

MATURITÄTSPRÜFUNGEN 2008

ENGLISCH – 3 Std.

Maturandin, Maturand (Name, Vorname)

Klasse 4 Mc – js

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The test consists of five parts.

The time allowed is three hours (180 minutes).

No dictionaries or other forms of aid are allowed.

Write all the answers in the spaces provided in this copy.

Do not take the copy apart.

If you need additional paper (e.g. for the essay), make sure ***you hand in ALL your papers and make sure your name is clearly written on all of them!***

Writing must be in ink or ballpoint pen, pencils are not allowed.

These are the parts, their value towards the final mark and the recommended times:

1	Listening Comprehension	10% of final mark	10 minutes
2	Reading Comprehension	20%	30 minutes
3	Use of English incl. Tenses	30%	60 minutes
4	Translation	20%	40 minutes
5	Essay	20%	40 minutes

Good luck!

PART 1: LISTENING COMPREHENSION**14 POINTS**

*You are going to hear 7 situations of speech or dialogue.
You will hear each recording twice.*

1. Listen to these two people. What's happened?
a) There's been an accident.
b) Someone has broken into their car.
c) Their house has been burgled.

2. Listen to these two women. Where are they?
a) in a dry-cleaner's shop
b) in a clothes shop
c) in the cloakroom of a theatre

3. You are staying with a friend. What does she ask you to do?
a) take a message
b) take delivery of a parcel
c) take a package to the post office

4. Listen to this woman talking about the skiing instruction she received on holiday. what didn't she like about it?
a) The instructor was too young.
b) The instruction wasn't enjoyable.
c) She didn't improve her skiing at all.

5. You hear this conversation in a shop. What kind of shop is it?
a) a hairdresser's shop
b) a clothes shop
c) a furniture shop

6. Listen to this woman describing how she made a big change in her life. what did she decide to do?
a) to take an educational course
b) to get a job
c) to leave her home and family

7. Listen to this radio travel report. What is the subject?
a) roads
b) railways
c) flights

Assessment Listening Comprehension:

_____ / 14 points

mark: _____

PART 2: READING COMPREHENSION**25 POINTS****Annotations**

line 5:	<i>to haunt</i>	to return repeatedly to the mind of s.o.
line 13:	<i>to endow</i>	to provide s.o. naturally with
line 13:	<i>stick-to-itiveness</i>	attitude of continuing doing sth. in spite of difficulties
line 28:	<i>to stifle</i>	to suppress
line 40:	<i>zest</i>	excitement, great enjoyment
line 40:	<i>quest</i>	search or pursuit

«The American Spirit of Discovery and Invention»

Thomas A. Edison, inventor of the electric light bulb, the phonograph and the movies, is the patron saint of the American inventive spirit. If you needed a device to light up the night, to record sound to capture people in motion, he could provide it. He was a genius at reaching the clear and simple goal.

5 When we think of the future of the space venture, we are inspired – and haunted – by Edison’s classically American example. We are tempted to forget the difference between the world of Discovery into which the space venture has plunged us and the familiar American world of Invention. And there is a world of difference. The inventor must have a talent – and a weakness – for tunnel vision. He must be able to fix his eyes on a single goal – a lamp that will glow with electricity, a horseless carriage, a way of carrying messages with a wire or without. Whatever the cost to himself or his family, he cannot let himself be distracted. We Americans have been richly endowed with this inventor spirit, Edison’s virtue of stick-to-itiveness.

10 But our fantastic success as inventors must not make us forget that there would no U.S. today if our ancestors had not been discoverers, alert to the unexpected. In the eyes of 15th-century Europe, these American continents had no right to be here. The pioneers who went west from Connecticut and Massachusetts to Independence, Mo., hastened then across what the maps labeled “Great American Desert” toward their clear objective on the West Coast. But their followers would discover the breadbasket of the nation, which was on nobody’s map. There, too, would be a gold mine, an oil reservoir and a vast land resource that made possible land-grant universities, which would transform higher education from an aristocratic privilege to every citizen’s right. But these features of the American West were on nobody’s agenda.

15 As we advance the space venture, powerful forces tempt us to the inventor’s rather than the discoverer’s frame of mind. Spectacular success at inventing devices to accomplish clear and simple goals – from sewing machines and phonographs to ball point pens and computers – has stifled enthusiasm for the unexpected. At the same time, the conquest and citifying of the continent have erased the grand open-air landscapes for discovery. Discoverers have been forced indoors, to find- or make – their Dark Continents in the laboratory.

20 Outer space is a New Outdoors, a cosmic America, full of the infinite unexpected. Still, we are tempted to translate all our grand enterprises into objects of invention. The deafening question, “Is it cost-effective?” substitutes the accountant’s calculation for the adventurer’s imagination.

25 “Be prepared for the unexpected” must be the motto of great enterprises of Discovery, of which the space venture can be the greatest. To make the most of it, we

40 must free ourselves from obsession with desired goals. We must recapture the hope and capacity for surprise. The god of cost-effectiveness imprisons us in a world of déjà vu. We must recapture the zest for quest.

(U.S. News & World Report, September 26, 1988)

A) Questions on the text: circle the most appropriate statement _____ / 16 points

- 1) The author thinks Thomas A. Edison's most outstanding quality was
 - a) that he could provide any device that was needed.
 - b) that he never lost sight of his goal.
 - c) that he didn't let himself be distracted by his family.
- 2) The author is afraid that the Americans
 - a) lose Edison's virtue of stick-to-itiveness.
 - b) don't follow Edison's classically American example.
 - c) let themselves be led too much by Edison's example.
- 3) According to the text, the main difference between *Invention* and *Discovery* is
 - a) cost-effectiveness
 - b) not being open to surprise
 - c) being afraid of failure
- 4) The first pioneers who went west and hastened across the "Great American Desert" were
 - a) not true discoverers according to the author's definition
 - b) true discoverers' according to the author's definition
 - c) both discoverers and inventors
- 5) The discovery of gold mines and oil reservoirs was the result of
 - a) being prepared for the unexpected
 - b) careful planning and execution
 - c) pure luck
- 6) Today's discoverers' have been forced indoors because of
 - a) there have been spectacular successes at inventing devices
 - b) new landscapes for discovery could only be found in the laboratory
 - c) the risk of skin cancer has increased
- 7) To advance the space venture
 - a) a discoverer's frame of mind is needed
 - b) an inventor's frame of mind is needed
 - c) both frames of mind are equally needed
- 8) The greatest threat to exploring Outer Space is
 - a) not defining desired goals
 - b) not listening to the accountant's calculations
 - c) not being open to the adventurer's imagination

B) Vocabulary

_____ / 9 points

Find suitable synonyms for the underlined expressions:

- 1) line 4: .. and simple goal.....
- 2) line 9: .. must have a talent.....
- 3) line 22: .. which would transform
- 4) line 25: .. as we advance
- 5) line 34/35: .. substitutes the accountant's calculation.....

Give antonyms:

- 6) line 9: a weakness.....
- 7) line 14: success.....
- 8) line 21: possible.....
- 9) line 38: desired.....

Assessment Reading Comprehension:

_____ / 25 points

mark: _____

PART 3A: TENSES & VERB FORMS**47 POINTS**

Read this traditional story from northern Canada. Put the verbs in brackets into the appropriate forms.

Even today, nobody 1. _____ (know) how long the Eskimos
2. _____ (live) in northern Canada on the shores of the Arctic Ocean. Their life
3. _____ (must usually be) very hard and although it
4. _____ (become) a little easier with the arrival of electricity and other modern
conveniences, it 5. _____ (still/dominate) by the harsh climate and the
need to hunt for food.

Before the time of supermarkets and imported food, in winter the only way
6. _____ (get) fresh meat 7. _____ (be/kill) a seal. Seals
8. _____ (spend) most of their time swimming in the water under the ice but
from time to time they 9. _____ (have) to put their noses through a hole in the
ice so that they can breathe. This 10. _____ (be) the moment when a patient
hunter could strike at the seal with his weapon, a harpoon. This story
11. _____ (be) about one of these hunters. 12. _____ (You/sit)
comfortably? Then I 13. _____ (begin).

One day an old man 14. _____ (go) seal hunting on the ice a short distance
from the land. Near to his chosen hunting spot there 15. _____ (be) a steep
cliff, on top of which there 16. _____ (be) a high bank of snow. Below this cliff
some children 17. _____ (laugh) and 18. _____ (shout) while they 19.
_____ (play) a game.

The hunter 20. _____ (wait) silently and motionlessly beside a breathing hole
where he 21. _____ (see) a seal the day before. For a long time nothing 22.
_____ (happen); then he 23. _____ (hear) the sound of a seal 24.
_____ (breathe). Just as he 25. _____ (raise) his harpoon, ready to
strike, the silence 26. _____ (break)! The noise of the children playing at the
foot of the cliff 27. _____ (distract) the old man and 28.
_____ (must warn) the seal, which 29. _____ (escape).

The old hunter now 30. _____ (call) upon his magic powers. He
31. _____ (speak) to the spirits which 32. _____ (bring) bad luck:
'When the children 33. _____ (shout) again, send snow to bury them!'
Suddenly, an avalanche of snow 34. _____ (fall) from the top of the cliff and
35. _____ (swallow) the children. Their cries 36. _____ (hear) for a
long time, but gradually they 37. _____ (grow) weaker until at last everyone 38.
_____ (be) silent.

When the parents of the children 39. _____ (realise) what
40. _____ (happen), they 41. _____ (want) revenge. Just as they 42.
_____ (go) to catch him, the old man 43. _____ (call) upon his magic
powers one last time and 44. _____ (lift) himself into the air. The parents 45.
_____ (watch) him rise into the sky and turn into a shooting star. On a clear
night, if you 46. _____ (look) carefully, you
47. _____ (still/see) the old man running away across the sky.

PART 3B: USE OF ENGLISH**113 POINTS****1. Conditionals****_____ / 17 points**

1. If she _____ angry, she usually _____ up her hotel room.
(get; mess)
2. If you _____ for something to do, _____ the plants in the garden! (look; water)
3. As a rule, coloured clothes _____ if you _____ them in the sun for too long. (fade; leave)
4. We _____ sooner if the workmen _____ up the road on our way here. (arrive; not dig)
5. If I _____ you, I _____ them this week. (be; not visit)
6. He _____ the result now if he _____ the football match on TV. (know; watch)
7. If only we _____ go home now! (can)
8. We _____ go shopping before dinner if she _____ soon.
(can not; not come)
9. If they _____ this match, they _____ the trophy. (win; give [passive])

2. Reported Speech**_____ / 16 points**

Change the sentence from direct to reported/indirect speech. Change verb, subject, tense, prepositions and place where needed.

1. "I left my jacket here yesterday."
He said _____
2. "You should take as much water as you can carry."
He advised us _____
3. "I must get something to eat or I'll faint."
She told me that _____
4. "Shall I write down your name as well?"
She asked me if _____

5. "Get out and take your stuff with you!"
He ordered me _____
6. "I'm taking the car today."
He said _____
7. "I'm a very shy person."
She always says _____
8. "Tijuana is a Mexican border town."
Our tour guide said _____

3. Gerund or Infinitive?

_____ / 16 points

Complete the sentences in this exercise, using the correct form of the verb in brack-ets. Add a preposition where necessary.

1. I enjoyed _____ (be) with my family at the lake last summer.
2. My parents can't afford _____ (pay) all of my college expenses.
3. Sally, would you mind _____ (mail) this letter on your way home?
4. She'll never get used _____ (be) a housewife.
5. He offered _____ (work) for me tonight because I feel awful.
6. Did she even consider _____ (accept) his marriage proposal?
7. Don't forget _____ (lock) all of the doors before you go to bed.
8. Why do you keep _____ (ask) me the same question again and again?
9. We have decided _____ (look) for another apartment. We don't like our neighbours.
10. Let's get together tonight. I want _____ (talk) about _____ (open) a new business.
11. Are you really looking forward _____ (go) to Canberra?
12. I would love _____ (go) to tonight's concert, but I've got work _____ (do).
13. Didn't she use _____ (be) one of the singers of the group?
14. Most children can't wait _____ (open) their presents on their birthday.

4. Active and Passive

_____ / 8 points

Change the sentences from an active to a passive form. Only add an agent were necessary. Write whole sentences.

1. Some painters are painting Mr. Rivera's apartment this week.

2. Many of the people in the neighbourhood grew vegetables.

3. The news truly shocked me.

4. Anita had already fixed the chair.

5. Did the Italians invent gunpowder?

6. Do the police know his whereabouts?

7. His friends say that he is an outstanding cook.

8. People believe that he is the murderer.

5. Adverb or Adjective?

_____ / 12 points

Complete the text by making an adjective or adverb from each word given in capitals.

Start an 1) _____ new career today!

EXCITE

Learn how to edit and proofread 2) _____

ACCURACY

and 3) _____ in our certificated four-day

FAST

courses. Our team of 4) _____ experienced and

HIGH

5) _____ tutors will help you to acquire the

ENTHUSIASM

6) _____ skills which will open doors for you.

PROFESSION

Our courses will offer you the chance to learn and practise

on a 7) _____ basis. Correspondence courses

DAY

are also 8) _____ worldwide. And the price is

AVAIL

- 9) _____ low! Does all this sound INCREDIBLE
 10) _____ to you? Well, if you are ATTRACT
 11) _____ , give us a ring or drop us a line INTEREST
 12) _____ to ask for your sample pack and IMMEDIATE
 application form.

6. Phrasal Verbs

_____ / 15 points

Fill in the gaps. Choose from the box and put into the correct form. Add a pronoun where necessary.

call for	come across	come on	doze off	drop out of	fall out	get down
get on with	go about	make up	join in	put on	pull out	sort out
stand for	take aback	talk into	tell apart	took off	went off	

- I must go on a diet. I _____ a lot of weight while I was on holiday.
- We were _____ when we saw how much he had changed.
- So you've passed your driving test! This _____ a celebration!
- I try to be friendly but it's hard to _____ some of my colleagues.
- I'd better take one of my pills. I think I've got a headache _____.
- The plane _____ and was soon flying high over the town.
- What do the initials LTP _____?
- As they're identical twins, it's difficult to _____.
- One of them was injured so the team had to _____ the competition.
- That's not the way to solve the problem. You're _____ the wrong way.
- Suddenly the fire alarm _____ and everyone had to leave the building.
- She's so depressed. All these problems are really _____.
- He _____ as a quiet, thoughtful person.
- I'm not going – so don't try to _____ me _____ going!
- A car suddenly _____ in front of me and I couldn't stop in time.

7. Prepositions**_____ / 14 points**

Complete the text using the correct prepositions.

Whenever I see a newspaper lying _____ the ground beside a door, I think of Fred. A few years ago, Fred had to travel to a meeting and his flight was delayed for several hours because of bad weather. _____ the time he got to his hotel it was past midnight. Once in his room, he felt really tired so he just undressed and got _____ bed. _____ some point _____ the night, he had to get up and go to the bathroom. He wasn't really awake and it was very dark, but he could see a light _____ the bathroom door, so he walked _____ the light. He opened the bathroom door and went in. The bright light blinded him for a moment. As the door closed _____ him, he vaguely wondered why there was a doormat on the bathroom floor. Facing him was another door _____ a number on it. It was number 325. That was strange. Then he realized he wasn't in the bathroom. He was in the corridor. He turned to go back _____ his room, but the door was locked. And he was naked. He heard voices coming from the far end of the corridor. What was he going to do? Then he noticed a newspaper on the mat _____ the door _____ number 325. He quickly grabbed the newspaper and held it in front of him as a man and a woman in dark uniforms came _____ the corridor towards him. The man said, 'Good morning, sir. Having a bit of a trouble?' They were security guards. Fred explained his embarrassing situation and they opened his door for him. He thanked them as if they had just saved his life. After they left, he opened his door, made sure it wouldn't close again, stepped _____ the corridor and put the newspaper back on the floor outside number 325. Someone else might need that newspaper.

8. Relative Clauses

_____ / 15 points

Put in the correct Relative Pronoun and insert Commas where necessary.

1. The Prime Minister _____ was appointed just last week made no comment on the situation.
2. Isn't that the spot _____ the accident happened last night?
3. The human brain _____ weighs about 1400 grammes is ten times the size of a baboon's.
4. There are several reasons _____ I don't want to see Michael tonight.
5. This is the office _____ I work.
6. The new girl in our class _____ name is Alexandra seems really nice.
7. The Titanic _____ people said was unsinkable sank on her maiden voyage.
8. All the people to _____ the e-mail was sent replied.
9. I've got a webcam _____ takes really clear pictures.
10. There were none of my favourite biscuits left when I had a cup of tea _____ was really annoying.

Assessment Use of English incl. Tenses:

_____ / 160 points

mark: _____

PART 4: TRANSLATION

Do not translate words in [...].

«Wie man sich zu Hause amüsiert»

Es gibt gewisse Dinge im amerikanischen Leben, denen ich selber kaum widerstehen kann. Unter diesen ist zweifellos der Müllschlucker (Schlucker = disposal) das raffinierteste (raffiniert=intriguing). Ein Müllschlucker ist alles, was ein Arbeit sparendes Gerät sein sollte, aber selten ist – lärmig, Spass, äusserst gefährlich, und so verblüffend gut in dem was es tut, dass man sich bald nicht [mehr] vorstellen kann, wie man je ohne auskommen konnte.

Ich habe noch nie einen Müllschlucker besessen, [und] so, während der vergangenen Monate, erforsche ich seine Funktionen durch systematisches Ausprobieren (trial and error). Ich habe verschiedene Gegenstände in seinen Rachen gestopft und gespannt (anxious) gewartet, ob er sie schlucken oder in mein Gesicht zurück werfen würde. Ich habe herausgefunden, dass Essstäbchen (chopsticks) ein munteres Knirschen (crunch) erzeugen wenn sie von den sich drehenden Messern zerhackt werden. Obwohl dies nicht empfohlen wird, gibt es immer einen bestimmten Augenblick, wo man einfach herausfinden muss, was eine Maschine wirklich (tun) kann.

Kaffeersatz (Satz=grounds) in grossen Mengen erzeugen wahrscheinlich den am zufrieden stellendsten Vulkaneffekt. Aus offensichtlichen Gründen sollte man dieses Experiment nicht durchführen bis ihre Ehefrau das Haus für den Rest des Tages verlassen hat. Ebenso tut man besser daran, genügend Tücher und eine Leiter bereit zu halten. Das aufregendste Erlebnis mit einem Müllschlucker ist, wenn er verstopft (sich verstopfen=to jam) und man seine Hand hineinstecken muss, wohl wissend, dass er jeden Augenblick losgehen (=to spring to life) kann.

Wer sagt, es gibt keinen Nervenkitzel [plural] im Leben zu Hause?

(adapted from Bill Bryson, Notes from a Big Country)

247 words

