



**Preca College**  
**English Entrance Exam**  
**1st July 2010**  
**Time: 10:30 - 12:30**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Index number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section I - Language Exercises**

**Ex. A** Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each blank.  
Use only one word in each blank.

**10 points**

I often wonder what the world will .....like fifty years from now. Some things are easy to predict; no doubt, computers.....have become very sophisticated and will be .....for all sorts of purposes. The day is.....far away when we will all be buying clothes, booking theatre tickets and arranging holidays.....the internet. In fact, many people already do this. Perhaps by the time I .....a grandparent there might even be .....living on the moon, although I hope I won't be. Many new developments will probably .....taken place in the field of transport, so we will be ..... to travel more quickly from one country .....another. Hopefully cures will have.....found for many of the diseases people suffer.....today. Whatever happens, I'm .....the future won't be boring. ....the contrary, it will surely be an exciting time for .....of us.

**Ex B.** Put the verbs in brackets in the correct form. The first one has been done for you. **5 points**

Nineteen young trekkers (arrive) ...arrived... safely home yesterday evening after they (catch) .....in a blinding fog while they (climb) .....Mount Etna, in Sicily on Sunday. The team's only concern was how (break) .....the news to their families that they (miss) .....their flight because they were stuck in the fog but that they (be) .....all safe and sound. Jason Smith, the team leader, stated, "This episode (not dishearten) .....us from our next challenge, venturing up Kilimanjaro. On the contrary it (strengthen) .....our team spirit.' All members of the team felt that if this incident (not happen) ..... they (not gain) .....the experience needed for their next challenge (conquer) .....Tanzania's Kilimanjaro.

*Note: trekkers are people who go for long walks on the mountains*

**Ex. C.** Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence using the word given. Do not change that word. Use between 2 and 5 words including the word given.

Example: We've never been to Canada before. first **10 points**

This is the first time we've been to Canada.

1. Will you take care of the children for me tomorrow afternoon? look  
Will you .....for me tomorrow afternoon?

2. I'll come round once I finish my work. as  
I'll come round ..... my work.

3. They usually clean the house at the weekends housework  
They usually ..... at the weekends.

4. The villa was brand-new. never  
The villa had .....before.

5. The last time I saw them was in September 2006. seen  
I .....September 2006.

6. It was wrong of them to take the car without asking for permission first. shouldn't  
They .....the car without asking for permission first.

7. They couldn't finish the exercise because they didn't have time. able  
They.....the exercise because they didn't have time.

8. The headmaster told the pupils to listen carefully to his announcement. attention  
The headmaster told the students .....his announcement.

9. They made every effort to pass the exam. best  
They ..... to pass the exam.

10. You have to fill in the application form before joining the club must  
The application form .....before you join the club.

**Ex. D.** Read the text below and use the word given at the end of each line **to form** a word that fits in the blank in the same line. **5 points**

Most people enjoy .....and going off on a summer holiday can be travel  
a very .....experience. But some holiday resorts are so popular that excite  
it can be difficult to find.....particularly if you want a holiday at accommodate  
the .....which seems to be the favourite kind of holiday. The best sea  
thing to do is to make your .....well in advance. This is often easier to reserve  
do if you speak to a good travel .....who can advise you. Last year, agency  
we went on holiday to the south of France. As .....the Channel by boat cross  
takes many hours, we were advised to fly. On our .....at the arrive  
airport we checked in our luggage and waited for our .....depart  
The plane left on time and the .....was very pleasant. fly

**Ex E.** Turn the following sentences from the active into the passive form. **10 points**

Example: People have translated this book into many languages.

This book has been translated into many languages.

1. Someone made this beautiful table in 1867.

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2. When I arrived home my sister was making the coffee.

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3. When did they invent the radio?

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4. At eight o'clock this morning the postman had already delivered the letters.

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5. They are going to build a new school next year.

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6. Why have they not announced the results yet?

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7. They are washing your car at this moment.

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8. Peter has written the best poem this year.

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9. You have to wash the dishes in very hot water.

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10. Nobody could see the thief because it was very dark.

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## **Section II Comprehension**

### **Paragraph A**

Although it is so widespread, there's still little agreement as to exactly what asthma is. The ancient Greeks knew about the condition – Hippocrates named **it** after the Greek words for 'difficult breathing' – but there has been remarkably little progress since. Not only does asthma vary from person to person, but also from place to place, although developed countries seem to be hardest hit. Research found that asthma rates among 13 (**line 5**) to 14-year-olds in Sweden and Finland were between 10 and 20 per cent, while **those** in poorer countries such as Albania and Romania were below 6 per cent. **It** is not just a straightforward link between asthma and industrialisation, however; in India, there are estimated to be up to 20 million asthmatics, including **many** in rural areas, and in South America up to 30 per cent of children are affected.

### **Paragraph B**

The greatest risk factor appears to be genetic, but our understanding of why some children get asthma (**line 10**) and others don't is still hazy. Sometimes, there is a link to other allergies, and sometimes there isn't. Children **whose** parents smoke are one and a half times more likely to become asthmatic than those with non-smoking parents, and **it** is more than twice as common in boys as girls. But it's unlikely that there is a single

cause. It's more likely to be a combination of factors; everything from diet – some people blame dairy products – to breastfeeding.

**Paragraph C**

(line 15) The common signs of an asthma attack are wheezing (*gulçim*) and shortness of breath, coughing and a tight feeling in the chest. Children suffering an attack may well be unusually quiet, and have difficulty speaking. Younger children also sometimes complain of tummy aches. Symptoms can vary from person to person and from time to time, so the best advice is to listen to the child.

**Paragraph D**

Even if you are used to dealing to asthma, a full-blown attack can be frightening. The main thing is to stay (line 20) calm, try to keep the child calm and listen to what **they** are telling you; if they get stressed or frightened their breathing is only likely to get worse. Don't hug the child, or be tempted to put a reassuring arm round the shoulders. **This** can be restrictive. And don't make them lie down. Instead, get them to sit up as straight as they can and to lean slightly forward, which should allow as much air as possible into their lungs. Loosen any tight clothing. If the symptoms don't improve after five or ten minutes, then you need to get (line 25) emergency help. Give one puff of the inhaler every minute until the doctor arrives.

**Paragraph E**

Asthma can be a complicated condition with invisible other invisible effects. Although it's the chronic disease most responsible for days off school, pupils missing lessons is not the only problem. Many also find the condition stops **them** sleeping, for example, and several disturbed nights makes for tired, irritable or badly behaved pupils. Pupils who get asthma attacks very often complain that they feel isolated, and many report a (line 30) lack of sympathy among school staff **who** tend to consider lightly the impact of the disease. Children complain too that they often thought to be pretending an attack in order to miss lessons.

**QUESTIONS**

1. Where are you most likely to find this text? Underline the correct answer.

- a newspaper
- a diary
- a medical journal

2. What is the writer trying to prove by comparing countries like Finland and Sweden with others like Albania and Romania?

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3. Find **two phrases** of not more than three words each from Paragraphs A and B of the passage which show that no one is really certain of what causes asthma.

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4. The following phrases refer to particular paragraphs in the text. Write down the letter of the appropriate paragraph next to each phrase.

- a. How to help an asthma sufferer during an attack .....
- b. What may cause asthma .....
- c. Uncertainty about asthma .....
- d. Indications of an asthma attack .....

5. What do the following words refer to in the text?

a. it (line 2)	f. it (line 12)
b. those (line 5)	g. they (line 20)
c. It (line 6)	h. This (line 22)
d. many (line 8)	i. them (line 28)
e. whose (line 11)	j. who (line 30)

6. State whether the following are True (T) or False (F) and give a reason for your answer.

- a. Asthma has come into existence in recent times. ( )  
because .....
- b. Asthma only strikes children who live in industrialised areas. ( )  
because .....
- c. It is unlikely that asthma may be passed on from one generation to another. ( )  
because .....
- d. Eating habits may also trigger off an asthma attack. ( )  
because .....

7. List **four things adults** must do if they are with a child that is suffering from an asthma attack.

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8. Mention three ways in which asthma negatively affects children's life at school.

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