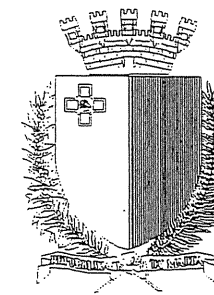


BLANK SHEET



**EXAMINATION FOR THE ENLISTMENT OF
SOLDIERS IN THE ARMED FORCES OF
MALTA**

FEBRUARY 2018

ENGLISH

TIME: 1 HOUR

Instructions to candidates

- This examination paper consists of THREE sections: A, B and C. Read carefully each passage and then answer ALL the questions within each passage (there is a total of 50 questions).
- Each question contains four possible answers, but only ONE is correct.
- Enter your answers on the Answer Sheet provided. Mark ONLY the correct answer by using a pencil.

e.g. If answer C is selected, fill in the appropriate circle as shown below.

50.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input checked="" type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D
-----	-------------------------	-------------------------	------------------------------------	-------------------------

- Each question carries two (2) marks.

SECTION A

Read the passage carefully and then answer ALL the questions (from 1 to 15) that follow:

So they made a boat out of a newspaper and placed the toy soldier inside it, and set him floating down the gutter. The two boys sat beside it, clapping their hands. What waves there were in the gutter and what a strong current! It was high water owing to the rain. The paper boat rocked up and down, and sometimes whirled so fast that the lead soldier trembled, yet he remained at his post, made no faces, looked straight before him and shouldered his musket.

All of a sudden, the boat shot under a long bridge that lay across the gutter where it was as dark as in the box.

Questions:

1. Who made the boat?
 - a) An old man
 - b) A little girl
 - c) The two boys
 - d) The soldiers
2. What was the boat made of?
 - a) Wood
 - b) A newspaper
 - c) Plastic
 - d) Aluminium

49. Listlessness is like
 - a) Slowness, apathy and laziness.
 - b) Energy, vitality and life.
 - c) Strength, force and muscle.
 - d) Skill, talent and ability.
50. In the passage we learn that as an adult, the author
 - a) had greying hair.
 - b) had coarse black hair.
 - c) had become bald.
 - d) does not speak about his hair.

20 x 2 marks = 40 marks

TOTAL: 100 MARKS

41. an **orphan** is
a) an only child.
b) a child without parents.
c) a lonely child.
d) a child with no friends.
42. In paragraph 3, the author says he was not truly alone. He tells us that
a) there were friends at home.
b) his mother was at home.
c) his siblings were at home.
d) his father was at home.
43. In paragraph 3, the author
a) gladly watched television.
b) welcomed the choice of reading a book.
c) had to accept the idea of television or reading.
d) enjoyed the rain outside.
44. The author would have been happy _____ it rained the next day. He was fed up of the rain.
a) unless.
b) if.
c) but for.
d) especially if.
45. Mostly, the days run together, blending into each other. For example:
a) Monday with Wednesday.
b) Thursday with Friday.
c) A short Tuesday.
d) First Sunday of the month.
46. Windy days are still _____ than rainy days.
a) bad.
b) worst.
c) worse.
d) badder.
47. In your opinion, the passage says, "Summer rain today means positively beautiful" because
a) It brought out the colours of the rainbow.
b) It watered the flowers in the garden.
c) It blends the days together.
d) It brings cooler weather.
48. What words in the expression are used to describe when it rains **heavily**?
a) As light as rain
b) Acid rain
c) Cats and dogs
d) Baby showers

3. What was placed in the boat?
a) Some matches
b) Some marbles
c) The toy soldier
d) A pebble
4. Where did the boat sail?
a) Down the gutter
b) Down the river
c) Down the valley
d) Down the pipe
5. What was the toy soldier made of?
a) Plastic
b) Lead
c) Wood
d) Cement
6. How can you tell that the toy soldier was brave?
a) Because he remained at his post
b) Because he ran away
c) Because he started to jump
d) Because he started to shout
7. How can you tell that the boys were pleased?
a) Because they started shouting
b) Because they started clapping their hands
c) Because they started singing
d) Because they started jumping for joy
8. Why was it different under the long bridge?
a) Because it was as dark as in the box
b) Because there was no water
c) Because it was very colourful
d) Because there lived a monster
9. Where did the long bridge lay?
a) Across the river
b) Across the street
c) Across the gutter
d) Across the highway

10. Which of these nouns is **not** found in the first line in the passage above?
a) Box
b) Boat
c) Newspaper
d) Toy Soldier

11. Which of the following adjectives is used to describe the boat in the passage?
a) Big
b) Strong
c) Paper
d) Huge

12. Which of the following words has the same meaning as REMAINED?
a) Died
b) Stayed
c) Stood
d) Still

13. Which of the following words has the same meaning as MUSKET?
a) Gun
b) Cannon
c) Whiskers
d) Handbag

14. Identify one the following verbs which is found in the first line of the passage.
a) Worked.
b) Rested.
c) Placed.
d) Watered.

15. Which of these titles would suit the passage above?
a) The Gutter
b) The Toy Soldier
c) Under the Bridge
d) The Paper Boat

15 x 2 marks = 30 marks

PLEASE TURN OVER

34. Compared to how he or she was as a child, the narrator as an adult is
a) more realistic.
b) less emotional.
c) more impractical.
d) less calm.

35. As used in the final paragraph, the word **reprieve** most nearly means
a) a permanent conclusion.
b) a short continuation.
c) a higher level of pain.
d) a temporary break.

36. The author of this passage describes his or her feelings about rainy summer days. Would you mind this type of weather in Malta?
a) Yes, it always rains in summer in Malta
b) No, because the summer days are often rainy in Malta
c) I think I would, but it rarely rains in summer in Malta
d) I think I wouldn't because there are never any sunny summer days in Malta

37. In paragraph 4, the author describes why he or she no longer eagerly anticipates summertime the way he or she used to do as a child. What has caused this change?
a) He prefers indoor games to playing on the beach
b) The sun hurts his eyes and his skin
c) He has to work every day, so needn't look forward to Summer
d) Summer time has caused the day to be shorter

38. The author writes in paragraph 4 that he or she "_____ the winter dreaming of summer and the summer dreaming of winter."
a) is spending.
b) spend.
c) spends.
d) is spent.

39. The author, _____ opinion of summer rain has changed, doesn't mind staying inside.
a) which.
b) who's.
c) whose.
d) who.

40. Which word in the second paragraph means the same as "**not enough**".
a) miserable
b) scant
c) freedom
d) gentle

SECTION C

Read the passage carefully and then answer ALL the questions (from 31 to 50) that follow:

The worst days of any summer are the rainy ones. We spend all year looking forward to beautiful weather and long, hot days. All of winter, with its dreary grey days and bitter cold, we dream of those endless days at the beach, laying on the sand and soaking in the bright and burning sun. And then, summer comes, and it rains.

As a child, I would wake up to rainy summer days and come close to crying. It wasn't fair. We suffered through months of school and miserable weather for those scant ten weeks of freedom and gentle weather. Any day that I could not spend at the beach or playing ball with my friends seemed like a punishment for something I didn't even do.

On those rainy summer days, I had nothing fun to do and could only sit inside, staring out at the rain like an orphan. I was an only child, so there was no one else to play with. My father worked from home, so I was not truly alone, but he could not actively play with me since he was, to be exact, at work. It was those days that I would resign myself to whatever was on television or any books that I could find lying around. I'd crawl through the day and pray each night that the rain would not be there the next day.

As an adult, though, my opinion of summer rain has changed. When you have to work every day, summer is not as eagerly anticipated. Mostly, the days run together, blending into each other so that they no longer seem like separate single days and instead feel like continuations of the same long day. Everything appears monotonous and dull, and boredom or listlessness kicks in. Such a state of mind makes you cheer for anything new or different. I spend the winter dreaming of summer and the summer dreaming of winter. When summer comes, I complain about how hot it is. And then I look forward to the rain because the rain brings with it a cold front, which offers a reprieve—admittedly one that is all too short—from the torture of 100° and humid days. Rainy days are still the worst days of the summer, but summer rain today means positively beautiful—and considerably cooler—weather tomorrow.

Questions

31. The passage makes use of language that is
- poetic.
 - exaggerated.
 - proper.
 - unclear.
32. According to the passage, summer is different for adults because
- rain brings with it cold temperatures for the following days.
 - the weather is much warmer than it is for children.
 - they do not get a long time off from work for the season.
 - they better know how to occupy their spare time.
33. According to the passage, which of the following is a true statement about the narrator as a child?
- He or she was often bored on summer days
 - He or she preferred cooler weather
 - He or she liked staying indoors
 - He or she had no brothers or sisters

SECTION B

Read the passage carefully and then answer ALL the questions (from 16 to 30) that follow:

Here are the instructions for next weekend's school camping trip in Scotland. There are seventeen people going on this trip so it's important that you arrive at the meeting point early enough for us to be able to leave at 8 am. There will be two minibuses and please make sure you are on the right one. Last week's email gave all this information.

We should arrive in the camping area at about 2 pm, which will give us enough time to buy the food we need in the local supermarket and then go to the area where we will set up the tents, which is a long way from town. There will be a total of four large tents put up and each tent will have a tent leader, a person who went on this trip last year and therefore has the necessary experience.

We are not expecting there to be very bad weather this weekend in Scotland, but the weather situation in the Scottish hills is always very unpredictable and for this reason, we have advised everyone to take wet weather clothing with you. If windy, stormy weather arrives at the camping area, it may also be necessary to leave the hills and go down into the town.

It's very likely that your phones will not work in the hills, so you must warn your parents of this. You will be able to use your phones when we are in town, but not when we are camping. If you have any other questions about the trip, come either to me or Mrs. Sanderson.

Questions

16. These instructions are from
- a tourist organisation.
 - a telephone shop.
 - a teacher.
 - a grocer.
17. Instructions about the minibuses are to be found
- in a future e-mail.
 - in last week's e-mail.
 - on the noticeboard.
 - in the local newspaper.
18. The tents will be set up near the
- the supermarket.
 - a long way from town.
 - near a town.
 - at the airport.
19. Persons who went on this trip last year are to serve as
- tent leaders.
 - leading tents.
 - porters.
 - mechanics.

20. **Unpredictable** means
a) certain.
b) changeable.
c) windy.
d) Intense.
21. Which **adjective** describes the type of weather clothing to be taken on the camping trip
a) funny
b) wet
c) blue
d) magical
22. Phones
a) cannot be used during the trip.
b) will not work in the hills.
c) have to be black in colour.
d) have to be kept in the tents.
23. The number of people going on the trip is
a) seventeen.
b) seven.
c) seventy.
d) fifteen.
24. The departure time is at
a) 8.45pm.
b) 8.30am.
c) 8.00am.
d) 9.00am.
25. The number of minibuses will be
a) 3.
b) 20.
c) 2.
d) 8.
26. Arrival at the campsite will be
a) at 2am.
b) around 2pm.
c) exactly at 2.30pm.
d) at 1.30pm.
27. On arrival, campers can go to the supermarket to
a) buy food.
b) pray.
c) dance.
d) ask questions.

28. If it is too windy or stormy in the camping area it will be necessary to _____
a) leave the camping area and return to town.
b) leave town to go to the camping area.
c) shelter under the minibuses.
d) move to the airport.
29. The number of tents will be
a) 14.
b) 2.
c) 4.
d) 8.
30. If you have any questions about the trip speak to
a) Mrs Sanderson only.
b) me and Mrs. Sanderson.
c) me only.
d) the minibus driver.

15 x 2 marks = 30 marks

PLEASE TURN OVER