

## BA Language Exam: Use of English - Sample of Task Item-types / Mock Exam with Key

Task 1: In each group of three expressions, there is one which does NOT fit the context. Circle the letter of this expression in the column on the right. Remember to circle the letter of the **WRONG** expression, as in the example (0).

<p>Mongolia is <b>0 (a) known (b) called (c) referred to</b> fondly as the Land of Blue Sky by those who live here, <b>1 (a) however (b) but (c) except</b> in the winter months the capital Ulan Bator is often shrouded in dense smoke. The city lies in a valley <b>2 (a) enveloped (b) surrounded (c) ringed</b> by mountains, so grey clouds of smoke can get trapped between them and shroud the city for hours <b>3 (a) on end (b) at a time (c) together</b>. Entire buildings disappear from view in some areas because of the smoke, and airlines often blame <b>4 (a) no (b) bad (c) poor</b> visibility when they cancel or delay international flights in and out. The smoke can make it hard to breathe and it's <b>5 (a) hurting (b) damaging (c) affecting</b> the health of Ulan Bator's burgeoning population.</p>	<p><b>0</b>    A    <b>(B)</b>    C  <b>1</b>    A    B    C  <b>2</b>    A    B    C  <b>3</b>    A    B    C  <b>4</b>    A    B    C  <b>5</b>    A    B    C</p>	

Task 2: Each of the numbered gaps in the following text can be filled with one word. Write the word next to the number of the gap in the column on the right, as in the example (0). Use only ONE word in each box.

<p>Playing new style computer games can help people burn up <b>0</b> --- significant amount of calories, research has found. Games consoles such as Nintendo Wii require players <b>6</b> -- _ use body movements to control the action. A study <b>7</b>. -- _ scientists from Liverpool John Moores University found regular use could help shift 27lb (12.25kg) a year. <b>8</b> -- _ study was carried out to establish <b>9</b> --- computer games can contribute to the daily activity recommendations <b>10</b> --- children.</p>	<p><b>0</b>    <i>a</i></p> <p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>10</b></p>	

Task 3: In most of the lines of this article there is one extra word. It is either grammatically incorrect or does not fit in with the sense of the text. Read the text and then copy the extra word in the numbered box after each line. Some lines are correct. Indicate these lines with a tick (ü). The task begins with two examples (0).

<p><b>0</b>    A draft UN treaty to determine <u>that</u> what would have to be done</p>	<p><b>0</b>    <i>that</i></p>	
<p><b>0</b>    if a giant asteroid were on a collision course with earth is to be</p>	<p><b>0</b>    <i>ü</i></p>	
<p><b>11</b>    drawn up this year. The document would set out for global</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	

12 policies including then who should be in charge of	12	
13 plans to deflect any object. It is the brainchild of	13	
14 the Association of Space Explorers, which a professional	14	
15 body for astronauts, cosmonauts and others in the field.	15	

Task 4: In the following text, the underlined words are in the wrong form for their context. Write the correct forms for the context in the numbered boxes on the right, as in the example (0).

<p>A new version of William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream now playing in London shows how globalisation has affected even the most time-honoured literary works. This <u>0</u> ----- (<b>produce</b>) features actors from South Asia, with much of the dialogue not in English - but the director insists the playwright would approve. In the 1990s Tim Supple secured his reputation running the Young Vic theatre in London. But (<b>16 react</b>) to some of his later projects was less positive and he admitted that he needed a new direction. Then came an (<b>17 expect</b>) offer from the Delhi offices of the British Council: come to India and direct something. Mr Supple came up with the idea of touring A Midsummer Night's Dream with an all-Indian cast. A four-city tour started in Delhi in April 2006 and was followed by a dozen (<b>18 perform</b>) in the UK in Shakespeare's birthplace of Stratford-upon-Avon. The critics loved it, and this week's opening of one of Shakespeare's most exotic works at the Roundhouse in London represents the first big (<b>19 commerce</b>) run for the production. Only about half the dialogue is in English - the rest is in a mixture of Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Sinhalese, Malayalam, Marathi and Sanskrit. Mr Supple says the linguistic mix was never a big concept, simply the result of having (<b>20 perform</b>) from so many parts of India.</p>	0 <i>production</i> .....	
	16.....	
	17.....	
	18.....	
	19.....	
	20.....	

Task 5: Decide which clauses or phrases in the list (A-G) fit into the numbered gaps (1-5) in the following text. Note that there is one more clause or phrase than you need. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

<p>Rosa Kuleshova can see with her fingers. She is not blind, <u>0</u> --- she learnt to read braille to help them and then went on to teach herself to do other things with her hands. In 1962 her physician took her to Moscow, <u>21</u> --- and emerged as a celebrity, certified as genuine. The neurologist Schaefer made an extensive study with her and concluded that,</p>	0	C	
	21		
	22		

securely blindfolded <b>22 ---</b> , she could differentiate among three primary colours. To test the possibility <b>23 ---</b> , he heated some and cooled others, without affecting her response to them. He also found that she could read newsprint and sheet music through glass, <b>24 --</b> <b>z</b> . Tested by the psychologist Novomesky, she was able to identify the colour and shape of patches of light <b>25 ---</b> .			
	<b>23</b>		
	<b>24</b>		
	<b>25</b>		

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| A. although many blind people can do the same            | E. so texture was giving her no clues                      |
| B. and with only her arms stuck through a screen         | F. that the cards reflected heat differently               |
| C. <del>but growing up in a family of blind people</del> | G. where she was examined by the Soviet Academy of Science |
| D. projected onto her hands and onto a glass screen      |  |

Task 6: Rewrite the following sentences **using the word in brackets**, so that the new sentence means the same as the old one. Do not change the form of the given word. (2 points for each correct answer). There is an example (0) at the beginning.

<b>0.</b> <i>I want to go to London or Perth, but I don't know which. [whether]</i> <i>...I don't know whether to go to London or Perth.....</i>		
<b>26/7.</b> They didn't let me take my scissors onto the 'plane with me. [allowed] I .....		
<b>28/9.</b> I'm afraid all the computers are infected by the same virus [each] I'm afraid .....		
<b>30/1.</b> Jack wanted to borrow my car. [lend] Jack .....		
<b>32/3.</b> Fred ate more biscuits than Mary. [so] Mary .....		
<b>34/5.</b> I am absolutely sure that Jasper stole your plums. [bound] Jasper .....		

Task 7: Fill the gap in each unfinished sentence so that it means the same as the sentence before it. (2 points for each correct answer). There is an example (0) at the beginning.

<b>0.</b> <i>I have never seen such a completely useless invention</i> <i>Never .... have I seen such a completely useless .....invention.</i>		
<b>36/7.</b> Even if you wait for a very, very long time, she'll never marry you. However ..... you.		
<b>38/9.</b> "Why don't you buy a new dictionary?" Jill said to me. Jill advised ..... dictionary.		
<b>40/1.</b> The film will begin before we get to the cinema. By ..... begun.		
<b>42/3.</b> It's only because I won a scholarship that I'm studying in Tokyo now. If ..... now.		

44/5. People say that Napoleon's doctors poisoned him.  
**Napoleon is** ..... doctors.

Task 8: Complete the following sentences with one word in each space. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

0. *I ought to report you to the police. ...**However**..... , you are my best friend, so I won't.*
46. I don't want to go out; I'd ..... stay at home and watch TV.
47. Don't walk along the top of the cliff ..... you have a very good head for heights.
48. Your friend Jenny is very unpopular: nobody ..... from you likes her.
49. Stop talking and pay ..... to what I'm saying, please!
50. Carruthers strongly ..... killing the old lady. "I didn't do it!" he repeated.

KEY:

Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5
1: C	6: to	11: for	16: reaction	21: G
2: A	7: by	12: then	17: unexpected	22: B
3: C	8: The	13: ü	18: performances	23: F
4: A	9: if/whether/how	14: which	19: commercial	24: E
5: A	10: for	15: ü	20: performers	25: D

NB Tasks 6 and 7 contain "double items" in which each answer is worth a maximum of two points - hence the odd-looking numbering system and the double marking-boxes on the right of the test paper. During correcting/marking ONLY the underlined parts of the key sentences are considered, and one point is awarded for each correct section between vertical lines.

**Task 6**

- 26/7: I wasn't allowed to take my scissors onto the plane.
- 28/9: Each computer/of the computers is infected by the same virus.
- 30/1: Jack wanted me to lend him my car.
- 32/3: Mary didn't eat so many biscuits as Fred (did).
- 34/5: Jasper is bound to have stolen your plums.

**Task 7**

- 36/7: However long you wait , she'll never marry you.
- 38/9: Jill advised me to buy a new dictionary.
- 40/1: By the time we get/have got to the cinema the film will have begun.
- 42/3: If I hadn't won a scholarship I wouldn't be studying in Tokyo.
- 44/5: Napoleon is said to have been poisoned by his doctors.

## Task 8

46: rather  
47: unless  
48: apart  
49: attention  
50: denied

### IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. This mock/sample test includes ALL the possible item types, while the real test will include only 5 or 6, with more items of each type used.
2. The real test will be rather longer, probably with 75 items including 25 two-point items (types 6 and 7, items 26-45 in this test), and a maximum total score of 100.
3. This mock test has not gone through the same rigorous pre-testing and checking procedures as the real test will, so the overall level of difficulty is not guaranteed; nor is the quality of individual items.