Samples 3 Of Exams : (Taken from the internet “Najah.com”)

By Shelley Shan (09/02/2008)

English Teacher to Finish Stay with Marathon Effort

Neil O'Maonaigh-Lennon has been teaching English in Taiwan since last February. His contract expires next month, but rather than pack his bag and leave quietly, O'Maonaigh-Lennon has something else in store. "I decided to run one marathon a day for 30 consecutive days," he told the Taipei Times recently. "I want to leave Taiwan with a bang and run for a good cause."

In so doing, O'Maonaigh-Lennon hopes to raise funds for Cancer Research UK and the Taiwan Foundation for Rare Disorders. The idea of running for cancer did not come to him by accident. "Cancer research was something that interested me all through my university years," he said. The run around the nation's coastline, scheduled to begin on April 1, will also lead O'Maonaigh-Lennon to some of the nation's best-known tourist attractions. To him, the grueling feat is just another exciting adventure. O'Maonaigh-Lennon has run 13 marathons on three continents. "My ambition is to run one in every continent," he said.

A year ago, O'Maonaigh-Lennon was offered the chance to teach in Asia. He chose Taiwan because he said it "is an island, like the UK." O'Maonaigh-Lennon said that, before he arrived, he found it hard to believe how foreigners could live in Taiwan for seven or eight years. "Now I can understand why," he said. "Everyone here is friendly and willing to accept you and help you," he added. "Taiwan has a great social scene as well. For a single man, it is a lot to take in."

O'Maonaigh-Lennon will begin his trek at Fugueijiao, the nation's northernmost point, running along the east coast and passing through Chialuoshui at the southern tip, before heading north via Kaohsiung. He said that he would stay on or close to the coast, but occasionally move inland to see must-see scenic spots. The Briton plans to start his day on the road at 7am and finish at 2pm so that he can have time to explore. Whatever he sees, hears or encounters will become material for an online journal of his journey, which he hopes will help introduce Taiwan to the rest of the world.

A friend will ride alongside him on a scooter and make sure that he runs 42km every day, the standard distance for a marathon. As the two are doing this at their own expense, they plan to sleep in school classrooms or camp outside to save money. O'Maonaigh-Lennon said he would not be in a hurry and welcomes other runners to join him along the route. He also said he had not set a goal on how much money to raise. Both organizations have donation links on their Web sites, so the money will go straight into registered accounts, he said.

It is still more than a month before he starts the adventure. And although there are many things that could go wrong – be it a leg injury or bad weather – O'Maonaigh-Lennon said he was determined to accomplish his mission. "I won't leave Taiwan without completing my 30-day marathon. I will stay until I finish it," he said.

www. TaipeiTimes.com/News
Comprehension Questions

A/ Find out the following information about the marathon

Duration .................................................................
Starting Date .............................................................
Distance to be covered daily ........................................
Possible problems .....................................................

B/ Complete this flow chart with information about O'Maonaigh-Lennon’s goals.

Raising money ...........................................................
Marathon Seeing .............. Creating............................
Introducing Taiwan to the world

C/ For each of the following false statements find a detail/sentence in the text showing it is false.

1/ The marathon is sponsored by a charity organization.
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2/ O'Maonaigh-Lennon wants this marathon to be his last one.
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D/ Find words/phrases in the text that have the same meaning as:

1) with a powerful/ noticeable effect (§1)= .........................................................

2) tiring (§ 2) = ..............................................................

E/ Say what the words underlined in the text refer to:

1) here (§ 3) □ .........................................................

2) The Briton (§ 4) □ .........................................................

F/ By running this marathon, O'Maonaigh-Lennon aims at making a difference in the world. Do you think such an objective is worth all the trouble he will take? Give a justified answer.
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II- WRITING

1/Complete the following interview.

Beth Murphy works as a librarian for Book Aid International, which is an organization that helps people in developing countries develop their reading and writing skills. We asked her about her job. **Is being a librarian just stamping books and telling people to be quiet?**

B.M: No, definitely not! Librarians help to make it easy to find information stored in lots of different places. I deal with CDs, DVDs, websites, podcasts, newspapers and lots more.

What is the role of Book Aid International?

B.M: There are different types of qualifications for different jobs. I did an MA in Librarianship at university but there are lots of other courses.

Why did you become a librarian?

B. M: No, definitely not! Librarians help to make it easy to find information stored in lots of different places. I deal with CDs, DVDs, websites, podcasts, newspapers and lots more.

WRITING 2

Your name is John/Jane Middleton and your address is 15, Brighton Road, London. Read the advertisement below then write a letter to Oakwood & Danbury to apply for the job.

**JUNIOR OFFICE ASSISTANT REQUIRED**

**DO YOU WANT TO MAKE SOME MONEY DURING THE SUMMER?**

Oakwood & Danbury are looking for a junior assistant

Applicants must be:

* under 21 * fluent in English
* computer literate * tidy and responsible

Apply in writing to: PO Box 9923 Doncaster

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III-LANGUAGE

A/ Supply the right tense / form of the bracketed words.

Written communications form an integral part of many businesses’ daily operations. Apart from the countless letters and emails (generate) ………………daily, annual reports, newsletters, advertisements and many other documents are being distributed to clients and board members or being printed and viewed by the public. But very few companies bother to have these documents professionally proofread to (sure) …………… that grammar and spelling are correct. There is a plethora of examples: the classic mixing of British and American English the (not/correct) ………… use of homophones not to mention spelling mistakes, wrong punctuation and typing errors. The reason for these is simple: people do not realize that they are making them. This, however, is not really their fault. Many professionals who churn out heaps of written communications (have) ………… little or no instruction in English since they left school. Not everybody is a linguist; they (can not /expected) …………… to write perfect sentences in perfect English, especially in a country where only 9 percent speaks English as a first language. The fault (lie) …………… with companies who do not invest in a capable, on-site proof-reader, or outsource this function to a specialist contractor. Mistakes and poor grammar affects the writer’s credibility and the reader’s (perceive) …………… of their intelligence. Companies whose advertising copy or (propose) …………… are riddled with mistakes may find themselves being avoided by sticklers and those who know better.

B/ Fill the blanks with 8 words from the box below.

As a result /shortages /to/ seldom /probably/registered / luck /competition/ qualified /unlikely

As part of a desperate attempt to come to grips with its escalating immigration problem, the British government is closing its doors……………… young foreign doctors.
From the end of this month, international medical graduates who outside of the European Union will not be allowed to apply for a trainee doctor position with the National Health Service.

According to the General Medical Council, about 46 percent of doctors in Britain trained abroad, the majority in South Africa, Australia, India and Pakistan. In the past decade the NHS had been welcoming doctors from abroad to help fill doctor positions. At the same time it increased the number of medical school places on offer to foreigners in Britain - there are now thousands of British young graduate doctors unable to find work in their own country because of from foreigners. “The new regulations are to affect South African doctors, who usually prefer to complete their community service in South Africa and apply for trainee doctor positions in the UK,” says Paul Pieterse from Merco, a South African-run medical recruitment agency in London.