



Native English Lycée Section
Sample Entrance Test
SECONDE

2 hours

Name _____

Score ___/70

Part 1 Comprehension and Expression

Read **Text A**, and then answer **Questions 1(a)–1(e)**.

Text A: Project Mammoth

This text is an article about a new scientific project.

Of all the incredible possibilities presented by controversial new scientific techniques, perhaps the most intriguing are efforts to bring animals back from extinction. Candidates for 'de-extinction', as the process is known, include species like the passenger pigeon (the last one died in captivity in 1914) and the dodo (last seen in 1662).

These projects are not just distant dreams.

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Scientists working on such projects estimate that a variation of the first new woolly mammoth (which disappeared some 4 000 years ago) may soon be born. They hope these animals will play a role in slowing or reversing the effects of climate change.

The basic idea behind how it would work is that scientists would first retrieve DNA from the remains of a woolly mammoth that had been preserved for centuries in the frozen tundra¹ and use that to alter the DNA of modern Asian elephants. According to scientists, the two species are so closely related that if mammoths were alive today they could successfully breed with elephants. Tweaking the Asian elephants' DNA to more closely resemble that of their ancient relatives could mean elephants might be able to give birth to a furrrier, fattier hybrid.

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Scientists say this work is decidedly not about creating Mammoth Park – the creature would not be a perfect copy of a mammoth anyway. The hope is that these mammoth-like Asian elephants will be more resistant to cold and will repopulate the tundra and coniferous forest in Eurasia and North America. Scientists feel that this will help to protect endangered Asian elephants and revive an ancient grassland in the tundra, which could prevent the melting of Siberia's permafrost.

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The project is not without its critics who claim the idea is no more than a gimmick, seducing scientists into thinking they are saving the world and distracting us from guaranteeing our planet's biodiversity for future generations with promises of being able to fix mistakes later.

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Scientists defending the idea explain, 'We're just bringing DNA back from the past to improve modern survival and diversity. The Asian elephant faces threats to its existence – it's going extinct, just like the mammoth did, and mainly because of humans. Bits of mammoth DNA can give them a better chance of survival.'

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¹ **tundra**: a vast treeless plain in the Arctic where the subsoil is permanently frozen

Read **Text A, *Project Mammoth***, in the insert and then answer **Questions 1(a)–(e)** on this question paper.

Question 1

(a) Give **two** examples of extinct species (other than the mammoth) according to the text.

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- [1]

(b) Using your own words, explain what the text means by:

(i) 'candidates for "de-extinction"' (line 2): [2]

(ii) 'not just distant dreams.' (line 5): [2]

(c) Re-read paragraph 3, ('Scientists working on such projects ... climate change.').

Give **two** reasons why scientists might be excited by the possible birth of a woolly mammoth.

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- [2]

(d) Re-read paragraphs 4 and 5, ('The basic idea ... Siberia's permafrost.').

(i) Identify **two** main tasks that scientists will need to complete in order to breed the hybrid.

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- [2]

(ii) Explain why Asian elephants were chosen for Project Mammoth.

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..... [3]

(e) Re-read paragraphs 6 and 7, ('The project is not without ... chance of survival.').

Using your own words, explain why some people disagree with Project Mammoth.

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..... [3]

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Part 2 : Grammar

A. Answer all of the questions below by filling in the missing word/s in the sentence that follows each question.

Note:

You may need to include several words in some of the sentences.

The first sentence has been completed for you.

a) *When did you first meet John?*

I first met him when he was a teenager.

1. Do you know this city well?

No, I _____ here long.

2. When did the accident happen?

He _____ the road, when it happened.

3. Have you seen Mavis?

I last _____ her when I _____ on my way to school.

4. Is Sandy always that quiet?

No, when she _____ with her friends she tends
_____ more

5. Have you been waiting long?

No, I _____ arrived.

6. Did you watch the news last night?

No, I _____ television for a whole week.

7. How long ago did you speak to him?

I _____ in about 5 years.

8. Do you like this drawing?

No, I prefer the one you _____ last week.

9. What is your date of birth?

I _____ on 9th September 2006.

10. When did you marry Paul?

We _____ married for so long, I can't recall the exact date.

- B. Complete the following sentences using one of these words: should, must, might, can't, or could. In some sentences, you might need to insert 'should have', 'must have', 'might have' etc. You might also have to use the negative form (shouldn't have, mustn't have etc.)**

For *all* the sentences, you will need to add the correct form of the verb in brackets.

The first sentence has been completed for you.

a) *You look tired. You shouldn't have stayed (stay) up so late.*

1. I heard them talking all night. You _____ (hear) them too.
2. I feel sick. I _____ (eat) so much.
3. This bus is too crowded. We _____ (take) the next one.
4. The old man fell over in the middle of the street. Someone _____ (help) him.
5. If you start flicking through the magazine in the shop, you _____ (pay) for it.
6. If we don't do it now, we _____ (regret) it later.
7. You _____ (speak) to him so rudely. He didn't deserve that.
8. It's not snowing at the moment, but it _____ (snow) later this afternoon.
9. If you keep arriving late, you _____ (buy) an alarm clock.
10. You spent such a long time in Italy, you _____ (learn) to speak the language?
11. You're late! You _____ (take) the back roads. The motorway is so much quicker.

12. I knew the answer to the maths question so, instead of struggling with it, you _____ (ask) me.

C. Complete the following sentences using one of these words or phrases: despite, although, instead of, in spite of, even though or however. You may use each word/phrase more than once, if necessary.

1. _____ feeling tired, he refused to go to bed.

2. _____ it's late, I think we should stay to help clean away the mess.

3. He decided to go for a walk, _____ the miserable weather.

4. She stood up on stage and sang her song out loud to the audience, _____ feeling extremely nervous.

5. _____ she sang off key, the audience clapped enthusiastically.

6. He ran the rest of the way home, _____ feeling like

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Part 3 Composition

Answer **one** question from part 3

Write about 350 to 450 words on **one** of the following questions. Answer on this question paper.

Up to 16 marks are available for the content and structure of your answer, and up to 24 marks for the style and accuracy of your writing.

EITHER

Descriptive Writing

2 Describe what you see, hear and feel as you board a crowded bus.

OR

Descriptive Writing

3 Write a description of an object you own which is important to you.

OR

Narrative Writing

4 Write a narrative about preparing for an important event.

OR

Narrative Writing

5 Write a narrative with the title, 'The Spiral'.

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Dotted lines for writing

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