

# SAMPLE

NEW ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST

ONLINE  
(NEPTON)



UNIVERSITY *of*  
NICOSIA



# NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS

1. All prospective students are required to take the University of Nicosia New English Placement Test Online (NEPTON). The purpose of this test is to place students in the appropriate level of English in order to support their academic studies at the University. The NEPTON is not a university entrance examination; previous academic performance (e.g. School Leaving Certificate) is taken into consideration with regard to university entrance requirements.

2. The number of additional courses and corresponding course loads are given in the table below:

Level of English	Hours of tuition/work	Credits	Additional course load permitted
ENGL-101 English Composition	3	3	Normal
ENGL-100 Basic Writing	3	3	Normal
BENG-100 College English	6	3	Normal
BENG-070 English Language Skills	12	2	6 credit hours
BENG-060 English for Beginners	20	1	No other credits

3. Students who have the following qualifications can take the test, but will not be placed below the level shown:

Level of English	Qualifications					
	Paper Based TOEFL	Comp. Based TOEFL	TOEFL IBT	GCE "O"/IGCSE Level	IELTS	Cambridge English Exams
ENGL - 101	550 +	213 +	79 +	A or B	6.5+	CAE Grade A or B Proficiency A or B or C
ENGL - 100	513-547	183-210	65-78	C	5.5 - 6.0	CAE Grade C Proficiency A or B

4. Students can take the NEPTON test after they officially enroll and pay the €55 application fee. Students who take part in the intensive free English language courses offered by UNIC every September may retake the test once. Students are strongly advised to attend these free intensive courses, which could help them achieve better results and thus be placed in one of the higher level English courses during their studies.

5. The New English Placement Test Online questions are randomly chosen and presented in five different forms:

- a. sentence-based multiple-choice questions on English structure and vocabulary
- b. text comprehension with dropdown menu multiple-choice questions on structure or vocabulary
- c. reading comprehension activities involving a sign and multiple-choice questions
- d. reading comprehension activities consisting of a text and four multiple-choice questions
- e. the writing task: The student is given a choice of 3 possible writing tasks and is expected to write one page on the chosen subject

# TEST SAMPLE

## 1. Choose the correct answer

What time ..... he usually get up in the morning?

- don't
- didn't
- doe's
- do
- does

## 2. Choose the correct answer

Who ..... that man? Do you know him?

- am
- are
- is
- be
- were

## 3. Choose the correct answer

Maria is my new friend at college. She ..... a great car! She drives it to college every day.

- has
- have
- haves
- having
- is having

## 4-8.

### Sally's Family

Read the passage and choose the correct answer from the selection.

Sally has two sons, Jim and Peter and one daughter, Jennifer. She 4. .... them dearly and 5. .... love her too. They often say: "We are very lucky to have a mother like her". Sally and her family live 6. .... a house by the beach. Their house is quite big. 7. .... look<sub>s</sub> after it? Jim 8. .... the vacuuming and Peter does the washing. Jennifer loves to do the shopping. Mum enjoys cooking. Everybody helps in the family.

- 4.
- love
  - loves
  - love's
  - is loving
  - loving

- 5.
- they
  - we
  - you
  - he
  - she

- 6.
- from
  - to
  - the
  - for
  - in

- 7.
- Who
  - Which
  - Why
  - How
  - Where

- 8.
- do
  - does
  - doe's
  - is doing
  - doing

## 9. Where would you see this notice?

- at a pedestrian crossing light
- in a walking field
- in a church



**10. Choose the correct answer**

Guides advise tourists to buy the local ..... in banks because they get a better exchange rate.

- currency
- current
- currant
- exchange
- monetary

**11. Choose the correct answer**

In Germany people go to work ..... seven and nine in the morning.

- amongst
- to
- between
- on
- in

**12. Choose the correct answer**

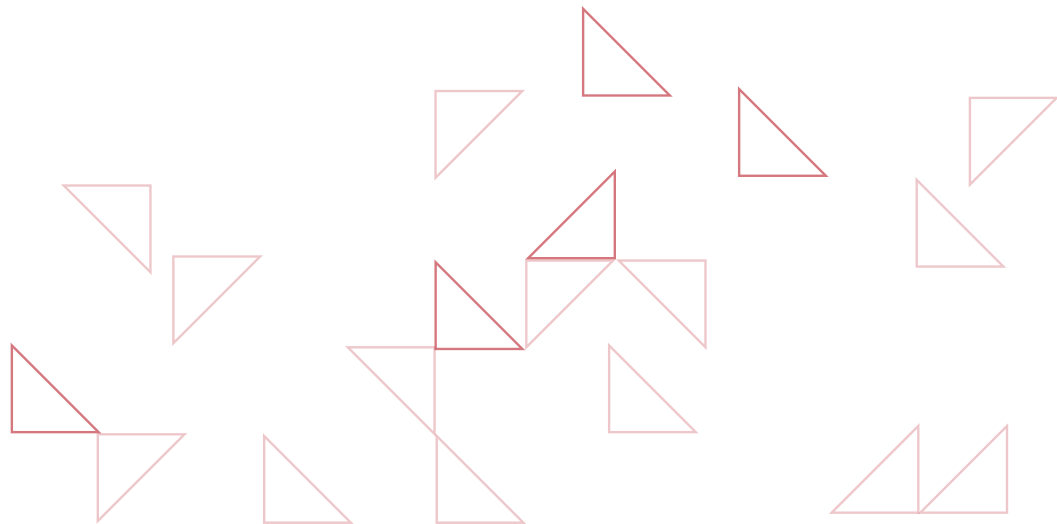
My name's Ahmet. I'm from Turkey. I like playing football and playing computer .....

- toys.
- games.
- matches.
- sport.
- activities.

**13. Choose the correct answer**

I get up ..... seven o'clock in the morning.

- on
- in
- at
- along
- under



**14-17.**  
**Friendship Corner**

**Read the Friendship Corner and choose the correct answer below each multiple-choice questions**

January 2005

Hi! My name is Trevor. I'm a twenty-three years old archaeology student from Brighton, Great Britain. I would like to write to university students of eighteen to twenty-four years of age who study archaeology. I like classical music, animals, and horror movies. I also like travelling. I hate dancing and fishing.

I'm looking forward to receiving your letter. (I don't have Internet at the moment).

Cheers,  
Trevor.

**14. Trevor is looking for penfriends who**

- study archaeology by correspondence.
- can communicate by e-mail.
- are around twenty-five years old.
- study archaeology at a university.
- can travel.

**15. Trevor likes**

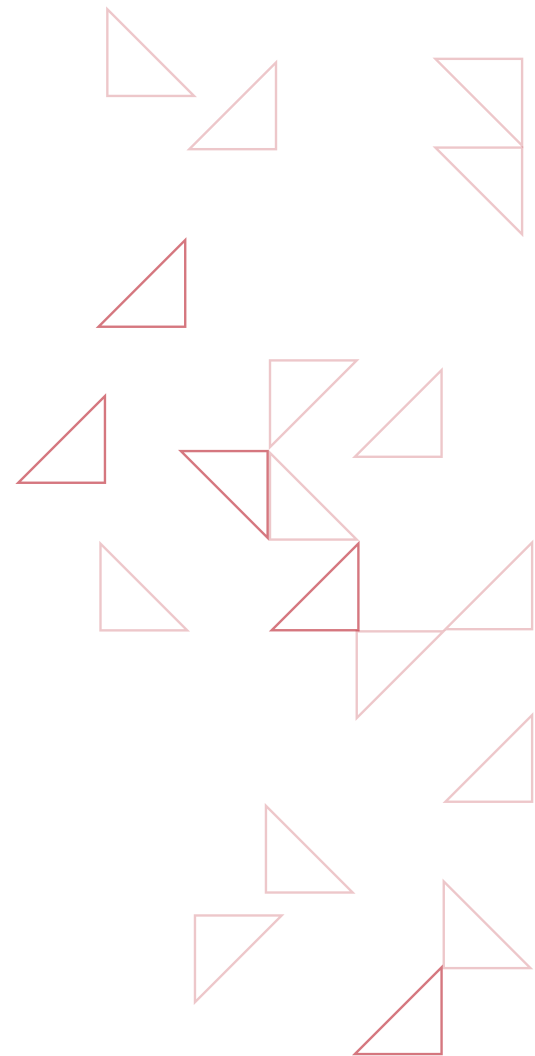
- travelling, horror movies and archaeology.
- animals and dancing.
- travelling, classical music, and the Internet.
- archaeology, England, and the university.
- writing and fishing.

**16. Trevor would like to**

- dance with university students of his age.
- correspond with university students of his age.
- travel with university students of his age.
- go to a restaurant and eat fish.
- go to Brighton in Great Britain.

**17. When he graduates, Trevor will be a qualified**

- dancer.
- travel agent.
- university writer.
- archaeologist.
- classical music composer.



**18. Choose the correct answer**

When I ..... Peter, he was with his wife.

- have met
- had met
- meet
- meeting
- met

**19. Choose the correct answer**

When Jenny retired she ..... a member of the anti-cancer society.

- became
- become
- will become
- has become
- had been become

**20. Choose the correct answer**

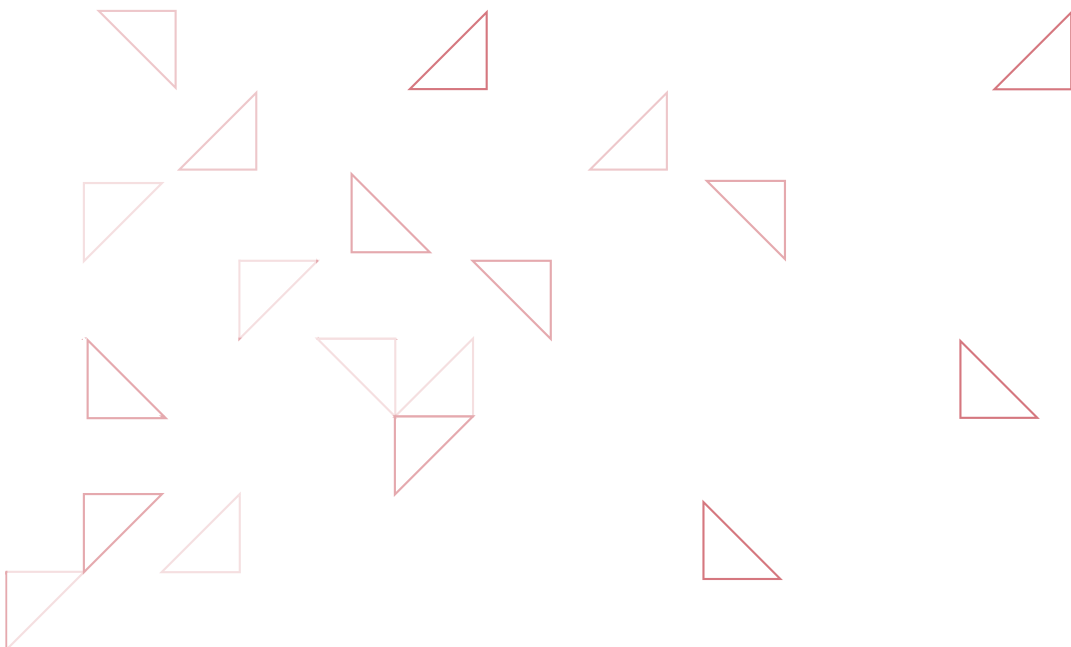
When we arrived at the cinema we realised that the film .....

- has already started
- already started
- was already started
- already starting
- had already started

**21. Choose the correct answer**

Dad ..... me that the water was too hot and now I realise he was right.

- has warned
- warns
- was warned
- had warned
- have warned



**22-26.**  
**SMOKING kills. Everyone knows it, Including Smokers.**

**Read the passage Smoking Kills: Everyone knows it, Including Smokers and choose the correct answer from the selection.**

Although there are around 1.1 billion smokers in the world (about one-third of the global population aged 15 and over), there are unfortunately a great many who believe that they are 'healthier' smokers than others. Crazy as it

**22.** ..... sound, they have been duped by the tobacco industry into **23.** ..... they have less chance of developing smoking related life-threatening diseases.

Low tar cigarettes are one of the big cons of the tobacco industry. People naturally assume that brands labelled "light" or "mild" are somehow better for them than ordinary cigarettes. In truth, however, low tar cigarettes contain the same amount and the same type of tobacco **24.** ..... ordinary cigarettes. The only difference is the number of air holes in the filter. The amount of tar that is let through the filter is measured using a machine, not a real person. The machine does not mimic how people smoke in real life. In real life, you inhale about the same amount of tar smoking low tar cigarettes as you do smoking ordinary brands. This is because smokers compensate for the holes in the filters by unconsciously inhaling more deeply, or right down to the filter instead of leaving any **25.** ....., and even holding the cigarette in a certain way in the hand or mouth to get more nicotine. Most people do this without even noticing.

**26.** ..... there is evidence to suggest that 'light' cigarettes increase the risk of lung adenocarcinoma, possibly because of deeper inhalation.

- |                                   |  |                                  |  |                                       |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>22.</b>                        | <b>23.</b>                             | <b>24.</b>                       | <b>25.</b>                               | <b>26.</b>                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> may      | <input type="checkbox"/> believe       | <input type="checkbox"/> such    | <input type="checkbox"/> to the end      | <input type="checkbox"/> In fact      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> must be  | <input type="checkbox"/> believes      | <input type="checkbox"/> like    | <input type="checkbox"/> from the end    | <input type="checkbox"/> On addition  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> can      | <input type="checkbox"/> believed      | <input type="checkbox"/> as      | <input type="checkbox"/> through the end | <input type="checkbox"/> To reality   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> could    | <input type="checkbox"/> believing     | <input type="checkbox"/> similar | <input type="checkbox"/> nearly the end. | <input type="checkbox"/> On any case  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> might be | <input type="checkbox"/> have believed | <input type="checkbox"/> exactly | <input type="checkbox"/> at the end      | <input type="checkbox"/> To real life |

**27. Choose the correct answer**

I've been eating a lot ..... but want to go on a diet soon.

- late
- latest
- last
- later
- lately

**28. Choose the correct answer**

The sun ..... in the east and sets in the west.

- rises
- raises
- arises
- lifts
- goes up



**29. Choose the correct answer**

When George was ..... he was very difficult and naughty.

- growing
- growing up
- bringing up
- becoming
- going up

**30. Choose the correct answer**

The company owes its ..... to its excellent sales department.

- aim
- goal
- intention
- ambition
- success

**31. Choose the correct answer**

He ..... in convincing his boss to give him a raise.

- managed
- succeeded
- achieved
- coped
- fulfilled

**32-35.**

**Business Proposal**

**Read the conversation and choose the correct answer from the selection below:**

Catherine and Alistair, employees at a CD retail company, are discussing the results of a recent survey administered by their company.

Alistair: Katherine, could you review the results of the survey on our customers' listening preferences again? We need to plan out our proposal for this Friday's business **32.** .....

Katherine: Sure, Alistair. I've summarised the results in the handout, **33.** ..... by consumer age groups and listening preferences. The survey was administered to 450 men and women between the ages of 18 and 55 years old, and the results were **34.** ..... in the following age groups: 12 to 17, 18 to 26, 27 to 35, and 36 to 45. According to the results, the group most interested in listening to music was that of people between 18 and 26 years old, followed by that of those between 36 to 45 years old.

Alistair: Okay.

Katherine: As far as particular kinds of music are concerned, jazz was cited by people in these two groups as their favorite kind of music and was **35.** ..... rock, techno, reggae, pop, jazz and soul.

- 32.**
- party
  - attendance
  - gathering
  - meeting
  - decision

- 33.**
- broken them into
  - broken them up
  - broken them down
  - broken them in
  - broken them off

- 34.**
- compiled
  - composed
  - comprised
  - compelled
  - compared

- 35.**
- followed
  - followed on
  - followed up
  - followed through
  - followed by

**36. Choose the correct answer**

Cyprus prides itself ..... its warm hospitality and beautiful scenery.

- on
- at
- in
- for
- with

**37. Choose the correct answer**

The hotel can organise events ..... an individual basis.

- at
- in
- by
- for
- on

**38. Choose the correct answer**

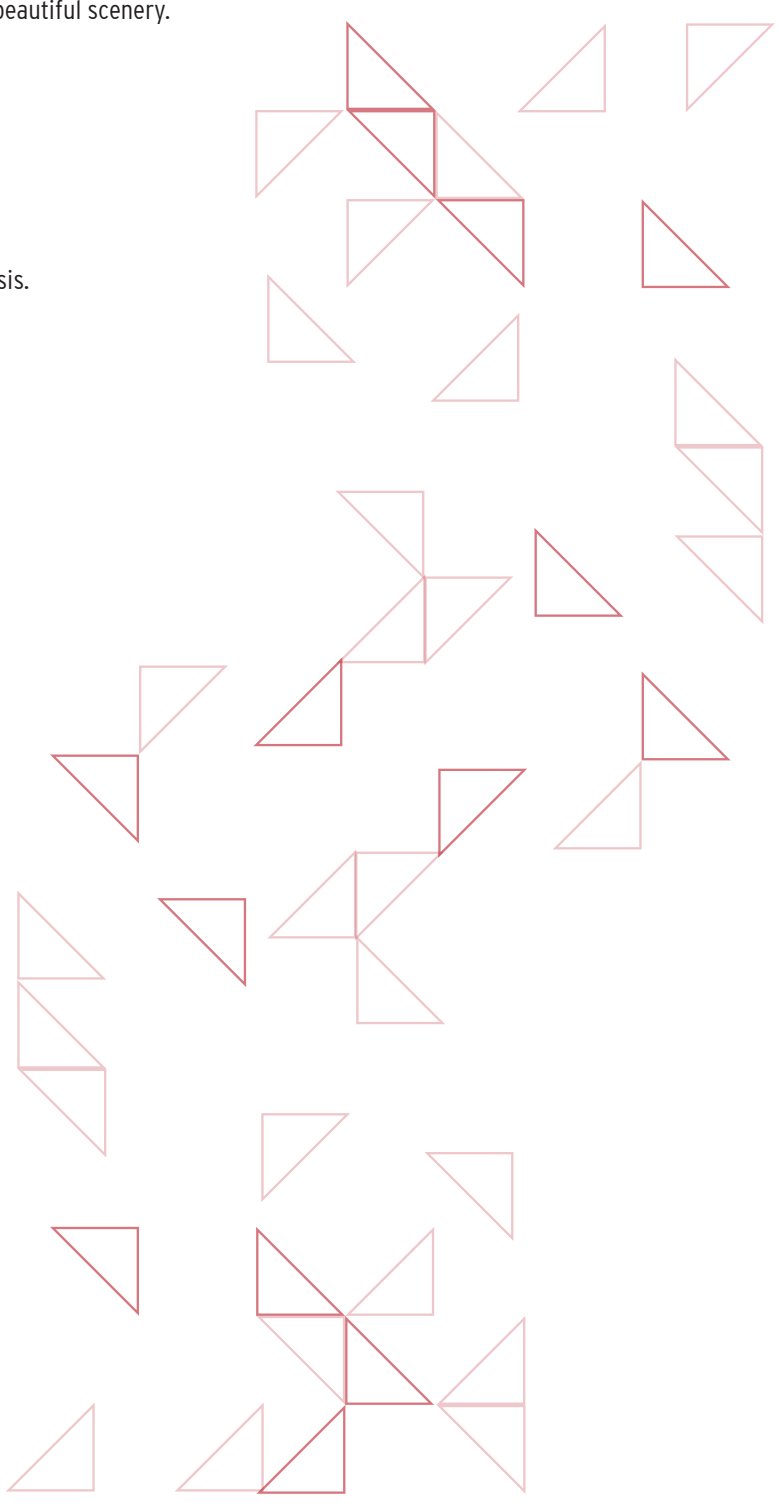
You can buy food ..... reasonable prices in Cyprus.

- on
- in
- at
- of
- to

**39. Choose the correct answer**

The castle dates ..... to the 16th century.

- to
- on
- in
- back
- onto



**40-44.**  
**Property Predictions**

**Read the article and choose the correct answer from the selection.**

In December 2003, Nationwide Building Society predicted that house prices were to rise by 9% in 2004. It said the estimated rise was to contribute to first time buyers remaining an "endangered species".

Nationwide's prediction was **40.** ..... the forecast from the Halifax, which expected property values to rise 8% the following year. Alex Bannister, Nationwide's group economist, said: "The housing market will carry considerable momentum **41.** ..... early 2004, and we expect house price growth to be biased towards the first part of the year." Like Halifax, Nationwide predicted the north of England would **42.** ..... in 2004, notching up price growth of 12%. Yorkshire and Humberside homeowners were **43.** ..... to enjoy an increase of 12% next year, while those in the north-west and Northern Ireland were in line for increases of 11%. London was forecast to see the lowest price growth - 6%, said Nationwide.

In November, the lending total of v24.6bn was down from v27.4bn in October, but was still 20% higher than the v20.5bn lent by banks and building societies in November 2002.

The fall was partly due to seasonal factors, said the CML. It added: "**44.** ..... to next year, we expect house price inflation to decline but the market looks set to remain active - despite higher interest rates."

- |  |   |   |  |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <b>40.</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> in line with<br><input type="checkbox"/> on top of<br><input type="checkbox"/> in trouble with<br><input type="checkbox"/> on the side of<br><input type="checkbox"/> hand in hand with | <b>41.</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> in<br><input type="checkbox"/> into<br><input type="checkbox"/> to<br><input type="checkbox"/> on<br><input type="checkbox"/> at | <b>42.</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> lead the way<br><input type="checkbox"/> get on<br><input type="checkbox"/> pull through<br><input type="checkbox"/> face up<br><input type="checkbox"/> keep up | <b>43.</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> shaken<br><input type="checkbox"/> put<br><input type="checkbox"/> left<br><input type="checkbox"/> moved<br><input type="checkbox"/> set | <b>44.</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Looking up<br><input type="checkbox"/> Looking over<br><input type="checkbox"/> Looking into<br><input type="checkbox"/> Looking ahead<br><input type="checkbox"/> Looking after |
|--|---|---|--|---|

**45. Choose the correct answer**

He felt very angry and ..... his fists.

- closed
- tightened
- opened
- clenched
- hit

**46. Choose the correct answer**

It was a very..... day; so many interesting things happened.

- eventful
- uneventful
- eventual
- eventfulness
- event

**47. Choose the correct answer**

There is a popular..... that the English drink tea at 5 pm.

- conception
- concept
- misconception
- non-conception
- under-conception

**48. Choose the correct answer**

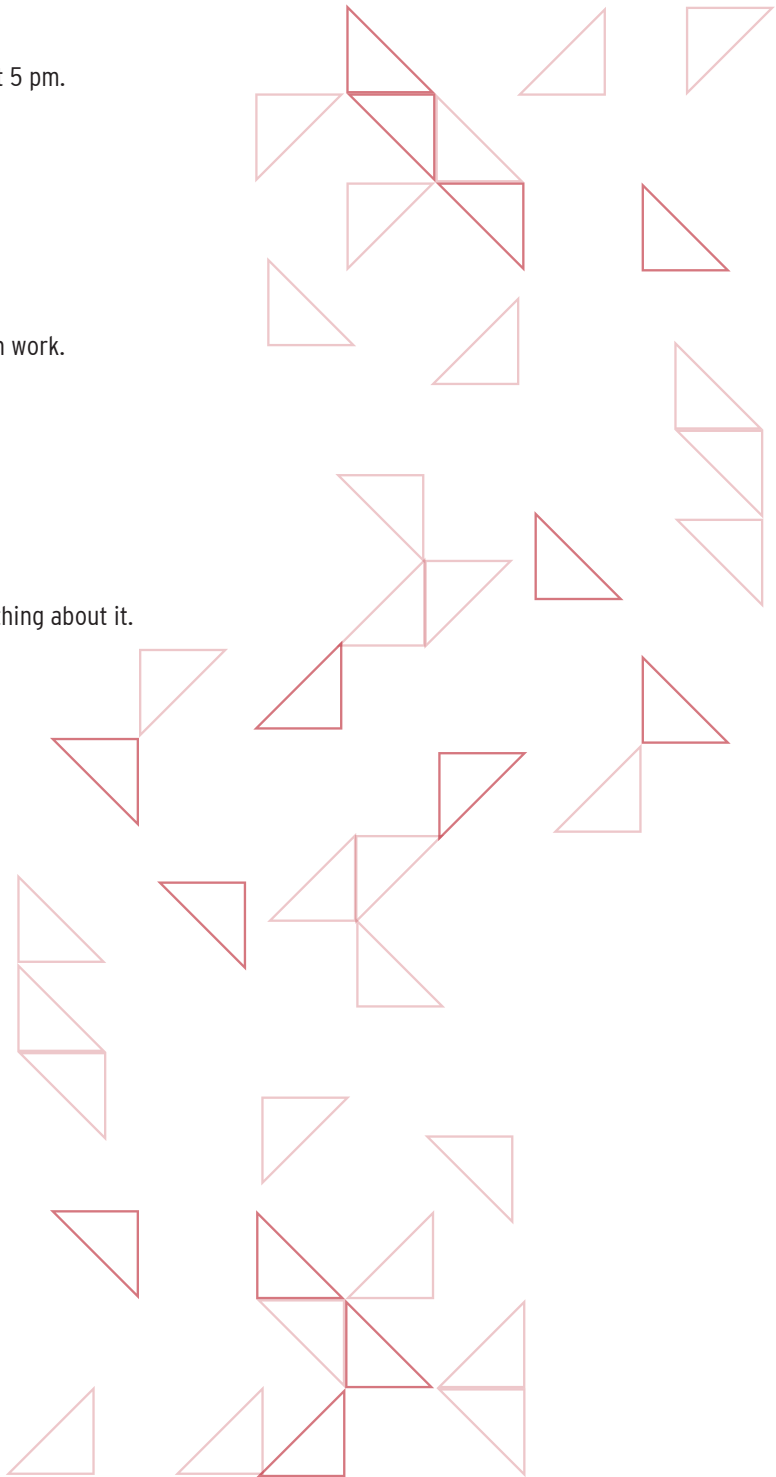
I'm really ..... this month; I simply have too much work.

- snowed over
- snowed in
- snowed by
- snowed under
- snowed out

**49. Choose the correct answer**

He hasn't the ..... idea about biology; he knows nothing about it.

- sunniest
- rainiest
- foggiest
- driest
- hottest



**50-53.**

**Read the text and then answer the multiple-choice questions.**

**Ariston Technologies, Inc.**

63 Aphrodite Avenue • Paphos • CYPRUS • 12345  
(357) 26 43 58 91 • Fax (357) 26 43 58 92

September 29, 2004

To Whom it May Concern:

Mohammad Rashid worked for me at Ariston Technologies for five years, as a senior technical instructor.

I am writing this letter to confirm that his recent layoff from Ariston Technologies was not in any way tied to his performance, and to highly recommend him as an employee in your organisation.

Ariston Technologies went through drastic reorganisation, resulting in a considerable reduction of its workforce. Unfortunately, this resulted in dissolving the technical department and left no position for Mohammad.

Mohammad is a conscientious, highly-skilled technical instructor, worthy of at least a senior or management position.

He has keen insight into the learning process, and is an expert in needs analysis, project management, course development, and classroom instruction. Mohammad 's in-depth product knowledge, unique instructional techniques, and excellent people skills have consistently received rave reviews from his students.

If you would like to speak to me about Mohammad 's skills, talents and work habits, feel free to call (357) 26 43 58 91 or email [smarkides@aristontechno.com](mailto:smarkides@aristontechno.com)

Sincerely,

Sophocles Markides  
Sophocles Markides

President, Technical Services  
[smarkides@aristontechno.com](mailto:smarkides@aristontechno.com)

**50. Mr Sophocles Markides wrote a**

- letter of application.
- thank you letter.
- letter of recommendation.
- letter of complaint.
- letter of condolence.

**51. Mohammad Rashid**

- left Ariston Technologies to find a better job.
- was made redundant by Ariston Technologies.
- was sacked from Ariston Technologies.
- got promoted by Ariston Technologies.
- got highly recommended for Ariston Technologies.

**52. Mohammad Rashid's work at Ariston Technologies involved**

- writing.
- learning.
- observing
- student reviewing.
- teaching.

**53. Mr Markides does not know**

- Aphrodite.
- Mohammad.
- who he is writing to.
- what he is writing.
- Ariston

# WRITING TASK

You will be given a choice of 3 writing tasks from which to choose. You are expected to write one page.

Organise your work clearly. Do not include inappropriate details. Consider appropriate style, grammar, spelling, punctuation, paragraphing and handwriting.

Sample questions:

1. Some people believe that everyone should be able to study at a university/college. Others think that only the best students should go on for higher education. What is your opinion? Please support your decision.
  
2. You have just come back from your holidays. You are angry because everything went wrong. The hotel was not as you expected. Write a letter of complaint to the travel agency and ask them to return a certain amount of money. Support your claim and be as convincing as possible.
  
3. Your new room mate is a difficult person to live with for several reasons, but you have to share the apartment at least for a year. Describe possible ways how to deal with the situation.

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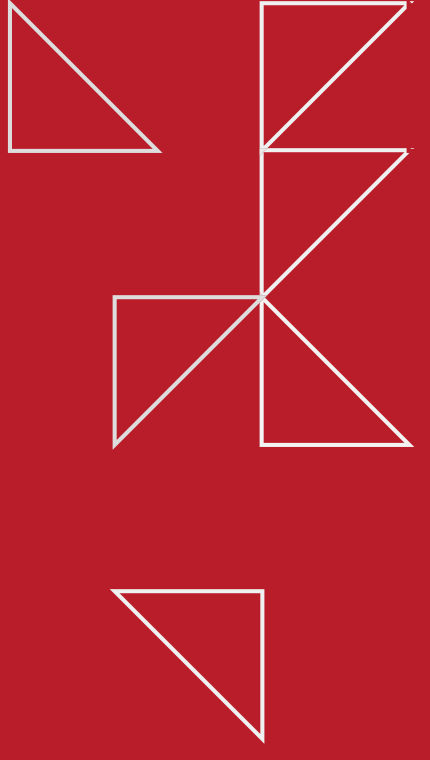
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UNIVERSITY *of*  
**NICOSIA**