



I BELONG PROGRAMME CULTURAL ORIENTATION COURSE CERTIFICATE

Sample Paper 2026

**Exam: I Belong Programme
Cultural Orientation Course Certificate**

Time: One hour

Instructions to candidates:

- This examination paper includes 50 questions.
- Each question carries two (2) marks. You are requested to answer ALL questions.
- Each question contains four possible answers, but only ONE is correct.
- Enter your answers on the Answer Sheet provided. Write ONLY your Index Number in the space provided on the Answer Sheet.
- 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, shade the appropriate circle as shown in the example below.

50.	☐ A	☐ B	☒ C	☐ D
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- No electronic devices, calculators, or external reference materials are allowed.

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS ON THE ANSWER SHEET PROVIDED.

1. What best describes Malta's contemporary cultural identity?
 - A) An insular society that rejects all outside influences to keep its culture unchanged by global trends.
 - B) A blend of Catholic and Mediterranean traditions, a Semitic-Romance language and a modern European outlook.
 - C) A society that has completely replaced its history and language with a modern European identity.
 - D) An identity strictly defined by its history, where modern social values are still dictated by British colonial rule.

2. Integration as a two-way process includes
 - A) Being monolingual and sticking to personal traditions.
 - B) Mutual respect and equality.
 - C) Enforcing traditions onto Maltese culture.
 - D) Zero tolerance and freedom of speech.

3. Which of the following is an example of a realistic short-term learning goal for an adult learner?
 - A) "I will become fully fluent in Maltese within one month."
 - B) "I will master all English grammar rules by tomorrow."
 - C) "I will learn 10 new Maltese words this week and use them in conversation."
 - D) "I will only think about learning Maltese someday, without a plan."

4. Which of the following best describes good practice for both giving and receiving feedback?
 - A) Giving feedback should focus only on what was wrong, and receiving feedback means agreeing with all that is being said.
 - B) Giving feedback should be avoided so as to avoid conflict and receiving feedback should be avoided too.
 - C) Giving feedback should be specific and constructive, and receiving feedback should involve active listening.
 - D) Giving feedback should be vague, and receiving feedback should be carried out together with friends.

5. The purpose of the I Belong cultural orientation course is to help third country nationals
 - A) understand Maltese culture, values and society to support their integration.
 - B) get free housing.
 - C) become Maltese citizens promptly.
 - D) apply for specific jobs in the tourism industry.

6. Which event had the greatest impact on Malta's economic development?
- A) The Arab occupation of the islands in 870 CE.
 - B) The French takeover of the islands in 1798.
 - C) The outbreak of the First World War in 1914.
 - D) The opening of the Suez Canal in 1869.
7. Which of the following foreign rulers left a profound influence on Malta?
- A) The Phoenicians
 - B) The Knights of St John
 - C) The Normans
 - D) The Greeks
8. The Knights of St John came to Malta in 1530 from their previous base in
- A) Jerusalem.
 - B) Cyprus.
 - C) Rhodes.
 - D) Crete.
9. Which public holiday is commemorated on the 8th of September?
- A) Independence Day
 - B) Freedom Day
 - C) Republic Day
 - D) Victory Day
10. Intergenerational relationships in traditional Maltese society are shown by
- A) building more retirement communities.
 - B) rarely having multiple generations living in the same town or village.
 - C) having grandparents take on an active role within the family.
 - D) offering lifelong education to all.
11. Which of the following statements best describes the role of the family in traditional Maltese society?
- A) The family is a central pillar of Maltese society.
 - B) The family has little influence on social life.
 - C) Families are legally required to live together.
 - D) There are no different forms of families.

12. Which of the following is a traditional Maltese cultural event?
- A) Oktoberfest
 - B) Halloween
 - C) Watching outdoor movies
 - D) Village festas
13. Hate speech is
- A) necessary in modern society.
 - B) a disagreement which can be easily resolved.
 - C) a joke which everybody finds to be funny.
 - D) communication which attacks a person or group of persons based on characteristics such as race, religion and/or ethnicity.
14. Which of the following statements best captures what constitutes mental wellbeing and emotional health in Maltese society?
- A) It is maintained by relying on the traditional, institutionalised family core and parish networks.
 - B) It requires coping strategies to meet the psychological impact of rapid urbanisation and high population density.
 - C) It is structurally guaranteed by recent national healthcare reforms and high employment rates.
 - D) It is preserved by the island's geography and climate, independent of social or economic factors.
15. What is the primary function of the Freephone 153 service provided by servizz.gov?
- A) It is an emergency number used exclusively to contact the Police and the medical services.
 - B) It serves as a central helpline to get information and guidance on various government services and benefits.
 - C) It is a paid service used to book appointments with private medical clinics.
 - D) It is an automated line for checking local weather forecast and traffic updates.
16. The Letter A at the end of the Identity Card number (e.g. 000001A) is applicable to
- A) Maltese persons whose birth was registered between 1800 and 1899.
 - B) Maltese citizens born abroad and who cannot produce an original birth certificate that they can register in Malta.
 - C) Maltese persons whose birth was registered after the year 2000.
 - D) Foreign persons who have received a Residence Permit.

17. Which of the following social services is NOT available to TCNs holding a standard Maltese Single Work Permit?
- A) Sickness benefit for temporarily absent from work due to illness or injury.
 - B) Non-Contributory social assistance if they have children residing with them in Malta.
 - C) Access to the free public healthcare system funded by their national insurance deductions.
 - D) Unemployment benefits if they lose their current job.
18. Which of the following statements is NOT true regarding services provided by Local Councils in Malta?
- A) Local Councils manage the collection of residential waste.
 - B) Local Councils are responsible for reviewing, approving or denying building planning permits.
 - C) Local Councils maintain regional public libraries.
 - D) Local Councils issue permits for placing tables and chairs outside catering establishments.
19. Which of the following groups of documents is needed by foreigners residing in Malta when opening a bank savings account in Malta?
- A) Valid passport; proof of a residential address; employment contract/proof of income.
 - B) Driving licence; hotel booking confirmation; letter of reference from a local employer.
 - C) Declaration of assets from their home country; tourist visa.
 - D) Copy of the birth certificate; the Tallinja card; driving licence.
20. What statement best defines the "rule of law" in Malta's context?
- A) A system where unwritten conventions give the Prime Minister absolute authority over the judiciary.
 - B) A system where all citizens and state organs are bound by law, backed by the constitution and the judiciary.
 - C) A mechanism making the social and economic guidelines in the Malta Constitution legally binding over all laws.
 - D) A principle stating that laws passed by Parliament are supreme and cannot be challenged by any court.

Please turn the page.

21. Which of the following statements is NOT found in the Constitution of Malta?
- A) The worker is entitled to a weekly day of rest and to annual holidays with pay.
 - B) Maltese is the national language of Malta.
 - C) Malta is a democratic republic founded on work and on respect for the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual.
 - D) Malta shall actively promote and safeguard the Mediterranean ecosystem as a collective heritage for future generations.
22. The official designation of the Maltese Parliament is
- A) Chamber of Deputies.
 - B) House of Representatives.
 - C) Maltese National Assembly.
 - D) Parliament House.
23. Which organisation adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?
- A) European Union
 - B) United Nations
 - C) NATO
 - D) World Bank
24. Which of the following statements about responsible participation in Malta's democratic framework is FALSE?
- A) Voting in general elections is a civic right and responsibility.
 - B) Engaging in constructive public consultation is a form of active citizenship.
 - C) All citizens have a democratic duty to respect the rule of law.
 - D) Democratic participation is strictly limited to Maltese citizens.
25. What is the difference between rights and responsibilities?
- A) A right is something you are entitled to have, while a responsibility is something you are expected to do.
 - B) A right is given to only a few people, while a responsibility is given to everyone.
 - C) A right is something which is right, while a responsibility is sometimes right and sometimes wrong.
 - D) There is no actual difference between the two.

26. Which situation shows fair treatment in workplace services?
- A) An employee receives training only because they are friends with the manager.
 - B) Employees are given access to training and support based on their needs and job requirements.
 - C) A manager refuses to help an employee because of their gender.
 - D) Only senior employees are allowed to use workplace support services.
27. How can utility bills be paid?
- A) Once a year through the ARMS online portal.
 - B) By calling ARMS Ltd.
 - C) Through ARMS online portal, online banking or physically paying the bill every two months.
 - D) By using prepaid cards.
28. Which of the following statements describes social cohesion?
- A) Having separate groups within the same social structure.
 - B) Individuals at work.
 - C) The economic growth rate of a country.
 - D) The strength of relationships and solidarity between members of a community.
29. Which of the following statements describes social prejudice?
- A) It is always conscious.
 - B) It is based on facts.
 - C) It involves preconceived opinions.
 - D) It only affects individuals.
30. Which of the following does NOT cater for people seeking employment in Malta?
- A) Recruitment Portal (gov.mt)
 - B) Identità Malta
 - C) Malta Employers' Association
 - D) Jobsplus
31. What is the national weekly minimum wage in Malta for employees aged 18 years and over?
- A) €215.50
 - B) €229.44
 - C) €250.70
 - D) €265.80

32. Which one of these responsibilities does NOT fall under the remit of the Department for Industrial and Employment Relations (DIER)?
- A) Provides comprehensive information on legal working conditions across different sectors.
 - B) Assists employees when visiting a specific trade union website to submit an online enrolment or membership form.
 - C) Investigates breaches of labour laws and assist employees to lodge a claim for unpaid wages.
 - D) Conducts routine checks through its Inspectorate Section to enforce labour standards.
33. Which of the following statements is TRUE about work ethics in Malta's context?
- A) Employees are expected to be loyal and confidential to their employer.
 - B) Employees are legally required to answer emails and phone calls during the weekends.
 - C) Employees can accept expensive personal gifts from clients or suppliers.
 - D) Employees can make use of their company property and vehicles outside working hours.
34. Which of the following statements does NOT qualify as a benefit of lifelong learning?
- A) Continuous learning stimulates the brain and helps delay cognitive decline as you age.
 - B) Upgrading one's skills makes a person more adaptable to shifting market demands and technological changes.
 - C) Immersing in educational material reverses aging by slowing down cellular degradation.
 - D) Engaging in courses and workshops exposes a person to new communities, reducing isolation and loneliness.
35. Which of the following healthcare services in Malta is NOT provided by the governmental authorities?
- A) Accident and health insurance
 - B) Health emergency services
 - C) Outpatient services at Mater Dei and specialised health centres
 - D) Primary healthcare clinics in various localities
36. What is mental health stigma?
- A) A medical term for social anxiety.
 - B) A specific treatment to help people overcome stress.
 - C) Government funding for people suffering from mental health problems.
 - D) Negative attitudes, beliefs and judgements about mental health problems.

37. When receiving her payslip Emma realises that part of her salary is deducted to pay social security contribution. Why is social security contribution important?
- A) It is a form of income tax used to fund general government spending, with no link to any personal benefits.
 - B) It provides social benefits such as pensions, maternity leave and unemployment benefits.
 - C) It is only important for self-employed individuals to qualify for the maximum state pension.
 - D) It is only valid for employees over 35 years.
38. Laurence has been looking at various rental advertisements. Which of the following features indicate that it is a false rental advertisement?
- A) A single, fixed, exact monthly rental price.
 - B) An indication of whether pets are allowed in the apartment.
 - C) A vague description of the place and a price which is listed as 'starting from'.
 - D) The minimum or maximum length of the lease duration.
39. Why is it important to plan, keep track of and list appointments?
- A) It is required by law.
 - B) To manage time effectively, always be on time and avoid missing out on important appointments.
 - C) To reserve enough time for leisure activities.
 - D) To change appointments whenever you want.
40. Identify the correct sequence that corresponds to compulsory schooling in Malta.
- A) Kindergarten, Early Years, Primary, Secondary education.
 - B) Early Years, Primary, Secondary, Post-Secondary education.
 - C) Early Years, Primary, Middle, Secondary education.
 - D) Primary, Middle, Secondary and Post-Secondary education.
41. Which of these state-funded inclusive education services are NOT provided by the National School Support Services (NSSS) and the Ministry for Education and Sport?
- A) Learning Support Educators (LSEs)
 - B) On-Call private tutors
 - C) International Learners' Directorate
 - D) Learning Support Zones & Nurture Groups

42. How can foreigners living in Malta build trust and positive relationships with the residents?
- A) By interacting and speaking within their own community.
 - B) By learning the local language and participating in local community events.
 - C) By ignoring the traditions and customs of the country they are in.
 - D) By insisting that everyone adapts to their own culture.
43. Intercultural friendships in Malta are deeply shaped by the island's rapid transition into a multicultural hub. Which of these initiatives is FALSE?
- A) 'Making Friends Bringing Friends Club' sponsored directly by the International Learners' Directorate brings native Maltese and migrant children aged 5–10 together for 2.5-hour sessions.
 - B) English Language Schools organise conversational cafes and historical tours where the English Language functions as the common bridge.
 - C) Organisations like the Africa Media Association Malta utilise European Union and national funding to host community events and run migrant-led radio programmes.
 - D) The local councils' 'Intercultural Neighbour-Matching' assigns newly arrived foreign residents to local Maltese families to act as their "friendship guides."
44. Which of the following best represents the three key pillars of social cohesion?
- A) Inclusion, social capital, and social mobility.
 - B) Social uniformity, institutional control, and economic competition.
 - C) Cultural assimilation, political authority, and social conformity.
 - D) Individual autonomy, social competition, and institutional efficiency.
45. Which of these documents is issued to employees with every weekly, fortnightly or monthly pay?
- A) Social security timesheet
 - B) Curriculum Vitae
 - C) Payslip
 - D) Contract of employment
46. Why is it important to understand the long-term residence application process before applying?
- A) To understand and become informed about the required documents, eligibility conditions, deadlines and steps involved.
 - B) To submit the application without preparation.
 - C) To avoid following the official procedure.
 - D) To guarantee that the application will be approved.

47. Miriam wants to save money for an emergency. She is calling it 'Emergency fund'. It is recommended that she saves enough to cover
- A) two weeks of living expenses.
 - B) six months of living expenses.
 - C) three years of living expenses.
 - D) just enough to cover an unexpected bill.
48. How can individuals recognise and fulfil their role in Maltese society?
- A) By expecting others to solve all community problems for them.
 - B) By ignoring local laws and focusing on rights and some responsibilities.
 - C) By following only personal interests without taking into consideration other citizens.
 - D) By respecting local laws, contributing positively to the community and understanding their rights and responsibilities.
49. Which of these architectural styles in Malta is mostly associated with the Knights of St John?
- A) Gothic
 - B) Baroque
 - C) Rococo
 - D) Neo-Classical
50. Which of the following historical sites is entrusted to Heritage Malta?
- A) Fort St Elmo in Valletta
 - B) St Agatha's Catacombs at Rabat
 - C) St John's Co-Cathedral in Valletta
 - D) Fort Rinella at Kalkara

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