

LEVEL B (B1 & B2)

2026 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. Elizabeth, who wrote the letter below, is probably
A. a young child. B. a teenager. C. an adult.
- 2a. In her letter, Elizabeth is asking her parents to
A. communicate more with her. B. give her good advice. C. use social media more often.

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parents guide

A letter every child wishes their parents would read

Dear Mum and Dad,

Please take some time to read this letter. At times, all I really want is for you to listen to me. I do not need much time, only a short moment to talk. If you listened to my worries, I would not need to turn to my friends or to social media. That friend of mine wouldn't be a problem if we spoke more. Social media wouldn't be my hiding place if we spoke more. The world would not be my teacher if you taught me.

You expect me to grow up, yet you wouldn't show me how. You were teenagers once. What lessons did you learn? What mistakes did you make? How did those experiences change you? I want to know, because I am still learning who I am. I live in a world full of music, movies, games, television, and social media, and they teach me many things, not always the right ones.

You often ask me about schoolwork, and that is important. But I want more. I want you to talk to me about growing up, about relationships, about money, about faith, and about the changing world. I want you to talk to me about life.

I want to spend quality time with you and have conversations with you. I want to tell you about the games I enjoy, the people I like, my friends, my dreams, and my worries. I want us to talk and also have fun together.

I do not want to act badly just to get your attention. I do not want to look for love or comfort in the wrong places. I simply want your care and understanding.

Sometimes all I want to hear is that you love me, but even more, I want you to show it to me.

With love,
Elizabeth

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. Elizabeth turns to social media to
 A. get daily news. B. feel less lonely. C. give advice to friends.
- 4a. Elizabeth wants her parents to
 A. help her with her schoolwork. B. listen to her problems. C. stop telling her to study.
- 5a. Elizabeth wants to talk with her parents about
 A. growing up, friends, life, and dreams. B. new movies, television, music, and social events. C. school, homework, games, and sports.
- 6a. Elizabeth does not want to get her parents' attention by
 A. playing sports and reading books. B. studying hard and doing all her schoolwork. C. misbehaving or breaking rules.

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.	cries out	B.	uncovers	C.	answers	D.	raises	E.	argues	F.	shows
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The Puppy



A boy walks into a pet shop and asks how much the puppies cost. "Between 300 and 500 euros," the owner (7a) replies.

The boy reaches into his pocket, takes out some money, and says, "I only have 100 euros, but... could I at least see the puppies?"

The owner calls Lady, the puppies' mother, who comes running, followed by five little balls of fur. One of the puppies is left behind, visibly limping.

"What's wrong with that one?" the boy asks, and (8a) points at the last one.

"He was born with a hip problem," the man explains. "Unfortunately, he'll limp his whole life."

Suddenly, a smile breaks out on the boy's face and he (9a) exclaims excitedly, "That's the dog I want!"

The owner frowns.

"I can't sell you that one. If you want it, I'll give it to you; it's worthless."

The boy is silent for a moment, then looks at the man determinedly and says,

"I don't want you to give it to me. It's worth as much as the others. I'll pay you the 100 euros I have and 10 more each month until the price is paid."

The owner, surprised, replies:

"But, boy, this dog will never be able to run or jump like the others. He won't even play well!"

The boy then (10a) lifts up his pants, and (11a) reveals an artificial left leg – a prosthetic leg.

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ACTIVITY 3

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

12a. The purpose of this text is to

A. describe popular gifts worldwide.

B. explain gift-giving rules in different countries.

C. discuss gift wrapping customs around the world.

13a. An alternative title for this text could be

A. Gift-giving protocol for travellers.

B. Gifts to buy for friends when travelling abroad.

C. New trends in gift packaging across the globe.



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The dos and don'ts of gift-giving around the world

What should you do when someone refuses a gift in Japan? And what colours should you use when wrapping a gift in Italy? We've got the answers.



If you think the art of giving gifts is tricky at home, try making it work abroad. While you must carefully choose the item itself, the gift's wrapping is surprisingly important, too, as is the timing. In fact, in many cultures, gift-giving is like a traditional dance—you have to do the steps in time to the music, and without stepping on anyone's toes for it to be a good experience for everyone involved. Here are some traditions to be aware of on your travels.



Insist a little

China, Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea, and Japan

In many countries in East Asia, when offering a gift, you should expect to be refused once, twice, or even three times. This is done to avoid seeming greedy or impatient. If you're being offered a gift in one of these places and you want to be polite, you're well advised to do the same. Also, when the person finally accepts, you're expected to thank them.

Hand it over with care

India, Africa, the Middle East, and East Asia

In Asia and the Middle East, how you handle gifts is very important. In India and the Middle East, the left hand is considered unclean so use your right hand to give and receive gifts (unless they're so heavy two hands are required). In East Asia (China, Thailand, Vietnam), always offer or accept a gift with both hands, palms up.

Avoid taboo objects

China, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan

In China, don't give someone an umbrella—it means you want the relationship to end. Straw sandals, handkerchiefs, and clocks are also taboo in China and Hong Kong because of their association with mortality. Skip brooches and handkerchiefs in Italy for the same reason, and in Japan, forget about handing over a potted plant as a hostess gift—it's thought to encourage illness.

Wrap it up

Everywhere

Etiquette experts from around the world agree that gifts should always be wrapped. That said, the symbolism of colours varies from country to country. Avoid white, black, and blue gift wrap throughout Asia, as they're associated with mourning. In South America, black and purple are avoided because of their association with death and religious ceremonies, and in Italy purple is simply considered unlucky. To avoid any of these faux pas, have gifts wrapped by a pro in your destination. Colour, folds, and ribbons aren't just an important element of presentation—in many cultures they're symbolic and the wrong wrapping could send the wrong message.

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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.	giving presents in your own country can sometimes be challenging.			
15a.	gift-giving rules are simple and easy to follow when travelling abroad.			
16a.	in East Asia, refusing a gift usually means the person does not want it.			
17a.	the number of times a gift is refused depends on the value of the gift.			
18a.	in some cultures, using your hands correctly is important when giving gifts.			
19a.	some gift items should be avoided in certain countries because they are linked to death.			
20a.	gift-wrapping rules apply only to formal occasions such as weddings.			

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.	becoming	B.	turning	C.	approaching	D.	marking	E.	producing	F.	ongoing
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Why do leaves change colours in autumn?

Although the chemistry of autumn colours is well understood, there is an **(21a)** _____ debate about why trees developed such bright colours in the first place.

Driving through Duchess County, New York, in mid-October, I see bright yellow and red leaves everywhere. The sunlight makes them look like fireworks. These colours show that colder months are **(22a)** _____.

Further north in Maine, the colours are far more muted. "In a fall like this one, we have some plants that are changing really early and undergoing senescence really quickly because they're drought-stressed," says Amanda Gallinat, an ecologist who studies changes in seasonal events in the natural world at Colby College in Waterville, Maine. When she looks out of her window, she sees a lot of leaves **(23a)** _____ brown already.

In the UK, similar colour changes occur every autumn. Here, however, most leaves turn yellow, not red. This is because local trees, like beech, sycamore, and oak, are mostly **(24a)** _____ yellow leaves. David Wilkinson, an ecologist at the University of Lincoln, says that most trees in the UK are usually from other countries. For example, sumach turns bright red, but it is originally from the Mediterranean, Asia, and North America.

In Japan, the maples create red, purple, and yellow leaves. Many tourists visit Japan to see these colours. In many parts of the world, "leaf peeping" is **(25a)** _____ a popular attraction as millions travel to see and photograph the amazing seasonal shifts in leaf colour.

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ACTIVITY 5

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

- 26a. The main purpose of the text is to
 A. show how a famous actress contributed to technological advances. B. describe the history of early Hollywood films. C. present the influence of World War II on the film industry.
- 27a. The text also
 A. explains why films were censored in Europe. B. praises the role of women in science. C. reveals the lasting impact of one individual's ideas.
- 28a. The text suggests that Hedwig Kiesler
 A. hid her abilities behind a public image. B. depended mainly on her acting talent. C. lost interest in acting at an early stage.

Such an incredible, mostly unknown story

In 1933, a beautiful, young Austrian woman took off her clothes for a movie director and ran through the woods naked, pushing well beyond the social norms of the period. The film was banned practically everywhere, which made it even more popular. The star of the film, called "Ecstasy," was Hedwig Kiesler. She said the secret of her beauty was "to stand there and look stupid." In reality, Kiesler was anything but stupid. She was a genius and a math prodigy who grew up as the only child of a prominent Jewish banker.



Her beauty made her rich for a time. She is said to have made - and spent - \$30 million in her life (more than \$500.000 million today). But her greatest accomplishment resulted from her intellect, and her invention continues to shape the world we live in today. This young Austrian starlet would take one of the most valuable technologies ever developed right from under Hitler's nose.

At the time she made *Ecstasy*, Kiesler was married to one of the richest men in Austria, Friedrich Mandl, who was a leading arms maker and a key supplier to the Nazis. Mandl would have his beautiful wife at important business dinners with representatives of the Austrian, Italian, and German fascist forces. One of Mandl's favourite topics at these gatherings – which included meals with Hitler and Mussolini – was the technology surrounding radio-controlled missiles and torpedoes.

Wireless weapons offered far greater ranges than the wire-controlled alternatives that prevailed at the time. Kiesler sat through these dinners "looking stupid," while absorbing everything she heard. As a Jew, she hated the Nazis. In 1937, she got out of Austria and went to London just in time, one year before Germany annexed Austria and seized Mandl's factory.

In London, Kiesler signed a contract with MGM movie company and co-starred in more than 20 films next to Clark Gable and Judy Garland. Each of her first seven MGM movies was a blockbuster. But Kiesler cared far more about fighting the Nazis than about making movies. At the height of her fame, in 1942, she developed a new kind of communications system, optimized for sending coded messages that couldn't be "jammed." She was building a system that would allow torpedoes and guided bombs to always reach their targets and to kill Nazis.

After solving the problem of synchronizing the frequency changes on both the transmitter and the receiver with the help of musician George Antheil, they were both granted one of the most important patents ever granted by the U.S. Patent Office.

Today, as you experience super-fast wireless Internet access, you'll be using an extension of the technology a 20-year-old actress first conceived while sitting at dinner with Hitler. This actress became famous under the name Hedy Lamarr, a stage name given to her by the movie company.

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

- 29a.** The film *Ecstasy* became more popular mainly because it
A. was widely advertised. **B.** followed new artistic trends. **C.** faced censorship in many countries.
- 30a.** Kiesler's greatest achievement is linked to her
A. intellectual work rather than her acting career. **B.** influence on the film industry through her acting awards. **C.** ability to earn large amounts of money.
- 31a.** Kiesler's husband
A. earned his wealth through weapons production. **B.** worked mainly in the film industry. **C.** served as a Nazi government official.
- 32a.** At the dinners mentioned in the text, Kiesler
A. spoke openly about military operations. **B.** listened carefully while seeming uninterested. **C.** negotiated business matters on behalf of her husband.
- 33a.** During her time in London, Kiesler
A. used her film income to support military operations. **B.** quit acting to become a professional engineer. **C.** used her intelligence to help advance wartime technology.
- 34a.** Kiesler and Antheil showed that
A. cooperation can lead to major innovation. **B.** music and science should remain separate. **C.** formal training is needed to solve technical problems.
- 35a.** According to the text, people today
A. rely on inventions made by large corporations. **B.** benefit from past innovations without realising it. **C.** use systems developed entirely after World War II.

ACTIVITY 6

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

A.	World	B.	Sports	C.	Medical	D.	Historical
E.	Academic	F.	Criminal	G.	Property	H.	Financial

36a.	A document that tracks a person's history, treatments, and test results over time. It may include notes, prescriptions, and summaries of visits.
37a.	A document that shows a person's past involvement with the law or authorities. It contains information about incidents, outcomes, and official actions taken.
38a.	A document that keeps track of a person's or organization's activities related to payments, purchases, and transfers. It provides information about how resources are used over time.
39a.	A document that tracks exceptional achievements and that is recognized internationally, measuring performance in attendance record, endurance, or unusual skills, often celebrated in media.
40a.	A document such as a letter, diary or map, containing evidence about significant events and notable individuals, which researchers analyse to interpret how societies have evolved.
41a.	A document that records a person's studies and results, providing information about their progress and accomplishments in an educational setting.

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. argue in favour of new voice technologies.

B. compare different types of voice assistants.

C. raise awareness of computer-generated voices.

43a. This text might appear in a website about

A. new technical engineering techniques.

B. the emerging risks of people using AI.

C. recent advances in telecommunications systems.



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AI voices are now indistinguishable from real

Do you think you'd be able to tell the difference between a real human voice and a deepfake? Most people can't.

Most of us are likely to have experienced artificial intelligence (AI) voices through personal assistants like Siri or Alexa, with their flat intonation and mechanical delivery giving us the impression that we could easily distinguish between an AI-generated voice and a real person. But scientists now say the average listener can no longer tell the difference between real people and "deepfake" voices.

In a new study published Sept. 24 in the journal PLoS One, researchers showed that when people listen to human voices — alongside AI-generated versions of the same voices — they cannot accurately identify which are real and which are fake.

"AI-generated voices are all around us now. We've all spoken to Alexa or Siri, or had our calls taken by automated customer service systems," said lead author of the study Nadine Lavan, senior lecturer in psychology at Queen Mary University of London, in a statement. "It was only a matter of time until AI technology began to produce naturalistic speech."

The study suggested that, while generic voices created from scratch were not deemed to be realistic, voice clones trained on the voices of real people — deepfake audio — were found to be just as believable as their real-life counterparts.

The scientists gave study participants samples of 80 different voices (40 AI-generated voices and 40 real human voices) and asked them to label which they thought was real and which was AI-generated. On average, only 41% of the from-scratch AI voices were misclassified as being human, which suggested it is still possible, in most cases, to tell them apart from real people.

However, for AI voices cloned from humans, the majority (58%) were misclassified as being human. Only slightly more (62%) of the human voices were classified correctly as being human, leading the researchers to conclude that there was no statistical difference in our capacity to tell the voices of real people apart from their deepfake clones.

"The results have potentially profound implications for ethics, copyright and security", Lavan said. Should criminals use AI to clone your voice, it becomes that much easier to bypass voice authentication protocols at the bank or to trick your loved ones into transferring money.

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

- 44a.** The opening question in the text is used to
A. challenge the reader's assumptions. **B.** explain a key scientific term. **C.** add humour to an otherwise technical topic.
- 45a.** Siri and Alexa are mentioned to show that
A. voice assistants are becoming outdated. **B.** AI voices are mainly used for entertainment. **C.** people are familiar with artificial voices.
- 46a.** Nadine Lavan claims that
A. speech technology did not develop as fast as expected. **B.** voice technology has reached its limits. **C.** voice copies based on real people can sound convincing.
- 47a.** Lavan's study suggests that
A. cloned voices could be used to deceive people. **B.** human voices are usually recognised without difficulty. **C.** cloned voices are easier to detect than real ones.

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

- 48a.** ...we could easily *distinguish* between an AI-generated voice and a real person.
A. differentiate **B.** recognise **C.** classify
- 49a.** "It was only a matter of time until AI technology began to produce *naturalistic* speech."
A. emotional **B.** spontaneous **C.** lifelike
- 50a.** ...it becomes that much easier to *bypass* voice authentication protocols at the bank...
A. delay **B.** override **C.** interrupt

PART B - SHORT ANSWERS

ACTIVITY 1

Fill in gaps 1b-5b with the correct form of each word in parentheses.



An Unsuccessful Invention

Tom always wanted to be an inventor. He believed he was very **(1b)** _____ (create), but his ideas were often strange. One day, he decided to build a machine that would wake him up in a fun way.

Tom spent weeks working carefully in his garage. He was very excited about his invention and told everyone it would change their mornings forever. He felt very **(2b)** _____ (confidence) when he finished.

On Monday morning, he turned on the machine. At first, there was complete **(3b)** _____ (silent). Then suddenly, loud music started playing, water sprayed everywhere, and a mechanical arm threw a toast across the room. Tom jumped out of bed in total shock.

The neighbours were not very pleased. One of them called the police because of the noise. When the police arrived, Tom tried to explain his **(4b)** _____ (amaze) invention, but they were not impressed.

In the end, Tom felt very **(5b)** _____ (embarrass), but also hopeful. He decided to try again. After all, every great inventor needs failure before success!

ACTIVITY 2

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

6b.	<p>a) The children sat in a r_____ around the teacher, listening quietly and waiting for her to speak.</p> <p>b) The wrestlers stepped into the r_____ while the crowd roared with excitement, waiting to see who would strike first.</p>
7b.	<p>a) She decided to give her best s_____ in the competition, doing everything she could to win.</p> <p>b) Knowing how important it was to stay healthy, Amanda got her flu s_____ at the clinic before winter began.</p>
8b.	<p>a) After carefully placing the documents inside the envelope, Bill made sure to s_____ it securely before mailing it.</p> <p>b) The jar has a tight s_____ to keep food fresh, locking in flavour and quality by preventing air and moisture from getting inside.</p>
9b.	<p>a) After joining the debate club, Paula really began to b_____, gaining confidence and improving her public speaking skills dramatically.</p> <p>b) Every year, flowers b_____ in spring, filling the gardens with vibrant colours and sweet fragrances that signal the end of the long, cold winter.</p>
10b.	<p>a) After ordering the meal, James noticed an extra c_____ on her credit card statement and called the restaurant to clarify.</p> <p>b) After the investigation, the police had enough evidence to c_____ the suspect with assault.</p>

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