



THE ENGLISH COLLEGE IN PRAGUE

Sample English Entrance Examination

Lower School

Time allowed: 60 minutes

	Marks	weighted	notes
Grammar	/50		
Reading	/30		
Writing	/20		
TOTAL	/100		

NAME

CANDIDATE NUMBER.....

INSTRUCTIONS

- **Dictionaries are not allowed /
používání slovníků je zakázáno.**
- **Complete all three sections.**

Section 1: Grammar

1. Fill in the gaps with a preposition (eg. **up, in, down, on** etc.)

Example: Gregor lives *in* _____ Prague.

- a. She put all the toys _____ the cupboard.
- b. To get to the English College you have to travel _____ the yellow line metro.
- c. When you leave you must pay _____ the exit.
- d. We went walking _____ the mountains last year.
- e. There are lots of flies _____ the bedroom wall.
- f. He saw his grandparents _____ Christmas.
- g. They are waiting _____ a bus.
- h. David has invited you _____ his birthday party.
- i. Her parents wanted to prevent her _____ joining the army.
- j. I know if I have a problem, I can rely _____ you.
- k. To get to the English College you have to get _____ the metro at Vysocany.

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2. Fill in the gaps using the word or words in brackets. Put the verbs in the correct tense.

Example: I arrived (**arrive**) in Prague 3 days ago.

a. My mum and dad love cooking and they _____ (**make**) bread every week.

b. I mostly _____ (**watch**) action films, but now I _____ (**watch**) a comedy.

c. I _____ (**never/eat**) frog, but I _____ (**eat**) snails last week.

d. A. Why _____ (**you/smile**)?

B. I _____ (**read**) a funny book.

e. When I _____ (**get**) home my parents _____ (**already/make**) dinner.

f. What _____ you _____ (**do**) when the fire _____ (**start**) last night.

g. Yesterday, Simon _____ (**play**) cards when a spaceship _____ (**land**) in his garden.

h. If I _____ (**be**) a dog, I _____ (**chase**) cats.

i. When I _____ **(finish)** school, I _____ **(go)** to university.

j. If she _____ **(finish)** her essay last night, she _____ **(be)** at the cinema now.

Use either **will** or **going to** for k-m

k. We _____ **(play)** badminton tomorrow. I booked the court this morning

l. I don't know what to do this evening. I know! I _____ **(watch)** a film.

m. I think that one day we _____ **(live)** on the moon.

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3. For each question, complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first.

For **questions a - d.** use **no more than three** words for each answer

Example: I think that German is more difficult to learn than Italian.

- I don't think that Italian is *as difficult.....* to learn as German

a) This year's party was not as good as last year's.

- Last year's party was this year's.

b) Sam was given money for his birthday by his parents.

- **Sam's parents** **money for his birthday.**

c) Shall we have a party on your birthday?

- **Would you** **have a party on your birthday?**

d) We can't invite everyone because our home is too small.

- **We can't invite everyone because our home isn't big**

For **questions e-h** use the word given. You must use **between two and six words**, including the word given . Do not change the word given.

Example: The tennis star ignored her coach's advice.

attention

- **The tennis star didn't**..... *pay any attention to*..... **her coach's advice.**

e) I regret giving Dennis my phone number.

Dennis

- **I wish** **my phone number.**

f) The film I saw last week was better than this one.

good

- **This film.....the one I saw last week.**

g) Tim looks nothing like his father.

take

- **Time doesn't his father at all.**

h) The change in the company logo didn't make any difference to the majority of its customers.

consequence

- **The change in the company's logoto the majority of its customers.**

	16
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Grammar total:

	50
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Section 2: Reading

Part 1: Questions 1-5

- Read the text and the questions below
- For each question, **circle** the letter next to the correct answer - A,B,C or D

Ainsley Harriott

I've always been a bit of an entertainer and played the funny man. I was a part-time comedian for years, so I learned how to stand in front of audiences. It made me sure of myself. I like being liked and I love making everyone smile.

I've lived in London all my life and have just moved to a larger house with my wife Clare and our two children, Jimmy and Madeleine. We spend a lot of time just singing and dancing around the house. I grew up with music because my dad is the pianist, Chester Harriott - who's still playing, by the way. My working day is divided between television and writing cook books, though TV takes most of my time. I spend about five days a fortnight working on the cooking programmes I appear in. I eat all sorts of things at home but I only buy quality food. When I'm cooking, I experiment with whatever is in the fridge -- it's good practice for my TV series.

I'm a football fan and enjoy going to matches, but I'm a home-loving person really. I don't like going to the pub but we do go out to eat about twice a month. There's nothing better than a night at home playing with the children. I rarely go to bed before midnight. Late evening is when fresh thoughts on cooking usually come to me, so I often write or plan my programmes then. When I eventually get to bed, I have no trouble sleeping.

1. What is the writer's main purpose in writing the text?

- a) to describe how he lives
- b) to explain how he started in TV
- c) to say what makes him laugh
- d) to talk about his cooking ideas

2. What should the reader learn about Ainsley from the text?

- a) He enjoys spending time with his family.
- b) He is a very good musician.
- c) He is nervous about performing on stage.
- d) He likes to plan the family meals.

3. What does the writer say about himself?

- a) He enjoys being popular.
- b) He is very similar to his father.
- c) He loves going out and meeting people.
- d) He should go to bed earlier.

4. What does he say about his working life?

- a) He gets his best ideas at certain times.
- b) He prefers being comedian.
- c) He should practise cooking more.
- d) He would like to appear less on TV.

5. Which of the following is the best description of the writer?

- a) The cook and comedian who takes great care about the way he cooks his food and enjoys listening to music.
- b) The popular TV comedian who enjoys cooking, watching football, and having a busy social life.
- c) The singing TV cook who likes making jokes, playing with his children, and having an early night.
- d) The TV cook who loves making people laugh, watching football and, above all, having a happy family.

Part 2: Questions 6-15

Look at the sentences below about information in a school newsletter.

Read the following text to decide if each sentence is true or false.

If it is true, write T next to the sentence.

If it is false, write F next to the sentence.

6. Mrs Sinclair will be working for fewer hours when she returns to work.
7. Parents have been complaining about the use of the internet in school.
8. The e-safety information sheets are for children to use when they do homework.
9. The e-safety information sheets are not available yet.
10. All the children have attended an after-school club.
11. The school cannot promise that it will be able to offer classes in any activities parents ask for.
12. The school encourages parents to help with the after-school clubs.
13. The school needs more money to offer meals with better ingredients.
14. The school is not going to increase the price of school dinners immediately.
15. Parents with a low income can get help to pay for school dinners.

HIGHBURY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Welcome to June's newsletter. There's a lot to tell you this month, starting with the news that Mrs Sinclair has given birth to a beautiful little girl. Mrs Sinclair would like to thank all the people who have sent her cards and wishes. We're looking forward to welcoming her back next term on a shorter, part-time contract.

E-Safety

Our teachers have been busy writing some excellent e-Safety information sheets for parents who are worried about keeping their children safe online. These sheets will give you some practical tips and suggestions to help make sure your child is using the internet safely. If you are interested, give your name to the school secretary and we'll contact you as soon as the sheets are available.

After-school clubs

Hopefully, your child has been attending one of our after-school clubs this year. With classes like karate, tennis, chess and art, we've tried to offer something of interest to all our children. We've had several requests from parents whose children have not attended an after-school class for different activities. We'd like to point out that teachers run these clubs in their own time and the activities we offer depend on their skills and knowledge. However, please keep giving us your suggestions; your ideas are welcome. And if you have any interesting skills and have a few free hours each week, please come in and talk to us.

School meals

We've managed to keep the price of school meals the same for the past two years. Unfortunately, because of the rising cost of ingredients, we'll be forced to charge a little more from next year. If your child has a meal only once or twice a week, the cost will be £2 per meal. For children having meals five days a week, the cost will be £9 per week. If you are unemployed or if you have difficulty paying for meals, please contact the school to see if financial help is available.

Part 3: Questions 16-30

You are going to read a magazine article about television programmes. For questions 16-30, choose from the programmes (A-F). There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answer next to each question.

Which programme:

You are going to read a magazine article about public speaking. For questions choose from the sections of the article (A-F). The sections may be chosen more than once. When more than one answer is required, these may be given in any order.

Speak Easy

Most of us have to speak in front of a crowd of people at some point in our lives. Here are a few guidelines that will help you address your audience with confidence.

A

We have all sat through somebody mumbling a series of disconnected thoughts and wondered when it was going to end. It is important to remember how you felt for the person doing the talk. Most probably, you sympathised with them and were relieved for them when they had 'got through it'. This is important because your audience will also want the best for you. Visualise yourself delivering a witty, clever and informative presentation with the audience hanging on every word.

B

'Nobody plans to fail, they simply fail to plan.' Nowhere is this truer than in the arena of public speaking. The classic format for any talk has a beginning, a middle and an end. Think about how long you want the talk to last and plan the content of the talk to fit the right amount of time. Also, think about your audience: make sure your approach to the subject of your talk is neither too complex nor too simple for them. If you are going to use prompts, small cards are quite good as they can be discreet and relatively unnoticeable compared to large sheets of paper.

C

Wherever possible, make sure you know the venue of your talk and check that people can see you and any slides or diagrams you might be using to support your points. When talking to a large group, try to keep very close to the front row as this creates a feeling of togetherness.

Some of the best comedians use this closeness to encourage a feeling of secrecy, telling you things as a stage whisper in order to build this intimacy.

D

It is important that you stand comfortably with both feet rooted to the floor but slightly apart. Without realising it, there will be a tendency to 'retreat' from the audience or you may sway from side to side. Therefore, think of ways to counteract this when rehearsing (e.g. imagine you are wearing heavy lead shoes on your feet which are keeping your heels down). Try not to lean on tables or get your arms too close to your body as you will restrict your lungs and impair your ability to project your voice. Although it may help you feel more relaxed, try not to walk about when delivering your speech as this will be distracting for your audience.

E

As with any skill, practice is vital. The more you practise, the more confident you will be. Try not to simply read out what you have prepared, and picture yourself talking confidently and knowledgeably about your subject. After you have been presenting to the mirror for a while, you will begin to see which gestures and facial movements work and which ones look wrong. Remember that nobody wants you to do badly and try to feel positive that you are going to deliver an interesting and informative talk.

F

Despite the fact that we all feel shy or nervous about talking to a large group, the reality in a lot of cases is that, once we get talking and feeling confident, we all have the ability to 'perform'. But remember to talk in a controlled manner, as we all have a tendency to rush once we are in front of a big crowd. Also, if you are going to be using a microphone, then practise with it first. If not, make sure that your voice can fill the room for the time you are speaking or reduce the time that you are going to talk. Breathing exercises and voice projection techniques will all help.

Which section(s) of the article mention(s):

- 16. not using lengthy written notes?
- 17. an action that may cause listeners to lose concentration?
- 18. the need to ensure that a talk is at the right level?
- 19. the fact that audiences tend to be supportive towards a speaker?
- 20. unconscious movements that speakers may make?

21. the need to avoid being dependent on written notes?
22. the standard structure of a talk?
23. the physical distance between a speaker and an audience?
24. a technique used by well-known entertainers?
25. the personal benefit gained from repeated rehearsals?
26. the need to be aware of the speed at which a talk is delivered?
27. the fact that an audience should have a good view?
28. how to prepare mentally for your talk?
29. the need to practice the strength of your voice?
30. the need to rehearse how you stand and move?

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