

This is the Pearson Test of English General Level 4. This test takes 2 hours and 30 minutes.

Section 1

You will have 10 seconds to read each question and the corresponding options. Then listen to the recording. After the recording you will have 10 seconds to choose the correct option. Put a cross (☒) in the box next to the correct answer, as in the example.

Example: This is an extract from

- A an announcement.
- B an advertisement.
- C a message.

1. The speaker says that a university education should be valued as

- A a means of personal fulfilment.
- B an opportunity for employment.
- C a useful contribution to society.

1

2. The speaker says many of his school lessons were

- A boring.
- B entertaining.
- C funny.

2

3. How does the boy feel?

- A shocked
- B furious
- C disappointed

3

4. Who are the speakers?

- A father and mother
- B brother and sister
- C husband and wife

4



5. What is the woman's attitude to the loss of traditions?

- A regretful
- B realistic
- C pessimistic

Leave blank

5

6. Which word best describes the speaker's attitude?

- A appreciative
- B narrow-minded
- C critical

6

7. Who is the speaker addressing?

- A a group of actors
- B a group of business people
- C a group of students

7

8. How does the woman feel about helping at the wedding?

- A bored
- B reluctant
- C stressed

8

9. What disadvantage of the Indymedia website does the speaker mention?

- A the style of the writing
- B the quality of information
- C the advertising

9

10. What is the speaker describing?

- A emotional problems that teenagers experience
- B poor relationships between family and teenagers
- C reasons why youngsters spend time with friends

10

Q1

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(Total 10 marks)



Section 3

12-16 You will hear an interview. First, read the notes below then listen and complete the notes with information from the interview. You will hear the recording twice.

Example: The World Today is a political magazine

12. Increase in magazine sales over the past 12 months:

13. The man does not regard the new online magazine as a

14. The content of the online magazine is more.....than *The World Today's*.

15. The man doesn't think relying on sales is a

16. The Internet magazine is funded through

17-21 You will hear a talk. First, read the notes below then listen and complete the notes with information from the talk. You will hear the recording twice.

Example: Speaker's occupation: (a) musician

17. He feels envious of people who learn an instrument but haven't had any.....

18. He finds it difficult to listen to music without.....it.

19. He also wishes he could.....more freely.

20. One vital necessity for success:

21. Main aim: to reach a point where you don't have to think about.....

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

Q3

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(Total 10 marks)

That is the end of the listening section of the test. Now go on to the other sections of the test.



Section 4

Read each text and put a cross (☒) by the missing word or phrase, as in the example.

Example:

The value of older books is determined by many of the same criteria as modern books - condition, content, and edition. Many people think that just because a book is old, it is valuable, but a book has no collectible value by.....:

- A age alone
- B normal standards
- C today's collectors

22.

A tradition can be defined as a belief, ritual or custom that has been passed down from one generation to the next, frequently, though not....., by oral means rather than in written form.

- A completely
- B necessarily
- C extensively

23.

People often automatically presume that traditions are long-standing, unchanging and hold the secrets of ancient wisdom....., they are often introduced later and are less "natural" than people might think.

- A In fact
- B In effect
- C In contrast

22

23



24.

What are employers looking for in a media studies graduate? Well, the fact that they will expect you to have a wide critical understanding of the media and mass communication.....:

- A is usually the case
- B may not apply
- C goes without saying

24

25.

Our in-house training is : we listen to what you want to achieve and will then either adapt one of our existing courses or come up with a completely new one to meet your needs.

- A customised
- B varied
- C established

25

26.

When teaching any child to read, it is vital to recognise that learning styles differ. The teacher or parent, or whoever is doing the instructing, needs to be aware of the preferred way that the child masters a new activity,..... the age of the learner.

- A depending on
- B relevant to
- C regardless of

26

Q4

(Total 5 marks)



Section 5

Read the review and answer the questions below. Put a cross (☒) in the box next to the correct answer, as in the example.

Review of *The Invention of Tradition*

This is a scholarly but accessible collection of essays that will provide fascinating and instructive reading for anyone who is interested in history and society. The basic premise underlying each of the contributions by recognised experts in their fields is that, far from being immutable and long established, many so-called traditions have been invented (or in some cases adapted) relatively recently, usually for ideological reasons.

While this in itself may not come as a huge surprise to you - many people are after all aware of this phenomenon in a general sense - some of the specific examples might be a revelation. In Hugh Trevor-Roper's essay on Scottish "traditions", for example, you will discover that the kilts (never call them skirts!) so proudly worn by nationalistic Scots were actually invented by an Englishman. Not only that, but the distinctive tartan patterns of kilts that are supposed to signify a Scot's long-held loyalties to a particular clan did not even exist before the nineteenth century.

Moving on to the English themselves, another contribution lists the various aspects of ceremony surrounding the monarchy that are generally assumed to be ancient and venerable but were in fact created little more than a century ago. Another essay details how British Empire authorities adapted or invented "native" traditions in places like India and Africa to maintain their own power (a practice carried on, by the way, by numerous post-colonial leaders).

All in all then, this is an illuminating read, brought (almost) up-to-date by the final essay, in which Eric Hobsbawm himself surveys the process by which mass "traditions" in areas such as festivals, sport, education and monuments were developed during the 20th century. The lesson to be drawn is: when it comes to traditions, assume nothing.

Example: Why is this book likely to have a wide appeal?

- A It is written by acknowledged experts.
- B It is about society and history.
- C It is academic yet easy to read.

27. The underlying idea of the book is that traditions are

- A normally used by governments to promote ideology.
- B often not as old as they are assumed to be.
- C surprisingly effective in forming people's attitudes.



28. The revelation about Scottish kilts is presented as being

- A ironic.
- B typical.
- C nationalistic.

28

29. What do many people assume about rituals involving British royalty?

- A They date back to ancient times.
- B They are less than 100 years old.
- C They have ceremonial purposes.

29

30. According to the writer, the use of artificial traditions to impose authority

- A was particularly common in the British Empire.
- B continued even after the British Empire ended.
- C is a phenomenon found mostly in India and Africa.

30

31. The reviewer believes the book should teach us to be more

- A inquisitive.
- B knowledgeable.
- C skeptical.

31

Q5

(Total 5 marks)



Section 6

Read the article below and answer the questions.

Degrees in Media Studies have become an easy target for those, especially in the popular press, whose agenda is to belittle current standards in Higher Education, and Media Studies graduates often find themselves having to vigorously defend their chosen degree.

As an academic subject, it is still relatively new and is often regarded as a soft option. That might come as a surprise to someone who has had to get to grips with postmodernist or semiotic theory in order to obtain a degree.

In fact, the content of Media Studies courses can vary dramatically: some tend to be theoretical while others are more vocational, so career opportunities depend on exactly what you studied. We're often told that traditional print media are on their way out, but journalistic talent and production skills in fields like radio and video are still in demand by new-media operators, who are keen to use these skills and adapt them to the challenges of capturing Internet audiences.

Example: Where are Media Studies courses often criticised?

.....(the) popular press.....

32. What do Media Studies graduates frequently need to do?

32

33. Which phrase suggests that some people think Media Studies is not a demanding subject?

33

34. Why is it hard to generalise about career opportunities for Media Studies graduates?

34

35. Which sector of this field is said to be declining?

35



Read the web article below and answer the questions.

There is a long-standing debate between users of "new media" and Internet Service Providers (ISPs) about so-called "net neutrality" (the idea that no-one should control the Internet). Both sides claim to uphold what they call "Internet freedom,"but it appears they have diverging views of exactly what is meant by freedom in this context.

For supporters of neutrality, Internet freedom means equal, affordable access to whatever online applications and content they choose. In contrast, the ISPs say a free Internet means that the industry should be unimpeded by government oversight and that high-speed connections should be available for anyone who can afford them.

The debate so far is overgrown with so much technical jargon that it hasn't attracted widespread attention, but what's at stake is nothing less than the future of the Internet. The issue, essentially, is whether financial corporations become gatekeepers of online content and traffic, or whether small independent organizations can access the new technology without restrictions. Whichever way it goes, the outcome is likely to change the whole of popular culture.

Example: What principle is supported by both sides in this argument but interpreted differently?

Internet freedom

36. What two aspects of Internet access do supporters of net neutrality believe are needed?

36

37. When Service Providers talk about "freedom", what do they mean they should be free from?

37

38. What has prevented people from taking notice of this dispute?

38

39. If supporters of net neutrality lose the political battle, who will control access to the Internet?

39

Q6

(Total 8 marks)



Section 7

Read the web article and complete the notes. Write no more than three words from the article in each gap.

What is Social Learning Theory?

The social learning theory known as observational learning proposed by Albert Bandura has become perhaps the most influential theory of learning and development. While rooted in many of the basic concepts of traditional learning theory, Bandura believed that direct reinforcement could not account for all types of learning. His theory added a social element, arguing that people can learn new information and behaviors by watching other people. Also known as modeling, this type of learning can be used to explain a wide variety of behaviors.

Basic Social Learning Concepts

1. People can learn through observation.

In his famous "Bobo doll" studies, Bandura demonstrated that children learn and imitate behaviors they have observed in other people. The children in Bandura's studies observed an adult acting violently toward a Bobo doll. When the children were later allowed to play in a room with the Bobo doll, they began to imitate the aggressive actions they had observed.

2. Mental states are important to learning.

Bandura noted that external, environmental reinforcement was not the only factor to influence learning and behavior. He described intrinsic reinforcement as a form of internal reward, such as pride, satisfaction, and a sense of accomplishment.

3. Learning does not necessarily lead to a change in behavior.

Not all observed behaviors are effectively learned. Factors involving both the model and the learner can play a role in whether social learning is successful. Certain requirements and steps must also be followed.

Attention

In order to learn, you need to be paying attention. Anything that distracts your attention will have a negative effect on observational learning. If the model is interesting or there is a novel aspect to the situation, you are more likely to dedicate your full attention to learning.

Retention

The ability to store information is an important part of the learning process. Retention can be affected by a number of factors, but the ability to pull up information later and act on it is vital to observational learning.

Reproduction

Once you have paid attention to the model and retained the information, it is time to actually perform the behavior you observed. Further practice of the learned behavior leads to improvement and skill advancement.

Motivation

Finally, in order for observational learning to be successful, you have to be motivated to imitate the behavior that has been modeled. Reward and punishment play an important role in motivation. While experiencing these motivators can be highly effective, so can observing others experience some type of reinforcement or punishment. For example, if you see another student rewarded for getting to class on time, you might start to show up a few minutes early.



Example: Albert Bandura's theory of social learning has been extremely.....**influential**.....:

40. There are some types of learning that cannot be completely explained by.....:

41. Alternative term for observational learning:

42. In the studies, children tended to copy adults behaving.....
towards the "Bobo doll".

43. The feeling of achievement is an example of.....:

44. Observational learning will be less successful if something.....:

45. Repeated performance of learnt behavior will result in.....:

46. Directly or indirectly, learners are motivated by two factors:

Leave
blank

40

41

42

43

44

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46

Q7

(Total 7 marks)



Section 9

48. Choose **one** of the topics below and write your answer in **200-250 words**.

Either:

A You see this notice in a magazine:

Every family has certain traditions, things they always do together on particular occasions. Write and tell us about one of your family traditions, and how you feel about it. The best articles will be published in the next edition.

Or:

B Write an essay discussing the following question:

It is often said that new media like the Internet will soon cause the death of old media like television and newspapers. How far do you agree?

Put a cross (☒) in the box next to the task you have chosen.

A ☒

B ☒

Write 200-250 words.

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48E

48F

48R

48A

48C

48OC

48WI



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ANSWER KEY

Section 1

Example: B

1. A
2. A
3. C
4. B
5. B
6. C
7. B
8. B
9. C
10. C

Section 2

11. As is only to be expected, / the overwhelming majority of teachers / are teaching subjects / that they themselves enjoyed learning, / and they frequently suffer from / a particular perceptual drawback. / They find it difficult to conceive / that anyone could possibly struggle / to grasp ideas that they find / both fascinating and easy to assimilate.
(51 words)

Section 3

Example: political magazine

12. ten percent / 10 % / 10 percent
13. rival
14. graphical
15. disadvantage
16. advertising

Example: (a) musician

17. formal instruction
18. analysing/analyzing
19. improvise/improvize
20. (one hundred percent / 100% / 100 percent) dedication
21. technique / what your fingers are doing



Section 4

Example: A

- 22. B
- 23. A
- 24. C
- 25. A
- 26. C

Section 5

Example: C

- 27. B
- 28. A
- 29. A
- 30. B
- 31. C

Section 6

Example: (the) popular press

- 32. (vigorously) defend/justify/argue about their (chosen) degree / subject
- 33. soft option
- 34. (because) course content varies/can vary dramatically/a lot // it depends (on) (exactly) what you studied
- 35. (traditional) print media

Example: Internet freedom

- 36. (It should be) equal and affordable / equality and affordability (both required)
- 37. government oversight (both words required)
- 38. (There is) (so much) technical jargon
- 39. financial corporations

Section 7

Example: influential

- 40. direct reinforcement
- 41. modeling / modelling
- 42. violently
- 43. intrinsic reinforcement // internal reward
- 44. distracts (your) attention
- 45. improvement // skill advancement
- 46. reward (and) punishment (both required)



Section 8**47. Sample answer.**

Hello

I read an article yesterday about Social Learning Theory and I thought you might find it interesting so I'm attaching it. It was developed by Albert Bandura and apparently it's one of the most influential theories in the field.

Basically it says that children learn behaviour by observing and imitating others, which is why this type of learning is called Observational Learning (or Modelling). This learning is reinforced by both external influences like reward and punishment and internal factors like satisfaction and a sense of achievement.

To be honest, I thought a lot of what it says is common sense. You don't have to be a child psychologist to realise that children learn behaviour from copying others and they get better at it by practising. But I guess there's more to it than this short article suggests. Anyway, have a look and let me know what you think.

Best wishes,

(148 words excluding salutation and signing off)

Section 9**48A. Sample answer.**

A visit to the panto

For as long as I can remember, it has been a tradition in our family that around Christmas time we would all go together to see a pantomime. For those not familiar with this kind of performance, a pantomime (or panto for short) is a kind of musical play, mainly for children, based on a traditional story or folk tale like Cinderella or Snow White. In fact, there are lots of traditions associated with pantomimes, for instance the fact that there's always at least one female character in the story who is acted by a man. There's also a lot of audience participation, like when the villain comes on stage behind a character, who pretends not to see him and asks the audience "Where is he?" At this point, the audience are supposed to shout "Behind you!" The actor turns round and the villain follows behind so that he's still hidden. This is repeated several times.

Yes, it's silly and predictable, but in a way that's the point. To enjoy it, you have to join in with the silliness. I remember when I was young I used to join in the shouting with great enthusiasm. By the time I was about 10 I decided I was too mature for such childish entertainment. Now, though, I've grown out of that phase and I can enter into the spirit of things without getting embarrassed. In fact, nowadays my younger brother and I look forward to our yearly visit to the panto.

(248 words excluding title)



48B. Sample answer.

For some years now we have regularly heard predictions that the Internet, new media or information technology are set to revolutionise people's habits and replace the outdated "old media". DVDs, we were told, would kill off the cinema. The Internet would replace watching TV and traditional print media like newspapers and magazines. Ebooks, apparently, will soon replace old-fashioned books with real pages you have to turn.

It is tempting to believe that the predictions are true and that the victory of new media is inevitable. All these new developments clearly have advantages over their predecessors. It is easier to watch a film in the comfort of your home than go out to the cinema. Accessing TV from your laptop means you can watch the programmes you want to watch whenever you like. Using the Internet as your main news source gives you access to a variety of resources from around the world, including video.

However, it seems that there is one characteristic that is shared by all these predictions: they have simply failed to happen. People still stubbornly continue to go to the cinema, watch TV and read newspapers and books. Clearly, there are advantages to these old-fashioned, dated forms of media that the people making these predictions must have overlooked.

There is, in fact, a suspicion that the predictions tend to come from a small elite of people working within the new media, who have a vested interest in encouraging us to believe that "the old media are dead".

(250 words)



TRANSCRIPT

This is the Pearson Test of English General Level Four. This test takes 2 hours and 30 minutes.

Section 1

You will have 10 seconds to read each question and the corresponding options. Then listen to the recording. After the recording you will have 10 seconds to choose the correct option. Put a cross in the box next to the correct answer, as in the example.

Example: Listen to the man speaking. What is this an extract from?

M: Be one of the few, the proud, the Marines.

The correct answer is B

1. Listen to the woman talking. What does she say about a university education?

F: Since when was a university education like an apprenticeship? It's a learning experience. OK, it may get you a good job, but even if it doesn't, at least you will have expanded your mind and broadened your horizons.

2. Listen to the man speaking. What does he say about his school lessons?

M: I remember we used to mess around quite a lot when we were at school, just to amuse ourselves. A lot of the lessons were so dull that we had to make our own entertainment somehow.

3. Listen to the conversation. How does the boy feel?

M: What time do I have to be back?

F: No later than nine o'clock.

M: Really? But we won't have finished by then.

F: Well you'll just have to leave early then.

M: How come? It's not fair, that's not very late.

F: You've got school early tomorrow.

M: Oh alright then.

4. Listen to the conversation. Who are the speakers?

F: Oh come on, it's a family tradition. We've always done it, since we were kids.

M: That doesn't mean we have to keep doing it forever. Don't you think we've grown out of it now?

F: Maybe, but mum and dad still enjoy it.

M: Exactly - they think we still enjoy it but it's really for their benefit, not ours.

5. Listen to the conversation. What is the woman's attitude to the loss of traditions?

M: Don't you think it's sad that old traditions are dying out?

F: Well, I think it's just evolution really. I mean, if people want to carry them on - if they have some social value, then they'll survive. If not, so be it - it just means people didn't think they were worth keeping.



6. Listen to the man talking about traditional music. Which word best describes his attitude?

M: Fans of traditional folk music often seem to have this idea that anything modern is rubbish, which I can appreciate, because obviously a lot of it is. But it's a very narrow perspective to believe that traditional equals authentic, and is somehow morally better.

7. Listen to the man talking. Who is he addressing?

M: If you ever have to do an interview for the media, the first lesson is: don't think you can just make it up as you go along. Just because you're closely involved with the company every working day doesn't mean you can answer questions about it without any preparation or rehearsal. So do your homework on what kind of questions might come up.

8. Listen to the people speaking. How does the woman feel about helping at the wedding?

M: Do you think we should arrive at your nephew's wedding early so we can help out?

F: Not sure, we might be in the way.

M: I know what you mean, although I still think we should offer our services in some way.

F: Hmm, OK, I suppose you're right.

9. Listen to the man speaking. What disadvantage of the Indymedia website does he mention?

M: I get most of my news from the Indymedia website. It's open access, so anyone can post reports. That means you read informed reports written by the people who were actually involved, which are more likely to be true. The downside is that since it's a non-paying site you get these annoying pop-ups using persuasive language to try to get you to buy something online.

10. Listen to the man speaking. What is he describing?

M: Teenagers no longer want to spend all their free time with family. That is to say, they prefer the company of friends and this is, in the main, due to the fact that they are able to confide in people of their own age, who share their current perspectives and relate to their feelings in a way that the older generation cannot.

Section 2

11. You will hear a recording about teaching and learning. Listen to the whole recording once. Then you will hear the recording again with pauses for you to write down what you hear. Make sure you spell the words correctly.

F: As is only to be expected, / the overwhelming majority of teachers / are teaching subjects / that they themselves enjoyed learning, / and they frequently suffer from / a particular perceptual drawback. / They find it difficult to conceive / that anyone could possibly struggle / to grasp ideas that they find / both fascinating and easy to assimilate.



Section 3

12-16. You will hear an interview. First, read the notes below then listen and complete the notes with information from the interview. You will hear the recording twice.

- F:** Are online magazines really a threat to traditional magazines you buy in the shops? Here in the studio we have Jason Brown, editor of the long-established political magazine *The World Today*. Jason, this year saw the launch of a rival magazine broadly similar in content but online. Has it affected your sales at all?
- M:** Well, it's hard to be sure but I'd say no. We've had one of our best years ever. In fact sales have gone up by around 10% on last year's.
- F:** You don't see the new online magazine as a rival then?
- M:** No, not really. We're actually quite different in terms of content. We've always gone in for investigative journalism, whereas their site tends to have a lot of graphical content - cartoons, comic strips and so on. Another significant difference is where the funding comes from. We obviously rely on people buying a copy every month, whereas their site is free to anyone.
- F:** Isn't that a disadvantage?
- M:** It doesn't seem to be. In a way it's an advantage. Their revenue comes from advertising, so there may be some restrictions on what they can include. We're lucky not to have to rely on that, so we have the freedom to print whatever we like.

Now listen again

17-21. You will hear a talk. First, read the notes below then listen and complete the notes with information from the talk. You will hear the recording twice.

- M:** People sometimes ask me, as a professional musician, what's the best way to learn to play an instrument? It's easy to answer. Personally, I went the traditional route: I had piano lessons as a child, then eventually went on to study music at college. I seemed to have a basic talent for it, so it all fell into place for me, but in a way I still envy those people who are able to pick up music without formal instruction. For one thing, I find I can't just listen to music anymore; I always end up analysing it, which has killed the enjoyment a bit. There's another thing that I'd love to be able to do better, and that's improvise. I can do it, but I don't have the freedom to move outside accepted musical structures that self-taught players have. Whether you have lessons or teach yourself, the one sure thing is that you won't get very far without 100% dedication. The great guitarist Jimi Hendrix, for example, was self-taught, and some people imagine it came naturally to him, but his friends remember that they hardly ever saw him without his guitar, like an extra part of his body. What you're aiming at is physical memory, so that you don't have to be conscious of technique and what your fingers are doing.

Now listen again

That is the end of the listening section of the test. Now go on to the other sections of the test.



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