

CAE 2

Answers

Reading and Use of English

1 A 2 B 3 D 4 A 5 C 6 C 7 A 8 B

9 which 10 have 11 of 12 despite 13 have 14 up 15 more 16 the
17 varieties 18 flattened 19 endless 20 featured 21 titled/entitled
22 negativity 23 occasional 24 abstinence

25 has been responsible for | the department since

26 only I had | taken more

27 said to | have been an

28 time you gave | consideration

29 despite his wisdom | he was unable

30 sooner had | I arrived than

31 A 32 B 33 C 34 D 35 A 36 C

37 D 38 C 39 B 40 C

41 C 42 B 43 G 44 F 45 A 46 E

47 C 48 B 49 E 50 A 51 A 52 B 53 C 54 D 55 D 56 A

Listening

1 A 2 B 3 C 4 A 5 B 6 C

7 imposing presence 8 geological context 9 tourist industry 10 layer of soil
11 unique bond 12 feats of engineering 13 first-hand 14 ancient civilisations

15 C 16 C 17 B 18 A 19 A 20 D

21 F 22 C 23 G 24 B 25 D 26 A 27 C 28 G 29 A 30 D

Transcript

Part 1

Extract 1

Woman: I could have sworn I had it on me when I left the house. I mean it's not as if it's an easy thing to forget. How could I have been so stupid? I did the same thing last year when we went away on holiday.

Man: Don't fret about it. We'll only be gone for the afternoon and you're unlikely to be bothered with any emergencies on a Sunday.

Woman: There's always the risk that I will. It's Murphy's law, isn't it? Perhaps I could pay for a courier to bring it over?

Man: Oh, I really don't think that's necessary. And anyway, they'd need the key to get in. I think the best thing is that you let them know what's happened at the hospital and in the event they need to call you in they can go via me.

Woman: Yes, I suppose it's not the end of the world. Really, though, I'd forget my head if it wasn't screwed on.

Extract 2

John: The problem is, she's so difficult to buy for. I've got no idea what she likes.

Bertha: She's a bit of a mystery for sure but we've got to get her something. It's her fiftieth birthday.

John: I can't imagine being that old. I'm not sure I'd want to celebrate it really.

Bertha: It'll come around quicker than you think, that's what my mum is always saying. She got very down at her fiftieth. You'd think it was a funeral the way she carried on.

John: I can't believe she's only six years younger than your mum. She's got so much energy. Up and down those stairs all day, picking up after us. I'm amazed she keeps her sense of humour.

Bertha: Me too. She's an example to all of us. I'm kind of envious of her ability to just take things as they come.

John: What about this? It looks like it might be fun.

Bertha: I'm not so sure. She has never struck me as very musical. I was thinking of something a little bit more decorative. Something you could hang on the wall.

John: How about this? It's very pretty, don't you think? It'll go really well on her bookshelf and now I think of it I seem to remember she mentioned that she's a fan of sculpture.

Bertha: OK. I think you're right. It's right up her street. I'm sure she'll love it.

Extract Three

Officer: How would you describe the look of him, sir?

Man: The first thing that I noticed was how scruffy he was. To be honest, I was surprised to see someone like that step out of such an expensive car.

Officer: How do you mean exactly?

Man: He didn't look like he had two pennies to rub together. I know looks can be deceiving but in this case he didn't look like he could have afforded a bus fare, let alone a top end ride like that. In fact, that's why I was so suspicious.

Officer: I see. And then what happened?

Man: Well, he got out of his car and crossed the road to the house, like I said, and then started banging on the door, threatening to break in if whoever it was didn't answer. Then I saw him go round the side of the house. That's when I lost sight of him. I could hear shouting. I think it was him and another man. Then there was the sound of banging, like a door being slammed and then broken glass. Then I saw a different man emerge from the back, clutching his head. He looked as if he'd taken a blow to the head or perhaps he had drunk a little too much because he was staggering all over the place. Initially I thought he'd been attacked but then I realised he was holding the suitcase.

Officer: Which suitcase would that be, sir?

Man: It was quite distinctive. A deep red colour. I remember it clearly because the first time I saw it, that first man - the one in the expensive car - he was carrying it and whatever was in it must have been valuable.

Officer: Why do you say that, sir?

Man: Because he had it handcuffed to his wrist.

Part 2

Upon arrival at Giza, besides being overwhelmed by the heat, and the sheer size of the site, I was immediately struck by the imposing presence of the Pyramids, which, even after thousands of years, retain their ability to awe and inspire. Before the actual digging began,

meticulous planning had to take place, which included research, coordination with local authorities and surveys of the site. Research was carried out over many months and included study of historical texts, Egyptian culture, hieroglyphs, and both the history and geological context of the site, the latter being particularly fascinating for me. Once we had decided to go ahead with the project, the next step was to embark on the long process of securing permissions from the Egyptian government, which is very protective of its heritage and careful that any project, be it archaeological or otherwise, does not affect the country's tourist industry negatively. This involved the submission of detailed proposals on what was to be explored, how, and with what methods.

Once we were given the go ahead, the physical work started with careful removal of sand and debris. Each layer of soil had to be meticulously documented; and every find catalogued. This could range from daily life artefacts like pottery to more significant items like amulets or tools used in pyramid construction. Every step was photographed and noted. GPS coordinates were recorded for each find. This data helped in reconstructing the historical context of the site.

Living and working with the team for weeks or months created a unique bond. There was camaraderie over shared meals, discussions about findings, and the common goal of uncovering history. Every day presented new puzzles. Why was this structure built? What was its purpose? And perhaps the most mysterious of all: how did the ancient Egyptians manage such feats of engineering that such constructions demanded? Despite the routine, the possibility of uncovering something new kept the energy high. Finding an inscription or an artifact not seen by human eyes for millennia is beyond description. The experience taught me patience, meticulousness, and a deep respect for history. But most of all I saw for myself how learning from books and museums simply cannot compare to being part of such a project and witnessing these precious historical treasures first-hand. An archaeological dig at the Great Pyramids is about connecting with humanity's shared past, confronting the limits of our knowledge, and perhaps redefining what we believe about ancient civilizations. It is not merely about unearthing artefacts. It's a journey through time, where each grain of sand might hold a clue to an untold story, waiting to be discovered by those with the patience to listen to what the earth has to say.

Part 3

Presenter: I'm here today with Meg and Ed Archer, who run Death Trap Live Roleplay near Bromley in Kent. Thanks for talking to us today.

Ed: It's a pleasure to be here.

Presenter: So, tell me. What exactly is live roleplay?

Meg: Hi, Sonia. Thanks for having us on. Well, the term roleplay covers all manner of things, really. At its most basic, it means any task or game where you take on a character that is not your own. Roleplay can be used for training purposes as well as for gaming. The idea behind it is that you get the chance to immerse yourself in a situation of which you may not have any real personal experience. By taking on a character that is something other than your own, you get the chance to explore new situations and even new worlds, whether that be for educational or for entertainment purposes.

Ed: That's right. You see, when most people think of roleplay, they often have images of kids in dark basements throwing dice, but it can take all manner of forms. In fact, last year

we ourselves were involved in providing specialist training to the police which involved immersive roleplaying. The trainees were presented with a wide range of different personalities which each had to be interrogated. Simple enough, you might think. But the unusual part of it was that once the trainees had gone through the series of five interviewees, they were then expected to switch roles. The idea was that by putting themselves in the shoes of an interviewee, they would have a more intimate understanding of what a suspect may go through, and that way be better prepared for such tasks in real life.

Presenter: How fascinating! But as I understand it, you're usually involved in a more light-hearted side of the roleplaying hobby.

Meg: Indeed we are! Death Trap originated nearly forty years ago as a club of perhaps five or six fantasy aficionados who would meet up on Saturday nights in the woods around here and dress up as elves and goblins. It was all a bit laid back then and was probably just an excuse to drink beer around the fire and tell a few stories. You have to remember that back in the seventies and eighties, fantasy roleplay was very much in its infancy and was something of a fringe interest. But from those early years, it developed into something much more ambitious and less sedentary. Instead of just sitting around a table throwing dice, players could jump, run and fight for real and – for a few hours at least – be the hero they'd always wanted to be.

Presenter: So, players get to fight for real?

Meg: In a sense yes. Although we use swords made out of foam and the monsters are staff members in costumes. But they're pretty convincing all the same.

Ed: The name of the game is 'immersion'. Over the years we've managed to perfect an environment that players can really be part of. It doesn't take a particularly vivid imagination to really believe you're down in a fantasy dungeon, following a quest to save your homeland. It really came to life when we took on a small section of the nearby underground caves. They were the perfect setting for our dungeon quest. One of the great advantages of this, besides being sheltered from the British weather, was that an enclosed and private environment gave players more confidence to really get involved in the make believe, as there were no members of the public milling around wondering who all these people were dressed up in cloaks and funny hats. And that's the true goal, to suspend disbelief and create a world that is almost as real as the one we are sitting in now.

Presenter: It all sounds like really good fun. Are there any special requirements for people who want to give it a go? For example, I imagine you'd have to be in good shape.

Meg: Not really. We cater for all age ranges and for people with disabilities. The beauty of the experience is that it can be adapted to any group. We often have children visiting the site and not too long ago, a gentleman chose us for his one hundredth birthday celebration.

Ed: Yes. That's true. We do everything we can to make sure that anyone can enjoy our quests, whatever physical challenges they themselves may face. All you need is a vivid imagination and the desire to have fun.

Meg: And even that's not essential. Our quests are so immersive, so full of detail and excitement, that I challenge anyone not to have a good time.

Ed: I'm not sure I agree with you one hundred percent there. After all, we shouldn't forget that an integral part of the experience are the adventurers themselves. We'll bring the costumes and the monsters but our clients bring the story. Or at least part of it.

Presenter: You mentioned your work with the police. Are there any future plans to branch out in any other direction?

Meg: It's nice to be able to offer our skills and experience to other industries but it's important that we focus the bulk of our efforts on honing our core project. Perhaps in the future, opportunities will come up that will give us the desire to diversify a little more but for now, we wouldn't want to anything to tempt us away from what we love.

Ed: Yes, that's right. While it may mean the investment of a lot of hard work, it's work that we love and it's really important to us that every adventurer leaves Death Trap with the feeling that they have had an entirely unique experience. As we said before, roleplay gives a person the chance to be somewhere else, to really take a break from the world we know and to venture into the unknown. And we couldn't be happier to make that experience a reality.

Presenter: It's been great talking to you both. Thanks so much for coming in.

Meg: You're welcome, Stephanie.

Ed: It's been a pleasure.

Part 4

Speaker 1

Reaching retirement came as a real shock. I went from working twelve-hour days and juggling several things at once to kicking my heels and wondering what to do with all this free time. My social life wasn't exactly buzzing but that's how I liked it to be honest. I've never been one for going out. What I really needed was something productive to do with my time, something challenging that I could really get stuck into. I'd always been fascinated by Russia, so I decided to take up some Russian language classes. I'm so glad I did. It's been two years now. Not only have I trained my mental skills, I've been able to read some works from some of the Russian greats, which has really opened my eyes to the added benefits of language learning.

Speaker 2

I'd like to say I took up French for professional reasons, to broaden my horizons, that sort of thing. But it wasn't really like that. You see, this colleague of mine – Sophie was her name – had caught my eye and I knew that her mother was from there, so naturally I reasoned she was bilingual. So, I thought, how would it be if I learned a bit of the language and just came out with it one day. I bet she'd be blown away. Well, I worked really hard at it for six months, but when the time came, it turned out that my assumptions had been all wrong Sophie didn't have a clue what I was saying! Anyway, ten years later, here I am, working for a software company in Paris and doing very well for myself. I wouldn't have got such a lucrative position if it hadn't been able to speak French, so in a way, Sophie did me a huge favour.

Speaker 3

Most people in Norway have a very good knowledge of English, which initially I was grateful for. It certainly made things easier for me at work, and for a long time I was able to live here quite happily with little more than a few words of Norwegian. As time went on, however, I began to realise that the fact that I wasn't able to speak it properly was beginning to have

consequences on my ability to form relationships with people. No one ever said anything, but I couldn't help feeling like a bit of an outsider and even a bit lonely somehow. So, I decided to roll my sleeves up and get learning. It's not an easy language to learn but I put my heart and soul into it, and I think more than a few of my colleagues were really impressed with my progress. And it certainly did wonders for that feeling of isolation. What I hadn't expected was how it would improve my self-esteem. I look back on that time now and I feel very proud of myself that I rose to such a challenge.

Speaker 4

It had never really been an issue in the early days. We both spoke English at work and at home and as the years went by, we had just got used to things. But when Akami was born, things changed. From a very early age she began communicating with us in our own languages, English with me, of course, and Japanese with her mother. Perhaps it seems strange, but it was only really around that time, those early days of parenthood, when I realised what a huge part of my wife's world remained a mystery to me. It really bothered me, not so much from a personal standpoint but from a cultural one. I thought of all the books, films and songs that my wife would have known and loved when she was growing up, just like I did, and how much of an important part of her life that must have been. So I got learning, and six years on we speak more Japanese at home than we do English. It wasn't easy though. And it has really opened my eyes to what others around the world have to go through in their efforts to learn English.

Speaker 5

I have to travel a lot for business and most of the people I deal with are from Central America so from day one it was expected that I study Spanish. It's been well over ten years now since I started and I think I can say that I have achieved a good level. It's certainly had benefits outside of work, such as making travel much more pleasant. In the early days, for example, I felt quite cut off from my surroundings as I wasn't really able to make friends with any of the locals. But as my Spanish got better, I realised just how varied human civilisation is. I have learned just one foreign language and though that I have come to know a whole other universe. It's easy to think that because most international communication is done in English, our globalised world is becoming more and more homogenous, but in reality it is an infinitely complex place with a huge variety of cultures and civilisations. These days, I feel much smaller, but that's a good thing as far as I'm concerned.