ACADEMIC
PRACTICE TEST 3
Listening Section 1

Questions 1-10
Complete the form below.
Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer

NEW PASSWORD

Customer's full name: Michael 1 .................
Date of birth: 27 March 1988
Previous address: 319 2 .....................
Phone number: 0492 48002
Data allowance: 3 ..................
Current plan: 4 ..................
Mother's maiden name: 5 ............
First pet: 6 ..................
New password: 7 ............
Sent on: New 8 ..................
Extra services requested:
Cancel 9 ..................
10 .................. pack

Locations
A on washing machine
B in hallway cupboard
C in hot water cupboard
D next to back door
E in bathroom
F on top of television
G in bedroom
H under kitchen sink
I above front door

Listening Section 2

Questions 11-20
Where can each of the following items be found?
Choose SIX answers from the box and write the correct letter, A–I, next to questions 11–16.

11 Alarm
12 Garage key
13 Laundry detergent
14 Beach towels
15 Bath towels
16 Light bulbs

Listening Section 3

Questions 21-25
Choose the correct letter, A, B or C.
21 Why did Joanne accept the offer from Gregory Associates?
A It covered her travel expenses.
B It was from a well-known company.
C It was the only offer she received.

22 Joanne was disappointed because
A she found the work routine repetitive.
B the staff were not very helpful.
C the work was not related to her studies.

23 What did Joanne like best about her internship?
A Observing how the workplace operates
B Being responsible for completing projects
C Working closely with the project managers

24 What was hardest part of the internship?
A Combining it with her studies
B Living on so little money
C Working such long hours

25 During the internship, Joanne
A changed her mind about her career
B received a job offer from the company
C decided not to continue her studies

Questions 26–30
Complete the flow-chart below.
Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each answer.

Listening Section 4
Questions 31–40
Complete the notes below.
Write ONE WORD ONLY for each answer.

DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
Development Studies attempts to understand:
● How societies change and progress over time
● What help to make these changes
Two approaches:
● Theoretical (understand how change occurs)
● Applied (examine and how they can be applied) Areas of focus:
Asia-Pacific region; urbanisation (including employment and migration; trade.
You will develop the skills to:
● Understand key development issues in detail
● Gather data (both and textual data)
● Carefully findings
● on a research project
Brief history of Development Studies:
1950s – The discipline emerges.
issues are the major consideration.
1970s – Development studies became more of the establishment. Questions were raised about power, environmental sustainability and issues.
1980s-today – National governments were no longer as important. Growing interest in small-scale practices such as remittances and.
KNIGHTHOODS
An ancient tradition

Knighthoods are one of the oldest and most prestigious forms of honouring individual citizens in the United Kingdom. Although initially conferred upon members of the armed forces solely on the basis of their performance in combat, the award now recognises all contributions to national life. Some of the most notable knighthoods of recent times have been bestowed on musicians or entertainers such as Sir Elton John and Sir Paul McCartney, and the fields of finance, industry and education are also represented. Citizens of non-Commonwealth countries are eligible for an 'honorary' knighthood for which they are not permitted to use the titles 'Sir' or 'Dame'. Perceived to be a British tradition, the legacy of knighthoods actually dates back to ancient Rome, from where it spread throughout a number of European countries in the Middle Ages and acquired certain features. A would-be knight had to undergo strict military instruction from a young age, which included spending time as an assistant (known as an esquire) to an existing knight, and participating in battle. He had to learn how to equip his knight for battle, and to help him with putting on the heavy and cumbersome armour of the time. He was responsible for keeping this armour in good condition, polishing and cleaning it. He also had to demonstrate chivalrous behaviour such as generosity, selflessness, fearlessness and skill in battle. Finally, the potential knight also required the financial means to purchase horses, weapons and armour for himself, and then make himself available to serve the ruling monarch for a minimum period each year.

In modern times, the process is very different. Instead of relying on formalised military training or political patronage, a nominations system is used. This way, a person's name can be put forward for a knighthood by any institution such as a school or business, or even just a fellow member of society. After this, an advisory panel, acting on behalf of the sovereign, deliberates and selects the future knights and dames from the pool of applications. Those selected are contacted discreetly before announcements are made to ensure that they wish to accept the honour.

In rare cases, knighthoods can be revoked through a process known as forfeiture. This most often occurs when the recipient is convicted of a criminal offense. Terry Lewis, a police officer in Queensland, Australia, was stripped of his knighthood after being implicated in a string of illegal activities that included accepting $700,000 worth of bribes from bookmakers and casinos, and forging the signature of an Australian politician on a police document in 1981. Lewis has repeatedly protested his innocence and suggested that he was falsely accused of these crimes, but his appeals failed in court. In a more serious incident, British art historian and intelligence officer Anthony Blunt lost his knighthood after it was discovered that he was working as a double agent and handing confidential material over to the Soviet Union.

Knighthoods have also been forfeited for reasons of incompetence rather than outright illegality or treason. Having been knighted for 'services to banking' in 2004, CEO of the Royal Bank of Scotland Fred Goodwin presided over a 24-billion-pound loss at the bank just four years later. Although retaining a 16 Million pound pension, to which he was legally entitled, Goodwin had his knighthood annulled as the Queen's advisory panel deemed him 'the chief decision maker at the bank'.
time’. Scandals such as these have contributed to spirited debates regarding the role and relevance of knighthoods in 21st-century society.

Questions 1–6
Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage 1? Write the correct letters in boxes 1–6 on your answer sheet.

In boxes 1–6 on your answer sheet, write

TRUE - if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE - if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN - if there is no information on this

1 The knighthood was first awarded only for military service.
2 Most knights now come from the arts and entertainment industries.
3 People from outside the Commonwealth cannot be awarded any type of knighthood.
4 The knighthood began in Great Britain.
5 Esquires, or trainee knights, were usually related to the knights they served.
6 An esquire needed money to buy his own equipment.

Questions 7–10
Complete the summary below.
Choose NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS from the passage for each answer. Write your answers in boxes 7–10 on your answer sheet.

KNIGHTHOOD SELECTION: THEN AND NOW

The process of becoming a knight has changed over time. In the Middle Ages, people began training to become a knight at 7 ................. They had to show they were brave and skilled fighters, were required to work for 8 ....................... for part of the year. Today, potential recipients of the knighthood are selected through 9 ......................... A final decision is made by 10 .........................

Questions 11–13
Choose THREE letters, A–F.

Which THREE of the following are reasons given in the text for people losing their knighthoods?

A Punishing someone for a crime he or she did not commit.
B Using another person’s name on an important paper.
C Poor management of a company.
D Wrongfully accepting pension payments.
E Gambling on horse-racing or card games.
F Giving secret information to a foreign government.

Reading Passage 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 14–26, which are based on Reading Passage 2 below.

"I J U S T D O I T!"
Or - the subtle art of procrastination

Procrastination, a kind of chronic time-wasting, has long been dismissed as an innocuous human foible. Researchers are now beginning a more sober examination of this practice, however, and there may be good reason for doing so: twenty per cent of Americans now admit to suffering from procrastination, a fifteen per cent jump from 1970. Researchers are bemused as to what explains this sharp rise in the figures, but there is no doubt that procrastination is wreaking havoc on people’s lives. One side effect is perhaps the most predictable: procrastination hampers academic and work commitments as sufferers fail to meet
deadlines or achieve their goals. But there are other costs too. In shifting burdens of responsibility onto others and reneging on their promises, procrastinators undermine relationships both in the workplace and in their private lives, all of which takes a toll on their well-being. In one study, over the course of a semester, procrastinating university students were noted to be suffering from notably weaker immune systems, more gastrointestinal problems, and higher occurrences of insomnia than their non-procrastinating peers.

Is there hope for procrastinators? Everyone admits it's a difficult demon to beat, but a few self-styled procrastination coaches have developed strategies to that end. Although evidence for their efficacy is largely anecdotal at this stage, some of these strategies at least offer promising avenues for future research.

Career counsellor Amy Sykes focuses on the basics. Firstly, she says, embrace peer pressure. Many weight loss and self-help groups encourage individuals to hold themselves accountable to a wider circle of their peers, and Sykes believes this social safety net can be harnessed just as successfully by procrastinators. A change in perspective is also considered vital. 'When we want people to do something for us, we really sell it to them,' Sykes observes. 'But when we need to do it ourselves, we focus on all the reasons we don't want to.' Instead, she argues, we should pique our own interest and find ways to make our important projects more attractive – by turning them into little competitions or fact-finding missions, for example. If all else fails, Sykes believes we must recompense ourselves for our troubles, ideally with little treats upon finishing a task. 'It doesn't need to be big,' she says. 'Pancakes, a hot bath, or an episode of your favourite television show could all do the trick.' Though these tips may be a little too garden variety 1 for some, others have thought up more cunning twists on the human psyche. One such approach was developed by the crime writer Raymond Chandler, who built his strategy on a basic yet critical observation: procrastinators rarely sit about completely inactively, but rather tend to engage themselves in useful but less pressing tasks: vacuuming behind the bed, cleaning out the fridge, washing the windows and so on. The result is that they 'cheat' themselves into experiencing feelings of productivity and satisfaction that offer further distraction from the original project. Chandler’s method, which he successfully used to help himself write detective stories, involves setting aside a period of time in which the procrastinator may do one of two things: absolutely nothing or work on the project that he or she wishes to complete. Sitting still, without the satisfaction of busying himself with less urgent tasks, Chandler slowly felt the itch of tedious monotony sink in. Within five or ten minutes, this itch had become intolerable, and he felt compelled to begin writing his stories. Another procrastinator, professor of philosophy John Perry, developed his strategy against procrastination based on essentially the same insight as Chandler’s – that procrastinators are actually quite good at doing 'marginally useful' tasks, just not the tasks they really ought to be doing. He thus surmised that the enemy of successful task completion is not, in fact, that great engine of productive activity – procrastination itself – but rather how we order our projects in the hierarchy of urgency. If a procrastinator needs to finish an assignment before 8 o'clock the following morning, for instance, he is likely to find himself sharpening pencils instead. ‘But if all the procrastinator had left to do was to sharpen some pencils,’ Perry observes, ‘no force on earth could get him to do it.’ The key to this approach is to rank one’s priorities, then bump the most urgent tasks a little further down and place at the top some

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1 Common, usual or ordinary
potentially daunting and important-sounding-projects which are ultimately not all that essential. If the student with the essay deadline can convince himself he absolutely must reorganise his email box, or finish reading that old, dusty novel he only got halfway through, then suddenly the essay deadline is going to seem a far superior option.

If the Ancient Greeks struggled with it, and all the life coaches, counsellors and motivational speakers in the modern world are unable to erase it from our existence either, it seems unlikely that procrastination will ever truly be put to rest. As these procrastination gurus have shown, however, the right strategies have the potential to minimise its impact – if you ever get around to using them.

Questions 14–18
Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage 2?
In boxes 14–18 on your answer sheet, write
TRUE - if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE - if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN - if there is no information on this
14 Procrastination has always been recognised as a serious problem.
15 The reason for the rise in procrastination is unknown.
16 Students are the most likely group to procrastinate.
17 A range of health problems have been linked to procrastination.
18 Most techniques to stop procrastination are based on scientific study.

Questions 19–25
Look at the following statements (Questions 19–25) and the list of people below. Match each statement with the correct person, A, B or C.

Write the correct letter, A, B or C, in boxes 19–25 on your answer sheet

19 Doing housework is a common way of avoiding important work.
20 Get support from other people.
21 Make a list of boring tasks before important ones.
22 Look for ways to make the work more interesting.
23 Lists are powerful tools for reducing procrastination.
24 Use boredom as motivation.
25 Use rewards when a task is completed.

List of People
A Amy Sykes
B Raymond Chandler
C John Perry

Question 26
Choose the correct letter A, B, C or D.
Write the correct letter in box 26 on your answer sheet.
What is the writer’s conclusion?
A Some procrastination-reducing strategies have had proven success.
B Procrastination will never be completely eliminated.
C Procrastinators should employ a life coach to help them.
D Most procrastinators want to learn how to be more efficient.

Reading Passage 3
You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 27–40, which are based on Reading Passage 3 below.

WHEN EVOLUTION WORKS AGAINST US

Life has changed in just about every way since small tribes of hunter-gatherers roamed the
earth armed with nothing but spears and stone tools. We now buy our meat from the supermarket rather than stalking it through the jungle; houses and high-rises shelter us at night instead of caves. But despite these changes, some very basic responses linger on. The short, sharp feeling of heightened awareness that sweeps through us when a stranger passes in a dark alley is no different, physiologically speaking, from the sensation our ancestors experienced when they were walking through the bushes and heard a dry twig snap nearby. It’s called the ‘fight or flight’ response, and it helps us to identify dangerous situations and act decisively by, as the name suggests, mustering our strength for a confrontation or running away as fast we can. This shift to survival mode is often popularly described as a sudden unease, a sense that a situation is ‘off’ or ‘not right’. However, the sense is actually the outcome of an incredibly complex mind-body process which involves the brain’s ‘fear centre’, the hypothalamus, advising the sympathetic nervous system and the adrenal-cortical system to work, at first separately, and then together, to blend a potent mix of hormones and chemicals and secrete them into the bloodstream. Our heartbeat rises, along with our respiratory rate. Skin feels cold (hence the ‘shiver’ down the spine) as blood supply is redirected to the larger muscles required for a physical confrontation or a hasty retreat. The ability to concentrate on issues of minor importance also suffers, as the brain tends to prioritise ‘big picture’ thinking at this time.

Without this instinctive response, the human race would never have survived, but at present it is often more of a hindrance than a help. Although instances of physical threats have decreased over the years, activation of the fight or flight response has actually increased, largely in response to mental frustrations. This poses a problem, however, because the fight or flight mechanism functions most helpfully as a response to something that can cause bodily harm, such as a falling tree or a wild animal, rather than in response to a fulminating boss, a traffic jam, or a spouse who has not returned a phone call. During these instances of mental distress, the physical manifestations of fight or flight, such as an inability to think rationally and calmly, can actually exacerbate the problem.

A similar case of an evolutionary development overstaying its welcome is the example of ‘mind chatter’. Mind chatter is the ceaseless train of scattered thoughts and self-talk that occupies our mind, ensuring we are always ‘switched on’, searching for danger and threats. This would have been a boon for a solitary caveman on a three-hour hunting expedition, but in a modern world already overloaded with sensory input, it causes us to fret about non-existent predicaments and occasionally needlessly triggers the fight or flight response.

These twin forces, mind chatter and the fight or flight response, have combined to wreak havoc on the modern psyche and have led to a spike in what some studies have suggested is a cause of up to eighty per cent of all illness today: stress. Stress, erroneously considered by many to be a mere feeling, is actually a physiological condition resulting from a cumulative accrual of certain hormones in the body, hormones that can help us in quick, sharp doses, but which are toxic if they are not properly metabolised. Metabolism of these potentially toxic hormones relies on physical exertion, which originally evolved as part of the fight or flight process – hormone release was usually followed by physical exertion (fighting or running), which returned the body to a state of balance. In present day encounters, however, the vital element of physical exertion is missing: a resentful employee cannot punch his co-worker, for example, and a frustrated driver is unable to simply ram his way through a packed intersection.
What can be done to restore the balance? Stress researcher Neil F. Neimarck, perhaps not surprisingly, recommends physical exercise as one useful strategy. Fortunately, the brain is not clever enough to realise that this exercise is completely unrelated to the original stress stimulus, and in this way we can effectively ‘fool’ our bodies into metabolising stress hormones by punching a boxing bag instead of the person who annoyed us in the first place. Another option is the ‘relaxation response’, discovered by Harvard cardiologist Herbert Benson. Benson found that certain behaviours, such as deep breathing, meditation, and the repetition of simple, affirmative phrases, acted as an antidote to mind chatter and the fight or flight responses, calming the nervous system and inducing a relaxed state of mind and body instead. Integrating these methods into our lives will be important if the cycle of stress accumulation that is so endemic in modern Western society is to be stopped.

Passage 3
Questions 27–32
Complete the summary using the list of words, A–O, below.
Write the correct letter, A–O, in boxes 27–32 on your answer sheet.

THE FIGHT OR FLIGHT RESPONSE
Modern man still has the 27 ..................... that were needed in his distant past in the jungle. One of these, the ‘fight or flight response’, originally assisted humans to recognise 28 ..................... and take action. Today, this same response manifests itself mostly as nothing more than a feeling of 29 ..................... It is the result of the hypothalamus producing and releasing 30 ..................... into the blood, with subsequent rises in heart rate and breathing, and the sensation of a 31 ..................... in temperature as the blood is diverted to other organs. Although this 32 ..................... was once essential to human survival, it now occurs as a result of perceived rather than actual threat.

Questions 33–36
Choose the correct letter, A, B, C or D.
Write the correct letter in boxes 33–36 on your answer sheet.

33 When the fight or flight response is activated, it is difficult to
A increase breathing speed
B focus on small problems
C maintain body temperature
D run for long periods of time

34 The fight or flight response is less useful today because modern individuals
A encounter fewer physical threats
B can easily manage small daily difficulties
C are better at creative problem solving
D do not need to hunt dangerous animals

35 One disadvantage of ‘mind chatter’ is that people may
A talk too much and miss important information
B spend too much time by themselves
C become distracted from real threats
D worry about problems that are not real

36 The writer suggests stress is increasing because of
A a lack of physical release
B an increase in the number of threats
C more health problems
D the loss of some hormones
Questions 37-40
Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer in Reading Passage 3?
In boxes 37–40 on your answer sheet, write
YES - if the statement agrees with the views of the writer
NO - if the statement contradicts the views of the writer
NOT GIVEN - if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

37 Stress is an emotion.

38 Fights in the workplace are increasing.

39 In order to metabolise hormones, exercise must be linked with the original cause of stress.

40 Saying positive words can reduce stress.
Writing Task 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagram below shows how a solar powered water pump works. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.
Rising university fees and scarce employment prospects for graduates have led some people to say that universities should not teach arts subjects, like philosophy and history, and only offer practical degree courses that maximise chances of employment. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience. Write at least 250 words.
Speaking PART 1

Initial questions about name, where you live, work or study and other personal topics.

CLOTHES
- What do you like to wear when you are at home? [Why?]
- What do people in your country like to wear to parties? [Why?]
- Do you like to try different kinds of fashion? [Why / Why not?]
- Do people in your country usually like to wear formal or casual clothes? [Why?]

GOOD MANNERS
- Is it important to be polite in your country? [Why / Why not?]
- How do children learn good manners?
- Who do you think is usually more polite, older or younger people? [Why?]
- Do you think more people are more polite at home with family, or with people they don’t know? [Why?]

Speaking PART 2

Talk about a decision you made that was difficult.
You should talk about:
- what it was
- when you made it
- why it was difficult
And explain how it has changed your life.

You will be expected to talk about the topic for one to two minutes. You will have one minute to think about what you are going to say in advance. You can make some notes to help you if you wish.

Speaking PART 3

MAKING DECISIONS IN GENERAL
- What are some decisions that most people need to make these days?
- Who do you think usually gives the best advice in your culture?
- What disadvantages are there when other people give you advice, when you have to make a decision?

AGE AND DECISIONS
- What are the important things that a teenager has to make decisions about?
- How can your age make a difference to the way you approach decision making?
- How are the kinds of decisions people make today different from those they made 50 years ago? [Why?]