



**Universitat de Lleida**  
Institut de Llengües  
Escola d'Idiomes

# English B1

# Sample Exam

**Part One: LISTENING COMPREHENSION****Timing: 30 min.****VIDEO ONE: Supermarket psychology** (Video from Peter Rowsthron's programme 'Can we help?')**Watch the video about supermarket psychology and fill each space with ONE word.**

[1 point each = 10 points]

**Supermarket psychology**

Supermarket psychology is a technique marketers use to:

- find out ways that consumers (1) \_\_\_\_ in supermarkets.
- (2) \_\_\_\_ consumers to spend more or buy unnecessary items.

Colour is used for different reasons in supermarkets:

- Red is used to grab consumers' (3) \_\_\_\_.
- Green is used to create a fresh and (4) \_\_\_\_ feeling.
- (5) \_\_\_\_ is used to release our trust hormones.

Research findings:

Research suggests that if fresh products are put at the (6) \_\_\_\_ of the supermarket, shoppers spend more time and money at the supermarket. Supermarkets also create the relaxed atmosphere through (7) \_\_\_\_ and lighting.

Staple products, like bread and milk, are located on the (8) \_\_\_\_ of the supermarket, not down the aisles.

How to avoid buying what is not necessary?

- don't shop without making a shopping list first.
- don't shop with people who can be stressful ( e.g. (9) \_\_\_\_ or loved ones.)
- don't shop when you are (10) \_\_\_\_.

**VIDEO TWO: Don't insist on English** (Video from TEDEd.com)

Listen to the talk and choose the correct answer (A, B or C) for each question. [1 point each = 10 points]

**11. What is Patricia doing in Dubai?**

- A. She's on holiday and attending a conference.
- B. She's teaching.
- C. She's visiting family.

**12. Her talk is about...**

- A. globalisation of English and the disappearance of other languages.
- B. globalisation of English and the emergence of Chinese.
- C. globalisation of English and the way English is changing.

**13. Why did Patricia's friend take some students out in the garden?**

- A. Because it was sunny.
- B. She wanted to teach the students how to translate from Arabic into English.
- C. To teach the students some nature words.

**14. Who learned the most from the visit to the garden?**

- A. The students.
- B. The teacher.
- C. They both learned the same.

**15. What uses did the plants have?**

- A. For cooking, medicine, make-up and herbal.
- B. For medicine, cosmetics, herbal and clothing.
- C. Both A and B.

**16. How did the students learn about the plants?**

- A. From their grandparents.
- B. From their parents.
- C. From their teachers.

**17. Patricia believes that English is responsible for the death of many languages.**

- A. False.
- B. True.
- C. Patricia does not give her opinion on this point.

**18. Why did the Kuwaiti government decide to hire native speaking English teachers from the British Council?**

- A. Because they were cheaper than Kuwaiti teachers.
- B. To improve education.
- C. To improve international relations between Kuwait and Britain.

**19. According to Patricia, the major change in English today is that it is....**

- A. A big international business.
- B. Becoming easier to learn, with more effective methods.
- C. Being replaced by Chinese on the school curriculum.

**20. Patricia believes that...**

- A. Non-natives will be at a disadvantage in English-speaking universities.
- B. Students must be fluent in English to enter a British university.
- C. The English language should not be a barrier to enter a British university.

**Part Two: READING COMPREHENSION****Timing: 60 min.****EXERCISE 1****Read the following text.****Gran Canaria Holiday Guide**

You'll find that the paradise island of Gran Canaria is located in the Atlantic Ocean, 130 miles from the African coast and 780 miles from the nearest European port, Cadiz. (21) \_\_\_\_\_ and has Fuerteventura and Tenerife as its neighbours. Las Palmas, situated in the north east of the island, is its capital, and it is set in magnificent scenery composed of two bays and their beautiful beaches – Playa de las Canteras and Playa de las Alcaravaneras.

(22) \_\_\_\_\_ it has a great mix of people and keeps local traditions alive as well as catering for the holidaymaker. Crammed with culture, sandy beaches and enjoying a sunny climate, Gran Canaria is a great destination all year round. So whenever you want to escape for a break the delights of Gran Canaria are waiting for you!

(23) \_\_\_\_\_ this perfect holiday island has everything the most discerning traveller could wish for; the great diversity of climate, flora and fauna has led to this island being dubbed "The Miniature Continent". Where else can you find acres of sand dunes against a backdrop of verdant mountains within easy reach of some of the best hotels, clubs, bars and cafés in Europe? The top of the mountains of Gran Canaria know what snow is, although just a few kilometres away the sun shines all year on golden beaches - and on lakes where you can practice water sports, find freshwater fish, bathe or camp in the great outdoors.

(24) \_\_\_\_\_ although the south is the most popular containing such delights as Puerto de Mogán (a picturesque village also known as Little Venice), Puerto Rico, Maspalomas, Meloneras, San Agustín and the famous Playa del Inglés. But with their spectacular views and landscapes, make sure you don't miss the rugged north and west coasts, where you can enjoy a wide variety of beaches and coves, and the island's mountainous interior.

(25) \_\_\_\_\_ you'll find everything you're looking forward in order to relax, have fun and soak up the atmosphere of this great island. It doesn't matter how old or young you are, there is something for everyone, including many fascinating historical and cultural sites. The main highlights include the Museo Elder de la Ciencia y la Tecnología (Science and Technology Museum) and the Casa de Colón (Christopher Columbus House), as well as the Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno (Atlantic Centre of Modern Art). All of these are great places to visit and can be found in the city of Las Palmas itself.

From the moment you step off the plane you'll know you've come to the right place and with a great choice of package deals, hotels and flights to the island, it's never been easier to holiday in Gran Canaria.

(From [spain-grancanaria.com](http://spain-grancanaria.com))

The fragments below have been removed from the text. Next to the numbers 1-5 in the text, write the letter corresponding to the missing line (a-f). There is an extra sentence that you won't need to use. [2 points each = 10 points]

- a. Enjoying warm weather all year round, Gran Canaria offers you a wealth of choices;
- b. From the cooler north to the sunnier south,
- c. Gran Canaria has a lot to offer the tourist,
- d. Gran Canaria is an island of contrasts,
- e. It's the third largest of the Canary Islands,
- f. Situated very near to the Moroccan coast, Gran Canaria is a mix of many cultures,

## EXERCISE 2

Read the following text.

### **Twins meet after record 78 years apart**

Ann Hunt, who was adopted at birth and lives in the UK, met with her US-based twin sister Elizabeth Hamel on Thursday for the first time since they were babies – setting a new world record

Imagine delving into your family history and discovering that you have a twin after a whole life being separated. That's what happened to Ann Hunt, a 78-year-old, who had no idea that she had a sibling at all until last year. Now she and twin Elizabeth Hamel have met for the first time since they were babies - setting a new world record.

Although both siblings were due to be adopted as they were born to unmarried Alice Lamb, a curvature of Elizabeth's spine meant that she was unsuitable for adoption and grew up with her mother in Berkhamsted. Ann grew up in Aldershot with Hector and Gladys Wilson, and was 14 when she found out that she was adopted.

"Lizzie, Lizzie, how lovely," said Ann when she finally got to hug her sister.

"How lovely to see you in the flesh," said Elizabeth.

Last April, Elizabeth, a 78-year-old from Albany, in the US state of Oregon, was looking through her mail when she saw a letter from Aldershot, UK - the town where she was born. "I saw Aldershot, ooh, I did a double-take on that," says Elizabeth. "I opened it up and looked at it, and my eyes popped out my head."

"I am writing to you as I am searching for a family connection," the letter began. Elizabeth knew exactly who this was about, and minutes later she was on the phone to the UK.

On the other end of the line was Ann, her long-lost twin sister. “I was over the moon, I couldn't speak,” Ann says. “I let Elizabeth speak mostly, I had to pinch myself because I realised, I've got a sibling, a sister. It's so wonderful, I'm not on my own any more. I've got no words to say. I'm so happy - I have Elizabeth.”

Unlike Ann, who was unaware that she had a sibling, Elizabeth knew that she had a sister. “I've been praying for you for many years,” she told Ann in that first conversation. Over the years she had made some attempts to trace her but without success. It seemed an impossible task.

The sisters appear to share similar histories: both married men called Jim, are now widowed, pray and have similar sense of humour. Ann said: “I feel like I've known Liz all my life now.”

(From theguardian.com)

**According to the text, decide if the following statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Mentioned (NM).**

[2 points each = 10 points]

26. Although they hadn't met, both sisters knew they had a twin sister.
27. The twin sisters were separated not long after they were born.
28. Elizabeth wrote to Ann to tell her they were sisters.
29. Elizabeth has problems with her eyes.
30. Ann did most of the talking on the phone.

**Part Three: USE OF ENGLISH****Timing: 30 min.****EXERCISE ONE – Cloze Test: Fill in the blanks with ONE word.** [0.5 each = 7.5 points]

There is a new craze in South Korea that is very (31) \_\_\_\_\_. It is (32) \_\_\_\_\_ other people eat online. The Reuters news agency reports there are over 3,500 people who eat live in front of their webcam. Thousands of people watch the (33) \_\_\_\_\_. One of the most famous online diners is 34-year-old Park Seo-yeon. She is (34) \_\_\_\_\_ as The Diva and has thousands of (35) \_\_\_\_\_ who watch her eat every day. She broadcasts her (36) \_\_\_\_\_ in real time for about three hours a day. She first tried it (37) \_\_\_\_\_ a hobby, but then she started to get a lot of money. When people click a link on her website to say they like her, she gets about nine U.S. cents per click. She now makes over \$9,000 a month from her show and has (38) \_\_\_\_\_ her regular job.

Many people in Korea watch the online dining webcasts because they feel (39) \_\_\_\_\_. More and more Koreans are living alone in big cities and have no one to eat with. Reuters pointed out: "One-person households are set to (40) \_\_\_\_\_ from 25.3 per cent of the total population in 2012 to 32.7 per cent in 2030." This is the fastest rate of any rich country in the world. Ms. Park feels she is providing a benefit to society. She commented Reuters: "It is comforting for people (41) \_\_\_\_\_ eat alone. It feels great when people say, 'Thank you (42) \_\_\_\_\_ a fun and delicious time'". People write to her to thank her for (43) \_\_\_\_\_ them with their eating problems. She (44) \_\_\_\_\_ being part of a big online community and talking about (45) \_\_\_\_\_.

**EXERCISE TWO – Multiple Choice: Choose the correct option (a, b, c or d).** [0.5 each = 7.5 points]

Many companies (46) \_\_\_\_\_ to make their websites safe from a new Internet bug called Heartbleed. It is like a hole in the security software used (47) \_\_\_\_\_ most websites (48) \_\_\_\_\_ hackers can use to get private information. Millions of sites used the software after it (49) \_\_\_\_\_ available on New Year's Eve, 2011. The bug was in the software then but it (50) \_\_\_\_\_ only last week. The big sites, like Google, Yahoo, YouTube, Amazon, etc., quickly (51) \_\_\_\_\_ a patch to fix the bug. However, many small sites and thousands of apps are still at risk. It is still possible for hackers (52) \_\_\_\_\_ passwords and other confidential information. It is known that so far hackers (53) \_\_\_\_\_ 900 passwords by breaking into Canada's tax system.

46.

a. are trying

b. have trying

c. tried

d. try

47.

a. by

b. from

c. through

d. to



48.  
 a. where                                      b. which                                      c. who                                      d. whom
49.  
 a. became                                      b. become                                      c. becomes                                      d. has become
50.  
 a. found                                      b. is found                                      c. has found                                      d. was found
51.  
 a. has made                                      b. made                                      c. make                                      d. were made
52.  
 a. access                                      b. for access                                      c. to access                                      d. to accessing
53.  
 a. have stolen                                      b. steal                                      c. stole                                      d. were stealing

Internet security experts know more than one third of people who use the Android Jelly Bean OS (54) \_\_\_\_ for a patch. Google (55) \_\_\_\_ all of its other services safe, such as Search, Gmail, YouTube and Play, but (56) \_\_\_\_ with its partners to create a fix for Jelly Bean. Meanwhile, the man who accidentally created the bug spoke to reporters and (57) \_\_\_\_ that he was responsible for the error because he (58) \_\_\_\_ the code. He (59) \_\_\_\_ reporters that it (60) \_\_\_\_ a mistake that slipped through the review process, that is, a "simple programming error".

54.  
 a. are still waiting                                      b. still are waiting                                      c. still wait                                      d. wait still
55.  
 a. has made                                      b. is making                                      c. made                                      d. make
56.  
 a. is worked                                      b. is working                                      c. worked                                      d. works
57.  
 a. said                                      b. said them                                      c. told                                      d. told to them
58.  
 a. had written                                      b. has been writing                                      c. has written                                      d. wrote
59.  
 a. said                                      b. say                                      c. told                                      d. told to
60.  
 a. had                                      b. has                                      c. is                                      d. was



**EXERCISE THREE – Word Formation: Complete the sentences by changing the form of the words in capitals.**

[0.5 each = 5 points]

61. To explore other permanent \_\_\_\_ opportunities with the Federal Government, you should write directly to the agency that interests you. (EMPLOY)
62. Rupert is an \_\_\_\_\_ at a local extreme sports centre. (INSTRUCT)
63. There are several reasons why reading or writing text messages stops people from walking \_\_\_\_\_. (PROPER)
64. Car \_\_\_\_\_ ignore the fine and park where they want. (OWN)
65. He's been running the company with the \_\_\_\_ of his daughter. (ASSIST)
66. The paintings in this exhibition focus on the subjects of \_\_\_\_\_ and peace. (FREE)
67. He is very \_\_\_\_\_ when he drives in the city – he doesn't pay much attention to traffic lights or people crossing the street. (CARE)
68. I don't know if there is any \_\_\_\_\_ between my birth mother and me because I was adopted. (SIMILAR)
69. The \_\_\_\_\_ is exciting and unexpected. (CONCLUDE)
70. Depending on the hobby, the necessary \_\_\_\_\_ can be expensive. (EQUIP)

**Part Four: WRITING**

**Timing: 1 hour**

In this section you are asked to write **TWO COMPOSITIONS**.

**TASK ONE: OBLIGATORY writing exercise:**

- Write a **story** beginning with the following sentence:  
 “My friend and I were very excited because my parents had given ...”.  
 Use between 150-175 words.

**TASK TWO: Now choose ONE of the following options and write the second composition.**

- **OPTION 1:**  
 Write a **review** about a TV programme that you would recommend people to watch. Include general information about the programme and why you would recommend it. Use between 150-175 words.
- **OPTION 2:**  
 You want to do voluntary work in summer. Choose an organization you would like to work with and write a **formal letter** to them introducing yourself and the reasons for your interest. Use between 150-175 words
- **OPTION 3:**  
 Write a **description** about a holiday destination where you went as a child and explain what was special about it. Use between 150-175 words.

<b>TASK ONE</b>	<b>(/10)</b>	
<b>TASK TWO</b>	<b>(/10)</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(/20)</b>	

**Part Five: SPEAKING****Timing: 15 min.****Topic: Sports****Part 1 (2-3 minutes): Direct questions**

What's your name?

What's your surname / family name? How do you spell / rite it?

Where do you live/come from?

Do you study at university, or do you work?

What do you study? / Where do you work?

Do you do sport regularly?

Do you enjoy sports on TV?

What kinds of sports do you like doing? And watching?

**Part 2 (1-2 minutes each candidate): Individual turn**

You are going to see pictures of people doing sports.

Candidate A: This is your picture (boys playing football). Look at it, and when you're ready, you have approximately one minute to describe it.

Candidate B: Do you think the sport they are doing is popular in your country?

Candidate B: This is your picture (marathon runners). Look at it, and when you're ready, you have approximately one minute to describe it.

Candidate A: Which of the two groups is having more fun and why?



**Part 3 (3-4 minutes): Conversation**

Now please have a look at these other photos, which show different types of sports. Imagine that you have decided to start doing a sport together. In approximately four minutes, decide which of these you will choose. Try to talk about all the suggestions.

