

TAL LEVEL 3 SAMPLE TEST

GRAMMAR/READING TEST (1 hour 15 minutes)

Part A Multiple choice – choose the most appropriate option

Young children **(1)** be left on their own, because something dangerous could happen to them.

1	A don't have to	B shouldn't	C can	D have to
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After yesterday's conference, everybody **(2)** the speakers for coffee and talk to them.

2	A had a chance to meeting	B was allowed to meet	C could have been met	D were permitted meet
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I **(3)** buy a ticket for the concert and I had a great time.

3	A was able to buy	B could buy	C would buy	D could have bought
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The house was really dirty, so we **(4)** them clean it.

4	A got	B made	C persuaded	D did
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I am so stupid! If only I **(5)** that! I can never keep my mouth shut and keep secrets!

5	A wouldn't say	B wouldn't have said	C didn't say	D hadn't said
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The latest news about the Morandi bridge scandal **(6)** really shocking.

6	A is	B are	C have been	D would be
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He hates his new job because he has **(7)** free time and his boss is terrible.

7	A few	B little	C lesser	D minus
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I stopped **(8)** for a minute, because I was really tired.

8	A run	B running	C to run	D of running
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I told my friends that I didn't think I was **(9)** to win the competition.

9	A enough good	B good enough	C enough sufficient	D well enough
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Thomas started looking **(10)** Internet for information about cheap train tickets.

10	A in	B on	C in the	D on the
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I went to France on a school trip two years ago. It was the first time I had been **(11)** plane.

11	A in	B in the	C on a	D with the
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Susan is really good **(12)** chess.

12	A for	B to	C at	D in
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As well as **(13)** very friendly, my co-workers are also very noisy. I wish they **(14)** to speak a bit more quietly.

13	A they are	B to be	C being	D be
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14	A would have learned	B would learn	C have learnt	D learnt
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Sharon **(15)** something up online when her friends dropped in.

15	A has been looking	B was been looking	C has looked	D was looking
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When our grandparents were young, people **(16)** much television.

16	A wasn't used to watching	B weren't using to watch	C didn't use to watch	D didn't use watching
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Brian **(17)** the Net for ages when he finally found an interesting advert for a weekend for two in Paris. He was sure his girlfriend **(18)** .

17	A surfed	B was surfing	C has surfed	D had been surfing
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18	A likes they go	B would they go	C would like they went	D would like them to go
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Sarah thinks that she **(19)** be pregnant. She **(20)** to get her test results back in a few minutes.

19	A can	B will	C would	D might
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20	A waits	B is thinking	C would expect	D is expecting
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Part B WORD FORMATION: Change the form of the words in capital letters to complete the texts below.

Example: (0 KNOW) Solution: KNOWN

(0 KNOW) to many as ‘the alternative Eurovision Song Contest’, Liet International is an annual festival for (21 PERFORM) who sing in any of Europe’s 82 minority languages, defined as those which have long been (22 TRADITION) spoken within a European nation, but are used today by less than half of its population. The competition, which was first held in 2002 in Friesland, Holland, (*liet* is Frisian for ‘song’) has proved very (23 SUCCEED), with the twelve finalists now selected from over 60 initial entries. Liet International is clearly a useful vehicle for encouraging artists who sing in minority languages, but also for raising (24 AWARE) of the linguistic diversity of Europe and contributing to its (25 SURVIVE).

Part C CONNECTORS. Complete the text using the words or expressions given at the beginning of the paragraph below. You can only use each word/expression ONCE, but you will NOT need all of them.

ALTHOUGH	BECAUSE	IN SPITE OF	SUCH AS	HOWEVER	SINCE	WHILST	BUT
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Interpersonal communication obviously relies heavily on verbal language. (_26_), non-verbal cues also play a surprisingly powerful role in communication, not only in our interpretation of verbal language, (_27_) sometimes also as a substitute for it. Body language, for example, is often seen as an international means of communication, (_28_) there are some interesting differences between populations around the world. (_29_) the fact that some aspects of body language vary dramatically from one population to another, others (_30_) pupil size, facial expressions and posture seem to be universally recognized as indicators of emotional states.

Part D PHRASAL VERBS: Complete the texts using expressions from the table below.

PUT IT OFF	DROPPED IN	RAN AWAY FROM	TOLD OFF
CATCH UP WITH	TURN OUT	PUT UP WITH	SET OFF

- i) When the man (_31_) the police, they assumed that he must be guilty of something, so they (_32_) after him as fast as they could. Unfortunately, they didn’t manage to (_33_) him.
- ii) Peter (_34_) to see his sister and asked her if she would like to go out for a Chinese meal that evening. She agreed to dine with him but asked him to (_35_) until the next day because she already had another date that night.

Part E SENTENCE TRANSFORMATIONS: Complete the second sentence using a different construction so that it has the same meaning as the first sentence. You can use a total of BETWEEN TWO AND FIVE WORDS to transform each sentence - insert ONLY these words.

Example: (0) John said to Peter: “You lied to me.”

John _____ to him.

Answer: (0) ACCUSED PETER OF LYING

36. The co-pilot is helping the flight attendants.

The flight attendants _____ by the co-pilot.

37. The students regret not studying harder for the exam.

The students wish _____ harder for the exam.

38. She didn't buy the books because she had left her credit card at home.

If she hadn't left her credit card at home, she _____ the books.

39. "When will you repair my computer?" Chiara asked the technician.

Chiara asked the technician _____ her computer.

40. There was a terrific bang last night. I'm sure something terrible happened.

There was a terrific bang last night. Something terrible must _____.

Part F CLOZE TEST: fill in the gaps in the text using ONE word only

Example: (0) OUT

WHY DO PEOPLE GO TO THE THEATRE NOWADAYS?

Why haven't theatres gone (0) of business by now? It seems strange when you consider how much competition there is. (41) from television, which is easily available to (42) , there are so many blockbuster films full of incredible special effects, computer graphics and (43) on. It is much cheaper to go to the cinema (44) to the theatre, and, of course, you can always buy the DVD later to see a film again and again. (45) , despite these advantages, live theatre is still as popular as ever.

What is the attraction of live theatre today? (46) is something special about the experience of (47) to the theatre that you just can't find in the cinema. It's the moment when the lights are turned (48) , the murmur of conversation among the audience dies away and a thrill of expectation takes over the theatre. That is (49) is missing from the cinema – it's the shared experience. When we see a film, we remember the story, but after going to the theatre, we remember the experience. For this reason the theatre is still a (50) popular art form, and has an exciting future.

Part G READING COMPREHENSION: Read the text and answer the questions.

WHO WANTS TO LIVE FOR EVER?

A Are you hoping for a long life? Thought so. Are you looking forward to growing old? Thought not. Man has wanted one without the other for thousands of years and has invariably been disappointed. Cleopatra is said to have bathed in asses' milk to stay young and beautiful but did not live long enough to find out if it worked in old age. The Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon was more famous for his search for the Fountain of Youth than for discovering Florida in 1513. He never did find the rejuvenating spring that the natives had told him of and died from a poisoned Indian arrow a few years later.

B The legend of the Fountain of Youth may have originated in northern India. It had reached Europe by the 7th century and was widely known there in the Middle Ages. Later on, in 1546, Lucas Cranach the Elder painted a famous picture of a miraculous pool, with ugly old women going in at one end and young beauties coming out at the other. Writers have also constantly imagined worlds where people lived to prodigious ages while maintaining **their** youthful looks and vigour by various means, mostly evil (think of Dorian Gray). In the real world too, people are prepared to try all kinds of disgusting things, from mud baths to injections of monkey glands, in the hope of staying younger longer.

C You might think they no longer needed to bother. People today generally live much longer than ever before. By the middle of the 18th century AD, in Western Europe, life expectancy at birth was about 30 years on average. Now, that figure for the world as a whole is about 65, thanks

to the past two centuries' improvements in living conditions, public health and medical care. A baby born today in affluent North America or Western Europe can expect to live to 75-80. His or her biggest problem will probably be to resist the temptation to eat too much, exercise too little and become obese. But if they look after themselves, they should remain quite healthy for most of their greatly extended time on earth.

D Yet although average life expectancy has risen sharply, in quite a short time, the individual human lifespan established by Nature has remained more or less the same through most of recorded history. It was—even if mainly in theory—three score and ten in Biblical times, and it isn't much more now. Most people died of one thing or another long before their natural time was up. Even in the depths of history a few people lived to a great age. Researchers reckon that Rameses II, who ruled ancient Egypt some 3,250 years ago, may have survived into his 90s. So did the Greek dramatist Sophocles (and, to judge from some of his late writings, felt it quite long enough).

E The big achievement of modern times is that, in developed countries at least, most people are now rich enough to reach the age they were designed for. No longer do they die in large numbers in the first year of life, or later from infectious diseases, or suffer malnutrition, or work themselves to death (except in Japan, where *karoshi*, suicide due to overwork, is a familiar end; but at least it is voluntary). Apart from accidents, therefore, most people now go on until they die of one of the diseases of very old age, such as cardiovascular disease or cancer. As a result, the current emphasis in age research is on what experts call “compression of morbidity”. Much of the advice handed out is simple common sense: adopt a healthy lifestyle, eat and drink in moderation, do not smoke, take regular exercise but don't overdo it. These rules are often not followed, sometimes without apparent ill effect. Mark Twain, who lived to 75, which in 1910 was much longer than most Americans, outlined his own survival strategy: *I have never taken any exercise, except sleeping, smoking, drinking and resting, and I never intend to take any. Exercise is loathsome.*

F Not that, even if ageing could be stopped altogether, people would stop dying. Accidents will happen. Age researchers reckon that if people were able indefinitely to preserve their maximum health and vigour (which in developed countries is reached around the age of ten or eleven), they would on average live for about 1,200 years; while one in about 1,000 would last for 10,000 years. They might get a bit lonely as all their friends passed away. In the end, though, the incidence of death for mankind as a whole would still be the same as ever: 100%. Life is an invariably fatal disease.

G And then? If people were to live a lot longer, and everything else stayed the same, old people would soon end up in a huge majority. Ugh. Demographers reckon the planet will have problems looking after them. Even were there shelter and food, these crowds of super-oldies would face a grim life, unless they could survive without vast extra medical care, and remain fit enough to go on and on working, to avoid having to be maintained by the decreasing, resentful minority of younger people. As Cicero wisely observed in Rome more than 2,000 years ago: *Old age is the final scene, as it were, in life's drama, from which we ought to escape when it becomes wearisome and, certainly, when we have had our fill.*

Questions 51- 57 Multiple choice

51. The Fountain of Youth

- was a legendary spring discovered by Spanish explorers in America.
- is just one of the real or imaginary remedies for combatting ageing.
- became legendary after its depiction in the painting of Lucas Cranach the Elder.
- helped old people to stay healthy until they died.

52. The word *'their'*, presented in bold type in Paragraph B refers to ...

- a) worlds
- b) ages
- c) people
- d) Writers

53. Which is the best title for paragraph D?

- a) Longer life expectancy, longer life span?
- b) Born to be natural long lived
- c) Why we don't live longer
- d) Historical early deaths

54. The word *'it'*, presented in bold type in Paragraph D refers to ...

- a) the Bible
- b) average life expectancy
- c) recorded history
- d) human lifespan

55. The advice given by age research experts

- a) worked well with Mark Twain.
- b) is familiar in Japan, where it has been very successful.
- c) aims to help people live to a healthy old age.
- d) has ensured that people all over the world live to the age they were designed for.

56. A long life

- a) can be achieved by anyone, whoever they are, provided they lead a healthy life-style.
- b) is something that many people in the developed countries have a good probability of having.
- c) according to Cicero, is a joy for any writer, whatever his /her age.
- d) will mean that old people will no longer be lonely in future as they will be in a majority.

57. The aim of the author paragraph G is to

- a) suggest it might be better not to live to an unhappy old age.
- b) give an optimistic view of life in the future
- c) emphasize how all the generations will benefit from a longer life expectancy.
- d) criticize the findings of demographers.

Questions 58-60: Match words/expressions to others in the text

58. Find a word or expression in paragraph B which means *extraordinarily long*

59. Find a word or expression in paragraph E which means *consequently*

60. Find a word or expression in paragraph G which means *boring or unpleasant*

ANSWERS

1. B
2. B
3. A
4. B
5. D
6. A
7. B
8. B
9. B
10. D
11. C
12. C
13. C
14. B
15. D
16. C
17. D
18. D
19. D
20. D
21. PERFORMERS
22. TRADITIONALLY
23. SUCCESSFUL
24. AWARENESS
25. SURVIVAL
26. HOWEVER
27. BUT
28. ALTHOUGH
29. IN SPITE OF
30. SUCH AS
31. RAN AWAY FROM,
32. SET OFF
33. CATCH UP WITH,
34. DROPPED IN
35. PUT IT OFF
36. ARE BEING HELPED
37. THEY HAD STUDIED
38. WOULD HAVE BOUGHT
39. WHEN HE WOULD REPAIR
40. HAVE HAPPENED
41. APART/STARTING
42. ALL/EVERYBODY/EVERYONE
43. SO
44. THAN
45. HOWEVER

- 46. THERE
- 47. GOING
- 48. DOWN/OFF
- 49. WHAT
- 50. VERY/REALLY/MOST
- 51. B
- 52. C
- 53. A
- 54. D
- 55. C
- 56. B
- 57. A
- 58. PRODIGIOUS
- 59. AS A RESULT
- 60. WEARISOME