

## 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 awards for research and answer the 15 questions on page 3.

#### Paragraph 1

Have you ever heard about some research project and asked yourself how much the scientists got paid for doing something so pointless? Well, the really silly research often doesn't get into **normal news outlets**. It can, though, be found in a journal called 'The Annals of Improbable Research'. Its editor, Marc Abrahams, is more likely to ask himself whether the researchers deserve a prize. Since 1991, his organisation has been hosting the Ig Nobel Prize awards. At first, the idea was to make harmless fun of strange ideas, but the ceremony is now one of the most keenly awaited events of the scientific calendar.

#### Paragraph 2

The awards take place every year at Harvard University, with genuine Nobel prize-winners handing out the honours in ten different categories, including Chemistry, Medicine, Probability and Peace. Last year's winners featured the usual collection of strange and wonderful projects, my personal favourite being a UK-based research programme that won the Probability Prize for proving that the longer a cow has been lying down, the more likely it is to stand up soon, but that when a cow stands up, it is difficult to predict how soon it will lie down again.

#### Paragraph 3

A search of the Ig Nobel Prize archive produces many more like this. How about the 2012 Psychology Prize, which went to a Dutch couple for a paper titled 'Leaning to the Left Makes the Eiffel Tower Seem Smaller'? Or the Chemistry Prize the same year, for solving the mystery of why, in some houses in a certain Swedish town, people's hair turned green? Others are rather less obviously odd. A psychologist from the University of Oslo, Norway, conducted a study into why people sigh, which is actually quite interesting and useful. The 1999 Physics Prize was given **jointly** to a man who calculated the best way to dip a biscuit in a hot drink without it falling apart and a pair of scientists who produced instructions for making a teapot that wouldn't drip. Now that's what I call useful.

#### Paragraph 4

As you can see, there is an aspect to all this which is, if not exactly serious, at least not totally ridiculous. As the website says, to qualify for an award, a piece of research should 'first make people laugh, then make them think'. The intention is to make people curious and raise questions about what is important and what isn't, and how you tell the difference. After all, many important discoveries have been made by following an apparently ridiculous line of enquiry, and many serious research projects produce ridiculous results.

#### Paragraph 5

If these tasters have got you interested, the Improbable Research team doesn't just handle the journal and the awards. They also have a website with a daily blog, a monthly newsletter and a newspaper column every few weeks. In addition, there are videos for sale and occasional live shows, and Marc Abrahams has written two books. I can recommend them all to anyone with an enquiring mind and a sense of humour.

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_
2. Paragraph 2 \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_
3. Paragraph 3 \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
4. Paragraph 4 \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_
5. Paragraph 5 \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_

- A The aim of the awards
- B How to discover more
- C A recent example
- D New discoveries
- E Development of the awards
- F Further illustrations

### 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. \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_ G \_\_\_\_\_

- A Strange research often appears in news programmes.
- B The Ig Nobel Prize awards are quite popular among scientists.
- C The prize categories all focus on science.
- D The writer finds the winning projects odd but entertaining.
- E Some of the research has a practical use.
- F The Ig Nobel Prize awards have a double purpose.
- G Research that seems silly can produce important results.
- H Marc Abrahams writes a regular newspaper column.

### 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. Research in Marc Abrahams' journal is usually stranger than that found in \_\_\_\_\_ **NORMAL NEWS OUTLETS** \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Information about projects can be found in the organisation's \_\_\_\_\_ **ARCHIVE** \_\_\_\_\_ of past winners.
13. One prize was awarded \_\_\_\_\_ **JOINTLY** \_\_\_\_\_ to two related pieces of research.
14. It is not always easy to \_\_\_\_\_ **TELL THE DIFFERENCE** \_\_\_\_\_ between important and useless scientific research.
15. The writer says the work of the Improbable Research team would be enjoyed by someone who likes funny things and has \_\_\_\_\_ **AN ENQUIRING MIND** \_\_\_\_\_.

**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. expresses dissatisfaction with working in a kitchen?   | B |
| 17. presents the opinions of a group of people on a topic? | A |
| 18. advises certain people not to do a particular job?     | D |
| 19. explains the range of tasks that a chef does?          | C |
| 20. shows people to be in close agreement with each other? | A |

**Text A**

### What makes a great cook?

By Magda Krupa, Food Today

To try and find out the answer to this, 20 well-respected chefs were interviewed. They nearly all agreed that it's a mixture of passion about food and courage to try out new dishes. One of the interesting points that came up in the interviews was the role of the hands. 'Being a great cook is a connection between the hands and the heart,' said Ben Jones.

'Great cooks don't have to think about cooking – they just do it.' To do well in a busy kitchen, being well-organised was said to be important and also the ability to multi-task. But most significant was a calm personality. Jin Lee said, 'Although we think of chefs as excitable, angry people, the best ones stay calm.'

**Text B**

**Paolo:** Just finished my first week in the kitchen of a big restaurant. What a nightmare! Not sure I'll last. I'm suffering from physical exhaustion – my legs ache from standing up!

**Lucy:** Yes, I remember that. Felt the same as you when I started out, but it does get better. In a month or so, you'll probably start enjoying it. You do need to be fit, though, to cope with it.

**Paolo:** Yes, the lifting! My back really aches. Plus I've got bruises from bumping into things! Some of the kitchen preparation is pretty repetitive, too.

**Lucy:** Yes, it can be, but it's so exciting when you create a dish that people love. Positive comments are great! It's a satisfying job. I wouldn't give up if I were you.

**Paolo:** Mmm, thanks, but I'm still not convinced.

**Text C**

Dear Sir,

I am writing to apply for the position of chef at The Green Restaurant, as advertised in Food Magazine on 9 July.

I am a hardworking chef with a great love of preparing food from the freshest ingredients, preferably organic. I have worked as an assistant chef at Vegetarian's Delight for three years, and understand that being a chef is not only about cooking. I have also gained experience in managing other staff, working on staff timetables, and ordering products. I love the wide variety of activities that a chef has to do.

I believe that my enthusiasm for cooking, my creative attitude to my work and my efficiency would make me an ideal candidate for the job.

I enclose a copy of my CV.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,  
Keri Brandt

**Text D**

### Should you become a chef?

Number of chefs in Canada in 2016

Gender	Number of Chefs (2016)
men	150,000
women	100,000

**Become a chef if you love:**

- making people happy 😊
- learning every day 📖
- teamwork 🤝🤝🤝

**Don't become a chef if you:**

- want a high salary 💷💷💷
- want to work short hours ⌚
- don't want to work on public holidays 🌲

**Number of trainee chefs who qualify: 65%**

**Average course length: 2 years**

**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 \_\_\_\_\_
22. \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_
23. \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_
24. \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_
25. \_\_\_\_\_ G \_\_\_\_\_

A Ben Jones thinks that great cooks spend a lot of time planning a new dish.

B Great chefs are not as bad-tempered as they are generally believed to be.

C Lucy is optimistic about Paolo's future as a chef.

D Both Lucy and Paolo find parts of the job boring.

E Keri Brandt would rather use organic food in her cooking.

F Keri has been working as a manager at Vegetarian's Delight.

G Over half the people who study to be chefs pass their course.

H If you work as a chef, you are likely to have a high salary.





