

**FACOLTA' DI STUDI UMANISTICI**

**PROVA SCRITTA LINGUA INGLESE 2**

**CDL Lingue e Comunicazione; Lingue e Culture per la Mediazione**

**Tutti i CdL vecchio ordinamento**

Total Points \_\_\_/40 = \_\_\_/30

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MAT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**2nd Year Exam – SEPTEMBER 2015 - ONE HOUR**

Reading comprehension – Transformation questions – Verb Forms - Word formation exercise

**EURORAILING**

Thanks to their extended summer vacations, students are in the enviable position of being able to travel round Europe by rail and see the sights on the cheap. The sense of freedom offered by rail travel is unrivalled by any other, except perhaps the less safe option of hitch-hiking. Trains are also a great way to meet people and, compared with other long-distance modes of transport, the Greenest you can get. Rail transport allows you to explore the hidden corners of the continent, especially areas where rural lines are still open and trains are still the most common form of public transport. It's also a relaxing way to travel, whether you're using it as a cheap bed for the night, or as a ring-side seat for a series of stunning views.

Your most important piece of equipment is your backpack, and it's worth choosing one that's comfortable and light, sits just above the hips, and is 'high' rather than 'wide' when full. A day-pack is useful for sightseeing, and a pair of comfortable walking shoes is vital, along with dark, hard-wearing clothes. As a general rule, put out everything you want to take – then halve it. Some things, however, should not be left behind. A scarf to cover your shoulders or legs for visits to churches or mosques, toilet paper, soap and a universal plug; a Swiss army penknife; numerous plastic bags, a water bottle and a small first aid kit.

The fun really starts once you're out there, of course – hunting for a hostel at 10 p.m., being ripped off by a taxi driver who claims there are no buses to your campsite or being turned away from a famous tourist attraction for wearing shorts. There are compensations for these frustrations (which make the best stories afterwards, anyway!) but many problems can be avoided if you're aware of the potential pitfalls before you leave.

The golden rule is not to try to cram too much into the time available. Trying to see the whole of Europe in a month by spending every night on a train and an afternoon in each capital city will result in an unsatisfactory blur of shallow impressions. It is also a recipe for disaster, as you will be tired, grumpy and unreceptive for most of your trip. Instead, try to vary your route, mixing visits to cities with relaxing spells on the beach or in the countryside. The most important tip of all is – have fun!

**Questions**

1. In the first paragraph, the writer says rail travel
  - a) is a problem in some parts of Europe.
  - b) isn't ecological.
  - c) can be an alternative to accommodation.
2. When they are packing for a rail holiday, the writer advises students to

- a) take less than they really want to.
- b) take more than they think they'll need.
- c) leave behind nothing they think they may need.

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3. According to the writer, the best thing about bad experiences on holiday is that you
- a) may receive compensation afterwards.
  - b) can learn something useful for the future.
  - c) can tell people about them later.
4. When planning a route, the writer advises students to
- a) see as much as possible in the time they have.
  - b) visit places but also rest from time to time.
  - c) go sightseeing in the afternoons and travel by night.

Points \_\_\_/6

A) Choose **ONE** to answer. Indicate your choice; Question number \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1) If you travelled by rail around Europe in one month, which place would be your first choice to visit, and why?
- 2) Would you ever hitch-hike? Why/why not?

Write **50-80** words in your own words.

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Points \_\_\_/4

**C) 5 key-word transformation questions (KEY 1 POINT/1 POINT)**

Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. You must include the word in bold print . Do not change the word given. Use **NO MORE** than 5 words including the word given. Contractions (for example - don't- count as two words).

Example

0 What type of music do you like best?

FAVOURITE

What **IS YOUR FAVOURITE** type of music?

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1. We have to catch the train from Brussels to Zurich at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning.  
**SETTING**  
We **ARE SETTING/ OFF** by train from Brussels to Zurich at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning.
  
2. The train journey was so long, we slept for most of the time.  
**A**  
It was **SUCH/A LONG** train journey that we slept for most of the time.
  
3. Do you think hitch-hiking is more dangerous than other forms of transport?  
**FORM**  
Do you think hitch-hiking is **THE MOST/ DANGEROUS FORM** of transport?
  
4. In Poland, we missed the train so we got to the Czech Republic late.  
**GOT**  
If we hadn't missed the train in Poland, we **WOULD/HAVE GOT** to the Czech Republic earlier.
  
5. People think that students are lucky to be able to travel around Europe cheaply by rail.  
**THOUGHT**  
Students **ARE THOUGHT/ TO BE(OFF AS BEING)** lucky to be able to travel around Europe cheaply by rail.

**Points \_\_\_\_/10**

**D) Verb forms** *Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense. When necessary, put the adverb indicated into the correct position.*

1. Hi Mum and Dad! We **ARE HAVING** (to have) a great time here in Madrid! We **HAVE BEEN** (to be) here since yesterday! Next stop Lisbon!
  
2. Look at the number of people on the platform! Our train **IS GOING TO BE** (to be) very crowded! As soon as we **GET ON** (to get on), sit down on any available seat!
  
3. The ticket inspector on the train **WAS CHECKING** (to check ) passengers' tickets when one of the passengers said he **HADN'T HAD** (not to have) time to get one.

4. Oh my God! My wallet **HAS BEEN STOLEN** (to steal)! It must **HAVE JUST HAPPENED** (just to happen) because I had it a few minutes ago!
5. Everyone **KNOWS** (to know) it is dangerous to hitch-hike but people still **DO** it so they can save money.

Points \_\_\_\_/10

GO ON TO EXERCISE E)

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**E) Word formation exercise**

Read the passage and use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits grammatically in the numbered gap. The words are already in order.

**ESCORTED TOURS**

Example: Organizing a holiday can be a very (0) CHALLENGING task.

(0) CHALLENGE

Some people find the experience as (1) \_\_\_\_\_ as the daily demands of work and family (2) \_\_\_\_\_. If you are in this situation, you may find that taking an escorted holiday is the ideal (3) \_\_\_\_\_.

(1) STRESS  
(2) COMMIT  
(3) SOLVE

Escorted holidays offer a great balance between sightseeing, entertainment, and leisure time, with the added advantage that you have the services of a professional tour manager, who (4) \_\_\_\_\_ you throughout the trip, acting as your

(4) COMPANY

(5) \_\_\_\_\_ guide. From the first day to the last, tour managers make your holiday experience even more (6) \_\_\_\_\_ because of the invaluable information and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ suggestions they provide.

(5) PERSON  
(6) MEMORY  
(7) HELP

Your tour manager will give you many (8) \_\_\_\_\_ into the place you are visiting, including useful information on the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ characteristics of the place, such as regional food and local entertainment. If you book one of the escorted holiday packages that we offer, you can be sure that you will have a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ authentic travel experience.

(8) SIGHT  
(9) DISTINCT

(10) TRUE

Write your answers here

1 \_\_\_\_\_ STRESSFUL \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_ COMMITMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_ SOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_ ACCOMPANIES \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_ PERSONAL \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_ MEMORABLE \_\_\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_\_\_ HELPFUL \_\_\_\_\_

8 \_\_\_\_\_ INSIGHTS \_\_\_\_\_

9 \_\_\_\_\_ DISTINCTIVE \_\_\_\_\_

10 \_\_\_\_\_ TRULY \_\_\_\_\_

Points \_\_\_\_/10

**THIS IS THE END OF THE EXAM**