

The final Exam of English

Part One: Reading A) Comprehension/Interpretation (8pts)

The inventor of the television remote control has passed away at the age of 96. The Associated Press news agency reported that Eugene J. Polley died of natural causes. His creation is one of today's most commonly used and ubiquitous devices. Mr Polley worked as an engineer for a company called Zenith, now part of Korea's LG Electronics. He introduced his gun-shaped remote control, called the Flash-Matic, in 1955. It was one of 18 patents he owned. The Flash-Matic used light to turn the Tv on and off, adjust the volume and change channels. His invention was followed up five years later by fellow Zenith engineer Robert Adler, who used ultrasound instead of light. Today's remote controls use infrared light. Polley worked for Zenith for 47 years and held some technology posts. Polley's invention is something we all take for granted nowadays. Generations of people have grown up not knowing that before remote controls, people actually had to leave the sofa and push a button or turn a dial to change their TV settings. Today we use remotes for everything from adjusting the brightness of lights to changing songs on our MP3 player, to opening the garage door from 30 metres. Life would be quite different without this handy gadget.

Adapted from "Internet" magazine

1/The text above is: a-an extract from a book. b-an article. c-an application letter. 0.5

2/Say if these statements are (T) or (F) according to the text. Justify the false ones: 2

- a-The inventor of remote control died from exposure to infrared rays.
- b-The text says the inventor founded a company called Zenith.
- c-The inventor used infrared light in his invention to change TV channels.
- d-The inventor worked for Zenith for nearly five decades.

3/Answer the following questions according to the text: 4

1. Who was the first inventor of the remote control?
2. When did Robert Adler develop the next remote?
3. What kinds of tasks a remote control can do?
4. What do you think of that invention?

4/What/ who do the underlined words refer to in the text? 1.5

a- he b- who c- this handy gadget

B) Text Exploration (07pts)

1/Find in the text words that are closest in meaning to: 0.5

a-creator=----- b-modify=-----

2/Divide these words into roots and affixes: Inventor - remote - ultrasound - brightness 1

Example: International

| prefix | root | Suffix |
|--------|--------|--------|
| inter | nation | al |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

3/Ask questions which the underlined words answer: 2

Eugene J. Polley invented the remote control in 1955.

- (1)
- (2)

4/Join sentences using the right given connector/link word: 1.5

- 1. a)Louis Pasteur faced a lot of difficulties. b)He discovered a vaccine. although
- 2. a)Einstein stopped working on new ideas. b)He didn't find the Theory of Relativity. if

5/Underline silent letters in the following words: 1

knowing -stopped-vaccine- would

6/Fill in each gap with only one word from the list: 2

(information -shoes -sensor - the number)

An amazing new invention by a British student will help lazy overweight children. It will also reduce-----1----- of hours of television they watch every day. The technology is called "square-eye". It is a tiny, computerized-----2-----that fits into children's-----3-----. It measures the number of steps the child takes during the day and sends this-----4----- to the family computer.

PART TWO: WRITTEN EXPRESSION 5PTS

Choose ONE of the following topics

TOPIC ONE: Many inventions are often progressive developments, with no one person fully responsible. Sometimes many people are involved, with a basic model being improved on and turned into workable models. Use these notes to write about the invention of planes:

- In the 9th century/ Abbas Ibn Firnas/ first man/ to fly
- December 17, 1903 first **Aeroplane**/made by Orville Wright.
- First plane/ made of wood.
- By 1909, Wright/ make a demonstration of flight around the Hudson River in New York.
- Aeroplane technology rapidly improved/ used for military means in the First World War.

TOPIC TWO: Do you think that Television is a useful invention? Express your opinion in a paragraph of about 8 lines.

