



English Department, HKV Aarau

Sample Entry Test B2 First

Regulations

Time 80 minutes
Aids No dictionaries or other aids allowed

Results Students wishing to join the B2 First-Course have to pass an entry test. The aim of this sample entry test is to show students what to expect in the real entry test.

This sample test consists of three parts and you can score a total of 82 points. The key to the exercises and the points allocated to each task can be found at the end of the test.

Candidates who reach a benchmark of 50% are admitted to the course.

The decision whether you can join the B2 First-class is solely based on your performance in the entry test that will be written in class - not the sample entry test. The decision cannot be appealed.

Scoreboard

Entry Test	Points	Your Score
Paper 1 – Listening	16	
Paper 2 – Reading	30	
Paper 3 – Use of English	36	
Total	82	
Total Percentage	100%	
Required Percentage for admission to the B2 First -Course	50%	

Paper 1: Listening

Part 1 (Total Score: 16 Points)

- You will hear people talking in eight different situations.
- For questions **1 – 8**, choose the best answer **A**, **B** or **C**.
- Write your answer into the boxes provided.
- Every correct answer is awarded two points.

1. You hear someone talking about women's football.
What is she doing when she speaks?

- A** encouraging young girls to support a team
- B** suggesting how to attract young girls to the sport
- C** asking young girls to take the sport seriously

1

2. You hear a man talking on the radio about a bag made for use on walking trips.
How does this bag differ from others?

- A** It has pockets on the side.
- B** You can take off the rain cover.
- C** There are some extra features.

2

3. On the radio, you hear a man discussing a cartoon film about dinosaurs.
What aspect of the film disappointed him?

- A** the design of the backgrounds
- B** the quality of the sound effects
- C** the size of the dinosaurs

3

4. You overhear a couple talking about keeping fit.
What do they agree about?

- A** the need to be more active
- B** the benefits of joining a gym
- C** the dangers of too much exercise

4

5. In a radio play, you hear a woman talking on the phone.
Where does the woman want her friend to meet her?

- A** on the beach
- B** at the bank
- C** in a shop

5

6. You hear a student talking to his friend about his tutor.

What was the student's purpose in meeting his tutor?

- A** to see if there was a part-time job available
- B** to ask for financial assistance
- C** to request more time to complete coursework

6

7. You hear a man talking about how to paint landscapes.

What does he say about it?

- A** It proved easier than he had thought.
- B** It showed him he had some talent.
- C** It opened up opportunities for him.

7

8. You turn on the radio and hear a man talking.

What is he talking about?

- A** finding friendship
- B** solving problems
- C** helping others

8



Paper 2: Reading

Part 1 (Total Score: 12 Points)

- You are going to read a magazine article about a cruise ship. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A - G** the one which fits each gap **1 - 6**. There is one extra sentence that you do not need to use.
- Every correct answer is awarded two points.

The Oriana Turnaround

When the cruise ship Oriana comes into port, it has just 12 hours to get everything ready for the 1,800 passengers on its next cruise.

Chris Mersea joined the team for the day.

It's 6.00 a.m., still dark, and above the rooftops of the port city of Southampton a large orange funnel appears. It's attached to the 69,000-tonne cruise ship *Oriana*, the pride of P&O Cruise Lines. *Oriana* has been home, for the past eleven days, to some 1,800 passengers. It will soon be home to 1,800 different passengers yet to arrive in Southampton, but who in twelve hours' time will be setting sail for the Atlantic islands of Madeira and Tenerife.

In most small hotels the staff complain if they have to change more than ten bedrooms in one day. On *Oriana*, there are 900 cabins to be cleaned in just a few hours. On board this cruise ship, however, working practices are shaped not by the attitude of individual members of staff, but by time, tide and a rigid cruise schedule. **(1)**

The first aim of the day is to have the last passengers off the ship and away by 10.30 a.m. **(2)**. Even so, passengers manage to drive off home having forgotten sunglasses, souvenirs and even pearl earrings. The staff often find jewellery that has fallen down the backs of beds and chairs, and at least one passenger always manages to arrive home without his house keys - by which time the ship could already be halfway back across the Atlantic.

While *Oriana's* armies of cabin stewards are changing sheets and looking for lost property, an

enormous amount of activity is also taking place elsewhere on the ship. **(3)**. Everything from 10 tonnes of fish, to the 208 new sun chairs, to a vanload of scenery for the ship's Rio Dance Spectacular has to be carefully checked in.

The biggest problems of the day are a set of waiters' uniforms that have disappeared and several thousand boiled sweets that don't seem to have turned up. **(4)**

While all this is going on, there is also a huge number of people coming and going. Turnaround day, according to the captain, starts off with an end-of-term feeling because a lot of the crew are saying goodbye, but then others are arriving to take their places. **(5)** These include a replacement headwaiter, a new swimming-pool attendant and a new piano act called the Bibby Sisters, who will contribute to the ship's entertainment programme during the cruise.

For the moment, though, the priority is to meet and greet the new passengers, who start coming on board as early as 1.30 p.m. **(6)**. Five hours later, back on dry land, the band will be playing their own version of *Sailing*, as *Oriana* heads out towards the open sea. It's a thrilling moment for the 1,800 men, women and children on board, who can look forward to eleven days of fun and relaxation.

- A** It's a leisurely process - nobody is made to feel they have to rush their goodbyes or their packing.
- B** Lorries and vans full of supplies for the ship's stores are waiting to be unloaded.
- C** Hopefully, they haven't been missed amongst the loads of cornflakes and crisps that keep on coming, steered through the narrow corridors by dock workers in orange overalls.
- D** And today is no exception - in all, some 91 people are taking up or leaving their posts.
- E** These are entertained in the Tiffany Lounge area by a small group of musicians, playing pieces vaguely connected with the sea.
- F** Every so often, however, a loud crash announces the departure of another metal container.
- G** Indeed, it would take really extreme weather conditions to stop the ship departing and returning at the stated times, wherever it's sailing.



Part 2 (Total Score: 18 Points)

- You are going to read a magazine article about four women who are referees or umpires in different sports. For questions **7-15**, choose from the women (**A - D**). Each text may be chosen more than once. There is an example at the beginning. (0)
- For every correct answer you receive two points.

A = Bentla Couth
B = Ria Cortesio
C = Dr. Gill Clarke
D = Grace Gavin

Which woman ...

was appointed to do a job which she knew would be her last?

0 C

remembers her feeling of confidence when she started refereeing?

7

gives an example of the sort of tests she has had to go through?

8

intends to do something so that other women can reach her position?

9

remembers the excitement of learning about an appointment?

10

mentions her good relations with other sports professionals?

11

behaves differently when she's actually doing the job?

12

refers to the lack of financial motivation in their work?

13

mentions one quality she has that is appreciated by male players?

14

admits one of her skills needs to be better to referee in men's matches?

15



Women - Referees, Umpires?

A: Bentla Couth - Football Referee

When you first meet Bentla Couth, the first woman football referee in India, appearances can be deceptive. She is soft-spoken and appears shy and unassuming, in sharp contrast to how she is on the field, where she appears loud and aggressive. Bentla was always interested in football, but it was only at the age of eighteen that she learnt that women's football existed. "In my first refereeing job, I knew that I was very well aware of every detail of the game and that's why I could not go wrong. I was sure I wouldn't make a wrong decision," she says. "It doesn't happen now, but I guess earlier people did have that "what does she know" attitude. But once they saw me on the field refereeing a match, they would start coming to me for tips to improve their game. I can say that I haven't had any bad experiences so far". Bentla knows she needs to improve her positioning, though. "Boys play very fast, so it can be a little taxing to keep up with their pace."

C: Dr. Gill Clarke - Hockey Umpire

"The Hague was actually my third World Championships and this was a unique achievement as until then no Australian woman had ever umpired at three Championships. It seemed a long time since my first one in Kuala Lumpur and then in New Dehli." The performance of an umpire is assessed in all international matches, and they have to score a minimum 8 out of 10 every time they want to maintain their position. "Factors included in the assessment are such things as control, signals and cooperation with the other umpire on the pitch and fitness," explains Clarke. She arrived in The Hague early to get over the stresses and strains of the flight, ready for the pressures of the two weeks of the hockey competition, knowing too that it would be her final tournament as she had decided to retire at what she hoped was the top. "Increasingly, there is more at stake," she says, "it is big money for the players and the coaches but for umpires only personal satisfaction at a job well done."

B: Ria Cortesio - Baseball Umpire

Ria Cortesio, a native of Davenport, Iowa, is one of five women to have umpired in professional baseball. She is hoping to open doors for others to follow her. Asked what drove her as a young person to become an umpire, she referred to "the challenge". "I don't think that people realise what it means to work games day in and day out at the professional level, always on the road," she said. "It's you against the world during the season." Asked about her interactions with fans during the game last Sunday, she said she was so focussed on her work that she didn't have time to consider her surroundings. "It really doesn't make any difference being a woman on the field - or even off the field. I do feel a great responsibility to get girls and women involved. The one group of people that I haven't had a single problem with are the players, coaches or managers. If anything, there are some that are more respectful to me than usual."

D: Grace Gavin - Rugby Referee

When Grace Gavin was accepted as a referee for the Women's Rugby World Cup, she found out via her mobile phone on her way to the airport. "I almost bounced myself out of the taxi," she says. Grace combines her refereeing with a full-time job. "I strongly believe that if we referee world-class athletes, we must train like world-class athletes. This is difficult to manage when work occupies fifty to sixty hours of my week. My firm is very supportive, though. Of course, my boss was happy when I retired from playing because the black eyes that sported some Monday mornings were not going down well with clients." Early in her refereeing career, somebody told her that she would always be handicapped by the perception that she was not fast enough to referee men's rugby. "I have worked constantly to defeat this idea," she says. "Surprisingly, many players like having me as a ref because they can hear my voice. They can pick it out and are able to respond in the heat of the match."

Paper 3: Use of English

Part 1 (Total Score: 13 Points)

- Read the following text and choose the correct word for each space (1-12). One point is awarded for every correct answer.
- For each question, **circle the letter next to the correct word at the bottom page – A, B, C or D.**

A Famous Explorer

Captain James Cook is remembered today for being one of Britain's most famous explorers of the 18th century. Cook was (1) _____ most other explorers of the same period as he did not come from a wealthy family and had to work hard to (2) _____ his position in life. He was lucky to be (3) _____ by his father's employer, who saw that he was a bright boy and paid for him to attend the village school. At sixteen, he started (4) _____ in a shop in a fishing village (5) _____ on the coast and this was a turning (6) _____ in his life. He developed an interest in the sea and eventually joined the Royal Navy

(7) _____ to see more of the world.

Cook was (8) _____ by sailing, astronomy and the production of maps, and quickly became an expert (9) _____ these subjects. He was also one of the first people to (10) _____ that scurvy, an illness often suffered by sailors, could be prevented by (11) _____ to diet. It was during his (12) _____ to the Pacific Ocean that Cook made his historic landing in Australia and the (13) _____ discovery that New Zealand was two separate islands. He became a hero.

- | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------|-----------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------|----------|--------------|
| 1 | A | different | B | contrary | C | distinct | D | unlike |
| 2 | A | manage | B | succeed | C | achieve | D | lose |
| 3 | A | remarked | B | viewed | C | glanced | D | noticed |
| 4 | A | trade | B | work | C | career | D | job |
| 5 | A | held | B | placed | C | loaded | D | situated |
| 6 | A | moment | B | instant | C | point | D | mark |
| 7 | A | in view | B | in order | C | as | D | due |
| 8 | A | keen | B | eager | C | fascinated | D | enthusiastic |
| 9 | A | from | B | over | C | in | D | between |
| 10 | A | regard | B | estimate | C | catch | D | realise |
| 11 | A | attention | B | organisation | C | observation | D | expression |

- 12 **A** travel **B** voyage **C** excursion **D** tour
 13 **A** serious **B** superior **C** major **D** leading

Part 2 (Total Score: 9 Points)

- For questions (14-22) read the following text about computer games. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning.
- One point is awarded for every correct answer.

Computer Games

To get an idea of the (0) ARTISTIC and technical skill that goes into a computer game, you only need to visit the Los Angeles studio of Electronic Arts, the world's largest and most (14) _____ game-maker. The firm's (15) _____ team have just started work on the latest version on one of their most popular games. As you enter the building, you see an (16) _____ display of photographs that help you to imagine what the game's particular look and style will be like.

- ARTIST**
- INFLUENCE**
- CREATE**
- IMPRESS**

The (17) _____ of the game will involve engineers, technical experts and (18) _____, and will cost more than \$10 million. These days, there is a great deal of (19) _____ between making a game and making a Hollywood movie, and it's big business.

- DEVELOP**
- MUSIC**
- SIMILAR**

According to economists, (20) _____ spend more than \$70 billion on computer games each year, or in other words, they buy two games per household. Part of the (21) _____ for the success of the games is the (22) _____ rise in the number of adults who are buying them, not as gifts for teenagers, but for their own personal use.

- AMERICA**
- EXPLAIN**
- EXPECTED**



Part 3 (Total Score: 14 Points)

Sentence Completion

- For questions (23-29), complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given.
- **Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given.**
- There is an example at the beginning.
- Every correct sentence is awarded two points.

Example:

Large cars use more gas than small cars.

much

Small cars don't use as much gas as large cars.

23 "Don't touch the plate, it's very hot," the waitress said to me.

NOT

The waitress _____ the plate because it was very hot.

24 It isn't easy for Zoe to answer the telephone in Spanish.

DIFFICULTY

Zoe _____ the telephone in Spanish.

25 During the carnival, they did not let people park in that part of the city.

ALLOWED

In that part of the city, parking _____ the carnival was taking place.

26 I had never been in that restaurant before.

FIRST

It _____ I had ever been in that restaurant.

27 John didn't buy a ticket because the machine had not worked properly.

IF

John would _____ the machine had been working properly.

28 Jake and I were sitting by ourselves at the back of the bus.

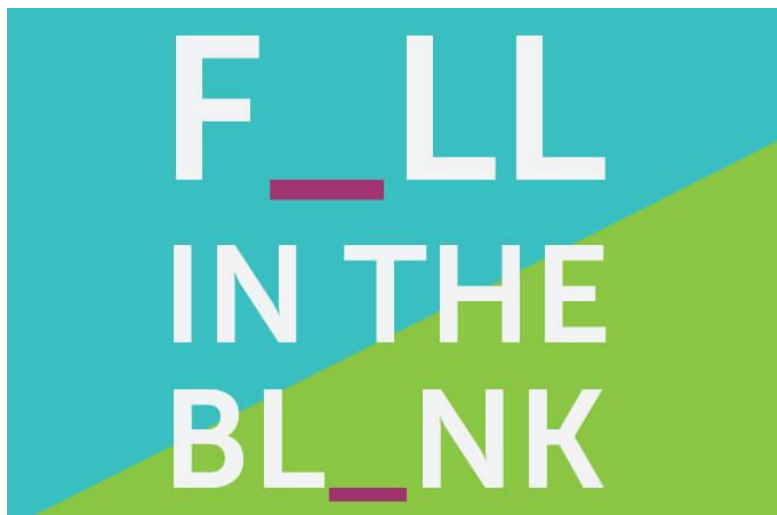
OWN

John and I were sitting _____ at the back of the bus.

29 How many competitors went in for the race?

PART

How many competitors _____ the race?



Congratulations – You Have Made It!
This is the End of the Sample Entry Test

Key

Maximum Score: 82 points

Paper 1: Listening (Total: 16 Points)

Part 1 (16 Points)

Two points are awarded for every correct answer.

- 1 **B**
- 2 **C**
- 3 **A**
- 4 **A**
- 5 **A**
- 6 **B**
- 7 **B**
- 8 **B**



Paper 2: Reading (Total 30 Points)

Part 1 (12 Points)

The Oriana Turnaround

Two points are awarded for every correct answer.

- 1 **G**
- 2 **A**
- 3 **B**
- 4 **C**
- 5 **D**
- 6 **E**

Part 2 (18 Points)

Women - Referees, Umpires?

Two points are awarded for every correct answer.

- 7 **A**
- 8 **C**
- 9 **B**
- 10 **D**
- 11 **B**
- 12 **A**
- 13 **C**
- 14 **D**
- 15 **A**

Paper 3: Use of English (Total 36 Points)

Part 1 (13 Points)

A Famous Explorer

One point is awarded for every correct answer.

- 1 **D UNLIKE**
- 2 **C ACHIEVE**
- 3 **D NOTICED**
- 4 **B WORK**
- 5 **D SITUATED**
- 6 **C POINT**
7. **B IN ORDER**
8. **C FASCINATED**
9. **C IN**
10. **D REALISE**
11. **A ATTENTION**
12. **B VOYAGE**
13. **C MAJOR**

Part 2 (9 Points)

Computer Games

One point is awarded for every correct answer.

- 14 **INFLUENTIAL**
- 15 **CREATIVE**
- 16 **IMPRESSIVE**
- 17 **DEVELOPMENT**
- 18 **MUSICIANS**
- 19 **SIMILARITY**
- 20 **AMERICANS**
- 21 **EXPLANATION**
- 22 **UNEXPECTED**

Part 3 (14 Points)

Sentence Completion

Two points are awarded for a completely correct sentence.

One point is awarded for sentences that contain minor mistakes.

- 23 The waitress **(has) told me not to touch** the plate because it was very hot.
- 24 Zoe **has difficulty in answering** the telephone in Spanish.
- 25 In that part of the city, parking **was not allowed while** the carnival was taking place.
- 26 It **was the first time** I had ever been in that restaurant.
- 27 John would **have bought a ticket if** the machine had been working properly.
- 28 John and I were sitting **on our own** at the back of the bus.
- 29 How many competitors **took part in** the race?

THE END