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## Examination for the Enlistment of Soldiers in the Armed Forces of Malta

**Subject:** English

**Date:** 19 February 2020

**Time:** 09.00 – 10.00 (One hour)

**Instructions to candidates:**

- This examination paper consists of **THREE** sections: A, B and C. Read carefully each passage and then answer **ALL** the questions within each passage (there is a total of 50 questions).
- Each question contains four possible answers, but only **ONE** is correct.
- Enter your answers on the Answer Sheet provided. Mark **ONLY** the correct answer by using a pencil.

e.g. If answer C is selected, fill in the appropriate circle as shown below.

50.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input checked="" type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D
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- Each question carries two (2) marks.

## SECTION A

Read the passage carefully and then answer ALL the questions (from 1 to 15) that follow:

I have returned to my hometown of Wilson Creek after the absence of ten years.

So many things have changed around here. When I left Wilson Creek, there was a small pond on the right as you left town. They have filled in this pond, and they have built a large shopping mall there. A new post office has also been built just across from my old school.

There is a baseball stadium on the outskirts of Wilson Creek which has been changed completely. They have now added a new stand where probably a few thousand people could sit. It looks really great.

The biggest changes have taken place in the downtown area. They have pedestrianised the centre, and you can't drive there anymore. A European-style fountain has been built, and some benches have also been added along with a grassy area and a new street café.

My street looks just the same as it always has, but a public library has been built in the next street along. There used to be a great park there, but they have cut down all the trees, which is a pity. The library now has a large green area in front of it, but it's not the same as when the park was there.

Another improvement is the number of new restaurants that have opened in the town centre, and a Mexican restaurant has opened near my home. Which is where I am going tonight!

### Questions:

1. "My hometown" refers to
  - a) a town that is full of houses
  - b) the old neighbourhood
  - c) a place I enjoy going to
  - d) the council estate
  
2. Which word has the **opposite** meaning of "absence"?
  - a) now show
  - b) leave
  - c) presence
  - d) preference
  
3. 10 years is the same as
  - a) a quarter
  - b) an anniversary
  - c) a decade
  - d) a term

48. How did Ms. Smith contact the billboard owners?

- a) by writing a letter
- b) by email
- c) by using the telephone
- d) standing under the billboard

49. Where did the billboard owners get the picture of Felix?

- a) from the newspapers
- b) from the police station
- c) from Ms. Smith photo album
- d) from the city park

50. After a month had passed Felix was

- a) found
- b) not found
- c) in Ms. Smith's house
- d) at the police station

20 x 2 = 40 marks

Total: 100 marks

## END OF EXAMINATION PAPER

41. What colour was Felix?

- a) white
- b) black
- c) ginger
- d) brown

42. How high was the cat?

- a) about half a metre
- b) about three centimeters
- c) about thirty centimeters
- d) none of these

43. The policeman thought that Ms. Smith was reporting a missing

- a) child
- b) cat
- c) dog
- d) bird

44. Another word for **irritated** is

- a) angry
- b) helpful
- c) smiling
- d) understanding

45. The policeman told Ms. Smith to \_\_\_\_\_ the neighbourhood

- a) run
- b) visit
- c) ask around
- d) ask about

46. Give another word for **blow up**

- a) enlarge
- b) diminish
- c) colourful
- d) explode

47. Ms. Smith thought that a billboard would work \_\_\_\_\_ than an A4 piece of paper on a telephone pole

- a) worse
- b) better
- c) as well as
- d) none of these

4. Jake's school

- a) doesn't exist anymore
- b) has been built bigger
- c) is now the post office
- d) is to be found across from the post office

5. "Periphery" is the same as saying

- a) creek
- b) mall
- c) outskirts
- d) downtown

6. The baseball stadium has been

- a) demolished
- b) turned into a shopping mall
- c) improved
- d) left untouched

7. There are a \_\_\_\_\_ oranges left in the basket

- a) many
- b) little
- c) few
- d) much

8. Jake likes the new-look baseball stadium

- a) he does
- b) he doesn't
- c) he is undecided
- d) he doesn't say anything

9. It's only possible to reach the downtown area

- a) by bus
- b) by city tram
- c) on foot
- d) by taxi

10. The buildings in the centre of the town look

- a) much the same as they were
- b) European
- c) Asiatic
- d) like new modern blocks

11. "which is a pity" can be taken to mean
- a) it is quite a sad thing
  - b) it is a blessing
  - c) it is an advantage
  - d) it is a mercy
12. Jake's street
- a) is now unrecognisable
  - b) has new public buildings in it
  - c) hasn't changed much
  - d) is now a more modern version
13. Jake is
- a) in favour of how the park looks like now
  - b) thinks that the green area is fantastic
  - c) sad about the park being ruined
  - d) sad that they have removed the library
14. In the passage, a "green area" may be taken to be
- a) a forest
  - b) a tennis court
  - c) a garden with shrubs and flowers
  - d) an open space of wilderness
15. Jake is going to eat \_\_\_\_\_ food tonight.
- a) American
  - b) Mexican
  - c) Italian
  - d) Chinese

15 x 2 = 30 marks

- a) in the country
- b) in a cottage
- c) in a city
- d) near an airport

35. Ms. Smith was so worried that she called

- a) the doctor
- b) the teacher
- c) the library
- d) the policeman

36. The policeman asked her to \_\_\_\_\_ Felix.

- a) draw
- b) imitate
- c) describe
- d) match

37. The last time Ms. Smith saw Felix was

- a) at dinner time
- b) at noon
- c) in the morning
- d) after breakfast

38. Felix has beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ eyes

- a) blue
- b) hazel
- c) white
- d) green

39. The cat had \_\_\_\_\_ his teeth

- a) none
- b) some
- c) all
- d) broken

40. Felix left ear was

- a) perfect
- b) round
- c) square
- d) half missing

## SECTION C

Read the passage carefully and then answer ALL the questions (from 31 to 50) that follow:

The owner of a missing cat is asking for help. "My baby has been missing for over a month now, and I want him back so badly," said Ms. Smith, a fifty-six-year-old woman. Ms. Smith lives by herself near the city park. She said that Felix, her eight-year old cat, didn't come home for dinner more than a month ago, so she called the police.

When the policeman asked her to describe Felix, she told him that Felix had beautiful green eyes, had all his teeth but was missing half of his left ear, and was completely white. She then told the officer that Felix was about thirty centimeters high. A bell went off.

"Is Felix your child or your pet?" the officer suspiciously asked.

"Well, he's my cat," Ms. Smith replied.

"Lady, you're supposed to report missing PERSONS, not missing CATS," said the irritated policeman.

"Well, who can I report this to?" she asked.

"You can't. You have to ask around your neighbourhood or put up flyers," replied the officer.

Ms. Smith figured that a billboard would work much better than an A4 piece of paper on a telephone pole. There was an empty billboard at the end of her street just off the main road. The billboard had a phone number on it. She called that number, and they told her they could blow up a picture of Felix from Ms. Smith's photo album and put it on the billboard for all to see. They told her if it would cost only €250, a month. The month has passed, but Felix has not appeared.

### Questions:

31. The cat is

- a) found
- b) missing
- c) at home
- d) at work

32. The cat is

- a) young
- b) old
- c) a kitten
- d) very young

33. Ms. Smith was worried about Felix as he was

- a) not eating
- b) missing for over a month
- c) had an infection
- d) sleeping a lot

34. Ms. Smith lived

## SECTION B

Read the passage carefully and then answer ALL the questions (from 16 to 30) that follow:

It was early in the evening of the second day of Roger's search and he had almost given up hope.

"What's the use of continuing?" he thought. "All the people I've spoken to either can't help me or don't want to. Perhaps I'd better go home and forget all about it," he thought.

Just then he saw a small café across the street from a large garage. He was thirsty so he decided to go in for a cup of tea.

He noticed an old man sitting at one of the tables. The old man looked friendly and also had the hands of a car mechanic. They were large and there was black, dirty motor-oil under the nails. Roger sat down at the same table and got into conversation with him. He found out that the old man worked in the garage across the street and knew most of the other car-mechanics in town. Roger asked him if he had ever come across one with red hair and a broken nose. The old man thought for a few moments.

"There is only one person I know like that, but he isn't really a mechanic. He does small jobs over at Grey's Garage and I think he sells and buys used cars on the side as well," he said. Roger tried not to show his interest.

"Oh? You mean you aren't sure?" he asked.

"No, I'm not. All I know is that he seems to have a different car every week. Last week for instance, he had a family car and then, a few days ago, I saw him in an old sports car."

### Questions:

16. Roger had almost decided to give up because

- a) he was thirsty and wanted a cup of tea
- b) he was too tired to continue
- c) he wanted to go home
- d) nobody had helped him

17. Roger thought the old man might be a mechanic because

- a) the old man was in a café near a garage
- b) he was wearing a mechanic's clothes
- c) he had the hands of a car-mechanic
- d) someone said he was a car-mechanic

18. "What's the use.....? Roger thought.

- a) of continuing
- b) from continuing
- c) for continuing
- d) to continue

19. "Perhaps I'd better go home" means "I.....better go home".

- a) did
- b) would
- c) could
- d) had

20. The café was across the street.....a garage.

- a) from
- b) of
- c) to
- d) by

21. When Roger asked the old man a question, the old man.....for a few moments.

- a) was thinking
- b) thought
- c) has thought
- d) have thought

22. When the old man said he knew someone like that, Roger.....show interest.

- a) did not try
- b) did not try to
- c) tried not to
- d) tried not

23. Some of the mechanics did not want to help . They were.....to help.

- a) unable
- b) unwilling
- c) unwanted
- d) uneasy

24. The old man's hands were dirty. They were not.....

- a) proper
- b) neat
- c) pure
- d) clean

25. "Have you ever come across him?" means " Have you ever.....?"

- a) worked with him
- b) fallen over him
- c) met him
- d) fought with him

26. The mechanic spoke about a man who.....small jobs in a garage.

- a) made
- b) did
- c) worked
- d) handed

27. The man sold cars on the side. In other words, this.....

- a) was not honest
- b) was not his regular job
- c) was bad
- d) was not certain

28. Which of these verbs is found in the last paragraph?

- a) saw
- b) shouted
- c) slept
- d) jumped

29. Where did Roger meet the old man?

- a) At the restaurant
- b) At the cafe
- c) In a coffee-bar
- d) In a wine-bar

30. Choose a suitable title for the passage from the following:

- a) The Stolen Property
- b) The Search
- c) Ten Thieves
- d) The Gangster