

# English Placement Test

## 45 minutes

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Please read the instructions below carefully.

There are 35 questions in total -

- Multiple choice grammar section (15 questions / 15 marks)
- Gap fill exercise (10 questions / 20 marks)
- Reading comprehension (10 questions / 15 marks)

Please write all of your answers on the separate Answer Sheet provided.

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**Section 1 - Grammar (15 marks)**

There are 15 questions in total

**Mark your answers on the Answer Sheet**

**SAMPLE QUESTION**

When people are abroad, they *(a) likes (b) like (c) are liking (d) liking* to visit as many places as they can.

The correct answer is *b) like* and this has been highlighted on the answer sheet.

**Questions 1 - 8**

1. MPW *(a) has (b) is having (c) having (d) does* three colleges in the UK.
2. *(a) It's (b) Its (c) It has (d) Its'* students are mainly British but some are international.
3. It offers *(a) the outstanding (b) outstand (c) outstanding (d) too outstanding opportunities to get to a top university*.
4. *(a) The most (b) Most of (c) The more (d) Most* students at our college speak English quite well.
5. However, *(a) few (b) very (c) not (d) none* students like taking the IELTS exam.
6. Each year, *(a) an exam (b) the exam (c) exam (d) exams* seems to get harder.
7. John *(a) is getting (b) had got (c) got (d) has got* his job as a tutor at MPW in 2014.
8. After he *(a) was taking (b) has taken (c) have taken (d) had taken* the post, the English Department's results began to improve.

**Questions 9 - 15**

9. The improvement (a) *made him* (b) *have made him* (c) *made him to* (d) *have made him to* analyse past data.
10. If he (a) *hadn't* (b) *would have* (c) *is* (d) *hasn't* done this analysis, he might not have discovered the answer.
11. He has looked after many students from around the world (a) *so* (b) *both* (c) *and* (d) *such* as an English tutor and as a Personal tutor.
12. He has also spoken at conferences (a) *in all* (b) *all over* (c) *over all* (d) *over* the world.
13. These (a) *educating* (b) *educate* (c) *educational* (d) *educative* conferences only invite the best speakers
14. John is certainly one of the best tutors (a) *on* (b) *by* (c) *at* (d) *near* MPW.
15. Teaching itself is a challenging choice as a career, (a) *is it* (b) *It is* (c) *itself isn't?* (d) *isn't it?*

**Section 2 - Gap fill (20 marks)**

For each space, you must think of **ONE** word that you think best completes the sentence.

**Write all of your answers on the Answer Sheet.**

16. Ben is the youngest of the three boys. He's younger \_\_\_\_\_ Tim and Jack.
17. He bought that car last week, \_\_\_\_\_ he?
18. You'd better go to bed now, \_\_\_\_\_ you? If you don't, you'll be very tired tomorrow.
19. I went to bed very late and slept terribly, \_\_\_\_\_ the result that I feel awful today.
20. As far \_\_\_\_\_ I know, Moscow is the capital of Russia.
21. The first night's talk will touch on topics \_\_\_\_\_ as pollution and global warming.
22. You're \_\_\_\_\_ from perfect, Maria. Only last year, you lost those files, remember?
23. The lack \_\_\_\_\_ direction and advice from higher levels in the company is a real problem.
24. An increase in tourism of 17% helped the country recover \_\_\_\_\_ recession.
25. Maria's parents had every confidence \_\_\_\_\_ her ability.

**Section 3 – Reading Comprehension**

**Please read the passage below and then answer the following questions**

**High-tech crime-fighting tools**

1

Technology to fight crime is getting more sophisticated and rightly so. The police force need to be equipped for the challenges of the 21st century. In Britain we've already got the world's biggest DNA database. By next year it will have access to the genetic data of 4.25m people: one British-based person in 14. Hundreds of thousands of those on the database will never have been charged with a crime.

2

Britain is also reported to have spent more than £4 million in CCTV (closed circuit television) cameras. There is an ongoing discussion about the effectiveness of CCTV. Some evidence suggests that it may help to reduce car crime and shop lifting. It has also been used successfully to identify terrorists and murderers. However, many claim that better street lighting is just as effective to prevent crime and that cameras could displace crime. An internal police report has said that only one crime was solved for every 1,000 cameras in London in 2007. In short, there is conflicting evidence about the effectiveness of cameras. It is a debate that is likely to continue for some time.

3

Professor Mike Press, who has spent the past decade looking at how design can contribute to crime reduction, said that, in order for CCTV to have any result, it must be used in a very targeted way. For example, a scheme in Manchester records every licence plate at the entrance of a shopping centre and alerts police when one is found to belong to an untaxed or stolen car. This is an effective example of monitoring, he believes. Most schemes that simply record city centres continually — often not being watched - do not produce results. CCTV can also have the opposite effect of that intended, by giving citizens a false sense of security and encouraging them to be careless with property and personal safety. Professor Press said: 'All the evidence suggests that CCTV alone makes no positive impact on crime reduction and prevention at all. The weight of evidence would suggest the investment is more or less a waste of money unless you have lots of other things in place.' He believes that much of the increase is driven by the marketing efforts of security companies who promote the crime-reducing benefits of their products. He described it as a 'lazy approach to crime prevention' and said that authorities should instead be focusing on how to alter the environment to reduce crime.

**High-tech crime-fighting tools (continued)**

4

But in reality, this is not what is happening. Instead, police are considering using more technology. Police forces have recently begun experimenting with cameras in their helmets. The footage will be stored on police computers, along with the footage from thousands of CCTV cameras and millions of pictures from number plate recognition cameras used increasingly to check up on motorists.

5

And now another type of technology is being introduced. It's called the Microdrone and it's a toy-sized remote-control craft that hovers above streets or crowds to film what's going on beneath. The Microdrone has already been used to monitor rock festivals, but its supplier has also been in discussions to supply it to the Metropolitan Police, and Soca, the Serious Organised Crime Agency. The drones are small enough to be unnoticed by people on the ground when they are flying at 350ft. They contain high-resolution video surveillance equipment and an infrared night vision capability, so even in darkness they give their operators a bird's-eye view of locations while remaining virtually undetectable.

6

The worrying thing is, who will get access to this technology? Merseyside police are already employing two of the devices as part of a pilot scheme to watch football crowds and city parks looking for antisocial behaviour. It is not just about crime detection: West Midlands fire brigade is about to lease a drone, for example, to get a better view of fire and flood scenes and aid rescue attempts; the Environment Agency is considering their use for monitoring of illegal fly tipping and oil spills. The company that makes the drone says it has no plans to license the equipment to individuals or private companies, which hopefully will prevent private security firms from getting their hands on them. But what about local authorities? In theory, this technology could be used against motorists. And where will the surveillance society end? Already there are plans to introduce smart water, containing a unique DNA code identifier that when sprayed on a suspect will cling to their clothes and skin and allow officers to identify them later. As long as high-tech tools are being used in the fight against crime and terrorism, fine. But if it's another weapon to be used to invade our privacy then we don't want it.

The Reading Passage has six paragraphs numbered **1-6**

Choose a heading from the list that best describes each paragraph

**Write the correct letter on the Answer Sheet.**

### List of Phrases

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>a</b> The Spy in the sky            | <b>f</b> Lack of conclusive evidence  |
| <b>b</b> The spread of technology      | <b>g</b> Cars and cameras             |
| <b>c</b> The limitations of cameras    | <b>h</b> Advantages and disadvantages |
| <b>d</b> A natural progression         | <b>i</b> The cost of cameras          |
| <b>e</b> Robots solving serious crimes | <b>j</b> A feeling of safety          |

**Example)** Paragraph 1 = d

Question 26 Paragraph 2 =

Question 27 Paragraph 3 =

Question 28 Paragraph 4 =

Question 29 Paragraph 5 =

Question 30 Paragraph 6 =

**Questions 31-35.** Choose the correct letter: A, B, C or D.

**Mark your answers on the Answer Sheet**

31) Britain has already got

- A more data about DNA than any other country.
- B four million CCTV cameras.
- C the most sophisticated crime-fighting technology.
- D access to the genetic data of one in fourteen people living in Britain.

32) Professor Press

- A works at the University of Manchester.
- B is concerned about the negative impact of the use of CCTV.
- C studies car related crime
- D feels that some marketing departments lie about the crime-reducing benefits of CCTV.

33) The Microdrone is

- A a type of toy in the shape of a plane.
- B 350 feet in length
- C able to film in the dark
- D being used by the Metropolitan Police

34) Smart Water

- A contains intelligence enhancing qualities
- B is probably safe to drink
- C is already being used by the police
- D might help in the fight against crime

35) The use of CCTV in Manchester, in the example, given

- A seems to work
- B is exactly the same as in the other city centres
- C doesn't seem to work
- D encourages the public to be less careful