

## English Exam for UL Doctoral Schools Candidates, September 2021

**I. Listen to a lecture about workplace environment and decide if the statements below are True or False. Allow 30 seconds to read the task before you play the recording. You will hear it twice. (20 points)**

- 1) Modern office and classroom environments are ideal for learning and working.
- 2) A typical office cubicle is brain-friendly.
- 3) BDNFs are proteins that improve our ability to think.
- 4) BDNFs are only made by the body when it is at rest.
- 5) The speaker thinks that human beings have lost their ability to measure distances.
- 6) Robert Hutchins is not keen on exercise.
- 7) Our ancestors needed to keep moving to survive.
- 8) Sedentary lifestyle was common in our ancestors.
- 9) The good workplace environment ought to encourage exercise.
- 10) The text suggests modern lifestyle boosts brainpower.

*Source: PTE Academic Expert B2 Pearson (progress tests)*

**II. Listen to five people talking about job interviews and answer the following questions. Allow 15 seconds to read the task before you play the recording. You will hear it twice. The speakers' names: are Jeanine, Jo, Yasuko, Joost, Ivan. (10 points)**

Who:

- 1) didn't get the job because of his/her age?
- 2) had their interview the most recently?
- 3) prepared for the interview by assessing how suitable he/she was for the job?
- 4) took some medicine to help make him/her feel less nervous?
- 5) tried to find out what the company believed in?

*Source: English File upper-intermediate OUP, 2014*

**III. Read the following extract and do the subsequent exercises:**

**Giving compliments makes us anxious, but new research shows that praising people has huge benefits – for both parties**

“The happy phrasing of a compliment,” the writer Mark Twain once noted, “is one of the rarest of human gifts, and the happy delivery of it another.”

Twain was describing a meeting with the Emperor of Germany, who had praised his books. But we can all surely identify with the sentiment: receiving sincere and well-expressed praise can feel as good as an unexpected windfall. Unfortunately, our anxieties about the ways others may perceive our own words can prevent us from giving compliments ourselves. No one, after all, wants to come across as clumsy, patronising, or fawning.

“Compliments are the easiest way to make other people – and, as a result, ourselves – feel better,” says Nicholas Epley, a professor of behavioral science at the University of Chicago. “But when a kind thought comes to mind, people often don’t say it.” Yet three new studies on the psychology of compliment giving and receiving suggest that our fears about the ways our praise will be received are completely unfounded. And by letting go of that awkwardness, we could all enjoy better relationships with our friends, family members and colleagues.

### **The rule of reciprocity**

It is only relatively recently that psychologists have paid much attention to our compliments, with the majority of early research examining their persuasive potential.

In one memorable study from 2010, Naomi Grant, an associate professor in psychology at Mount Royal University in Calgary, invited participants to take part in a study of “impression formation”. As the participants filled in a rather dull questionnaire, an actor – posing as an introductory psychology student – struck up a conversation that involved casually complimenting the participant’s clothing. After a bit more idle chat, the actor then mentioned that they were handing out flyers about a university career event and asked the participant whether they would like to take a handful to hand around themselves.

The effects of the flattery were dramatic, with 79% of the participants offering to help with the event publicity, compared with only 46% of participants in a control group, who had not received the compliment.

*Source: <https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20210722-why-we-dont-dole-out-many-compliments-but-should>*

### **a) Decide whether the following statements are True or False. (10 points)**

- 1) Giving and receiving compliments can cause fear in people.
- 2) The Emperor of Germany complimented Twain’s books.
- 3) People are worried about how their compliments may be perceived by others.
- 4) Nicholas Epley claims the recipients of compliments may not feel happy.
- 5) According to Epley, people are always eager to express kind thoughts.
- 6) Giving and receiving compliments improves relationships among people.
- 7) Research on compliments has always been done in the same way.
- 8) In the study from 2010, Naomi Grant asked the participants to complete a boring questionnaire.
- 9) The actor introduced himself as a student of psychology.
- 10) Only the complimented participants were requested to help with the event publicity.

### **b) For each word or phrase below find a synonym in the text as in the example. Write ONE word in each of the spaces provided. (20 points)**

- 1) expressing admiration for someone .....
- 2) least frequent .....
- 3) honest and truthful .....
- 4) ignorance .....
- 5) mutuality .....
- 6) good at influencing others .....
- 7) worth remembering .....
- 8) what you wear .....
- 9) leaflets .....
- 10) excessive and insincere praise .....

**IV. Fill in the gaps with the words listed below. There is one word you will not need. (5 points)**

A standard academic essay should have the ..... parts: an introduction, a body, and a conclusion. Depending on the instructor's assignment, each of these can be one or more paragraphs. The most important part of an essay is the ..... statement, usually ..... at the end of the introduction. It often contains the writer's main idea and can help the reader ..... the organization of the essay by mentioning the topics that will be covered. The body paragraphs usually contain arguments or facts that ..... the thesis. They often begin with topic sentences that connect back to the thesis and look forward to the details in the rest of the paragraphs.

(adapted from *Academic Encounters*, Bernard Seal, Cambridge 2012)

thesis      preview      following      support      develops      occurring

**V. Choose the correct answer. (10 points)**

1. Let's discuss \_\_\_\_\_ the available options.
  - a. about
  - b. of
  - c. between
  - d. –
  
2. I'd rather you \_\_\_\_\_ your presentation better next time.
  - a. have planned
  - b. planned
  - c. would plan
  - d. plan
  
3. I work from home so I \_\_\_\_\_ people around me all day.
  - a. 'm not used to have
  - b. 'm used to not having
  - c. used to having
  - d. used to have
  
4. She's got a PhD in physics, \_\_\_\_\_?
  - a. hasn't she
  - b. has she
  - c. isn't she
  - d. is she

5. In his paper, he tried to analyse how social media influence \_\_\_\_\_ people's political choices.

- a. at
- b. -
- c. on
- d. for

6. I need to know when \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. would my order arrive
- b. would arrive my order
- c. will my order arrive
- d. my order will arrive

7. We \_\_\_\_\_ the conference refreshments delivered by a catering company.

- a. made
- b. did
- c. had
- d. bought

8. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ this language course earlier.

- a. would join
- b. joined
- c. had joined
- d. have joined

9. He succeeded \_\_\_\_\_ the most difficult exam.

- a. in passing
- b. at passing
- c. to pass
- d. to have passed

10. The lecture was good but contained too \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. many information
- b. many informations
- c. much informations
- d. much information

**VI. Complete each sentence with the correct word derived from the word in capitals. (10 points)**

1. He has got an ..... ear for languages. **EXCEPT**

2. After a mistake is made, it's important to draw the appropriate ..... afterwards. **CONCLUDE**

3. The permanent ..... of water makes life in this country difficult. **SHORT**

4. Only exercising regularly will improve your ..... **STRONG**

5. We don't want anybody else to find out about our ..... **ARRANGE**

6. To get into the building we have to go around it to the back ..... **ENTER**

7. Prices have risen ..... in the last six months. **CONSIDER**
8. The Dean is ..... at the moment. She's in an important meeting. **AVAILABLE**
9. I think they have transported and sold the goods ..... because no duty has been paid. **LEGAL**
10. He applied to many jobs ..... - he is still unemployed. **SUCCESS**

**VII. Complete the letter by choosing the correct word or phrase. Write your answers in the spaces provided. (15 points)**

Dear Ms. Jenkins,

I ..... **am writing/write (1)** to apply for the Marketing Specialist position at LogiTech. I am very happy to use this opportunity to briefly describe some of the skills attained ..... **at/on (2)** Lodz University and a series of marketing positions that I have held ..... **so far/last year (3)**. This experience has helped me to grow ..... **as/like (4)** a professional, which as I believe, makes me a suitable candidate for the role.

I am very passionate ..... **about/for (5)** contemporary marketing tools such as social media platforms and e-mail newsletter campaigns. I believe these may help Logitech further ..... **develop/developing (6)** client engagement and increase the rate of repeat customers. .... **Moreover/Actually (7)**, during my ..... **prior/prospective (8)** employment I was able to lead an extensive campaign that helped increase the demand in the local market ..... **by/for (9)** 28%. By employing streamlined processes and prioritizing ..... **the/a (10)** company's success, my team and I landed the Most Productive Group award for two years in a row.

Some of the talents that are applicable to the position in question include my outstanding flexibility, quick adaptability and efficient learning. I also thrive in team-based environments where I obtain motivation by helping ..... **other/another (11)** employees. .... **Therefore/However (12)**, I am prepared to represent your company in the best light possible as all projects that I partake are handled in a ..... **smooth/smoothly (13)** manner.

I am grateful for your time and consideration. I look forward to ..... **discussing/discuss (14)** my experience, knowledge, expectations, and additional career goals in further detail. I also hope to gain an opportunity to present some of my projects in person during an interview.

I enclose a copy of my CV and references.

..... **Yours sincerely/Sincerely your (15)**

*Amanda Hall*

**Thank you, this is the end of the test.**