

**First Certificate in  
English  
Placement Test**

**Time allowed: 2 hours**

**QUESTION PAPER**

**DO NOT write on this paper**

**Instructions:**

**Please answer all questions**

**DO NOT USE a dictionary**

**Write all answers on the separate answer sheet**

## Section A – Use of English

### Part 1

For questions **1-15**, read the text below and decide which answer (**A, B, C** or **D**) best fits each space.

There is an example at the beginning (**0**).

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

#### Example:

**0**      **A** far      **B** distant      **C** remote      **D** distinct

## TWO CREATURES OF THE PAST- MAMMOTHS AND MASTODONS

The elephant has some (**0**) **B** relatives called mammoths, which lived in the Stone Age. More than 15,000 years ago people painted pictures of them on cave walls. Then, astonishingly, in 1799, a man walking along the banks of the River Lena in Siberia (**1**) \_\_\_\_\_ a startling discovery. Peering into a wall of ice, he could (**2**) \_\_\_\_\_ see the shape of a massive, hairy mammoth, apparently (**3**) \_\_\_\_\_ at him. He immediately ran (**4**) \_\_\_\_\_ in terror, but several days later he (**5**) \_\_\_\_\_ the courage to return and cut the mammoth's tusks – its two enormous teeth – out of the ice to sell them. Mammoth tusks are the biggest teeth of any known creature, some (**6**) \_\_\_\_\_ a length of five metres. These tusks were (**7**) \_\_\_\_\_ to good use, protecting the mammoths' young from other animals, and brushing away snow.

To most of us, mammoths are probably the most (**8**) \_\_\_\_\_ of the elephant's extinct relatives, but thousands of years earlier, in the woodlands of eastern North America, lived another of the elephant's relatives called the mastodon. Like mammoths, mastodons may also have had a hairy coat, but (**9**) \_\_\_\_\_ mammoths mainly ate grass on the plains, mastodons (**10**) \_\_\_\_\_ to eat twigs and leaves.

We do not know why mastodons (**11**) \_\_\_\_\_ extinct. However, computer studies of the decrease in mammoth (**12**) \_\_\_\_\_ suggest that it was a particular (**13**) \_\_\_\_\_ of over-hunting by humans, and (**14**) \_\_\_\_\_ in the climate at that time which (**15**) \_\_\_\_\_ to their disappearance.

- |    |                          |                      |                        |                        |
|----|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1  | <b>A</b> made            | <b>B</b> took        | <b>C</b> did           | <b>D</b> had           |
| 2  | <b>A</b> rather          | <b>B</b> quite       | <b>C</b> well          | <b>D</b> just          |
| 3  | <b>A</b> watching out    | <b>B</b> looking out | <b>C</b> looking after | <b>D</b> watching over |
| 4  | <b>A</b> across          | <b>B</b> out         | <b>C</b> away          | <b>D</b> past          |
| 5  | <b>A</b> grew            | <b>B</b> felt        | <b>C</b> experienced   | <b>D</b> found         |
| 6  | <b>A</b> reaching        | <b>B</b> increasing  | <b>C</b> expanding     | <b>D</b> completing    |
| 7  | <b>A</b> held            | <b>B</b> put         | <b>C</b> set           | <b>D</b> kept          |
| 8  | <b>A</b> usual           | <b>B</b> frequent    | <b>C</b> regular       | <b>D</b> familiar      |
| 9  | <b>A</b> when            | <b>B</b> while       | <b>C</b> as            | <b>D</b> even          |
| 10 | <b>A</b> preferred       | <b>B</b> enjoyed     | <b>C</b> desired       | <b>D</b> selected      |
| 11 | <b>A</b> turned          | <b>B</b> went        | <b>C</b> became        | <b>D</b> came          |
| 12 | <b>A</b> quantities      | <b>B</b> amounts     | <b>C</b> totals        | <b>D</b> numbers       |
| 13 | <b>A</b> addition        | <b>B</b> combination | <b>C</b> attachment    | <b>D</b> connection    |
| 14 | <b>A</b> transformations | <b>B</b> adjustments | <b>C</b> diversions    | <b>D</b> changes       |
| 15 | <b>A</b> led             | <b>B</b> caused      | <b>C</b> guided        | <b>D</b> influenced    |

**Part 2**

For questions **16-30**, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only **one** word in each space. There is an example at the beginning **(0)**.

Write your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

**Example: 0      since**

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## DEVELOPMENTS IN UNDERWATER DIVING

People have been diving without mechanical aids **(0)** since ancient times. In those days, divers mainly went underwater to search **(16)** \_\_\_\_ pearls or sponges. Various ways of supplying divers with air, and so permitting them to stay underwater for long periods of time, have been tried for well **(17)** \_\_\_\_ two thousand years. Alexander the Great **(18)** \_\_\_\_ said to have gone underwater in an early **(19)** \_\_\_\_ of diving machine, and Aristotle talked about apparatus **(20)** \_\_\_\_ permitted divers to breathe underwater.

It was not **(21)** \_\_\_\_ the beginning of the 18th century that more advanced equipment was developed. In 1717, the first practical diving machine, or 'diving bell' **(22)** \_\_\_\_ it was called, was invented. This was a small wooden room with an open bottom, glass windows at the top to **(23)** \_\_\_\_ in light, and a supply of air coming through leather tubes. Something similar, made of steel, is **(24)** \_\_\_\_ use today for underwater work, **(25)** \_\_\_\_ as building the foundations of bridges.

However, **(26)** \_\_\_\_ divers want to move freely underwater, they require a suit. Early suits were made up **(27)** \_\_\_\_ a leather jacket with a metal helmet over the head into which air was pumped down from the surface through tubes. Divers gained even **(28)** \_\_\_\_ freedom of movement when they could **(29)** \_\_\_\_ rid of these tubes and carry **(30)** \_\_\_\_ own air with them in cylinders.

**Part 3**

For questions **31-35**, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. There is an example at the beginning **(0)**.

**Example: 0** You must do exactly what the manager tells you.  
**carry**

**Answer:** You must **carry out the manager's** instructions exactly.

Write **only** the missing words **on the separate answer sheet.**

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**31** My daughter regrets spending all her savings on that car.

**she**

My daughter wishes \_\_\_\_\_ all her savings on that car.

**32** They are extending this motorway by 100 kilometres.

**being**

This motorway \_\_\_\_\_ 100 kilometres.

**33** It was a mistake for the company to install the new computer system.

**hould**

The company \_\_\_\_\_ the new computer system.

**34** We mended the roof to prevent the birds from making nests in it.

**so**

We mended the roof \_\_\_\_\_ not make nests in it.

**35** I'm afraid I don't have time to go shopping this morning.

**too**

I'm afraid \_\_\_\_\_ to go shopping this morning.

**Part 4**

For questions **36-50**, read the text below and look carefully at each line. Some of the lines are correct, and some have a word which should not be there.

If a line is correct put a (✓) by the number **on the separate answer sheet**. If a line has a word which should **not** be there, write the word **on the separate answer sheet**.

There are two examples at the beginning (**0** and **00**).

**Example:** **0** ✓  
**00** **been**

**WHERE I GREW UP**

- 0** When I was young, I lived in a place called Coromandel in  
**00** New Zealand. I was **been** taken there by my parents when I was a few  
 36 weeks old, and lived there until I was fourteen years. I still think  
 37 of that period as the happiest time of my life. My life was much  
 38 uncomplicated then and Coromandel was a magical place. It  
 39 had been a busy gold-mining town, but that was long before  
 40 my family have arrived. By then it had become a very run-down  
 41 place. My father was a doctor, and people would pay to him  
 42 in sheep, pigs, hens and, occasionally, the pieces of gold. He would  
 43 have preferred paying money, of course, but they simply didn't have  
 44 any. My sister and I had no many cares at all. We went to the village  
 45 school, which together was attended by just twenty children of all ages.  
 46 Out of school hours, we looked after lots animals on the farms  
 47 around the town, although we didn't really have a clue how  
 48 ong to do it. Coromandel is a large and busy tourist resort now,  
 49 but it was peaceful town when I was a child, and I would  
 50 like doing nothing better than to go back to relive my memories.

**Part 5**

For questions **51-60**, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space in the **same** line.

There is an example at the beginning **(0)**. Write your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

**Example: 0      lover**

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**BREAD**

I'm a great **(0) lover** of bread. Whenever I smell freshly baked bread, it reminds me of my early **(51)** \_\_\_\_\_ when I used to visit the little bakery that my grandfather owned.

**LOVE**  
**CHILD**

And, of course, there are **(52)** \_\_\_\_\_ good medical reasons why we should not forget the **(53)** \_\_\_\_\_ of eating plenty of bread.

**VARY**  
**IMPORTANT**

Bread contains nearly all the protein needed for children's **(54)** \_\_\_\_\_ and for adults to stay fit and well. We can get a **(55)** \_\_\_\_\_ of our daily protein **(56)** \_\_\_\_\_ from just six slices of bread.

**GROW**  
**THREE**  
**REQUIRE**

Bread, **(57)** \_\_\_\_\_ some popular foods which are not particularly good for you, gives **(58)** \_\_\_\_\_ to bones and teeth when they are developing and keeps them healthy as we get older. **(59)** \_\_\_\_\_, bread helps us to feel **(60)** \_\_\_\_\_ as it contains iron as well as several essential vitamins.

**LIKE**  
**STRONG**  
**ADDITION**  
**ENERGY**

**Section B – Writing**

Write an answer to **one** of the questions below. Write your answer in **120-180** words in appropriate style on the answer sheet.

Put the question number on the line at the top of your answer sheet.

- 1** You have decided to do the same summer job that you did last year. You want to persuade your English-speaking friend, Jan, to do the job as well.

Read the advertisement for the job and also read your notes. Then, using all your notes, write your letter persuading Jan to join you.

**HELP NEEDED THIS SUMMER**

**Every summer we run an International Camp for 8 to 12-year-old children.**

**You will help with:**

- **outdoor activities**
- **entertainment**
- **sports competitions**
- **children’s games**

**Free accommodation**

**Free food**

**Only 5 hours’ work a day!**

Beautiful place...

Explain why the work was fun last year!

Not wonderful, but...

Tents!

Enough free time for us to do...



- 2** The school where you learn English has decided to buy some DVDs in English. You have been asked to write a report for the Director of Studies, suggesting what kinds of DVDs the school should buy. In your report, you should also explain why students at the school will enjoy these DVDs.

Write your **report**.

- 3** You have seen this advertisement in *The Traveller* magazine and have decided to apply.

### **THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME**

WE ARE LOOKING FOR EIGHT PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES TO SPEND THREE MONTHS ON A SAILING TRIP AROUND THE WORLD. FREE OF CHARGE. NO SAILING EXPERIENCE IS NEEDED. TRAINING WILL BE GIVEN.

WRITE AND TELL US WHY YOU ARE THE PERSON WE ARE LOOKING FOR AND EXPLAIN HOW YOU WOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS EXPERIENCE.

APPLY TO OCEAN WORLD NOW!

Write your **letter of application**. Do not write any postal addresses.

# First Certificate in English Placement Test - Answer Sheet

**Time allowed: 2 hours**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student No: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Campus: \_\_\_\_\_ Course Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you taken a Cambridge exam before?                      Yes                      No

If so, which exam \_\_\_\_\_

when \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**Write all your answers on this answer sheet**  
**Please DO NOT USE dictionaries**

<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	Current Class: _____
Use of English _____/26	Writing _____/20 <b>Total</b> _____%
Speaking _____	
_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected <input type="checkbox"/> Waiting List	
_____	
_____	
_____	

**Section A – Reading**

**Part 1** (1 mark each)

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>A</b>															
<b>B</b>	✓														
<b>C</b>															
<b>D</b>															

\_\_\_\_\_ /15

**Part 2** (1 mark each)

<b>0</b>	<b>since</b>	<b>23</b>	
<b>16</b>		<b>24</b>	
<b>17</b>		<b>25</b>	
<b>18</b>		<b>26</b>	
<b>19</b>		<b>27</b>	
<b>20</b>		<b>28</b>	
<b>21</b>		<b>29</b>	
<b>22</b>		<b>30</b>	

\_\_\_\_\_ /15

**Part 3** (2 marks each)

<b>0</b>	<b>carry out the manager's</b>
<b>31</b>	
<b>32</b>	
<b>33</b>	
<b>34</b>	
<b>35</b>	

\_\_\_\_\_ /10

**Part 4** (1 mark each)

<b>0</b>	✓	<b>43</b>	
<b>00</b>	been	<b>44</b>	
<b>36</b>		<b>45</b>	
<b>37</b>		<b>46</b>	
<b>38</b>		<b>47</b>	
<b>39</b>		<b>48</b>	
<b>40</b>		<b>49</b>	
<b>41</b>		<b>50</b>	
<b>42</b>			

\_\_\_\_\_ /15

**Part 5** (1 mark each)

<b>0</b>	lover
<b>51</b>	
<b>52</b>	
<b>53</b>	
<b>54</b>	
<b>55</b>	
<b>56</b>	
<b>57</b>	
<b>58</b>	
<b>59</b>	
<b>60</b>	

\_\_\_\_\_ /10

**Total Score:** \_\_\_\_\_ /65





