



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

September 2023

Subject: English

Date: 14th September 2023

Time: 09.00 – 10.30 (One hour and a half)

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Instructions to candidates:

- This examination paper consists of THREE sections: A, B and C. Read each text carefully and then answer ALL the questions for each text.
- 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.

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- Each question carries two (2) marks.

SECTION A

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

Travel Tips

Pack Wisely...

Travelling can be exciting yet challenging. Airlines have strict rules on luggage weight and size allowance and the items **they** allow in the cabin, so make sure you follow the basic rules. Here we include some tips to help you travel light but comfortably.

Select a suitable carry-on



Both this soft-shell suitcase and holdall measure 45 x 36 x 20cm. They fit on top of each other and are in line with the maximum hand luggage size set out by most airlines.

Maximise space in your carry-on

Using the 'rolling technique' saves space, allowing you to carry more. It has the added benefit of keeping your clothes wrinkle-free.



Alternatively, the 'square technique' saves time for those who despise packing. Simply fold your clothes into a square and then transfer them straight from your drawer into your suitcase when packing.



Subheading C



Nonflammable liquids and aerosols—including food, baby food, drinks, and toiletries—in quantities of 100ml or less are allowed. Also, all prescription medications, as well as other medical necessities, can be carried on board the aircraft in unspecified quantities. These items must be declared to officials when checking in prior to your security checks.

Sharp objects such as knives and scissors, flammables and sporting equipment such as baseball bats are prohibited on board. Unless purchased from duty-free and kept in a transparent bag, alcohol cannot be carried in your hand luggage.



46. Experts _____ that infrastructure is the biggest problem to using e-bikes in cities.
- do not believe
 - once thought
 - think
 - confirm
47. The roads in most cities are _____.
- not built for people who do not use cars.
 - well-equipped for e-bikes.
 - tailored to people with disabilities.
 - congested with people and bicycles.
48. 'People for bikes' is a nonprofit organisation that:
- sells e-bikes for safer roads.
 - promotes safer road conditions for e-bikes.
 - advertises e-bikes to have less traffic jams.
 - encourages competitions with e-bikes.
49. The nonprofit organisation _____ a guide in December.
- had published
 - published
 - publishes
 - will be publishing
50. Which one of the following best summarises the text?
- E-bikes are cheaper, easier to use than cars and are less harmful to the environment. They are more powerful and require less effort since they are operated with the help of a battery. The only problem is that roads in cities are not so safe for e-bikes.
 - E-bikes are a cheap and easy means of transportation in today's world. Although they have the same frame as a traditional bicycle, they are powerful. They are heavier too because of the battery. The fastest speed they can go is 14 miles per hour.
 - E-bikes have gained popularity because they reduce traffic jams. As a result, they are more environmentally friendly than cars and are operated with a battery. Fortunately, cities have the adequate infrastructure for e-bikes.
 - E-bikes are a cheaper and easier means of transportation than cars, but they cause harm to the environment. Although their features are similar to the traditional bicycle, they are heavier because of the battery. Many streets are unsafe for e-bikes.

20 x 2 marks = 40 marks

TOTAL: 100 marks

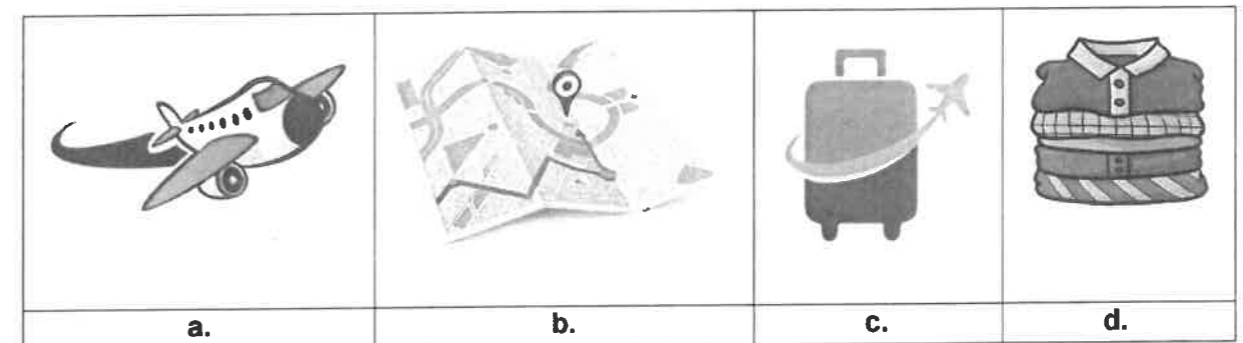
Contact us on travelcomfortably@bmail.com

END OF EXAMINATION PAPER

38. **They** encourage you to go outside... What does the word 'They' in bold refer to?
- Cars
 - Cyclists
 - E-bikes
 - Traditional bicycles
39. The writer of this article is:
- in favour of e-bikes.
 - against e-bikes.
 - indifferent to e-bikes.
 - in favour of traditional bicycles.
40. The best choice for subheading A is
- Advantages of an e-bike
 - Disadvantages of an e-bike
 - How an e-bike works
 - Different models of e-bikes
41. E-bikes are:
- the same as traditional bicycles.
 - faster, heavier, and more powerful than traditional bikes.
 - faster, lighter, and more powerful than traditional bikes.
 - faster, lighter, and cheaper than traditional bikes.
42. The pedal assist in an e-bike:
- makes it easier for the rider to pedal faster for longer.
 - makes it harder for the rider to pedal faster for longer.
 - makes it easier for the rider to charge the battery.
 - depends on the weight of the bike and the rider.
43. The fastest an e- bike can go is:
- 16 kilometres per hour.
 - 22 kilometres per hour.
 - 32 kilometres per hour.
 - 45 kilometres per hour.
44. ...*less physical exertion*. **Exertion** means:
- strength.
 - exhaustion.
 - activity.
 - effort.
45. Which feature of an e-bike makes it easier for people with disabilities to use an e-bike?
- The battery
 - The pedal assist
 - The seat
 - The strong wheels

Questions:

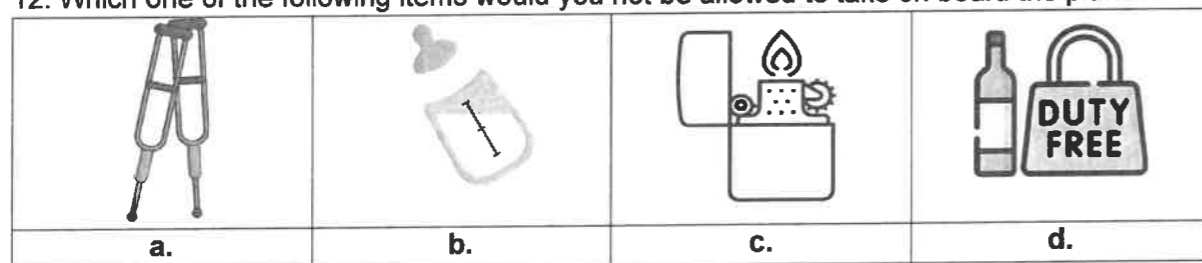
- This text
 - tells a story.
 - makes suggestions.
 - describes suitcases.
 - gives instructions.
- People interested in this text might
 - be travelling somewhere soon.
 - be looking for different types of holidays.
 - be buying clothes before a holiday.
 - have just returned from a holiday.
- This text is
 - an article.
 - a letter.
 - a leaflet.
 - an advert.
- Which of the following is a fact the writer mentions in this text?
 - Travelling can be exciting...
 - Airlines have strict rules on luggage weight...
 - ...make sure you follow the basic rules.
 - ...to help you travel light but comfortably
- What does the word 'they' in bold in the first line refer to?
 - Luggage
 - Items
 - Rules
 - Airlines
- Which picture best describes the text?



- Select a **suitable** carry-on. **Suitable** means...
 - comfortable.
 - affordable.
 - acceptable.
 - valuable.

8. Why are the two carry-on bags recommended?
- They are light and soft.
 - They both have wheels.
 - They have the same measurements.
 - They are the largest allowable size.
9. What is the **extra** advantage of folding your clothes using the 'rolling technique'?
- It avoids creasing your clothes.
 - It saves time when packing.
 - You can pack as many items as you like.
 - Your clothes do not get dirty.
10. The 'square technique' is especially recommended to people who
- are packing for the first time.
 - enjoy packing neatly.
 - dislike packing intensely.
 - pack for a large family.
11. The most appropriate choice for Subheading C is
- Items not allowed
 - Items allowed
 - Health and Safety
 - Food and Drink

12. Which one of the following items would you not be allowed to take on board the plane?



13. Food, drinks and toiletries are only allowed if
- they are not liquids, and aerosols.
 - they do not exceed the liquid limit.
 - they are used for medicinal purposes.
 - officials are informed about them.
14. If you have any medical items which exceed the liquid limit, you have to inform
- the airline by calling them.
 - the flight attendant on the plane.
 - officials during security checks.
 - officials before security checks.
15. For more information, you can
- send an email.
 - call the airline.
 - visit the website.
 - visit the travel agent.

15 x 2 marks = 30 marks

Notwithstanding this, the national nonprofit organisation, People For Bikes, has not given up. It enthusiastically campaigns for safer speeds, protected bike lanes, traffic reduction, and more inclusive road planning to make cities more bike-friendly. Look out for the organisation's guide this coming December!

Adapted from <https://www.nationalgeographic.com>

Questions:

31. The title of this text implies that electric bikes
- have been a hope for a better world.
 - are a hope for a better world.
 - might be a hope for a better world.
 - should have been a hope for a better world.
32. ... *the future of green transportation*? This means that in the future, e-bikes will be:
- painted all over in green.
 - driven on rough natural terrain.
 - worse for the environment.
 - beneficial to the environment.
33. The text mainly:
- describes e-bikes and their advantages.
 - describes the increase of e-bikes around the world.
 - advertises a particular brand of e-bikes.
 - teaches you how to use an e-bike.
34. Which tab would you click on to read this online article?
- Politics.
 - Environment.
 - History.
 - Sport.
35. On this website, you cannot:
- buy an item.
 - look for other articles.
 - donate money.
 - get in touch with the writers.
36.*whizzing through the world*. **Whizzing** means:
- speeding.
 - sliding.
 - jumping.
 - strolling.
37. E-bikes have
- remained the same.
 - changed slowly for the better.
 - changed quickly for the better.
 - changed slowly for the worse.

SECTION C

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



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Are electric bikes the future of green transportation?

BY Elaina Zachos

Nearly everything we do contributes to our carbon footprint. However, a two-wheeled solution is **whizzing** through the world at 32 kilometres an hour. For years, electric bikes or e-bikes were bulky, inconvenient and expensive machines with limited battery life. Gradually, that has improved, and e-bikes are now lighter, more attractive, and more powerful than ever before. In fact, they now provide an alternative to cars since they are an easier and cheaper means of transportation in our world today with the added bonus that you don't need to be a cyclist or physically fit to ride one. **They** encourage you to be active and in the process, you would be shrinking your carbon footprint and reducing traffic congestion. Above all, *they're fun!*



SUBHEADING A

E-bikes have the same parts as your traditional bicycles: frames, seats, handlebars, and wheels. However, they differ in their power and speed. The speed of a non-electric bike relies on the rider's physical strength and stamina. Casual cyclists can pedal at 16 to 22 kilometres per hour, depending on the landscape and weight of the bike and the rider. E-bikes, however, work with batteries, making them heavier. Some models have a pedal assist system with a motor to increase pedalling power. As a result, the maximum speed an e-bike can reach is 45 kilometres per hour, which is comparable to the speed of a motorbike.

Since they are battery-operated, e-bikes let you enjoy most of the benefits of biking, minus the sweat because they require less physical exertion than traditional bikes. The pedal assist can encourage riders to bike further, and more often than they would on a traditional bike, leading to more exercise in the long run. This feature also makes riding more accessible for older riders and individuals with disabilities.

PEDALLING INTO THE FUTURE

It has been established that e-bikes are a powerful tool on the road to a more environmentally friendly world. When it replaces trips made by a car, an individual e-bike can reduce carbon emissions by 225 kilogrammes each year. That's equal to the emissions produced by one passenger flying economy from Malta to Italy. Unfortunately, experts feel the biggest problem to adopting e-bikes on a large scale is infrastructure as most cities don't have pedestrian-friendly streets, especially in certain neighbourhoods which have no bicycle lanes.

SECTION B

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

One day, at dawn, Prince Llewellyn went hunting in Dovey forest. He was cross because his favourite hunting dog Gelert was nowhere to be seen, and even crosser when, without Gelert, the whole day went by without the huntsmen catching anything.

When it grew dark, Llewellyn and his men rode home. As they went into the stable yard, the dog Gelert slunk out to meet them. His ears were flat against his head, his tail dropped, he cowered along the ground on his belly, and his muzzle and jaws were red with blood.

With a sinking heart, Llewellyn remembered his one-year-old son. He'd been playing happily in his cradle when the huntsmen left. Llewellyn ran upstairs to the baby's bedroom, and the dog Gelert cringed after him.

The room was in shambles. The cradle was overturned, rugs and curtains were torn and scattered, and everywhere was stained with fresh blood. Llewellyn rounded on the dog. "You murdered my only son!" he shouted, and in a single stroke drew his sword and stabbed Gelert to the heart.

The dog gave a last, dying whimper. There was an answering giggle from under one of the torn-down curtains. Llewellyn snatched the curtain away, and found his baby son alive, playing happily with a handful of bricks.

Beside the baby was the blood-stained, torn body of a wolf. It had crept into the baby's bedroom in search of prey, and Gelert the hunting-dog had fought it and killed it to save his young master's life.

Legend has it that Llewellyn never spoke again because of a broken heart. Full of grief for his dog, he buried him by the river outside the castle walls. The grave, which is a huge stone with Gelert's name engraved on it, is still there today for tourists to see. It can be found in a small village called 'Beddgelert' (Gelert's grave) in north-west Wales.

Adapted from <https://www.historic-uk.com/>

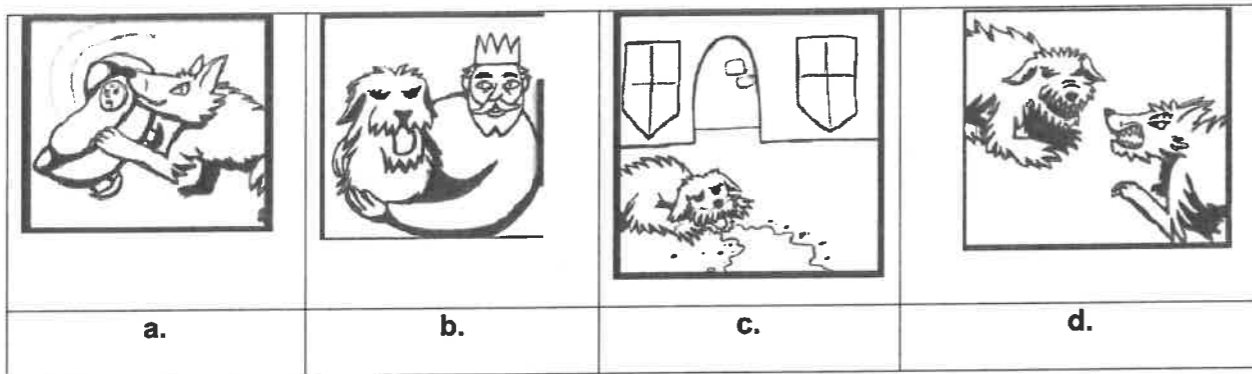
Questions:

16. What is the best title for this text?
 - a. The mystery at Dovey Forest
 - b. Gelert and the baby
 - c. Llewellyn and his huntsmen
 - d. The empty cradle
17. This text
 - a. gives directions.
 - b. describes a place.
 - c. narrates a story.
 - d. gives instructions.
18. What time did Prince Llewellyn leave to go hunting?
 - a. At sunrise
 - b. Mid-morning
 - c. Afternoon
 - d. At sunset

19. The first thing that made Prince Llewellyn angry was that he
- couldn't go hunting.
 - got lost in the forest.
 - didn't have his dog.
 - didn't catch anything.

20. Prince Llewellyn went hunting
- on his own.
 - with other dogs.
 - with his son.
 - with other men.

21. Which picture best describes the dog when Prince Llewellyn returned to the castle?



22. What did Prince Llewellyn think Gelert had done?
- Played with his son
 - Killed his son
 - Hunted other animals
 - Killed a wolf

23. In reality, what did Gelert do?
- Played with his son
 - Killed his son
 - Hunted other animals
 - Killed a wolf

24. Prince Llewellyn reacted by
- stroking the dog's back.
 - stabbing the dog.
 - killing the wolf.
 - shouting at the dog.

25. When Prince Llewellyn went into the bedroom, the baby was
- hidden.
 - injured.
 - in the cradle.
 - not there.

26. When the dog whimpered, the baby was
- crying.
 - laughing.
 - screaming.
 - feeding.

27. At the end, Prince Llewellyn felt very
- sad about his dog.
 - bitter towards his dog.
 - angry at the wolf.
 - cross with his son.

28. Beddgelert is the name of a
- country.
 - grave.
 - legend.
 - village.

29. Gelert's grave
- does not really exist.
 - can be visited.
 - is in Dovey forest.
 - was destroyed.

30. Gelert will always be remembered for being
- an energetic dog.
 - a playful dog.
 - a loyal dog.
 - a good hunting dog.

15 x 2 marks = 30 marks