

**THE ENGLISH SCHOOL, NICOSIA**

**ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS 2006**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
**Native/Near-Native Speakers**

**YEAR 2**

**Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. FILL IN YOUR NAME AND NUMBER ON THE SLIP ATTACHED.**
- 2. ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS IN THE SPACES PROVIDED AND THE WRITING TASK ON THE LINED PAPER IN THIS BOOKLET.**
- 3. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.**
- 4. WRITE NEATLY. WRITE GOOD ENGLISH .**

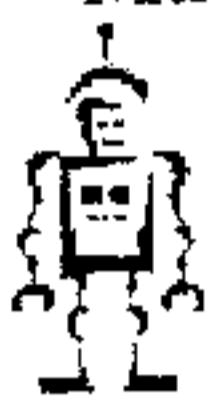
**This booklet contains 15 pages**

Writing Skills (30 marks)

Choose **ONE** of the following questions. Write between **250 and 300 words**. Take care with expression, vocabulary, grammar, punctuation and presentation. You will also be assessed on the originality and interest of your writing. Write your answer on the lined paper on the next page. You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section. **Make sure you keep to the requirements of the question you choose to answer.**

1. Write a short story in which **you are a robot** living with a family in a luxurious house by a lake. Think about:
  - ✓ How well you will begin and end your story.
  - ✓ How well you will develop characters.
  - ✓ How well you will describe place/atmosphere/view/feelings.

**Make sure you stick closely to the requirements of the question**



*Write from the point of view of the robot.*

2. Write about a time when you had to tell a lie to protect a friend. It does not have to be a true story! Think about the following:
  - ✓ How well you begin and end your story.
  - ✓ How well you will develop characters.
  - ✓ How well you will describe place/atmosphere.
  - ✓ Were you successful in protecting your friend?
  - ✓ Did anyone find out that you lied?

**Make sure you stick closely to the requirements of the question.**

3. Read the poster below about a travel writing competition:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMPETITION</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>YOUNG TRAVEL WRITER 2006</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">We would like you to tell us about a place you have visited.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Where did you go? Why was it unforgettable?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lovely prizes to be won!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Age groups: 11-14</p>
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Write an entry for this competition. Write about

- ✓ Where you went and how you travelled there
- ✓ Where you stayed and what you did
- ✓ How you felt
- ✓ Your impressions of the place

Write your composition here:

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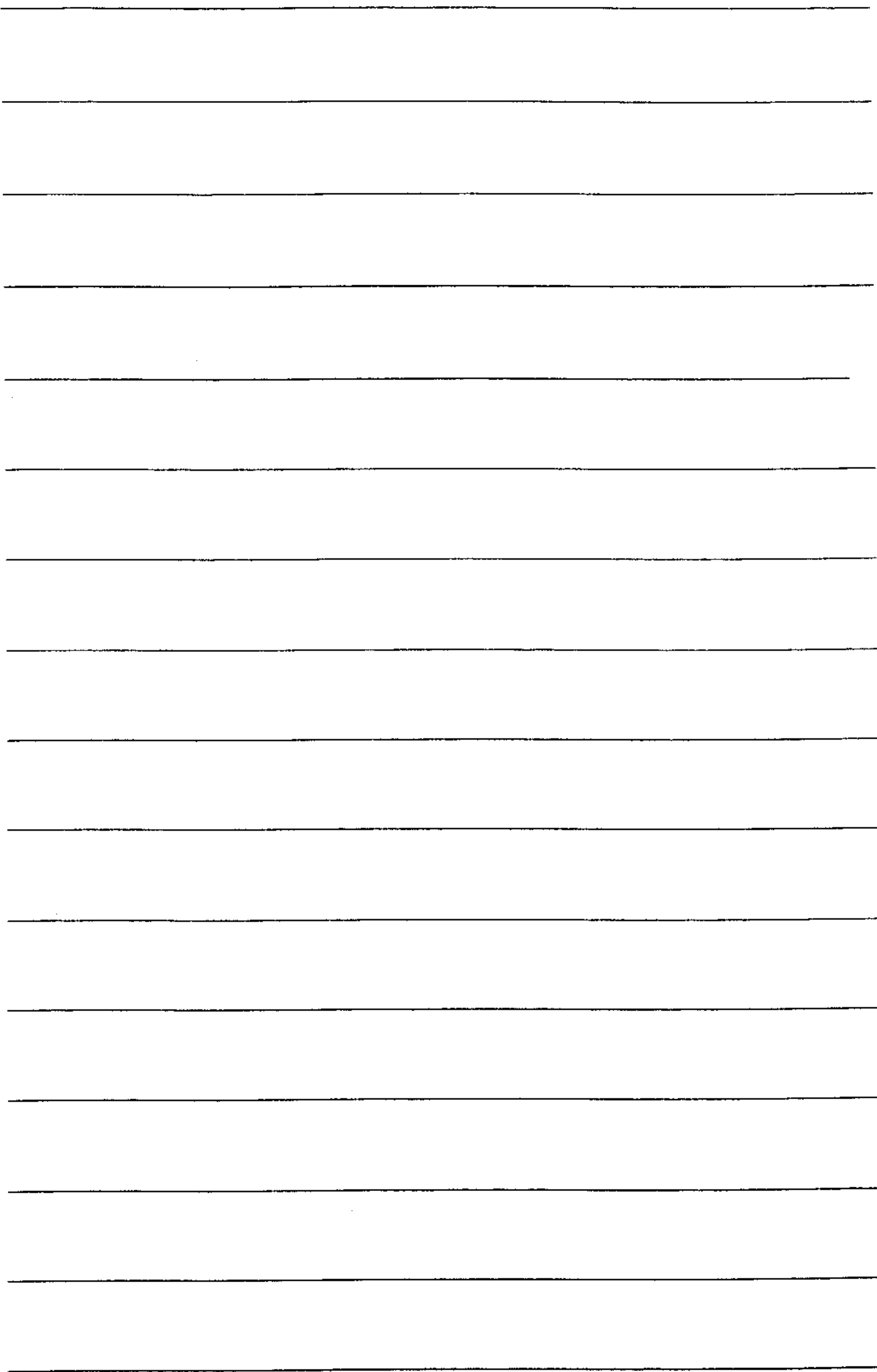
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Read the following passage carefully. The narrator, Delaney, has a confrontation with his class teacher, nicknamed 'the Murderer' after having had a fight with a classmate called Gorman. In the story, the narrator also refers to 'invisible presences' (or ideas he has read about in novels), which at one time made Delaney always answer the teacher's questions honestly...

Next morning after

prayers the Murderer scowled at me.

'Delaney, were you fighting in the yard after school yesterday?'

5 For a second or two I didn't reply. I couldn't help feeling that it wasn't worth it. But before the invisible presences fled forever, I made another effort.

'I was, sir,' I said, and this time there wasn't even a titter. I was out of my mind. The whole class knew it and was awestricken.

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'Who were you fighting?'

'I'd sooner not say, sir,' I replied, hysteria beginning to well up in me. It was all very well for the invisible presences, but they hadn't to deal with the Murderer.

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'Who was he fighting with?' he asked lightly, resting his hands on the desk and studying the ceiling.

'Gorman, sir,' replied three or four voices – as easy as that!

'Did Gorman hit him first?'

'No, sir. He hit Gorman first.'

20

'Stand out,' he said, taking up the cane. 'Now,' he added, going up to Gorman, 'you take this and hit him. And make sure you hit him hard,' he went on, giving Gorman's arm an encouraging squeeze. 'He thinks he's a great fellow. You show him now what we think of him.'

25

Gorman came towards me with a broad grin. He thought it a great joke. The class thought it a great joke. They began to roar with laughter. Even the Murderer permitted himself a modest grin at his own cleverness.

'Hold out your hand,' he said to me.

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I didn't. I began to feel trapped and a little crazy.

'Hold out your hand, I say,' he shouted, beginning to lose his temper.

'I will not,' I shouted back, losing all control of myself.

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'You what?' he cried incredulously, dashing at me round the classroom with his hand raised as though to strike me. 'What's that you said, you dirty little thief?'

'I'm not a thief, I'm not a thief,' I screamed. 'And if he comes near me I'll kick the shins off him. You have no right to give him that cane, and you have no right to call me a thief either. If you do it again, I'll go down to the police and then we'll see who the thief is.'

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'You refused to answer my questions,' he roared, and if I had been in my right mind I should have known he had suddenly taken fright; probably the word 'police' had frightened him.

45

'No,' I said through my sobs, 'and I won't answer them now either. I'm not a spy.'

'Oh,' he retorted with a sarcastic sniff, 'so that's what you call a spy, Mr Delaney?'

50 'Yes, and that's what they all are, all the fellows here – dirty spies! – but I'm not going to be a spy for you. You can do your own spying.'

55 'That's enough now, that's enough!' he said, raising his fat hand almost beseechingly. 'There's no need to lose control of yourself, my dear young fellow, and there's no need whatever to screech like that. 'Tis most unmanly. Go back to your seat now and I'll talk to you another time.'

60 I obeyed, but I did no work. No one else did much either. the hysteria had spread to the class. I alternated between fits of exultation at my own successful defiance of the Murderer, and panic at the prospect of his revenge; and at each change of mood I put my face in my hands and sobbed again. The Murderer didn't even order me to stop. He didn't so much as look at me.

65 After that I was the hero of the school for the whole afternoon. Gorman tried to resume the fight, but Spillane ordered him away contemptuously – a fellow who had taken the master's cane to another had no status. But that wasn't the sort of hero I wanted to be. I preferred something less sensational.

70 Next morning I was in such a state of panic that I didn't know how I should face school at all. I dawdled, between two minds as to whether or not I should mitch. The silence of the school lane and yard awed me. I had made myself late as well.

'What kept you, Delaney?' the Murderer asked quietly.

75 I knew it was no good.

'I was at Mass, sir.'

'All right. Take your seat.'

80 He seemed a bit surprised. What I had not realized was the incidental advantage of our system over the English one. By this time half a dozen of his pets had brought the Murderer the true story of Flanagan's shilling, and if he didn't feel a monster he probably felt a fool.

Now answer all of the following questions in the spaces provided in your own words.

1. How did the class react when Delaney admitted fighting? (2 marks)

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2. How did Delaney feel when the Murderer asked who he had been fighting? (1 mark)

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3. Who are the 'three or four voices' in line 17 ? (1 mark)

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4. Describe Delaney's feelings as Gorman attempts to hit him with the cane. (2 marks)

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5. How does Delaney threaten the Murderer and how does he justify the threat? (2 marks)

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6. Why does Delaney accuse his classmates of being spies? (2 marks)

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7. Why do you think the Murderer decides to talk to Delaney at another time? (2 marks)

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8. What two contrasting feelings does Delaney have after the Murderer told him to return to his seat? (2 marks):

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9. Why do you think Delaney was a hero for the whole of the afternoon? (1 mark)

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10. Find words in the passage with the same meanings as the following:

- i. disbelievingly - \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. scream loudly - \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. immense excitement - \_\_\_\_\_
- iv. with hatred - \_\_\_\_\_
- v. behaved uncertainly - \_\_\_\_\_

(5 marks)

11. In a word or short phrase say what the following words from the passage mean (the line numbers are in the brackets):

- i. scowled (line 2) - \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. modest (line 28 ) - \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. retorted (line 48) - \_\_\_\_\_
- iv. beseechingly (line 54) - \_\_\_\_\_
- v. defiance (line 60) - \_\_\_\_\_

(5 marks)

English Usage (45 marks)

Exercise A (5 marks)

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence.

Example: Did you have a good time at the party?

**Did you** \_\_\_\_\_?

Answer: **Did you** *enjoy yourself at the party?*

1. People ought to leave their cars in a car park.

Cars \_\_\_\_\_

1. It's pointless going any further.

There's \_\_\_\_\_

2. The student knew it was wrong but he still cheated in the exam.

Despite \_\_\_\_\_

3. It is simply not allowed for you to chew in class.

Under no circumstances \_\_\_\_\_

4. She is the fastest runner in the school.

No one \_\_\_\_\_

Exercise B (10 marks)

Use the following list to write a suitable word in each space.

*crawled, staggered, burst, prowled, pounced, stalked, jostled, glanced, sneaked, marched, gazed.*

Example: The thief prowled across the garden before breaking into the house.

1. The hunter \_\_\_\_\_ the deer.

2. The baby \_\_\_\_\_ across the floor to her mother.

3. Martin \_\_\_\_\_ into the class without his teacher noticing him.

4. The football fans were \_\_\_\_\_ as they tried to get into the stadium for the match.
5. Bill was so drunk he \_\_\_\_\_ home after leaving the bar.
6. I was impressed by the way the students \_\_\_\_\_ in today's parade.
7. Ginger the cat \_\_\_\_\_ on the mouse.
8. Helen quickly \_\_\_\_\_ through the book before placing it back on the shelf.
9. Uncle Arthur suddenly \_\_\_\_\_ into the room with the triumphant news.
10. Frank \_\_\_\_\_ at the motorbike and immediately decided that this was the bike he wanted.

Exercise C (10 marks)

Compare the following pairs. Each time use the word in brackets; **do not change the words in brackets.**

Example: Paris – Nicosia (**crowded**)

Answer: *Nicosia is not as crowded as Paris.*

1. Nick's score in French: 98%. Ahmet's score: 87%. (**high**)  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Katerina's height: 1.58m. Ryan's height: 1.86m. (**much**)  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Price of Dad's car: 15.000 pounds. Mum's: 26.000 pounds. (**much**)  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Tony is 20 years old. Marianne is 20. (**both**)  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Lora hates snakes. David hates snakes (**neither**)  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. All the children dislike Mr Timber. (**none**)  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Costas is a good player but Joseph is better than him. (as)

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8. Nora isn't as ambitious as Aram. (less)

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9. It takes 10 minutes to walk to Alicia's house from the school but it takes 20 to walk to yours. (further)

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10. Robert is well behaved; Ayshe is better behaved. (well)

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#### Exercise D (10 marks)

Complete the sentences with an appropriate idiomatic expression from the list.

**Remember: Change the form of the expression to fit the sentence, where necessary.**

*quick on the uptake, split hairs, stew in your own juice, sitting pretty, he who pays the piper calls the tune, talk shop, no need to rub it in, on the off chance, get a word in edgeways, talk to a brick wall, rain cats and dogs.*

Example: The weather was awful. It rained cats and dogs all day.

1. It's Will's fault that he's in so much trouble, so just let him \_\_\_\_\_.

2. We are in a really good position after that deal. In fact, I would say we are \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Muriel is such a talker. Actually, it's near impossible to \_\_\_\_\_.

4. John is very clever. There's no need to write it all down for him because he's \_\_\_\_\_.

5. There's not much difference in what you've said compared to my ideas. You're just \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Terry went to the stadium early \_\_\_\_\_ that there would be tickets left for the final.

7. The company is sponsoring the project so they can influence our planning. As they say, ' \_\_\_\_\_',
8. Whenever people of the same profession meet up, they normally \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The boss simply won't listen to our ideas. It's like \_\_\_\_\_.
10. I realise I was to blame for the clown turning up at father's retirement party instead of our local MP, but there's \_\_\_\_\_.

Exercise E (10 marks)

Rewrite each sentence so that it contains a **phrasal verb** that includes the preposition at the end.

Example: Mary is someone I really respect. UP  
 Answer: *Mary is someone I really look up to.*

1. Oh, no. We don't have any coffee left. OUT

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2. It took me so long to recover from the shock. OVER

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3. His uncle died and he inherited over fifty thousand pounds. INTO

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4. Michael is just like his father. AFTER

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5. I met Sophie by chance today at the supermarket. INTO

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6. I found this old diary by chance in the library. ACROSS

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7. You have to defend yourself when others criticise your work. UP

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8. Do you have a good relationship with your neighbours? ALONG

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9. After a few days the pain in my leg went away. OFF

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10. You can stay with us if you come to Cyprus. UP

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