



INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION CERTIFICATE

ENGLISH

SAMPLE EXAMINATION PAPER

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| <p>a) Time allowed: Three hours
b) Attempt ALL the questions
c) The marks allocated to each section are stated</p> |
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SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

Read the following text and answer the questions

1. Nowadays, more and more small local shops are closing down because a great majority of people prefer to drive to huge shopping centers. According to some surveys, about 60% of families regularly do their weekly shopping in very large chain-stores famous worldwide. Such a tendency raises the logical question: why is shopping at hypermarkets so popular?
2. Many people consider shopping a pleasant way of spending their leisure time in fashionable places. Families usually go to shopping centers on weekends and spend long hours walking around, examining items, looking for bargains, comparing prices, drinking refreshments, or having their meals at the store cafeteria.
3. Hypermarkets are well-stocked with all sorts of products. They offer a wide choice of well-exhibited goods, arranged in specific departments where customers can easily find almost everything they are looking for. They can buy food, clothes, shoes, cosmetics, sports equipment, toys, books, household appliances, and many other products—all under one roof with no waste of time at all.
4. Furthermore, goods in hypermarkets are generally fresher and at better deals than those in small local shops. Due to the fact that large quantities are sold, they are immediately replaced with new products. A lot of **them** are sold off at lower rates. Bargain hunters can save a lot of money on things which are on special offers. If customers buy something they are not satisfied with, they have the right to return it and get their money back. They can also choose the method of payment: either in cash, or by credit cards. In most hypermarkets, it is possible to buy an article by regular

installments. This means that people can make monthly payments for it over a period of time.

5. Hypermarkets are open until late in the evening all days of the week. Some of them remain open day and night. This is very convenient for people who work late as they can simply do all their shopping in one place after working hours without moving from shop to another.
6. With all the above advantages it is not surprising why hypermarkets attract more and more shoppers. Yet, hypermarkets, by their nature of business, will never provide shoppers with one thing: intimate relations with customers. Those shoppers, who are in favor of such service, should stick to their local small shops.

QUESTIONS: Please answer all the questions (40 Marks)

1. What could be a suitable title for this passage?
2. What does each of the underlined pronouns in paragraph 4 refer to?
 - a. them
 - b. It
3. Why is shopping at a hypermarket a source of fun?
4. Why are prices at hypermarkets considered cheap?
5. Why is there a great variety of goods at a hypermarket?
6. Why do people who work late prefer to do their shopping at hypermarkets?
7. In which way are small local shops better than hypermarkets?
8. How can shoppers with short ready payment buy what they need?
9. Which of the following choices best reflects the writer's purpose?



- a. To encourage people to do their shopping at fashionable places
- b. To show people how to save money while shopping
- c. To explain why shopping at hypermarkets is popular

10. Write a one-sentence summary of paragraph 4

SECTION B GRAMMAR (30 Marks)

Please answer all the questions

1. Write the noun or verb of each word in the chart. (10 marks)

Verb	Noun
1. Injure	1.
2.	2. solution
3. encourage	3.
4. involve	4.
5.	5. reduction

2. Complete the chart with the suitable noun or adjective. (10 marks)

Noun	Adjective
1. economy	1.
2.	2. poor
3.	3. wealthy
4. manufacturing	4.
5. profession	5.



3. Fill in the blanks with the suitable prepositions from the list below.(10 marks)

**at – below – for – from – in front of – in – beside – on –
with – up – under**

1. He was able to find a parking space right _____ the office.
2. They walked _____ the bridge.
3. He returned safely _____ his Arctic expedition.
4. It was terribly cold. It must have been 25 degrees _____ zero.
5. Although she is 28, she still lives _____ her parents.
6. I'll never climb _____ that mountain again.
7. There is always a lot to see _____ an airport.
8. I'll meet you _____ the corner.
9. Our cat always lies _____ the table when we eat.
10. He was sitting _____ the fire.


SECTION C: WRITING (30 marks)

1-Title	2 marks	5. Topic Sentences	5 marks
2-Introduction	4 marks.	6.Conclusion	5 marks
3.Structure/grammar	5 marks	9-Flow of Ideas	5 marks
4 Content/details	4 marks		

Prepare an essay on **ONE** of the two following topics.

Topic 1: What are the advantages and disadvantages of fashion?

Topic 2: What can people do to live longer and a healthier life?

You will be graded according to the following criteria.