

**BEZMİALEM VAKIF UNIVERSITY**

**ENGLISH PREPARATORY PROGRAMME**

**PROFICIENCY EXAM**

**NAME-SURNAME:**

**CLASS:**

**STUDENT NUMBER:**

**Section I . ( 25 pts.)**

**Part A. You are going to listen to a text called Digital Heaven. It will only be read one time. Take notes on your note-taking sheet while listening and answer your questions according to your notes. Decide if the statements are True or False. Your note-taking sheet will not be graded. Now, you have 60 seconds to read the questions. ( question 11 is 2 pts.)**

True / False

**1.** Creating a digital copy of yourself helps to keep your physical body alive. a / b

**2.** The idea is to make an electronic replica of the person. a / b

3. An electronic clone is a unique identity with self-consciousness. a / b

**4**. Within less than two decades, we will have nanotransmitters in our brains. a / b

**5**. Wires will not be needed because of nanotransmitters in our brain. a / b

**6**. Ray Kurzweil inspired the movie “Matrix “. a / b

**7**. You will be able to see the pictures in your brain rather than on a screen. a / b

**8**. Ray says your virtual self can be active in a game while your body can rest. a / b

**9**. You need a web-hosting service to live virtually on the internet. a / b

**10**. If you do not pay the money to these services, they still let you exist. a / b

**11**. Unlike Heaven, you need to pay money every year. a / b

**Part B. You are going to hear a dialogue one time. While listening, answer the questions. Now, you have 30 seconds to read the questions.**

**12**. How long will the course run this year?

a. six weeks

b. eighteen weeks

c. sixteen weeks

d. eight weeks

**13**. What was the problem last year?

a. Few people wanted to attend.

b .There were too few workers.

c. There was nothing to do on rainy days.

d. The classrooms were too small.

**14**. This year, for the first time, children will

a. do creative activities.

b. do new outdoor sports.

c. organize events.

d. have a choir for music.

**15**. Why does Molly think not many students will come this year?

a. It is too expensive for them.

b. They will do the same activities again and again.

c**.** Their parents will want to spend time with them.

d. They will be playing computer games instead

**16**. Why is it important for children to attend full weeks?

a.Parents can pay the full amount for the full weeks.

b. In this way Molly is informed about any food the child cannot eat.

c. Molly can choose the activities the child wants to do.

d. Keeping track of students' attendance becomes easier.

**Part C. You are going to hear 4 different minitalks (2 questions per minitalk). You will hear each minitalk one time only. While listening, answer the questions. Now, you have 60 seconds to read the questions.**

**17**. What is the problem the woman faces?

a. Her husband does not love her any longer.

b. Her husband's family refuses to accept her.

c. Her daughter wants $100.

d. Her husband's family did not like her gift.

**18**. What happened at Christmas?

a. Her daughter Athena was born.

b. She broke up with her husband who was neutral.

c. Her father-in-law ignored Athena.

d. She gave $100 dollars to her daughter Athena.

**19**. How did obsessive washing affect Vincent?

His hands became:

a. pure and soft.

b. clean and flawless.

c. rough and hard.

d. smooth and tender.

**20**. What is the main problem implied?

a. Children refuse to see doctors when they are sick.

b. Parents do not accept that their children have problems.

c. Mothers typically take good care of their children.

d. Washing hands brings about better health to children.

**21**. When are air planes not fuel efficient?

a. on short trips.

b. on long trips.

c. when flying over cities.

d. when flying at high altitudes.

**22**. What is the main topic of the talk?

a. Saving energy

b. A new kind of transportation

c. Strip cities

d. Advantages of air transportation

**23.** Signals from how many satellites will be used to calculate a position?

a. 1

b. 2

c. 3

d. 4

**24.** The new clock will be:

a. long-lasting

b. harmful to humans

c. produced in great numbers

d. attractive looking

**Section II. ( 0.5\*60: 25 pts.)**

**Part D. Read the text below and answer the questions.**

What does it mean to be modern?

The word "modern" is used in many different contexts in many different ways. For some people modernization was synonymous with industrialization. For others the modern world was the world of modern art and music. If we listen to the news we also hear people frequently talking about the need for developing societies to modernize, referring to things like an increasing respect for human rights, democracy and the privatization of the economy.

There is another aspect of modernity, which is often **overlooked** but which is equally revolutionary. This concerns the foundations of knowledge. Before the emergence of a more modern sensibility knowledge wasn't much of a problem. **Nobody bothered to write books about the foundations of knowledge**. The assumption was that they were obvious. For medieval Europeans the great edifice of human learning rested upon the very solid foundation of revealed Truth.

In practice, what this meant was that certain books were authoritative and unquestionable sources of knowledge, and if you wanted to come up with some new ideas you had to explain how it agreed with the ideas in those sacred texts, and if you couldn't do that you risked being arrested by the thought police and then being thrown out of the Church - what they called "excommunication" - which would mean the loss of your job and income, and so you would die a lonely, impoverished and miserable man.

In 1632 a book was published by the Frenchman Rene Descartes that undermined traditional ideas about the foundations of knowledge. It was a brave book because at the same time as Descartes was writing in Catholic France Galileo was being brought before the Catholic court in Italy to force him to publicly deny the outrageous theory that the sun, not the earth, was at the center of the universe. It was also the first of the huge number of books about knowledge that have been written in our epoch - and the first book in a whole new branch of learning: epistemology.

In his own quiet way Descartes helped to **foster** the understanding that human knowledge cannot rest upon something external to it, like the word of God. Wherever ideas come from, we have to interpret them and fit them together with the other ideas we have to ensure that everything makes as much sense as possible. The true ideas we get from the Bible or from Plato are not true simply because they came from the mouths or the pens of the apostles or Plato, rather they are true because **they** fit into the best arguments human minds can construct.

These were heretical thoughts. They undermined the idea of an authority in the sphere of human knowledge, and without that idea there was no justification for the medieval thought police of the Catholic Church. They also helped to give greater credibility to the emerging science of Copernicus and Galileo.

Arguably, they also helped pave the way for modern democracy because to be consistently Cartesian is to believe that no group of people have some privileged access to the truth - everyone is in an equally good position to criticize received wisdom and so everyone should have an equal right to have their voice heard. The attack on authority also weakened the justification for the practice of sacrificing the individual for the sake of the greater good of society, and this helped clear the ground for the modern culture of the individual.

Descartes broke with the Christian tradition in depicting the world of human cognition as something quite independent. It observes things in the world and receives stimuli, but the human mind itself provides the criteria for deciding how to make sense of those things.

There is some continuity, though. Cartesianism shares with both the Christian and the Platonic traditions a claim to universality. Both Plato and the Christian Churches believed that their ideas were valid for everyone. Plato didn't think he was just summing up what was true for the Greeks, and the Christian churches didn't think they were promoting a religion that was just for disaffected Jews, or Greeks or Ethiopians or Romans. Each ideology was proclaimed to be universal.

Descartes made the same claim about his own ideas. It does not matter if you were not born with all the innate ideas Plato talked about, and it does not matter if you do not have the faith that theology presupposes. All you need is to be able to think and to take an intellectual step back and look critically at the received wisdom you have inherited. The assumption is that everyone who does this will end up agreeing perfectly both with Descartes and with each other.

In a nutshell, as far as knowledge is concerned, the modern world began in 1632 when a new cognitive self-understanding came on the scene - an acute awareness that all our knowledge is a human artifact, combined with an optimism that if we can only free ourselves from our local intellectual prejudices we will all agree on a new and perfectly rational way of looking at the world. We are the intellectual heirs of Descartes whenever we strongly believe that there must be one ultimate theory of man, the universe and everything; that there is really only one way of being **rational**; and whenever we believe that if only people could drop the silly ideas of their peculiar traditions we would all have a great time together and there would be universal peace.

**25**. The word "**overlook**" in line 6 is closest in meaning to:

a. underline

b. underestimate

c. overrun

d. overcome

**26**. What does the writer mean in paragraph 2 by saying “**Nobody bothered to write books about the foundations of knowledge**"?

a. People were reluctant to write books.

b. Writing books about knowledge was forbidden.

c. People had no ideas about knowledge to write books.

d. Nobody had the ability to write books.

**27.** What can be inferred from paragraph 3 about the outcomes if the book does not agree with the sacred texts?

a. the author gets demotivated and loses his popularity in the society

b. the church persuades the writer to change his career and donates money

c. the author gets forced to leave the church and leads a life in misery

d. people become curious of his/her book and buy the copies

**28**. According to paragraph 4, how did Descartes’s book affect the ideas about the foundations of knowledge?

a. His book helped Galileo escape the Church's suppression

b. It turned Italy into a Catholic country

c. It refused the ideas believed to be true of the Church

d. Descartes’s book suggested that the sun was at the center

**29**. The word "**foster**" in line 25 is closest in meaning to:

a. decline

b. defect

c. determine

d. develop

**30.** What does "**they**" in line 30 refer to?

a. Bible and Plato

b. other ideas

c. Apostles

d. true ideas

**31.** According to paragraph 7, all of the statements are true of the Cartesian except:

a. Everyone has the equal right to know the truth

b. People can question the knowledge

c. One should be sacrificed for the good of the society

d. The attack on authority empowered individualism

**32.** Which of the sentences best describes the essential information that can be inferred from paragraphs 8 and 9?

a. Both Plato and the Church had different understanding to universality to that of proclaimed by Descartes.

b. Plato's universality reached beyond the ancient Greece.

c. As well as the Church, Descartes had a mutual understanding of universality with the Church.

d. Unlike Descartes, Plato and the Church never claimed their ideas were universally true.

**33.** Look at the parenthesis and decide where the following sentence can be added to the paragraph.

"In fact, he made an even stronger claim to universality."

Descartes made the same claim about his own ideas. **(a)** It does not matter if you were not born with all the innate ideas Plato talked about, and it does not matter if you do not have the faith that theology presupposes. **(b)** All you need is to be able to think and to take an intellectual step back and look critically at the received wisdom you have inherited. **(c)** The assumption is that everyone who does this will end up agreeing perfectly both with Descartes and with each other. **(d)**

**34.** The word "**rational**" in line 64 is closest in meaning to:

a. sensible

b. sensitive

c. serious

d. sustainable

**Part E. Read the text and answer the questions. ( 10 pts.)**

Death Penalty in the United States

Have you ever thought about whether the person next to you is a murderer or a rapist? If so, what would you like the government to do if s/he had killed someone you know? The death penalty in our society is not humane, and **it** helps neither solve the problem nor relieve the victims' families.   
First, people should know the history of the death penalty. The first legal executions came to the United States during the Revolutionary War against Britain. Nathan Hale was the first person hanged by British soldiers for spying (Farrell). This story is to show that if something works, why stop it. Some people said that sending murderers to death row is inhumane because these people deserve the right to live. This is true because they have the right to live but **they** have committed the heinous and horrible crimes.   
Overcrowding in prisons and jails is also a problem. Some people believe that building more prisons will solve this problem. However, the death penalty effectively stops draining more money from taxpayers to house murderers. These murderers get three meals a day, have a place to sleep but do nothing all day long, and this is only because taxpayers finance these facilities. Murderers sentenced to death do not deserve to get a place to stay. **They** deserve to get their lives taken away from them because of the heinous crimes that these criminals have done.   
Public opinion believes that the death penalty does not deter criminals from murdering people because not enough convicted murderers are being executed. A major way in which the death penalty contributes to the family could exempt if someone is killed and convicted criminals were put to death. A perfect example was when Timothy McVeigh was put to death in 2001, **which** was the first execution since 1963 (CNN.com).

In conclusion, the death penalty is not humane and persons performing this task are playing another role. In the future, many problems could be resolved, thereby the death penalty could be removed from the law of the United States.

**35**. What does “**it**” in line 3 refer to?

a. The government

b. Our society

c. The death penalty

d. The murderers

**36.** Why did the first legal execution take place in the USA?

a. The USA army lost the Revolutionary War

b. Nathan Hale ordered the death penalty

c. British soldiers were hanged to die with the death penalty

d. Nathan Hale was charged with spying

**37**. What does “**they**” in paragraph 2 line 5 refer to?

a. Some of people

b. murderers

c. Nathan Hale

d. British Soldiers

**38**. How are the taxpayers related to criminals in prisons?

a. taxpayers host the criminals in their houses

b. criminals help taxpayers financially

c. criminals are housed by the taxes of taxpayers

d. taxpayers provide three meals a day and a place to stay for criminals

**39**. What is the writer’s opinion about housing the criminals sentenced to death penalty?

a. These criminals should be provided equal facilities

b. They should be put to death

c. They should be set free

d. They should be supported financially

**40**. What does “**they**” in paragraph 3 line 6 refer to?

a. families

b. thieves

c. murderers

d. police

**41.** Why do people think that death penalty is not working?

a. The number of people being killed is inadequate.

b. The court is not working properly.

c. The families cause problems.

d. Criminals and murderers do not deserve it.

**42**. What is special about Timothy McVeigh?

a. He escaped death penalty

b. The court released him free

c. He was the first to be executed after four decades

d. He attacked CNN

**43.** What stops people from getting rid of death penalty?

a. They enjoy killing people

b. Criminals cause financial problems

c. Their arguments are overwhelming

d. They cannot find a common ground

**44.** What does “**which**” in paragraph 4 line 5 refer to?

a. Timothy McVeigh

b. Death Penalty

c. Families

d. CNN

**Part F: Read the text and find the missing sentences for the blanks and then answer the questions. ( 7 pts.)**

The next north-European ice age

There are still a few people in northern Europe who think that global warming might not be such a bad thing. In Britain, where summer can sometimes seem to last little more than a few weeks, many would welcome the idea of higher temperatures.

Unfortunately, things are not so simple. **45** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Paradoxically, it could cause certain areas to get colder - a lot colder. The latest predictions are that northern Europe could even be plunged into an ice age. While areas of south-eastern Europe, such as Greece, would continue to get hotter and drier, Britain could find itself, in the winter months at least, surrounded by sea ice.

The reason for this concerns the Greenland ice sheet. **46**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_It is so big that if it all melted sea levels would rise by 7 meters. Due to rising emissions of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide from the combustion of fossil fuels, this ice sheet is melting at an alarming rate. But how could the melting of the Greenland ice sheet threaten to plunge northern Europe into a new ice age?

The link in the chain of events is what some call the Gulf Stream and others call the Atlantic Conveyor. This is the stream of warm water that comes up from Central America and flows across the Atlantic to northern Europe. It is this huge mass of warm water which accounts for the relatively high temperatures enjoyed by Britain, for instance, compared with parts of Canada and Russia which are equally far north of the equator. Warm water is conveyed across to Europe near the surface of the Atlantic, and at its northernmost point it cools and sinks because the water from the tropics has a higher salt content, making it denser and so heavier than the water near the Arctic. **47**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Scientists are beginning to make pessimistic predictions of an impending ice age in the northern hemisphere because they have observed that the water flowing from the melting Greenland ice sheet is flowing into the path of the Gulf Stream. The water from the melted ice will reduce the density of the water in the Gulf Stream, stopping the water sinking in the north, thereby cutting off the deep southerly current, which, in turn, will cut off the northerly flow of warmer water. **48**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**a**. The cold, dense water then flows south close to the ocean floor, back towards Central and South America to complete the cycle.

**b.** Global warming does not just mean that the world will slowly get warmer.

**c.** At that point the seas around Britain will begin to freeze.

**d**. This is one of the biggest expanses of ice in the world - around 1,500km long and 600km wide.

**49**. Read the sentence below and decide which of the part of speech is wrong.

This is the A) stream of B) warm water that comes up from central C) America and

D) flows across the Atlantic to northern Europe.

a. noun

b. adverb

c. noun

d. verb

**50**. Which is a valid conclusion that could be drawn from the last paragraph?

a. Scientists are expecting a rapid ice age which will be around Greenland.

b. The water flow of the Gulf Stream is the main cause of global warming.

c. Decrease in the density of water cuts down the warmth of the Gulf Stream.

d. Only the northern hemisphere will be affected by the results of global warming.

**51.** Which of the sentences below would NOT be inferred from the passage?

a. Global warming does not necessarily mean ice and cold.

b. The ratio of warm and cold water is essential for the Earth.

c. Britain will suffer more from the global warming than Greece.

d. Studies show we need to act immediately to stop global warming.

**Part G. In each line, choose the word that is different from the others in meaning.**

**( 16 pts.)**

**52**. a) cover b) mask c) front d) cavern

**53**. a) filthy b) stingy c) dirty d) unclean

**54**. a) hint b) clue c) warranty d) implication

**55**. a) reduce b) demolish c) diminish d) decrease

**56**. a) permission b) commission c) consent d) approval

**Part H. Read the lines below and circle (a) if the line contains a mistake and circle (b) if the line is correct. ( 17 pts.)**

I’m very sorry I couldn’t come to the your leaving party last night, **57**. a / b

but I had a terrible stomach ache so I went to the doctor’s. I had to **58**. a / b

wait two hours for to see her because a lot of other people were there, **59**. a / b

but the doctor gave to me some medicine and I feel fine now. **60**. a / b

I hope you like your new job when you will get back to Italy. When **61**. a / b

you have a time please write and give me your new address so I can **62**. a / b

write to you. I would like that to keep in touch with you. **63**. a / b

I think we all enjoyed our English class and I hope we have been all **64**. a / b

passed the exam. However, I don’t think of Jorge wanted to pass the **65**. a / b

exam because he wants to stay in London with his new girlfriend, **66**. a / b

Maria. If he fails the exam, and his company will pay for him to stay **67**. a / b

at the school and take the exam again. He said to me he was in love! **68**. a / b

I’m going to stay in London for two more weeks so I can to visit all **69**. a / b

the places I haven’t seen yet. Then I’m going to go back to Moscow. **70**. a / b

**Part I .Fill in the blanks using the correct word in the box. (4 pts.)**

|  |
| --- |
| a. prevent b. speculate c. trivial d. precede e. enlighten |

**71.** The amount of work required to complete the project won’t be…………..

**72.** We can only …………why some civilizations became extinct.

**73.** He will ………….his lecture with a story.

**74.** Could you please ………….us as to why we should follow these strange rules?