВАНИЕТО И НАУКАТА

ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО

АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК

27 август 2021 г.

ВАРИАНТ 2

МОДУЛ 2 (Време за работа: 60 минути)

PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among A, B, C or D, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

I'm in Marrakech, the bustling heart of Morocco at the base of the Atlas Mountains, with my son, Sam. He's eight. We've come here with Mohamed, a friend who owns a shop in our neighbourhood in New York. We're regular customers at Mohamed's shop, where Sam can often be found negotiating with his friend. When they're not bargaining, they're chatting about swords, or camels or the desert. 'You need to come to Morocco, to Marrakech,' Mohamed told me. 'I'll show you around and teach Sam my tricks. Let him refine his negotiating skills with the professionals!' So here we are.

We meet up with Mohamed over a cup of mint tea at a table outside a tiny café in the old city of Marrakech. We're sitting in an area bordering the exotic stalls that make the marketplace. Later, as we stroll around, Mohamed introduces us to weavers and olive sellers, tile makers and rug merchants. He also begins the first of his bargaining tutorials for Sam.

'Everything in Morocco is open to negotiation, Sam. When you hear a price, the first thing you say is "Too much" and then walk away.'

'But what if I like it?'

'When you see something you like, maybe a lamp, you ask about something else instead. Then, as you walk out, you ask, "And how much is that lamp?" as though you'd just noticed it and aren't really that interested in it.'

We turn a corner and are greeted with the scent of sweet-smelling orange blossoms. 'Don't always give an offer. Make them continue to lower the price. Oh, and wear something Moroccan,' Mohamed continues as we enter a fairly large shop. Decorative and lethal-looking swords hang beside soft hand-dyed fabrics; large camel bones covered in writing sit beside massive copper lamps. It is here that Sam spots his first ornate box. 'Look, a treasure chest!' It's made of wood, and painted red and gold. He opens the lid, then closes it. 'Cool.' Then he spots a tall, cobalt blue, tear-shaped glass container—an old perfume bottle. 'Fifty dollars,' the shopkeeper pronounces. Sam says nothing. Whether he's too shy or is practising Mohamed's bargaining technique, I can't tell. He eventually agrees to pay \$24. I'd say the bottle is worth \$10, at most. Clearly, his negotiating skills need a bit of work. 'Just to get started, Dad,' Sam reassures me as he pays for the bottle.

Sam and I spend a few days sightseeing around Marrakech, but he really has eyes for only one thing. Late one afternoon, we return to the shop where Sam saw the treasure chest.

‘You have returned. Very good.’ The shopkeeper opens his arms. He places the chest on the floor. Sam opens the lid. He runs his fingers over it. The shopkeeper speaks. ‘Give me 250.’

Sam shakes his eight-year-old head. ‘Eighty.’

‘I like your *babouches*,’ says the merchant. Sam’s wearing a pair of bright yellow, Moroccan men’s slippers. He ignores the comment.

‘You’re very good. I’ll take 180 dollars,’ the merchant announces.

‘One hundred.’

Both are silent. Neither blinks. What happens next happens fast.

‘One hundred and fifty, and it’s yours.’

‘One hundred and twenty.’

‘One hundred and thirty.’

‘Yes!’

The man sticks out his hand. Sam grabs it. The deal is done. Mohamed will be proud.

21. The narrator and his son went to Marrakech

- A) on a shopping spree.
- B) with a friend of theirs.
- C) to see Mohamed’s new shop.
- D) to look for some good bargains.

22. When Sam visited Mohamed’s shop in New York

- A) he often brought his school friends with him.
- B) he usually bought some Moroccan books for his friend.
- C) he liked to have a chat with the shop owner.
- D) he helped Mohamed serve his customers.

23. In Marrakech, Mohamed

- A) started teaching Sam how to get a bargain.
- B) showed Sam some Moroccan magic tricks.
- C) went sightseeing with his American friends.
- D) advised his friends to buy locally produced clothes.

24. According to Mohamed’s directions, Sam should

- A) never bargain with the sellers.
- B) ask about the price directly.
- C) always haggle over the price.
- D) read product labels very carefully.

25. It can be inferred from the end of the story that

- A) Sam has mastered the art of the deal quite well.
- B) Sam would never become a very good dealer.
- C) Sam’s bargaining techniques were unsuccessful.
- D) Sam failed to negotiate a good price for the treasure chest.

Directions: Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among **A, B, C** or **D**, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

An Unlikely Parasite: The Mistletoe

During the holidays, many people hang mistletoe over doorways. People share kisses under this evergreen plant. It is a popular Christmas tradition. But don't let the image of a romantic plant used during the happy times of the holidays fool you. In the forests where they're from, mistletoe plants can do some real damage. Let's take a look at how and why.

The mistletoe plant is evergreen. This means it has leaves that remain green throughout the year. It is also poisonous and has white berries and small, yellow flowers. The mistletoe lives on other plants, taking water and nutrients from these plants. For this reason, mistletoe plants are considered parasites.

The white berries of the mistletoe contain seeds. Some birds and mammals like to feed on these berries. When they do, the seeds may attach to the animal eating the berries. The animal may carry the seeds to another part of the tree or shrub. They may also carry the seeds to another plant altogether. The seeds start to grow roots that dig through the bark of the tree or shrub. The roots grow into the tissues of the plant they've taken over. That's how the mistletoe takes nutrients and water away from the host plant. Mistletoe can be hard to remove once it infects a plant. The best way to fight off a mistletoe infestation is to cut off the infected branch completely. If the mistletoe takes over more parts of the plant, it can start to weaken the plant and make it harder for it to grow.

As mistletoe plants grow in the trees, they become a thick mix of branches and stems. This big mass is sometimes called a "witch's broom". Some animals nest in these witches' brooms. These animals include chickadees, house wrens, and most Cooper's hawks.

26. The mistletoe plant is described as evergreen, which means that

- A) it has leaves that remain red throughout the year.
- B) it has leaves that fall off throughout the year.
- C) it has leaves that remain green throughout the year.
- D) it is in full blossom throughout the year.

27. Mistletoe plants live on other plants and cause them

- A) to grow stronger.
- B) to grow weaker.
- C) to take in more water and nutrients.
- D) to turn white.

28. As a result of carrying the mistletoe seeds some animals

- A) turn into vicious parasites that can kill plants.
- B) can cause other animal species to die off.
- C) grow weaker and eventually die from poisoning.
- D) help mistletoe plants infect other plants.

29. One positive effect mistletoe plants have on the ecosystems where they grow is that

- A) they take water and nutrients away from other plants.
- B) they have leaves that remain green throughout the year.
- C) they provide food to some birds and animals.
- D) they have seeds which can grow roots into the barks of trees and shrubs.

30. “Witch’s broom”

- A) is a specially designed nest for certain species.
- B) refers to the thick mass created by overgrowing mistletoe.
- C) is the popular name for certain varieties of mistletoe.
- D) reveals the power mistletoe has for black magic.

PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

Section One: Cloze Test

Directions: *Read the text and the sentences below and for each numbered gap choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best suits the gap, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

What is TikTok and Why is it So Popular?

Every few years, a new app redefines the way we use social media. 2020 was the year that TikTok took (31)_____. The kids love it. Everybody else says it’s a waste of time. But there’s no (32)_____ its popularity. In 2020, the mobile app TikTok was the newest contender for the throne. A mix of music, lip sync videos, and micro-video content, TikTok is not an easy platform to understand at first (33)_____.

Perhaps the hardest part of understanding TikTok is the shortness of the content. TikTok primarily shows 15-second-long videos. While there is an option to share videos up to one minute long, there is no long-form video, and no image or text sharing options. These (34)_____ make the app harder to comprehend the first few times you use it.

Actually, TikTok was (35)_____ by two friends in China, who, seeing the growing technology, thought that they would together launch an educational social networking app in which children would be able to study at home which even the world’s top universities cannot (36)_____. Their other motive was that those who have the ability to teach, without any degree and without any interview, would be able to teach people on their platform, thus getting money for their hard work and (37)_____ popularity worldwide.

As of 2019, TikTok platform is growing, it is evolving and (38)_____ the interest of more and more both brands and celebrities. Actor Will Smith (39)_____ joined TikTok and within a few weeks, had already amassed 5 million followers.

The biggest (40)_____ of TikTok is the ability to post about anything. Humour, hobbies, fitness, travel, music, photography, dance; every category is open and is (41)_____ huge attention. Each area is offering (42)_____ for those that can adapt their content to the short-form video model.

(43)_____ entertainment seems to be the main appeal at the moment, there is an increase in educational, inspirational and business-oriented content.

When a new app emerges on the market and starts to (44)_____ in popularity, it can be hard to understand why it's needed. Instagram, for several years, seemed like a simple photo filter app but slowly emerged into a social platform and branding tool. Snapchat stories initially seemed ridiculous, Instagram essentially stole the idea, and Instagram Stories now dominate the social network. Twitter, with its confusing hashtag system, eventually became a new way to track news and current events.

When it (45)_____ to TikTok, there is a vast market of people looking for micro-entertainment and distraction for a few minutes during the day. If a video is interesting or appealing, it is reshared quickly by the algorithm on the 'For You' page and gains millions of views.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 31. | A) down | B) up | C) over | D) in |
| 32. | A) denying | B) refusing | C) deserting | D) declining |
| 33. | A) gaze | B) view | C) stare | D) glimpse |
| 34. | A) checks | B) preventions | C) restraints | D) boundaries |
| 35. | A) devised | B) thought | C) discovered | D) worked |
| 36. | A) serve | B) cater | C) provide | D) deliver |
| 37. | A) too | B) also | C) apart | D) besides |
| 38. | A) grounding | B) grinding | C) grabbing | D) grasping |
| 39. | A) shortly | B) soon | C) presently | D) recently |
| 40. | A) draw | B) drag | C) tug | D) push |
| 41. | A) earning | B) achieving | C) picking | D) gaining |
| 42. | A) exhibit | B) exposure | C) display | D) show |

43. A) While B) As C) When D) Since
44. A) spread B) expand C) grow D) enlarge
45. A) goes B) sets C) gets D) comes

Section Two: Sentence Completion

Directions: *For each of the sentences below, choose the letter A, B, C or D of the word or phrase that best completes its meaning, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

46. **The recent charity concert raised a large sum but the target of 100,000 euros _____ reached yet.**
 A) has not been B) has been C) have not been D) aren't
47. **The village church clock had been silent for years but last night to everyone's amazement it _____ ten o'clock.**
 A) stroke B) struck C) had stricken D) stroked
48. **_____ all shows and presentations had to take place behind closed doors, there was still plenty of excitement around the events.**
 A) Although B) Even C) Nevertheless D) However
49. **The cake looks so delicious that I can't resist _____ it.**
 A) taste B) tasting C) to taste D) to be tasting
50. **I must be ready with the welcome dinner before _____ the first guest arrives.**
 A) surely B) even C) only D) just