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Hellenic American University

**BCCE**

Basic Communication  
Certificate in English

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**Sample Test 2011**

**Distributed Free of Charge**

Hellenic Amer

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## INSTRUCTIONS

### Completing the Answer Sheet

Look at the TOP RIGHT of SIDE ONE of your answer sheet. Fill in the following information on the lines:

**FULL NAME:** use all capital letters. Print your full name in this order: family name and then your first name.

**SIGNATURE:** sign your name.

Look at the **IMPORTANT DIRECTIONS FOR MARKING ANSWERS**. This test is machine scored, so you must follow instructions carefully.

- Use a #2 (soft) pencil only.
- Do NOT use ink or ball point pens.
- Make heavy marks that fill the circle completely.
- Erase cleanly any answer you wish to change.
- Make no stray marks on the answer sheet.
- Do NOT fold or crease the answer sheet.
- Fill in only one circle for each item.
- Mark all your answers on the answer sheet not in the test booklet.
- Any item with more than one answer marked will be counted wrong.
- If you are not sure about an answer, you may guess.

**Please note:** Keep your eyes on your own test booklet and answer sheet. Candidates giving or receiving help or using notes or other aids will be disqualified and they will FAIL. Examination fees will not be refunded.

## Listening Section Instructions

The listening section of the test (questions 1 – 30) is divided into four parts. Instructions and examples are provided at the beginning of each part. All questions are worth one point.

### Part 1

In this part of the listening section (questions 1 – 10), you will hear ten short conversations.

After each conversation you will hear a question that is also written in your test booklet. You must choose the correct response from the three answer choices, A, B, or C written in your test booklet and darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet.

You will hear each conversation and question only **once**.

Here is an example:

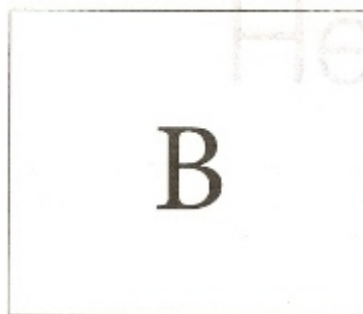
You hear:

You see:

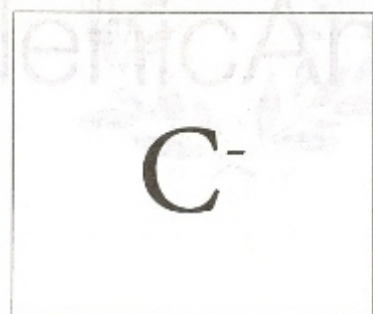
What are Amy's grades like this semester?



A



B



C

The correct answer is A. Do you have any questions? ●  B  C

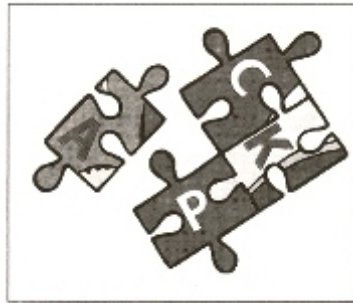
Now, we will start Part 1 of the listening test.



1 Which toy is the man probably going to buy?



A



B



C

2 What are the speakers preparing?



A

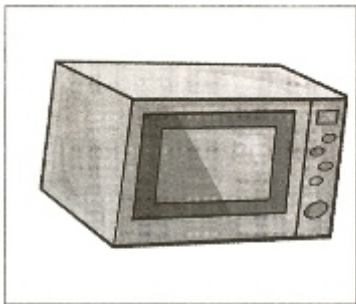


B



C

3 What did the woman order?



A



B



C

4 What did the woman get from her grandmother?



A



B



C

5 Where is this conversation taking place?



A



B

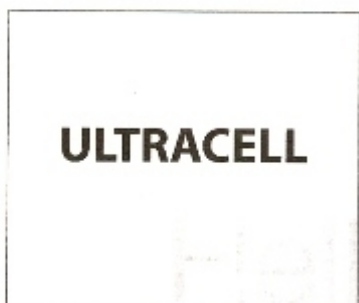


C

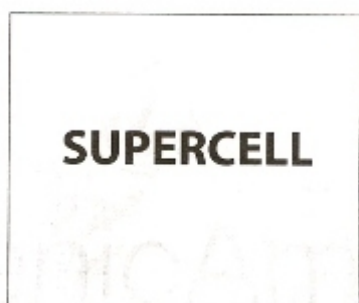
6 Which phone service does the woman suggest?



A



B

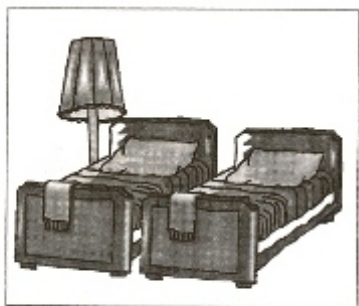


C

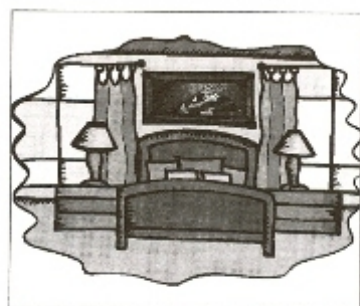
7 Which room did the woman request?



A



B



C

8 Why did the man dedicate the song to his friend?



A



B



C



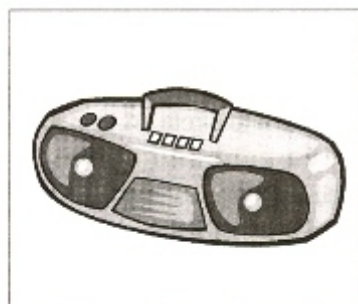
9 What does the man want?



A

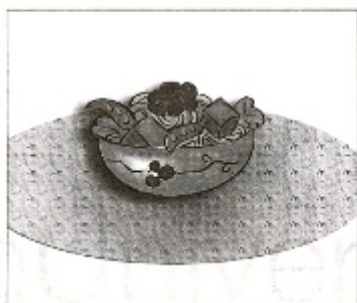


B

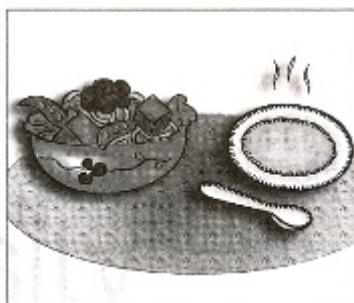


C

10 What will the waiter bring?



A



B



C

**Part 2**

In this part of the listening section (questions 11 - 19), you will hear nine short messages or announcements. After each message or announcement, you will hear a question that is also written in your test booklet. You must choose the correct answer from the three choices A, B, or C in your test booklet and darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet.

You will hear each message or announcement only **once**. Here is an example:

Example: You hear:

You see:

When will the meeting be?

- A Wednesday
- B Thursday
- C Friday

The correct answer is C.  A  B  C

Do you have any questions?

Now, get ready to listen to the messages or announcements.

- 11** What number should a guest press to order food?  
A 2  
B 3  
C 9
- 12** Which movie still has tickets available?  
A The Story of My Life  
B The G-Men  
C Game Time
- 13** Why is the speaker calling?  
A to inform the customer  
B to make an appointment  
C to order a computer screen
- 14** What is true about the offer?  
A It only lasts for a half hour.  
B It begins on the 30th of the month.  
C It is good until the end of the day.
- 15** Which room will the face painting class now be in?  
A 3  
B 4  
C 6
- 16** Why is the speaker calling?  
A to cancel an appointment  
B to confirm an appointment  
C to arrange the doctor's seminar
- 17** Where has the train on platform 6 come from?  
A Bristol  
B Exeter  
C Newcastle
- 18** Why is the speaker calling?  
A to ask Jimmy out on a date  
B to book a restaurant table  
C to change dinner plans
- 19** What should a caller press to make a call without a credit card?  
A 0  
B 1  
C 2



**Part 3**

In this part of the listening section (questions 20 - 25), you will hear an interview in three parts. After each part, you will hear two questions that are also written in your test booklet. You must choose the correct answer from the three choices, A, B, or C in your test booklet, and darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet. You will hear each part only **once**.

You are going to hear a conversation between a teenage singer and a magazine reporter. Now, listen to the beginning of the interview followed by an example question.

Example: You hear:

You see:

What will the man ask Maya about?

- A her flight
- B her album
- C her school

The correct answer is B  A  B  C

Do you have any questions?

Now, get ready to listen to the rest of the interview.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>20</b> When did Maya finish recording the album?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A last Friday</li> <li>B last month</li> <li>C last year</li> </ul>   | <p><b>24</b> What does Maya like best about touring?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A the music she plays</li> <li>B the places she performs in</li> <li>C the audience's response</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>21</b> What does Maya say about her album?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Her songs are funny.</li> <li>B Her whole album tells a story.</li> <li>C Her music includes different styles.</li> </ul> | <p><b>25</b> What does Maya do in her spare time?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A She travels.</li> <li>B She writes songs.</li> <li>C She watches movies.</li> </ul>                        |
- 
- 22** Where does Maya say she gets her song ideas from?
- A her trips
  - B her family
  - C her dreams
- 23** What does Maya say about her fame?
- A She is enjoying it.
  - B She hopes it will last.
  - C She thinks it is important.
-

**Part 4**

In this part of the listening section (questions 26 - 30), you will hear a short talk. After the talk, you will hear five questions that are also written in your test booklet. Answer the questions by choosing the best answer from A, B, or C based on the information in the talk. You will hear the talk **twice**.

You are going to listen to someone welcoming a group of students to a camp. Now, listen to the beginning of the talk followed by an example question.

You hear:

You read:

What is the speaker going to talk about?

- A where the cabins are
- B the history of the camp
- C changes to the schedule

The correct answer is C.  A  B  C

Do you have any questions?

Now, get ready to listen to the rest of the talk.

**26** Where will the welcome party probably take place?

- A by the river
- B on the lawn
- C in the dining room

**27** Where will the morning lecture take place?

- A in the library
- B in the chapel
- C in the Great Hall

**28** When will most of the afternoon lessons begin?

- A 1:30 pm
- B 2:00 pm
- C 2:30 pm

**29** Which sessions do students have to go to?

- A study groups
- B morning lectures
- C afternoon lessons

**30** When will Mr. Keens' talk on examination techniques take place?

- A Tuesday
- B Wednesday
- C Thursday

Write notes here



**END OF THE LISTENING TEST. DO NOT TURN TO THE NEXT SECTION.**



## Grammar, Vocabulary and Reading Section Instructions

This section consists of 75 questions. You should complete the GVR Section in **70 minutes**. All items are worth one point.

### Grammar: 25 questions in total.

Choose A, B, C, or D to complete the sentences.

*Example:* What time ..... tomorrow?

- A will meet
- B we are to meet
- C will be meeting
- D are we meeting

The correct answer is D.  A  B  C  D

### Vocabulary: 25 questions in total.

Choose A, B, C, or D to complete the sentences.

*Example:* My cousin is ..... with us for a couple of weeks.

- A living
- B seeing
- C moving
- D staying

The correct answer is D.  A  B  C  D

### Reading Comprehension: 25 questions in total.

**Part 1:** In this part, there are four short texts on a similar theme. Answer the questions that follow by choosing the best answer from A, B, C or D based on the information given in the texts.

*Example:* You are reading a website in which kids review movies. Choose A, B, C, or D to answer the questions based on the information given in each text. Remember to darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet.

#### **A** Frank & Rachel

Reviewer: Georgette (Age: 14) - Rating: \*\*\*

**Summary:** There is a kid named Frank and he is the fastest runner in his class. One day a new girl named Rachel moves next door to Frank and she's ...

**Likes:** When Frank and Rachel become great friends.

**Dislikes:** I disliked the part where Leslie hit her head hard.

#### **B** Whatever you say

Reviewer: Leslie (Age: 12) Rating: \*\*\*\*\*

**Summary:** Wilma was born with a terrible weakness. She has to do whatever someone tells her to ...

**Likes:** The part where Wilma does not do what they tell her to do.

**Dislikes:** What is there to dislike!?

#### **C** Megagon

Reviewer: Jonathan (Age: 13) Rating: \*\*

**Summary:** This movie is about a boy who lives with his uncle in a quiet village. One day he finds an egg from which a dragon comes out ...

**Likes:** I liked the idea of the dragon story.

**Dislikes:** Parts of the movie almost bored me to death!

#### **D** Prince Bambam

Reviewer: Linda (Age: 11) Rating: \*\*\*\*

**Summary:** This was a good movie about an evil witch who wants to rule the magical world. Two brothers, their sister and their cousin are trying to ...

**Likes:** I love stories about witches. I liked it so much I went out and bought the book the next day.

**Dislikes:** I thought there were too many battles.

*Example:* Which movie ... is also a book?  
is about an animal?

The correct answer is D.  A  B  C  D

The correct answer is C.  A  B  C  D

**Parts 2, 3, & 4:** In this part, there are three different passages, each followed by five questions. There are 15 questions in total. Choose the answer from A, B, C, or D based on the information given in each passage.

*Example:* Noah Webster was born in Connecticut. He graduated from college there in 1778. He wanted to study law, but he could not afford it. Instead, he took a job as a teacher at an elementary school in West Hartford to support himself and his family. Teaching made him realize that what he really wanted to do was to teach children.

What is true about Noah Webster?

- A He worked as a teacher.
- B He came from a rich family.
- C He was born in West Hartford.
- D He graduated from law school.

The correct answer is A.  A  B  C  D

- 31 Our soccer coach was pleased ..... our performance during the game.  
 A in  
 B to  
 C for  
 D with
- 32 Have you ..... moving to another country?  
 A think of  
 B thought to  
 C thought about  
 D are thinking of
- 33 Doctors say if we want to stay healthy, we ..... avoid eating too much red meat.  
 A had to  
 B have to  
 C don't have  
 D needn't have
- 34 Only ..... people know that Julia was born in Holland.  
 A a few  
 B a little  
 C some of  
 D not many
- 35 I really love watching the Tomb Hunter films, .....  
 A but if they were scary  
 B though they are scary  
 C unless they were scared  
 D although they are scared
- 36 The Sun is over 300,000 times ..... than the Earth.  
 A large  
 B larger  
 C largest  
 D as large
- 37 Most lost luggage is ..... to its owner within 48 hours.  
 A to return  
 B returned  
 C returning  
 D to have returned
- 38 Sorry, but ..... an application form?  
 A I can get where  
 B where can I get  
 C can I get where  
 D get where I can
- 39 Tony ..... the e-mail four times, but it never arrived.  
 A sent  
 B sends  
 C is sending  
 D was sending
- 40 We need to hurry up because the train ..... at seven o' clock.  
 A left  
 B leaves  
 C leaving  
 D has left
- 41 One of the most ..... used alphabets is the Latin alphabet.  
 A wide  
 B wider  
 C widely  
 D widest
- 42 Someone has left the light on, ..... ?  
 A isn't it  
 B wasn't it  
 C didn't they  
 D haven't they
- 43 I wouldn't have come into work today if I ..... the meeting was canceled.  
 A knew  
 B had known  
 C would know  
 D were knowing



- 44 Soft drinks are not ..... healthy as natural fruit juices.  
A as  
B very  
C that  
D more
- 45 ..... good manager asks employees for their opinion.  
A A  
B The  
C One  
D Some
- 46 I forgot ..... George about the party.  
A tell  
B to tell  
C telling  
D to have told
- 47 My parents were excited because an old friend of ..... was coming to visit.  
A their  
B they  
C them  
D theirs
- 48 Employees ..... how to use the ZZL3000 must attend a training seminar.  
A who do not know  
B whose knowledge of  
C which have not known  
D that have no knowledge
- 49 Here ..... the keys to the house.  
A is  
B are  
C will be  
D was
- 50 I don't mind ..... to work on foot.  
A go  
B to go  
C going  
D for going
- 51 I'm ..... tired to go out.  
A so  
B very  
C too  
D enough
- 52 Some people are finding it ..... difficult to find a job.  
A the more  
B the most  
C and more  
D more and more
- 53 My sister ..... in October.  
A is her book published  
B her book is to publish  
C book will be published  
D had her book published
- 54 ..... the age of five, Albert Einstein could play the violin.  
A In  
B By  
C On  
D To
- 55 Some critics have found Craig Hobbleson's new play .....  
A bore  
B bored  
C boring  
D boredom



- 56 Did you have a question you wanted to ..... me?  
A tell  
B ask  
C form  
D make
- 57 What ..... did you use to make this delicious chocolate cake?  
A food  
B cooking  
C materials  
D ingredients
- 58 The books are kept in ..... alphabetically by title.  
A turn  
B order  
C place  
D public
- 59 The mystery is revealed in the final ..... of "Caribbean Mystery".  
A report  
B chapter  
C conclusion  
D documentary
- 60 All guests are ..... to check out of their rooms by 11:00 am.  
A warned  
B charged  
C required  
D explained
- 61 Today's teenagers' tastes are very different from those of their parents'.....  
A age  
B time  
C period  
D generation
- 62 My cousins from Italy will be ..... with us for the next few weeks.  
A seeing  
B staying  
C moving  
D remaining
- 63 Singer Janice Townsmith has signed a ..... with a Russian record company.  
A fact  
B design  
C contract  
D complaint
- 64 The Grand Hotel is ..... located near the airport.  
A largely  
B nearly  
C comfortably  
D conveniently
- 65 The first ..... to land a man on the moon was not successful.  
A aim  
B effort  
C option  
D attempt
- 66 Venice is ..... for its canals.  
A famous  
B general  
C beautiful  
D common
- 67 I'll ..... John to fix the phone when he comes home.  
A get  
B let  
C have  
D make
- 68 You'll find a ..... of our finest perfumes in aisle 3.  
A option  
B choice  
C election  
D selection

- 69 Tickets for the championship are ..... \$50 each.
- A cost
  - B worth
  - C value
  - D charge
- 70 Our summer camp offers a ..... of programs for children of all ages.
- A class
  - B variety
  - C category
  - D collection
- 71 Please do not ....., a meeting is in progress.
- A cut
  - B annoy
  - C disturb
  - D trouble
- 72 The president knew Chinese, so he didn't need anyone to ..... for him.
- A glance
  - B translate
  - C examine
  - D understand
- 73 I have forgotten my e-mail .....
- A signal
  - B symbol
  - C identity
  - D password
- 74 To ..... your memory, try doing some puzzles.
- A raise
  - B better
  - C improve
  - D increase
- 75 I get some exercise by ..... the six flights of stairs to my office.
- A going
  - B moving
  - C climbing
  - D hurrying
- 76 Waiters usually ..... more money on weekends than on weekdays.
- A do
  - B take
  - C bring
  - D make
- 77 The Danceaway Club is the perfect ..... for a birthday party.
- A point
  - B scene
  - C venue
  - D platform
- 78 Wearing a seatbelt ..... serious injuries in car accidents.
- A forbids
  - B escapes
  - C prevents
  - D interrupts
- 79 I was wondering if you've ..... any plans for the weekend?
- A made
  - B done
  - C created
  - D thought
- 80 Car manufacturers strongly ..... changing the oil every 5,000 miles.
- A apply
  - B believe
  - C accept
  - D recommend



**Part 1**

You are reading reviews of video games to decide which one to buy. Answer the questions that follow by choosing the best answer from A, B, C or D based on the information given in the passage.

**A Monkey Maze**

This game involves moving cute little monkeys through mazes. Once you begin playing, it's difficult to stop, as each level becomes harder and harder to finish. Most children under 10 will find the game very challenging as players need to quickly finish each maze before the sand clock runs out. Although the creators claim that it can be played in groups, it is unsuitable as group scores aren't kept and players need to remember their scores each time.

**B Pajama Panda**

Remember how much kids loved this game on the PC? Finally, it's available for GameStation. In this adventure, kids solve problems with the little superhero, Pajama Panda, as he journeys through a human body. The aim of the game is to help restore peace and order on Earth while learning about food and diet at the same time. Children meet funny characters and solve problems by collecting objects, answering riddles, and playing games. This video game is best for children aged 6-9, and can be played just as easily alone as with a parent.

**C Rocket House**

Rocket House is an interactive kid's game where they explore a rocket house with the Cosmic Family! It features coloring and solving simple puzzles. Kids will have a great time meeting the family, their crazy pets and plenty of colorful monsters. Using the controls like a magic wand, kids can find crazy cartoons, funny stories, and playful mini games. They'll need adult help though, as it was created for the very young. It's only available at the moment for GameStation.

**D Brainy**

Brainy gets young kids thinking and strengthens their memories. It's full of trivia questions in a variety of categories, from animals to health, and it even asks different questions depending on the age of each player, making it perfect for parties of mixed age groups. Players can compete against each other or play cooperatively.

The time given to answer the questions is more than enough. With both competitive and cooperative game modes and 20,000 questions in multiple categories, the fun is virtually endless!

We can't wait till it comes out on PC!

**Which game ...**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>81</b> has puzzles? .....                       | <b>86</b> is too difficult for nine-year-olds? .....            |
| <b>82</b> gives players a very limited time? ..... | <b>87</b> needs children's parents to play with them? .....     |
| <b>83</b> is also available for computers? .....   | <b>88</b> takes into consideration the age of the player? ..... |
| <b>84</b> is best played in groups? .....          | <b>89</b> teaches children about correct eating habits? .....   |
| <b>85</b> is suitable for all ages? .....          | <b>90</b> teaches children to remember things? .....            |



## Part 2

You are reading a blog page about interactive whiteboards. Answer the questions that follow by choosing the best answer from A, B, C or D based on the information given in the passage.

Educators are always looking for ways to make their students' learning experiences more meaningful. They often use teaching tools such as computers and the Internet in the classroom. Nowadays, the use of interactive whiteboards is becoming more and more popular. However, not everyone believes that **they** actually improve the quality of teaching.

Supporters of interactive whiteboards claim that even the most talented teachers cannot provide the kind of learning experiences that an interactive whiteboard can. They add that these internet – connected teaching tools make it possible for teachers to access information quickly. Teachers can also show visuals and do activities that motivate the students and hold their interest. Teachers can save their lessons on their computers, send them to any absent students, or reuse parts of them as a review.

Interactive whiteboard opponents, however, insist that such boards do not necessarily guarantee a meaningful learning experience for students. They point out what teachers do with whiteboards is more important than the technology itself. They also note that teachers need to be trained to use such boards and their software effectively. This takes time and money. Some teachers have also reported that the boards frequently "crash", disrupting their teaching.

Our goal as a society should be to help students develop the skills needed to be productive citizens. Whether this can be achieved through expensive teaching tools or not really makes no difference. What is important is having well-trained, imaginative teachers with very clear teaching goals.

91 What does "they" in paragraph 1, line 8 refer to?

- A educators
- B teaching tools
- C learning experiences
- D interactive whiteboards

92 What is said to be an advantage of interactive whiteboards?

- A They make students learn more.
- B They reduce the number of absences.
- C They make students pay more attention.
- D They let students work on activities of their choice.

93 What is said to be a problem with using interactive whiteboards?

- A They are expensive to buy.
- B They often have technical problems.
- C There is not much software available.
- D Students need to be trained to use them.

94 What opinion does the author express?

- A Learners need to be encouraged to learn.
- B More teachers should use whiteboards.
- C Students learn best from well-trained teachers.
- D Whiteboards cannot be used to teach some subjects.

95 What does the author say teachers need?

- A society's support
- B more imagination
- C better teaching tools
- D specific teaching goals

END OF THE OVR TEST. DO NOT TURN TO THE NEXT SECTION.



## Part 3

You are going to read an e-mail from one friend to another. Answer the questions that follow by choosing the best answer from A, B, C or D based on the information given in the passage.

Hi Jeff,

How was your weekend? Hopefully, it was better than mine was. You warned me, but I just wouldn't listen. Peter kept saying "Skiing is easy – nothing to it", so I took his word for it.

The drive to the ski resort was great. But when we got there, I quickly found out that skiing for the whole weekend was going to cost a lot more than I'd expected. I'd budgeted enough for a hotel room and food, and all that, but the two-day ski pass plus renting all the ski equipment was a lot more expensive than I'd imagined.

After spending all that money on renting equipment, I really wanted to go out and ski, and I didn't want to start on the bunny slopes with all the kids. Of course, you were right when you said that's where I belonged. I should've taken your advice. Well, I found out the hard way that there's a lot to learn.

It started out okay: I managed to get on the chair lift. Peter was sitting next to me and told me what to do – keep the ski tips up, etc. But the closer we got to the top of the slope, the more scared I got knowing that the ride would end. Well, needless to say, I almost caused an accident getting off the chair lift!

Skiing down the slope was even worse. I won't go into details, but I did all the things I wasn't supposed to do and made basic mistakes. I kept falling all over the place. Other skiers had to make an effort to avoid me because I couldn't get out of the way.

I was so sore after one run – basically falling the whole way down the mountain – that I spent the rest of the first day, and all of the next, sitting next to the fire drinking hot chocolate, waiting for the weekend to end. I'm just thankful I didn't break any bones. While I don't regret going, there's no more skiing for me.

I hope you're doing well.

Elaine

96 What surprised Elaine?

- A the cost of skiing
- B the dangers of skiing
- C how far away the resort was
- D how beautiful the resort was

97 What did Jeff advise Elaine to do?

- A get a two-day ski pass
- B bring her own ski equipment
- C start on the beginner slopes
- D keep her ski tips up on the chair lift

98 What does Elaine imply about Peter?

- A He was helpful.
- B He is a good listener.
- C He had an accident.
- D He had never skied before.

99 What was Elaine afraid of?

- A injuring herself
- B damaging her skis
- C causing an accident
- D getting off the chair lift

100 How did Elaine probably feel at the end of the weekend?

- A upset with Peter
- B glad it was over
- C sad she had to leave
- D embarrassed by her mistakes



**Part 4**

You are reading a text about high school clubs. Answer the questions that follow by choosing the best answer from A, B, C or D based on the information given in the passage.

**High school clubs**

High school clubs are student-based school organizations, formed by students. It is difficult to track down the history of the creation of these organizations, as several thousand types of clubs exist.

Sacramento High School in California was the first high school to form a student-based high school club. The original thought belonged to Albert C. Olney and Frank C. Vincent, who were students at this school. This first high school club, the Key Club, operated separately from the school itself. The name Key Club is still used today to talk about the largest student-based association in the world. Each Key Club has its own program with organized activities that remain a secret to outsiders.

There are no special physical or mental requirements to join a club. The majority of active club members are freshmen and sophomores, who want to find their individual place within the school dynamics and have a voice in school issues. However, some other students join high school clubs for uninspiring reasons. They are usually inactive members, though. For example, seniors might register for a respected organization only so they can record it on their college application forms. Also, other students might pressure their peers into joining clubs.

High school clubs are more popular in the United States and Canada, though many clubs exist in Europe as well. The truth is that student-based high school organizations can benefit teenagers. Every club member shares common desires and/or personality traits and as a result, a deeper type of connection exists among club members.

- 101** Why are Albert C. Olney, and Frank C. Vincent mentioned in paragraph 2?
- A They were the first club presidents.  
 B Their high school club was the biggest.  
 C It was their idea to form a high school club.  
 D Sacramento High School students liked them.
- 102** Who knows about a Key Club's activities?
- A club members  
 B school students  
 C college teachers  
 D local community
- 103** Who are high school club organizations suitable for?
- A students who have a high IQ  
 B students who get good grades  
 C students who are good at sports  
 D students who are interested in clubs
- 104** Who would be an active member according to the text?
- A students who want to meet new people  
 B students who want to be liked by others  
 C students who want to have power in school  
 D students who want to get accepted to college
- 105** What does the author think about high school clubs?
- A They aid members with their schoolwork.  
 B They help members form true relationships.  
 C They offer members only a few advantages.  
 D They give members a chance to be creative.



**END OF THE GVR TEST. DO NOT TURN TO THE NEXT SECTION.**



This part of the test consists of two writing tasks. **You must do both tasks.** Your writing will be assessed on the following criteria: the development and organization of the points given for each task, the range and accuracy of the language used, and the connection between sentences and paragraphs. **You have 50 minutes to complete both tasks.**

**Task 1**

Your friend from Germany has just written to you about her favorite book. In her e-mail, she asked you about your favorite book. Write an e-mail to your friend telling her about your favorite book.

You must develop briefly **all** of the following points below:

- Describe the plot of the book
- Say why you like it
- Say why you think she should read it

You should start your e-mail with: *Dear Anja,*

You should finish your e-mail with: *Talk soon,*  
*(your name)*

**Your e-mail should be between 80 and 100 words.**



**Task 2**

You have just read the following competition announcement in a magazine. Write an e-mail to the editor of the magazine describing your best school trip.

You must develop briefly **all** of the following points below:

- Say when it was and where you went
- Describe what happened
- Describe how you felt and why
- Say why it was your best school trip

You should start your e-mail with: *Dear editor,*

You should finish your e-mail with: *Best wishes,*  
*(your name)*

**Your e-mail should be between 80 and 100 words.**

**My Best School Trip**

**What makes school trips special?**

**Which was your best school trip ever?**

**Share your best school trip experience with our readers and you may win an XPod9000.**

**E-mail your entries to our editor at [bestschooltrip@BCCE.com](mailto:bestschooltrip@BCCE.com)**



**Task 1** Personal questions (2 - 3 minutes)

Directions: In this task, I will ask you some questions about your family, hobbies, school, work, etc.

**Task 2** Picture-related questions (2 - 3 minutes)

Directions: In this task, I will ask you some questions about a picture.

- 1 What is happening in this photo?
- 2 Have you ever cooked anything or helped someone cook something?

Describe it: Say when it happened  
Say what you did  
Say how you felt about it

**Task 3** Role-play (2 - 3 minutes)

Directions: In this task, we are going to take part in a role-play. I will read out the role-play.

Role-play Prompt:

I'm a visitor to your country. This is the first time I'm visiting your country and I'd like to taste your traditional food. **Suggest** a place that serves such food. **Recommend** some traditional dishes that I should definitely try and **say** why.

Directions: You will have 30 seconds to prepare your response.

**Task 4** General Questions (4 - 6 minutes)

Directions: In this task, I will ask you some general questions about what we have been discussing so far.

- 1 After a meal, who washes the dishes in your home? Discuss.
- 2 If you could choose between cooking or doing the dishes, which would you choose and why?
- 3 Is your room tidy? Who cleans it?
- 4 How do you feel about doing housework? Why do some people dislike doing housework? Discuss.
- 5 Are schoolchildren expected to keep their rooms clean and tidy? Discuss.
- 6 Do you think that each member of the family should help with the housework? How should this work be divided? Discuss.



## LISTENING TEST

**Narrator:** The Revised Basic Communication Certificate in English, Sample Test 2011. Copyright 2011, Hellenic American University - Hellenic American Union.

The Listening section of the test (questions 1 through 30) is divided into four parts. Instructions and examples are provided at the beginning of each part. All questions are worth one point.

### LISTENING - PART 1

In this part of the listening section (questions 1 through 10), you will hear ten short conversations. After each conversation you will hear a question that is also written in your test booklet. You must choose the correct response from the three answer choices, A, B, or C, in your test booklet and darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet. You will hear each conversation and question only **once**.

Here is an example:

**Narrator:** The following conversation is between a parent and a schoolteacher.

**Woman:** I hope that Amy's grades have improved.

**Man:** I'm really happy with your daughter's performance this semester. She has really improved and she received the highest scores in class.

**Woman:** I'm glad to hear that considering how low her grades were last semester.

**Man:** Well, she really deserved the top grades she got this semester!

**Narrator:** **What are Amy's grades like this semester?**

**Narrator:** The correct answer is A. Do you have any questions?

**Narrator:** Now we will start Part 1 of the listening test.

**Narrator:** **Number 1.** The following is a conversation between a customer and a shop assistant.

**Man:** Hello, can you help me please? I'm looking for a present for my four-year-old niece.

**Woman:** Well, how about this nice dollhouse? Girls love dollhouses. And it's on sale. Or perhaps a teddy bear, those are always popular.

**Man:** I dunno ... I was thinking about something more .... *educational*.

**Woman:** I see. Then, can I suggest this wooden puzzle? She'll have fun putting the pieces together, while at the same time also learning her letters.

**Narrator:** **Question 1: Which toy is the man probably going to buy?**

**Narrator:** **Number 2:** The following is a conversation between two colleagues.

**Man:** Do you really think we'll be ready for Saturday night's opening performance?

**Woman:** I do. The students have all learned their lines already, and the scenery and backgrounds are almost finished.

**Man:** What about the costumes?

**Woman:** We're still making those, but they'll be ready on time. Don't worry!

**Narrator:** **Question 2: What are the speakers preparing?**

**Narrator:** **Number 3:** The following is a conversation between a customer and a store manager.

**Woman:** Hi, my name's Phoebe Miller, and I'm calling to complain about the dishwasher that was delivered to my house just now ... it's not the model I paid for.

**Man:** Oh, I'm sorry Ms. Miller. One moment while I pull up your account ... Okay, I see here that they delivered the Quick Dishes two-thousand. Which model did you order?



Woman: I don't remember the model number, but the one I paid for was much bigger. It had two baskets for glasses and two for dishes, oh and it had a high tech touch screen.

Man: Ah, that would be the Quick Dishes twenty-five hundred. And yes, here it is on your order form. I'm terribly sorry about the mistake. I'll arrange for it to be brought to you within the day.

Narrator: **Question 3: What did the woman order?**

Narrator: **Number 4:** The following is a conversation between two friends.

Man: Wow, that's a beautiful bracelet! Where did you get it?

Woman: I bought it from that antique shop downtown. The pattern is similar to the ring my grandma gave me for my birthday last year.

Man: It's almost a perfect match, what about the necklace you're wearing? I haven't seen that before ...

Woman: You haven't? My mom gave it to me a couple of years ago.

Narrator: **Question 4: What did the woman get from her grandmother?**

Narrator: **Number 5:** The following is a conversation between a student and an assistant.

Man: Where can I find the school book section?

Woman: On the shelves over there. Is there anything in particular you're looking for?

Man: Actually, there are several things. My teacher gave me a list.

Woman: OK. We offer a ten percent discount on all school books.

Narrator: **Question 5: Where is this conversation taking place?**

Narrator: **Number 6:** The following is a conversation between two friends.

Woman: I tried calling you on your cell phone, but I got a message saying that the number is no longer in service. What's up with that?

Man: Oh yeah. Sorry, but I got fed up with MEGACELL and switched to SUPERCELL.

Woman: You should have tried ULTRACELL; they're much cheaper than SUPERCELL and have better service than MEGACELL.

Man: I wish I'd known earlier!

Narrator: **Question 6: Which phone service does the woman suggest?**

Narrator: **Number 7:** The following is a phone conversation between a hotel receptionist and a guest.

Woman: Yes, I'd like to reserve a double room for three nights.

Man: Sure, when will you be checking in?

Woman: Checking in 27<sup>th</sup> and out on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Man: Unfortunately, all our double rooms are booked for those dates. We do have single rooms available or the presidential suite, which is quite expensive.

Narrator: **Question 7: Which room did the woman request?**

Narrator: **Number 8:** The following conversation is between a radio DJ and a caller.

Woman: Welcome everyone to one-oh-one Rock FM. This is DJ Dynamite and you're our first caller.

Man: Hi, I can't believe I'm on the air! My name is Bob and I'd like to dedicate the next song to my best friend, Agnes.

Woman: Let me guess: either it's her birthday or she's getting married?

Man: No, nothing like that. She's just graduated from university.

Narrator: **Question 8: Why did the man dedicate the song to his friend?**



Narrator: **Number 9:** The following is a conversation between two friends.

Man: Oh man, I can't believe I can't find tickets for the concert tomorrow night.

Woman: Did you look online? I usually get mine on the Internet.

Man: Yeah, I did. I even went down to Musichouse Records to see if they had any, but they're sold out.

Woman: I've been listening to Pop FM today, and the DJ's been giving them away for answering trivia questions. Why don't you call in and try to win?

Narrator: **Question 9: What does the man want?**

Narrator: **Number 10:** The following is a conversation between a waiter and a customer.

Man: Are you ready to order ma'am?

Woman: Yes, I think I'll have the soup and salad special.

Man: I'm afraid we've just run out of soup. Can I recommend one of our sandwiches to go with the salad, instead?

Woman: Hmm. A sandwich is too filling. No, I'll just go with the salad. What kind of dressings do you have?

Narrator: **Question 10: What will the waiter bring?**

Narrator: **End of Part One.**

## LISTENING - PART 2

In this part of the listening section (questions 11 - 19), you will hear nine short messages or announcements. After each message or announcement, you will hear a question that is also written in your test booklet. You must choose the correct answer from the three choices, A, B, or C, in your test booklet and darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet. You will hear each message or announcement only **once**.

Here is an example.

The following is a message left on an answering machine.

Woman: Mark, it's Julie. Just called to tell you that the meeting has been changed and it won't be on Wednesday. I know you're busy all day Thursday, so it will be on Friday. I'd prefer the morning if you can make it. Please call me to arrange a time.

Narrator: **When will the meeting be?**

Narrator: The correct answer is C. Do you have any questions?

Narrator: Now, get ready to listen to the messages or announcements.

Narrator: **Number 11:** The following is a recorded message.

Man: This is an automated guest message welcoming you to the Luxury Star Hotel. If you wish to speak with reception, press one. If you would like room service,

press two. For housekeeping, press three and for an outside line press nine, followed by the number you wish to call.

Narrator: **Question 11: What number should a guest press to order food?**

Narrator: **Number 12:** The following is a movie schedule announcement.

Woman: Thank you for calling Crown Cinemas, today's session times are as follows: The Story of My Life rated PG. One hundred and twenty minutes. Show times at 1pm, 4pm and 7pm, no available tickets. The G-Men rated PG. One hundred and ten minutes. Show times at 5 and 8:30pm, tickets available at the box office. Game Time rated MA, fifteen plus. One hundred and thirty minutes. Show times at 9 and 11pm, no available tickets.

Narrator: **Question 12: Which movie still has tickets available?**



Narrator: **Number 13:** The following is a message left on an answering machine.

Man: Hello. This is Mr. Peterson calling to let you know that the computer screen you've ordered has just arrived. Please give us a call if you want us to deliver it to you, or drop by our store to pick it up yourself. Our store is open from nine in the morning till nine in the evening daily.

Narrator: **Question 13: Why is the speaker calling?**

Narrator: **Number 14:** The following is an announcement in a department store.

Woman: Attention shoppers! For the next thirty minutes, we're offering free shipping on any orders set for delivery from the 15<sup>th</sup> until the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month. To take advantage of this offer, go to the customer service desk. But hurry! This offer's only good for the next thirty minutes!

Narrator: **Question 14: What is true about the offer?**

Narrator: **Number 15:** The following announcement is heard at an arts and crafts fair.

Man: Welcome to the annual arts and crafts fair. Just a brief announcement before the workshops begin. Two workshops have changed rooms. The paper airplane workshop has moved from room 6 to room 3. The face painting class has moved from room 4 to room 6. That's face painting in room 6 and airplane making in room 3.

Narrator: **Question 15: Which room will the face painting class now be in?**

Narrator: **Number 16:** The following is a message left on an answering machine.

Woman: Hello, this is Diane from Dr. Watterson's office. We're calling to let you know that your appointment for this week will

have to be changed as Dr. Watterson has to attend a seminar. Please call me to arrange another appointment sometime next week.

Narrator: **Question 16: Why is the speaker calling?**

Narrator: **Number 17:** The following announcement is heard at a train station.

Man: The train now arriving on platform 6 is the delayed 12:15 from Bristol. This train will depart immediately for Exeter. We apologize for the delay, but it was due to works on the tracks at Newcastle. All passengers for Exeter please have your tickets ready and go to platform 6. Thank you.

Narrator: **Question 17: Where has the train on platform 6 come from?**

Narrator: **Number 18:** The following is a message left on an answering machine.

Woman: Hi Jimmy, it's Charlotte. Look, it's about tonight's dinner. I couldn't get a table at our favorite restaurant, but I managed to find one at Bubble Bees for eight o'clock. I hope you don't mind. If you'd prefer to go somewhere else, let me know.

Narrator: **Question 18: Why is the speaker calling?**

Narrator: **Number 19:** The following is a recorded message.

Man: Thank you for using PFC Communications. Press one to place a call using a major credit card. Press two to place a collect phone call, or press zero to hear the instructions again. For operator assistance, stay on the line.

Narrator: **Question 19: What should a caller press to make a call without a credit card?**

Narrator: **End of Part Two.**



**LISTENING - PART 3**

In this part of the listening section, questions twenty through twenty-five, you will hear an interview in three parts. After each part, you will hear two questions that are also written in your test booklet. You must choose the correct answer from the three choices, A, B or C in your test booklet, and darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet. You will hear each part only **once**.

You are going to hear a conversation between a teenage singer and a magazine reporter. Now listen to the beginning of the interview followed by an example question.

Man: Hi Maya, thanks for agreeing to do this on such short notice. I know that your flight leaves in an hour. I just have a few questions about your new album.

Woman: Hi Steve. So what would you like to know?

Narrator: **What will the man ask Maya about?**

Narrator: The correct answer is B. Do you have any questions?

Narrator: Now get ready to listen to the rest of the interview.

Man: So, your first album came out last Friday. How does that feel?

Woman: Well, I'm really excited about it. We actually finished recording it last month. It took a year to record because I'm still at high school and we could only record during the school holidays.

Man: And how would you describe your album?

Woman: It's really hard to categorize it. It's funny 'cause it's not just one kind of music. I like many different kinds of music. Each song has its own story but there's no real theme to the album. I'd have to say it's a mixture of R & B and pop.

Narrator: **Question 20: When did Maya finish recording the album?**

Narrator: **Question 21: What does Maya say about her album?**

Man: Where do you get ideas for your songs?

Woman: I'd have to say - my travels. My parents are Spanish and my grandma still has

a house in Barcelona, so in the summer we go and stay with her. Actually, one of the songs on the album is about meeting someone on a plane and falling in love with them.

Man: So, how are you enjoying your fame?

Woman: I wouldn't say I'm really that famous at the moment. But I like it when people come up to me and ask for my autograph. I've got to say that everyone's been nice to me.

Narrator: **Question 22: Where does Maya say she gets her song ideas from?**

Narrator: **Question 23: What does Maya say about her fame?**

Man: What about touring - do you ever get tired of it?

Woman: No, it's always fun. It's really cool 'cause you get to play to lots of different audiences. It's usually different every night. We did a really good gig in Athens and the audience was really amazing and they responded well to my music.

Man: Can I ask you what you do in your spare time?

Woman: Interesting you should ask. A lot of people think I spend most of my time writing songs or traveling. Actually, I love going to the cinema and I go a lot.

Man: Thanks Maya for your time and good luck with your career.

Woman: Thank you. It was my pleasure!

Narrator: **Question 24: What does Maya like best about touring?**

Narrator: **Question 25: What does Maya do in her spare time?**

Narrator: **End of Part Three.**



**LISTENING - PART 4**

In this part of the listening section, questions twenty-six through thirty, you will hear a short talk. After the talk, you will hear five questions that are also written in your test booklet. Answer the questions by choosing the best answer from A, B, or C based on the information in the talk. You will hear the talk **twice**.

**Narrator:** You are going to listen to someone welcoming a group of students to a camp. Now, listen to the beginning of the talk followed by an example question.

**Man:** Hi, I'd like to welcome you all to Windsor Mountain Camp! It's a pleasure to see you all. Many of you I know from last year, and it's great to welcome many new faces too! I hope this'll be an unforgettable ten-day vacation for you. Now before we show you to your cabins and you meet your roommates, I have a few announcements. There've been a few changes to the program so if you take out your schedules, I'll fill you in.

**Narrator:** **What is the speaker going to talk about?**

The correct answer is C. Do you have any questions?

Now, get ready to listen to the rest of the talk.

**Man:** So, first of all, it's tradition every year to have our welcome party by the river, except this year, when it'll be held on the lawn, as long as the weather stays good. If it rains, we'll have to move indoors to the dining room.

Unfortunately, the gym will be closed for repairs over the summer, but we do still have the tennis courts and football field. These'll be open every day from two till six, and we'll be arranging a few matches. Now, of course, you're not here just to do sports. Classes will be held as normal, with a few changes to scheduling. Originally the major morning lecture was to take place in the Great Hall, but because it was damaged in the fire, we've had to relocate to the library, which is a little further away, next door to the chapel. So rather than

starting at nine, we'll begin at a quarter past, which should give you more time to get there.

After the lecture, you'll get into study groups to discuss things in library study rooms. The afternoon classroom sessions will start a little later, which'll give you more time to ... digest things. So, all classes including my communication lessons will start at two rather than one thirty except for the grammar class, which will begin at two thirty.

I'd also like to point out that in your handbook it says that you have to attend both the morning and afternoon sessions, but that's a misprint. Only the afternoon lessons are required, while the morning study groups and lectures are optional, but highly recommended.

Now for changes in the talks. Dr. Smith's talk on the history of the English language has been moved to next Tuesday rather than this Wednesday. Instead, Mr. Keens will be talking to us on Wednesday about examination techniques. Oh, and I almost forgot to mention that there'll be a field trip on Thursday evening to the theater to see a local performance of Hamlet. I hope you'll enjoy your stay. Thank you.

**Narrator:** Now listen to the talk again.

**Man:** So, first of all, it's tradition every year to have our welcome party by the river, except this year, when it'll be held on the lawn, as long as the weather stays good. If it rains, we'll have to move indoors to the dining room.

Unfortunately, the gym will be closed for repairs over the summer, but we do



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Narrator: Now get ready to answer the questions.

Narrator: **Question 26. Where will the welcome party probably take place?**

**Question 27. Where will the morning lecture take place?**

**Question 28. When will most of the afternoon lessons begin?**

**Question 29. Which sessions do students have to go to?**

**Question 30. When will Mr. Keens' talk on examination techniques take place?**

**End of Part Four.**

**End of the Listening Test.**



**ANSWER KEY****ANSWER KEY****ANSWER KEY****Listening Section**

- 1 B  
2 B  
3 B  
4 A  
5 A  
6 B  
7 B  
8 C  
9 A  
10 A  
11 A  
12 B  
13 A  
14 A  
15 C  
16 A  
17 A  
18 C  
19 C  
20 B  
21 C  
22 A  
23 A  
24 C  
25 C  
26 B  
27 A  
28 B  
29 C  
30 B

**GVR Section**

- 31 D  
32 C  
33 B  
34 A  
35 B  
36 B  
37 B  
38 B  
39 A  
40 B  
41 C  
42 D  
43 B  
44 A  
45 A  
46 B  
47 D  
48 A  
49 B  
50 C  
51 C  
52 D  
53 D  
54 B  
55 C  
56 B  
57 D  
58 B  
59 B  
60 C  
61 D  
62 B

- 63 C  
64 D  
65 D  
66 A  
67 A  
68 D  
69 B  
70 B  
71 C  
72 B  
73 D  
74 C  
75 C  
76 D  
77 C  
78 C  
79 A  
80 D  
81 C  
82 A  
83 B  
84 D  
85 D  
86 A  
87 C  
88 D  
89 B  
90 D  
91 D  
92 C  
93 B  
94 C

- 95 D  
96 A  
97 C  
98 A  
99 D  
100 B  
101 C  
102 A  
103 D  
104 C  
105 B











