



# **Examination for the Enlistment of Soldiers in the Armed Forces of Malta (Regular Force) September 2024**

**Subject: English**  
**Date: 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
**Time: 09.00 – 10.30 (One hour and a half)**

## **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.
- It is recommended that candidates mark **ONLY** the correct answer initially in pencil to allow for any potential changes in answers. Candidates are then requested to mark the final answer in black or blue ink.

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

50.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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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:

### Number of Stonehenge visitors

Year	Number of Visitors
1990	687,000
2000	790,000
2010	1,023,000
2020	1,300,000

### Theories and Folklore

**A. Stonehenge's sound**  
Ancient Britons did not have the scientific explanations that we do now. Stonehenge may have been a way for them to experiment with sound waves.

**B. Arthurian legend**  
Legend goes that after 300 British noblemen were slaughtered, the wizard Merlin used his magic to whisk the heavy stones from Ireland to England to honour them with a memorial.

**C. Teambuilding exercise**  
Around 4,000 people may have gathered to build Stonehenge. This may have been a bonding experience while doing something productive.

**D.** \_\_\_\_\_  
Skeletons found at Stonehenge showed signs of illness. This indicates that the site may have been a healing retreat for these sick Britons.

## TITLE

Built nearly 5000 years ago, Stonehenge is full of mysteries waiting to be uncovered. Here are some interesting details about this prehistoric megalithic structure on Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire, England, two miles (3 km) west of Amesbury.

Duration: Approx. 6 hours  
 From £78.85

## Why?

A recent research report has revealed that Stonehenge was a massive burial ground. Bone parts belonging to a possible 63 individuals were found this year.

Who says ancient people didn't have any fun? Research also revealed that Stonehenge was once an open-air theatre with thousands of people **gathering** for a good time!

Ancient astronomers may have used Stonehenge as a giant calendar. Experts claim that five giant stone pillars predict eclipses of the moon and sun.





To explore this must-see monument and World Heritage site, contact Golden Tours:

### Contact Us

+123-456-7890  
 hello@goldentours.com  
 www.goldentours.co.uk

**Questions:**

1. This text is
  - a) an article.
  - b) a report.
  - c) an advert.
  - d) a letter.
  
2. This text
  - a) narrates a story.
  - b) describes landmarks.
  - c) gives information.
  - d) makes suggestions.
  
3. Readers interested in this text are
  - a) studying about art and drama in England.
  - b) concerned about the preservation of historical sites.
  - c) curious about the development of important landmarks.
  - d) interested in visiting cultural places in England.
  
4. Over the past thirty years, the number of tourists visiting Stonehenge has
  - a) remained unchanged.
  - b) decreased rapidly.
  - c) increased slightly.
  - d) grown significantly.
  
5. The word '**we**', in bold and underlined in the text, refers to
  - a) ancient Britons.
  - b) readers.
  - c) ancestors.
  - d) astronomers.
  
6. A legend associated with Stonehenge claims that the stones were
  - a) built by giants after a war.
  - b) used to communicate with people abroad.
  - c) brought from Ireland by magic.
  - d) a monument to commemorate a king.
  
7. Which icon best describes paragraph C?

			
a.	b.	c.	d.

8. The most appropriate title for subheading D is
- A place for recovering
  - The rise of travel sickness
  - Herbal properties
  - Victims of war
9. The bone parts found this year
- confirm that Stonehenge was used as a cemetery.
  - might show that Stonehenge was used as a cemetery.
  - question whether Stonehenge was used as a cemetery.
  - prove that Stonehenge was a place to experiment with sound.
10. Another suitable word for 'gathering', in bold and underlined in the text, is
- concentrating.
  - meeting.
  - working.
  - collecting.
11. Some believe that Stonehenge was used to
- forecast the weather in Wiltshire.
  - track the movements of the sun and moon.
  - make loud sounds on windy days.
  - mark the places where people could be buried.
12. Golden Tours do NOT provide any details about their
- contact number.
  - email address.
  - website address.
  - social media page.
13. What is the most suitable title for this text?
- Golden Tours UK: Stonehenge
  - Reasons to visit Stonehenge
  - The Legends Behind Stonehenge
  - Stonehenge: Then and Now
14. Which of the following sentences is true about Stonehenge?
- It is an ancient monument, and its purpose is still a mystery.
  - It has recently been built to be used as a temple.
  - It was built by ancient astronomers for stargazing.
  - Its main purpose was to put up theatrical performances.
15. The text does NOT give information about
- the length of the tour of Stonehenge.
  - the location of Stonehenge.
  - the price of the tour of Stonehenge.
  - what is included in the tour to Stonehenge.

**15 x 2 marks = 30 marks**

## SECTION B

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

It was a wet and windy night. Only a snake would choose to be away from shelter on such a night. And that is why only they saw the gleaming green light pouring down from the black sky.

We chickens saw nothing. How could we? There are no windows in the chicken shed. If we had windows, our lives could not be ruled by the electric light that decides when we wake, sleep and lay our eggs. Later, some of the hens by the door said that they'd heard the soft hum of the engines. But the rest of us think they were boasting. On that black night, the spaceship landed without a sound. And it was not until the shed door flew open that most of us chickens woke with a squawk to see little green men.

And they spoke perfect Chicken. Subsequently, we found out they spoke Pig and pretty well everything. It's one of the ways in which they are 'superior'. They can speak any language they happen to meet. Not that they were polite with it.

'Chickens!' said the greenest groaning.

'Travel a frillion miles, and what do you find? A chicken!'

The others flicked the latches of our cage doors with their willowy green fingers.

'Out!' they yelled. 'Make room! The party's over!'

The party's over? We chickens couldn't believe our luck. We'd been locked in those cages since we were born. Nothing to do. You can't even stretch your wings. You just stand there on a wire rack for your whole life. And the one thing they want you to do - laying your egg - you'd rather do in private.

I can't describe to you the din as we all scrambled unsteadily for the door.

The little green men were even ruder now. 'Look at them! Twisted feet. Bare patches all over. And look at their beaks!'

'Disgusting!'

'Leave the door open as you go. This shed needs fresh air.'

We had never smelled fresh air. We weren't going to hang around shutting the shed door.

'Hurry up. Out of those cages! We need them for others.'

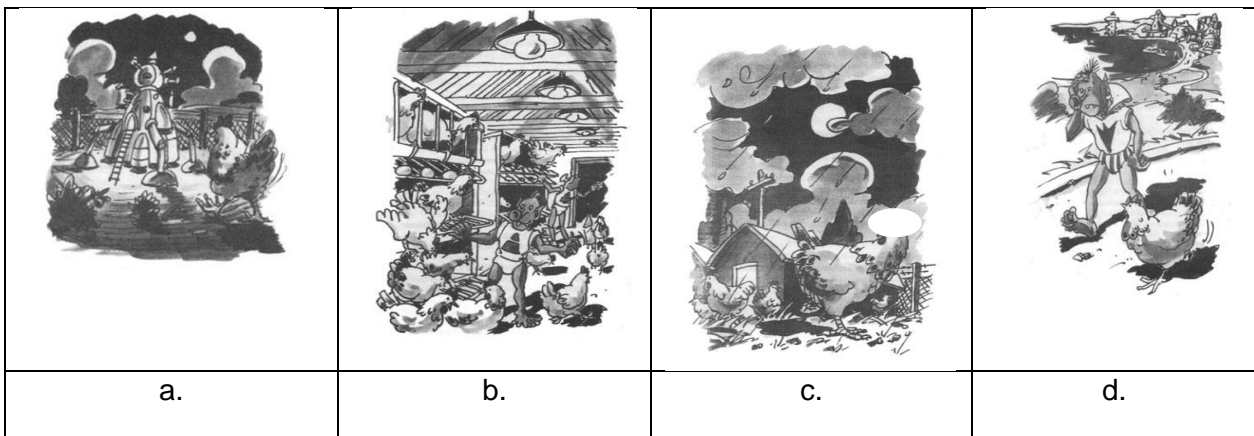
With one last shudder and a flutter, I was off.

*Adapted from: The Chicken Gave It To Me by Anne Fine*

**Questions:**

16. What is the best title for this text?
- a) The alien's story
  - b) The chicken's tale
  - c) A narrow escape
  - d) A day on the farm
17. The aim of this text is mainly to help us readers understand how
- a) chickens feel towards hens.
  - b) aliens behave when they come to earth.
  - c) aliens feel when they live on a farm.
  - d) badly chickens are treated by humans.
18. There were so few animals outside on the night the aliens came because
- a) of the stormy weather.
  - b) all the animals were locked inside.
  - c) the animals were afraid of the aliens.
  - d) it was too hot for the animals.
19. Who saw the green light?
- a) The chickens
  - b) The snakes
  - c) The hens
  - d) The aliens
20. What conditions the chickens' daily routine?
- a) The farmer
  - b) The aliens
  - c) Daylight
  - d) The bulb
21. The chickens
- a) looked up to the hens.
  - b) tried to imitate the hens.
  - c) didn't believe the hens.
  - d) were afraid of the hens.
22. The aliens thought they were '**superior**'. The word **superior**, in bold and underlined in the text, means
- a) worse.
  - b) having superpowers.
  - c) proud.
  - d) better.
23. The most useful thing the aliens could do was
- a) capture different animals.
  - b) be friendly to other animals.
  - c) speak different languages.
  - d) travel to different planets.

24. When they saw the chickens, the little green men
- were pleased to find them.
  - pitied them for being in that state.
  - were afraid of them and their beaks.
  - ridiculed them as they expected better.
25. The phrase '**The others**', in bold and underlined in the text, refers to the
- snakes.
  - chickens.
  - aliens.
  - hens.
26. The aliens thought that the chickens
- enjoyed their time in the shed.
  - hated their time in the shed.
  - really wanted to leave the shed.
  - were afraid of them.
27. The reason why the chickens had twisted feet was because of
- their huge body weight.
  - the way they walked.
  - their living conditions.
  - the way the aliens treated them.
28. Why were the chickens so keen to get outside?
- It was their first time outside of the shed.
  - They always enjoyed their time outside.
  - They wanted to escape from the aliens.
  - They usually had their food outside.
29. The aliens say they need the cages. What do you think they are going to use the cages for?
- To capture more animals.
  - To live in them.
  - To capture human beings.
  - To grow their plants.
30. Which picture best describes this text?



15 x 2 marks = 30 marks

## SECTION C

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

 **NATIONAL CAREERS SERVICE** 

EXPLORE CAREERS	SKILLS ASSESSMENT	FIND A COURSE	CAREERS ADVICE	CONTACT US
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### Armed Forces Careers

The Armed Forces include the British Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Navy. Together, they're responsible for the protection and safety of the United Kingdom (UK). They're also involved in peacekeeping and humanitarian aid especially when natural disasters strike.

There are hundreds of different Armed Forces careers. It's possible to see the world in many jobs you can do in civilian life, for example, a chef, a nurse or an engineer. Lots of other roles, like tank crew or military intelligence specialists, can only be found in the forces.

And don't worry. For most jobs, you do not need qualifications. Wherever you start, you'll have the chance to:

- build a career
- move to different local locations in the UK
- get more qualifications
- move up through the ranks.

When you join the Armed Forces, you commit to a length of service. This can be from 3.5 to 6 years, depending on which of the forces you want to join. Of course, each of the armed forces has its own careers website (see below at the end of the article) where you can get tips on recruitment, the selection process and how to prepare. You will find out that lots of opportunities exist for adults. Do check the age restrictions for the roles you're interested in. You can also join through a graduate entry scheme if you've got a degree.

Otherwise, cadets can be a great way to get some experience while you're still in school. As a cadet, you'll show commitment to the Armed Forces and learn about life in the military. If you're studying for A levels or similar qualifications, you can get funding to become an officer with the:

- Army Officer Scholarship Scheme
- Royal Air Force scholarships
- Royal Navy Scholarship.

Furthermore, the Armed Forces also offer sponsorships and bursaries for university students. You can apply for subjects like science, technology, engineering, maths and healthcare. There are exciting ways to get experience of military life during your degree. While you're at university, you can join the:

- Army's University Officers' Training Corps
- RAF's University Air Squadrons
- Navy's University Royal Navy Units.

If you're working and have time to spare, you could also join part time in paid roles as a reserve. Reserves train and serve alongside regular recruits. It can be a great way to build your skills, travel



and meet new people. However, please note that the application process can be **laborious**. Make sure you understand the timescales involved. The process will include:

- an online application
- security checks
- fitness and well-being checks
- psychometric assessment tests
- and a selection interview.

**You** should understand the values and standards expected of you prior to submitting your application. Common Armed Forces values include discipline, courage, respect, teamwork and integrity. Upon submission, a detailed document is sent to your email account.

Find out more about what to expect by clicking on one or more of the links below:

- [Army selection process](#)
- [RAF applications process](#)
- [Royal Navy joining process](#)

You will definitely not be disappointed. The key is not to give up.

***Adapted from: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>***

**Questions:**

31. The text is about Armed Forces careers in
- a) Malta.
  - b) the United States of America.
  - c) the United Kingdom.
  - d) Germany.
32. The main aim of the text is to
- a) narrate.
  - b) inform.
  - c) persuade.
  - d) advertise.
33. Which tab would you click on to read this online article?
- a) Explore careers
  - b) Skills assessment
  - c) Find a course
  - d) Careers advice
34. On this website, you cannot
- a) contact the writers.
  - b) find related material.
  - c) search within the article.
  - d) apply for a job.

35. The writer's tone in this article is
- encouraging.
  - pessimistic.
  - humorous.
  - serious.
36. According to the text, the British Army is
- the only branch in the Armed Forces.
  - one of the two branches in the Armed Forces.
  - one of the three branches in the Armed Forces.
  - another name for the Armed Forces.
37. Which one is NOT correct? The Armed Forces are there to
- defend the nation.
  - preserve the environment
  - prevent conflict.
  - provide assistance.
38. When you join the Armed Forces, there are
- no other careers except becoming a soldier.
  - few other careers besides becoming a soldier.
  - several other careers besides becoming a soldier.
  - plenty of careers besides becoming a soldier.
39. When you apply for a job in the Armed Forces, qualifications are
- always necessary.
  - usually necessary.
  - rarely necessary.
  - never necessary.
40. Which one is incorrect? Once you join the Armed Forces, you
- can travel abroad.
  - can be promoted.
  - can further your studies.
  - enhance your career.
41. When you join the Armed Forces, you
- must spend at least 6 years in the service.
  - can spend less than 3.5 years in the service.
  - should spend a minimum of 6 years in the service.
  - have to spend a minimum of 3.5 years in the service.
42. Cadets are military
- established experts.
  - experienced officers.
  - school-aged trainees.
  - adult trainees.

43. Whilst studying to obtain your A levels, the scholarship scheme can help you become an Armed Forces officer by giving you
- some money.
  - a promotion.
  - private lessons.
  - more time at school.
44. Which statement is correct? The Armed Forces
- only accept university students studying the sciences
  - allow you to work while studying at university.
  - do not allow you to work while studying at university.
  - have their own university which students need to enrol in.
45. Joining the Armed Forces as a reserve means
- you are on standby and called when needed.
  - your work in the Armed Forces is not paid.
  - your day job is to train the recruits.
  - you work in the Armed Forces for a few hours.
46. The application process can be 'laborious...' The word **laborious**, in bold and underlined in the text, means
- easy and short.
  - pleasant and enjoyable.
  - difficult and long.
  - painful and upsetting.
47. When you apply as a reserve, the Armed Forces do NOT
- ask for your bank details.
  - check who you are.
  - check your health.
  - ask you to attend an interview.
48. 'You' should understand the values and standards expected of you... **You**, in bold and underlined in the text, refers to
- the soldier.
  - the applicant.
  - the recruiter.
  - the military.
49. A detailed document with the values and standards
- is sent before applying.
  - is sent after applying.
  - was sent before applying.
  - had been sent before applying.

50. Which one of the following best summarises most of the text?

- a) Through battle, peacekeeping, and humanitarian aid, the Armed Forces which comprise the British Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Navy, ensure the safety and security of the United Kingdom. A wide range of occupations are available, including civilian positions as tank crew members, chefs, nurses, engineers, and military intelligence professionals. Each force has its own careers webpage for recruitment and training, and members commit to serving for 3.5–6 years.
- b) The opportunity to have military experience while in school is provided by joining the cadets. Scholarships and bursaries are available to students in a number of subject areas, such as science, technology, and medicine. Reserves who want to travel, meet new people, and develop their talents can take part-time paid positions. A selection interview, security checks, fitness and health checks, psychometric assessment tests, and an online application are all part of the application procedure.
- c) Scholarships and bursaries in a range of fields are offered by the Armed Forces to university students. Through military units and part-time paid positions as reserves, they provide opportunity to experience life in the armed forces. Online applications, security checks, fitness evaluations, psychometric exams, and selection interviews are all part of the application process. The virtues of discipline, bravery, respect, cooperation, and honesty are common in the military forces.
- d) The UK's safety and security are under the jurisdiction of the Armed Forces. Numerous professions are accessible. Members make a commitment to serve for a number of years. For the purpose of recruiting and selection, every one of the Armed Forces maintains a careers webpage. While in school, the Armed Forces offer recruits experience, and university students can qualify for bursaries and scholarships. Working as a reserve in part-time, paid positions can be a fantastic way to travel, network, and develop new skills.

**20 x 2 marks = 40 marks**

**TOTAL: 100 marks**

**END OF EXAMINATION PAPER**