

LEVEL B (B1 & B2)

2025 A

MODULE 1 Reading comprehension and language awareness

PART A - CHOICE ITEMS

ACTIVITY 1

1.1 Read the text and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 1a-2a.

- 1a. The text below is probably from
- A. a research study on teenage loneliness. B. a government report on types of social behaviour. C. an article on self-improvement and personal development.
- 2a. The text is about the
- A. dangers of spending too much time alone. B. benefits of spending time with yourself. C. importance of being part of a large social group.

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The Therapist Group
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The Fear of Being Alone is Real

Have you ever felt awkward walking alone at the mall while a group passes by? Many of us feel pressured to always be with friends, but is being alone really a bad thing?

The Pressure to Belong

High school often pushes the idea that you need a clique. Social media glorifies friendships as status symbols, making us believe that being alone is undesirable. But what if being on your own could actually be a source of strength? True connection matters more than just fitting in. Many people remain in groups that don't make them happy just to avoid being alone. But, surrounding yourself with people for the sake of appearances, doesn't bring real fulfillment.

Alone Time vs. Loneliness


Being alone isn't the same as being lonely. Loneliness is an unwanted feeling, but solitude is a choice—an opportunity to focus on yourself. TV and movies often paint "loners" as outsiders, but characters like Batman prove that solitude can lead to strength and self-growth. Studies show that spending time alone improves creativity, self-determination, and productivity.

The Positive Side of Solitude

If you ever feel lonely, whether due to changing schools, or simply sitting alone in public, don't see it as a weakness. Solitude allows time for self-reflection and goal setting, helping us develop confidence and independence.

How to Embrace Alone Time

- **Discover New Hobbies:** Explore activities like reading, painting, or cooking. Doing things alone strengthens creativity and self-expression.
- **Practice Self-Care:** Exercise, meditate, or enjoy a spa day. Taking care of yourself improves mental and physical health.
- **Take Yourself Out:** Visit a café, park, or go see a movie alone. It may feel strange at first, but soon you'll enjoy your own company.
- **Being alone isn't something to fear—it's a superpower.** It allows growth, self-discovery, and confidence without relying on others for acceptance. Let's celebrate solitude as a chance to find our true selves.



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ATTENTION

- Try to answer all the questions.
- Mark your answers on Answer Sheet 1 [ΑΠΑΝΤΗΤΙΚΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1].
- Provide ONE answer for each item.
- You have **85 minutes** to complete this exam.

1.2 Read the text again and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 3a-6a.

- 3a. Although not always happy, many people stay in groups because
 A. friends make them feel special. B. they like teamwork. C. they don't want to feel left out.
- 4a. According to the text, feeling lonely is
 A. an unpleasant emotion. B. a sign of weakness. C. a sign of independence.
- 5a. The decision to spend time alone helps people
 A. feel less stressed at work. B. become stronger. C. avoid responsibilities.
- 6a. One central message of the text is that
 A. being alone can be positive. B. social acceptance is necessary. C. social interaction is harmful.

ACTIVITY 2

Read the text below and match the meaning of each underlined word (7a-11a) with options A-F. There is one option you do not need.

A. upset	B. left	C. attractive	D. survive	E. unknown	F. identified
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Luciana Barroso was a young Argentine waitress



She was twenty years old, a single mother (7a) abandoned by the father of her only child and struggling to (8a) make ends meet in America.

One day, while she was taking her shift behind the counter, a young man asked her if he could "join her" behind the counter and "hide" - he explained that he was an actor, and there were some journalists and people in the restaurant who had (9a) recognized him.

He was (10a) annoyed and a little overwhelmed by the attention, since he was still quite new to the concept of "fame". Luciana had no idea who he was, but she told him:

"You can hide here, but you have to at least make yourself useful!"

So he helped her, preparing cocktails, serving customers, washing and drying dishes.

Luciana and the (11a) handsome stranger continued talking. Toward the end of the evening, at the end of her shift, she asked him what his name was.

"Matt Damon," the boy replied.

They have been married for eighteen years now and have four daughters. Their oldest is adopted.

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3.1 Read the text below and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 12a-13a.

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A Message to Generation Alpha from Generation Z

#97 TRENDING IN OPINION

OPINION

Despite changes in technology and society, one thing has always stayed the same—our humanity. Understanding this is important for Generation Alpha, people born between 2010 and 2024, to avoid past mistakes and improve life for future generations.

The Balance between Complexity and Simplicity

Humans naturally want to be remembered. Many believe success comes from working hard, gaining status, and achieving wealth. Society teaches that a simple life leads to struggle, so people often avoid it. As a result, many focus too much on work and forget the importance of rest and reflection. Technology has helped humanity achieve great things, like reaching the moon. However, it has also caused harm—space is full of junk, and more trees are cut down than planted each year. While we build and innovate, we also damage the planet and make a lot of effort trying to fix our mistakes.

Can One Generation Change the World?

Many say Generation Alpha can fix the world's problems. While this is partly true, no single generation can solve major issues like hunger and war. These problems have existed for centuries and will take many more generations to resolve. However, Generation Alpha can make progress. Positive change happens when multiple generations work together. If people focus on both complex solutions and simple efforts, they can create lasting improvements.

Individual Responsibility and Change

Although Generation Alpha is a group, each person is unique, with different dreams and goals. While not everyone can dedicate their lives to fixing the world, every small effort counts. Change happens slowly, but every generation builds upon the work of the previous one. Older generations have already contributed to positive change. Generation Alpha can continue this process by learning from past mistakes, using knowledge wisely, and making smart choices for the future.

The Power of Knowledge

Each generation benefits from the discoveries and lessons of the past. This allows people to learn, innovate, and create better solutions for future challenges. If Generation Alpha applies this knowledge, they can help build a cleaner, healthier world.

Their responsibility is to embrace both complexity and simplicity, work toward progress, and leave a lasting impact. This is a chance to make a difference. A chance to be remembered.

THE TEEN MAGAZINE

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3.2 Read the text again and decide if statements 14a-20a are True (A), False (B) or Not Stated (C).

STATEMENTS		A	B	C
		TRUE	FALSE	NOT STATED
According to the text,				
14a.	humanity has remained unchanged despite technological and societal progress.			
15a.	many individuals prioritize their jobs over their well-being.			
16a.	only Generation Alpha can bring about meaningful change.			
17a.	Generation Alpha is the most technologically proficient generation in history.			
18a.	past generations have done little to improve society.			
19a.	those who fail to learn from mistakes of the past will definitely repeat them.			
20a.	Generation Alpha can use AI-powered insights to address global challenges more effectively than ever before in history.			

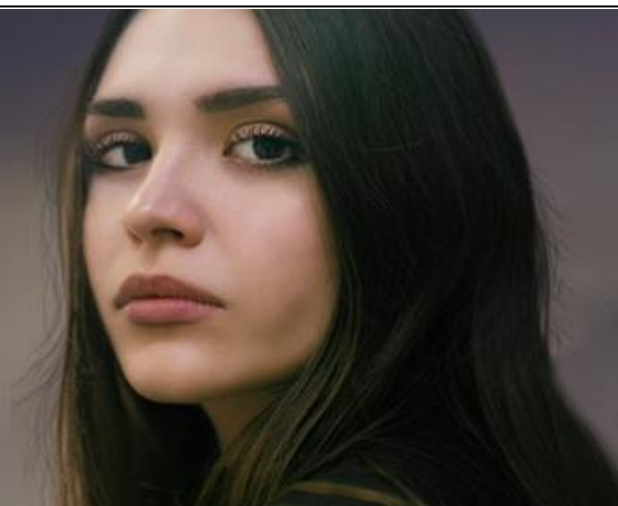
ACTIVITY 4

Read the text below and for each gap (21a-25a) choose the best option (A-F). There is one option you do not need.

A.	anxiety	B.	speaking	C.	excellent	D.	mysterious	E.	common	F.	weight
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Magazine article

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT QUIET PEOPLE



Today, I am going to share with you a few interesting facts about quiet people. You do realize that most quiet people have something in (21a) _____, and you can easily tell when you see them.

Fact #1: Quiet people tend to be more observant. Because they're not talking as much, they have more time to pay attention to and analyze their surroundings. This can make them (22a) _____ listeners and great at picking up on details that others might miss.

Fact #2: Quiet people are often deep thinkers. They tend to spend more time reflecting on their thoughts and emotions, which can lead to greater insights and self-awareness. This also means that when they do speak up, their words can carry a lot of (23a) _____, shaping opinions, influencing decisions, and leaving a lasting impact on those who hear them.

Fact #3: Quiet people may struggle with social (24a) _____. Some quiet people may feel nervous or uncomfortable in social situations, which can make it harder for them to speak up or start conversations.

Fact #4: Quiet people are great at one-on-one conversations. Because they tend to be good listeners and thoughtful speakers, they can excel in one-on-one conversations. They may struggle more in larger groups or in public (25a) _____ situations.

ACTIVITY 5

5.1 Read the text below and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 26a-28a.

- 26a.** The text is about
 A. the development of cellphone technology. B. the decline of landline phones. C. the advantages of cordless phones over landlines.
- 27a.** The writer suggests that
 A. landlines fostered shared family experiences. B. cell phones encourage more face-to-face communication. C. cell phones strengthen family bonds.
- 28a.** According to the text, communication has changed from
 A. long discussions to short messages. B. being tied to a place to happening anywhere. C. private calls to shared experiences.

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How the Loss of the Landline Is Changing Family Life

JULIA CHO

DECEMBER 12, 2024



My daughter will never know the sound of me calling her name from another room after the phone rings. She'll never sit on the kitchen floor, twisting a cord around her finger while talking to her best friend. Phrases like "I'll get it," "He's not here right now," and "It's for you" are on their way out of our modern vocabulary. Most American homes now use only cellphones, and "We don't even have a landline anymore" became a common statement in the early 2000s. But this transition came with a quieter, secondary loss—the shared social space of the family landline.

The family phone was a communal invention. "When the telephone rang, friends and family gathered 'round, mesmerized by its magic flow of electrons," says Luke Fernandez, a computer-science professor. The landline was a home anchor, a device where you could be reached and needed to pick up your messages. The home phone was a shared experience. In the early days, the phone was bulky and fixed in the home, making a call an event. People used phone furniture to house their devices. Though people spoke across distances, they remained grounded in their home.

As phones became smaller and easier to use, they became less remarkable. The introduction of cordless phones in the '80s made calls more private. However, even then, making a call to another household's landline meant that you might speak with a parent before reaching a friend. The shared family phone taught patience and participation in one another's lives.

By the '80s and '90s, cellphones started to displace landlines. Today, kids calling "home" might bypass one parent and reach the other directly. Calls, texts, and emails sent through cellphones can be kept private from family members, leading to what Larry Rosen describes as "techno-cocoons," where family members are separated. "Whereas landlines united family members in a single room, cellphones isolate them," he says.

Cheryl Muller, a 59-year-old artist, remembers the shift from calling out, "It's for you," to silence as cellphones became common. Caroline Coleman recalls how her son's first phone call from a classmate with a deep voice left her horrified. "When you get cells, you lose that connection," she said. Today, children no longer overhear their parents' conversations, which offered a window into their relationships. Instead, parents are often seen staring at a screen, engaging in private conversations.

The nature of communication has changed. Calls used to take place in fixed rooms with clear spatial boundaries. Now, communication happens anywhere, through the air, leaving a sense of distance. The shift from the tangible, shared space of landlines to the elusive air of cellphones marks a change in how people connect, both with each other and their surroundings. "You don't lose yourself in the same way when you're talking on the phone on the wall," says Steiner-Adair.

5.2 Read the text again and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 29a-35a.

- 29a.** Traditional phone-related phrases are disappearing because
A. most households no longer use landline phones. **B.** people prefer talking to each other in person. **C.** video calls are more common than phone calls.
- 30a.** The landline served as a home anchor because it
A. was used only in case of an emergency. **B.** was mainly used for long-distance calls. **C.** was fixed in one place and used by the whole family.
- 31a.** In the early days, making a phone call was considered
A. a private activity. **B.** a rare necessity. **C.** a significant act.
- 32a.** The introduction of cordless phones changed communication by
A. preventing family members from answering calls. **B.** allowing conversations to be more private. **C.** encouraging family members to talk more openly.
- 33a.** Using a shared home phone helped people develop
A. a preference for written communication. **B.** the tendency to make phone calls in secret. **C.** a better sense of connection with other family members.
- 34a.** Larry Rosen's term "techno-cocoons" refers to
A. a new way of using phones for social interaction. **B.** reduced family interaction due to cellphones. **C.** the way landlines can still help family members stay connected.
- 35a.** Cheryl Muller noticed a change in communication when
A. landlines were replaced by personal cellphones. **B.** families started using landlines more often. **C.** phone calls became a shared experience once again.

ACTIVITY 6

Match descriptions 36a-41a with options A-H. Use each of the options only once. There are two options you do not need.

A.	Beaches	B.	Gardens	C.	Temples	D.	Castles
E.	Galleries	F.	Forests	G.	Volcanoes	H.	Waterfalls

36a.	Step back in time as you visit impressive structures, steeped in history and remarkable architecture, that tell the stories of past rulers and epic battles. These grand buildings, once centers of power and defense, offer a glimpse into the past through their design and the tales they hold.	
37a.	Marvel at the sight of a stunning natural wonder, where water plunges dramatically from towering heights, creating a powerful and awe-inspiring display. The force of the water as it crashes below fills the air with a misty spray, enhancing the sense of wonder and beauty.	
38a.	Take a leisurely walk through thoughtfully designed spaces filled with vibrant flowers and lush plants, offering a peaceful environment ideal for relaxation and enjoying nature's beauty. These serene areas provide the perfect escape for unwinding and connecting with the outdoors.	
39a.	Witness the power of nature as hot springs release steam from deep within the earth, and the landscape is continuously reshaped by intense geological forces. The raw energy beneath the surface creates a dramatic and ever-changing environment, where the earth's power is on full display.	
40a.	Discover peaceful and sacred places where intricate architecture and rich spiritual history blend with serene surroundings. These sites, often nestled in beautiful gardens or scenic landscapes, offer a quiet retreat for spiritual reflection and connection with our soul.	
41a.	Enjoy relaxing by the water's edge, where soft sand meets crystal-clear, warm waters, perfect for swimming, sunbathing, and various water activities in a tranquil, tropical setting. The peaceful atmosphere invites relaxation and outdoor fun.	

ACTIVITY 7

7.1 Read the following text and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 42a-43a.

- 42a. The main purpose of the text is to
 A. promote formal education. B. discuss accidental discoveries. C. highlight the power of determination.
- 43a. According to the text, many young people today
 A. face criticism. B. do not achieve their goals. C. face no challenges.



The Science Space

This Space is about science and all its branches.

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Posted Dec. 21, 2024.
 by Jiří Kroc

It can be done!



During a mathematics course at Columbia University, a student fell asleep and woke up to the sound of his classmates talking. As the lesson ended, he noticed the lecturer had written two problems on the whiteboard. He assumed these were homework assignments, so he copied them into his notepad to tackle later.

When he first attempted the problems, he found them quite difficult. However, he persevered, spending hours in the library gathering references and studying until he was able to solve one of the problems, though it was challenging. To his surprise, the lecturer didn't ask about the homework in the next class. Curious, the student stood up and asked, "Doctor, why didn't you ask us for the required assignment from the previous lecture?"

The lecturer replied, "Required? It wasn't mandatory. I was simply presenting examples of mathematical problems that science and scientists had not yet solved."

Shocked, the student responded, "But I solved one of them in four papers!"

The solution he discovered was eventually credited to him and documented at Columbia University. The four papers he wrote on the issue are still on display at the institution.

The key reason the student was able to solve the problem was that he didn't hear the lecturer say, "No one has found a solution." Instead, he believed it was a problem worth solving and approached it without frustration, ultimately succeeding. Had he known that other scientists had failed to solve it, he might have been influenced by doubt or hesitation, possibly giving up before making any real progress.

This story serves as a reminder: don't listen to those who tell you that you can't achieve something, as many young people today are surrounded by negativity and doubt. Some people intentionally plant seeds of failure and frustration. You have the power to achieve your goals, overcome obstacles, and fulfill your aspirations.

7.2 Read the text again and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 44a-47a.

- 44a. The student wrote down the problems in his notebook because he
 A. planned to review them with classmates. B. was asked to solve them for extra credit. C. thought they were part of the coursework.
- 45a. At first, the student thought the problems were
 A. simple and straightforward. B. too complex to solve. C. not worth spending time on.
- 46a. The student eventually solved one problem thanks to his
 A. luck in guessing the right answer. B. exceptional mathematical abilities. C. determination and willingness to find the right answer.
- 47a. The student's solution is now
 A. kept as an official record at his university. B. used as a reference in math lectures. C. part of his professor's private student records.

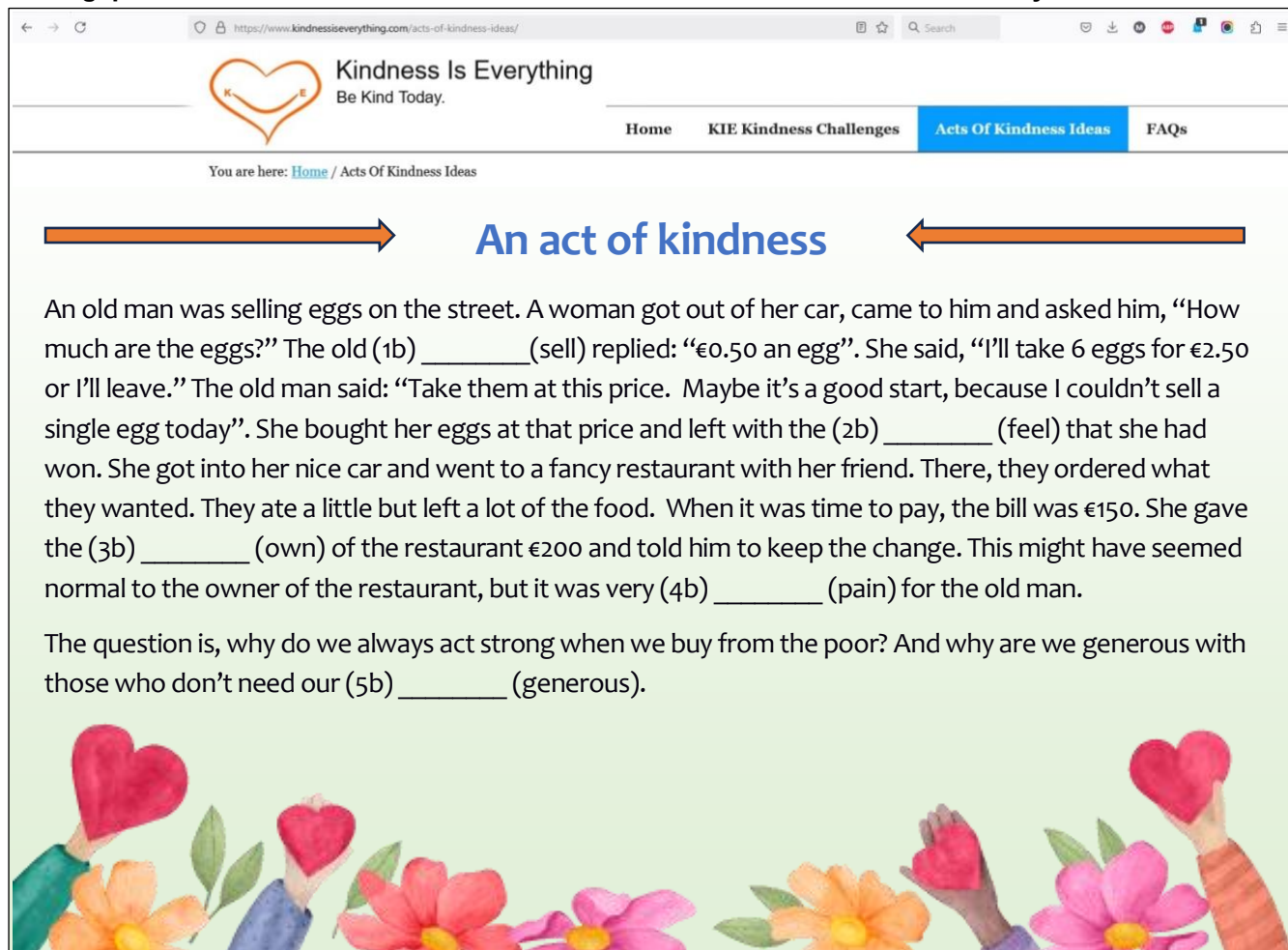
7.3 What do the words in *italics* mean? Choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 48a-50a.

- 48a. He assumed these were homework assignments, so he copied them into his notepad to *tackle* later.
 A. work on B. talk about C. give up
- 49a. "It wasn't *mandatory*. I was simply presenting examples of mathematical problems that science and scientists had not yet solved."
 A. challenging B. confusing C. compulsory
- 50a. Some people *intentionally* plant seeds of failure and frustration.
 A. accidentally B. carefully C. deliberately

PART B - SHORT ANSWERS

ACTIVITY 1

Fill in gaps 1b-5b with the correct form of each word in brackets. Use each word only once.



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An act of kindness

An old man was selling eggs on the street. A woman got out of her car, came to him and asked him, “How much are the eggs?” The old (1b) _____ (sell) replied: “€0.50 an egg”. She said, “I’ll take 6 eggs for €2.50 or I’ll leave.” The old man said: “Take them at this price. Maybe it’s a good start, because I couldn’t sell a single egg today”. She bought her eggs at that price and left with the (2b) _____ (feel) that she had won. She got into her nice car and went to a fancy restaurant with her friend. There, they ordered what they wanted. They ate a little but left a lot of the food. When it was time to pay, the bill was €150. She gave the (3b) _____ (own) of the restaurant €200 and told him to keep the change. This might have seemed normal to the owner of the restaurant, but it was very (4b) _____ (pain) for the old man.

The question is, why do we always act strong when we buy from the poor? And why are we generous with those who don’t need our (5b) _____ (generous).



ACTIVITY 2

Think of ONE word that fits BOTH sentences (6b-10b) in each set. The first letter of the word is given.

6b.	a) The village is so r _____ that it takes four hours to reach the nearest town.
	b) She picked up the r _____ control and changed the TV channels to see what else was on.
7b.	a) He has always been a t _____ friend, standing by me through every challenge.
	b) Owning a place of their own was a dream come t _____ for the couple.
8b.	a) I can’t b _____ that noise anymore; it’s giving me a headache.
	b) We saw a large b _____ in the forest during our hike.
9b.	a) Our next meeting is scheduled for a later d _____ to accommodate everyone’s availability.
	b) She had a romantic d _____ with her boyfriend at a nice restaurant last night.
10b.	a) I love to w _____ the sunset from my balcony.
	b) He glanced at his w _____ to check the time.

ΣΑΣ ΥΠΕΝΘΥΜΙΖΟΥΜΕ ΟΤΙ ΠΡΕΠΕΙ ΝΑ ΜΕΤΑΦΕΡΕΤΕ ΟΛΕΣ ΤΙΣ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΙΣ ΣΤΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1
ΤΕΛΟΣ ΜΗΝΥΜΑΤΟΣ