

Staatliches Pfalz-Kolleg und -Abendgymnasium Speyer

Prüfungsbeispiel für das Fach Englisch

I. Put in "a", "an", or "the" where necessary:

My husband and I live at (1) end of (2) Baker Street near (3) old park. We are happy to be surrounded by (4) nature: (5) trees and (6) bushes provide a lot of (7) fresh air. My husband works as (8) antiquary and we run a gallery in (9) town. We specialize in (10) historical paintings and (11) furniture. (12) customers who come to our gallery are (13) rich people from (14) neighbourhood. Sometimes we buy at (15) auction in (16) city. Our children are already old enough to go to (17) school. They go there by (18) bus, as (19) school is at (20) great distance from (21) home. We think that (22) life is beautiful.

II. Fill in the adjective in the superlative form:

ex: A (remarkable) day. A most remarkable day

Last Monday, my (1: old) friend called. He invited me to, as he said, a (2: exciting) adventure. I agreed and I was the (3: happy) girl in town. Basil always does his (4: good) to please me. He is the (5: generous) friend I have ever had, you know. On Tuesday he took me hot-air-ballooning. They blew up the (6: big) balloon I have ever seen. When I climbed into the basket I felt (7: nervous) but the ballooners talked to me in the (8: calm) way possible, telling me that to them flying was the (9: wonderful) hobby.

When the balloon got up into the air, I was (10: surprised) at the loud hissing noises above me.

When I finally dared to look down, I could detect even the (11: small) details. I began to enjoy the sight. Now I think that ballooning is the (12: great) hobby in the world.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

III. Fill in suitable prepositions:

ex: This is like searching a pin in a haystack.

This is like searching for a pin in a haystack.

1. The train arrived (1) Waterloo Station (2) 6 p.m.
2. They went home (3) foot.

3. I would like to go (4) the country (5) car.
4. This is a secret (6) you and me.
5. The teacher sits (7) a desk (8) the class.
6. He walked (9) the door, but fell (10) a chair (11) the way (12) the room.
7. The house is (13) fire! Call (14) help!
8. She fell (15) the stairs and knocked her glasses (16) her nose.
9. A man (17) a red beard walked (18) our house just now.
10. Britain was invaded (19) William the Conqueror (20) 1066.

IV. Put the verbs into the correct tense:

ex: He (walk) very quickly when I (meet) him yesterday.
He was walking very quickly when I met him yesterday.

1. Some animals (1: not eat) during the winter and only (2: come) out in spring;
we (3: call) them hibernating animals.
2. After leaving school the Sheik's son (4: study) French in Paris for two years,
then (5: move) to America where he (6: live) now.
He (7: visit) England once or twice and (8: know) English well,
but he (9: not have) yet the opportunity of visiting other European countries.
3. We (10: go) to see them last night. They (11: play) cards.
4. I (12: know) him for a very long time.
5. I never (13: read) a story that (14: interest) me so much as the one I (15: finish) last night.
6. He (16: be) so good to me when I (17: be) a boy that to this day I (18: not forget) his kindness.
7. I (19: wait) here for her since 7 o'clock and she (20: not come) yet.

V. Transform the following sentences into the negative form:

ex.: Mary lost her purse.
Mary didn't lose her purse.

1. She had to run for the bus.

2. You must copy all the papers.
3. He does his duty as a politician.
4. Will you kiss me good-bye?
5. I was feeling well among all the people.
6. He has given everything away.
7. We left long before midnight.
8. Do this again!

VI. Transform the following sentences into questions:

ex.: We should watch him.

Should we watch him?

1. You must be on time.
2. She lives in Spain.
3. The policemen were watching.
4. They found my purse.
5. You had left it on the counter.
6. They are training for a contest.
7. They may use the telephone.
8. She was brought home safely.

VII. Ask for the words underlined:

ex: Mary saw a phantom.

What did Mary see?

1. Most newspapers appear daily.
2. I gave the books back last Friday.
3. The waiter is calling out James Bond's name.
4. They will meet the president at the conference.
5. She doesn't trust him, because he has lied to her too often.
6. He is trying to impress her by sending her roses every day.
7. He comes from Birmingham, Alabama.

8. They plan to stay in New Zealand for a year.

VIII. Use the correct question tag:

ex.: Peter is happy, ?
Peter is happy, isn't he?

1. We must go now, ?

2. You can't swim well, ?

3. It could be done, ?

4. You won't be late, ?

5. They ought not to be here, ?

6. He always works hard, ?

7. He has got a lot of books, ?

8. He didn't come, ?

IX. Put the following sentences into reported speech:

ex.: I want to speak to you.
He said he wanted to speak to me.

1. I am ill.
He said

2. They will be here soon.
She said

3. We've just been to the butcher's.
They said

4. I am going to London tomorrow.
He said

5. Which book are you taking?
He asked me

6. What is the time?
He wondered

7. Did you see the match yesterday?
He asked me

8. How did you do that?
They wanted to know

X. Text analysis

Read the following text carefully and then answer the questions below.

The Life-Saver

It was at the door of the hospital that I met Hans again. We passed through it together on our way out, and recognized each other at the same moment.

“Hans“ I cried. “What brings you to the sorrowful walls of a hospital? You look as healthy as a racehorse.“

He was about to shake my hand, but stopped. “What’s happened to your hand?“ he asked.

“Oh, just a stupid accident with a broken glass. But what are you doing here? This is splendid, Hans, old fellow. We must have dinner together. I know a little place...“

“Right,“ he said with his usual smile. “Where?“

I told him and we went there, found a table and ordered a meal. When it was served, I said: “You haven’t told me what brings you to Alexandria.“ Hans spends most of his time in Copenhagen, but he is one of those men you may meet anywhere on earth.

“I was on my way to India,“ he said, “but I heard about Sinclair’s disappearance.“

“Sinclair?“

“He’s in hospital now. You don’t know him, but I’ve met him several times. Young man. Well dressed sort of fellow. Always thinking about his appearance. If he has one hair out of place, he’s ashamed to look you in the face. He examines his hair every half hour, like a girl.“

“What’s the matter with him?“

“Broken leg. Heat. No food or water. Desert. But he’s out of danger now.“

“What happened?“ I asked.

“He went into the desert. Very foolish. They told him not to go, but it’s useless to talk to Sinclair. He doesn’t understand the desert. Those who don’t know it, don’t understand it. With a party, everything is fine. But if you leave the party—just for a little walk, you know—you get lost. You climb a hill and go down into a valley. The warm air, the bright sun, the blue sky and the silence are delightful. You walk a little further and then turn back. Where’s the party? Over there? You came over that hill, of course; or was it that other hill? You remember that grey rock there; or was it that other rock? You climb a hill to find the party, but there’s no one in sight. Then the desert begins to show its power. You feel a touch of fear; you’re lost under the burning sun. All nature is cruel, Peter, and the desert is no exception. With others you can beat it; but not alone. Sinclair went alone.“

“Why?“

“Oh, he has a car, and he won’t listen to reason. He wanted a breath of fresh air, he said! He set off along the coast from here; just for a little drive, you understand. If he had kept on the road, he would have been all right. But he decided to take a little trip across the sand. A stupid thing to do. Then his car broke down, of course, and there he was, miles from anywhere, alone in the sand. He tried to walk, fell over a big stone on the side of a hill, and broke his leg. And that ought to have been the end of him. Couldn’t move. No food. No water. He’d left the car, of course.“

“How did he get into hospital?“ I asked.

“I heard about him when I landed here. He hadn’t returned, and I decided I must change my plans and do something. The police were very helpful. We got a doctor and a few men. Two cars we had. It was almost hopeless: like looking for a pin in the garden. We didn’t find him on the road, and camped for the night. The next day we searched the desert south of the road, but found nothing. We camped again and tried once more next morning. Useless. We shouted all day at the tops of our voices. No answer. The sun began to go down. I decided to come back here. It was then that I saw the sudden light—suddenly bright in my eyes. I was standing with my back to the sun, and yet a light shone in my eyes. Just for half a second. That needed explanation. It came from the southeast and I didn’t see it again. But there was a good chance that we had found Sinclair; something had moved, and the desert itself doesn’t move. We set out for the south-east, shouting all the time.

The sun was setting when we found him. Very weak he was. We gave him a drink and a little food, and the doctor examined his leg. We got him to hospital.“

“What was the light you saw?“

“He thought he heard a distant shout, but he was much too weak to make us hear, of course. Dry throat, you know. I told you that he’s always very careful about his appearance, and so he carries a small looking-glass in his pocket. He had the sense to hold up the glass in the sunlight and move it about. He hoped someone would see the light. I did. It’s strange how the fear of death can make even a stupid fellow quite clever.“

Questions on the text

Now answer the following questions on the text. Use your own words and do not simply copy from the text!!

1. What brings Hans and his friend to the hospital?
2. What do we learn about Sinclair’s character?
3. Why do you get lost in the desert so easily?
4. What made Sinclair’s little trip turn into a hopeless situation?
5. What did Sinclair do to make himself noticed?
6. “All nature is cruel“

Write a short essay (about 150 words).

If you agree, illustrate this statement with the help of an example, if not, state your reasons.