## IMPROYE YOUR CEFR LEX - GRAMMAR SKILLS - Level B1

## SUB-TEST: LEXICAL AND GRAMMAR COMPETENCE

## PART 1

Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space.
For each question, mark the correct answer $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$, or $\mathbf{D}$ on your answer sheet.

## Questions 1-10.

## Penny Lane

I used to have a friend called Penny Lane, you know like the Beatles' song. Mr and Mrs Lane must have had a really strange _Q1_ of humour or maybe they just weren't _Q2_fans of the Beatles - anyway their daughter Penny was always being made fun of. Kids can be so cruel. One day she must have got sick of it because she suddenly announced she would _Q3_ a trip to Penny Lane. That got us all laughing - Penny Lane in Penny Lane! - so we decided to go too and make her dream come true. I'd never been to Liverpool before and I was quite excited myself.

Anyway, we went by coach to Liverpool, playing word games to _Q4_ time on the boring journey. It was obviously Penny's lucky day because she won every time. When we arrived, we got a taxi from the station. Penny had a real thrill_Q5_ the taxi driver to go to Penny Lane. The driver didn't seem surprised at all to go there - I guess he does this journey _Q6_often.

It wasn't a long way and, suddenly, we had arrived. The taxi pulled _Q7_ next to a street sign proudly announcing Penny Lane. There was no way we were going to miss this golden _Q8_. Of course, we had to take a photo of Penny and we weren't _Q9_ only ones as there were lots of tourists doing the same. Then, completely spontaneously, we all started singing Penny Lane. _Q10_ a day! Penny, and the rest of us, will always remember it.

| Q1. | A) | sensation | B) | feeling | C) | sense | D) | superstation |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Q2. | A) | great | B) | large | C) | strong | D) | major |
| Q3. | A) | do | B) | take | C) | go | D) | ride |
| Q4. | A) | waste | B) | spend | C) | kill | D) | take |
| Q5. | A) | talking | B) | speaking | C) | saying | D) | telling |
| Q6. | A) | lots | B) | pretty | C) | many | D) | much |
| Q7. | A) | to | B) | by | C) | up | D) | in |
| Q8. | A) | possibility | B) | opportunity | C) | chance | D) | luck |
| Q9. | A) | a | B) | an | C) | the | D) | - |
| Q10. | A) | What | B) | How | C) | Such | D) | So |

## PART 2

In the following text, each line (Q11-Q20) has three underlined words or phrases marked $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}$, or C. Find the word or the phrase which has a mistake and must be changed in order for the sentence to be correct. If there is no mistake in the line, choose $\mathbf{D}$ (no mistake).

| E.g: $\underline{\text { A }}$ | According to me (A), she mustn't (B) leave the (C) company | D - no mistake |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Q11. | When Roman soldiers were paid (A), part of their earnings went into $\underline{(B)}$ a fund on (C) their behalf. | D - no mistake |
| Q12. | If they were in battle, than (A) this money was given (B) to their families. Or, if they were retired from (C) the army, they were given this money to help them start a new career. | D - no mistake |
| Q13. | In the days when pirates used to (A) attack ships at (B) sea, many sea captains used to club together to (C) putting money into a fund. | D - no mistake |
| Q14. | Then when (A) one of these captains was unluckiness (B) enough to get captured, money from the fund was used to pay (C) his ransom and so get him released as soon as possible. | D - no mistake |
| Q15. | Once (A) very important idea or principle that began to develop was that (B) if life assurance worked (C) well, a fund of money was needed. | D - no mistake |
| Q16. | People who wanted to have (A) assurance would join a club or society and pay money regularly (B) into the society's fund each (C) year. | D - no mistake |
| Q17. | The (A) problem that remained was this: how much (B) money should each person put into $(\mathbf{C})$ the fund? | D - no mistake |
| Q18. | This important question solved (A) by a mathematics teacher who worked in (B) London two hundred years ago (C). | D - no mistake |
| Q19. | James Dodson realized (A) that the number (B) each person should pay into the fund rested on the principle of (C) probability. | D - no mistake |
| Q20. | Using (A) his mathematics, James Dodson calculated the probability of (B) death for each individual which (C) wanted life assurance. | D - no mistake |

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## PART 3

Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space.
For each question, mark the correct answer $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$, or $\mathbf{D}$ on your answer sheet.

## Questions 21-30.

## Balloon Fiesta

If you love stories by Jules Verne and have always dreamt of going for a _Q21_ in a hot air balloon, England is the country for you. Every August England celebrates the biggest hot air balloon festival in Europe. The festival takes place in Bristol, a world centre for ballooning and is called the Bristol Balloon Festival. The festival was _Q22_ 28 years ago and has an amazing history. It began in 1978 when Don Cameron, the _Q23_ of the world's largest manufacturer, Cameron Balloons, decided to create an event that would help balloonists from all over the world _Q24_together. On the weekend of the 7th-9th September 1979, a small group of balloonists made up their_Q25_ to celebrate the first Bristol Balloon Fiesta. 27 balloons shot into the sky and were cheered by a large group of _Q26_. Not all the balloons were from England, some came from Germany, Luxembourg and Ireland. The Fiesta was sponsored by local businesses and some national companies. Each sponsor was given a balloon to display their advertising banners. A _Q27_ of 117 flights were made and the first balloon festival was declared a success. Over the years the Fiesta has grown to become the Europe's largest hot balloon festival enjoying crowds of delighted people and _Q28_media coverage. Of course, the main condition for the festival to be successful is not good management, but the Q29 $\qquad$ , which, as you know, is England's worst enemy.
Nobody in the whole world knows how _Q30_ wonderful hopes and events have been ruined by its Majesty the Rain.

| Q21. | A) | fly | B) | drive | C) | ride | D) | walk |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Q22. | A) | found | B) | start | C) | founded | D) | establishing |
| Q23. | A) | employer | B) | master | C) | employee | D) | owner |
| Q24. | A) | get | B) | go | C) | come | D) | be |
| Q25. | A) | money | B) | minds | C) | decisions | D) | force |
| Q26. | A) | audience | B) | spectators | C) | spectacles | D) | auditorium |
| Q27. | A) | totally | B) | total | C) | amount | D) | large |
| Q28. | A) | nation | B) | nationality | C) | nations | D) | national |
| Q29. | A) | money | B) | people | C) | weather | D) | whether |
| Q30. | A) | many | B) | much | C) | any | D) | little |

## You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen friend Dan who writes:

... I wasn't very happy when our teacher announced a city excursion. Walking round the city didn't look like the best way to spend Sunday morning. But I was wrong. ... ...
Do you like going on excursions and why? What things can spoil an excursion? What was the last excursion you went on? ...

## Write a letter to Dan. In your letter answer his questions.

Write your letter in about $\mathbf{6 0 - 8 0}$ words.
You can use this page for any rough work.

## TASK 2

## The day when you had to stay up until the morning.

You should write:

- when it was;
- why you had to stay up;
- what experience and feeling you had;
- whether it was difficult or not.

Write your narrative essay in about 120-140 words.

You can use this page for any rough work.

## KEYS

| LEXICAL \& GRAMMAR |
| :---: |
| Q1. C |
| Q2. A |
| Q3. B |
| Q4. C |
| Q5. D |
| Q. B |
| Q7. C |
| Q8. B |
| Q9. C |
| Q10. A |
| Q11. D |
| Q12. A |
| Q13. C |
| Q14. B |
| Q15. A |
| Q16. D |
| Q17. D |
| Q18. A |
| Q19. B |
| Q20.C |
| Q21. C |
| Q22. C |
| Q23. D |
| Q24. A |
| Q25. B |
| Q26. B |
| Q27. B |
| Q28.D |
| Q29. C |
| Q30. A |
|  |

