St Mary's School
CAMBRIDGE

Lower Sixth EAL

Sample Entrance Examination

Time allowed: 60 minutes

Name: _____

INSTRUCTIONS :

- **Dictionaries or reference materials are forbidden**

READING

You are going to read a magazine article in which a father describes his relationship with his son. For questions 1-7, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text, and circle it, like this e.g.Ⓒ

Gary and Me

The restaurant owner John Moore writes about his relationship with his son Gary, the famous TV chef.

I believe everyone's given a chance in life. My son, Gary, was given his chance with cooking, and my chance was to run a restaurant. When I heard about the opportunity, I rushed over to look at the place. It was in a really bad state. It was perfect for what I had in mind.

Coming into this business made me recall my childhood. I can remember my mother going out to work in a factory and me being so upset because I was left alone. With that in mind, I thought, 'We want time for family life'. My wife dedicated herself to looking after the children and did all my accounts while I ran the business. We lived over the restaurant in those days, and we always put a lot of emphasis on having meals together. It's paid dividends with our children, Gary and Joe. They're both very confident. Also, from a very early age they would come down and talk to our regular customers. It's given both of them a great start in life.

line 17

Gary was quite a lively child when he was really small. We had a corner bath, and when he was about seven he thought he'd jump into it like a swimming pool, and he knocked himself out. When he was older, he had to work for pocket money. He started off doing odd jobs and by the age of about ten he was in the kitchen every weekend, so he always had loads of money at school. He had discipline. He used to be up even before me in the morning. If you run a family business, it's for the family, and it was nice to see him helping out.

Gary wasn't very academic, but he shone so much in the kitchen. By the age of fifteen he was as good as any of the men working there, and sometimes he was even left in charge. He would produce over a hundred meals, and from then I knew he'd go into catering because he had that flair. So when he came to me and said, 'Dad, I've got to do work experience as part of my course at school', I sent him to a friend of mine who's got a restaurant.

Gary recently took up playing the drums and now he has his own band. Goodness knows what will happen to the cooking if the music takes off. My advice to Gary would be: if you start chasing two hares, you end up catching neither, so chase the hare you know you're going to catch. He understood when I said to him: 'Gary, if you're going to get anywhere in life, you've got to do it by the age of 30. If you haven't done it by then, it's too late.'

line 54

Gary went to catering college at the age of 17, and on his first day he and the other new students – they're normally complete beginners – were given what's supposed to be a morning's work. But within an hour, Gary had chopped all his vegetables, sliced all his meats. He'd prepared everything. That's my son for you! In the end, he was helping other people out.

None of us can believe how successful Gary's TV cookery series has become. I'm extremely proud of him. I've always tried to tell him that if you want something, you've got to work jolly hard for it, because no one gives you anything. He's seen the opportunity he's been given and grabbed hold of it with both hands. You know, you talk to your children as they grow up, and if they only take in ten per cent of what you've told them, you've got to be happy with that. The things Gary says, the things he does, I think, well, he must have listened sometimes.

1 How did the writer react to his own big chance?

A He worried about the problems.
B He saw what could be done.
C He thought the family would suffer.
D He wondered if he should take it.

2 How did the writer's childhood influence his own family life?

A He realised that the pattern was repeating itself.
B He encouraged his children to talk to him.
C He made sure there was plenty of personal contact.
D He forced his wife to stay at home.

3 What does the writer mean by 'paid dividends' in line 17?

A brought financial reward
B produced benefits
C was worth the suffering
D allowed money to be saved

4 As a young boy, Gary

A showed how determined he could be.
B was always in trouble.
C was motivated by money.
D demonstrated a variety of talents.

5 What does 'done it' refer to in line 54?

A chosen a profession
B achieved success
C caught a hare
D lived your life

6 According to his father, what was typical about Gary's behaviour on his first day at college?

A He helped other people.
B He impressed those in charge.
C- He tried to make his father proud.
D He performed the task efficiently.

7 How does his father regard Gary's upbringing?

A His encouragement has caused Gary's success.
B The family influence on Gary was too strong.
C Gary has forgotten important lessons.
D Gary has learnt some essential things.

USE OF ENGLISH 1

For questions 1-10, 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 from **two to five** words.

There is an example at the beginning (0) *Write **only** the missing words.*

Example:

0 I haven't seen her since my 11th birthday party.

last

I …… my 11th birthday party.

The missing words are "last saw her at" so you write them in the gap, like this:

I … last saw her at … my 11th birthday party.

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1. Julia went to the gym by herself yesterday afternoon.

   own

   Julia went to the gym …… yesterday afternoon.

2. The start of the second race was delayed because the first race finished late.

   caused

   The delay to the start of the second race ……the late finish of the first race.

3. The film will have started, so it's not worth going to the cinema now.

   point

   The film will have started, so ……..……in going to the cinema now.

4. Marta's mother told her yesterday that she could visit her friend Janet after school.

   allowed

   Yesterday Marta's mother ……..…….. her friend Janet after school.

5. Kate regrets missing the concert.
   wishes

   Kate ……..…… missed the concert.

6. Hannah was happy to lend Lin a jacket.
   mind

   Hannah ……..a jacket to Lin.

7. Joanne arranged for a dressmaker in her home town to make her costume.
   had

   Joanne ……..…….. a dressmaker in her home town.

8. “Tim, you left the fridge door open!” said Sarah.
   accused

   Sarah …… …… the fridge door open.

9. She described the school to us in detail.
   detailed

   She ……..……... of the school

10. Stephanie didn’t find it difficult to pass the entrance examination.
    difficulty

    Stephanie had ……..…… the Entrance Examination.

USE OF ENGLISH 2

For questions 1-15, read the article below and then decide which word of those listed below the text best fits each space. Circle the letter you choose for each question. The exercise begins with an example (0).

THE LANGUAGE OF TEARS

The ability to weep is a uniquely human form of emotional response. Some scientists have suggested that human tears are (0) ... of an aquatic past but this does not seem very likely. We cry from the moment we enter this (1) ..., for a number of reasons. Helpless babies cry to (2) ... their parents that they are ill, hungry or uncomfortable. As they (3) ... they will also cry just to attract parental attention and will often stop when they get it.

The idea that (4) ... a good cry can do you (5) ... is a very old one and now it has scientific (6) ..., since recent research into tears has shown that they (7) ... a natural painkiller called enkaphalin. By (8) ... sorrow and pain this chemical helps you to feel better. Weeping can increase the quantities of enkaphalin you 9) ….

Unfortunately, in our society we impose restrictions upon this naturally (10) ... activity. Because some people still regard it as a (11) ... of weakness in men, boys in particular are admonished when they cry. This kind of repression can only increase stress, both emotionally and physically.

Tears of emotion also help the body (12) ... itself of toxic chemical (13) ... , for there is more protein in them than in tears resulting from cold winds or other irritants. Crying comforts, calms and can be very enjoyable – (14) … the popularity of the highly emotional films which are commonly (15) … 'weepies'. It seems that people enjoy crying together almost as much as laughing together.

Example:

0 A witness	(B) evidence	C result	D display

1 A world	B place	C earth	D space
2 A communicate	B persuade	C inform	D demonstrate
3 A evolve	B change	C develop	D alter
4 A doing	B making	C getting	D having
5 A better	B fine	C good	D well
6 A validity	B truth	C reality	D reason
7 A contain	B retain	C hold	D keep
8 A struggling	B fighting	C opposing	D striking
9 A construct	B achieve	C provide	D produce

10	A curing	B treating	C healing	D improving
11	A hint	B symbol	C feature	D sign
12	A release	B rid	C loosen	D expel
13	A rubbish	B waste	C leftovers	D remains
14	A consider	B remark	C distinguish	D regard
15	A named	B entitled	C subtitled	D called

WRITING

Write at least 200 words on **ONE** of the following topics:

1. Write an article for a series in a magazine called

   My Style

   Your article should include (although not necessarily in this order) answers to the following questions: How has your style changed since you started making decisions about your appearance? What kinds of clothes do you most enjoy wearing? What factors do you take into account in deciding what you will buy? What does your image say about you?

OR

2. Write about the following topic:

   The Internet offers so many resources to language learners that the time is rapidly approaching when there will be no need for language teachers.

   Do you agree or disagree?
   Give reasons for your answer and include relevant examples from your own knowledge and experience.

OR

3. Write an essay entitled **An Outsider's View of the UK**.

WRITING