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ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE **0510/13**

Paper 1 Reading and Writing **May/June 2026**

2 hours

You must answer on the question paper.

No additional materials are needed.

INSTRUCTIONS
- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen. Do **not** use correction fluid or tape.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION
- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

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Exercise 1

Read the article about ancient African art, and then answer the following questions.

Ancient African art

Africa is a large continent, with a history that includes several civilisations and cultures. African art is also very varied and represents the geographical areas of the continent. The art of northern Africa is different from that of the southern sub-Saharan area, with styles being influenced by Arabic culture in the former region and European culture in the latter. Art historians have typically given the label 'ancient African art' only to objects that were produced by communities living south of the Sahara Desert.

A variety of materials was used in the creation of ancient African art and included metals, such as bronze or iron, or wood, which was more commonly used. Many items were made from this material, including beautifully decorated chairs, which had detailed patterns that showed a person's high position in society – for example, made for a king or a chief. Unfortunately, over time, many wooden objects have been destroyed by the weather conditions, unlike items made from metal.

Although there were many different types of art in ancient Africa, they often represented the human form. Another common feature linking the different styles is that the artwork was generally created as a three-dimensional (3D) object, unlike the cave paintings that are more typical of European culture. These ancient African human forms were significant to cultures of that time, and were often made so that people could show respect to their ancestors. Other examples of the earliest sculptures which have been found are some amazing pottery heads from Nigeria, which have been dated around 400 000 years old. They are typical of the African sculptural tradition, with decorated features and hairstyles. In addition to these, some of the best examples of wooden sculptures were discovered by archaeologists in 1920, although others had been found much earlier, in 1890. More recently, in 2019, wood which was cut with sharp tools was found by a team of Zambian, British and Belgian scientists, and the structure has been dated to 476 000 years ago.

Masks are another typical form of ancient African art. They were frequently decorated with animal bones, jewels and paint to symbolise an animal, and used by dancers who wore the mask to add to an impressive costume and performance. A mask was usually only worn once, and then burned afterwards, rather than being carefully put away, ready for the next official occasion. The great civilisations of the time also showed a high level of skill in creating beautifully detailed items of jewellery from materials such as gold, with decorative stones and shells. This was very important in demonstrating wealth to people in the community, and so had great significance.

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Question 1

View solution

Which part of Africa used the Arabic artistic style in its art?

..... [1]

Question 2

View solution

Which material was most often used to create ancient African art?

..... [1]

Question 3

View solution

How was the art of ancient Europe different from that in ancient Africa?

..... [1]

Question 4

View solution

When were examples of wooden African art first discovered?

..... [1]

Question 5

View solution

What often happened to ancient African masks after use?

..... [1]

Question 6

View solution

In ancient Africa, why was art important to people?

Give **three** details.

.....

.....

..... [3]

[Total: 8]

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Exercise 2

Read the blog about four traditional drinks (**A–D**). Then answer **Question 7(a)–(i)**.

Traditional drinks

by travel blogger Igor Cram

A

On my travels, I've tried many unusual drinks, and *salep* was one I had as a child. It's a hot drink made from the dried root of a flower, milk and rosewater and is commonly drunk in Turkey. When I was on holiday there with my parents, they took me on a ferry trip. On board, we saw *salep* being sold, and my dad bought some for all of us to try. It had a spicy smell so I thought I wouldn't like it, but I was pleasantly surprised – it was just like drinking a version of my favourite dessert, rice pudding. Unfortunately, I'd only just started drinking it when a man knocked my arm, and I spilled my drink all over his shoes. I was so embarrassed, and whenever I've had *salep* since, I can't help thinking about that trip. My family all laugh about it now though!

B

In my home country, the UK, the most popular hot drink is black tea, which most people have with milk. I had tried green tea before but it was during a trip to China, however, that I discovered I actually prefer green tea. In fact, after that trip, I looked into it and found out about its history and how popular it is across much of Asia. Maybe it's not as popular in the UK because it's often more expensive to buy, can be quite strong in flavour and the colour might be less tempting for people. Anyway, I drink it quite regularly at different times of the day and I find that when I'm cold, it warms me up, and it cools me down on a hot day. Apparently, it's supposed to improve your memory, but I'm not sure I've noticed any difference in that respect!

C

When I last visited South America, I tried a drink called *yerba maté*, which is prepared using the leaves of a local tree. Although most people find it bitter to begin with, over time, I've found that the more you drink it, the better you get at identifying the range of flavours that *yerba maté* offers. For this reason, I don't think I've ever drunk anything quite so delicious. It has been a traditional drink in South America for centuries, although it lost its appeal for a while when coffee was first introduced. Recently, I ordered some *yerba maté* in a café in the UK and I couldn't believe it when they brought the bill – I could've had several cups for that amount in South America. I think this may be one of the reasons why so many people still drink it there.

D

Api morado is a drink made from purple corn, which gives it its unusual colour. While this might put some people off, I actually thought it was a fruit juice when I first saw it and I couldn't wait to try it. I was hiking in Bolivia when I noticed lots of local people buying it from street stalls, and I decided to try some. Like most food and drink sold at these stalls, it didn't cost too much. Anyway, later in the week, when I was returning from a long hike, I fancied another *api morada*. I looked for a stall in the streets near my hotel, but I was out of luck. I'm glad I'd already had a chance to try it though, as it's a drink that's loved by most Bolivians and is part of their culture. It's something that fascinates me and I'm keen to find out a bit more about it.

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For each statement, write the correct letter, A, B, C or D, on the line.

Question 7

Which section includes the following information?

View solution

(a) why a drink was less popular for a period of time ..... [1]

View solution

(b) Igor's opinion of a drink when he first tasted it ..... [1]

View solution

(c) why a drink is Igor's favourite ..... [1]

View solution

(d) several positive effects that a drink can have on you ..... [1]

View solution

(e) the appearance of a drink appealing to Igor ..... [1]

View solution

(f) Igor's surprise at the cost of a drink ..... [1]

View solution

(g) a particular event that a drink reminds Igor of ..... [1]

View solution

(h) a time when Igor was unable to find a drink he wanted ..... [1]

(i) research that Igor carried out about a drink ..... [1]

[Total: 9]

View solution

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Exercise 3

Read the article about a job in the film industry, and then complete the notes.

My experience working in the film industry as a continuity assistant

There are many jobs within the film industry, but the one I wanted to try was a continuity assistant. This is a member of the film crew whose role is to ensure that details in scenes are accurate during filming. This is important because if, for example, viewers spot a modern item in a historical drama, they will be left with a bad impression. Also, scenes are shot in a different order from how they appear in the final version of the film, so the continuity assistant must check that details are correct and that the scenes will go together accurately. In one film, the trees' branches were bare, and this confused the viewers because the story was set in summer. This is why it is important for a continuity assistant to notice small details.

I researched the role and thought it looked interesting. I got the opportunity to train with an experienced continuity assistant called Sally. I was concerned that the long working hours could be an issue for me, and filming started at dawn. I knew the main skills required were organising and adapting quickly to change. Organisation is my strength, but I like to plan what I am going to be doing for the whole day, so I knew I would struggle with changes.

On the first day, we started with the actors to check that their appearance was the same as it had been the previous day. I am usually good at noticing details, but Sally said I hadn't spotted the main actor's different earrings. Obviously, I was not as good as I had thought! It surprises me that an audience would notice such things, but Sally said there had been a lot of comments on social media when an actor's beard had changed during a scene of one of the films she had worked on.

The film director was constantly giving information to Sally, and by lunchtime I was confused and exhausted. Sally said that staying focused in every situation was very important, but I think it will take me some time to improve in this area. After lunch, a necklace went missing. The director was furious with us for delaying filming, but it wasn't our fault. I really struggled to not get angry with her for blaming us. Luckily, Sally spotted it on the floor of the costume room.

So many things were Sally's responsibility, but the one that I had most difficulty with was the lighting angle. There have been many films shot at different times of the day when the direction of the shadows changed when they shouldn't, and even though this may seem unimportant to some, there will always be people who get upset when they see errors like this.

Although there was a lot to learn, I did enjoy my first day.

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Imagine you are going to give a talk about working in the film industry as a continuity assistant to your classmates.

Use words from the article to help you write some notes.

Make short notes under each heading.

View solution

Question 8

Aspects of the job that the writer finds challenging:

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

[5]

View solution

Question 9

Errors in films that have been noticed by audiences:

- .....
- .....

[2]

[Total: 7]

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Exercise 4

Read the article about a ballet student called Jack Gallach, and then answer the questions.

Jack Gallach, ballet dancer

by culture journalist, Greg Aldward

I spent some time with 16-year-old Jack to find out about his life at ballet school. Jack started dancing at six years old, and joined the school at the age of 11, after successfully demonstrating that he had the necessary talent. 'You have to live and study there full time,' explains Jack. 'Moving away at such a young age was a challenge – not so much leaving my cosy bedroom or chilling out on the sofa, but not getting a hug from Dad when I wanted one. But before long, you come to understand everyone's going through it, which encourages a sense of belonging and means you're more open to making friends.'

The day starts at 07:00 with breakfast. 'It's widely believed that a dancer's diet consists only of salads and fruit,' says Jack. 'That's just not true! We have a substantial breakfast which prepares us for the long day, and the freedom to have whatever we fancy. A teacher gives talks on how to eat well. Things like cheese and dark chocolate aren't banned – provided we're sensible about how much we consume. And they do have benefits in small quantities.'

Students begin classes with either dance or academic studies. People tend to believe that dance is an easy career option. Nothing could be further from the truth. Ballet training is famously tough, involving long hours and challenging physical movements, but dancers are athletes like any other. Every ballet dancer that I've met is incredibly strong. 'It's difficult doing the same movements over and over,' says Jack. 'But I enjoy trying to get each step perfect and it's satisfying when you finally do.'

Jack's school does an annual performance, and last year, he played a leading role. Rehearsals took place after a long day, at which point Jack was tired. 'But excitement took over once I stepped into the studio for practice.' Things changed just before the performance. 'To say I was nervous doesn't come close to how I was feeling. I was practically shaking. It went well, though. I had this wire attached to me and at one point I had to "fly" over the heads of the audience. It was hilarious seeing the tops of their heads – I had to stop myself from laughing.' *24*

Jack enjoys going home once a month. 'Most of my mates there have totally different interests,' he says, 'but everyone's really supportive of me.' Even so, he often feels as though there are two different Jacks – the one who dances, and the one at home who can go off cycling or into town. 'Sometimes it's disappointing when I can't do fun stuff like skateboarding – the risk of injury's too great – but it'd be so much worse if I couldn't dance.' Back at school, evenings are spent watching movies or listening to music. 'Sometimes I wonder what other teenagers are up to. I like the structure of my school life, though.'

People often ask Jack about his ambitions. 'It goes without saying that one day, I'd like to be a principal dancer. The truth is, there isn't room at the top for everyone in a ballet company, and I may not get there.' The majority of professional dancers spend their lives in the *corps de ballet* – the main group of dancers who perform. 'This isn't a failure,' Jack says. 'The *corps* is essential, and the dancers are ambitious and have a broad range of skills. You might not expect me to say this, but I'll be content if that's where I end up. Some don't even make it that far. I just love to dance.'

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For each question, choose the correct answer, A, B or C, and put a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

View solution

Question 10

When Jack first went to ballet school, he

A immediately formed close relationships. ☐

B soon missed the comfortable surroundings of home. ☐

C quickly realised that he was not alone in how he felt. ☐

[1]

View solution

Question 11

What does Jack say about his diet?

A He can choose to eat anything he likes. ☐

B He avoids eating lots of unhealthy foods. ☐

C He wishes he could eat more in the morning. ☐

[1]

View solution

Question 12

In the third paragraph, the writer is keen to

A highlight the unpleasant reality of professional ballet training. ☐

B demonstrate what skills ballet dancers need to become professional. ☐

C correct a misunderstanding about being a professional ballet dancer. ☐

[1]

View solution

Question 13

What does ‘hilarious’ mean in line 24?

A rather ridiculous ☐

B incredibly scary ☐

C extremely amusing ☐

[1]

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Question 14

View solution

How does Jack feel when he goes home?

A relieved to spend time away from the school's strict routine ☐

B upset that he is unable to take part in certain activities ☐

C amazed that his friends are interested in his ballet studies ☐

[1]

Question 15

View solution

What does Jack say about the main group of dancers in a ballet company?

A They are capable of doing a wide variety of things. ☐

B Some are unhappy with the kind of work they do. ☐

C People may be surprised about how significant a role it plays. ☐

[1]

[Total: 6]

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Turn over

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Exercise 5

View solution

Question 16



You recently went to a party. While you were at the party, someone told you some good news.

Write an email to a friend telling them about this.

In your email, you should:

- explain what the party was for
- say what the good news was
- describe how the good news will affect you and your friend.

Write about **120 to 160** words.

You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your email and up to 9 marks for the language used.

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[15]

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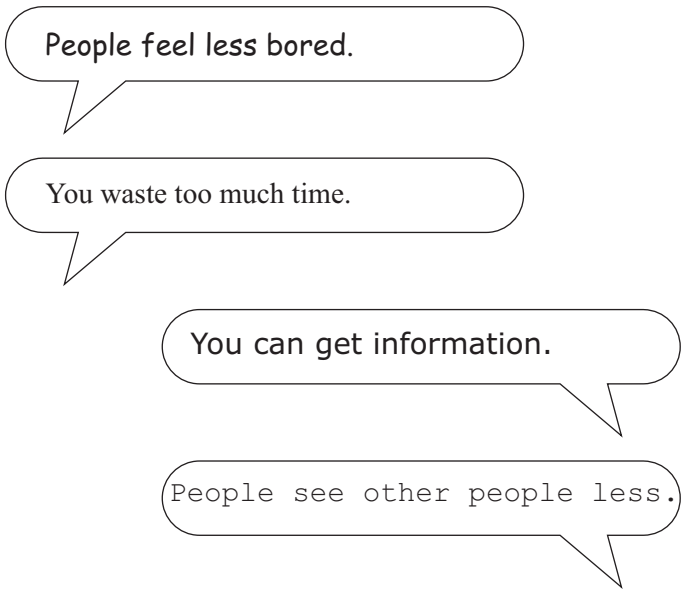
Exercise 6

View solution

Question 17

In class, you have been discussing the advantages and disadvantages of social media. Your English teacher wants you to write an article about this for the school magazine.

Here are some comments:



Now write an article for the school magazine.

The comments may give you some ideas, and you should also use some ideas of your own.

Write about **120 to 160** words.

You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your article and up to 9 marks for the language used.

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