

ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΕΘΝΙΚΗΣ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ
ΚΡΑΤΙΚΟ ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΤΙΚΟ ΓΛΩΣΣΟΜΑΘΕΙΑΣ

Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs
English Language Certification

LEVEL

C1

on the scale set by the Council of Europe

MODULE

1

Reading comprehension and language awareness

Period

November 2009

ATTENTION

- Do not open this booklet until the exam begins.
- Mark your answers on Answer Sheet 1 [ΑΠΑΝΤΗΤΙΚΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1].
- Provide a single answer for each item.
- You have **80 minutes** to complete this part of the exam.

ACTIVITY 1

Read the text and do steps 1-3.

Dubai: futuristic city



Dubai is a distinctive blend of a modern city and timeless desert. No country in our times has been transformed at such an exhilarating pace. Aeroplanes and some of the best super-highways in the world have replaced dhows (traditional Arab sailing boats) and camel trails as means of transportation. Skyscrapers and other mega structures have erased the once mud huts and nomad tents. Futuristic buildings pepper the skyline and the coastline.

Palm Islands is a complex of three partially completed enormous artificial islands resembling palm trees that will add some 520 km to Dubai's coastline. One of the most important building sites in the world, the Palm Islands project is so mind-boggling in its scope that it can only be described as a legend in the making. It is a fantastic conception – the palm tree-shaped islands will rise from the sea as if by magic to change forever Dubai's skyline. Self-declared the 'eighth wonder of the world', it is, besides the Great Wall of China, the only artificial structure that can be seen from outer space.

Keeping pace with these gigantic creations are 'The World's Islands', a series of 300 artificial islands, covering an area 7 by 9 km and positioned strategically to form the globe's continents. Each island will vary in size and shape and have a different owner who may wish to develop it for private dwellings or as a business investment.

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TRAVELMAG

Even more intriguing and seemingly out of a fantasy world, Ski Dubai Snow Park is the first authentic snow playground in the Middle East. An indoor sports resort, completed in 2006, it offers, besides skiing, all types of winter sports. The cornerstone of the entertainment complex, 'Mall of the Emirates', the most exciting retail and leisure complex in the Arab world, is the Snow Park, which will bring the snow of the north to the hot desert sands of the Middle East.

Adding more fairytale aura to these 'Believe it or Not' projects is a luxury underwater hotel, whose building, for now, has been put on hold. It will be anchored off shore 20m below the surface and will be only accessible by a 520m transparent tunnel via a shuttle train; it will be the only underwater luxury hotel in the world.



Finally, a Dubai-based environmental design company has unveiled plans for a carbon-neutral city, called Ziggurat, which takes the shape of a pyramid. The project will be the first completely self-sustaining city in the world. According to engineers working on the project, the 2.3 sq km pyramid would be capable of supporting a community of one million, while drawing energy from the sun, wind, water, steam and other natural resources. An integrated 360-degree transport infrastructure will be developed to connect all points of the city, rendering the use of cars redundant.

Step 1: Read the text and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 1-2.

1. How does the writer present the changes in Dubai?
 A. As exciting innovations. B. As having damaged the city. C. As a key to modern culture.
2. An alternative title for the text might be:
 A. Dubai: fantasyland. B. Dubai: land of tradition. C. Dubai: land of culture.

Step 2: Read the text again and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 3-6.






3. The "Palm Islands" project
 A. has just started. B. is at the planning stage. C. is not finished yet.
4. What will the "World's Islands" look like?
 A. A big circle. B. The planets. C. A huge map.
5. What is the situation with the underwater hotel project?
 A. It is nearly completed. B. It has been cancelled. C. It has been postponed.
6. What'll be unique about Ziggurat?
 A. Its rectangular shape. B. Its lack of public transport. C. Its exclusive use of renewable energy.

Step 3: Read the text again and decide if statements 7-10 are True (A), False (B), or Not Stated (C).

| STATEMENTS | | A | B | C |
|------------|--|------|-------|------------|
| | | TRUE | FALSE | NOT STATED |
| 7. | The renovation of Dubai occurred at an amazingly rapid pace. | | | |
| 8. | The "Palm Islands" will be sold to rich celebrities. | | | |
| 9. | Fake snow will be used at the "Snow Park". | | | |
| 10. | Cars will still be needed inside the pyramid but nowhere else. | | | |

ACTIVITY 2**Step 1: Read the leaflet below and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for item 11.**

11. The main aim of the text is to
 A. describe how Erdington University's Disability Centre operates.
 B. inform the general public about facilities offered at the University.
 C. promote the Disability Centre to those who might need the services provided.

| | |
|--|--|
|  <p>University of Erdington</p> <p>Do you have a medical (12) <u>condition</u> that might affect your ability to study, or your (13) <u>performance</u> in examinations? If your answer to this question is 'yes', it is important that you fill in and return this form as soon as possible, by post or in person, to the (14) <u>Registry</u> of the University.</p> <p>Please provide details about your disability, specific learning difficulty (e.g., dyslexia), mental health difficulty or medical condition. You can either send (15) <u>evidence</u> (in the form of a letter), a report by a (16) <u>consultant</u> or a psychologist with this form or bring it with you to hand in to the Disability Centre in person (see boxes at the end of this form). It is in your interests to provide (17) <u>relevant</u> information as soon as possible. If you do not do so, this may limit what (18) <u>adjustments</u> we are able to make.</p> | <p>Information about your disability:</p> <p>Please indicate in the box what kind of support you need.</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Application No.: _____</p> <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 5px; min-height: 100px;"> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> </div> <p>Do you need special examination arrangements? Tick the appropriate box.</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NOT SURE <input type="checkbox"/></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">     </div> |
|--|--|

Step 2: Read the leaflet again and match the meaning that each underlined word has in this text (items 12-18) with options A-H. There is one option you do not need.

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| A. changes | B. problem | C. specialist | D. success |
| E. pertinent | F. administrative office | G. applications | H. proof |

ACTIVITY 3

Read texts 19-23 and decide where they might appear. Use each option (A-F) only once. There is one option you do not need.

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| A. a guidebook | B. a book review | C. a letter |
| D. a small ad | E. a packet of medicine | F. a film review |

| | | |
|-----|---|--|
| 19. | The narrative is not all fun and frolics. There is a tragedy at the heart of the plot that gives the prose real gravitas. | |
| 20. | Join a growing industry Is it time to rethink your future? Do you want to have a rewarding career as well as the potential to earn an excellent income? Then look no further. | |
| 21. | Olympia is easily accessible and is outside the congestion charge zone. It is served by the District Line less than two minutes from the Exhibition Centre. | |
| 22. | With its anti-oxidant properties it strengthens your body's internal defence mechanism, the immune system. | |
| 23. | <i>I was wondering whether you could send me a complimentary copy of your most recent catalogue.</i> | |

ACTIVITY 4

Step 1: Read the text about Dorian Gray on the next page and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 24-25.

24. The aim of this text is to

- A.** criticise the book entitled *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.
- B.** present different views regarding Oscar Wilde's writing.
- C.** recommend one of Oscar Wilde's most famous novels.

25. According to the text, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*

- A.** is an example of Wilde's amazing writing.
- B.** was inspired by Oscar Wilde's life.
- C.** became a best-seller.

Step 2: Read the text again carefully and choose the option (A-H) that best accompanies each of the words in bold (items 26-31). There are two options you do not need.

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| A. risky | B. summer | C. popular | D. naive |
| E. expensive | F. conflicting | G. gripping | H. close |

The Picture of Dorian Gray

Oscar Wilde's perfectly charming and witty manner of expression will enchant you in more ways than one. He is a master storyteller and drifts through the story like a gentle (26) **breeze**, through odour-filled roses, giving you the feeling that you can literally smell the flower he is describing. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* is a masterpiece. The (27) **plot** focuses on an extremely handsome but (28) **young man**, who is not aware of the power his beauty brings.

Through his (29) **friendship** with Basil, the artist who is responsible for the exquisite portrait of Dorian, he meets Lord Henry, the fun-loving, wealthy but dangerously influential gentleman who takes a liking to Dorian and makes him a sort of protégé. It is Lord Henry that exploits Dorian's innocence and teaches him the way of the world and sparks the light of vanity and pride in Dorian. This magical story enters into the fragile world of youth and old age, the thirst to maintain the former and the fear of the latter, accompanied with (30) **emotions** of love and hate, joy and shame. This is one book that will stand on your shelf with pride, and will become your most (31) **volume** there. Enjoy the genius of Wilde.

Statistics:
 Authors: 250
 Books: 2,374
 Poems & Short Stories: 3,020
 Forum Members: 52,598
 Forum Posts: 846,279

Step 3: Oscar Wilde is famous for his witty sayings. Read five of them after you match items 32-36 with one of the available options (A-F). There is one option you do not need.

| COLUMN A | | COLUMN B | |
|----------|---|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 32. | The only thing to do with good advice is to pass it on; | A. | nothing annoys them so much. |
| 33. | The only thing worse than being talked about is | B. | it's no use to keep it for oneself. |
| 34. | I always like to know everything about my new friends, and | C. | never treat them indiscreetly. |
| 35. | Always forgive your enemies; | D. | well-written or badly-written. |
| 36. | There's no such thing as a moral or immoral book. Books are | E. | not being talked about at all. |
| | | F. | nothing about my old ones. |

ACTIVITY 5

Step 1: Read the text about George Seferis on the next page and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 37-38.

37. This text about Seferis is

A. biased.

B. informative.

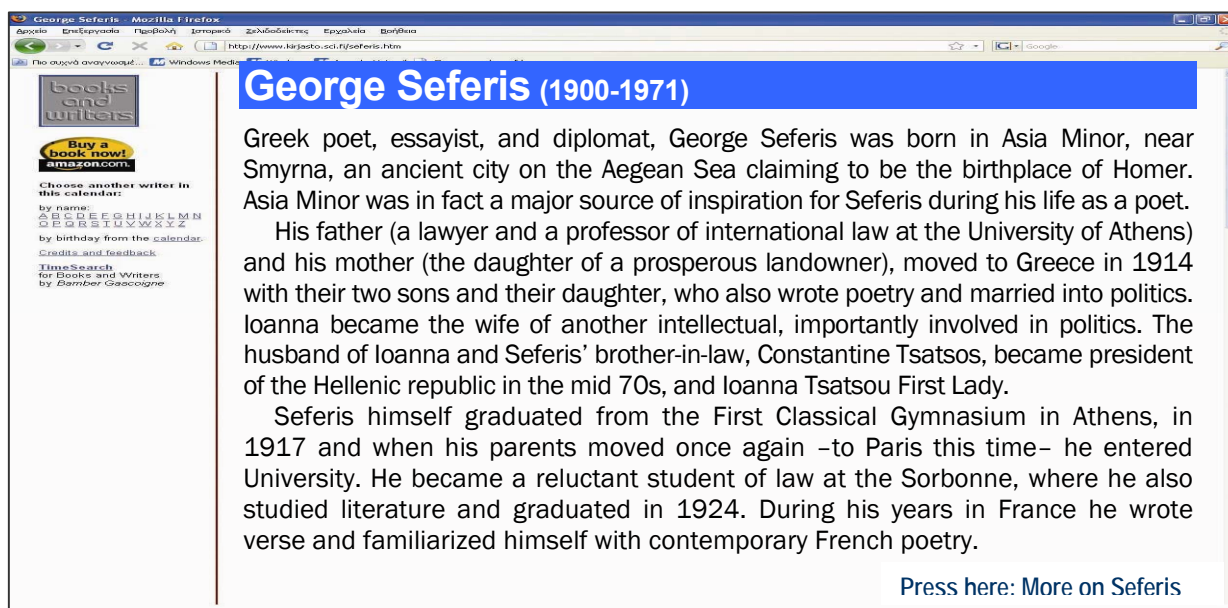
C. persuasive.

38. This text could also appear in a

A. law journal.

B. history book.

C. literary encyclopedia.



George Seferis (1900-1971)

Greek poet, essayist, and diplomat, George Seferis was born in Asia Minor, near Smyrna, an ancient city on the Aegean Sea claiming to be the birthplace of Homer. Asia Minor was in fact a major source of inspiration for Seferis during his life as a poet.

His father (a lawyer and a professor of international law at the University of Athens) and his mother (the daughter of a prosperous landowner), moved to Greece in 1914 with their two sons and their daughter, who also wrote poetry and married into politics. Ioanna became the wife of another intellectual, importantly involved in politics. The husband of Ioanna and Seferis' brother-in-law, Constantine Tsatsos, became president of the Hellenic republic in the mid 70s, and Ioanna Tsatsou First Lady.

Seferis himself graduated from the First Classical Gymnasium in Athens, in 1917 and when his parents moved once again –to Paris this time– he entered University. He became a reluctant student of law at the Sorbonne, where he also studied literature and graduated in 1924. During his years in France he wrote verse and familiarized himself with contemporary French poetry.

[Press here: More on Seferis](#)

Step 2: Read the text below, about Seferis 'in exile', and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 39-41.

39. Why did Seferis feel that he was in exile?

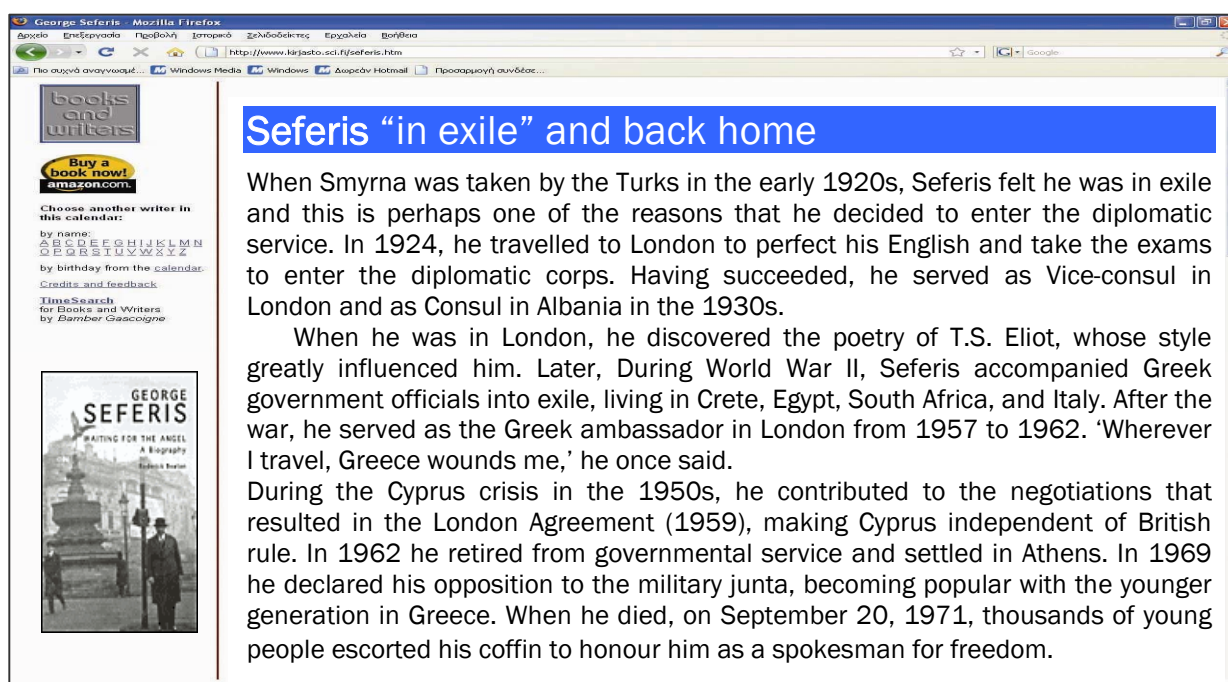
- A. Because his birthplace was occupied. B. Because he moved from one place to another. C. Because he entered the diplomatic service.

40. Seferis may have become a diplomat because

- A. he wanted to go to Smyrna. B. it allowed him to travel a lot. C. he loved foreign languages.

41. Why was Seferis admired by young people?

- A. He had democratic principles. B. He used the language of ordinary people. C. He was a distinguished diplomat.



Seferis "in exile" and back home

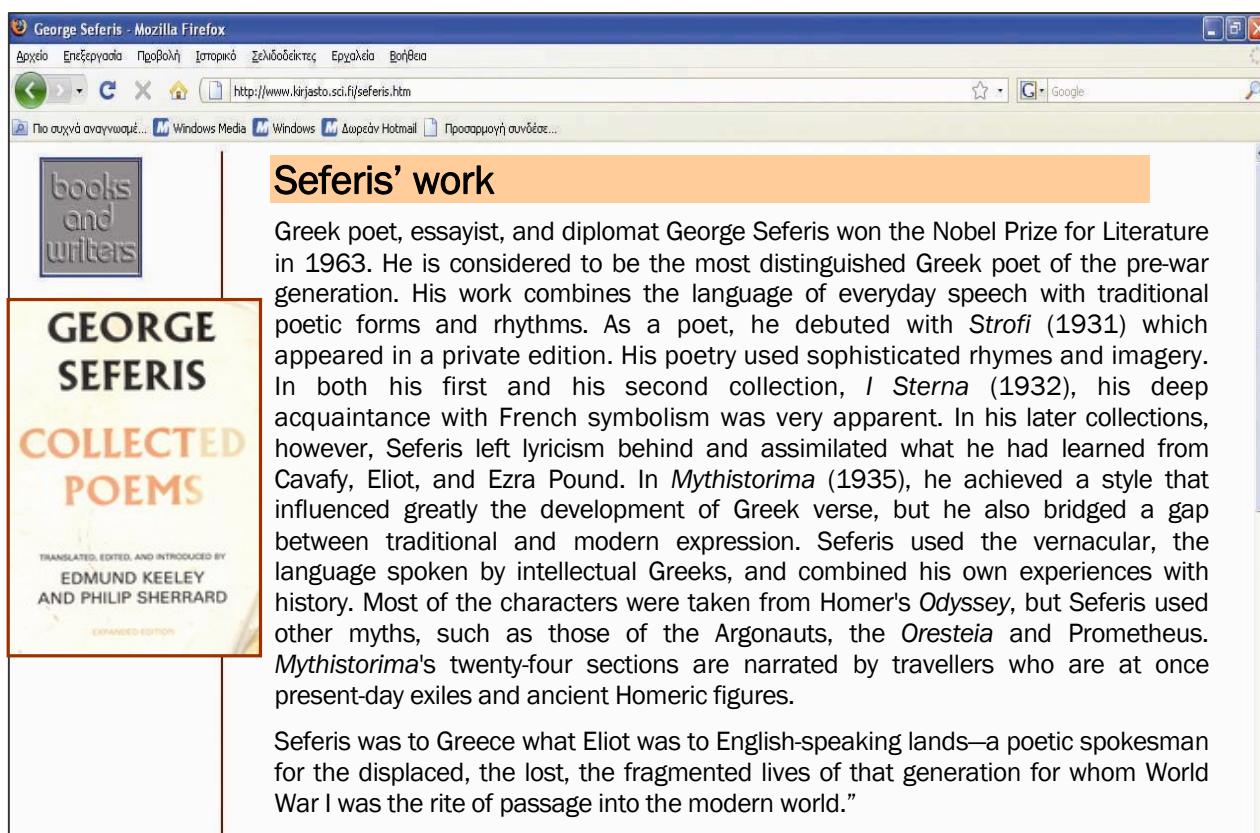
When Smyrna was taken by the Turks in the early 1920s, Seferis felt he was in exile and this is perhaps one of the reasons that he decided to enter the diplomatic service. In 1924, he travelled to London to perfect his English and take the exams to enter the diplomatic corps. Having succeeded, he served as Vice-consul in London and as Consul in Albania in the 1930s.

When he was in London, he discovered the poetry of T.S. Eliot, whose style greatly influenced him. Later, During World War II, Seferis accompanied Greek government officials into exile, living in Crete, Egypt, South Africa, and Italy. After the war, he served as the Greek ambassador in London from 1957 to 1962. 'Wherever I travel, Greece wounds me,' he once said.

During the Cyprus crisis in the 1950s, he contributed to the negotiations that resulted in the London Agreement (1959), making Cyprus independent of British rule. In 1962 he retired from governmental service and settled in Athens. In 1969 he declared his opposition to the military junta, becoming popular with the younger generation in Greece. When he died, on September 20, 1971, thousands of young people escorted his coffin to honour him as a spokesman for freedom.

Step 3: Read the text about Seferis' work, and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 42-46.

42. Seferis won an important award for his
 A. poetic forms. B. diplomatic service. C. writing.
43. What characterized Seferis' first published verse?
 A. The impact of French poetry. B. Its complex rhythms. C. Its rhetorical language.
44. Which of the following influences on Seferis' work does the text discuss?
 A. His love life. B. Other poets. C. Political conflicts.
45. Which statement best describes Seferis' *Mythistorima*?
 A. Great combination of the old and the new. B. Good example of poetic lyricism. C. Impressive use of traditional poetry.
46. Seferis was concerned about
 A. the effect that T.S. Eliot had on him. B. his fragmented poetic images. C. the fate of the postwar generation.



Seferis' work

Greek poet, essayist, and diplomat George Seferis won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1963. He is considered to be the most distinguished Greek poet of the pre-war generation. His work combines the language of everyday speech with traditional poetic forms and rhythms. As a poet, he debuted with *Strofi* (1931) which appeared in a private edition. His poetry used sophisticated rhymes and imagery. In both his first and his second collection, *I Sterna* (1932), his deep acquaintance with French symbolism was very apparent. In his later collections, however, Seferis left lyricism behind and assimilated what he had learned from Cavafy, Eliot, and Ezra Pound. In *Mythistorima* (1935), he achieved a style that influenced greatly the development of Greek verse, but he also bridged a gap between traditional and modern expression. Seferis used the vernacular, the language spoken by intellectual Greeks, and combined his own experiences with history. Most of the characters were taken from Homer's *Odyssey*, but Seferis used other myths, such as those of the Argonauts, the *Oresteia* and Prometheus. *Mythistorima*'s twenty-four sections are narrated by travellers who are at once present-day exiles and ancient Homeric figures.

Seferis was to Greece what Eliot was to English-speaking lands—a poetic spokesman for the displaced, the lost, the fragmented lives of that generation for whom World War I was the rite of passage into the modern world."

Step 4: Decide which of the options (A, B, or C) best explains the meaning of the underlined word or expression in items 47-50 below.

47. He also bridged a gap between traditional and modern expression.
 A. brought closer B. got rid of C. went back to
48. The language spoken by literate Greeks.
 A. poetic B. educated C. creative
49. Travellers who are at once present-day exiles and ancient Homeric figures.
 A. apparently B. in fact C. both
50. He contributed to the negotiations that resulted in the London Agreement.
 A. ended with B. caused C. made up

Step 5: Fill in the gaps in items 51-55 with ONE word which has approximately the same meaning as the words with a strikethrough in Column A.

| COLUMN A | | COLUMN B |
|----------|--|--|
| 51. | Greek poet, essayist, and diplomat who won the Nobel Prize. | Greek poet, essayist, and diplomat who was _____ the Nobel Prize. |
| 52. | Recurrent themes in his poetry are exile and nostalgia. | Themes that come up again and _____ in his poetry are exile and nostalgia. |
| 53. | The family moved in 1914 to Athens, where he graduated . | The family moved in 1914 to Athens, where he completed his _____. |
| 54. | He familiarized himself with contemporary French poetry. | He got to _____ more about contemporary French poetry. |
| 55. | Seferis rejected his previous dominating rhetorical tone. | Seferis _____ his back on his previous dominating rhetorical tone. |

ACTIVITY 6

Put the jumbled words in COLUMN B in the correct order to complete items 56-60, as in the example.

| COLUMN A | | COLUMN B |
|----------|---|--|
| 0. | From a novel Some hours before dawn Henry Perowne, a neurosurgeon, wakes to find himself already in motion, pushing back the covers from a sitting position, <u>and then rising to his feet</u> . | to - his - and - rising - feet - then |
| 56. | From a book review 'Dazzling! A brilliant novel, profound and urgent. _____.' | down - couldn't - put - it - I |
| 57. | From an application letter I am interested in working with this company as I believe that there is a growing interest in health products. I enclose copies of my qualifications and a curriculum vitae, _____. | as - reference - well - as - a - personal |
| 58. | From a letter of recommendation To whom it may concern The purpose of this letter is to recommend Christine Taylor for the post of Office Manager _____. | a - or - similar- in - position - management |
| 59. | From a legal contract Refunds. No refunds are given for any unused pre-paid services included in the tour package of "Happy Holidays Charters". Charges included for services provided by our company are _____. | subject - refund - not - to |
| 60. | From a public notice Any trespassing including the driving of unauthorised vehicles on this property _____. | by - forbidden - is - strictly - law |

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