



# G.C.E. A/L Examination November - 2015

Conducted by Field Work Centre, Thondaimanaru

In Collaboration with

Zonal Department of Education Jaffna.

Grade :- 13 (2016)

**General English**

Time :- Three hours

1) Choose A, AN, THE or (/) for "no article" for each blank below and write it on the blank (  $\frac{1}{2} \times 10 = 5$  marks)

- 1) Armadillos are animals which are most active at .....night.  
Sometimes, you see them during .....day, but that's less common.
- 2) Unfortunately, .....yesterday I had to spend .....whole day studying for my biology final. I think I did well on the test, but I won't know until .....next week.
- 3) I really loved .....Christmas when I was a kid. My favorite part was getting up in.....Morning and finding all the gifts from Santa under the tree.
- 4) I'm so stressed out at work; I really need to take .....whole month off and just relax on a tropical beach somewhere. Maybe I can do that.....next summer.
- 5) When I was a kid, I spent .....summer on a beach in Florida. Now, I have to work..... every summer.
- 6) Do you want to meet for dinner on.....Wednesday? Or if you prefer, we could get together..... next Monday.
- 7) My cable television company has terrible customer service! I was on the phone with them for entire hour and nobody could answer my question. I think tomorrow, I'm going to call them up and cancel my service.
- 8) The conference started at noon and didn't finish until late in evening. We spent whole time listening to boring speeches.
- 9) Have you ever heard of Halloween? It's a holiday that Americans celebrate on October 31.
- 10) I didn't sleep at all last night. I spent whole night lying awake. And today, I can barely keep my eyes open.

**2) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the given verb. Separate multiple answers with a comma and a space.** (½ x 10 = 5 marks)

- 1) If anyone ---- (suffer) from color-blindness, he is not allowed to get driving license due to haphazard situations he may cause in roads.
- 2) If I ---- (make) my own decisions to choose which university to go to, I ---- (not waste) two years going to a faculty I had never been interested in.
- 3) Considering technological advances so far, we can say that if man ---- (have) the determination to succeed, there is nothing he cannot achieve.
- 4) Only if you ---- (follow) a healthy diet with a recommended calorie amount, will you start losing weight.
- 5) You can get a visa to England much more easily if you ---- (claim) an invitation letter in the passport office of the British Embassy.
- 6) If you keep (keep) quiet and try to listen for a moment, you ---- (can understand) what I intend to say.
- 7) Things ---- (be) totally different now from what we expected for our foundation if it weren't for the regular donation given by the charity.
- 8) If it ---- (not be) for your kindness to give me a hand, I ---- (not be able to) give in the project in time.
- 9) But for the negative effects of television on children, many people ---- (consider) it to be a means for educational purposes.
- 10) Nowadays, finding a job is so difficult that you ---- (can not guarantee) to be called for an interview even if you have had a master's degree.

**3) Change the following sentences into passive voice** (1 x 15 = 15 marks)

- 1) People speak Portuguese in Brazil
- 2) The Government is planning a new road near my house
- 3) My grandfather built this house in 1943
- 4) The cleaner has cleaned the office
- 5) He had written three books before 1867
- 6) John will tell you later
- 7) By this time tomorrow we will have signed the deal
- 8) Somebody should do the work
- 9) The traffic might have delayed Jimmy
- 10) Everybody loves Mr Brown
- 11) They are building a new stadium near the station
- 12) The wolf ate the princess
- 13) At six o'clock someone was telling a story
- 14) Somebody has drunk all the milk!
- 15) I had cleaned all the windows before the storm

**4) Complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets** (1 x 15 = 15 marks)

- 1) I (learn) .....English for seven years now.
- 2) But while I was doing the language course, I (meet)..... lots of young people from all over the world.
- 3) There I noticed how important it (be)..... to speak foreign languages nowadays.
- 4) Now I (have)..... much more fun learning English than I (have)..... before the course.
- 5) At the moment I (revise)..... English grammar.
- 6) And I (begin / already)..... to read the texts in my English textbooks again.
- 7) I (think)..... I (do)..... one unit every week.
- 8) My exam (be)..... on 15 May, so there (not / be)..... any time to be lost.
- 9) If I (pass)..... my exams successfully, I (start)..... an apprenticeship in September.
- 10) And after my apprenticeship, maybe I (go)..... back to London to work there for a while.
- 11) As you (see / can)....., I (become)..... a real London fan already.

**5) Rearrange the jumbled words to make sentences** (2 x 8 = 16 marks)

Each set of words is a jumbled sentence with **one** extra word. The corrected sentence, with the words rearranged and punctuation added, is shown beneath each jumbled set.

- 1) writing system telephone am to I about banking your and complain
- 2) I tried four details this week to system access feel to account my times have use the
- 3) crashed on I the system been that each informed this computer has have occasion
- 4) branch day person unable to working I a am I bank my as during the visit
- 5) I access do addition service have so internet use cannot great the to in your not online
- 6) advertise use convenient have telephone you as to banking your service and easy
- 7) afraid not of work evidence have I features seen am I either yet these of
- 8) grateful will problems I as would that be soon finished for have I described an the possible as assurance out be sorted

**6) Change the following to indirect speech**

**(1 x 14 = 14 marks)**

- a) He says, "Switzerland is the heaven on earth."
- b) The Shopkeeper says, "Prices are shooting up alarmingly."
- c) She said, "Nobody can solve the problem."
- d) Antony said, "Martin has gone home."
- e) She said, "I shall be taking a test."
- f) The man said, "Is your father at home?"
- g) The clerk asked his manager, "Shall I email this letter again, Sir?"
- h) She said, "Will you tell me what it means, David?"
- i) She said to me, "How have you done this sum?"
- j) The policeman said to the stranger, "Who are you? Where do you come from?"
- k) The old man said, "Thief! Thief! Catch him!"
- l) The accused said to the judge, "Let me meet my family before I die, sir".
- m) The on-lookers said, "Bravo! Good hit, Jehan!"

**7) Read the following paragraph on making changes in your personality. Fill in the blanks with a particle to complete the phrasal verbs.** (First two have been done for you)

**( $\frac{1}{2}$  x 10 = 5 marks)**

Do you think it is possible to change fundamental parts of your personality? Do you have any personality traits that you would love to (1) get rid of, but instead you just (2) put up with? Perhaps you are painfully shy, or you have problems getting (3) \_\_\_\_\_ people. Perhaps you are a control freak, (4) taking \_\_\_\_\_ everything and everyone that you are involved with. Perhaps you never finish things, (5) giving \_\_\_\_\_ whenever you (6) run \_\_\_\_\_ problems. Everybody has at least one personality characteristic that is (7) holding them \_\_\_\_\_ either personally or professionally. Psychologists say it is possible to make personality changes, but it can be very difficult. The first thing they are quick to (8) point \_\_\_\_\_ is that you must be very motivated to (9) bring \_\_\_\_\_ successful changes. For anxiety problems, some doctors report that they have seen changes (10) come \_\_\_\_\_ in group therapy where they are able to develop confidence in being with others. For anger issues, some doctors recommend (11) writing \_\_\_\_\_ their feelings in a journal, taking walks as needed, and especially learning to forgive themselves. Whatever change you want to make, permanent changes take time, so remember to have patience and to (12) keep \_\_\_\_\_ trying.

**8) Fill in the blanks in the following part of the dialogue appropriately. (½ x 10 = 5 marks)**

While Mr. Liyanage was on his way to Matara in his car, he was attacked by a group of unidentified persons. He was admitted to the Karapittya hospital. The Inspector the Matara Police questions him at the hospital.

Inspector : Good morning. Mr. Liyanage

Mr. Liyanage : .....

Inspector : Now Mr. Liyanage, I hope you feel well enough to answer a few questions.

Mr. Liyanage : .....

Inspector : Good. First of all we have to establish your identity.

Mr. Liyanage : My identity Don't you even know who I am? How long ..... in? hospital

Inspector : Three days. But we find no papers on you at all. Whoever attacked you also has stolen your wallet.

Mr. Liyanage : But what about ..... ? Surely you could find out my identity from that.

Inspector : Your car was stolen too. So, you see, we are completely in dark.

Mr. Liyanage : Oh, is that so. Inspector? Anyway did ..... after this incident?

Inspector : No she didn't speak to me at all. In fact, we don't know who your wife is.

**9) Select one of the situations given below and write a complaint letter (10 marks)**

❖ You have bought a new laptop computer and in a few days of purchase discovered a major flaw. Write a letter to the company. In your letter

- introduce yourself

- explain the situation

- say what action you would like the company to take.

❖ You have bought a new mobile phone and in a few days after purchase it has stopped working. You spoke to the company representative a week ago but the phone has still not been repaired.

❖ Write a letter to the company. In your letter

- introduce yourself

- explain the situation

- say what action you would like the company to take.





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Answer

Grade :- 13 (2016)

1. Choose A, AN, THE or (/) for "no article" for each blank below and write it on the blank

( $\frac{1}{2} \times 10 = 5$  marks)

Answers

- 1) Armadillos are animals which are most active at (/) night. Sometimes, you see them during the day, but that's less common.
- 2) Unfortunately, (/) yesterday I had to spend the whole day studying for my biology final. I think I did well on the test, but I won't know until (/) next week.
- 3) I really loved (/) Christmas when I was a kid. My favorite part was getting up in the morning and finding all the gifts from Santa under the tree.
- 4) I'm so stressed out at work; I really need to take a whole month off and just relax on a tropical beach somewhere. Maybe I can do that (/) next summer.
- 5) When I was a kid, I spent the summer on a beach in Florida. Now, I have to work (/) every summer.
- 6) Do you want to meet for dinner on (/) Wednesday? Or if you prefer, we could get together (/) next Monday.
- 7) My cable television company has terrible customer service! I was on the phone with them for an entire hour and nobody could answer my question. I think (/) tomorrow, I'm going to call them up and cancel my service.
- 8) The conference started at (/) noon and didn't finish until late in the evening. We spent the whole time listening to boring speeches.
- 9) Have you ever heard of (/) Halloween? It's a holiday that Americans celebrate on (/) October 31.
- 10) I didn't sleep at all (/) last night. I spent the whole night lying awake. And today, I can barely keep my eyes open.

2. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the given verb. Separate multiple answers with a comma and a space. (  $\frac{1}{2} \times 10 = 5$  marks)

Answers

Answers

- 1) suffers
- 2) had made, wouldn't have wasted
- 3) has
- 4) follow
- 5) claim
- 6) can understand
- 7) would be
- 8) hadn't been, wouldn't have been able to
- 9) would consider
- 10) cannot guarantee

**3. Change the following sentences into passive voice**

(1x 15= 15 marks)

Answers

- 1) Portuguese is spoken in Brazil
- 2) A new road is being planned near my house
- 3) This house was built in 1943 by my grandfather
- 4) The office has been cleaned
- 5) Three books had been written before 1867
- 6) You will be told later by John
- 7) By this time tomorrow the deal will have been signed
- 8) The work should be done
- 9) Jimmy might have been delayed by the traffic
- 10) Mr Brown is loved by everybody
- 11) A new stadium is being built near the station
- 12) The princess was eaten by the wolf
- 13) At six o'clock a story was being told
- 14) All the milk has been drunk
- 15) All the windows have been cleaned by me before the winter

**4. Complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets**

(1x 15= 15 marks)

Answers

1. I have been learning English for seven years now.
2. But while I was doing the language course, I met lots of young people from all over the world.
3. There I noticed how important it is to speak foreign languages nowadays.
4. Now I have much more fun learning English than I had before the course.
5. At the moment I am revising English grammar.
6. And I have already begun to read the texts in my English textbooks again.
7. I think I will do one unit every week.
8. My exam is on 15 May, so there is not any time to be lost.
9. If I pass my exams successfully, I will start an apprenticeship in September.
10. And after my apprenticeship, maybe I will go back to London to work there for a while.
11. As you can see, I have become a real London fan already.

**5. Rearrange the jumbled words to make sentences**

(2 x 8 = 16 marks)

Answers

- 1) I am writing to complain about your telephone banking system.  
Extra word: and
- 2) I have tried four times this week to use the system to access my account details.  
Extra word: feel
- 3) On each occasion, I have been informed that the computer system has crashed.  
Extra word: this
- 4) As a working person, I am unable to visit my branch during the day.  
Extra word: I
- 5) In addition, I do not have access to the internet so cannot use your online service.  
Extra word: great
- 6) You advertise your telephone banking service as easy to use and convenient.  
Extra word: have

- 7) I am afraid I have not yet seen evidence of either of these features.  
Extra word: work
- 8) I would be grateful for an assurance that the problems I have described will be sorted out as soon as possible.  
Extra word: finished

**6. Change the following into indirect speech**

**(1 x 14 = 14 marks)**

Answer

- a. He said that Switzerland is the heaven on earth.
- b. The shopkeeper says that prices are shooting up alarmingly.
- c. she said that nobody could solve the problem.
- d. Antony said that Martin had gone home.
- e. She said that she would be taking a test.
- f. The man asked me whether my father was at home.
- g. The clerk asked his manager politely if he should email that letter again.
- h. She asked David if he would tell her what it meant.
- i. She asked me how I had done that sum.
- j. The policeman enquired the stranger who he was and where he came from.
- k. The old man shouted to the crowd to catch the thief.
- l. The accused begged the judge to allow him to meet his children before he died.
- m. The on-lookers applauded Jehan for his good hit.

**7. Read the following paragraph on making changes in your personality. Fill in the blanks with a particle to complete the phrasal verbs.** (First two have been done for you) **( $\frac{1}{2} \times 10 = 5$  marks)**

**answers**

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1) (get) rid of         | 7) (holding) them back |
| 2) (put) up with        | 8) (point) out         |
| 3) (getting) along with | 9) (bring) about       |
| 4) (taking) over        | 10) (come) about       |
| 5) (giving) up          | 11) (write) down       |
| 6) (run) into           | 12) (keep) on          |

**8. Fill in the blanks in the following part of the dialogue appropriately.**

**( $\frac{1}{2} \times 10 = 5$  marks)**

sample answer

1. Good morning (to you/sir/inspector)
2. Yes/ yes I (do) / yes I think so
3. Have I been / have I been staying / have I stayed
4. The car/ My car/ our car
5. My wife speak to you

**Sample answers**

- 1) Some people contend that mixed ability classes are more beneficial for children's development than streaming them on the basis of judgement about their academic abilities. However, from my perspective, I disagree with this contention.

Admittedly, mixed ability classes provide a better environment for children's all-round development. In such classes, children with different abilities study together and in turn they can learn from one another. For example, a student, who is good at academic study but weak in dancing or painting, can learn how to dance or paint from his peers. In this sense, mixed ability classes allow students to develop their abilities in different subjects instead of only academic abilities.

Despite the argument above, I believe streaming students brings more benefits to teachers and students. As for teachers, separating children with better academic abilities from others facilitates effective teaching. This practice helps teachers to control their students more conveniently and easily. Compared with mixed ability in which teacher should consider students' differences when they are using teaching methodologies, streaming makes this situation simpler. To be more specific, students are at the same level of academic ability in a class, and in turn teachers can use the same methodologies for them all. In this way, the narrower the spread of ability in the class, the more convenient the teaching can be.

On top of this, streaming enables students to learn in an effective way. According to students' different abilities, they are taught in different ways that are more suitable for them. In the top streams, students use more difficult materials, therefore, they can learn more. In sharp contrast, teachers can explain the material more slowly to those in bottom streams. Under this circumstance, students with different academic abilities can study effectively and efficiently.

In the final analysis, mixed ability classes are beneficial for students' versatile development, but in my opinion, segregating students based on different academic ability is better for both teachers and students.

- 2) The extent to which children have to follow rules is in itself a very complex issue, since children across the world grow up in very different cultures. In India for example, children are expected to be very submissive to their parents as well as other adults around them. This, however, is not the case with the Western countries of the world where children follow the motto 'Thou shalt do what thou wilt' as promoted by celebrities and rock stars. I believe that following strict rules has both advantages as well as serious drawbacks as discussed below.

Firstly, strict rules of behavior create responsible and respectful children who in turn mature into respectful adults. This forms a stable society which is virtually free from negative trends such as prostitution and drug abuse. Secondly, if children do not follow strict rules of behavior, they may get out of hand and become work-shy and indolent. This may then create a burden on the society since the government has to find ways to cater for these social ills.

However, forcing children to follow strict rules of behavior doesn't always yield positive results as discussed above, most of the time it backfires and works against society. For example, teenagers are more likely to do the opposite of what they're told to do simply because they want to be independent. Children should also have rights to exercise their free will and develop their own pattern of behaviors. Imposing strict rules may simply destroy the individuality of children.

At the end of the day, it is clear that children should be guided by rules, but these rules should not be imposed on them because as human beings, they need to have room to develop their own traits of character and adopt a behavioral pattern of their own.

***The above two are balanced discussion of the topic, effortlessly delivered in a form of a fluent, well-written school essay. The arguments and reasoning are laid out in a coherent, logical way. A wide range of vocabulary is used in this work. This work can be with 8marks out of ten***