

LEVEL C (C1&C2)

2017 B

MODULE 1 Reading comprehension and language awareness

## PART A - CHOICE ITEMS

### ACTIVITY 1

Read the text below and respond to the task that follows.

## MINKE WHALE EXPEDITIONS IN AUSTRALIA



**Take your dream cruise with us!** Experience the profound sense of connection that comes from looking into the eyes of minke whales.

**EYE TO EYE MARINE ENCOUNTERS** offers minke whale expeditions for six weeks each June/July.

Learn about the whales' biology, their behaviour and life history through onboard lectures by marine biologists and scientists. Guests will experience one of the most unique under-water experiences!

DAY 1: (Trip begins - 4:30 - 5:30 PM)

Board your vessel at Pier 319, Port Douglas. Meet the boat crew, rent dive gear (if you are not bringing your own diving equipment) and complete the paperwork that needs to be done. Enjoy a meal in town and return to the boat at 8:00 PM for safety instructions before departing, at 9:00 PM.



The Ribbon Reefs

DAY 2: Wake up to the Ribbon Reefs stretching out

before you. Enjoy a light breakfast before the first dive and benefit from instructions about how to swim with the whales. Afterwards, travel to your next destination, searching for whales. If whales are eager to interact, put on your wetsuit, enter the water and be ready for the experience of a lifetime. Watch as their confidence and curiosity grows, bringing them eye to eye with you.

DAY 3: Depending on the events of the previous day, focus upon either diving on the reef, or spotting whales. The dive site will be selected based on weather conditions. Night dives are offered most evenings. During mealtime, enjoy informal talks with onboard biologists and researchers.

DAY 4 (to day 6): Spend the day looking for whales, exploring the northern Ribbon Reefs and visiting famous dive sites. During encounters help researchers identify the minke whales' special behaviours and be sure to listen for their unique acoustic repertoire—their tonal sounds we call whistles!

DAY 7: Final day of the expedition! Enjoy your last minke swim in the morning as we steam south towards Port Douglas. Relax whilst underway taking in the beautiful views of our emerald rainforest coast. Vessel returns to Port Douglas late afternoon (4:00 – 5:00) where you disembark.



Underwater in dive gear

### ATTENTION

- Try to respond to all the items.
- Mark your answers on Answer Sheet 1 [ΑΠΑΝΤΗΤΙΚΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1].
- Provide a single answer for each item.
- You have **120 minutes** to complete this exam.

Choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 1a-7a.

- 1a. The purpose of the text is to
  - A. give us information about whales.
  - B. invite us to whale catching expeditions.
  - C. persuade us to go to whale watching excursions.
- 2a. The company name “Eye-to-Eye Marine Encounters” reflects the experience visitors will have
  - A. with the whales.
  - B. when on board.
  - C. listening to marine biologists.
- 3a. Before final boarding, cruise guests have
  - A. free time in town.
  - B. to pay tuition.
  - C. to sign their papers.
- 4a. The text suggests that when swimming with whales, guests should
  - A. be confident and curious.
  - B. depend on a guide.
  - C. follow rules.
- 5a. The text also suggests that whales are the sort of animals that may
  - A. interact with people.
  - B. attack people.
  - C. jump on people.
- 6a. The text also suggests that whales can
  - A. talk to each other.
  - B. be very charming.
  - C. make interesting sounds.
- 7a. The underlined expression in the utterance “Relax whilst underway taking in the beautiful views of our emerald rainforest coast” means
  - A. under water.
  - B. on the way
  - C. in the sea.

**ACTIVITY 2**

Read the extracts below and guess what type of text they are from. Match items 8a-12a with options A-F. There is one option you do not need.

<b>A.</b>	Letter to advice column	<b>B.</b>	Poem	<b>C.</b>	Medical booklet
<b>D.</b>	Recipe	<b>E.</b>	Novel	<b>F.</b>	News article

<b>8a.</b>	If you have a long-term illness it can also put you at risk of developing a problem such as anxiety or depression. For some people, the impact on your mental health could become more of a problem than the physical condition itself. Exercise programmes, other treatments and mindfulness have been shown to improve anxiety and depression, and quality of life for people with chronic illnesses.	
<b>9a.</b>	Remove the contents of the pods and add the thawed peas. Crush them in a bowl with a fork and add olive oil, salt and pepper. Serve on sourdough toast rubbed with garlic and olive oil. Garnish with a dollop of ricotta and chopped mint leaves.	
<b>10a.</b>	I’m not sure what to do, or who to talk to about how I feel. I haven’t told my parents or any of my friends as I’m not sure how they’d react. I feel I should just be able to get a grip but at the moment I just can’t. I’m hoping you may be able to make a suggestion of how I can try and get my confidence back. It might seem trivial to you but it isn’t to me.	
<b>11a.</b>	I shall be telling this with a sigh / Somewhere ages and ages hence / Two roads diverged in a wood, and I / I took the one less traveled by / And that has made all the difference.	
<b>12a.</b>	He was an inch, perhaps two under six feet, powerfully built, and he advanced straight at you with a slight stoop of the shoulders, head forward, and a fixed from-under stare which made you think of a charging bull.	

**ACTIVITY 3**

Read the text below and respond to the task that follows.



**Sarah Ainsworth's  
Book blog**

Williams said in an interview about his book that he learnt a lot by writing it –about himself too. The story is not exactly autobiographical, but it draws on his life as a tutor of English literature in the universities of Denver and Missouri, and it illustrates his attitude to the value of literature and learning. The introduction to my edition of *Stoner* describes the writing as ‘plain prose which seems able to reflect effortlessly every shade of thought and feeling’. I just knew I was going to love it!

The title encapsulates the pattern of the novel, since it is centred around the protagonist, Stoner. It narrates an ordinary existence from the beginning to the end not just of a life, but of a *reading* life.

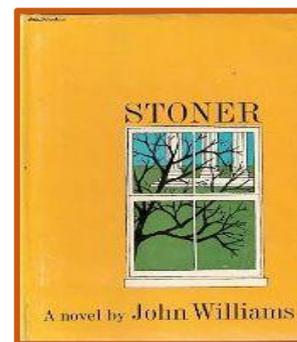
It starts when Stoner is 19 and is about to go to college. Stoner's parents are inanimate like the earth. They farm, and are passively accepting. In some ways Stoner inherited these traits, except that during his peaceful life there are two things which animate him –reading and love, in all their complexity. These are figured in the novel in two ways. Firstly, through light, and secondly through the opposing forces of speech and silence. Once you realize this, you notice the way these themes surface during moments of significance.

When Stoner first reads literature, without yet understanding anything about how it works, he finds that sometimes the darkness gathers into a light that takes the shape of what he has been reading. Later, he pictures in light, colour, and translucence reflection the patterns of his emotional life, when words cannot convey his joy or sadness.

The power of Williams's writing is that it is descriptive and not proselytizing, but it forcefully argues how important it is to speak out when it really matters, so speaking and silence are the tensions which take the narrative forward. Stoner's love of literature is awakened by two voices --the challenge of an English tutor and of a dead author: 'Mr Shakespeare speaks to you across 300 hundred years, Mr Stoner. Do you hear him?' Stoner and his lover learn to 'be together without speaking', whilst in an unhappy relationship. It is the sounds on the piano keys that disrupt his ability to study and write in peace. Elsewhere, silence can be destructive and speech empty.

Stoner is a quiet man, but we know that he lectures, tutors, and interacts with colleagues and friends. However, we rarely ‘hear’ his exchange with people around him until, embroiled in university politics, Stoner speaks out, when it matters most –to maintain the principles he firmly believes in.

Williams uses Stoner’s voice to criticize universities’ moving away from their focus on 'pure study' and choosing to focus instead on quantification and measurement –an approach which cramps and limits discovery, real learning, true education.



**3.1 Choose the best answer for items 13a-17a.**

- 13a. Sarah probably uses her book blog to
  - A. advertise new books.
  - B. tell visitors what she’s read.
  - C. sell new editions.
- 14a. The book Sarah talks about is a novel by John Williams which is based
  - A. on Stoner’s autobiography.
  - B. on true facts.
  - C. on the author’s experiences.
- 15a. Stoner, the book protagonist is described as
  - A. a calm man.
  - B. a boring man.
  - C. a passionate man.
- 16a. An important point made by the book is that one should speak out
  - A. to defend his/her values and beliefs.
  - B. when he knows others are listening.
  - C. when the political situation demands it.
- 17a. The main themes of the novel are
  - A. politics, values, principles.
  - B. family, relationships, love.
  - C. colour, speech, stillness.

3.2 What do the underlined words mean in this text? Choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 18a-20a.

- 18a. Stoner's parents are inanimate like the earth.  
 A. unfeeling                                      B. lifeless                                      C. impassionate
- 19a. ...so speaking and silence are the tensions which take the narrative forward.  
 A. anxieties                                      B. conflicts                                      C. fictions
- 20a. Williams uses Stoner's voice to criticize universities' moving away from their focus on 'pure study':  
 A. speaks through Stoner                      B. speaks like Stoner                      C. speaks for Stoner

**ACTIVITY 4**

Read the text below, and choose the best word (A-F) to fill in items 21a-25a. Use each word only once. There is one word you do not need.

A.	producers	B.	figures	C.	performance
D.	manuscripts	E.	contemporary	F.	narrative

## The Icelandic saga

*Icelandic sagas are underappreciated in the world of European literature*

Iceland has been in the news quite a lot lately and one of the reasons is because of its young soccer team's outstanding (21a) \_\_\_\_\_ in the Euro 2016 football tournament. There has also been a surge of general interest in the Icelandic landscape, in Icelandic life and culture --including modern Icelandic literature.

Icelanders love books (they always have!), both reading and writing them and, in recent years, translations of (22a) \_\_\_\_\_ Icelandic literature have made it into bookshops and literary pages abroad in increasing numbers. Of course, we must not forget that in 1955 the Icelander Halldor Laxness won the Nobel Prize for literature.

In the Middle Ages, Icelanders were great literary (23a) \_\_\_\_\_ and consumers too. The term "saga" is used to refer to the new literary genre that developed in Iceland from the late 12th century up to the end of the 15th century and sometimes later than that.

"Saga" is an Icelandic word that means "something said, a type of (24a) \_\_\_\_\_". Originally the term is likely to have been applied to stories that were probably formed and transmitted orally. Later, they came to be recorded in writing, in hand-written (25a) \_\_\_\_\_, many of which survive to the present day, though a good number have perished over the past 500 years or so.

In terms of its structure, the Icelandic saga is usually a prose narrative but, in many cases, it contains a good deal of embedded poetry.



**ACTIVITY 5**

Read the extract from *The Food and Cookery of Malta and Gozo* by Helen Caruana Galizia (published by Midseabooks in 2016) and respond to the task that follows.

## A World Without Bees

*'If the bee disappears from the surface of the earth, man would have not more than four years to live'* (quote attributed to Einstein)



On June 29<sup>th</sup> 2003, two years before his untimely death, the environmentalist and investigative journalist Julian Manduca published an article in 'Malta Today' entitled 'Controversy over unique bee population' drawing attention to the serious decline in the bee population all over the world and to the situation in Malta and Gozo.

The global decline continues twelve years later and, far from being reversed, it is a matter of urgent concern to us all. There are about 25,000 species of bees; they give us honey, beeswax and propolis. One in three of all the mouthfuls we eat comes from crops pollinated by bees and other

pollinators. 100 crop species supply 90% of the world's food and bees pollinate more than 70% of these species. This contributes at least €150 billion to the global economy.

While there have been declines before, the Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) we are now witnessing is an indication of a much bigger global agricultural crisis. Captive bees and wild bees are equally susceptible. A number of possible causes have been cited. These include parasites, viruses and other infectious agents. The Varroa mite, for example, introduced to Malta in 1992 when foreign bees were imported, led to the destruction of two-thirds of our bee colony and early in 2015 our beekeepers were expressing great concern that further importation of bees to Gozo might lead to the destruction of apiculture. The Asian Hornet kills other bees to feed its young. In 2004 in Bordeaux, beekeepers suffered a 70% decline when it arrived in plant pots from China.

Genetically modified crops, changes in agricultural practices, and poor nutrition have all been cited as likely contributors to the decline by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Urban development brings the destruction of bee foraging areas and, thus, a loss of floral abundance and diversity of which bees need a constant supply. The use of agricultural land for urban development is of special concern. Astonishingly in Malta, at present, estate agents are advertising good agricultural land for sale. Are mobile phones another contributory factor, interfering with the bees' sense of navigation? Air pollution and diesel fumes are believed to be contributors to CCD. Migratory stress afflicts bees when they are shipped and trucked thousands of miles to pollinate one particular crop, such as almonds – a big monoculture. Most recently scientists are pointing to climate change as a cause, which should not be a surprise to any thinking person.

Pesticides have received most of the blame for CCD. They may be affecting the bee populations indirectly by interfering with the foraging behaviour of individual bees. When these pesticides are multiplied across many bees, in a colony, this can have a large impact at a group level. Other reports have shown that young bees are having to start foraging too early because older bees have already died.

Global Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) appears to some of us to be a symbol of the threat to our ecosystem as a whole which we have begun to treat with utter contempt. In much the same way as humans, stress compromises bees' immune systems. It could be likened to a sick person suffering a range of symptoms which puzzle doctors. Individual symptoms are treated but the illness continues, suggesting that the whole system needs to be examined. So it is with bees and our environment.

We, as individuals and families, can do much to protect bees by ensuring that there is a floral abundance and a safe habitat in our gardens and open spaces, however small. At the national and international level there must be urgent action to halt building on agricultural land and take steps to address the issue globally. Yet, in some inner city areas bees are cared for and are thriving. Both the Tate Galleries in London and London School of Economics sell honey which comes from hives on their own roofs.

Choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 26a-30a.

- 26a. This text provides us with valuable information about the usefulness of bees, but also
- A. warns about the financial catastrophe by their decline.
  - B. reveals what the situation is with global warming.
  - C. gives ideas about how to avoid a calamity.
- 27a. The text suggests that
- A. pollinators other than bees contribute more to the pollination of our food.
  - B. we rely on bees more than any other pollinator for the majority of our crops.
  - C. bee products such as honey and beeswax are often sold in the black market.
- 28a. There are many factors that contribute to the bee CCD including
- A. floral abundance and diversity.
  - B. intense agricultural development.
  - C. the importation of bees from a foreign country.
- 29a. The author of the text seems to believe that the CCD is an indication of
- A. how we are destroying our ecosystem.
  - B. the decline of all animals and plants.
  - C. the declining health of humans.
- 30a. The author of the text seems to believe that city development
- A. is not an issue that we need to be concerned about.
  - B. can only result in a further decline in bees.
  - C. can include opportunities for protecting bees.

**ACTIVITY 6**

Read the text below, and choose the best word (A-F) to fill in items 31a-35a. Use each word only once. There is one word you do not need.

A.	straight	B.	direct	C.	sign
D.	partial	E.	celestial	F.	shadow

**Eclipses Were Regarded as Omens in the Ancient World**

*By Gonzalo Rubio*



Humans have been alternatively amused, puzzled, bewildered and sometimes even terrified at the sight of this (31a) \_\_\_\_\_ phenomenon. A range of social and cultural reactions accompanies the observation of an eclipse. In ancient Mesopotamia (roughly modern Iraq), eclipses were in fact regarded as an omen, as a (32a) \_\_\_\_\_ of things to come.

For an eclipse to take place, three celestial bodies must find themselves in a (33a) \_\_\_\_\_ line within their elliptic orbits. This is called a syzygy, from the Greek word "syzygos," meaning yoked or paired.

From our viewpoint on Earth, there are two kinds of eclipses: solar and lunar. In a solar eclipse, the moon passes in between the sun and Earth, which results in blocking our view of the sun. In a lunar eclipse, it is the moon that crosses through the (34a) \_\_\_\_\_ of the Earth. A solar eclipse can completely block our view of the sun, but it is usually a brief event and can be observed only in certain areas of the Earth's surface; what can be viewed as a total eclipse in one's hometown may just be a (35a) \_\_\_\_\_ eclipse a few hundred miles away.

By contrast, a lunar eclipse can be viewed throughout an entire hemisphere of the Earth: the half of the surface of the planet that happens to be on the night side at the time.

**ACTIVITY 7**

Read the first part of an interview and do the task that follows.

**In Conversation with Gazmend Kapllani**

August 10, 2016 | in *Interviews* | by Gigi Papoulias



Gazmend Kapllani is an Albanian-born author, journalist, and scholar. He lived in Athens for over twenty years. He was a columnist for Greece’s leading daily newspapers. Kapllani has written his first three novels in Greek. His work centers on themes of migration, borders, totalitarianism. Kapllani currently lives in Boston and teaches Creative Writing and European History at Emerson College.

Gigi Papoulias (GP): You seem to have a passion for languages. You are fluent in five languages. Were you born into a multilingual family?

Gazmend Kapllani (GK): Actually, I was born in a shack. My father’s family was persecuted by the communist regime and was driven out of their house in the countryside and punished—sent to live in a shack on the outskirts of my hometown. I grew up surrounded by a large group of monolingual relatives. I grew up surrounded by joyful uncles and aunts. I’m amazed today that in my memories that miserable place comes across as a place of joy and love. I remember the flowers that were planted all around. My grandmother was an extraordinary woman—she had lost three brothers in the war against the Nazis in Albania—she did everything possible to make life in the shack seem normal. What has remained with me is the extraordinary love that I was given. I also learned what resilience and human dignity mean. By the time I turned five, my father managed to move us out of the shack into an ugly small one-story brick house. It was a poor neighborhood and we used to play all sorts of games in its dusty streets. I remember listening for the first time to people speaking words that were different from Albanian. I was impressed by their “foreign words”. It’s where I first heard Greek words. Every time those words came out of those kids’ mouths I felt like they were transformed into something else, something mysterious and inaccessible. The desire to speak other languages invaded my mind. I, too, wanted to look strange, mysterious and attractive. My aunt’s husband knew perfect Italian. He was the only one in my large family who spoke a foreign language. He was a wonderful storyteller and encouraged by him, I learned Italian from a very young age.

**7.1 Choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 36a-39a.**

- 36a. This part of the interview focuses on Kapllani’s
  - A. intimate life.
  - B. early years.
  - C. extreme poverty.
- 37a. Due to their political beliefs, Kapllani’s paternal family was
  - A. victimized.
  - B. tyrannized.
  - C. pestered.
- 38a. Kapllani’s memories from his childhood in Albania are
  - A. extraordinary.
  - B. pleasurable.
  - C. encouraging.
- 39a. Kapllani’s desire to speak languages different from his mother tongue was
  - A. a mystery to him, something he cannot explain.
  - B. linked to his wish to be like the people who spoke them.
  - C. something that invaded his mind since he learnt Italian.

Read the second part of the interview and respond to the task that follows.

GP: And afterwards you learned French and English as well...

GK: Yes and with very primitive means, old grammar books that had survived on the shelves of friends and relatives. Learning foreign languages had no practical use. By adolescence I had already learned two: Italian and French. I learned French on my own because I wanted to translate French poems into Albanian. They were all banned. Italian and French were not just “foreign languages” for me. They became like underground tunnels or small windows for me. Thanks to them I could reach the world-beyond-the-border.

GP: You have lived and worked in numerous countries and have almost always coexisted in a language which is not your native tongue. Your first three novels were written in Greek. Why did you decide to write in Greek and not in your native language?

GK: I arrived in Greece crossing the borders as a refugee in January 1991. I left because the secret police were on my trail after I led a rally in my hometown. I went into hiding for ten days and then decided to head towards the borders hidden inside a truck. When I arrived in Greece I didn't know a word of Greek. Actually, when I set out to cross the border, I carried a few plans in my mind aiming at continuing my journey westward, toward countries whose languages I already knew and spoke –Italy and France in particular. Greece didn't even exist in the imaginary map of countries-to-live that I carried in my mind. Even though Greece was a neighboring country, I knew very few things about it. I knew much more about Italy and France, Germany and England. I arrived in Greece with the naïve intention of staying there only a few weeks. In the end, I didn't leave.

I started studying philosophy at the Kapodistrian University in Athens. I also translated into Albanian a few poems from Greek poets—Cavafy, Livadites, Seferis. Then in 1999, I started writing short articles for Greek newspapers. That was like coming out from invisibility. Those articles had an impact and triggered reactions that surprised me. I was writing about immigrants and minorities living in Greece. I was the first immigrant writing about immigrants in the Greek press. Many Greek readers looked at me with surprise, some others with immense sympathy and quite a few with extreme hostility. That was the decisive moment for my choice of Greek I believe. I saw it as another border to cross. I felt that in Greek I brought together my old and my new self.

GP: What is the greatest demand when writing and existing in a language which is not your native tongue?

GK: It depends on who you are and how you exist in a language which is not your mother tongue. I learned Greek with great passion because I wanted to explore the country and the society where I had decided to live. In any case, I wasn't some Western, French or English or German anthropologist in Greece: I was an Albanian immigrant; I was the scapegoat of the time; my mother tongue was the tongue of the scapegoat. The Greek language offered me the means to evolve to an interlocutor and storyteller. I wanted to be heard.

GP: Does writing in a foreign language influence how you write, how you narrate a story?

GK: When you write in a language that is not your native tongue, you recreate and refresh your identity—your cultural identity, but mainly, the identity of the narrator. Immigration means starting from scratch. To write a narrative in a language that is not your native tongue, is like starting the narration of your life from the beginning. That's why I felt as if the Greek language was a new pair of shoes which gave me the desire to run.

GP: Do you feel like a citizen of the world?

GK: I rather consider myself an immigrant of the world. Not only because I'm (again) an immigrant (now living in the US) but also because I want to make a political statement and choice; immigrants today are often viewed the way Jews and the ethnic minorities were viewed in Europe in the '30s. That's why I am and I will always be an immigrant of the world, armed with a temporary residence permit for this earth, incurably transient.

7.2 Choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 40a-45a.

- 40a. Kapllani, who is a polyglot, learnt languages  
 A. to escape his reality.                      B. to do underground work.                      C. to survive.
- 41a. Kapllani  
 A. came to Greece as a fugitive.                      B. was smuggled into Greece.                      C. sneaked into Greece.
- 42a. What was the main reason for Kapllani to stay in Greece?  
 A. He was prevented from carrying out his plans to cross further borders.                      B. Greece was a neighbouring country and he felt it was familiar to him.                      C. It was almost by chance. There was no noteworthy reason.
- 43a. For what reason did Kapllani decide to write in Greek?  
 A. Because he wanted to explore the society he had decided to live in.                      B. Because Greek is a language with a longer tradition than Albanian.                      C. Because he felt that writing in Albanian wouldn't reach a wide audience.
- 44a. Why does Kapllani make a point to say he's an "immigrant of the world" rather than a "citizen of the world"?  
 A. Because he's an ethnic minority.                      B. Because he has no residence permit in the U.S.                      C. Because he wants to send a political message.
- 45a. Which words best describe the manner in which the interviewer interacts with Kapllani?  
 A. Aloof and somewhat sceptical.                      B. Attentive and direct.                      C. Inquisitive and demanding.

**ACTIVITY 8**

Read the text below, and choose the best word (options A-F) to fill in items 46a-50a. Use each option only once. There is one option you do not need.

A.	energetic	B.	complex	C.	massive
D.	unprecedented	E.	conflicted	F.	macabre

## Street Art in Brazil

A few weeks before the grand opening of the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil, the streets of Rio de Janeiro were covered in World Cup related street art. Murals revealing (46a) \_\_\_\_\_ feelings about the enormous amounts of money spent in a country struggling with (47a) \_\_\_\_\_ poverty became an instant hit among the media and soon everyone was talking about the dissatisfaction Brazilian people felt concerning the biggest event in football. One of the most noticeable ones was the mural painted on a school in Sao Paulo by the street artist Paulo Ito, portraying a poor and hungry boy with nothing to eat but a football.



This is a great example of the power of art that is especially noticeable in the moments of political and social discontent. Street art in this Latin American country has a long and (48a) \_\_\_\_\_ history and even though today it covers every conceivable surface and space within Brazil's sprawling urban zones and it is decriminalized since 2009, it wasn't always like that.

Rio de Janeiro is considered to be a true mecca for graffiti artists of Latin America. Brazil's second largest city is one of a kind in many ways but, when it comes to street art, there is no place like Rio. The turbulent, vibrant and (49a) \_\_\_\_\_ vibe of the city is alluring to everyone who visits. Since it first arrived in the city as a response to the new movement that began in New York in the 1970s, new art expression came to Rio and was initially carried out by kids, punks, students and professional artists. Today, street art in Brazil adorns almost every wall and free space.

The production of street art, particularly forms of muralism and graffiti, accelerated at an (50a) \_\_\_\_\_ pace from the mid-1980s in Brazil, coinciding roughly with the period of democratic transition, economic opening and the import of hip-hop style from the United States. After the decriminalization of street art in March 2009, expressing yourself was never easier. The active encouragement is highly admirable and it allows the street artists to practice their craft openly, with the consent of the building owners and residents.

PART B - SHORT ANSWERS

ACTIVITY 1

Fill in each of the gaps in items 1b-5b with ONE appropriate word to complete the text. The first letter of each word is provided and the dashes correspond to the missing letters.

The fastest in the world



It's well known that Jamaican sprinter and 100m world record holder, Usain Bolt, can claim the record of being the fastest human (1b) b \_ \_ \_ \_ on Earth. But how does Bolt compare to his speedy animal counterparts? Bolt's world record of 9.58 seconds for the 100m race in Berlin 2009 places him at a top speed of 27.8 mph. However, there are six animals listed from slowest to fastest that leave him in the dust. They (2b) r \_ \_ \_ double and even triple the top speeds that Bolt could only dream of ever achieving. The animals are as follows:

- 1) The North African ostriches are the fastest birds on land. Their ability to reach up to speeds of 40 mph allows them to outrun predators, which makes up for their inability to fly. They're also incredibly (3b) a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ to watch. Most people have a smile on their face when they watch them run.
- 2) Greyhounds, only a little faster than the North African ostrich, can reach a top speed of 43 mph.
- 3) The fastest racehorse has reached top speeds of 55 mph. However, they aren't just fast, they can maintain high speed over a considerable (4b) d \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ and time.
- 4) The pronghorn antelope has evolved interlocking joints that make it unable to jump. However, this same evolutionary adaptation has made it an extremely efficient runner faster even than race horses.
- 5) It is a well (5b) k \_ \_ \_ \_ fact that the cheetah is undoubtedly the fastest of all land mammals with a top speed of 61mph.



## ACTIVITY 2

### SOLVE THE PUZZLE

Put the jumbled words in column B in the correct order to complete the text extracts (6b-10b) in column A.

UTTERANCES		WORDS IN JUMBLED ORDER
6b.	In <i>Feasts</i> , Sabrina Ghayour presents a delicious array of Middle-Eastern dishes from breakfasts to banquets, _____. Enjoy menus and dozens of recipes for celebrations and occasions with family & friends, such as summer feasts, quick-fix feasts and brunch.	luxurious most the simple to the from
7b.	Paul Auster's first novel in seven years, '4321', _____. It sees the hero lead four different lives. Astonishing, a masterpiece, a vivid and heart-breaking novel.	greatest is work believe his some
8b.	We are all familiar with the name Steven Hawking. His ground-breaking work 'A Brief History of Time' and his devastating disabilities have won him immortal fame. This wonderful film 'The Theory of Everything', which _____.	is tribute scripted a to his well life
9b.	Most books on the history of the world try to impose a uniform narrative, usually written _____. <i>Histories of Nations</i> edited by Peter Furtado is different...: it presents 28 essays written by a leading historian as a 'self-portrait' of his or her native country, defining the characteristics that embody its sense of nationhood.	writer's from a point of single view
10b.	Powerful winds, low humidity and landscapes left arid from years of drought could _____ in the Southland this week, starting Wednesday, forecasters said.	fire create danger conditions critical

## ACTIVITY 3

Read the text and fill in the words (items 11b-15b) in the text below. The first letter is provided.

### UK's attempt to tackle air pollution

The UK is to ban all new petrol and diesel cars and vans from 2040 to tackle air pollution, accelerating the drive towards electric vehicles. The plan, which follows a **(11b) s** \_\_\_\_\_ commitment in France, is part of the government's much-anticipated plans for clean air.

The popularity of electric cars in the UK has increased dramatically in **(12b) r** \_\_\_\_\_ years, with more than 100,000 plug-in vehicles on the road, compared with just 3,500 in 2013. This huge rise in electric cars in 2017 has come about because of a greater level of choice for drivers, a shift in the public's attitude towards electric cars and a constantly improving recharging network. Combined, this means that UK electric car buyers have a greater **(13b) s** \_\_\_\_\_ of vehicles to choose from than ever before.

With a number of new models on the market, and increased awareness from buyers as to the benefits that having a plug-in car can bring,

electric vehicles are becoming more and more **(14b) p** \_\_\_\_\_. Drivers of EVs can see lower fuel and maintenance costs when compared to conventionally powered cars, with many owners able to save large sums by using an electric car.

For drivers that cover an average of less than 120 miles a day, an EV could prove an ideal car. That's especially true for those who have a number of regular routes – such as the school run, driving to the shops and commuting to work. The fact that an overnight charge will only cost a few pounds is a clear benefit. Maintenance bills are typically less than those for petrol or diesel cars because of fewer moving parts, and brakes last longer. Perhaps the greatest appeal to drivers is that all EVs are rated in VED Band 0 g/km CO2, meaning they cost **(15b) n** \_\_\_\_\_ to nothing for tax purposes each year.

**ACTIVITY 4**

Fill in the gaps with **ONE** word so that the newspaper titles in items 16b-20b make sense.

<b>16b.</b>	<p>POLICE DEEMED TO BE BARKING _____ THE WRONG TREE</p> <p>Police in North Wales have received criticism in the local press because of where they are focusing police resourcing in the hunt. Several journalists have suggested that the gang of car thieves are working out of a completely different city.</p>
<b>17b.</b>	<p>LETTER: EDITORIAL HIT THE NAIL ON THE _____</p> <p>Your August 22 editorial on the National Health Service demonstrated clearly that the government must stand up and protect the health service now. Doctors and nurses are under unacceptable pressure and the government must put budget aside to allow for better resourcing.</p>
<b>18b.</b>	<p>NEW ELECTRIC CARS WON'T COST AN ARM AND A _____</p> <p>Drivers will benefit from the fact that charging car batteries is cheap, maintenance is low cost and they won't have to pay tax.</p>
<b>19b.</b>	<p>HOUSE REPEAL OF OBAMACARE HANDS HOT _____ TO WARY SENATE</p> <p>The US Senate will now have to manage the proposed end to health care laws introduced by Obama. Senators represent whole regions with many low income voters and many will be worried about what happens next.</p>
<b>20b.</b>	<p>SCIENTISTS WARN: DO NOT _____ THE BOAT ON CLIMATE CHANGE!</p> <p>Scientists from across the world were united in their calls for governments to act now before it is too late to limit the far-reaching effects of climate change.</p>

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