

SECTION A

Read the events notices from a UK magazine and answer questions 1 to 10. Identify which paragraphs (A to M) contain the information listed in questions 1 to 10 by marking (X) for the correct answer. Paragraphs may be used more than once. If you change your mind, put a line through the box (X) and then indicate your new answer with a (X).

EVENTS

A Classical Music

This is a weekend devoted to the composer Philip Glass to mark his 70th birthday, including the premiere of the Book of Longing (his setting of the poetry of Cohen to music) and the first performance in its entirety in London for more than 20 years of his Music in Twelve Parts.

B Comedy

Fresh from his success at Edinburgh, to which he returned this summer after a 10-year absence, Frank Skinner takes his new show on the road, travelling through several major cities. The show is a sharp look at the problems of getting older and turning 50.

C Theatre

In this follow-up to last year's scary performance of Faust, this company will be transforming their theatre into a stage where Edgar Allen Poe's creepy tales will be recreated.

D Classical Music

Events to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of Jean Sibelius are everywhere. Complete cycles of the symphonies are promised in Birmingham and in London. In Manchester meanwhile, performers are devoting a weekend to the composer's shorter compositions.

E Jazz

Headliner Sonny Rollins is a key draw at the UK's biggest and best jazz festival. Norwegian jazz star Jan Garbarek and American pianist Chick Corea are among the big international stars.

F Opera

James MacMillan's new work is set in Scotland in 2080, and is based on a story from a Welsh collection of folk tales. Katie Mitchell directs and the composer himself conducts.

G Theatre

A chance to experience Ionesco's surreal satire on a conformist world, where humans

turn into rhinoceroses, kicks off a Royal Court season devoted to the classics. It will be fascinating to see how this play stands the test of time.

H Classical Music

This celebration of the music of Luigi Nono is the first in this country devoted to the music of the great Italian who died in 1990. His works feature alongside those written by Monteverdi and Vivaldi, both of whom also lived in Venice.

I Dance

English National Ballet is pushing the boat out for this new work from Michael Corder, whose retelling of the Hans Christian Anderson story will be set to the music of Prokofiev.

J Art

A coup for Liverpool as the Turner Prize Exhibition moves out of London for the first time to act as a curtain-raiser for the city's European Capital of Culture celebrations.

K Art

Michelangelo's painting The Virgin and Child, earned the title 'Manchester's Madonna' because it was last shown in the UK in the Manchester exhibition of 1857, the largest art fair ever held in Britain. Here, it returns from London as the centrepiece of the Manchester Art Exhibition.

L Theatre

Michael Morpurgo's children's novel about a horse serving in the first world war is brought to the stage by director Tom Morris. Life-size puppets set the scene for a tale that is exciting and sad.

M Music

This should be an emotional revival featuring musicians from the Muslim and Jewish communities who once lived and worked together in Algeria. They now play their traditional Chaabi music together again after a break of many years. They will also be on tour in Europe until the end of 2010.

(taken and adapted from *The Guardian* g2: Tuesday 28/08/07)



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Questions 1–10

In which events notice are the following mentioned?

1. a show about the experiences of an animal

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

2. a show that is frightening

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

3. the performance of a complete piece of music for the first time in London

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

4. musicians from different countries performing together

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

5. someone joking about their age

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

6. performance of music by composers from one particular city

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

7. a painting on exhibition in a city for the second time after many years

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

8. performances in different cities to celebrate the works of one person

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

9. a story set in the future

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

10. people from two different cultures performing together

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

Section A

(Total 10 marks)



SECTION B

Read the information from the Oxford English Dictionary website and answer questions 11–25.

The Oxford English Dictionary

The Oxford English Dictionary (OED) is the accepted authority on the evolution of the English language over the last millennium. It is an unsurpassed guide to the meaning, history, and pronunciation of over half a million words, both present and past. It traces the usage of words through 2.5 million quotations from a wide range of international English language sources, from classical literature and specialist periodicals to film scripts and cookery books.

The OED covers words from all parts of the world where English is spoken as a first language, from North America to South Africa, from Australia and New Zealand to the Caribbean. It also offers the best in analysis and listings of various spellings and it shows pronunciation using the International Phonetic Alphabet.

As the OED is a historical dictionary, its structure is very different from that of a dictionary of current English, in which only present-day senses are covered and in which the most common meanings are described first. For each word in the OED, the various groupings of meanings are dealt with in chronological order according to the quotation evidence, i.e. the meaning with the earliest dated quotation appears first.

The second edition of the OED is currently available as a 20-volume print edition, on CD-Rom, and now also online. The OED Online is updated quarterly with at least 2,500 new and revised entries.

The OED has been the last word on words for over a century. But, as with a respected professor or admired parent, we count on its wisdom and authority without thinking much about how it was acquired.

What is the history of the OED?

When the members of the Philological Society* of London decided in 1857 that the existing English language dictionaries were incomplete and deficient, and called for a complete re-examination of the language from the Anglo-Saxon times (around 1150 AD) onwards, they knew they were embarking on an ambitious project. However, even they didn't realise the full extent of the work they had initiated or how long it would take to achieve the final result. In 1879, the Society made an agreement with the Oxford University Press and James Murray to begin work on the New English Dictionary (as it was then known). The new dictionary was planned as a four-volume, 6,400 page work.



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It was estimated that the project would be finished in approximately ten years. Five years down the road, when Murray and his colleagues had only reached as far as the word 'ant', they realised it was time to reconsider the schedule. It was not surprising that the project was taking longer. Not only are the complexities of language formidable, but languages also never stop evolving. Murray and his colleagues had to keep track of new words and meanings as well as trying to examine the previous seven centuries of language development.

Murray and his team did manage to publish the first part (or 'fascicle' to use the technical term) in 1884, but it was clear that much more comprehensive work was required than had been initially imagined.

Over the next four decades, work on the dictionary continued and new editors joined the project. The men worked steadily, producing fascicle after fascicle until in April 1928, the last volume was published. Instead of 6,400 pages in four volumes, the Dictionary, published under the imposing name A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles, contained over 400,000 entries in ten volumes. But because of the nature of the English language, no dictionary is ever really finished. As soon as the original ten volumes were completed, work began on updating it and in 1933 a supplement was published. Also at this time the original Dictionary was reprinted in twelve volumes and the work was finally given its current title of the Oxford English Dictionary.

(taken and adapted from www.oed.com/about/)

* Philological Society = organisation of people who study the history of words.



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Questions 11–20

Read the statements and decide if, according to the text, they are TRUE, FALSE or NOT GIVEN.

Mark (☒) for the correct answers. If you change your mind, put a line through the box (☒) and then indicate your new answer with a (☒).

	True	False	Not Given
11. The Oxford English Dictionary has been bought by more people than any other dictionary.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. The OED covers words from every country where English is a mother-tongue.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. You can learn how words are pronounced by using the OED.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. The OED also provides information about grammar.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Other current English dictionaries give information about how words are used in some countries.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. The OED tells you when a word was first used by English Speakers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. The OED is only available through the internet.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. New words are added to the internet version of the OED regularly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Work first started on the New English Dictionary in 1857.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. The OED was written with financial support from the Philological Society.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Questions 21–25

Complete the sentences. Write no more than TWO words and/or numbers taken from the text.

- [21] It was first thought it would only take about to complete the dictionary.
- [22] One problem with writing a dictionary is that language is always
- [23] The first fascicle was available in
- [24] The first publication of the dictionary included words and phrases.
- [25] A new name was given to the original New English Dictionary in

(Total 15 marks)

Section B

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SECTION C

Read the information from the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) website and answer questions 26–40.

Voluntary Service Overseas

VSO is an organisation that sends volunteers on placements to work and help in poor countries.

VSO was voted the top international development charity in the International Aid and Development category in the 2004 Charity Awards for its work in promoting innovative approaches to globalising volunteering.

VSO is an international development charity that works through volunteers. Our vision is a world without poverty in which people work together to fulfil their potential. We bring people together to share skills, creativity and learning, to build a fairer world.

VSO welcomes volunteers from an ever-increasing range of countries, backgrounds and ages. National agencies in Canada, Kenya, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Ireland and India recruit volunteers from many different countries worldwide. This international approach allows us to combine and learn from a rich variety of perspectives. In all the countries where we work, VSO is represented by a Programme Office. Staff and volunteers in the Office work together with local partner agencies, and increasingly with local people, to agree a programme of development priorities in their country and region.

Our approach to volunteering has changed dramatically over the years. Our volunteers are no longer only school-leavers or gap-year students. Today the average age of a volunteer is 38; the majority are highly skilled professionals. Most placements are for two years, but can be as short as two weeks, and currently we have 1500 volunteers in placements in 34 countries. We respond to requests from Asian and African community organisations.

The volunteers aim to pass their expertise to local people so that when they return home their skills have been passed on to people who remain behind in the country. Volunteers can be aged between 18 and 75 and must have a formal qualification and some relevant work experience. Regular postings are for two years and volunteers are provided with financial support in the form of accommodation and a local allowance as well as air fares and insurance. We are actively recruiting volunteers all the time. The range of jobs is vast and includes small business advisors, teachers, social workers, health professionals and farmers. Many VSO volunteers have since achieved a great deal in their chosen field. A significantly large number of former volunteers have been or still are journalists. Others have gone on to become politicians, writers, business people, police chiefs and educationalists.

Programmes include:

Long-term volunteering: where skilled volunteers live and work in local communities sharing skills and changing lives.

Specialist assignments: where VSO recruits volunteers who are available at shorter notice for a shorter period of time. These assignments are designed to complement long-term volunteering work and can last from just 2 weeks to 6 months.

Global Xchange: these programmes are team-based exchanges for young people aged 18–25. Each team comprises nine from the UK and nine from the partner country. The teams spend three months in a host community in the partner country working together on projects.



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In countries where VSO has a presence, volunteers work with partner organisations, who are in effect their employers. The role of the VSO therefore is to bring volunteers and partner organisations together. In order to achieve this, we

- help volunteers understand what the partner organisations need
- offer training as required for the partner organisations employing a VSO recruit, so that the volunteer can work more effectively
- support both volunteers and organisations through the life of the project.

It costs VSO about £15,000 a year to recruit, train and equip a single volunteer. To continue to meet the growing demand for volunteers, VSO needs financial support and you can help.

(taken and adapted from www.vso.org.uk/about/)

Questions 26–40

Complete the following sentences. Write no more than TWO words and/or numbers taken from the text.

26. VSO won an award in the Charity Awards.
27. VSO aims to create a world where there is no
28. VSO recruits volunteers from many different countries, which gives it an character.
29. VSO has a in all the countries where it has a project.
30. Many volunteers are with special skills.
31. You can volunteer for as little as
32. At the present time, there are people working with VSO on projects in poor countries.
33. VSO is asked to provide support by in Africa and Asia.
34. The purpose of volunteers is to teach their skills to
35. To become a volunteer you need to have some appropriate of work.
36. Volunteers are given assistance to help them take up their posts.
37. Many previous volunteers have become successful
38. As well as long term projects, VSO organises which support these projects.
39. Global Xchange allows teams of young people to work in another country for
40. VSO can provide if this is needed by a local employer organisation.

(Total 15 marks)

TOTAL FOR READING: 40 MARKS

Section C



SECTION D

Your teacher has asked everyone in your English class to recommend a book for you to study together. Write a report for your teacher, recommending a book to study. In your report you should:

- state why it is a good idea for your class to study a book together
- describe briefly what your recommended book is about
- give **three** reasons why you think your teacher should choose your recommended book for your class to study together.

You should write **between 100 and 150 words**.

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	Section D
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	(Total 20 marks)



SECTION E

A friend of yours will be coming to your school to study and has asked you for some information. Write a letter to your friend. In your letter you should:

- give **three** advantages of studying at your school
- describe **one** aspect of your school that you do not enjoy
- say what after-school activity you and your friend can do together.

You should write **between 100 and 150 words**.

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SECTION F

Next year you and your class are going to England on a school visit. Your teacher has asked each of you to suggest a city you would like to go to. You would like to visit Cambridge.

Read the information about the city of Cambridge and write a summary for your teacher. In your summary you should:

- give **three** reasons why you think your class should visit this city
- give examples of **three** things you and your class could do there.

THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

One of the busiest tourist spots in the country with over three million visitors a year, Cambridge is also famously home to one of the world's most prestigious universities, which is itself a source of much of that tourism. With some colleges dating back to the eleventh century and all schools of architecture – from Gothic to Modern – represented, the city is a magnet to anyone with an interest in British history. This, coupled with the traditional sights of students and cyclists, helps to create a romantic image of Cambridge that is known the world over.

Cambridge is most famous for its historic university. However, Cambridge is far older than the university. The original settlement was north of the river, on Castle Hill. There is evidence for pre-Roman activity in the area, but the Romans built the first town. The town was a port, since it was the head of the navigation of what was then known as the River Granta. The area by Magdalene Bridge is still known as Quayside, although now it only has punts.

In the 13th century the peaceful rural city (then a relatively small town) was chosen by monks as a more tranquil place to study than busier Oxford, and this move sowed the seeds for what was to become Cambridge University. Over the centuries the University went from strength to strength, playing host to some of science's greatest minds – Sir Isaac Newton, for example. The world famous physicist and luminary Stephen Hawking works in Cambridge and his seminal work, *A Brief History of Time*, was penned there.

In terms of leisure activities the city has more than its share of pubs and clubs to choose from, some of which date back centuries like the Pickerel – supposedly the oldest pub in town. But if you seek something more enlightening, there are also many options: Kettle's Yard, a small intimate gallery, showcases modern art and ceramics, and the museums of Zoology and Anthropology in Downing Street are hidden treasure troves. Cambridge, with its long association with education, is home to many museums; the Fitzwilliam showcasing artefacts from Greece, Egypt and Rome is the best known, but there are also university museums dedicated to the sciences.

Cambridge Market is open 7 days a week. It sells food, clothes and other goods, with souvenirs in summer. On Sunday, there are craft stalls and a Farmers' Market. The church of Great St Mary's is the university Church. You can climb the tower for a small fee for a good view of Cambridge. There is also a Craft Fair in All Saints Garden, opposite Trinity College. This is open for only part of the week, so see their website for details.



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Cambridge has many attractive parks and open spaces. Christ’s Pieces is a formal park near the centre, by the bus station. Parker’s Piece is an open sports ground, used by local schools and sports clubs, and the location of some local events. Larger events take place at Jesus Green or Midsummer Common.

To get a true understanding of Cambridge and its history and to see the most impressive sights the city has to offer a walking tour is essential. Trained guides can explain the origins of the city and University, the difference between the University and colleges and relate some of the fascinating stories regarding the famous people connected with Cambridge whilst looking at some of the most important and impressive sites Cambridge has to offer.

Just 100 km north of London, Cambridge is located in the heart of the East of England. Excellent road and rail links ensure the city is accessible from all parts of the UK. National Express operates coach services to Cambridge from major towns and cities throughout the UK. There are also frequent coach services from both Central London and London Stansted Airport through to the city. There is a fast and frequent rail service from London King’s Cross and London Liverpool Street through to Cambridge. There are excellent connections from Scotland and the North.

You should write between **100 and 150 words**.

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