

English Language Placement Test (5)

For applications to the University English course only.

Please complete this if you do not have an official English language score such as IELTS or TOEFL.

To meet new UK visa requirements you will also need to **submit an academic reference** (in English) which indicates your proficiency level in English language skills. The reference should be from the Principal, Director of Studies or equivalent of your last school or college. It should state the number of hours of study per week, years of study and your achievements in the way of tests or qualifications. Your visa application will be refused by the UK Border Agency if we have not received this reference.

Your details

Surname/Family name:

First names:

Course applied for:

I confirm that I did this test without any help.

I understand that I will be re-tested with a new placement test on arrival at Oxford Brookes University. The result of this new test will be used to place me in a suitable class.

Applicant signature:

Date:

Instructions for completing the test

Spend **ONE HOUR ONLY** on the test with **NO DICTIONARY** and **NO HELP**.

There are three passages with missing words. You must fill in the blank spaces with words that fit into the passage. There is only one word missing from each space. In each passage, the first blank space is filled in for you as an example.

- Before you start each passage, read it through to get an idea of what it is about.
- Go back to the beginning and work through the passage filling in each blank space with a suitable word. Write **ONE WORD ONLY** in each space.
- When you have finished, read through the passage to make sure it makes sense.

Your completed test should be sent to:

University English Administrator, Oxford Brookes International, International Centre, Headington Campus, Oxford Brookes University, Gypsy Lane, Oxford, OX3 0BP, UK

Tel: + 44 (0) 1865 483874

Fax: + 44 (0) 1865 484377

Email: pathways@brookes.ac.uk

For office use only

Score:

Level:

Passage 1: Leaving Home

The small plane taxied to the end of the small airstrip, made an about turn and raced along the grass for some time before lifting off the ground. (0) As soon as it was airborne, Kita (1) _____ down at a small group of people (2) _____ had gathered outside the box-like terminal (3) _____ briefly waved at them. (4) _____ the plane went higher above the hills, he (5) _____ out to sea, far over the (6) _____ waves towards his native land, and his (7) _____ leapt within him. His heart (8) _____ at the thought of all the wonderful (9) _____ he was leaving behind at home, (10) _____ charm of a simple, healthy (11) _____, his mother's calm outlook and her (12) _____. He knew he would be (13) _____ for a long time. He would (14) _____ the land and the people he loved so (15) _____.

The plane flew low. For (16) _____ time he could see below him (17) _____ grey precipices of rock dropping sheer (18) _____ the sea. The flight was uneventful (19) _____ that Kita saw a huge school (20) _____ dolphins in the sea off the (21) _____, which made him long to be (22) _____ home, to be near the sea, (23) _____ feel peace. Why leave the place (24) _____ the life that I love? he (25) _____ to himself. But he knew he had to go.

(25 marks)

Passage 2: Personal Tutor

At the beginning of your course you will be assigned a Personal Tutor whose role is to offer you help and advice throughout your stay at the University. This relationship is an important one (0) since in addition to academic counselling the Personal Tutor (1) _____ the most obvious person to turn (2) _____ in the first instance if you (3) _____ to talk about a variety of (4) _____ issues, for example, illness, family problems (5) _____ career possibilities. Personalities differ and you (6) _____ find that you simply do not (7) _____ on with your allotted Tutor or (8) _____ him/her elusive! In such circumstances approach (9) _____ member of staff and ask them (10) _____ take over the role for you; (11) _____ change is made official on Form M82 (12) _____ from outside the Student Administration Office.

13)_____ name and room number of 14)_____ Personal Tutor is printed on the first year 15)_____ and timetable given to you at 16)_____. Time is set aside on the 17)_____ after enrolment for all new students 18)_____ visit their Personal Tutors. If you 19)_____ late, make this visit as soon 20)_____ possible in Week 1. Apart from 21)_____ to know one another the other 22)_____ function of this first meeting is 23)_____ check your first year programme. It 24)_____ contain modules compulsory for your field(s) 25)_____ others that you chose before enrolment. Many students wish to make minor changes at this stage and your Tutor will help you to do this before term starts.

(25 marks)

Passage 3: Shopping

Rain sweeps through the concrete canyons of midtown Manhattan in cold, grey sheets, forcing people to rush into doorways or the warmth of nearby shops. This is one of the world's great temples to shopping – glitzy Fifth Avenue. Even in the most inclement season, the faithful are out in vast numbers for the January sales, spending huge amounts on things they don't necessarily like and probably don't need.

But for some, this is more 0) than an annual orgy of spending. Among 1)_____ throng stalking the glass and chrome 2)_____ are compulsive buyers – people unable to 3)_____ the urge to go on shopping 4)_____ they've emptied their bank accounts and 5)_____ their wardrobes to overflowing.

Linda, my 6)_____ used to be one of their 7)_____. The last thing you'd want to 8)_____ is send an alcoholic to a 9)_____ festival, and for most shopaholics, the 10)_____ sales represent a similar ordeal. But 11)_____ days Linda has her shopping habit 12)_____ control, and she is here to 13)_____ to me about the allure of 14)_____.

Compulsive shopping is nothing new. Nearly 15)_____ hundred years ago, the German psychiatrist Emil Kraepelin 16)_____ 'buying maniacs' who despite a 'good school intelligence' couldn't 17)_____ irrational purchasing. Over the past 18)_____ years, however, there has been a surge 19)_____ interest in the problem. Research,

mainly 20)_____ the US, suggests that between 1.5 and 2 per cent 21)_____ the population are out-of-control shoppers. Most 22)_____ women.

Interested scientists say excessive compulsive 23)_____ has all the hallmarks of a 24)_____ disorder, but opinion is still divided 25)_____ where precisely it fits in. Some, including psychiatrist Donald Black of the University of Iowa, believe it has all the hallmarks of an obsessive-compulsive disorder. Others, such as University of London psychologist Kevin Gournay and his colleagues, who have just completed the first major investigation of excessive shopping in Britain, believe it is a form of addiction. "The obsessive type are a minority," says Gournay.

Psychiatrist Susan McElroy from Cincinnati University has devised diagnostic criteria for the disorder. Compulsive shoppers, she says, experience frequent impulses to buy that are irresistible, intrusive and senseless. They need to buy more than they can afford, more than they need, and spend longer doing it than they intended. And their shopping urges cause serious distress, and interfere with their work, finances and social lives. The excitement of purchasing is frequently followed by feelings of remorse, which creates problems in their relationships and may make underlying depression worse.

(25 marks)

Overall Total - 75 marks