

C2 MOCK EXAMINATION - Use of English and Reading Sections

SECTION I

CHOOSE THE CORRECT ALTERNATIVES TO COMPLETE THE SENTENCES.

1. ...., he always has difficulty in making ends meet.
  - a) How much work he takes on
  - b) How he takes on a lot of work
  - c) How much work does he take on
  - d) However much work he takes on
  
2. Since the law works so slowly, there is a considerable ..... of cases waiting for trial.
  - a) remainder
  - b) hangover
  - c) backlog
  - d) reserve
  
3. Hardly ..... under the shower when the phone rang.
  - a) had he got
  - b) he has got
  - c) he got
  - d) he was getting
  
4. They don't work the same shift any longer, but they still meet ..... in the canteen.
  - a) in time
  - b) at the same time
  - c) from time to time
  - d) on time
  
5. The more he does for her, .....
  - a) she seems dissatisfied
  - b) the more dissatisfied she seems
  - c) she's seeming dissatisfied
  - d) she seems more dissatisfied
  
6. You had nothing better to do. You ..... a hand with moving the furniture!
  - a) would have given
  - b) had to give
  - c) should give
  - d) might have given
  
7. By the time she realizes what's going on, the little money they've managed to save over the years ..... on another woman.
  - a) will have spent
  - b) will have been spent
  - c) is spending
  - d) has been spent

8. If his boss ..... him telling a competitor about their new products, he would still have a job.
- hadn't caught
  - wouldn't have caught
  - didn't catch
  - wouldn't catch
9. .... my colleagues, I would like to thank you for everything you have done for us.
- On behalf of
  - Instead of
  - In spite of
  - On account of
10. Can you give me a rough ..... of what the job might cost me?
- calculating
  - value
  - estimate
  - esteem
11. He'd hate to work in an office. He'd prefer a job which allowed him to spend most his time.....
- in air
  - off limits
  - in open
  - out of doors
12. .... for her support and help, he would have given up years ago.
- Unless it was
  - Had it not been
  - If she hadn't been
  - If it were
13. Don't you like it? I was ..... you liked Indian food.
- off the idea
  - thinking
  - in response to
  - under the impression
14. The article you want is ..... It should take about twenty working days to arrive. Shall I order it for you?
- out of sale
  - out of stock
  - on order
  - in stock
15. He is well ..... of the problems involved in setting up a business.
- acquainted
  - knowledgeable
  - learned
  - aware

16. She seems a lively, fun-loving person, but it would be a great mistake to ..... her intelligence.

- a) underrate
- b) despise
- c) depreciate
- d) devalue

**SECTION 2**

COMPLETE EACH SENTENCE SO THAT THE MEANING IS THE SAME AS THE FIRST SENTENCE.

1. It is believed that the man who died was repairing high-tension cables.

The man who died ..... high-tension cables.

2. Claire refused to work overtime and that's why she didn't get promotion.

If Claire hadn't ....., she ..... promoted.

3. Although drama critics acclaimed the play as unique, it didn't attract many people.

Despite ..... as unique by drama critics, the play didn't attract many people.

4. People speak to Alex as though he were a child, which he hates.

Alex resents ..... as though he were a child.

5. It's the best news I've ever received.

I've ..... news.

6. He never suspected that the picture he purchased had been stolen.

At no time ..... that the picture he purchased had been stolen.

7. They are putting in a new water-heater for me next week.

I ..... in next week.

8. Eating Japanese food is new to him.

He ..... before.

9. The suspect said he had been treated roughly by the police.

The suspect accused ..... roughly.

10. It's a pity he was driving so fast.

I wish ..... so fast.

11. It might be a good idea to go to bed earlier.

Why don't you try .....

12. Perhaps they didn't notice that they were running out of petrol.

They might ..... that they were running out of petrol.

SECTION 3

CHOOSE THE CORRECT ALTERNATIVES TO COMPLETE THE SENTENCES.

1. Your name ..... up in the course of our conversation.

- a) brought
- b) came
- c) got
- d) took

2. Those trainers have ..... Why don't you get a new pair?

- a) gone off
- b) expired
- c) dropped off
- d) seen better days

3. She wasn't helped. She did it .....

- a) off-hand
- b) with slight of hand
- c) single-handed
- d) with one hand

4. You're living in a world of make-believe! You'll have to ..... up to facts sooner or later.

- a) come
- b) bring
- c) look
- d) face

5. They treated you very badly. Aren't you tempted to ..... in some way?

- a) win them again
- b) go round the bend
- c) get your own back
- d) give them back

6. It's a formal wedding, so my husband and I will have to .....

- a) get dressed
- b) dress up
- c) wear our birthday suits
- d) wear dresses

7. She ..... a rage when she saw the mess they'd made.

- a) flew into
- b) went off
- c) blew up
- d) came into

8. She never comes here now. We only see her .....

- a) when the cows come home
- b) once in a blue moon
- c) time and time again
- d) once upon a time

9. The news of the robbery soon .....

- a) broke out
- b) came over
- c) spread out
- d) got round

10. John's doctor says he is ..... a nervous breakdown.

- a) closed to
- b) on edge
- c) nearby
- d) on the verge of

11. One little mistake shouldn't ..... again.

- a) stop you to try
- b) put you off trying
- c) prevent you to try
- d) get you off

12. I thought her behaviour was very out of .....

- a) mind
- b) personality
- c) character
- d) role

#### SECTION 4

FILL THE GAPS IN THE FOLLOWING TEXT WITH THE CORRECT FORMS OF THE WORDS BELOW. DO NOT USE THE SAME WORD TWICE.

CREATE - LUXURY - SHAME - ENERGY - UNDERTAKE  
RETIRE - JUSTIFY - DEAF - REVOLUTION - EMPHASISE

Armani plots a French revolution

The Italian designer Giorgio Armani, who 1..... women's fashion thirty years ago, has staged another revolution in Paris. At his age, Armani may be expected to be thinking of 2.....in some 3..... villa in Tuscany, or at least to be slowing down. On the contrary, fit, slim and 4.....despite his seventy years, Armani recently made his debut as a couturier with the opening show in the French haute couture season. Typically, Armani did it his own way. Ignoring convention in this historic – and notoriously expensive – French industry established in 1868, he staged his first haute couture show with an 5.....on accessibility and with a price list attached.

Other couturiers become afflicted with 6.....when asked how much one of their 7.....cost, on the basis of if you have to ask, you can't afford it. Armani, instead, said he had nothing to hide. Armani stated he was not 8.....of his prices. His spring/summer collection of evening wear was priced between £12,800 and £46,500, which is considered low in those circles. He said, "I'm hoping I'm going to make money out of this but I don't want to take advantage by adding euros to my prices." He added, "I'm not saying that most designer prices are too expensive, but that sometimes they are not 9.....expensive. My prices are."

Armani has invested a considerable amount of money in his new 10.....He said, "I've always had gowns in my ready-to-wear collections that were virtually couture in terms of their construction and amount of embroidery. I've waited so long because there have been so many other priorities."

#### SECTION 5

READ THE TEXT AND CHOOSE THE MOST SUITABLE ANSWER TO EACH QUESTION.

Outsiders are to be banned from buying houses in some of Britain's most desirable villages in an attempt to reduce the influx of wealthy owners of second homes. The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority claims that the banning of holiday home purchases will mean new properties selling at a discount of thirty per cent.

This radical move, which includes barn conversions, is being watched carefully by national parks across the UK. The aim of the move is to reverse the trend of young people being forced to move out because they cannot afford to live locally. House prices in the national park average £228,000, which is £100,000 more than the average cost of a home elsewhere in the region. Wealthy outsiders, looking for second homes or holiday cottages, are forcing up the price of homes so much that local people cannot buy. Other national parks, including Exmoor and the Lake District are facing similar problems.

In the Dales, fifteen per cent of all properties are second homes or holiday cottages and in the most popular villages, the proportion is as high as sixty-five per cent. In Exmoor and the Lake District national parks the proportion is of about twenty per cent.

A mass house-building programme is not feasible in national parks, where large-scale development would destroy the landscape they have been established to protect. The restricted occupancy strategy adopted by the Dales national park will not affect the sale of existing homes. The 10,000 existing historical houses in the Dales will continue to be bought and sold on the open market.

However, in thirty-three villages considered suitable for the building of new homes, developers will be allowed to sell only to people who have lived within the 684 square miles of the national park for at least three years or outsiders who have full-time employment in the area. The restriction will be permanent. Estate agents selling new homes or barn conversions will, in future, be obliged to advertise the fact that they can be purchased only by those who meet 'local needs' criteria.

The chairman of the Dales authority said that some of their villages were dying because local services such as buses, the post office, shops and pubs cannot be kept up. 'We have to provide affordable homes for local people. If a community dies, there will be no one left to protect the beautiful countryside which attracts millions of visitors every year,' he said.

The new policy was welcomed by local residents and parish councils that have been campaigning for the introduction of restrictive occupancy. One resident, who has run a café for the past nine years, said that the local housing situation had become desperate. 'About three quarters of the people I grew up with here have gone to the cities and towns for work and cheaper housing. A couple has to earn £20,000 each to be able to afford a mortgage and you're not going to find many round here who earn that,' he said.

The Yorkshire Dales is the third national park authority to implement restrictions on who can buy new homes. The Peak District did so more than ten years ago and Exmoor followed suit two months ago, with the Lake District imposing similar restrictions informally.

1. In this case, the term 'outsiders' refers to .....
  - a) rich people who like living in cottages
  - b) people who come from other regions to settle permanently in the Dales
  - c) people living elsewhere who can afford another house or holiday cottage in the Dales
  - d) foreigners who buy houses or cottages in the Dales
  
2. With this ban on outsiders, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority .....
  - a) will give a 30% discount
  - b) believes houses will cost 30% less
  - c) thinks local people will be able to buy holiday cottages for 30% of the original price
  - d) will eliminate all holiday cottages and converted barns in the area
  
3. The aim of the ban .....
  - a) is to stop people buying houses in the Dales
  - b) is to stop people who aren't local from going to the national parks
  - c) is to reverse the trend of the young people
  - d) is to encourage local young people to stay in the area

4. Houses .....
- a) in the national park are far more expensive than those which are not
  - b) in the national park are selling for £128,000 more than those which are not
  - c) cost £100 more than those outside the national park
  - d) in the national park are of an average price
5. Wealthy outsiders .....
- a) force local people to move out so they can buy their houses
  - b) are the only people able to afford to stay in a holiday cottage
  - c) have been buying houses in other national parks as well
  - d) cause trouble in national parks
6. .... in the Dales.
- a) 15% of outsiders live
  - b) There are some villages where only 35% of the inhabitants are local people
  - c) 65% of wealthy people have bought houses in popular villages
  - d) There are fewer wealthy people in the Exmoor and the Lake District national parks than
7. A large-scale housing development programme would .....
- a) be insufficient in the Dales
  - b) not be feasible as there are so few people who could afford to buy a house
  - c) not satisfy the outsiders as they only want to live in popular villages
  - d) spoil the natural beauty of the Dales
8. People will be able to buy newly-built houses in the Dales national park if .....
- a) they have lived in the area for more than three years or work full-time there
  - b) the house is in one of the thirty-three villages
  - c) they already exist
  - d) they have bought it on the open market
9. The ban .....
- a) will have to be advertised by estate agents
  - b) will stop estate agents from selling houses in the area
  - c) is appreciated by local inhabitants
  - d) will ensure that local inhabitants have more money to buy houses
10. The café owner .....
- a) cannot afford a mortgage on a house
  - b) has noticed a sharp fall in the number of local inhabitants
  - c) is desperate because local people are going to live and work in towns
  - d) does not think many couples will be able to afford houses despite the ban

Now check your answers against the answer sheet!

**REMEMBER**

*If you want to improve your english level, visit [www.milanoinglese.it](http://www.milanoinglese.it)  
The English Teacher Directory for Milano and Lombardia*