

## Integrated Skills in English II

Time allowed: 2 hours

This exam paper has four tasks. Complete all tasks.

### Task 1 – Long reading

Read the following text about the extra benefits offered by companies and answer the 15 questions on page 3.

#### Paragraph 1

Young people entering the workforce today tend to have high expectations of their working life. A good salary is important, but most talented young professionals are looking for more than that. Increasingly, it is the 'perks' of the job – the extra benefits that a company provides in addition to the salary – that attract new employees. In the past, these perks were usually limited to things like free health insurance or the use of a company car, but these days companies have to be more creative in what they offer.

#### Paragraph 2

Most large companies offer opportunities to get fit. It is easy to see how this is beneficial for everyone – employees become more productive and take less time off work. The most common benefit is free gym membership, but many companies go further than this. For example, one company in Oklahoma, USA, has a fitness centre with an Olympic-sized swimming pool, a climbing wall, a walking track and a volleyball court, all available for employees and their families to use free of charge. Another company in San Francisco gives workers a bonus of \$100 a month to take classes in nutrition or yoga.

#### Paragraph 3

In 2015, 18,000 employees around the world were surveyed on job satisfaction. The survey found that work-life balance was the top priority for most people, coming above salary and workplace facilities. The perks that many companies now offer are designed to help people achieve this balance. One US internet company offers new parents, both fathers and mothers, four months' paid holiday, free childcare and \$4,000 in cash when their baby is born. This is in contrast to many companies in the US which do not offer any paid time off at all for new parents.

#### Paragraph 4

Some companies offer unlimited time off, allowing their employees to choose when and how long they work. Managers claim this helps people relax and therefore perform better when they are at work. Others, however, say that it discourages employees from taking time off because they are afraid their boss will think they are lazy if they are away from the office for a long time. One company in Denver, USA, pays workers a bonus to take a holiday. If employees take their full annual leave entitlement, they receive \$7,500 to pay for travel and accommodation. The only condition is that they are not allowed to check emails, take phone calls or do any work at all while they are away.

#### Paragraph 5

Relaxation during working hours is also important. In the offices of a technology company in Southampton, UK, the office 'furniture' includes a giant swing, a cinema and a tree house. The idea behind these kinds of facilities is that they create a stimulating, exciting workplace that encourages creative thinking. An informal, playful office also gives people plenty of opportunity to meet their colleagues and share ideas. This is particularly important for technology companies that want to attract young people with new ideas.

### Questions 1-5

The text on page 2 has five paragraphs (1-5). Choose the best title for each paragraph from A-F below and write the letter (A-F) on the lines below. There is one title you don't need.

1. Paragraph 1 \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_
2. Paragraph 2 \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_
3. Paragraph 3 \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_
4. Paragraph 4 \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_
5. Paragraph 5 \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |
|---|
| A Supporting dependants                 |
| B Unconditional and conditional holiday |
| C Changing rewards                      |
| D Encouraging a healthy lifestyle       |
| E Opportunities for further training    |
| F The right environment                 |

### Questions 6-10

Choose the five statements from A-H below that are TRUE according to the information given in the text on page 2. Write the letters of the TRUE statements on the lines below (in any order).

6. \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_ G \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |
|---|
| A The top priority for most young jobseekers these days is a high salary.                                     |
| B The sports facilities at the company in Oklahoma are only open to employees.                                |
| C The company in San Francisco funds learning about healthy eating.   |
| D In the international survey, the most important factor was having a good combination of work and free time. |
| E The internet company offers more generous parental leave than a lot of other companies in the US.           |
| F Unlimited holidays can put more pressure on employees to stay at work.                                      |
| G Workers at one company are rewarded for not dealing with work issues during time off.                       |
| H The Southampton company has a play area so that employees can bring their children to work.                 |

### Questions 11-15

Complete sentences 11-15 with an exact number, word or phrase (maximum three words) from the text. Write the exact number, word or phrase on the lines below.

11. As a result of young people's EXPECTATIONS, companies these days offer a wider range of benefits.
12. FREE GYM MEMBERSHIP is the perk offered by the greatest number of companies.
13. A large number of workers WERE SURVEYED about their views on their working life.
14. There is some debate about the effect of offering workers UNLIMITED TIME OFF.
15. Unusual, exciting facilities are common in the offices of TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES.

Turn over page

**Task 2 – Multi-text reading**

In this section there are four short texts for you to read and some questions for you to answer.

**Questions 16-20**

Read questions 16-20 first and then read texts A, B, C and D below the questions.

As you read each text, decide which text each question refers to. Choose one letter – A, B, C or D – and write it on the lines below. You can use any letter more than once.

Which text

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 16. is more cautious about the benefits of geothermal energy? | C |
| 17. looks at the impact of geothermal energy on some people?  | B |
| 18. demonstrates how a geothermal system works year round?    | D |
| 19. points out the costs of extra environmental protection?   | C |
| 20. looks at recent technological change?                     | A |

**Text A**

www.geothermalenergy.com

**Geothermal energy**

This planet has been producing massive amounts of heat for several million years, with temperatures at the Earth's core of around 5,500°C, which is as hot as the surface of the sun. Since we expect the Earth to be producing such heat for several billion years into the future, it is going to be able to provide us with an endless supply of energy, called 'geothermal' energy – from the Greek meaning 'heat from the earth'.

Civilisations have been using this energy for thousands of years to provide heating and hot water. But until recently we have only been able to use hot springs and other water sources below the ground in areas where there are a lot of volcanoes. Now modern technology has enabled us to use the heat from actual rock, making geothermal energy more widely available throughout the world. Modern systems can use the heat to control temperatures in a building, either by extracting the heat from the ground or by sending it back to the ground to cool the building.

**Text B**

**Greenbank Heights**

Greenbank Heights is an estate of 400 flats built in the centre of a city in 1980. The original oil-based heating system proved to be unsatisfactory in terms of efficiency and reliability over the years. It was therefore decided to install a geothermal system in 1996 to serve the heating and power needs of the residents.

Since it has been installed, actual heating costs have reduced significantly, meaning cheaper bills for residents. It saves several tonnes of carbon emissions each year and is 85 per cent efficient compared to an average of less than 38 per cent for more traditional heating systems. Also, the system is extremely reliable, and rarely breaks down. This has dramatically reduced the amount of maintenance necessary on the heating systems.

As the larger city-wide scheme gets bigger, it will eventually link up with the Greenbank scheme.

**Text C**

Dear Editor,

Although I'm in favour of renewable energy resources and see the possible benefits of geothermal energy, I do think your article on its possibilities is rather optimistic.

The big problem is that, unlike solar energy, geothermal energy is not available everywhere on a practical level. In most of the UK, for example, the hot rocks necessary for the system to be effective are just too deep to drill down to.

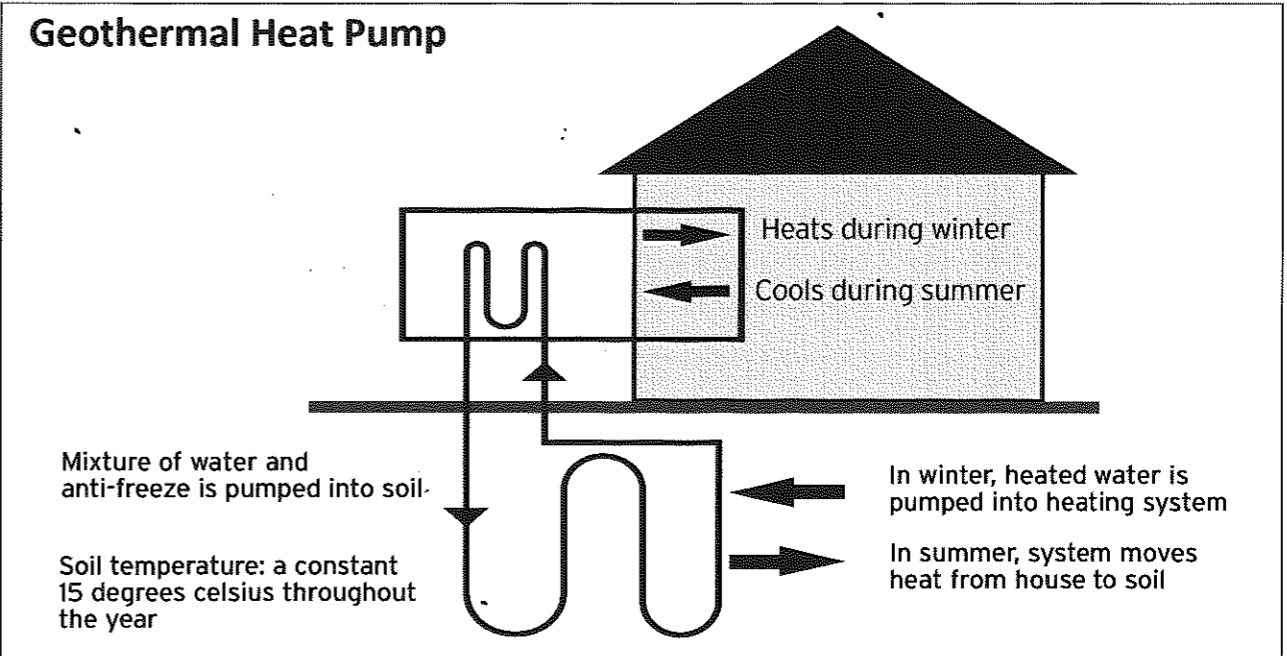
Another thing that is often ignored is that if too much heat is extracted from an area, the heat source can actually run out.

Finally, geothermal systems can release some quite dangerous chemicals. There are systems to remove these chemicals but that can be very expensive, and we all know the effect that increased costs can have on green energy projects.

Bearing this in mind, perhaps developing wind energy and solar energy is a more sensible option in places like the UK.

Kind regards,  
Ali Farsad

**Text D**



**Questions 21-25**

Choose the five statements from A-H below that are TRUE according to the information given in the texts above. Write the letters of the TRUE statements on the lines below (in any order).

- |           |   |  |
|-----------|---|--|
| 21. _____ | B | A The earliest systems were able to extract heat directly from rock.           |
| 22. _____ | C | B Volcanic regions are no longer the sole places to extract geothermal energy. |
| 23. _____ | D | C People using geothermal energy have less need for heating engineers.         |
| 24. _____ | E | D The Greenbank Heights scheme will become part of a wider system.             |
| 25. _____ | G | E Geothermal energy is not always cost-effective.                              |
|           |   | F Geothermal systems prevent chemicals escaping into the atmosphere.           |
|           |   | G Systems are designed to be able to remove heat from buildings.               |
|           |   | H Systems are designed to react to temperature changes in the ground.          |



