



Advanced (CAE)

Reading and Use of English

Test 1

Time

1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully. Answer all the questions.

Read the instructions on the answer sheets.

Write your answers on the answer sheets. Use a pencil.

You **must** complete the answer sheets within the time limit.

There are 53 questions in this paper.

Questions **1 – 24** carry one mark.

Questions **25 – 30** carry up to two marks.

Questions **31 – 43** carry two marks.

Questions **44 – 53** carry one mark.

Part 1

For questions 1 – 8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example

0 A generally B popularly C usually D widely

0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Cats

It is a (0) held belief that cats were first domesticated by the Egyptians but the earliest evidence for the taming of cats, (1) back to around 7500 BC, was discovered in Cyprus and suggests that cats were first kept there by farmers in order to control rodent populations.

The domestication of cats, that is to say the keeping of cats as pets, is thought to have started around 1200 BC. The enthusiasm for feline pets is thought to have steadily (2) and spread as far as Northern Germany by the time the Roman Empire was reaching its close.

Over the great (3) of time during which cats have served as our companions, their anatomy and behaviour have changed very little. Indeed, it is thought that the very (4) that make them such popular pets today can be traced back to their wild ancestors. For example, their intelligence and highly-developed ability to communicate sets them (5) from many animals that would otherwise make perfect household companions. In addition to this, their tendency to sleep for long periods of time and their independent (6) makes them a far more practical undertaking than a dog, given that they can be left on their own for lengthy periods without becoming anxious or frustrated.

Testament to this successful symbiosis with humans is the estimated size of the global cat population, thought to be in the (7) of 700 million or more and growing. What is for certain is cats (8) no chance of declining in popularity any time soon. In the UK alone, 9.6 billion pounds is spent on their care and comfort every year, approximately 15% more than the same population spends on eating out.

- | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 A tracing | B dating | C looking | D remembering |
| 2 A got on | B caught on | C put on | D taken on |
| 3 A width | B breadth | C span | D extent |
| 4 A aspects | B expressions | C features | D traits |
| 5 A away | B far | C forward | D apart |
| 6 A nature | B tendency | C personality | D habit |
| 7 A region | B limit | C expanse | D estimation |
| 8 A give | B risk | C run | D stand |

Part 2

For questions 9 – 16, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example: 0 THE

Online dating

To paraphrase (0) actress Joan Crawford, love is a fire that might warm you up or burn down your house. Most would agree that this is an unassailable truth that has remained unchanged for time immemorial. What has changed – and dramatically (9) – is how we go about searching for that elusive perfect partner. Gone are the days when we might depend (10) mutual friends to set us up or when the hell of a singles night was an inevitable part of a singleton's life. The dawn of the Internet has brought us a plethora of new ways to meet a potential mate without your even (11) to leave the comfort of your own home.

Match.com, the first ever dating site, emerged in 1995, when the World Wide Web was still very much (12) its infancy. While still going strong, Match.com now finds itself jostling for position among a seemingly limitless number of similar sites, all promising to connect you with the love of your life.

(13) or not the reality lives up to the hype is, of course, the billion-dollar question. At first glance, the answer would seem to be a tentative “yes”. Research has shown that a slight majority of users described finding a compatible partner online as “relatively easy”. 36% of users claimed to (14) entered into a relationship lasting 6 months or more thanks to online dating and 14% of all UK marriages (15) 2015 have been between couples that met online.

All very positive, you might think. But perhaps hidden behind all of this is the inescapable fact that (16) we are becoming more and more comfortable online, our ability to interact face-to-face is beginning to fade. Throughout human history, many a lovelorn soul might have dreamt of “love at first sight”. These days, “love at first click” just doesn't have the same ring to it.

Part 4

For questions 25 – 30, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and six words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

Example:

0 James would only speak to the head of department alone.

ON

Jamesto the head of department alone.

The gap can be filled with the words 'insisted on speaking', so you write:

Example:

0

25 "It would be a good idea to postpone the meeting until next week," said Henry.

OFF

Henry suggested _____ until next week.

26 Harriet found it easy to learn Japanese when she was in Tokyo.

NO

Harriet _____ up Japanese when she was in Tokyo.

27 I looked after the children while my sister was at work.

EYE

I _____ while my sister was at work.

28 Derek probably left the car in the garage.

LIKELY

Derek _____ the car in the garage.

29 T J Dry Cleaners cleaned my mother's coat.

HAD

My mother_____at T J Dry Cleaners.

30 We got home safely even though the weather was very stormy.

OF

We got home safely_____weather.

Part 5

You are going to read the introduction to a book about the history of colour. For questions 31 – 36, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Border Town

“You always want to burn down wherever it is you’re from.” This words, uttered to me by an Irish bartender in Spain, some twenty years ago or more, have always stuck with me. While no doubt a rather ugly sentiment – perhaps even murderous in implication – my younger self couldn’t help but agree somehow. But as the years have slid by, perhaps leaving a sprinkle of wisdom in their wake, I find myself wondering if he was right after all. And in any case, I realise now that the angry statement that rang so true to my younger ears, had been intended more as a comment on the two of us rather than the places we came from.

The young man in question was from Galway, a city I have yet to visit but certainly intend to. The very name conjures up in my mind’s eye old folk songs and rugged coastlines; sea salt scents and rolling green vistas. I have no doubt that the truth is somewhat more nuanced - nowhere on earth truly resembles the postcard you buy there – but would that Irish bartender, whose name I never did catch, really want to see it in flames? I suspect age has dimmed his thirst for arson somewhat. It certainly has in my case.

I hail from the London suburbs, that sprawling residential labyrinth that lurches deep out into the slumbering greenery of what are derisively referred to as “The Home Counties”. If you look at a map of London, you will see that the first majority of it is devoted to this nowhere land. The millions of us who live in these forgettable landscapes – Amersham, Bromley, Epsom - always say they come from “London” but our world of mock Tudor facades and sleepy beer gardens would seem a galaxy away from Big Ben or Tower Bridge.

It was exactly this disconnect between expectations and reality that drove me as a younger man to hate the place. I desperately wanted to be seen as part of the urban landscape, brought up with asphalt and paving slabs under my boots, rather than perfectly trimmed lawns and tumbling flower beds of my real world. An enduring memory of my teenage years was watching faces fall whenever I had to describe *exactly* where I was from. I yearned to be from somewhere identifiable and inner-city and not somewhere you had to describe as being “a few miles from” somewhere they might have heard of.

But as is so often the way, with time everything I once hated about where I am from is now everything I love. Where once I might have railed against my hometown’s refusal to be urban and frenetic and grey, I now see suburbia as a blessed sanctuary from such a world. Where I might have hated the quiet and the greenery and the noiseless winding avenues, I can think of nothing more relaxing than taking a trip on one of those little backstreet buses while I watch all the beautiful lawns and flowerbeds roll past.

Life has taken me away, not just from suburbia but from the UK. Returning to that world is a distant dream, made all the more unreachable by some heavily rose-tinted glasses. The suburbia of today is not the suburbia I grew up in, and whenever I do go back to visit family, no-one seems particularly happy to be living there, despite any fondness I might express for the place. So life in suburbia remains a cherished memory for me, undoubtedly filtered by nostalgia and as unrealistic as it is

impractical. I'd never rule it out though. Maybe I'll return in my old age or maybe it will forever remain a distant and unfulfilled yearning. Whatever happens though, I'm very glad I never burned it down.

31 What is the writer's opinion of what the bartender said to him?

A He realises that he was mistaken about the intention of the comment.

B He generally agrees with him but with some reservations.

C He thinks it was an awful thing to say.

D He has come to understand the sentiment more clearly with time.

32 What does the writer say about Galway?

A It is likely to resemble his expectations.

B It is probably very different to the postcards he has seen.

C The reality is likely to be much more detailed than the imagining.

D He would be scared of disappointment if he visited.

33 What is the writer's main point in the third paragraph?

A The suburbs of London are a separate part of the city.

B People who live in the suburbs lie about where they are from.

C The suburbs of London do not look like the famous parts of the city.

D No visitor to London would be interested in visiting the suburbs.

34 How did people react when the writer, as a young man, explained to them exactly where he lived?

A They were disappointed.

B They were confused.

C They didn't believe him.

D They were fascinated.

35 How has the writer's opinion changed since he was a young man?

A He wishes he had spent more time in the suburbs.

B He does not understand why he hated the suburbs so much.

C He has come to deeply appreciate everything he disliked.

D He is sad about how they have changed.

36 What is the writer's intention as regards returning to the suburbs of London?

A He intends to return when he retires.

B He is unsure if he will ever return.

C He thinks returning would be too risky to seriously consider.

Part 6

You are going to read four reviews of a theatre production. For questions 37 – 40, choose from the reviews A – D. The reviews may be chosen more than once.

Hindsight

Four reviewers give their verdict on the Broomleigh Players' production of Kate Agincourt's play.

A

Broomleigh players have been going for nearly ninety years and have established a reputation for very high-quality theatre, albeit still proudly amateur. After watching their production of Kate Agincourt's "Hindsight", I've come to the conclusion that the company's long history may be something of a double-edged sword. While there is no doubting the skill and experience of both cast and director, Broomleigh's refusal to tread new ground in terms of visual effects and staging means that recent shows take place on sets that can only be described as formulaic and predictable. As soon as the curtain opened, we were presented with a suburban sitting room the like of which I would swear I had seen a hundred times before. The Players are certainly not short of new blood in terms of acting talent – Zoe Teverson and Felix Jons deserve particular mention in that regard – and it seems to me a crying shame to condemn such new and exciting faces to the same old sofa and chairs.

B

I will admit to being apprehensive at the thought of attending the Broomleigh Players' production of "Hindsight". It's a play I know all too well, for my sins, and I have grown tired, to say the least, of Kate Agincourt's inexplicable fascination with suburban housewives and their gossiping around the tea and cake. I was to be pleasantly surprised, as it turned out. The curtain opened on the suburban living room so beloved of Agincourt and indeed not a silver spoon nor a net curtain seemed out of place. But as the characters of Hannah and Jake (played superbly by Zoe Teverson and Felix Jons respectively) strode into that tired and parochial setting, the contrast of their frenetic energy and inch-perfect timing against the dull background opened my eyes to an irony that existed in Agincourt's piece that I had never noticed before. These clashes of mood became the theme of the production and breathed new and exciting life into the all too familiar.

C

Kate Agincourt must have written the same play about thirty times. Frankly, Broomleigh Players' production of her tiresome 1982 play 'Hindsight' could be summed up in four words: here we go again. I understand Broomleigh's choice for their November production: Agincourt is always a hit with amateur audiences, Lord knows why. What leaves me confused is why they insist on repeating the same old formula. I must have seen those flowery curtains and that ugly sofa a million times. I wouldn't be surprised if they hadn't been moved since I last attended a production here. And much as Zoe Teverson and Felix Jons are adept at learning lines, could the director have asked them not to run and jump about the place like children in a playground? I couldn't understand half of what Jons was saying under all his heavy breathing. In summary, if it's not broken, don't fix it. And if it is, please do!

D

My first taste of Kate Agincourt's work was when I attended a production of *If Only the Grass Would Grow*, with Louise Harding playing Jemima. It was an experience that has stayed with me ever since. The satirical horrors taking place in the leafy paradise of suburbia has always affected me, possibly

because it's exactly this sort of world that I come from myself. I was not to be disappointed by Broomleigh Players' production of her masterpiece "Hindsight". Both the cast and director had clearly understood the painful clash at the heart of Agincourt's work and as the two leads powered through her lines, surrounded by the painfully dull living room that has come to characterise the playwright's work over the years, all I could say to myself was "Yes! Yes! Yes!". Particular mention must be made of Zoe Teverson's amazing performance as Hannah (ably supported by Felix Jons). She broke my heart and made me laugh out loud all at once, proving once again that Agincourt will forever be remembered as the master of the contrasts.

Which reviewer

has a different opinion from the others about the performance of the two lead actors? 37

agrees with A regarding the stage design? 38

Agrees with C regarding the repetitive nature of Kate Agincourt's plays? 39

Agrees with B regarding the presence of irony in Kate Agincourt's plays? 40

Part 7

You are going to read an extract from an autobiography. Six paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs **A – G** the one which fits each gap (**41 – 46**). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

The Job Interview

Many people feel that they leave the education system with very little to show for all those years spent in a classroom and I was no exception. While still very much a teenager, I was suddenly thrown out into the cold, hard world and expected suddenly to live as an adult.

41

In order to achieve this great feat, I had to find a job. I still had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. I had entertained thoughts of joining the police but soon abandoned the idea when I realised how much it would have clashed with my libertarian principles. Other than that, my ambitions were a messy blend of pipe dreams and vague ideas, and none of these would pay the rent.

42

While most of these were hoping to increase their custom, many used the same pages to seek staff. Indeed, the supermarket giant Sainsbury's once splashed out on an advertisement for shop staff that took up a whole page, complete with smiling check-out assistant and large-print promises of professional fulfilment. But the day I went looking around those hallowed pages, the smiling Sainsbury's employee was nowhere to be seen. Instead, what greeted me was a cruel reminder of how few opportunities there were available to me in my local area.

43

The only advertisement that sounded remotely interesting was for a photocopier shop that was looking for a salesperson. I knew the place quite well; it was where my father would get his photographs developed from time to time. So, I picked up the phone and gave them a call.

Gary, the guy on the other end, didn't sound very friendly. In answer to my energetic politeness, I received little more than a few grunts and a reluctant word or two, but I got an interview for eleven o'clock the next day and elected to ignore the rudery and stay positive.

I got there the next day with time to spare. BHM Copy Tech was on a little parade by the station. It was tucked away between a pet shop and a florist, neither of which seemed to enjoy any business at all. I suspect they depended on the rush of homecoming commuters that flashed past between five and six, and otherwise remained open during the day in the interests of appearances.

44

I walked into the shop to find the aforementioned Gary sulking behind a counter and playing solitaire on the computer. I greeted him cheerfully and introduced myself. Gary sniffed, paused to finish his game, and gestured towards the back where I assumed our interview would take place. My guess turned out to be correct. The term "back office" would be misleading. It was more of a stationery cupboard into which two chairs had been placed facing each other. I wondered if he was going to chain me to the radiator and shine a lamp in my face.

He sat down first and waved at the chair opposite as an invitation for me to do the same. I was already getting tired of his attitude but decided to remain polite and enthusiastic for the time being. "So," he said, searching inside his jacket for a pen. "You are?"

"Paul," I said. "Paul Wallbridge. We spoke..."

"I know, I know... Paul. Right."

He muttered a swear word under his breath and started looking around for something to write with. I waited while he swung his head about like a submarine's periscope. He soon gave up the search and shrugged, clearly reasoning that there was not likely to be much to write down anyway.

"So," he said. "Done work like this before?"

"You mean sales?" I asked.

He frowned and smirked. "Well, yeah. Obviously."

"Well, actually, no," I said. "You see I've just left school..."

"Right." I could see he was glad he hadn't bothered persevering as regards the writing implement.

"But I'm a fast learner," I said, with a big positive smile.

Gary allowed a long silence to form between us. "This is commission only, this job," he said. "How much are you expecting to earn per month?"

45

"Maybe less," I said, not sure what sort of figure he had in mind. My suggestion already seemed pretty low to me. How much was he expecting to pay.

"How much you earn here is up to you," he said, studying my shirt with detached interest. "Our sales reps expect to earn more than that, it's not worth my time or theirs otherwise."

"You have other reps working here?" I said, rather surprised at the notion.

"We did have. Henry. He retired. Twenty years with the company."

"I imagine Henry did very well with all that experience," I said, trying desperately to lift the mood.

"Henry drove a BMW," said Gary, as if that answered any question I was likely to ask.

46

Perhaps the car made Henry happy; I shall never know. But I realised I wanted something else from the world and that I wouldn't be able to put up with Gary for a single day, let alone two decades, not for all the BMWs in the world.

Gary and I sat in silence. I watched him for a bit as he pushed the dirt out from under his fingernails.

"This probably isn't the job for me," I said eventually.

Gary nodded, still fixated on his nails. "Fair enough," he said.

As I was walking out of BHM Copy Tech, I crossed paths with what seemed to be another hopeful applicant, a young woman dressed in a stern blue dress and with a bundle of CVs and references under her arm.

"Are you Gary?" she asked, with the same smile I had been using for the past twenty minutes.

"Not guilty," I said. "Gary's in the back there."

"Thanks," she said.

I let the door close behind her and embarked on my short journey to the bus stop, wondering if perhaps a job in the police wasn't such a bad idea after all.

A

BHM wasn't exactly a hive of activity either. At ten forty-five that morning, the neighbourhood was as quiet as a graveyard. I found myself wondering who on earth I would be selling to in the event I got this job.

B

And there it was. It wasn't the initial phone call that put me off this awful place, or the horrendous Gary and his prison cell interview room. What did it for me was the thought of Henry, a man I'd never met, walking the streets of Caterham in all weathers, for thirty-five years, knocking on door after door after door, just so he could drive a BMW one day.

C

In the space of twenty-four hours, it had suddenly become unacceptable for me to be living with my parents in the house I had existed in quite happily for my entire life. I was now expected to support myself and to take on all the responsibilities that this involved: finding somewhere to live, paying rent and bills, and becoming an all-round functioning member of society.

D

"Dog-walker wanted". "Salespeople sought – Not a Pyramid Scheme!". "Telesales – Recruiting Now!". None of these sounded like they would pay the rent on a garden shed, let alone the one-bedroom flat above a launderette that I had my eye on.

E

So, if unrealistic aspirations weren't going to answer that need, what would? These were the days before the Internet and the one-click job search. Instead, all I really had to rely on was the local paper: a rather sad little affair that reported on lost dogs and church fairs and which paid its way by printing small ads for local businesses.

F

I decided to keep it modest. Start at a moderate level so as not to scare him off. I did need a job rather desperately after all.

"Well... about a thousand a month?"

Gary smirked again. "A thousand?"

G

It seemed that he wasn't really listening to me, as if everything I had said was as imperceptible to him as the repetitive hum of one of his machines hard at work. I decided to try a different approach.

Part 8

You are going to read a section of an online blog in which five people share their experiences of getting fit. For questions 47 – 56, choose from the contributors (A – E). The contributors may be chosen more than once.

Which contributor mentions the following?

- | | | |
|---|----|----------------------|
| The surprising ease with which he/she adapted to a lifestyle change. | 47 | <input type="text"/> |
| People being surprised that he/she had decided to start a fitness regime. | 48 | <input type="text"/> |
| A wish that he/she had started to get fit sooner. | 49 | <input type="text"/> |
| A personality trait that he/she admires. | 50 | <input type="text"/> |
| A secret to getting fit. | 51 | <input type="text"/> |
| A warning not to give up before you've started. | 52 | <input type="text"/> |
| An important motivation to lose weight. | 53 | <input type="text"/> |
| The financial rewards of the fitness industry. | 54 | <input type="text"/> |
| The importance of pleasure in your fitness regime. | 55 | <input type="text"/> |
| All the options available to those wanting to get fit. | 56 | <input type="text"/> |

A

At my late age, many of my peers wondered why on earth I had suddenly taken to tyrannical dieting and daily visits to the gym. I suppose we assume that once we pass a certain age, health and fitness is beyond our reach. Nothing could be further from the truth, of course. It's never too late to start getting fit and the benefits in later life are at least as numerous as those for younger bodies. Apart from anything else, you feel so much better, which even on its own is worth a lifestyle change. Getting fit in later life taught me that age truly is just a number. It's an important lesson to learn in this modern world where so much about us is defined by our age. I'm in better shape than I've ever been. My only regret is that I left it so long.

B

I put it off for months but eventually realised my time was up. I either lost some weight or I could expect some serious health problems not too far down the line. I had got so heavy that everyday tasks had become something of a challenge and I was regularly suffering from joint pain and debilitating headaches. The first day was the worst, of course. I couldn't have been more miserable. I missed everything that usually made the day fun: sugar in my coffee, a donut for breakfast and a few cans of cola to keep me awake and upright. All that was gone, replaced by tap water and fruit – and a reluctant half an hour on the treadmill at my local gym. But by the second day, I found everything just that little bit easier and after two weeks of regular exercise and sugar-free coffee I was beginning to wonder what I'd been so scared of.

C

If I were to offer one piece of advice it would be this: keep it simple. Fitness has become such a lucrative business these days, with all manner of products and services out there promising success, that for many of us it has become difficult to know which road to take. Don't listen to all the noise. Exercise daily and eat a healthy diet. It doesn't matter what type of exercise you do; leave such concerns to the professional athletes. We all know what we should and shouldn't be eating; it's really not that hard. The trick is to form a habit, listen to your body, and try and enjoy it. Getting fit is fun, or at least it should be. If you hate the gym, go cycling in the park; if you hate tofu, eat chicken. You don't have to live like a monk to shed the pounds, and nor do you need a Phd in human biology.

D

It's easier for some than it is for others and we should be honest about that. It is dishonest to claim that everyone can achieve their perfect weight with just a bit of willpower and a few minutes of daily exercise. Even the same person will find losing weight easier or more difficult depending on factors such as age, free time or environment. But just because it might be more difficult for you should not mean that it is an impossible task that should not be attempted. Everyone can lose weight, and in this modern age, it would seem that up to 70 percent of us should be doing something to improve our fitness. You'll look better and feel better and most importantly of all, studies unanimously agree that you'll live longer, and if being around longer for the ones you love is not an incentive to make a change, what is?

E

There are always lots of people in the gym, many of whom have obviously been coming for years and boast impressive physiques and physical ability. I admire anyone who can commit to a goal and see it through, whatever it may be. But the one I really admire, the one gym goer who I really look

up to, is that man or woman who is here for the first time, who may be very overweight or who may have allowed themselves to get badly out of shape but who, however difficult it may be at first, has decided to make the change. There they are, surrounded by all these perfect athletes, taking their first steps to a better healthier life. That takes real courage and real strength of character. I've never been particularly overweight and physical fitness has always come easy to me but if things were different, I'm pretty certain I would choose excuses over action. I envy them, those unsung heroes who feel the fear and do it anyway.