

SECTION A

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

George is at the pet store, looking at what kind of pet he might want to get for his birthday. George asked if he could have a horse, but his parents said no because horses are too big.

First, he sees dogs and cats. Baby dogs are called puppies. Baby cats are called kittens. George likes them because they are easy to take care of and can play a lot, but they will get bigger. George wants a small pet.

Then George sees animals that have to live in a cage. He sees rabbits, guinea pigs, and mice. Mice are what you call more than one mouse. He likes these animals because they are small. Birds live in cages too. George sees a parrot and a canary. He likes them all, but he doesn't want to clean the cage.

George sees the animals in tanks. The tanks full of water have fish and turtles in them. He thinks about a goldfish but decides he likes the turtles more. There are also tanks with rocks and sand that have snakes, spiders, and scorpions, but George is afraid of them. George likes the turtles best, but they won't fit in the little fishbowls. Turtles need bigger tanks, so they can swim sometimes and hide sometimes.

George decides he wants to get a turtle for his birthday. He buys a book on how to take care of a turtle and a list of what types of turtles the store has.

Questions:

1. Where is George in the passage above?
 - a) At the farm
 - b) At the pet store
 - c) At the market
 - d) At the airport.
2. What was George looking for?
 - a) A pet for his birthday
 - b) A bike for his birthday
 - c) A fishing rod for his birthday
 - d) A painting set.
3. George asked if he could have a
 - a) snake
 - b) donkey
 - c) horse
 - d) guitar.
4. Why did his parents say 'No'?
 - a) Because horses are too big
 - b) Because horses eat a lot
 - c) Because horses need a lot of space
 - d) Because horses do not live in apartments.

50. The **personal pronoun** in the following sentence is

- a) They
- b) filled
- c) the
- d) sky.

20 x 2 marks = 40 marks

END OF EXAMINATION PAPER



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

2021

Subject: English

Time: 09.00 – 10.00 (One hour)

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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.

13. What did George decide to have for his birthday?
a) A lion
b) An eagle
c) A turtle
d) A parrot.
14. Why did George buy the book?
a) To know how to care for the turtle
b) To know how to talk to the turtle
c) To know how to make the turtle walk fast
d) To know how to colour the turtle.
15. Why do turtles need big tanks?
a) So they can dance
b) So they can build castles
c) So they can relax
d) So they can swim sometimes and hide sometimes

15 x 2 = 30 marks

34. In the mornings of the festival, the streets were
a) closed to the public
b) packed with people watching the processions
c) full of cars and heavy traffic
d) full of fireworks displays.
35. Choose the answer that **does not match** with the what you read in the text:
The author was impressed during the festival by
a) the amount of people present in the streets
b) the tasty food that the people were enjoying
c) the colours and loud bangs of the explosions
d) the number of armed policeman going around.
36. The festival
a) continued everyday till early morning
b) took place only in the afternoon
c) stopped by midnight
d) was held only in the weekends.
37. Explosives were being lit by
a) fireworkers only
b) enthusiastic young people only
c) experienced adults
d) everyone, irrespective of age.
38. At the end of the festival, the author
a) got used to the sound of explosives
b) was annoyed by the continuous sounds and noise
c) was injured during the fireworks display
d) protested against the loud bangs of the fireworks.
39. The *La mascleta* display was a show of
a) Valencian dresses
b) *churros* and *bunuelos*
c) small-scale structures
d) fireworks explosions.
40. The phrase '**breath taking fireworks display**' means
a) there was so much smoke that you almost choked
b) the display was very beautiful
c) the air was very heavy full of gunpowder smell
d) the air was toxic and you needed a mask to breathe.
41. This text can be considered as
a) narrative
b) descriptive
c) argumentative
d) biographical.

42. Which of the following is a **noun**:
- the
 - city
 - was
 - packed.
43. The verb '**calmed down**' is in the
- present tense
 - future tense
 - present continuous tense
 - past tense.
44. The superlative form of '**older**' is
- the older
 - the very older
 - eldest
 - the eldest.
45. The word '**flinching**' as used in the text means
- frightened
 - injured
 - shot
 - drunk.
46. The **negative** form of the verb 'could be seen' is
- not could be seen
 - could not be seen
 - could be not seen
 - could not seen be.
47. The word '**completely**' is
- a noun
 - a verb
 - an adjective
 - an adverb.
48. We say '**a crowd of people**'; for birds we use
- a herd
 - a school
 - a colony
 - a pack.
49. The opposite of '**coloured**' is
- discoloured
 - incoloured
 - uncoloured
 - miscoloured.

5. Why does George like dogs and cats?
- Because they can be trained to dance
 - Because they can sing
 - Because they can talk
 - Because they are easy to take care of.
6. What are baby dogs called?
- Kittens
 - Puppies
 - Fry
 - Cuddly.
7. What are baby cats called?
- Bunnie
 - Foals
 - Kittens
 - Puppies.
8. What do you call more than one mouse?
- Flight
 - Flock
 - Swarm
 - Mice.
9. Why does George like rabbits, guinea pigs and mice?
- He likes these animals because they are small
 - He likes these animals because they have fur
 - He likes these animals because they have four legs
 - He likes these animals because they run very fast.
10. Where do birds live?
- Birds live in a stable
 - Birds live under the ground
 - Birds live in cages
 - Birds live under the water.
11. What do the tanks full of water have in them?
- The tanks full of water have whales
 - The tanks full of water have fish and turtles
 - The tanks full of water have sea snakes
 - The tanks full of water have crocodiles.
12. What does George like best?
- George likes turtles best
 - George likes snakes best
 - George likes spiders best
 - George likes scorpions best.

21. In the passage fire **does not evoke** ONE of the following. Which?

- a) Fear
- b) Awe
- c) Happiness
- d) Grandeur.

22. Earth goes round on its axis. Which word shows this?

- a) Alert
- b) Revolves
- c) Rages
- d) Tread.

23. Instead of "inspires" one can use

- a) frightens
- b) kindles
- c) suspects
- d) asks.

24. According to the author water is a pleasure to watch

- a) not for too long
- b) always
- c) in summer
- d) from afar.

25. According to the author what happens when fire is uncontrollable?

- a) It makes a wonderful picture
- b) People gather to watch
- c) It destroys all it encounters
- d) The author tries to stop it.

26. The author uses the phrase "at times" to mean

- a) always
- b) frequently
- c) occasionally
- d) many times.

27. "Fiery" is an adjective derived from fire. What is the adjective derived from "earth"?

- a) Rural
- b) Aerial
- c) Terrain
- d) Earthy.

28. What do you think happens when watching a flowing river for a long time?

- a) One gets dizzy
- b) One gets bored
- c) One falls asleep
- d) One looks the other way.

29. What do "awesome", "pleasant" and "thrilling" have in common?

- a) All three are verbs
- b) All three are prepositions
- c) All three are adjectives
- d) All three are negatives.

30. What can flows of air do to the spread of fire?

- a) Hinder it
- b) Extinguish it
- c) Control it
- d) Aid it.

15 x 2 marks = 30 marks

SECTION C

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

LES FALLES - THE BEST FESTIVAL I EVER ATTENDED

As the city of Valencia has finally calmed down after a crazy week of festivities, I have finally had the time to reflect on my experience at the incredible festival of *Les Falles* (in Valencian, or *Las Fallas* in Spanish). The main festivities took place from the 15th to the 19th of March. The tradition is a celebration of Saint Joseph. It started as a feast day with small-scale structures being burnt but now, it has now evolved into an extravagant festival filled with huge papier-mâché sculptures, traditional Valencian dress, breath-taking firework displays, and, of course, a great deal of fire.

The celebrations were like nothing I had ever seen before. The city was packed with people! In the mornings, daily processions took place, with brass bands, live music and people in the most beautiful traditional Valencian dress. Each day *la mascletà* display took place in the main square, which is essentially a display of gunpowder explosions (similar to fireworks you would see at night). All of the explosions were perfectly timed, making unique loud bangs accompanied with intensely pigmented coloured smoke. Each night there were amazing firework displays. They filled the sky with vibrant colours and lights while the whole city watched with *churros* and *buñuelos* (fried dough) in hand. The partying went on until the early hours of the morning. Each night you would turn down a different street and find a new crowd of people dancing and enjoying the music and atmosphere.

Everyone from young children to older people could be seen letting off explosives, from small firecrackers to huge loud fireworks. This definitely took some getting used to, as every day the noise of firecrackers and fireworks would fill the streets. In the beginning I found myself flinching at every small sound. However, by the end it became completely normal and when the festival had finished the silent streets felt oddly unfamiliar.

(Adapted from *learningengliteens.com*)

Questions:

31. The author is reflecting on his experiences of this festival
 - a) before the festival started
 - b) when the festival ended
 - c) during the week of the festival
 - d) at the end of the year.
32. This festival was held to honour
 - a) St Joseph
 - b) the fireworks' workers
 - c) the local council of Valencia
 - d) the invention of fire.
33. Today this festival evolved as a
 - a) cultural festival
 - b) religious ceremony
 - c) fashion show of modern Valencian dress
 - d) brass bands' competition.

SECTION B

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

Fire is the only one of the elements that inspire awe. We breathe air, tread earth, bathe in water. Only fire do we approach with great caution. Besides it is only one of the elements that seems to be alert and alive, always worth watching.

We do not see the air we breathe – except perhaps in cold weather. We do not see the earth revolving. One does not stand in front of a tree watching it grow!

Water, when we get it in the form of a flowing river, is pleasant to watch for a while. But after some time its movements become tedious. Even the awesome spectacle of a raging sea such as in an Atlantic Storm to me is less thrilling than the spectacle of a bulding ablaze.

This is so because blazing fire inspires fear, awe, grandeur. We use the adjective "fiery" to indicate such things as faith, courage and even crave for destruction. Fire is savage, and at times, helped by favourable flows of air, it becomes totally uncontrollable till it destroys all in its path.

Questions:

16. Choose from the following a suitable title for the extract.
 - a) The elements
 - b) Fire
 - c) Great disasters
 - d) Fear.
17. We approach fire with caution because
 - a) it inspires fear in us
 - b) it cannot be felt
 - c) it doesn't float
 - d) it warms our bodies.
18. We bathe in water. This means that we use water
 - a) to drink
 - b) to put out fire
 - c) to wash in
 - d) to clean our clothes.
19. Why do we see the air we breathe in cold weather? Choose ONE answer.
 - a) Because of fear
 - b) Because we do not wear glasses
 - c) Because it's a clear day
 - d) Because of condensation.
20. Which of the following senses does the verb "watch" agree with?
 - a) Taste
 - b) Sight
 - c) Touch
 - d) Smell.