

Listening (20 min – 20 points)

Task 1. *Listen to the interview, and for questions 1-5 choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.*

1. Ian had an accident while
A) mountain climbing. B) skiing. C) rock climbing.
2. Most recently, Ian
A) skied across an Alaskan glacier.
B) cycled through the Rockies.
C) crossed the Nevada desert.
3. Ian founded
A) a charity. B) a company. C) a self-help group.
4. Ian gives lectures on
A) disabilities. B) latest technology. C) motivation.
5. Ian's life and work have been recorded in the form of a
A) feature film. B) documentary film. C) biography.

Task 2. *You will hear a woman called Jane Robertson giving a talk about a language called Gaelic. For questions 6-15, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.*

Gaelic

Jane is the (6) of a Gaelic school in Scotland. Today approximately (7) people speak Gaelic in Scotland. If fewer than (8) people speak a language, it is considered dead. Jane would like to see one-third of people under 25 speaking and (9) Gaelic. If very young children are exposed to a language (10), they can learn it most effectively. Some parents sent their children to Jane's school for (11) reasons. Jane says that two character traits of bilingual children are being more (12) and tolerant. Jane feels very (13) about the future of Gaelic. Jane says that what is needed is help from (14) With a lot of effort, nowadays 80% of children learn Welsh as a (15) language.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

Reading (30 min – 20 points)

Task 1. You are going to read an article about the artist Ron Mueck. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Artist at work: Ron Mueck

It has taken Ron Mueck two years to complete three new sculptures for the show at Foundation Cartier in Paris next week. This he has done almost completely silently.

Ron Mueck doesn't speak when he is working. He listens to other people talking on the radio, and to the background of noises that filter in from the north London street outside: sirens, footsteps on the pavement, buses. This is what he has always done, but his army of fans and critics wouldn't know that, because Mueck doesn't give interviews, won't talk about his influences or his processes, and eschews the media, leaving his work to speak for itself.

Which it does in the form of giant sculptures of humans crowding into gallery spaces (like *A Girl*, an enormous new-born), or shrunken versions of people in perfect proportion (*Dead Dad*, a small sculpture of his deceased father, sprouting Mueck's own hair). Whatever their size, his works become vortexes, sucking all the air into their clay and resin frames, their force to be lifelike uncannily strong. They are less sculptures than versions of humanity, with their flabby folds of skin, hair sticking out of pores, hard toenails and tangible sheens of sweat.

Now, for the first time, the public can see Mueck at work, despite his intense regard for privacy. With the strict clause that there would be no interview, the artist allowed his friend and colleague, the photographer Gautier Deblonde, to film him making his new sculptures. Deblonde's documentary – his first, and showing as part of the new exhibition – will cause rumblings in the art world and beyond: his access to Mueck is unprecedented and spans two years, a couple of days each week in the studio. Deblonde worked on the film like a photographer – static camera on tripod – and never created scenarios, just filmed Mueck working.

'What struck me was how swiftly they come alive,' he says of the sculptures. 'The first part is the clay, and this is almost like the negative of his work: all the details you need to have a human body alive. That's the first half of the film, and he's very slow – because he knows when he gets that right, then the sculpture will be good.' Mueck uses the clay as a mould for the resin, which makes the final sculpture: the clay is destroyed in this process, so it has to be absolutely perfect, or he has to start all over again. Deblonde recalls days of watching Mueck prepare the clay, making what seemed like the same movement again and again. 'It was quite meditative.' This is the core of Mueck's process, hence the solitary daily task – not until the mould is cast does he allow others to lend a hand. The resin, Deblonde says, makes the sculpture more human, but by then Mueck has already given it life: it already has its own feeling and attitude.

There has always been a deep poignancy to Ron Mueck's sculptures, with their microscopically detailed imperfections. His newest works are just as arresting in their immediacy. In one, *Mother and Baby*, a mother wearily carries shopping bags, her expression blank, as the infant, foetal within the confines of her buttoned-up coat, stares up at her. *Young Couple*, capturing a man's sinister grip on his companion's wrist, draws attention to a silent moment of pain, and suggests a world of it beyond. And then the older pair, *Couple on the Beach*, where imperfections of age are writ large across their epic proportions – yet within a skin that is terrifyingly alive, there is a sense of peace in their expressions.

'Fathoming out Ron's technique is still a challenge,' Deblonde says of his documentary. It's far from a step-by-step instruction manual, he cautions. It's a film about time spent, about the smell and feel of a workshop, about some kind of metamorphosis through remarkable endeavour. 'You see him giving his all, working on a piece of clay and suddenly this person appears. Somehow, out of his hands, he manages to create an object – alive.'

1. What do we learn about Ron Mueck in the first paragraph?
 - A) He sometimes becomes frustrated by the noise outside his studio.
 - B) He will only speak to certain members of the media.
 - C) He prefers not to give an explanation of his artwork.
 - D) He listens to the critics and takes heed of their opinions.
2. In paragraph two, what does the writer say about Ron Mueck's sculptures?
 - A) They are all impressive due to their enormous scale.
 - B) Their size gives them a totally abstract quality.
 - C) They are made using a special technique which adds air to the clay.
 - D) They depict people in a remarkably realistic manner.
3. What are we told about the documentary?
 - A) It will have an impact on a wide variety of people.
 - B) Gautier Deblonde found the restrictions on filming frustrating.
 - C) Only static images of Mueck at work will be used in it.
 - D) It is surprising as very few other photographers have had the chance to film Mueck.
4. In paragraph four, what does the writer say about Mueck's process?
 - A) Sometimes the clay is completely destroyed and Mueck has to begin again.
 - B) The initial stages are painstaking because attention to detail is crucial.
 - C) The clay and resin are mixed together to give the sculpture a realistic form.
 - D) It is only possible to see any lifelike quality when the sculpture is completed.
5. In paragraph five, the writer explains that
 - A) sometimes the defects in Mueck's sculptures detract from their strength.
 - B) Mother and Baby celebrates the joys of motherhood.
 - C) Young Couple conjures up a wider sense of anguish.
 - D) Couple on the Beach is so large that some might find it frightening.
6. In paragraph six, what do we learn about Deblonde's documentary?
 - A) It enables people to gain a full understanding of Mueck's method of working.
 - B) It goes some way towards capturing the essence of Mueck's work and methods.
 - C) It fails to illustrate the struggle Mueck goes through when working.
 - D) It shows Mueck's creations taking form in a seemingly effortless fashion.

Task 2. You are going to read an article in which four people talk about projects to make their different towns more eco-friendly. For questions, 7-14, choose from the options (A-D). The options may be chosen more than once.

Which town...	
7	has a tree-planting scheme?
8	has seen a reduction in water usage?
9	has increased its number of cycle lanes?
10	has encouraged self-sufficiency at home?
11	has introduced town gardens for growing produce?
12	has encouraged energy-efficient buildings?
13	has limited the number of cars going into the city centre?
14	has managed to generate 100% renewable energy?

A

Well, in my town, there are a few new incentives that have made a welcome difference. A couple of years ago, we had a go at all that. You know, having a few places where everyone could grow their own food and cutting down on water use. It didn't seem to take off for some reason and they put an end to it, so now they've tried another approach. We have some special planting days when volunteers help to increase the tree population in parks. It's a lovely thing to do with the family and you feel like you're making a real difference. And rather than hopping on the bus, there are all these bike paths now, so it feels much safer. The good thing is that it's not only environmentally friendly, but it's also good for your own fitness, I'd love to be able to do it, but I actually work from home so it's a bit tricky.

B

I'm actually a town planner and what they've done in my local area is incredible. It's not been quick enough in my opinion, but hopefully they'll put pressure on the council before too long. There's still a severe lack of green areas in the centre, so I hope they'll look into this in the future. However, what we have done is manage to promote eco-friendly construction. The heating and design are modern and very effective. In addition, it's all locally sourced, so that's got to be good for the economy. We've managed to decrease the amount of water used in the town as a whole, which we're rather proud of. It's something like 20% down and we've raised awareness of the fact that we shouldn't waste water. There has been considerable investment in buses and trains as well, which has paid off. The key message is that we should be considerate and work towards the greater good of the community.

C

I'm only aware of what people tell me or what's been reported in the local paper. If I didn't read that, I wouldn't have a clue. Anyway, I read somewhere that we're running entirely on green power. I think that's something to brag about. But smog remains a problem. If they put to use a driving scheme, whereby some people could only drive on certain days, that would be a big improvement. In my opinion, they're scared of doing that because it wouldn't be popular with the public. The clear skies and fresh air would make it worthwhile, though. I try to cycle to work and do my bit. I have to go on the main road with the traffic though, so it puts me off. My friend told me about a new scheme where you grow your own food on public land and all the local people help out. I think, I'd prefer that to going to the supermarket!

D

The message here is very clear. It's all about not depending on outside help, for example, by growing your own vegetables. Fewer people here are reliant on supermarkets. This is an old market town, so we're not likely to get fancy new buildings with all the modern energy-saving stuff very soon. It would spoil the look of the place, to be honest. But they recently introduced a system that means only certain number plates can be in the centre on one particular day. It was criticised initially, but now people are starting to see the benefits of less traffic. When you're walking through the park in the centre, it's just more peaceful and you feel like you could actually be in the middle of the countryside. Alongside this, there has been an initiative for people to get fit on their way to work, like buying a bike at reduced cost to cycle there and back. It's really worth it.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

Use of English (30 min – 40 points)

Task 1. For questions 1-20, read the text below and use the word given in brackets to form a word or a grammar form that fits the gap. For empty gaps, think of ONE word which best fits each gap.

English students and culture shock

Culture shock is a feeling of (1) (**confuse**) experienced by someone visiting a new country and being confronted with an (2) (**familiar**) culture. It (3) (**experience**) by many of the thousands of students who leave home to study English in English-speaking country.

(4) (**this**) students have to cope (5) changes in weather, food, language and behaviour. Researchers (6) (**find**) that there are several stages of culture shock and that (7) (**adjust**) to life in a new country is an (8) (**go**) and gradual process.

Initially, students may feel (9) (**excite**) and delight at the new culture. They take (10) their language studies with enthusiasm and (11) significant progress. Once the (12) (**novel**) of being in a foreign place wears off, feeling of (13) (**anxious**), depression and homesickness may arise. (14) (**communicate**) problems, due to locals speaking too quickly and using strange idioms and slang, are also very common. (15) (**add**), stress may (16) (**cause**) by racial discrimination, (17) (**finance**) problems or safety concerns. During the next stage, the student is more realistic and (18) (**begin**) to accept the positive and negative aspects of both cultures. They begin to feel (19) home and realize that problems are also (20) (**learn**) opportunities.

Task 2. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. You cannot change the word in bold. Use from two to five words.

21. My advice is to accept the job.

WOULD

If _____ accept the job.

22. The teacher didn't think the joke was funny.

AMUSED

The teacher _____ the joke.

23. Actually, in my opinion, this is the best all-in-one printer on the market.

FAR

Actually, _____ concerned, this is the best all-in-one printer on the market.

24. My sister spends so long in the shower!

TAKES

My sister _____ a shower.

Task 3. For questions 25-29, choose the answer (A, B, C or D).

25. I couldn't make up my mind. I was caught between a _____ and a _____ place.
a) mountain tight b) stone tough c) rock hard d) block firm
26. She knocked over three vases and seems to be all _____.
a) toes b) limbs c) ankles d) thumbs
27. "Who is Jenny Cook?" "I have no idea. I've never heard _____ her."
a) of b) off c) from d) after
28. What part of the UK boasts its own flag with a red dragon on a green and white background?
a) Scotland b) Wales c) the Northern Ireland d) England
29. What was a real name of Lewis Carroll, the author of famous 'Alice in Wonderland'?
a) Charles Dickens b) Samuel Clemens c) Eric Blair d) Charles Dodgson
30. What was the first country in the world to issue a postage stamp?
a) the USA b) the UK c) Canada d) New Zealand
31. How did famous Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world, get its name?
a) It was named after an Englishman. b) It was named after an American.
c) It was named after a Welshman. d) It was named after an Australian.

Task 4. Read the text and fill in the gaps with the words given in the box. There are three extra words.

<i>freezing</i>	<i>fluctuations</i>	<i>under</i>	<i>below</i>	<i>climate</i>	<i>bare</i>	<i>bright</i>	<i>in</i>
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The Climate of Russia

Russia has a varied climate. Almost all of Russia is situated in the North Temperature Zone. The climate is continental; however, the (32) in temperature are greater than in other European countries. The extreme North is a cold (33) region – the tundra. For more than six months it is buried (33) snow. This region can be called the land of frozen rivers. In May the temperature begins to rise. The (34) night is succeeded by continuous daylight, when the sun does not sink (35) the horizon for several month.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

Writing (40 min – 20 points)

Your school wishes to establish a new club for the students. The new club has the goal of teaching and developing practical skills. You have been asked by the school director to propose what sort of a new club should be created and how beneficial it will be for the students.

Your proposal should:

- describe the new club;
- explain how it would teach and develop practical skills;
- suggest ways of encouraging participation.

Write your answer in 200-250 words.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.