



EAEko HEOak
EEOOI DE CAPV
ENGLISH EXAM SAMPLE

LEVEL C1

DOCUMENT 1: TASKS

IMPORTANT: For further information, check this link:

[Proben deskribapena](#) (Basque)

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

READING COMPREHENSION (30 MARKS)

TASK 1 (Marks: 6)

Read the following text. Match paragraphs 1 – 6 and headings B – J. There are THREE headings you do NOT need to use. Write the correct answer on the answer sheet provided. 0 is the example.

RANSOMWARE

0	A	A mixture of fear and impotence	example
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The first wave of emotions, victims say, is a combination of panic and powerlessness. They click and re-click on files on their desktops to no avail. Someone or something has converted the files to foreign MP3 files or an encrypted RSA format.

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In February, the Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center in Los Angeles made national news after it was the victim of ransomware. For weeks, the hospital had to shuttle patients to nearby facilities. In the past few months, besides, some schools in South Carolina and a church in Oregon have been paralysed for days, and many experts believe there are far more ransomware attacks that have gone unreported.

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Some cyber-security experts call these attacks an epidemic. While institutions try to retrieve encrypted data by coughing up hundreds or thousands of pounds to access their own information, both the US and Canadian governments issue alerts warning businesses of ransomware. In 2017, affected Americans paid about \$325 million due to attacks; in 2018, analysts estimate the cost will be much higher.

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While the culprits come from all over the world, ransomware attacks are mainly co-ordinated by highly organised hackers from Russia and other Eastern European countries, prompting some to hark back to Cold War-era concerns. Firewalls and antivirus programs do a terrible job detecting ransomware, but the cause of the epidemic lies with the people's carelessness in clicking on phishing emails and infected advertisements.

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Several cyber-security experts say that paying should be considered only when one has no back-ups or lines of defence in place. Paying allows the hackers to carry on with their ransomware activities. The best thing to do is to back up data frequently, on a cloud storage platform, with cold storage or on an external hard drive.

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If a company or server is breached, it is advisable to cut off all servers from public access and then have IT professionals comb every folder and network for infections. Institutions need to be vigilant about ransomware viruses acting as diversions as the hackers launch attacks elsewhere in the network, perhaps downloading a company's personal data to sell on the black market.

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Ransomware viruses are constantly evolving, with some able to self-mutate. Without a massive overhaul in cyber-security infrastructure and an understanding of cyber hygiene, institutions will remain easy targets. But even more critical and outdated systems that control dams or nuclear silos built during the Cold War with minimal upgrades can be similarly hacked.

Adapted from The Independent

- A. A mixture of fear and impotence. (0) (example)**
- B. Cyber-attacked companies' hassles and sensible measures.
- C. Cyber-attacks' vulnerable targets and unrecorded invasions.
- D. Neglect to account for uncontrollable spread of cyber-viruses.
- E. Ransom inadvisable unless very real risk of losing data for good.
- F. Ransomware attacks date back to Cold War critical times.
- G. Ransomware attacks' fast spread and huge revenues.
- H. Software-base data hinders online payment systems.
- I. Updating systems to avoid potential threats.
- J. Warning against hazard of firewalls and antivirus programmes.

Example	0	A
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TASK 2 (Marks: 8)

Read the following text. For questions 7 – 14, choose the correct answer a), b) or c). Circle the correct answer on the answer sheet provided. 0 is the example.

ICEBERG HOMES MAKE FOR IRATE NEIGHBOURS IN LONDON

When Canadian businessman David Graham decided to expand his house in a high-end London neighbourhood, he did not want to build up or out. He planned to dig down, way down. Mr Graham, a former cable television mogul, drew up plans to carve out three storeys below his 19th-century home in Knightsbridge. The extra space was for a swimming pool, a three-car garage, a gym, ballroom, changing rooms, hot tub and servants' quarters. He joined the growing number of wealthy Londoners who have been turning their mansions into so called 'iceberg homes,' named so because most of the house is below ground. But only now are the Byzantine London real-estate regulations catching up to the trend as neighbours grow increasingly irate.

Residents are pushing the epicentre of these excavations, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, to block all basement expansions. The district is now in a difficult position. Like every local council in Britain, it has strict building regulations for above-ground construction but almost nothing governing basements. "Nobody on councils and boroughs ever thought that anybody would want to go three or four floors down," said Roarie Scarisbrick of Property Vision, a London company that provides advice to home buyers. "The councils and the boroughs who are most affected are scrambling around trying to get sensible guidelines in place because they are being left behind on this."

Driven by soaring house prices and tight regulations on above-ground construction, the super-rich here have taken to spending millions of dollars digging deep to increase their square footage in order to boost property values. And these subterranean enclaves have become more and more elaborate – housing everything from tennis courts to bowling alleys, theatres and even a car museum. Last year, Kensington and Chelsea, where the average house price is the equivalent of about \$2.5-million, had 307 applications for basement developments. That compared to 187 in 2011 and barely a handful years earlier. And the projects keep getting more controversial. "I want them to stop doing basements altogether," long-time Chelsea resident Gabrielle Teare said in a recent interview. "Two of my neighbours have dug down multiple storeys, leaving me with numerous cracked walls and roughly \$50,000 in damages. One neighbour offered to pay about \$4,000 toward my repair bills and indicated that if I wanted anymore I'd have to sue. At least 12 other homes in the area have been damaged as well," she added, "and there are real fears houses will begin to sink. I think it's just appalling," said Ms Teare, who runs an image-consulting firm in London.

The borough is beginning to respond, and Mr Graham's house appears to have been the last straw. In December, **it** turned down his basement application after receiving a flood of protests from his neighbours, including novelist Edna O'Brien. Mr Graham argued to the council that he needed the extra space because he couldn't find a larger home in the area, but the borough decided that the structure would be too unstable. It is now proposing to limit basement constructions to a single storey and prohibit all basements under historic properties and gardens. The proposals must still be approved by a national body called the Planning Inspectorate and builders are gearing up for a fight.

Kevin O'Connor, managing director of Cranbrook Basements, a London-based company that employs about 200 people in basement construction, said the council is overreacting to complaints from a few people who simply don't like change. And he said there is no evidence that larger basements are putting other properties at risk. "Basements aren't dangerous but they do cause people to phone up and complain to local councillors. It's utterly ridiculous that

this is the basis of these proposals,” he said. He added that the basement industry employs thousands of workers and those jobs could be put at risk.

Some residents agree. In comments posted on a borough website, David Hudd, who has lived in Chelsea for 30 years, said the proposals infringe on homeowners’ rights and will cost the council lost revenue. But many others agree with the proposed changes and have urged the council not to back down. In a lengthy submission to council, Chelsea resident Alicia di Sirignano wrote about the chaos these projects cause. “The rush to build ever-larger underground homes is more than an inconvenience; it is a relentless pace that invades the human psyche and the human soul that we human beings cannot live with at constantly sustained levels. We seem to have lost social conscience within the community of ‘civilized society’ and destructive materialism has reached an almost pathological state.”

Adapted from *The Globe*

0. Mr Graham’s intention was ... **(example)**
 - a) to add three subterranean levels to his London home.
 - b) to excavate a swimming-pool in the backyard of his London home.
 - c) to distinguish himself from the rest of the London super-rich.
7. Kensington and Chelsea in London are boroughs where ...
 - a) iceberg homes are subject to strict building policies.
 - b) nobody would choose to live underground.
 - c) there is an increasing pressure against iceberg homes.
8. According to Roarie Scarisbrick, councils and boroughs ...
 - a) are struggling to develop appropriate policies.
 - b) purposely ignored iceberg homes until they had to face public outcry.
 - c) have drawn up codes to regulate iceberg homes.
9. The very wealthy are digging iceberg homes ...
 - a) as a symbol of their financial success.
 - b) because iceberg homes are a profitable investment.
 - c) so they can enjoy the space they need.
10. Ms Teare said in a recent interview that ...
 - a) a neighbour threatened to take her to court.
 - b) she got full compensation for the damage caused to her home.
 - c) iceberg homes are a safety hazard for neighbours.
11. The word it underlined in paragraph 4 refers back to ...
 - a) a local authority.
 - b) Mr Graham’s house.
 - c) the last straw.
12. In paragraph 4, we also learn that the borough will allow ...
 - a) Mr Graham to build only a stable under his house.
 - b) no new basements to be excavated.
 - c) only one-level underground expansions.
13. Kevin O’Connor argues that local residents ...
 - a) are mistaken to perceive basements as a threat.
 - b) are putting forward ridiculous proposals.
 - c) misunderstand the workers he employs.
14. According to David Hudd, ...
 - a) council proposals are costly to implement.
 - b) iceberg homes are a source of income for local councils.
 - c) iceberg homes do not go against the rights of homeowners.

Example	0	a) b) c)
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7	a) b) c)	8	a) b) c)	9	a) b) c)	10	a) b) c)
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11	a) b) c)	12	a) b) c)	13	a) b) c)	14	a) b) c)
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TASK 3a (Marks: 8)

Read the following text. For questions 15 – 22, choose the option a), b), c) or d) that best fits each gap. Circle the correct answer on the answer sheet provided. 0 is the example.

NEUROMARKETING

Brands are constantly on the trawl to **0** figure out (example) how to sell you more stuff. But market research does not really tell marketers how you will behave because, sometimes, people lie. So to determine how to get you to spend more, brands are **15** neuromarketing, a relatively new, dedicated field that has been gaining traction in the past ten years. Marketers team up with scientists who study how your brain responds to certain stimuli and cues in marketing. **16**, marketing and advertising people use that information to provoke responses in you through all your senses.

Much of it is not new. Brands have been using cues such as colour for decades. For example, the colour red makes you think you are hungry, which is why the biggest fast food chains all generously splash the colour in its branding and venues. The font used in marketing materials can also have an **17** on what you think of a product. A menu printed in plain simple font for tomato soup saw 64 per cent of respondents classify it as 'desirable' but when that is changed to fancy cursive font, that figure **18** to 100 per cent.

Marketers also use **19** to appeal to their customers. If you step into a supermarket and catch a whiff of freshly baked bread, you will probably forget all about your resolve to stick to your shopping list. Smell is the sense most associated with memory and it can **20** memories of big family feasts.

Finally, creating the sense that something is a limited-time-only offer can encourage you to buy. A famous study once asked consumers to rate how much they liked chocolate chip cookies from two jars, a big one in which they could see only two cookies, and a smaller jar containing many. Study participants said the cookies in the jar with only two cookies in it were more desirable. This **21** is commonly used by airlines who will say there are only '5 seats left' on a particular flight to prompt you to book that ticket right **22** and there.

Adapted from *News*

- 0.** a) ask after b) bring on c) catch on **d) figure out**
- 15.** a) going round b) falling for c) standing for d) turning to
- 16.** a) At any rate b) In turn c) On the contrary d) Unlike
- 17.** a) effect b) edge c) outburst d) output
- 18.** a) raised b) rose c) swapped d) upped
- 19.** a) reek b) scent c) stench d) stink
- 20.** a) bring up b) carry on c) look up d) take on
- 21.** a) act b) game c) play d) trick
- 22.** a) away b) here c) out d) then

Example	0	a) b) c) d)
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15	a) b) c) d)	16	a) b) c) d)	17	a) b) c) d)	18	a) b) c) d)
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19	a) b) c) d)	20	a) b) c) d)	21	a) b) c) d)	22	a) b) c) d)
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TASK 3b (Marks: 8)

Fill in the gaps in the following text with ONE suitable word. For questions 23 – 30, write down the correct word on the answer sheet provided. 0 is the example.

ADVANCED STUDENTS

For those who see a quadrennial international assessment of how well students perform in mathematics and science as a global horse race, the latest news is that the heavy favourites have won again. A handful of East Asian countries **0** **crossed** **(example)** the finish line far ahead of their competitors on the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) released today, whereas US students once again wound up in the middle of the pack. East Asia has been the top performer for a long time, and the rest of the world is wondering if they will ever **23** up.

But there is more to the TIMSS **24** simply the scores of the graders from over 40 countries who took the test. For the first time, the study also tracked the progress of the same cohort of students by administering a third test in their last year of school. And the results have a sobering effect **25** those trying to improve science and mathematics education around the world. In the nine countries that agreed to participate in that third test, called the TIMSS Advanced, students in their senior year were found to **26** performed gradually worse as they moved from elementary to middle to high school.

Only an elite group of Russian students taking an extra daily dose of maths avoided taking the plunge, with their scores staying well above the midpoint at each level. Slovenian students **27** so in physics but not in mathematics. The East Asian students did not participate in the TIMSS Advanced because it was considered conflicting with the high-stakes final exam that determines university placement in those countries. So the study sheds **28** light on their performance across their entire school careers.

The advanced students also struggled to meet the international benchmark for the tests. In maths, only two per cent of the students scored at an advanced level, and only 43% demonstrated even a basic knowledge of algebra, calculus and geometry. At the **29** time, some of the TIMSS results lend credence to conventional wisdom. For example, eighth grade science students who “rarely or never” **30** class scored 95 points higher than those who are absent once a week. That suggests time on task does affect how much students learn.

Adapted from *Science*

Example	0	crossed
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23		24		25		26	
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27		28		29		30	
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c) when they went out on Saturday night.

EXTRACT FOUR: LANGUAGES CHANGE

9. The woman mentions an English sound that is currently disappearing ...
a) in some groups of young children.
b) from the speech of adults.
c) from words like 'rat'.
10. Linguistic change makes the woman feel ...
a) hip and fashionable.
b) she is being left behind.
c) language should be protected.

Example	0	a) b) c)
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1	a) b) c)	2	a) b) c)	3	a) b) c)	4	a) b) c)	5	a) b) c)
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6	a) b) c)	7	a) b) c)	8	a) b) c)	9	a) b) c)	10	a) b) c)
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TASK 2 (Marks: 8)

Listen to Alison Teal speak about surfing around a lava flow. For questions 11 – 18, choose the best answer a), b) or c), and transfer your answers to the answer sheet provided. You will hear the recording TWICE. You now have 1 minute and 30 seconds to read the options. 0 is the example.



Task 2-Surfing Around A Lava Flow

SURFING AROUND A LAVA FLOW

Adapted from the *BBC*

0. At first, Alison's family ... **(example)**
 - a) **did not have a home.**
 - b) built their home in the rocks.
 - c) had a home made with lava.
11. For Alison, the lava is ...
 - a) a synonym of Hawaii.
 - b) an essential part of her.
 - c) her favourite rock.
12. Madame Pele, the volcano goddess, ...
 - a) is nothing to be afraid of.
 - b) is not worshipped in modern Hawaii.
 - c) spills when the volcano erupts.
13. Before going to the volcano, the film crew ...
 - a) did some research on local traditions.
 - b) asked some old fishermen for advice.
 - c) took part in some Hawaiian rituals.
14. In Alison's opinion, it is important ...
 - a) to be scared in order to survive.
 - b) to jump in and do something.
 - c) to love danger and challenges.
15. In Hawaiian culture, rainbows are supposed ...
 - a) to be a road for the gods.
 - b) to come out of nowhere.
 - c) to give you chicken skin.
16. The water in which Alison was surfing ...
 - a) was boiling all the time.
 - b) changed temperature constantly.
 - c) was surprisingly fresh.
17. Alison ...
 - a) was hurt by a spray of molten lava in a moment of distraction.
 - b) thought the volcano was happy to have her there.
 - c) was not able to surf around the volcano due to the boiling water.
18. According to Alison, true transformation happens ...
 - a) when you overcome your limitations.
 - b) when you do something for the planet.
 - c) when you surf around an erupting volcano.

Example	0	a) b) c)
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11	a) b) c)	12	a) b) c)	13	a) b) c)	14	a) b) c)
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15	a) b) c)	16	a) b) c)	17	a) b) c)	18	a) b) c)
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TASK 3 (Marks: 12)

You will hear a recording about Hannah Engelkamp and her donkey Chico. For questions 19 – 30, complete the sentences with one word or short phrase from the recording and transfer your answers to the answer sheet provided. You will hear the recording TWICE. You now have 1 minute and 30 seconds to read the options. 0 is the example.

 **Task 3-Travels With My Donkey**

TRAVELS WITH MY DONKEY

Adapted from the *BBC World Service*

0. Hannah Engelkamp is a/an **travel writer** and **editor**. (example)
19. It is possible to walk all the way around Wales on a / an _____.
20. Hannah was inspired to travel with a donkey because she thought it was not _____.
21. There are still _____ of the relationship between donkeys and the land in the landscape.
22. Hannah had never _____ before the trip, so she thought it was going to be a relaxing walk.
23. People regarded Hannah and Chico as _____ that came from the past.
24. Most of the time, Hannah and Chico were arguing with each other or Chico was _____ Hannah.
25. On one occasion, Hannah had to stand on the other side of a bridge _____ and pretending it was fun so that Chico would cross the bridge.
26. One day that Chico refused to go up a hill, Hannah dropped _____ frustrated and started going up the hill on her own.
27. As soon as Hannah realised that Chico was following her, she did not make _____ and continued walking up the hill.
28. Even though Hannah was often upset with Chico, she admitted that he made the trip worthwhile when she was feeling more _____ towards him.
29. By the time the journey was over, Hannah was _____ and she had caught a cold.
30. Now, Hannah and Chico go out for walks every _____.

Example	0	travel writer / editor
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WRITING (30 MARKS)

TASK 1 (Marks: 10)

You are living in an English-speaking country. The water of the showers at the local sports centre is freezing cold and you have had several colds because of it. You have often complained at the front desk but to no avail. Write **an email of complaint (120 to 140 words)** to the sports centre manager and develop the following points:

- Explain the situation.
- Suggest some solutions.
- Ask for compensation

TASK 2 (Marks: 20)

NEW DREAMS FOR 21ST CENTURY BOYS AND GIRLS

A recent survey revealed that the vast majority of boys at the age of 10 want to be either football/basketball players or famous youtubers when they grow up. Most of the girls in the same age group want to be models or singers. **Write an article (250 to 280 words)** to be published in your children's school yearly magazine where you develop at least two of the following points:

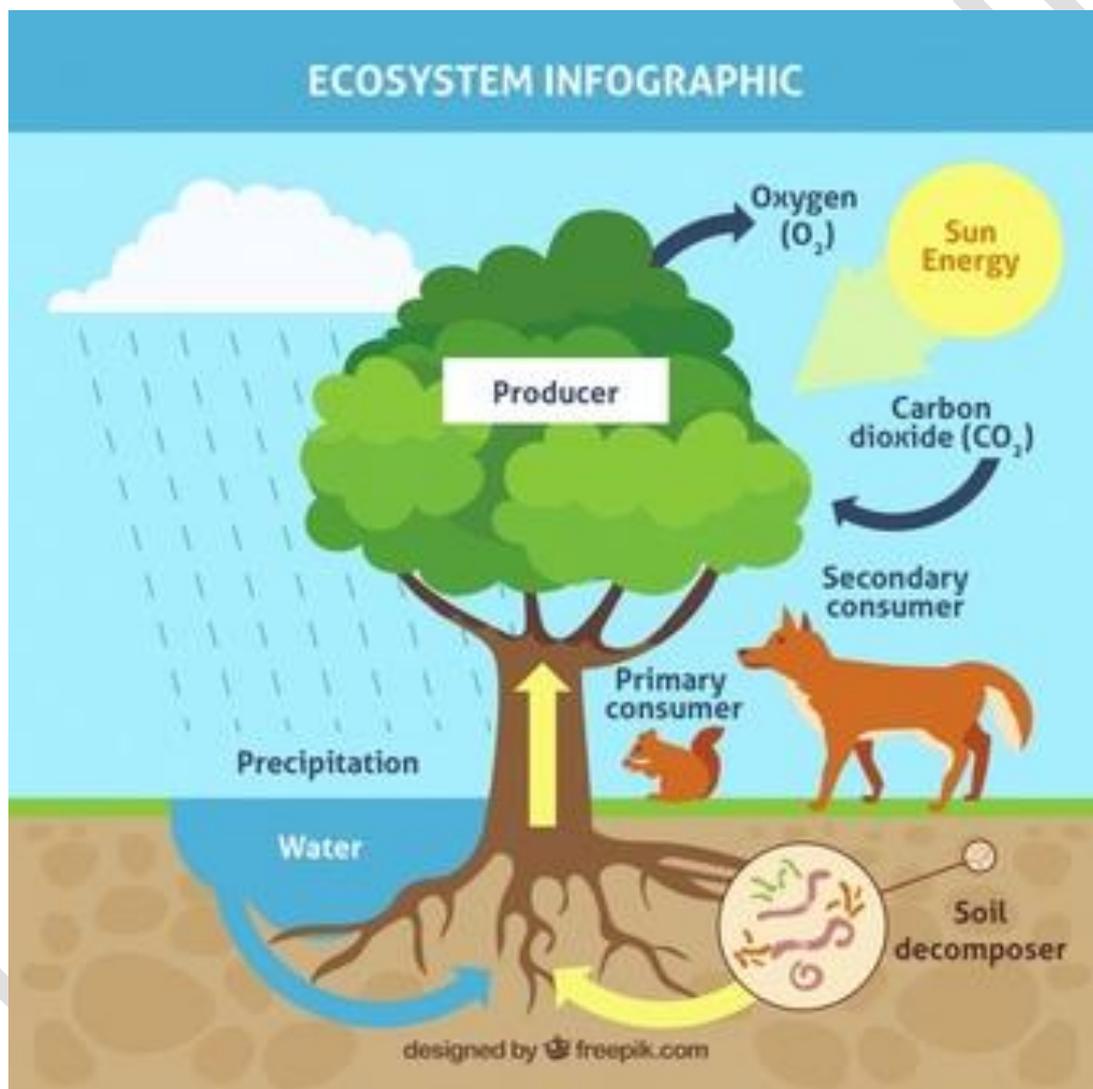
- Gender roles and the choice of a profession.
- How to help children overcome gender stereotypes.
- Children's aspirations and modern values.
- Good role models for children.

MEDIATION (30 MARKS)

TASK 1 WRITTEN MEDIATION (Marks: 15)

ECOSYSTEMS

Your 12-year-old niece asks you to explain ecosystems to her. She is ill and could not go to class but her teacher sent her the diagram below. Send her **an email from 70 to 90 words**. You may need to use some of the words in the diagram, but it may not be necessary to mention them all. **Remember your text needs to be about the information below, not about your personal opinion.**



Hi Alice,

Of course, I can help you with your homework. That's what family is for!

Get well soon and good luck in your exams!

Your favourite uncle.

Robert

TASK 2 ORAL MEDIATION (Marks: 15)

CARS

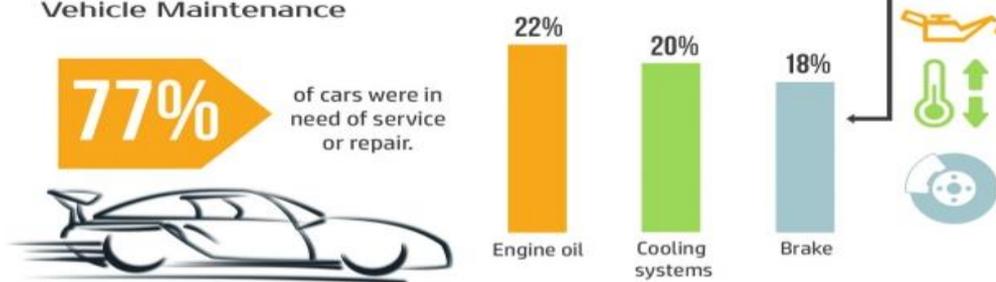
Your schoolmate was absent last week when you had a guest speaker to talk about 'Taking Good Care Of Your Car'. You saved the handout below for him, but he doesn't fully understand it and asks you for help. Explain it to him in your own words. Remember that your explanation needs to be about the information below, not about your personal opinion. You may need to use some of the words in the text, but do not copy expressions and/or full sentences. You may want to use your own examples to clarify your explanations. (About 2 minutes).

BE CAR CARE AWARE



TOP PROBLEM AREAS

Vehicle Maintenance



NEEDS REPLACING



40% of drivers research how to perform their own repair before taking their vehicle in

Searches for the maintenance category have grown **66%** in three years

LOW, DIRTY, OR LEAKING



CHECK ENGINE LIGHT ON
8%

BATTERIES NOT HELD DOWN PROPERLY
10%

NEW BELTS
14%

NEW AIR FILTER NEEDED
18%

NEW HOSES
10%

Oil change queries up

63%

in two years

73%

of consumers will definitely or most likely return to their most recent service provider.

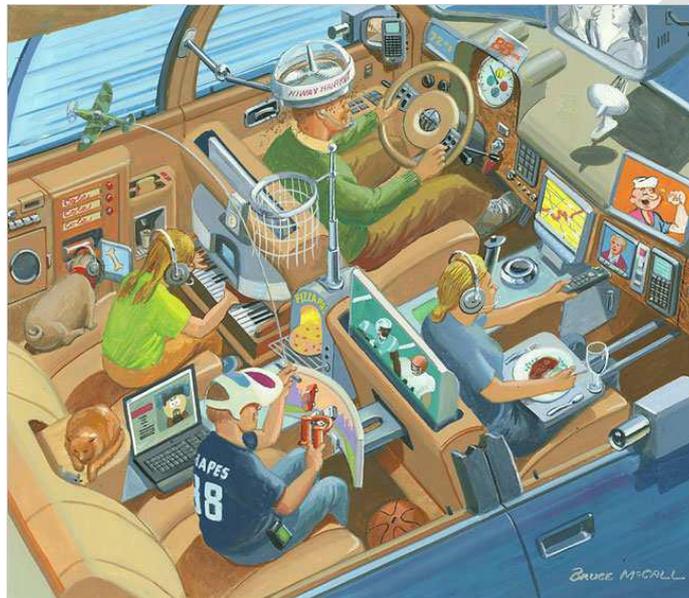
SPEAKING (30 MARKS)

TASK 1: MONOLOGUE (Marks: 15)

INTELLIGENT CARS

You will have to talk (4-5 minutes) about the issue of INTELLIGENT CARS.

- Read the text and tell your partner briefly which aspect of intelligent cars is being mentioned. You do not need to summarise the text or go into details.
- You might want to mention the situation in your country, give examples, express your opinion, suggest solutions or refer to your own personal experience.



AUTOMAKERS have long tried to make the car a relaxing sanctuary that eases the stress of overcrowded highways and gridlocked traffic. But while cushy seats and big stereos once defined a sweet ride, consumers today are traveling in veritable living rooms on wheels.

From the smallest compact car to the biggest pickup, vehicles are equipped with technology and creature comforts barely imaginable a few years ago. The car has become a cocoon of connectivity, entertainment and convenience, with Internet hookups in the dashboard, D.V.D. players in headrests and refrigerators in the console.

“Customers are expecting their vehicles to keep up with what’s going on in their homes, whether it’s computers, audio equipment or even home theaters,” said Jim Buczkowski, head of electronic systems engineering for the Ford Motor Company.

“The cars out there have become so good in all the traditional ways,” said Karl Brauer, editor of the automotive research site Edmunds.com. “Manufacturers all make cars that are safe, reliable, comfortable and have nice design features. Technology is really becoming one of the last points of differentiation.”

Five years ago, there wasn’t a single car model that could connect to an iPod, according to Edmunds.com. Now there are 257 models that can hook up to Apple’s ubiquitous music player.

TASK 2: INTERACTION (Marks: 15)

Discuss the topic with your partner (5/6 minutes). It is important to justify your points of view as well as to listen to what your partner says and react (i.e. agree, disagree, add ideas, offer solutions or suggestions...). It is not necessary to describe the photos in detail. Your partner has the same photographs

SHOPPING ONLINE



There are very good deals on the web.

This is the end of High Street shopping.

I sometimes buy things on the web.

Security and privacy are a problem.

Buying on-line has advantages and disadvantages:

- Price
- Convenience
- Choice
- Delivery
- Returns
- The cost of using the Internet
- Buying more than you intended to