

☺ **Be steady. Be calm. Do your best. Luck!** ☺

**Exercise 1. Reading comprehension.** /20 p./

*Read the text and do the next two tasks.*

**BY TUBE TO THE CIRCUS**

Gina was surprised to find that it was not raining in London. She stepped down from the train that had brought her from Dover to Victoria Station and put her two heavy suitcases on the platform. People were hurrying everywhere: through the entrances and exits, up and down the steps, along the other platforms and over to the ticket counters where there were already queues forming. The porters all seemed to be occupied with other passengers.

In Milan everyone told her that it was always raining in England. Today, however, they were wrong. It was warm and dusty – just like at home. She could even hear someone speaking her native language somewhere near the station bookstall. She walked slowly towards the gate at the end of the platform where a railway official was collecting the tickets. She handed him her ticket and walked through. She looked up at the station clock. Its hands were pointing to 3.15 p.m.

A young woman was sitting on a bench reading an English magazine. She looked friendly so Gina went up to her.

“Excuse me,” she said. The young woman glanced up with a smile. “Can you tell me how to get to the circus?”

“The circus?” The young woman looked puzzled. “What circus do you mean?”

Gina shook her head. “I am sorry. I have just arrived from Italy to attend a school for overseas students in London. It is near the circus.”

“Do you have a letter with the school’s address on it?” asked the young woman.

“Oh yes. Now I remember.” Gina opened her handbag and found a postcard with a British stamp on it.

“Ah,” said the young woman. “It’s Oxford Circus that you want. It is the name of an area in the middle of London. You must go down those steps and take the Tube. Follow the colours. That’s the easiest way.”

She showed Gina on the coloured map of the underground railway the route from Victoria to Oxford Circus.

“Good luck,” she said. “And by the way, I come from Italy, too.”

**Task 1.1. Circle the best answer.**

1.1.1. Gina had

- A) lost the school’s address.
- B) never had the school’s address.
- C) forgotten the school’s address.
- D) forgotten she had the school’s address.

1.1.2. “Her native language” means:

- A) the language of her own country.
- B) her natural way of speaking.
- C) the language she had come to learn.
- D) the language of a foreign country.

1.1.3. "I have just arrived from Italy" means:

- A) "I am Italian."
- B) "I came from Italy."
- C) "I arrived from Italy a short while ago."
- D) "I have arrived from Italy at the right time."

1.1.5. Gina went up to the young woman because

- A) she was obviously Italian.
- B) she was reading an Italian magazine.
- C) she was a friend.
- D) she had a helpful and kind appearance.

1.1.4. Oxford Circus is

- A) a famous circus.
- B) a place in London.
- C) a railway station in Oxford.
- D) another name for the middle of London.

1.1.6. The woman was puzzled because she

- A) had never been to a circus.
- B) did not know the word circus.
- C) did not what circus Gina was referring to.
- D) did not know where Oxford Circus was.

**Task 1.2.** *Find words in the text which are similar in meaning to the following:*

- 1.2.1. Way out .....
- 1.2.2. Walking quickly .....
- 1.2.3. Busy .....
- 1.2.4. Long, wooden seat .....

**Exercise 2.** *There are mistakes in most of these sentences. Correct them. /20 p./*

- 2.1. The children is doing their homework now. ....  
.....
- 2.2. Are there some restaurants here that are open on Sunday? .....  
.....
- 2.3. Monica is talking to Debbie mother at the moment. ....  
.....
- 2.4. My brother reading an interesting book in his room now. ....  
.....
- 2.5. The postman doesn't often come here. We receive little letters.  
.....
- 2.6. Has John and Peter got bikes? .....  
.....
- 2.7. The girls are play tennis at the moment. ....  
.....
- 2.8. I think there's something wrong with me computer. ....  
.....
- 2.9. We've got a problem. Can you help our, please? .....  
.....
- 2.10. Your shoes are on the floor in a kitchen.....  
.....

**Exercise 3.** *Read the text and choose the word which best fits each space. /20 p./*

Some time ago, when I was living in the tropics, I had my first experience of floods. It was an experience I will never forget.

I was awoken (3.1.) ..... 5 o'clock in the morning by one of my children, who was feeling unwell. I went downstairs to the kitchen to fetch him a glass of water. At that time I did not know well that it was raining (3.2.) ..... However, when I entered the kitchen, I stepped into water up to my ankles. I then realized that we were in the middle of a rainstorm.

During the next hour the water inside the house (3.3.) ..... several centimeters. We had to turn (3.4.) ..... the electricity because the electric points downstairs were covered by water.

Eventually, we had to leave the house in order to get higher (3.5.) .....

We packed a suitcase as quickly as we could and jumped into the car. Fortunately, the car started and we drove away from the house through deep water. As we drove along the (3.6.) ..... road, the water became deeper and deeper. A number of cars had broken down, but somehow ours kept going, in spite of the water. After about two kilometers, (3.7.) ....., we had to abandon the car (3.8.) .....

The road was blocked. Luckily, we were (3.9.) ..... the city centre by then and we were able to wade to a large comfortable hotel. We stayed there for three days (3.10.) ..... returning to our flooded house.

- |         |            |             |             |              |
|---------|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| (3.1.)  | A. by      | B. at       | C. up       | D. in        |
| (3.2.)  | A. down    | B. heavily  | C. much     | D. strongly  |
| (3.3.)  | A. raised  | B. arose    | C. rose     | D. increased |
| (3.4.)  | A. in      | B. down     | C. off      | D. up        |
| (3.5.)  | A. levels  | B. ground   | C. land     | D. steps     |
| (3.6.)  | A. main    | B. highway  | C. motorway | D. chief     |
| (3.7.)  | A. despite | B. although | C. however  | D. but       |
| (3.8.)  | A. because | B. so       | C. why      | D. therefore |
| (3.9.)  | A. nearby  | B. near     | C. close    | D. adjacent  |
| (3.10.) | A. until   | B. before   | C. after    | D. ahead of  |

**Exercise 4.** *Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense. /20 p./*

Dear Gina,

Thank you very much for your letter which I (4.1.) ..... (receive) last week. It was really good to hear from you. You said you (4.2.) ..... (see) Lily recently, but you didn't say how she was. Please let me know, give her my regards.

I (4.3.) ..... (be) in Chicago for six weeks, and I am enjoying life here very much. I (4.4.) ..... (work) hard since I arrived but the job is interesting and everyone is very kind to me. When I arrived in the States, I (4.5.) ..... (stay) a few days in New York, and there something awful happened. My wallet (4.6.) ..... (steal). While I (4.7.) ..... (look) in a shop window on Park Avenue, I felt y shoulder bag move. I looked down at it and I

realized someone (4.8.) ..... (open) it and (4.9.) ..... (take) my wallet.  
I didn't see the person at all.

But I am trying to forget all that. I (4.10.) ..... (live) in a small hotel at the moment, but someone in the office has asked me to share his flat with him. His name is George, he's from Chicago, and he (4.11.) ..... (live) on the sixth floor of a big block. It is a bit untidy at the moment because it (4.12.) ..... (decorate), but it will be fine. We have arranged everything and I (4.13.) ..... (move) next week. I'd love a holiday because the job is really tiring, I don't think it will get any easier. Some friends of mine (4.14.) ..... (go) on holiday soon. If I (4.15.) ..... (not have to) work so hard, I (4.16.) ..... (go) with them, but it is impossible at the moment.

You said you (4.17.) ..... (come) to see me this Christmas. I hope you haven't changed your mind. Let me know what date you (4.18.) ..... (think) of arriving. If you (4.19.) ..... (come), I (4.20.) ..... (show) you around. There is an awful lot to see.

Write soon.

Love,

Pete

**Exercise 5.** *Fill in the gaps with the words given. There are 5 extra words you do not need to use. /20 p./*

*lying, from, whose, however, have, on, of, in, thought, taught, drew, had, coming, used, which*

In thirteenth-century Wales there was a handsome young prince called Llewellyn. He was very fond (5.1.) ..... hunting and often (5.2.) ..... to go out into the forests and mountains with his favourite dog, (5.3.) ..... name was Gelert. One day, (5.4.) ....., he left Gelert at home to guard his baby son who was only a few months old. In the evening, when the prince returned (5.5.) ..... hunting, he saw that his house was in a terrible mess. The furniture (5.6.) ..... been knocked over and there was blood (5.7.) ..... the walls. He could not find his baby son. Then he saw his dog, Gelert, (5.8.) ..... towards him, covered in blood. The prince (5.9.) ..... that the dog had attacked and killed his son. Prince Llewellyn became violently angry and (5.10.) ..... his sword and killed the dog with one blow.

Student's name: .....  
.....  
/WRITE YOUR NAMES, CLASS, NUMBER AND SCHOOL HERE/

Checked by:

1. ....

2. ....

3. ....

Total: ..... / of 100 points