

PRACTICE TEST 2

PAPER I: READING

Part 1

You are going to read an article about an inventor. For questions 1-8, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

The Black Falcon – Robot Doctor

While studying for his Ph.D. at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Akhil Madhani first saw robots in action and was impressed by their huge potential. That made him consider the possibility of replacing people with robots in difficult and dangerous situations. He was particularly fascinated to see how robots were used to deal with suspicious objects. From a safe distance, a policeman or soldier could command a robot to dismantle an explosive device. The job could be done without endangering lives or causing injuries.

Had his father not been a surgeon, the idea of using robot technology in the operating theatre might never have occurred to Akhil. He watched his father as he performed MIS, or minimally invasive surgery, which allows doctors to minimise the impact of their work inside the patient's body by using advanced technology. Since the late 1980s, surgeons have been using MIS to do certain kinds of operations, making tiny incisions rather than large openings and inserting miniature television cameras in order to view the interior of the area needing surgery. However, they have been using non-computerised instruments that are controlled manually.

line 29 Akhil Madhani came up with the idea of using computerized, remote-controlled robots instead. He showed us the two-inch-thick notebook full of sketches he had compiled before he perfected a model that could work. Though the Black Falcon, as he calls it, started with a momentary flash of inspiration, he spent a long, long time developing it before it became a feasible reality.

The Black Falcon consists of a long thin arm, with a metal wrist and two tiny fingerlike tongs at the end. The surgeon, who sits at a console and watches a monitor that magnifies images of the patient's organs, operates the tiny hand using a joystick. The tiny robot's fingers are more

versatile than the human variety, so they can perform extremely complex and delicate surgical procedures.

Akhil explained why the robot could be considered preferable to a surgeon's fingers. Because it's so small, the Falcon can actually go inside the patient, precisely accessing the part of the body to be operated on. The incision itself is tiny, which minimises the shock to the body, the length of time the operation takes, and the time the body will take to heal. The robot will make all kinds of surgery easier, but its most important application will be in heart operations, where it can go in between the ribs, avoiding having to split the rib cage down the middle.

The robot has another advantage. As a child, Akhil had noticed how tired his father was after operating for hours. Giving commands to a robot requires far less effort than actually carrying out a procedure. It is less exhausting for the surgeon and so eliminates much of the risk of human error – mistakes can easily be made when you are tired. line 60

The scientific world has already recognised its enormous potential and Akhil has been awarded prestigious prizes for his invention. "It bothers me that people think inventors are like magicians who pull rabbits out of a hat. Scientific inventions only take shape after hard work and a great deal of trial and error." line 68

By the time he was 30, Akhil Madhani had already come up with an invention that may change the face of surgery. But there is no reason to suppose that he will confine himself to the field of medicine in the future. When inspiration strikes again, he may invent something entirely different. "I spend a lot of my free time just sitting around thinking what would be the next really cool thing," he says. What that will be is anyone's guess.

- 1 Security forces operate robots to
 - A take apart bombs.
 - B replace people.
 - C prevent loss of life.
 - D avoid dangerous devices.

- 2 The author uses the phrase "two-inch-thick notebook" (line 29) to show
 - A that Akhil had done a lot of work on his invention.
 - B that Akhil's sketches were fascinating to look at.
 - C how Akhil worked mainly using sketches.
 - D how Akhil first thought of his idea.

- 3 The Black Falcon is different from previous surgical techniques because it
 - A requires only a small incision.
 - B is controlled by a computer.
 - C uses images of the patient's organs.
 - D does not require an operating theatre.

- 4 During the operation, using the fine technique of the robot would
 - A only be possible in small operations.
 - B slow down the operating time.
 - C speed up the patient's recovery.
 - D prevent mistakes being made.

- 5 What does the word 'It' (line 60) refer to?
 - A operating for hours
 - B the same effort
 - C giving commands
 - D carrying out the procedure

- 6 The author uses the phrase "pull rabbits out of a hat" (line 68) as an example of
 - A the amazing abilities of inventors.
 - B achievements that are only tricks and not real.
 - C things that look quick and easy to do.
 - D the hard work that it takes to learn magic tricks.

- 7 In his leisure time, Akhil
 - A likes to keep cool.
 - B lets his mind wander freely.
 - C wonders what will become of him.
 - D thinks of new surgical procedures.

- 8 Which of the following contributed most to Akhil's invention?
 - A the support he got from his father and the scientists
 - B his medical and military experiences
 - C a practical attitude to his health problems
 - D his creativity and technical ability

Part 2

You are going to read a magazine article about a hotel with a difference. Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A-H** the one which fits each gap (9-15). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Try the “Coolest” Holiday on the Planet

How about spending a weekend in the world’s largest igloo?

If you’re looking for a completely different “getaway”, you should visit the world’s only hotel built entirely of ice. Located 125 kilometres north of the Arctic Circle at Jukkasjarvi, deep in the heart of Swedish Lapland, the IceHotel is an unlikely success story.

In a frozen landscape, far from civilisation, the hotel stands in one of Europe’s last great wildernesses – a vast, glittering expanse of crystal clear lakes, ice and snow, towering mountains, glaciers, waterfalls and extensive green forests. My first view of the place left me speechless. **9** But the hotel bore no resemblance whatsoever to a small dome of ice with a door you crawl through. It was enormous! Later, I learned that it occupies 3,500 square metres of floor space.

So what is it that attracts over 20,000 visitors and 3,000 guests a year to this hotel? The answer lies in the concept. **10** This appeals to the curious among us, and those with a sense of adventure, who want to know what it’s like to spend the night in this pristine wilderness surrounded by ice.

I arrived in the high season, mid-January, having booked well in advance via the Net. Open only from December to April, there are no off-season specials or cheap weekends in the spring. **11**

Built on the banks of the Torne river, construction begins when the water freezes in mid-October. Since the hotel is rebuilt every year, the architects can indulge their fantasies. Their designs become more

and more elaborate. Sculptors are invited to carve works of art in ice for display in the hotel art gallery. **12** And in the spring, the ice hotel melts and flows back into the river, completing a natural ecological cycle without polluting the environment, yet providing much-needed employment in this remote area.

As for leisure, adventurous outdoor types will find a host of activities available, from snowmobiling to dogsledding and skiing. **13** For the romantic guest, there’s no better place to propose than under the magnificent Northern Lights in the deep blue skies over the Arctic Circle. The marriage ceremony can be held in the hotel’s Ice Chapel – a white wedding of course!

The management has thought of everything – your future offspring can even be baptized in the very same chapel. **14** The name you give the child must contain the letters *is* – the Swedish word for ice. Christopher? Isak? Do you get the idea?

So if you’re considering a visit, don’t pack your bathing costume or your Gucci loafers. **15** At night, your block of ice bed awaits, but as long as you do some exercises to warm up before jumping into your sleeping bag, you should sleep soundly, despite the chilling -3 to -8 degrees inside the hotel.

Snug under reindeer skins for insulation, I found it eerily quiet at night. And as I tried to sleep, I heard a sound I’d never heard before – but I wasn’t afraid – it was just my own heart beating!

- A** By then, the hotel starts to melt and is demolished.
- B** There is one restriction, however, which has become a tradition in the hotel.
- C** Sleeping bags on the floor are not exactly my idea of a hotel bed.
- D** But, being more laid-back myself, I settled for vodka in the Absolut Icebar and – yes you’ve guessed it – it was served in a glass made of ice.
- E** The exhibitions have become quite a tourist attraction.
- F** It has all the trademarks of an ordinary hotel: lobby, reception rooms, bar and bedrooms, but the amazing fact is that everything is made of ice.
- G** When you think of accommodation made of ice, the image of an igloo springs to mind.
- H** You’re far better off with thermal underwear and hiking boots.

PAPER 1: READING Part 3 (Questions 16-30)

Part 3

You are going to read a magazine article about specially trained dogs. For questions 16-30, choose from the dogs (A-D). The dogs may be chosen more than once.

Which dog(s)

work with other dogs?

16		17	
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depends more on sight than smell?

18	
----	--

gets unwanted attention from strangers?

19	
----	--

owes much of its expertise to heredity?

20	
----	--

look for approval?

21		22	
----	--	----	--

works in dangerous conditions?

23	
----	--

is entitled to special permission?

24	
----	--

sees the work as a kind of amusement?

25	
----	--

helps save the lives of other animals?

26	
----	--

has travelled by plane?

27	
----	--

are constantly in training?

28		29	
----	--	----	--

works with environmentalists?

30	
----	--

Working Dogs

Mark Bancroft spent a year in the United States meeting dog owners whose animals have been trained to be useful to human beings.

A “Without **Suzie**, my **Labrador**, at my side, I’d never be able to go out alone,” New York resident Marie de Vries told me. Marie is blind, and Suzie acts as her eyes, leading Marie along crowded streets and threading through the traffic on busy roads. She accompanies Marie on shopping sprees and goes into restaurants too; even though there is a law against dogs, exceptions are made for guide dogs. Passersby have to be discouraged from petting Suzie, since nothing must be allowed to divert her attention from the road. Before becoming a guide dog, Suzie underwent months of intensive training, part of it with her future owner. Now she is one of the family and plays in the back garden when she isn’t working. And she always licks Marie’s hand to show her pleasure when Marie praises her for a job well done.

B **Andy**, a **golden retriever**, is one half of a specially trained FBI team that searches for illegal drugs. Andy lives with special agent Ted, who devoted months to training him and teaching him what to search for. “Even now,” Ted told me, “I’m constantly hiding drugs in all kinds of strange places, to keep Andy on his toes.” Andy must also be exercised daily as it’s important that he stay in good shape. Working at airports, sea ports, bus stations and border crossings, Andy is able to identify six different drugs using his keen sense of smell. Sometimes he and Ted go to schools to demonstrate their work. Andy loves the contact with children, but above all, he enjoys a playful tug of war with his master when Ted wants to show his appreciation for Andy’s successes. In fact, Andy’s inherent playfulness is an important factor in his line of work. Trainers are careful to choose breeds with a strong play drive which makes them enthusiastic about jumping on furniture and searching inside suitcases in order to retrieve an object.

C **Kip**, a **German shepherd**, belongs to a unit that searches for survivors of disasters who have been buried alive under tons of rubble. His unit is rushed to the scene as quickly as possible to search for trapped victims who may be seriously injured or dehydrated. Often risking their own lives, the dogs sniff out survivors, so that a rescue team can pinpoint their location. Dogs are an indispensable asset in these situations, since using heavy equipment to remove debris would endanger the people buried underneath. When he is not on a mission, Kip lives with Peter, his handler, and spends 15-20 hours a week keeping fit and improving his efficiency. Besides barking when he smells a survivor, Kip has been trained to walk carefully over unstable ground and crawl into small places. He has even learned to tolerate loud noise and to remain calm when being lowered by rope from a helicopter. Kip has helped to find people under collapsed buildings in the UK and as far away from home as Turkey and Taiwan.

D Looking at **Tucker**, it’s hard to believe that he could pose a danger to black bears or mountain lions. Medium-sized and black-and-white like a panda, Tucker is one of a team of **Karelian Bear Dogs**. “Karelian dogs are of Finnish descent,” handler Ben Sommer explains. “They’re hunters by nature, so they don’t need extensive training.” Tucker and the other Karelian dogs are being used as part of a local wildlife protection programme to deter wild bears from approaching residential areas and campsites. Karelian dogs move in quickly, nip the bear and retreat. The loud bark of this breed affects the bear like no other variety of dog can. By scaring the bears away, the dogs help reintroduce their natural fear of humans, preventing the need to kill or relocate them.

Part 1

For questions 1-12, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

0 A out B up C over D off

0	A	B	C	D
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Lie Detectors

The thought of having to pass a polygraph (or lie detector) test makes even innocent people break (0) in a nervous sweat. Of course, people can always refuse to (1) it, but there is really nothing to fear, unless they are lying. The polygraph machine is simply a useful tool that is used in police (2) to check the facts given by a suspect, an informant or a witness at the (3) of a crime.

The polygraph is (4) on a scientific principle that a person's body will respond in a (5) way when he or she is (6) a lie. A polygraph test is carried out in stages. First of all, the person being tested is asked simple questions, which are (7) unrelated to the crime. For example, a 20-year-old may be asked: "Are you 20 years old?" When the individual answers, his or her (8) rate, perspiration and breathing patterns are recorded on the machine. Then they are (9) with his or her physical responses when answering another set of questions that are (10) to the crime.

The polygraph test is not 100% reliable; (11) it comes very close. Anyone trying to cheat will almost (12) be caught.

- | | | | | |
|----|------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | A fail | B pass | C take | D set |
| 2 | A searches | B investigations | C estimations | D experiments |
| 3 | A point | B scene | C place | D site |
| 4 | A based | B created | C developed | D established |
| 5 | A familiar | B sure | C fixed | D specific |
| 6 | A speaking | B saying | C telling | D making |
| 7 | A rather | B totally | C fully | D very |
| 8 | A heart | B blood | C temperature | D pressure |
| 9 | A measured | B compared | C identified | D analysed |
| 10 | A fastened | B joined | C referred | D connected |
| 11 | A besides | B despite | C nevertheless | D whereas |
| 12 | A clearly | B securely | C obviously | D certainly |

Part 2

For questions 13-24, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one** word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS**.

Example: 0 I N

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Tartan, the Cloth of the Scottish Clans

Brightly coloured checked skirts seem to be (0) fashion this year. Today, we associate these checked patterns, called tartans, (13) Scotland. However, tartans probably originated in Ireland and were brought to Scotland by an ancient Irish people, the Celts, (14) settled there.

In Scotland, men have been wearing clothing with a tartan pattern (15) hundreds of years. The tartan cloth (16) initially worn as a long shirt, but Scottish men began using the cloth to make skirts or kilts.

Every Scottish clan or family group has (17) own traditional tartan. In (18) past, the colours in the cloth varied depending on the area of Scotland the clan occupied. This is (19) the colours came from dyes that were made from local soils and plants. The number of colours in the cloth showed a person's rank. The (20) colours you had, the higher your rank. For instance, a poor farmer's tartan contained only two colours, while an important chief of a clan wore a kilt with (21) least seven.

(22) to tradition, kilts were only worn by men, and you could not wear a tartan (23) you were descended from a clan. Fortunately, (24) are some tartans that don't belong to any clan and, therefore, can be worn by anyone, even girls!

PAPER 3: USE OF ENGLISH Part 3 (Questions 25-34)

Part 3

For questions 25-34, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS**.

Example: 0 P A R T I C U L A R L Y

Fighting Flu

In 1918, a (0) violent influenza outbreak affected half the world's population, (25) 20 million people. Fortunately, not all flu outbreaks are as serious or as devastating. For the most part, (26) spend a few miserable days in bed with a high temperature and (27) limbs and then they recover. That is (28) the case for people who are normally healthy.

- PARTICULAR**
- KILL**
- SUFFER**
- ACHE**
- USUAL**

For the elderly, or weak, flu is a more serious matter. Even a mild flu attack can have (29) consequences. Despite all the research and recent (30) in medicine, doctors have yet to find a complete cure for influenza. However, they have found a more effective method of (31) an outbreak among the susceptible members of society: children and the elderly – the flu vaccination. This gives quite good (32) against the infection.

- DANGER**
- DEVELOP**
- PREVENT**
- PROTECT**

Today, a network of doctors in over 85 countries (33) monitors viruses which can cause flu. Each year, they produce a new vaccine to deal with the (34) strains of the virus, which keeps mutating in order to defend itself from newer forms of the vaccine.

- CONTINUE**
- LATE**

Part 4

For questions 35-42, 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. Here is an example (0).

Example:

0 Sue was the one person who finished the test.

FROM

No one finished the test.

The gap can be filled by the words 'apart from Sue' so you write:

Example: 0 A P A R T F R O M S U E

Write **only** the missing words **IN CAPITAL LETTERS**.

35 It wasn't necessary for you to wait for me last night.

WAITED

You for me last night.

36 If I were you, I wouldn't lend John money.

BORROW

I wouldn't if I were you.

37 The milk jug is almost empty.

ANY

There is in the jug.

38 Steve is always blamed no matter what he does.

AVOID

Steve can't no matter what he does.

39 Please don't speak so loudly.

LOWER

Would you , please?

40 They sold the house for more than they paid for it.

PROFIT

They the house.

41 Helen asked me the price of admission to the gallery.

MUCH

Helen asked me to get into the gallery.

42 I can't believe this is the best room in the hotel.

MUST

There than this one in the hotel.

PAPER 4: LISTENING Parts 1 & 2 (Questions 1-18)

Part 1

You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1-8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 You hear someone talking to her friend.
What is she going to do?
A interview an actor
B appear on a chat show
C go to a film premiere</p> | <p>5 You switch on the radio and hear this advertisement.
What is being advertised?
A bath products
B a health club
C a holiday</p> |
| <p>2 You hear a man talking to a friend.
What kind of job is he looking for?
A temporary
B full-time
C part-time</p> | <p>6 You hear part of a radio play.
Where is the couple?
A in a shop
B at home
C at a campsite</p> |
| <p>3 You overhear a woman talking to her friend.
Why is she upset with her husband?
A He went to a sporting event.
B He paid a lot for tickets.
C He didn't get a ticket for her.</p> | <p>7 You overhear an office worker speaking on the telephone.
Who is he speaking to?
A his employer
B a travel agent
C a customer</p> |
| <p>4 You hear this traffic announcement on the radio.
Why will drivers have problems travelling north?
A It's market day.
B The road is being repaired.
C The road is closed this morning.</p> | <p>8 You overhear a woman talking about a wedding.
How did she feel on the day?
A upset
B anxious
C excited</p> |

Part 2

You will hear a radio interview with a man who wants to travel around the world in a balloon. For questions 9-18, complete the sentences.

BALLOONING

- Rick's last attempt failed because of 9
- Predicting the weather is most difficult over 10
- Rick suffered 11 in the crash landing.
- Rick often feels 12 and hungry when he's in the air.
- Rick's company produces 13
- As a boy, Rick admired arctic 14
- Rick learnt to fly when he was 15
- The most expensive piece of equipment is 16
- There are nearly 40 people in the 17
- Rick believes he'll succeed when he finds the right 18

Part 3

You will hear five different people talking about their clothes. For questions 19-23, choose from the list (A-F) what each speaker says. Use the letters only once. There is one extra letter which you do not need to use.

- | | | | |
|---|-----------|----------------------|----|
| A I was hurt by some comments about my clothes. | Speaker 1 | <input type="text"/> | 19 |
| B I am proud of what I wore. | Speaker 2 | <input type="text"/> | 20 |
| C I wore something that didn't suit me. | Speaker 3 | <input type="text"/> | 21 |
| D I enjoy looking different. | Speaker 4 | <input type="text"/> | 22 |
| E I am not interested in how I look. | Speaker 5 | <input type="text"/> | 23 |
| F I was embarrassed about my appearance. | | | |

Part 4

You will hear an interview with Tricia Brown, a food and restaurant critic. For questions 24-30, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 24 Tricia began working in the food business
- | | | |
|---|----------------------|----|
| A because she couldn't find a job. | <input type="text"/> | 24 |
| B since she was already writing restaurant reviews. | | |
| C following a disappointment. | | |
- 25 According to Tricia it is most important that a food critic
- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----|
| A provide information. | <input type="text"/> | 25 |
| B amuse the reader. | | |
| C be knowledgeable about food. | | |
- 26 Why did Tricia stop taping her comments on restaurants?
- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----|
| A It was no longer necessary. | <input type="text"/> | 26 |
| B It was no longer convenient. | | |
| C It was no longer possible. | | |
- 27 What is Tricia's attitude to writing negative reviews?
- | | | |
|--|----------------------|----|
| A She tries to be very objective. | <input type="text"/> | 27 |
| B She enjoys the influence she has. | | |
| C She gives the public the hard facts. | | |
- 28 Why does Tricia travel abroad?
- | | | |
|--|----------------------|----|
| A It is important to try out ethnic cuisine not available locally. | <input type="text"/> | 28 |
| B She prefers authentic food to the local version. | | |
| C She feels she ought to know more than her readers. | | |
- 29 Usually, when going to review a restaurant, Tricia
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----|
| A wears some kind of disguise. | <input type="text"/> | 29 |
| B does not book a table. | | |
| C has her guest make a booking. | | |
- 30 Tricia makes sure that restaurant staff
- | | | |
|---|----------------------|----|
| A will not recognise her. | <input type="text"/> | 30 |
| B can't prepare for her visits ahead of time. | | |
| C treat her like any other diner. | | |