

**МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОБРАЗОВАНИЕТО И НАУКАТА**

**ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО  
АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК**

**26 май 2021 г.**

**ВАРИАНТ 1**

**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.*

**The Most Popular Superstition in America**

Living in the most technologically and scientifically-minded society to date, many of us, reasonable people, still can't help but give in to superstitions in our daily lives. That's just how our brains help us cope. This would be a strange world indeed if black cats really gained control over your destiny simply by crossing the road in front of you. Still, many would try to find a way around if a black cat showed up in their path. Just in case.

To understand better what superstitions still dominate the minds of Americans, researchers surveyed over 2,000 people and found that about 40% would consider themselves "superstitious" compared to more than 60% of interviewees in Great Britain and 51% in Germany.

The top superstition? Knocking on wood. Something harder and harder to do in a modern home. Apparently, 36 % do this.

If you are curious, this practice to avoid bad luck has its root in pagan traditions, where various cultures believed helpful spirits resided inside certain trees. So if you touched that tree, you'd be asking the spirit for protection.

Other top superstitions involved wishing on stars, crossing fingers for luck and seeking out four-leaf clovers. Interestingly, some of the bad signs relate to numerology, with 3, 666, and 13 being particularly worrisome.

Black cats are a potential hazard to 9% of the surveyed group, but we know the real number is much higher, especially with less educated people.

If you look at the results from a gender-based perspective, men come out more for believing in "beginner's luck" while women are more likely to wish on a star. Overall, women tend to be more superstitious than men. Yet, both groups knock on wood with nearly the same conviction.

Breaking it down by age groups, millennials are more likely to believe in luck, while generation Xers apparently are the most superstitious, with 10 different superstitions scoring high in the results. To the baby boomers, number 13 is of distinct concern.

**21. Nowadays we believe in superstitions because**

- A) we want to understand them better.
- B) many of us are reasonable.
- C) they make our daily life easier.
- D) they have gained control over our destiny.

**22. Based on the reported findings, we can infer that**

- A) there is no correlation between superstitions and the level of education.
- B) Americans hold more superstitious beliefs than other nations.
- C) more than one third of the people surveyed admit to being superstitious.
- D) superstitions are evenly distributed among different age groups.

**23. According to the survey, the top superstition is**

- A) shared by 2000 people.
- B) more popular with women.
- C) easy to practice in the modern home.
- D) four times as popular as meeting a black cat.

**24. The results of the survey provide evidence that**

- A) only bad superstition signs are associated with numbers.
- B) the popularity of some superstitions is not statistically accurate.
- C) 9 % of Americans run the risk of encountering a black cat.
- D) wishing on a star is less popular than seeking out four-leaf clovers.

**25. Breaking down the research by gender, the researchers found that**

- A) knocking on wood is a widely held irrational belief for both men and women.
- B) top superstitions are much more popular with men.
- C) an equal number of men and women believe in superstitions.
- D) both men and women dismiss crossing fingers for luck as an unusual superstition.

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

### **Women in History**

Women's impact on the world is a story that has slowly been coming to light over the past century. Through history, female warriors and queens have conquered foreign lands, female explorers have pushed back frontiers, and women artists, writers, and activists have changed prevailing attitudes and views. The problem is that in the patriarchal societies that dominate the world, women's stories of the resistance they have faced and obstacles they have overcome have been marginalized, and have not always been told.

It is thought that the sidelining of women by men began around 12,000 years ago. At the dawn of human history, during the Stone Age, early humans lived in hunter-gatherer societies, in which both men and women played a vital and complementary role. However, this changed with the Neolithic Revolution, when humans began to shift from nomadic to geographically settled societies based on agriculture, which was controlled by men. As populations expanded, women's contributions to food production diminished and men began to place restrictions and controls on women, regulating their behaviour through institutions such as marriage, religion, and law.

In ancient civilizations such as those in China, Greece, Egypt, and Rome, the vast majority of women had far fewer freedoms than men. Despite this, women had status in the household and as mothers, and some became priestesses associated with goddesses in polytheistic religions. However, by the medieval era, when monotheism became dominant, particularly in the West and Near East, the spiritual role of women dwindled. Customs and laws created by men continued to limit the role of most medieval women. Despite this, a number of queens and empresses across the world showed that women could be effective leaders.

**26. Over the past century people have gradually become more aware of the important role that women played in world history.**

- A) True.                      B) False.                      C) No information in the text.

**27. In male-dominated societies, the role of women was often underestimated.**

- A) True.                      B) False.                      C) No information in the text.

**28. At the dawn of human history women played a much more important role than men.**

- A) True.                      B) False.                      C) No information in the text.

**29. In early agricultural societies, men definitely outnumbered women.**

- A) True.                      B) False.                      C) No information in the text.

**30. Women in the ancient Greek world had fewer rights in comparison to male citizens.**

- A) True.                      B) False.                      C) No information in the text

## 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.

Living alone gives you the time to **31.**\_\_\_\_\_ on what matters the most to you, so you often realize how important your friends and family **32.**\_\_\_\_\_ are. You will cherish the past times when you lived with your friends and family, and to continue the relationships you must **33.**\_\_\_\_\_ conscious effort to spend time with your friends. This often means that you enjoy and **34.**\_\_\_\_\_ their company even more.

Living in a solitary environment **35.** \_\_\_\_\_ you the opportunity to learn more about yourself, such as your strengths, weaknesses, motivations and desires. This can help you to become more self-aware and introspective, and it also encourages you to **36.**\_\_\_\_\_ as a person.

One of the main benefits of living alone is **37.**\_\_\_\_\_ true financial independence. People who live alone can't **38.** \_\_\_\_\_ on their housemates or parents telling them when rent and bills are due – you have to remember for yourself, or the bills won't get paid!

When you spend your life living with family and friends, you don't need to learn to **39.**\_\_\_\_\_ with the problems on your own. When you live alone, you are forced to learn about specific things like replacing light bulbs without any help from others. While this may seem like a challenge at the beginning, it helps you to become more confident, as it **40.**\_\_\_\_\_ personal pride and faith in yourself.

- |                          |                     |                      |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>31.</b> A) address    | <b>B)</b> spot      | <b>C)</b> focus      | <b>D)</b> aim       |
| <b>32.</b> A) precisely  | <b>B)</b> truly     | <b>C)</b> accurately | <b>D)</b> correctly |
| <b>33.</b> A) take       | <b>B)</b> do        | <b>C)</b> perform    | <b>D)</b> make      |
| <b>34.</b> A) value      | <b>B)</b> evaluate  | <b>C)</b> assess     | <b>D)</b> estimate  |
| <b>35.</b> A) introduces | <b>B)</b> presents  | <b>C)</b> gives      | <b>D)</b> donates   |
| <b>36.</b> A) age        | <b>B)</b> mature    | <b>C)</b> build      | <b>D)</b> increase  |
| <b>37.</b> A) fulfilling | <b>B)</b> achieving | <b>C)</b> earning    | <b>D)</b> realising |
| <b>38.</b> A) trust      | <b>B)</b> hold      | <b>C)</b> rely       | <b>D)</b> turn      |
| <b>39.</b> A) deal       | <b>B)</b> tackle    | <b>C)</b> handle     | <b>D)</b> solve     |
| <b>40.</b> A) fills      | <b>B)</b> gives     | <b>C)</b> completes  | <b>D)</b> instils   |

41. The opening set piece is really stunning. Unfortunately, and despite the best efforts of the impressive cast, interest starts to fade around half way through, and in the end the film fails to \_\_\_\_\_ its early promise.  
 A) meet up with                      B) make up for                      C) live up to                      D) carry on with
42. We apologise for any disruption to normal museum services while we are in the process of \_\_\_\_\_ the old entrance hall.  
 A) renovating                      B) replacing                      C) returning                      D) re-establishing
43. This set of 3 CDs contains popular classical music by Beethoven, Mozart and Strauss played by Cornwall's Youth Orchestra, \_\_\_\_\_ by Tom Pierce.  
 A) directed                      B) composed                      C) conducted                      D) written
44. Given the choice between rail and air travel, the average person usually \_\_\_\_\_ for the plane.  
 A) picks                      B) goes                      C) turns                      D) gets
45. Unfortunately, the old painting I found turned out to be \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A) pricey                      B) priceless                      C) invaluable                      D) valueless

### 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 price of petrol \_\_\_\_\_ by 15 % over the past year.  
 A) has risen                      B) raised                      C) is raising                      D) has been rising
47. Nothing \_\_\_\_\_ of Pauline since her car was found abandoned near Salisbury last week.  
 A) is seen                      B) is being seen                      C) has been seen                      D) was seen
48. Jane bought \_\_\_\_\_ house I was telling you about last week.  
 A) a                      B) the                      C) -                      D) some
49. It's high time \_\_\_\_\_ our flat redecorated.  
 A) we have                      B) having                      C) we had                      D) us to have
50. She received hundreds of letters of support from friends and strangers \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A) both                      B) either                      C) like                      D) alike