





**13. Why does the professor compare the job of SETI scientists to “looking for a needle in a haystack”?**

- A) To point out how difficult it is.
- B) To show how inefficient it is.
- C) To emphasise how unskilled it is.
- D) To complain how useless it is.

**14. According to the professor, how has the approach to space exploration changed recently?**

- A) It has become more scientific.
- B) It has become more successful.
- C) It has become more active.
- D) It has become more passive.

**15. What possible explanation does the professor give for the fact that alien civilizations have not yet contacted our civilization?**

- A) The aliens perhaps don't have the necessary communication technology.
- B) The aliens may not have reached our advanced level of intelligence.
- C) We have obviously not sent enough messages to them.
- D) Alien intelligence may have become too advanced and ultimately self-destructive.

#### **Task Four**

*You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.*

**16. The Chongqing Wild Animal Park in China initially wanted to tame its white tigers in order to**

- A) prove they are easy to domesticate.
- B) make them less dangerous to zookeepers.
- C) make them entertain zoo visitors.
- D) change their eating habits.

**17. The tigers started to behave in an unnatural way because**

- A) they had been living too comfortably.
- B) they had often been teased by the visitors.
- C) they had been treated cruelly by their keepers.
- D) they had not been given enough food.

**18. The zookeepers' attempts to encourage the tigers to hunt were**

- A) very promising.
- B) quite unsuccessful.
- C) pretty courageous.
- D) against the zoo regulations.

**19. The incident with the chicken demonstrates**

- A) how aggressive tigers normally are.
- B) how dangerous it is to feed wild animals.
- C) how eager the tigers are to return to the wild.
- D) how cowardly the tigers have become.

**20. If all other plans fail, the zookeepers will try to change the tigers' behaviour by**

- A) letting them in the wild for 12 hours a day.
- B) giving them less food.
- C) turning off the heating in their cages.
- D) improving their living conditions.

#### **Task Five**

*You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.*

**21. Which of the following does Andy NOT mention as a source of his artistic inspiration?**

- A) Nature.
- B) Books.
- C) Kind people.
- D) Good movies.

**22. What, in Andy's experience, is the biggest negative factor that blocks creativity?**

- A) Low self-confidence.
- B) Too much applause.
- C) Becoming lazy.
- D) Feeling depressed.

**23. What made Andy take up music?**

- A) His parents were popular musicians.
- B) There was a piano in his family house.
- C) He used to have a toy drum in his room as a child.
- D) He had a natural passion for it.

**24. Why does Andy consider himself famous?**

- A) Because people recognise him in the street.
- B) Because he has a lot of fans in his home country.
- C) Because his songs have spread widely on the Internet.
- D) Because his Instagram profile is getting better and better.

**25. What advice does Andy give to people hoping to become singers?**

- A) To consider how strong their ambition is.
- B) To sing as little as possible in order not to damage their voice.
- C) To choose the right audience.
- D) To take advantage of any opportunity to perform.

**МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОБРАЗОВАНИЕТО И НАУКАТА**

**ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО**

**АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК – сесия август-септември 2022 г.**

**ОБЩООБРАЗОВАТЕЛНА ПОДГОТОВКА**

**НИВО В2.1**

**ВАРИАНТ 1**

**ЧАСТ 2 (време за работа 180 минути)**

***READING COMPREHENSION***

**Task One**

*Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

Although Belgium may be small, it is definitely famous for its wide variety of delicacies such as waffles, beer and of course, first-class chocolate. Nothing quite beats the delicious, creamy taste of Belgian chocolate. Belgium's chocolate obsession has been fuelled by a 150-year-old tradition of producing some of the world's finest chocolate. But what is it about Belgian chocolate that makes it so unique? Belgian chocolate has a higher cocoa content than most comparable products on the market. Belgian manufacturers pride themselves on using 100% cocoa butter and very high-quality cocoa beans. In addition, in Belgium chocolate has a very fine structure. In Belgium alone, there are numerous chocolate manufacturers that stimulate competition and maintain quality standards. The largest chocolate factory in the world is also located in Belgium: it processes 270,000 tons of beans into chocolate every year. Medium-sized companies and small chocolatiers are also well represented. Belgian chocolatiers are also very creative and are constantly coming up with new delicious flavour combinations.

In Belgium, chocolate is not only sold, it is lived. Buying chocolate becomes a real experience here. Indeed, Belgium has a lot to offer: whether a visit to the chocolate museum, or chocolate tours and tastings at chocolatiers, visitors can find plenty of opportunities to learn about the history of chocolate, taste it and get an idea how it feels to make chocolate themselves. In addition to producing chocolate specialities for fans all over the world, Belgians are real chocolate lovers themselves: Belgians eat at least 6 kilograms of chocolate a year.

**26. Belgium is best known for its different types of beer and quality sweet products.**

- A) True                      B) False

**27. Chocolate in Belgium has been produced for over a century.**

- A) True                      B) False

**28. Belgian manufacturers use only pure cocoa butter.**

- A) True                      B) False

**29. Owing to intense competition, some chocolate manufacturers fail to maintain quality standards.**

- A) True                      B) False

**30. Every year 270,000 tons of cocoa beans are processed into chocolate in Belgian factories.**

- A) True                      B) False

**31. At Belgian chocolatiers and chocolate museums, tourists can immerse themselves in the world of chocolate.**

- A) True                      B) False

## **Task Two**

***Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question, marking your answers on your answer sheet.***

The stroke hit him like a thunderbolt in front of the whole Board. The world vanished as if a shutter had been drawn. Later, he remembered the feel of his left hand at his temple, where a knife seemed to enter his brain. He didn't remember the blow that left a deep, purple bruise above his left eye, where his head struck the table.

Then ... shadows, shapes, distant conversations. He wasn't truly aware for some time. When he returned to himself, he was flat on his back in a well-lit room.

"What happened?" he croaked looking at the woman in white.

"Welcome back, Mr Jameson. How are you? I'm Doctor Harrod. Can you feel it when I do this?" The doctor lifted his hand and manipulated the joints.

He pulled it back. "Yes, I can feel it, but..."

"What? Talk to me, Gabriel. If you describe your symptoms fully, there's a chance we can see to them."

"What did you just call me?"

The doctor lost some of her bedside cheer. "I used your first name. Don't you remember what that is?"

He shook his head.

"Excuse me, Mr Jameson, just for a second."

More tests. Flash cards, conversations with psychiatrists and speech therapists. He endured it all. In the end, an intern achieved what all the experts had not. Sam had taken to him despite the difference in their years.

It was Sam, the intern, who had proposed that he, the patient, use his middle name, Lee, in place of his first. That worked. Lee Jameson was acceptable to his broken mind.

“I had an idea, Lee,” Sam said on another occasion. “You can say Lee but not Gabriel. Has anyone asked you about the alphabet?”

Lee shook his head. “What about it?”

“How many letters there are, for instance.”

“26. Everyone knows that.”

“Tell me them, then.”

He felt like a child but did as instructed. “A B C D E F H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V  
W X Y Z.”

“That’s 25.”

“Nonsense.”

“You missed a letter.”

“I’m sure I didn’t.”

“Try once more.”

“A B C D E F H I J...”

“Stop there, Lee. What comes between F and H?”

“There’s no letter between F and H.”

“Then that’s your problem,” Sam beamed. “You’ve lost ‘G’.”

Lee shook his head. The sound Sam had made didn’t exist to *him*.

**32. Mr. Jameson**

- A) was struck by a thunderbolt.
- B) didn’t remember the pain in his head.
- C) fainted in front of the Board.
- D) unexpectedly drew a window shutter.

**33. When Mr. Jameson came round,**

- A) he was lying in hospital.
- B) his wife welcomed him back.
- C) a doctor asked him what had happened.
- D) an intern checked the joints on his leg.

**34. Which of the following statements about Mr. Jameson is NOT true?**

- A) He couldn’t regain sensation in his limbs.
- B) He was interrogated by psychiatrists.
- C) He was examined by speech therapists.
- D) He had some tests done.



**35. Sam, the intern,**

- A) played board games with Mr. Jameson.
- B) treated Mr. Jameson badly.
- C) gave Mr. Jameson the name Gabriel.
- D) liked Mr. Jameson despite their age discrepancy.

**36. Mr. Jameson**

- A) was happy to recite the letters of the alphabet.
- B) didn't believe he had missed a letter.
- C) missed a letter by accident.
- D) immediately recognized the sound Sam made.

**Task Three**

***Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and answer each question with a sentence of your own. Write your answers on your answer sheet. Sentences copied word for word from the text will get 0 points.***

**Earth Day 2020: The Very First Online Earth Day**

April 22, 2020 marks 50 years since Wisconsin Senator, Gaylord Nelson, established Earth Day. It was intended to create more public concern about ecological crises while also improving the nation's political motivation to correct critical environmental issues. The very first Earth Day was a success – it inspired 20 million Americans to take to the streets, parks and auditoriums. During the 1990s, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage. With the new millennium, Earth Day engages more than 1 billion people every year. Even in 2020, with social distancing and staying behind doors, people all over the world found ways to celebrate the important holiday by moving the festivities and campaigning to a digital setting.

The Earth Day Network, on their website, held an interactive global event called *Earth Day Live* where activists, political influencers, and celebrities offered positive suggestions, motivated people to take action for Earth's well-being, performed, and campaigned through different artistic mediums. Along with *Earth Day Live*, the Earth Day Network also organized the #EarthDay2020Halt. Over 500 artists from all over the world participated in the street art campaign and showcased their art in hopes of encouraging people to take action to save the planet.

Even NASA set up their own format to let people celebrate Earth Day from the comfort of home. Their #EarthDayAtHome encouraged people to learn about earth and all of its wonders that deserve protecting. NASA offered access to podcasts, breathtaking images of the earth, educational videos, fun activity ideas, etc.

Museums weren't exempt from the at-home party either. The American Museum of Natural History held the *EarthFest*. The Fest provided online events and activities for every

age group, such as games, educational live watch parties, and several innovative and planet-friendly arts and crafts.

It's wonderful to see people continuing to support and celebrate Earth Day even in a time when celebrating is difficult to do. Hopefully, the efforts of billions of people will really help make the world a better place.

**37. When and where was the first Earth Day celebrated?**

**38. Why is Earth Day held?**

**39. What was Earth Day in the 1990s characterized by?**

**40. How was Earth Day 2020 different from the previous Earth Day events?**

**41. In what way were the two events offered by the Earth Day Network in 2020 – *Earth Day Live* and *#EarthDay2020Halt* – different from traditional festivities?**

**42. What are the four different ways in which you could have celebrated Earth Day from home if you were interested in the projects run by NASA in 2020?**

**43. How did the American Museum of Natural History contribute to celebrating Earth Day 2020?**

## ***WRITING***

**You are required to do BOTH tasks.**

***Внимание: В случай на непристоен език, плагиатство или текст, идентичен с този на друг ученик, на съответния текст се присъждаат 0 точки.***

***44. Read the task and write a formal letter (120 – 130 words) answering the suggested questions or including the suggested prompts.***

You are Nick / Nicole. You've just read an article about a pet shelter in your town, run by a charity organization. Write a letter to Ms. Brown, the manager of the pet shelter about:

- why you would like to help;
- how you would like to help;
- when you can spare some of your time to work at the pet shelter.

Start and finish the letter in an appropriate way.

**Писмен текст с обем под 65 думи или текст изцяло несъответстващ на темата се оценява с 0 (нула) точки.**

**45. Read the task and write an essay (200 – 220 words), expressing your opinion on the set topic.**

You have come across the following article about reading for pleasure:

*Research evidence on reading for pleasure*

The ability to read competently and the enjoyment of reading has strong implications for a student’s academic success. It’s also an important indicator of success in other areas of life.

The 2019 US Scholastic Kids and Family Reading Report showed that although children’s reading enjoyment has been ‘fairly steady’ since 2018, it is significantly lower among children aged 12–16.

Write an essay on the following topic:

**Reading for pleasure is a door to success.** Do you agree or disagree? Give your opinion about the topic and include the following points:

- your reading for pleasure preferences in terms of genres, authors, media, etc.;
- ways in which reading for pleasure has influenced your academic success;
- impact of reading for pleasure on any of your life decisions.

**Писмен текст с обем под 110 думи или текст изцяло несъответстващ на темата се оценява с 0 (нула) точки.**