
EAEko HEOak
EEOOI DE LA CAPV
ENGLISH EXAM SAMPLE
LEVEL B1

DOCUMENT 1: TASKS

IMPORTANT: For further information, check this link:

[Proben deskribapena](#) (basque)

[Descripción de las pruebas](#) (spanish)

READING COMPREHENSION (20 marks)

TASK 1

Fit the sentences below into the gaps of the text. There are THREE sentences that do not belong to the text. Match the gaps numbers with the letters. Q is the example. (6 items x 0'8)

THE STRADIVARIUS VIOLIN

A violin made by Antonio Stradivari is perhaps one of the most coveted instruments in the world. _____(0)_____ **A (Example)**. Master musicians everywhere covet a Stradivarius for the pure, beautiful sound that it brings to their music. Others are drawn to the instrument's astonishing track record as an investment whose value rises every year.

Each Stradivarius violin has its own unique characteristics. And each instrument is known individually by name. _____(1)_____. Violins created by many craftsmen are named in this way. It is rare for a Stradivarius violin to come up for sale on the open market. _____(2)_____.

The man who made such treasured violins, Antonio Stradivari, was born in 1644 in Cremona in Italy. He established his workshop in the town where he was born and made violins there until his death, aged 93, in 1737. His grandfather, Andrea Amati, is generally considered to have perfected the form of the modern violin. _____(3)_____.

However, Stradivari made harps, guitars, violas and cellos as well as violins. Indeed he is believed to have made a total of 1,100 instruments, of which 650 still survive today.

_____ (4) _____. A few years ago it was proposed that the secret to the success of the violin was in the preservative that Stradivari used to treat the wood. _____(5)_____. Experts believe it winds the wood in a unique way and that is the source of the instrument's wonderful acoustic qualities.

Despite great advances in the way musical instruments are made, concert violinists believe that the centuries-old instruments of the great Italian craftsmen have a better sound than any instrument made today. _____(6)_____. Until someone finds a way to mass produce the magic that is in a Stradivarius, we must hope that the world's stock of these instruments is held safe for public enjoyment for centuries to come.

- A. ~~A Stradivarius violin is an undisputed masterpiece~~ 0 (Example)
- B. And there is no doubt that Stradivari gained much treasured knowledge from him
- C. And this sound works on our senses to create the most wonderful music we are ever likely to hear
- D. The *Gibson* Stradivari has been stolen on two separate occasions
- E. The substance, known as borax, fell out of use by violin makers after Stradivari's time
- F. However, climatologists maintain that this wood was created through slow tree growth
- G. So it is hard for experts to calculate the true value of any particular violin at a given time
- H. Thus, the violin was baptized by the name by which it is known today
- I. It's usually that of a famous former or talented musician associated with the playing of it
- J. What makes a violin made by Stradivari so special?

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
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TASK 2

Match each paragraph with the most suitable title. There are THREE titles you do not need to use. Q is the example. (6 items x 0'8)

WEIRD NEWS

- A. ADVISING THROUGH BREAK-UP
- B. BLAME IS ON THE NET
- C. JAILED AFTER BREAKING THE LAW
- D. LOVE-SICK ANIMAL CAUSES CHAOS
- E. NEW TOOL FOR MORE BEARABLE VISITS
- F. ONLINE LOVE FOREVER
- G. SAVING TIME ON CONGESTED DAYS
- H. TWIN-PLACES 0 (Example)**
- I. UNCONSCIOUS OFFENDERS
- J. USELESS TOOL

0. The rural Scottish village of Glenelg has announced an unlikely link with its planet Mars namesake, situated more than 35 million miles away. The coastal community, situated in the Highlands of western Scotland, shares the same name as a location on the Red Planet and it has now announced its intention to hold a ceremony this month. **H (Example)**
1. If you struggle to find a parking space in the morning, or take hours off your weekend shopping trip by looking for a gap to squeeze your car into, worry no more. A new application could save you stress at the wheel by doing the hard work for you. The Car Park Finder tells you which car parks are nearby, how much they cost and how long you can stay for.
2. The government has revealed plans for a 'divorce app' available via the web and smartphones to help couples through the process of separation. The application will offer support and advice to people splitting from their partner, as well as tips on how to behave in front of their children. There will also be advice offered on avoiding arguments, sorting out child support payments and how to cope with meeting an ex's new partner.
3. Experts have seen a sharp rise in the number of divorces in which Facebook pages were used as evidence of 'unreasonable behaviour', as suspicious people now regularly use the site to check up on their spouses. Divorces involving social networking sites are no longer eye-catching events as they have become so commonplace. Lawyers suggested last year that Facebook flirting could be involved in as many as a fifth of divorces.
4. An elderly couple have had a huge cannabis plant seized by police after buying it at a car boot sale. Police said the plant seized was the biggest they had seen. The couple, who were simply looking for a pot plant at the boot sale, were shocked to find that the shrub they had cultivated was a giant cannabis plant, which had taken over a large area of their suburban garden. It is unclear whether or not the pair will be charged over the cannabis plant.

5. An innovative dentist hopes to ease his patients' surgery fears after creating a musical drill to help keep their mind off the intrusive instrument. He modified a conventional dentist drill to play music via an MP3 player instead of the custom buzzing sound usually associated with a dentist surgery. He hopes to make those dreaded trips to the dentist slightly more bearable by using this tool to lighten the mood.
6. A runaway ostrich provoked a rush hour police chase after escaping from its Florida home in a mating season moment of madness. Amorous four-year-old bird Taco jumped over a garden fence trying to find a female companion before running about aimlessly onto a busy motorway. The feathered fugitive approached several cars and even a man on a scooter, causing traffic jams during its early morning breakout.

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TASK 3

Fill gaps 1-8 in the following text using the words in the bank below. There are FOUR words you do not need to use. Q is the example. (8 items x 0'8)

DENIM JEANS

Almost every teenager and, in fact, most people below the age of sixty in the western world **(0) own (Example)** a pair of jeans. Whether they are a heavily discounted pair from a supermarket chain (1) a high-fashion designer pair costing hundreds of pounds, jeans form an integral part of any modern wardrobe.

But jeans were not always (2) a universally recognisable fashion item. Indeed, jeans' humble origins date (3) to 1873 and to two men, Loeb Strauss, who later changed his name to Levi, and his customer, Jacob Davis. Jacob Davis regularly bought material from Strauss' store. Davis had some troublesome customers who constantly tore the pockets of their denim trousers. As an experienced tailor, he put metal rivets or fasteners in the areas where his customers' trousers were mostly strained, (4) are the pocket corners and the base of the button fly. (5) a result, he created a garment suitable for the hardest working conditions.

In today's fashionable world jeans are constantly changing, but the blue colour dominates in most jeans designs. Denim is (6) in fashion terms because it is associated with a single colour. Cloth makers originally chose to make their denims blue because the natural indigo dye was cheap to produce and easy to find.

Neither Jacob Davis nor Levi Strauss consciously intended to invent one of the world's most popular clothing lines of all time. They simply wanted to produce high-standard clothing for hard-working times. The transformation of working men's trousers (7) hot and ever-trendy fashion items is one of the most remarkable makeover stories of modern times. Just like fashion (8) , the more jeans change, the more they stay the same.

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FOR	OWN	WHO
INTO	SO	
ITSELF	SUCH	

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TASK 4

Read the following text. For questions 1-5, choose the option a), b), c) or d) that best fits each gap. Write the correct answer on the answer sheet provided. 0 is the example. (5 items x 0'8)

COMMUNITY SPIRIT IS KEY TO CHANGE

A decade ago I visited Modbury, a picturesque, (0) **rather** (Example) conservative village in England, to (1) how it became the first town in Europe to ban plastic bags in shops. It (2) Modbury a month to go plastic bag-free after resident Rebecca Hosking showed local traders a film she (3) about plastic bags killing marine life in Hawaii. It was amazing to see how quickly behaviour changed. Suddenly, carrying a plastic bag was antisocial behaviour.

This change is driven by direct experience: villagers are (4) by the plastic invading their shores after the photographer Gail Tudor, Plastic Free Modbury member, showed pictures of plastic pollution on a 10-day trip around Britain's coast.

Small communities are again leading the transformation of our antisocial relationship with plastic. We assume that cities are the birthplace of innovation (5), in Britain, sustainable living is often being led by small communities.

Adapted from *The Guardian Weekly*, 2018

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|----|-----------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|
| 0. | a) a lot | b) bit | c) far | d) rather |
| 1. | a) check out | b) find out | c) look after | d) look for |
| 2. | a) lasted | b) spent | c) took | d) wasted |
| 3. | a) 'd just made | b) 's made | c) 's making | d) was made |
| 4. | a) delighted | b) sensible | c) unsure | d) shocked |
| 5. | a) because | b) but | c) however | d) where |

0	1	2	3	4	5
D					

LISTENING COMPREHENSION (20 marks)

TASK 1

Listen to the biography of Sidney Bloom. For questions 1-6 choose the correct option a), b) or c). 0 is the example. (6 items x 0'8)



[B1-Task 1-Sidney Bloom](#)

SIDNEY BLOOM

0. Sidney Bloom was born in...
 - a) 1858.
 - b) 1912.
 - c) ~~1921~~. (Example)
1. Sidney's father...
 - a) had money problems.
 - b) was an immigrant.
 - c) worked for a bank.
2. At the age of 16, Sidney...
 - a) became a soldier.
 - b) started to work.
 - c) went to university.
3. Sidney Bloom's wife...
 - a) had never worked before her marriage.
 - b) helped him at work.
 - c) was from a poor family.
4. The waiters at Bloom's sometimes...
 - a) complained about their boss.
 - b) earned a lot.
 - c) were not too polite.
5. When Bloom retired, his business was run by...
 - a) a lawyer and an accountant.
 - b) his own family.
 - c) his waiters.
6. At the time of his death...
 - a) all his restaurants had already closed down.
 - b) he was in hospital.
 - c) his children had already died.

0	a	b	c
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5	a	b	c
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2	a	b	c
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4	a	b	c
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6	a	b	c
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TASK 2

Listen to the following 7 radio programme extracts and match the text numbers to headings a-j. There are THREE headings you do not need to use. 0 is the example (6 items x 0'8)



B1-Task 2-America wins competition

AMERICA WINS COMPETITION

- a. America wins competition
- b. Australia beats America
- c. Chinese rebels attack schools
- d. Death of a politician
- e. Hot weather kills several people
- f. Journalist killed in Liberia
- g. Rainy weather causes chaos
- h. Sharp increase in world's population
- i. ~~Short sentence for animal smuggler 0 (Example)~~
- j. Teenager caught up in a revolution

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
i						

TASK 3

Listen to Peter Flynn talking about tattoos. Complete gaps 1-8 with no more than three words you hear. 0 is the example. (8 items x 0'8)



B1-Task 3-Tattoos

TATTOOS

- Peter Flynn has his own (0) **opinion** (Example) about tattoos.
- Peter says he is a coward because he doesn't like needles or ____ (1) ____.
- A dozen men ordered customers to leave a shop and then smashed the ____ (2) ____ and equipment.
- When a man caught his wife having an affair, he ____ (3) ____ and tattooed his name on her stomach.
- A famous footballer had his 12-year-old ____ (4) ____ tattooed on his arm.
- For a starting price of \$180 you can have a ____ (5) ____ tattooed on your back.
- Tattoos have always been very popular in Australia with ____ (6) ____.
- Records of convicts in Sidney described the tattoos of the arriving ____ (7) ____.
- Tattoos have existed for thousands of years, but they always go ____ (8) ____ again.

0	opinion
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TASK 4

Listen to Owen talking about mobiles in China and correct the wrong information in the next sentences. Write the correct answer on your answer sheet. 0 is the example. (5 items x 0'8)



B1-Task 4-Mobiles in China

MOBILES IN CHINA

0. Owen gets shocked because people are sometimes on their phones.
constantly (Example)
1. Almost everybody has their mail account linked to their phone.
2. Using Alipay you don't need a password to shop online.
3. Last Sunday they didn't want to cook or go out for drinks.
4. Owen can look up all the restaurants in their city on the phone app.
5. In 20 minutes a guy delivered their lunch and Owen didn't have to pay in cash.

0 constantly

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5

WRITING (20 marks)

TASK 1: SHORT WRITING

(5 marks)

You have recently bought two tickets for a concert of your favourite group. Write an email to a friend (60-80 words) inviting him/her to go with you. Include the following points:

- Why you are writing
- Why you have chosen him/her
- Arrange time and place of meeting

TASK 2: LONG WRITING

(15 marks)

Last year you worked in Africa. Your friend Mark is considering the possibility of doing so this year. Write an email (160-180 words) to him giving him some advice. Include information about the following points:

- Conditions of the job you had: money, timetable, duties, etc
- Accommodation
- Differences between your country and the African country you stayed in

MEDIATION (20 marks)

TASK 1: WRITTEN MEDIATION (10 marks)

While you were on the train back home, you saw this advert in a magazine. As you know that one of your friends is very fond of this type of contest you are going to send him/her an email (60-80 words) with the most relevant information about it. (10 marks)



Sweet G's
KARAOKE COMPETITION

QUALIFYING DATES
June 24 - Open theme
July 1 - Classic Rock
July 8 - Pop
July 15 - Gender Bender

3 Finalists from each night
will be chosen to compete
in the finals.

Prizes:
1) 2 VIP passes to Country Fest
2) \$200 Gift cert for Sweet G's
3) \$100 Gift cert for Sweet G's

FINALS: July 22
12 Finalists
will sing
2 songs each
(1 Open theme, 1 country)
For the chance to win!

Start Time 8:00pm
EST. 2017
MUSIC LIVE

TASK 2: ORAL MEDIATION (10 marks)

B1 ORAL MEDIATION

Topic: HOLIDAYS

You are on a safari in Africa with your Irish friend Andrew. He has left his glasses in the hotel and he can't read this card you have been given. You have 2 minutes to tell him the relevant information. You have 2 minutes to prepare your presentation (10 marks)

Snake DO's and DON'Ts



DO contact us as soon as you see a snake.

DO keep pets & other people away.

DO contact emergency services if someone has been bitten (10177 / 112).



**BLOUBERG
SNAKE RESCUE**



DON'T lose sight of the snake, but...

DON'T get closer than 5 meters.

DON'T try to capture or injure the snake, this is how many people are bitten.

082 385 1589

Watch our videos & like us on Facebook.

SPEAKING (20 marks)

TASK 1: MONOLOGUE (8 marks)

B1 - SPEAKING - Task 1

READING

You are going to speak about READING: You can use some of the ideas below as a guideline. You have 2 minutes to prepare your presentation (8 marks)

- How important is reading?
- Do you like reading books/magazines/newspapers?
- Which is your attitude towards audio books and e-books?
- Do you read in English? Why/why not?



TASK 2: INTERACTION (12 marks)

B1 ORAL EXAM – Task 2
Topic 0: RELATIONSHIPS

B1 ORAL EXAM – Task 2
Topic 0: RELATIONSHIPS

STUDENT A

One of your colleagues is always late and this is causing you trouble at work. Decide with B if you should tell him / her and in that case how to do it.

Discuss the following points:

- ❖ Making insinuations in his/her presence
- ❖ Fear of his/her reaction
- ❖ Having a private conversation with him/her

STUDENT B

One of your colleagues is always late and this is causing you trouble at work. Decide with A if you should tell him / her and in that case how to do it.

Discuss the following points:

- ❖ Making insinuations in his/her presence
- ❖ Fear of his/her reaction
- ❖ Having a private conversation with him/her