

Test 1

READING AND USE OF ENGLISH (1 hour 15 minutes)

Part 1

Questions 1–8

For each question, choose the correct answer.
Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

New views of the sun

Scientists at the National Aeronautical and Space Agency (NASA) in the USA generated great public interest in their work recently, when they **1** an unusual photo. Their satellite had **2** an image they wanted to share, of what **3** to be a happy face on the sun, leading the scientists to describe it as ‘smiling’. The experts at NASA explained that when seen in special light, darker **4** on the sun’s surface resembled the **5** of a face – two eyes, a nose and a mouth.

But they also explained that the sun can negatively **6** weather in space, and what can be seen in the photos are actually ‘coronal holes’, from which fast solar wind pours out into space. So **7** the sun’s apparently friendly expression, these holes may, in fact, be predicting what’s called a solar storm (large amounts of energy leaving the sun’s surface). And one **8** of this kind of storm on Earth is to make phenomena such as the Northern Lights more visible in the sky.

Excerpt
[More Information](#)

Reading and Use of English

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | A launched | B declared | C released | D proposed |
| 2 | A grabbed | B captured | C gained | D attracted |
| 3 | A regarded | B assumed | C indicated | D appeared |
| 4 | A districts | B ranges | C spheres | D regions |
| 5 | A qualities | B features | C profiles | D factors |
| 6 | A influence | B convert | C exploit | D adapt |
| 7 | A however | B regardless | C despite | D unlike |
| 8 | A product | B conclusion | C effect | D reaction |

Test 1

Part 2

Questions 9–16

For each question, write the correct answer.
Write **one** word for each gap.
Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet.**

Huge artwork in the American state of Nevada

It took American artist Michael Heizer 50 years to complete ‘City’, his enormous sculpture installation. Situated in a remote desert valley in Nevada, ‘City’ is 1.5 miles **9** length.

The work takes its inspiration **10** ancient American and Egyptian cities. Its massive structures were built using only local rocks, clay and dirt. These materials were collected with great care in **11** to ensure that native plants were not disturbed.

A trip to ‘City’ requires planning. Only six tickets, each of which costs \$150, are available daily. Those lucky enough to acquire one must **12** their own way to the town of Alamo. They are then driven to the artwork and are allowed to spend only a few hours admiring it before **13** taken away again. Since the site has **14** streetlights or paved roads at all, visits end well before dark.

Heizer describes ‘City’ as ‘democratic art’, but hasn’t explained why. ‘I am not here to tell people **15** it means. They can figure that out for **16** ,’ he told journalists.

Part 3

Questions 17–24

Read the text below. Use the word given in CAPITALS on the right to form a word that fits in the gap.
Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet.**

Survey into how people find out about new music

A survey was recently carried out into how people find out about new music. It showed that traditional means, such as radio, are still relevant. However, the researchers note that radio listeners are **17** to be under 35 years old, with most being much older.

Given their **18** , it's not surprising that music apps now play the largest role in the **19** of new music worldwide. Video games are also influential, as are social media, which have become a **20** platform for music artists.

Many of the music **21** who responded to the survey mentioned receiving **22** from friends and family, with around a **23** of people saying they hear about new music in this way.

Comparisons between answers from different parts of the world reveal a number of **24** between the USA and Europe, where radio and music apps topped the list, while in Asia, social media were more important.

- Keyword List
- 17 LIKE
 - 18 POPULAR
 - 19 DISCOVER
 - 20 VALUE
 - 21 CONSUME
 - 22 RECOMMEND
 - 23 THREE
 - 24 SIMILAR

Test 1

Part 4

Questions 25–30

For each question, complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given.
Write **only** the missing words **IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet.**

- 25 At the theatre, they insisted that we left our bags in the cloakroom.

MADE

At the theatre, we our bags in the cloakroom.
- 26 We all want sunny weather for our picnic tomorrow.

LIKE

Everyone be a sunny day for our picnic tomorrow.
- 27 The band became more famous because of all the TV appearances they'd made.

GREW

The band's result of all the TV appearances they'd made.
- 28 If you had told me you'd be at the party, I'd have gone too.

AWARE

Had I been to be at the party, I'd have gone too.

Reading and Use of English

29 'I'm really sorry I lost your dictionary, Maria,' said John.

APOLOGISED

John her dictionary.

30 No one is allowed to take a dog into this park.

MAY

Dogs into this park.

Excerpt
[More Information](#)

Test 1

Part 5

Questions 31–36

Read a magazine article about a man called Lewis Pugh, who swam across the Red Sea. For each question, choose the correct answer.
Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Swimming across the Red Sea

Lewis Pugh talked to our reporter about his amazing swim.

Above, there was blazing sun. To his right, each time he turned his head to breathe, there was lifeless desert. But below, Lewis Pugh, an experienced long-distance swimmer who was to become the first person to cross the Red Sea from Saudi Arabia to Egypt, saw only life. 'I've never seen anything so spectacular: the rich colours, and the strange and rarely seen tropical fish of every kind – it's a pity more people can't witness it,' he said about the coral reefs he swam over. Not to mention the occasional shark – 'I love sharks,' he told me. 'A shark is a sign of a healthy ocean. But I don't want to be swimming with them.' That was when he took a break on his support boat.

Pugh arrived in Hurghada, Egypt, after 16 days and 160 km. Although he was already well known before he set out, this was for his adventures in the –1.7°C waters of the Arctic and Antarctic. This time, he faced extreme heat, with the water reaching 27°C at times. The motivation for his latest swim was the same as for the others: to highlight the risk climate change poses to some of our most unspoilt environments. 'The biggest changes are in the polar regions and in coral reefs. Both are affected by rising temperatures: the poles are melting and the coral is dying,' he said, adding that this was clear evidence of global warming.

During his crossing, Pugh swam between 6 km and 11 km a day in two daily sessions, climbing aboard the support boat at lunchtime to escape the heat and at night time to sleep. His route began at Tiran Island in the Gulf of Aqaba, and then continued down the Sinai coast. As he swam over some of the longest continuous reefs in the world, he was able to see the massive luxury hotels along the coast where world leaders were due to meet the following month for a global climate summit, to make decisions on which the fate of those reefs might depend. That made him feel particularly emotional, he said.

Scientists fear that coral reefs could be among the hardest-hit ecosystems in a warming world. Reefs can suffer from 'bleaching', when heat stress kills the coral, and can also be damaged by CO₂ in the water. The frequency of bleaching has increased in recent years, but reefs have also **shown resilience**. In 2021, the Great Barrier Reef off Australia bounced back from several bad seasons, with the most coral cover in 36 years. However, marine biologists predict that the majority of tropical coral reefs could disappear, even if global greenhouse-gas emissions are substantially cut.

It was after the reefs that Pugh's biggest challenge began. As he left behind the shallow waters of the Sinai Peninsula, he crossed into the Gulf of Suez. Suddenly, everything changed. It was extremely challenging, exposed as he was to wind, waves and one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, day after day after day. So much so, that he found himself thinking more fondly of his polar adventures. 'Normally, I'm dealing with two risks. When I'm swimming in the Arctic, it could be a polar bear and the cold. In Antarctica, a leopard seal and the cold.' Crossing the Red Sea, though, was on a completely different level. 'You've got the burning hot sun every day. You've got these big container ships and oil tankers coming. I'm being thrown about by these waves. And I've got sharks below me,' he said.

The support boat used an electric shark repellent, but he had to stay close for it to work, which wasn't always easy. But then, as rapidly as the waves appeared, he reached the coast of continental Africa, and they were gone. Suddenly, he was back with the reefs – and their occupants. 'Little gold fish, parrot fish, the most amazing multi-coloured fish,' he said. 'It was such a stark reminder of what we could lose.'

31 What do we learn about Pugh in the first paragraph?

- A** He does his best to avoid depressing sights.
- B** He hopes that others will take up his sport.
- C** He knows little about the animals he has observed.
- D** He has mixed feelings about certain sea creatures.

32 What is said about climate change in the second paragraph?

- A** Pugh wants people to be in no doubt that it is occurring.
- B** It only has an effect in certain parts of the world.
- C** There are more aspects of it to investigate.
- D** It is an issue that Pugh has only focused on recently.

33 In the third paragraph, what does Pugh suggest he was affected by?

- A** the lack of interest in the oceans shown by many countries' governments
- B** the harm done to the coastal environment by extensive building work
- C** the power that some people have over what happens to the environment
- D** the conditions he faced compared with the comfortable accommodation on shore

34 The writer uses the word 'resilience' to describe

- A** the ability that some reefs have to recover.
- B** a problematic characteristic of some reefs.
- C** how damage to some reefs is slowing down.
- D** what happens to some reefs in warmer water.

35 What does Pugh say about his experience of swimming in polar seas?

- A** He felt particularly threatened by the wildlife.
- B** The variety of things he saw kept his mind occupied.
- C** There were relatively few things to worry about.
- D** It was fairly good preparation for the Red Sea.

36 What feeling is expressed in the final paragraph?

- A** surprise at the unpredictable weather conditions
- B** concern about the uncertain future of the oceans
- C** relief to see that the reefs were looking so healthy
- D** disappointment with the protection provided from sharks

Test 1

Part 6

Questions 37–42

Read a magazine article about birds of prey – birds which catch other birds and animals – called red kites. Six sentences have been removed from the text below. For each question, choose the correct answer. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.
Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Birds of prey: red kites in England

During the time of the 16th-century English playwright William Shakespeare, a common sight on London’s streets was the red kite, one of my favourite birds. These birds were so common, in fact, that Shakespeare referred to London as a ‘city of kites and crows’ and wrote about their rather unusual habit of constructing their nests using strange objects – including items of washing hanging outside to dry.

Since that time, the number of red kites has declined dramatically. However, following a recent reintroduction programme in England, there are now almost 2,000 breeding pairs in the country. **37** And that’s a tremendous achievement.

My interest in red kites began several years ago when, for some reason, my garden began to be inspected every morning by a pair of these magnificent birds. Usually, the first indication that they are around is the sight of them high up in the sky, having a long, cool look at me and my garden. I’ve observed the kite more closely than any other bird of prey, so I’m totally familiar with its movements. **38** And the amazing shallow M-shape it makes with its wings as it does this is also very distinctive. But only when it approaches do you realise it’s actually much bigger than it seems from a distance.

As for how it looks, its body is extraordinarily beautiful, with sleek bronze feathers and powerful

claws. **39** What’s more, if you were ever lucky enough to get close to it, you’d be able to observe its eyes: cloud-pale and sharp.

And on windy days, I’ve even seen red kites playing, when I’ve been in my study. One of the pair living close to me often begins a long, slow ascent, in which each hard-fought wingbeat is a steep, deep movement. Then at what appears to be a completely random height, it goes into what seems to be a freefall dive. **40** This involves the outermost wing feathers making constant tiny adjustments, lifting and lowering. Watching it all, I marvel at the bird’s mastery of flight.

However, this flexibility in its wings is nothing compared with the workings of the kite’s very impressive tail, which has two parts, similar to the tail of a plane, and helps to control direction. At times, these almost seem to operate independently. The right part goes off at an angle while the left holds still. **41** There are also moments of perfect symmetry when the two parts are spread flat like the pages of an open book.

I know of no birds that represent the wonders of nature as effectively as red kites. **42** However, views of this bird are now far more widely accessible than that, thanks largely to what may turn out to be the most successful, most exhilarating reintroduction of our lifetimes; it seems we can all catch kite fever.

Reading and Use of English

- A** Yet despite appearances, from my observation point I can see it steering a perfectly controlled course.
- B** Watching this miracle of the world of wildlife was once reserved only for those who lived in remote locations.
- C** There's that strange way it flies, for one thing, so slow it's almost wobbling in the air at times.
- D** As a result, they're more frequently seen these days, compared with even 30 years ago.
- E** Though the local starlings, much smaller birds, usually sound the alarm at signs of danger, they make no fuss when the kite shows up.
- F** Sometimes when the light picks up the underside of its wings, as it rests high up in trees ready for its next flight, you also catch a flash of white.
- G** And these roles can be reversed in an instant.