

ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ, ΔΙΑ ΒΙΟΥ ΜΑΘΗΣΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ  
ΚΡΑΤΙΚΟ ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΤΙΚΟ ΓΛΩΣΣΟΜΑΘΕΙΑΣ

Ministry of Education, Lifelong learning and Religious Affairs  
**English Language Certification**

**LEVEL** **B1&B2** on the scale set by the Council of Europe

**MODULE** **1** Reading comprehension and language awareness

**Period** **May 2011**

**ATTENTION**

- Do not open this booklet until the exam begins.
- Try to answer all the questions.
- Mark your answers on Answer Sheet 1 [ΑΠΑΝΤΗΤΙΚΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1].
- Provide ONE answer for each item.
- You have **85 minutes** to complete this exam.

**ACTIVITY 1****1.1 Read the text and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 1-2.**

1. The writer
- A. advises readers to work fewer hours.      B. criticizes people who overwork.      C. explains that people who work too hard may need help.
2. The writer is probably someone who
- A. is trying to relax more.      B. enjoys working a lot.      C. is trying to work harder.

# Workaholic

'Workaholics anonymous' is for real. Membership is free and the only qualification you need is the wish to stop working all the time. My favourite thing about it is that they also have meetings online and by phone for people who are too busy to turn up in person!

What's so wrong with being a workaholic anyway? At least it's better-paid than being addicted to more dangerous habits. Instead of getting you into debt, it gets you promotion, extra money and more interesting work. Aren't these things what most people want? Like many who work late into the night, I am a workaholic and proud of it. I know it's not very healthy, but it is preferable to being lazy. It's the latter who are likely to develop more dangerous addictions.

But there is a difference between those who are workaholics because they love their work and can relax at some point and those who are workaholics because they have nothing better to do.

I once saw a colleague get promoted to a job she was not ready for and she began to work around the clock to cover up for the fact that she didn't know what she was doing. The more hours she worked, the worse things became. In six months, she had a nervous breakdown.

Anyway, the point is you have to know whether being a workaholic is good for you and those around you. If you can manage to be a bit of a workaholic and yet still lead an ordinary life outside work, you're fine. If not, maybe you need help.



**1.2 Read the text again and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 3-6.**

3. Workaholics meetings are for people who
- A. are too busy.      B. want to work less.      C. enjoy working hard.
4. The members of Workaholics Anonymous
- A. do not have face-to-face meetings.      B. can talk to each other on the internet.      C. are too busy to talk to each other.
5. The writer thinks lazy people
- A. have a serious addiction problem.      B. are luckier than workaholics.      C. are in greater danger than workaholics.
6. The writer says that one of his colleagues worked very hard,
- A. but was not effective.      B. and was always upset.      C. and got a lot done.

**ACTIVITY 2**

Read the information in the leaflet below and match the meaning of each underlined word (7-13) with options A-H. There is one option you do not need.


<b>A.</b> connected	<b>B.</b> influences	<b>C.</b> differs	<b>D.</b> happens
<b>E.</b> is caused by	<b>F.</b> seems	<b>G.</b> cures	<b>H.</b> shows

<h2 style="text-align: center;">What is dyslexia?</h2> <p>Dyslexia is a specific learning difficulty that mainly (7) <u>affects</u> reading and spelling. Dyslexia is characterized by difficulties in processing word-sounds and by weaknesses in short-term verbal memory. Its effects may be observed in spoken language as well as written language. The current evidence (8) <u>suggests</u> that this difficulty (9) <u>arises from</u> inefficiencies in language-processing areas in the left hemisphere of the brain which, in turn, (10) <u>appears</u> to be linked to genetic differences.</p> <p>Dyslexia is life-long, but its effects can be minimised by literacy intervention,</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>technological support and adaptations to ways of working and learning. Dyslexia is not (11) <u>related</u> to intelligence, race or social background. Dyslexia (12) <u>varies</u> in severity and often (13) <u>occurs</u> alongside other specific learning difficulties, such as Attention Deficit Disorder.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>

**ACTIVITY 3**

Read the text below and for each gap (14-19) choose the best option (A-G). Use each option once only. There is one option you do not need.

<b>A.</b> from	<b>B.</b> for	<b>C.</b> beyond	<b>D.</b> at	<b>E.</b> after	<b>F.</b> to	<b>G.</b> of
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	<p>The ancient agora in Thessaloniki was the administrative centre of the city during the Roman period. It was built (14)_____ the end of the second century AD on the site (15)_____ an older agora. In the fifth century, the government moved it (16)_____ Galerius' Palace. In the sixteenth century, Jews (17)_____ Spain came to live in the area. The main entrance to the agora was on Olympou Street (as it is called today). The agora had a row of shops along today's Philippou Street. Some statues of the Muses were found near the ruins of a building, so the building was probably a theatre.</p> <p>(18)_____ the fire of 1917, the site was going to be used for the new law courts but it became an archeological site and the name was changed from "Plateia Dikastirion" [Law Courts Square] to "Plateia Archaia Agoras" [Ancient Agora Square].</p> <p>Today, the area of the agora known as the Odeon is used (19)_____ cultural events such as concerts, plays and exhibitions.</p>
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**ACTIVITY 5**

Read the text below and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 29-36.

**Opinion**

17

## How school failed me

Robyn Jones

Six years after leaving school, my experience leads me to conclude that I have achieved what I have in spite, not because, of my education. At secondary school, I remember being made to stand in front of my English Literature class while an angry teacher shouted: 'Who do you think you are? You'll never amount to anything!' Those were pretty harsh words for a 13-year-old whose only crime was to forget her dictionary. I loathed school. Admittedly, I wasn't the ideal student. I didn't always hand in my homework on time and wasn't always interested in what was going on in lessons but, even when I tried, it seemed to me as if I had little support.

At 13, I was preparing to sit for exams and I was predicted a very low grade for maths. My father, a former maths lecturer, was convinced that I could do much better and gave me hours of extra tuition after school.

While all my friends were living it up at the local disco, I was stuck at home having my brain stuffed full of algebra. No matter how much I cried or protested, my father always made me spend at least an hour with him as soon as he got home from work. When I received my results, my maths teacher told me I had got the highest mark possible. Yet she looked at me as if I had cheated.



When I was 14, my headmistress recommended to my parents that I repeat the year. Since primary school, I had been a year ahead, but my teachers at my secondary school seemed to think this was a mistake. They believed I would fail my final year exams. The option of encouraging me to work harder or giving me extra help was never offered. Instead that role fell to my parents, who were convinced that I was more than capable of passing my exams without repeating the year.

With extra tuition from my father and family friends who were teachers, I passed all 10 subjects, some with very good grades. While I was pleased to have done well, what gave me the greatest satisfaction was proving my teachers wrong.

The general lesson I learnt from my school years was that people's expectations of me were zero and that I would have to prove myself and dispel their low expectations of me. Without the encouragement of my parents and their positive example of success, I don't think I would have bothered to go to university.

My experience shows that the children of parents who take an active interest in their children's education do much better than children whose parents think it is the schools' responsibility to educate their children.

29. The writer  
 A. disliked her classmates.      B. was a bad student.      C. hated school.
30. The writer was negatively influenced by  
 A. her parents.      B. the headmistress.      C. her teachers.
31. The writer  
 A. partied with her friends a lot.      B. was tutored by her father.      C. stayed at school after hours.
32. Why did the teacher think the writer had cheated?  
 A. She had never before got a good grade.      B. She did better than expected.      C. She did not pay any attention in class.
33. The writer's parents were  
 A. supportive.      B. disapproving.      C. doubtful.
34. What satisfied the author the most?  
 A. She proved herself to the teachers.      B. She made her teachers proud.      C. She achieved excellent grades in all subjects.
35. According to the writer, what was particularly important for her success?  
 A. Studying hard.      B. Her parents' concern.      C. Knowledge gained at school.
36. The title "How school failed me" means that:  
 A. The writer did not pass any of her exams.      B. The writer was disappointed with school.      C. School did not prepare her well for university.

**ACTIVITY 6**

Read the extracts from newspaper articles (items 37-43) and match them with the topics (options A-H). There is one option you do not need.

<b>A.</b>	A criminal trial	<b>B.</b>	A new skin cream	<b>C.</b>	A football match
<b>D.</b>	Business news	<b>E.</b>	Holiday homes	<b>F.</b>	House prices
<b>G.</b>	Political developments	<b>H.</b>	Problems on the roads		

<b>37.</b>	Tomorrow's general election will mark the official end of 15 months of military rule and the restoration of parliamentary democracy.	
<b>38.</b>	A pre-sentence report said that Anna had a predisposition to violence and 'had not grasped the seriousness of the offence'.	
<b>39.</b>	Traffic built up yesterday afternoon, which was also expected to be the busiest of the holiday period, with an estimated 18 million cars travelling across the country.	
<b>40.</b>	However, those eyeing up real estate in Henley-on Thames should think twice. The town is the least affordable as the average property costs 13.1 times the average income of a first-time buyer.	
<b>41.</b>	Following successful tests of the product by our own in-house team, we are confident enough in the product to test it in a double blind clinical trial.	
<b>42.</b>	Securities backed by sub-prime mortgages are continuing to lose value as defaults on the underlying home loans keep rising and investors become increasingly wary of buying debt.	
<b>43.</b>	The whole game was much more balanced than the score line indicated. Actually, both teams were in excellent shape.	



**ACTIVITY 7**

Read this extract. For each gap (44-50) choose the best option (A-H). Use each option only once. There is one option you do not need.

<b>A.</b> admitted	<b>B.</b> fluttering	<b>C.</b> ever	<b>D.</b> entirely
<b>E.</b> for	<b>F.</b> breathtaking	<b>G.</b> since	<b>H.</b> sorted



I'm sitting in Paris and some butterflies are (44) \_\_\_\_\_ towards me. There are lots of them, and it feels as if I could allow one to land on my hand, but I can't, because they're not real. They are images on a TV and in perfectly clear 3D (three dimensional). They are almost life-size, and look (45) \_\_\_\_\_ real.

People have been working on convincing 3D objects (46) \_\_\_\_\_ a long time, and the

results are (47) \_\_\_\_\_. This is not, however, on sale to the public at the moment as there are still some technical problems that need to be (48) \_\_\_\_\_ out.

Levent Onural, coordinator of a multinational group, funded by the European Commission to develop the technology, told reporters that he believed 3D TV would be available in the relatively near future. But he (49) \_\_\_\_\_ that he did not know how consumers would behave, or whether the project would (50) \_\_\_\_\_ be commercially viable.

**ACTIVITY 8**

Use the correct form of the words in parentheses in the statements below (51-55), as in the example.

**TIPS FOR ALL**

by Alice Alexander



**Simple solutions to everyday problems!**

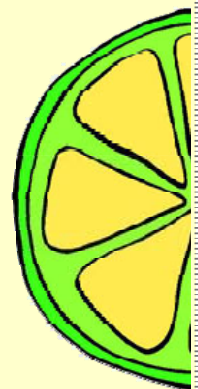
For more info on our publications, contact:

[tips4all@aeo.nl](mailto:tips4all@aeo.nl)

**LET'S GET PRACTICAL!**

Here are our (EX) weekly (week) tips, amazing as usual!

- Has your (51)\_\_\_\_\_ (favour) coffee cup lost its shine? Rub it with half a lemon and it will immediately shine again!
- Does your (52)\_\_\_\_\_ (live) room smell of fried fish or fried eggs? Cut a lemon and a potato into pieces and leave them on a plate there. In a few minutes, there will be no more bad smells around!
- Have you forgotten your jacket but still need to ride your bicycle in cold weather? A (53)\_\_\_\_\_ (use) tip: just cover your chest with a newspaper! (*Wear* it under your blouse or shirt!)
- Have you got some ink on your best jacket or most (54)\_\_\_\_\_ (comfort) pullover? Wash it with milk this time! You won't believe your eyes!
- Do you need to record your voice and make sure it sounds clear? Cover the table where your microphone stands with a blanket or a sheet! A (55)\_\_\_\_\_ (help) idea, even for professionals!



**ACTIVITY 9**

Think of **ONE** word that can go with **BOTH** sentences (56-60) in each set. The first letter of the word is given.

56. a) Mary knows how to **a**\_\_\_\_\_ a work of art.  
b) I would **a**\_\_\_\_\_ it if you came to work on time!

57. a) I took a walk along the river **b**\_\_\_ this morning and enjoyed the valley's breathtaking view.  
b) I am going to run to the **b**\_\_\_ to check on my loan application.

58. a) He did not show any **i**\_\_\_\_\_ in this class. That is why he failed his exams.  
b) Make sure you choose a bank which offers a loan with a low **i**\_\_\_\_\_ rate.

59. a) Maria is a very **b**\_\_\_\_\_ student. She excelled in all her classes.  
b) Many psychologists recommend working in a room with **b**\_\_\_\_\_ colors.

60. a) I heard so much about this youth **c**\_\_\_ down the street. I am thinking about joining it.  
b) A baseball bat can be equally as dangerous as a **c**\_\_\_, so be very careful not to hurt anyone.

**ΣΑΣ ΥΠΕΝΘΥΜΙΖΟΥΜΕ ΟΤΙ ΠΡΕΠΕΙ ΝΑ ΜΕΤΑΦΕΡΕΤΕ ΟΛΕΣ ΤΙΣ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΙΣ ΣΤΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1  
ΤΕΛΟΣ ΜΗΝΥΜΑΤΟΣ**