

FRAMHALDSSKÓLINN Í  
VESTMANNAEYJUM

**Enska 503**

**Próftími 90 mínútur**

Part I + II

Nafn : \_\_\_\_\_ Kennit: \_\_\_\_\_

**Kennari:** !

**Hjálpargögn:** Engin/None.

**Vægi prófpátta:**

I.	Unread Text	20%
II.	Vocabulary and usage	20%

Make sure this test copy has 6 pages in addition to the front page.

**Good luck and enjoy your holidays!**

## I. Comprehension (20%)

You are going to read an article entitled "Organs of Speech". For questions 1-12, choose the answer (a, b, or c) which you think fits best according to the text. (NB. There is only ONE right answer).

### ORGANS OF SPEECH

1. The human brain and vocal tract have a number of slightly unusual features. By themselves, these features are not sufficient to indicate that people can talk. But if we first assume that all humans speak a language, then a number of puzzling biological facts fall into place. They can be viewed as partial adaptations of the body to the production of language.
2. For example, human teeth are unusual compared with those of other animals. They are even in height, and form an unbroken barrier. They are upright, not slanting outwards, and the top and bottom set meet. Such regularity is surprising - it is certainly not needed for eating. Yet evenly spaced, equal-sized teeth which touch one another are essential for the articulation of a number of sounds, S, F, and Y, for example, as well as SH (as in shut) TH (as in thin) and several others.
3. Human lips have muscles which are considerably more developed, and show more intricate interlacing than those in the lips of other primates. The mouth is relatively small, and can be opened and shut rapidly. This makes it simple to pronounce sounds such as P and B, which require total stoppage of the airstream with the lips, followed by a sudden release of pressure as the mouth is opened. Again, the human tongue is thick, muscular and mobile, as opposed to the long thin tongues of monkeys. The advantage of a thick tongue is that the size of the mouth cavity can be varied, allowing a range of vowels to be pronounced.
4. Another important difference between men and monkeys concerns the larynx, commonly known as the "voice box" or "vocal chords". Strangely, they are simpler in structure than those of other primates. But this is an advantage. Air can move freely past them and then out through the nose

and mouth without being hindered by other appendages. Biologically, streamlining and simplification are often indications of specialization for a given purpose. For example, hoofed animals have a reduced numbers of toes, and fish do not have limbs. So the streamlining of the human larynx may be a sign of adaptation to speech.

5. We now come to the lungs. Though there is no apparent peculiarity in the structure of man's lungs, his breathing seems to be remarkably adapted to speech. In most animals the respiratory system is a very finely balanced mechanism. A human submerged under water for more than two minutes will possibly drown. Anyone who pants rapidly and continuously for any length of time faints, and sometimes dies. Yet during speech the breathing rhythm is altered quite noticeably without apparent discomfort to the speaker. The number of breaths per minute is reduced. Breathing-in is considerably accelerated, breathing-out is slowed down. Yet people frequently talk for an hour or more with no ill-effects. A child learning to play the flute or trumpet has to be carefully instructed in breathing techniques -but no one has to instruct a two year old on the breathing adaptations required for talking.

1. **The passage suggests that certain unusual features of human anatomy**
  - a) are proof that humans are meant to speak
  - b) make us assume that humans have language
  - c) may be explained with reference to speech
  
2. **According to the text, if the teeth of humans were uneven in height and slanted outwards**
  - a) eating would be easier
  - b) some sounds would be difficult to make
  - c) they would be surprisingly regular
  
3. **In paragraph 2, the word articulation is closest in meaning to**
  - a) clear pronunciation
  - b) joining smoothly together

- c) separation into parts
4. The word intricate in paragraph 3 refers directly to which other word in the text?
- a) developed
  - b) interlacing
  - c) muscles
5. It can be inferred from the text that monkeys
- a) have difficulty opening and shutting their mouths
  - b) have relatively simple muscles in their lips
  - c) have streamlined voice boxes
6. In paragraph 3, the word mobile is closest in meaning to
- a) bulky
  - b) movable
  - c) strong
7. In paragraph 3, the word cavity is closest in meaning to
- a) hole in a tooth
  - b) hollow space
  - c) sustained sound
8. According to the text, which of the following is NOT an example of streamlining?
- a) hooped animals' toes
  - b) human lips
  - c) human vocal cords

9. According to paragraph 5, how do the lungs of humans compare to the lungs of animals?

- a) They are unusual in their structure.
- b) They can support a surprising variety of breathing rhythms.
- c) They have an unusually fine mechanical balance.

10. In paragraph 5, the word accelerated is closest in meaning to

- a) done faster
- b) done irregularly
- c) done more often

11. According to the text, irregular breathing rhythms during speech

- a) cause discomfort
- b) come naturally
- c) slow people down

12. A general assumption underlying this passage is that human speech organs

- a) are partial adaptations of animal streamlining
- b) have developed differently from those of related animals
- c) have no similarity to those of related animals

## II. Vocabulary and Usage. (20%)

a) (10%) Fill in the gaps with the appropriate form of the words in the list. NB. There are more words than you need.

*gingerly - mutilate - volatile - viable - amputate - crinkle - tuck - paradoxical - feat - ricochet - menace - apprehension - hail*

1. The ball \_\_\_\_\_ off the goalkeeper and into the net.
2. My clothes were all \_\_\_\_\_ when I got them out of the case.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ enough, the faster he tried to finish, the longer it seemed to take him.
4. I reached out \_\_\_\_\_ to touch the snake.
5. Her leg was so badly damaged that the doctors had to \_\_\_\_\_ it.
6. The situation in the streets is highly \_\_\_\_\_, and the army is being called in.
7. Tommy walked away whistling, the dusty old book \_\_\_\_\_ beneath his arm.
8. It was quite a \_\_\_\_\_ to move that piano by yourself.
9. She was \_\_\_\_\_ in the accident and now has only one leg.
10. Drunk drivers are a \_\_\_\_\_ to everyone.

**b) (5%) Look at the idioms in *italics* and answer these questions.**

1. What is your economic situation if your *bank account is in the red*?

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2. "The report was simply *a whitewash*". What was the purpose of that report?

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3. When do people try to buy something on *the black market*?

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4. The thieves *took to their heels*. What did they do?

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5. Claire felt bad because again she *dropped a clanger*. What did she do?

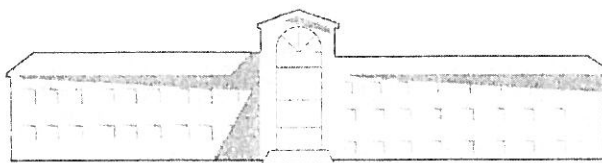
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c. (5%) Match the words given under A with the meaning given under B.  
List A has some extra items.

- | A                    | B  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. ____ covetous     | a) Something unusual, brave or funny that someone has done.                        |
| 2. ____ adage        | b) The highest point of a mountain   |
| 3. ____ respective   | c) The space or room at the top of a building under a roof.                        |
| 4. ____ pseudopodia  | d) Extremely dangerous.  |
| 5. ____ protrusion   | e) Desiring something too much, especially something that belongs to someone else. |
| 6. ____ gorge        | f) Of or for each one; particular and separate.                                    |
| 7. ____ manure       | g) Something that sticks out from a surface, or the act of doing this.             |
| 8. ____ exploit      | h) Unwanted waste material; rubbish.   |
| 9. ____ refuse       | i) A wise saying; proverb.   |
| 10. ____ attic       | j) Excrement from animals used as fertilizer.                                      |
| 11. ____ callousness |  |
| 12. ____ summit      |  |
| 13. ____ perilous    |  |



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**PART II**

**Nafn :** \_\_\_\_\_ **Kennit:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Kennari:**

**Hjálpargögn:** An English-English or an English-Icelandic dictionary.

**Vægi prófpátta:**

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|------|-------------------------|-----|
| I.   | Lord of the Flies       | 20% |
| II.  | Wuthering Heights       | 20% |
| III. | Miscellaneous Questions | 20% |

Make sure this test copy has 5 pages in addition to the front page.

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**I. (20%) Questions about Lord of the Flies.**

1. (4%) "If you're hunting sometimes you catch yourself feeling as if \_\_\_\_"  
He flushed suddenly.  
"There is nothing in it of course. Just a feeling. But you can feel as if you're not hunting, but \_\_\_\_ being hunted; as if something's behind you all the time in the jungle.  
Who is talking and about what?"
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2. (4%) This was too bitter for Piggy, who forgot his timidity in the agony of his loss. He began to cry out, shrilly: "You and your blood, Jack Merridew! You and your hunting! We might have gone home \_\_\_\_\_"  
Why was Piggy so upset? What had happened?
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3. (4%) Ralph found himself taking giant strides among the ashes, heard other creatures crying out and leaping and dared the impossible on the dark slope; presently the mountain was deserted, save for the three abandoned sticks and the thing that bowed.  
Why did Ralph, Jack and Roger run away? What did they see on top of the mountain?
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4. (4%) What was Simon going to tell the other boys just before he was killed and what is ironic about it?
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5. (4%) In "Lord of the Flies" a lot of things we encounter are given a

symbolic meaning by the way the author, William Golding, uses them. In a few words explain what could the conch, the staked pig's head, the fire and Piggy's glasses symbolize?

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**II. (20%) Questions about Wuthering Heights.**

**A. Answer these questions in English in full sentences.**

1. (5%) What does Emily Bronte achieve by giving the reader two accounts of the incident in which Isabella and Hindley lock Heathcliff out of Wuthering Heights?

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2. (3%) Apart from being a tenant at Thrushcross Grange, what role does Mr. Lockwood play in the story?

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**B. Circle the letter that is the best answer.**

1. (3%) What is inscribed above the entrance of Wuthering Heights?
  - a) "Hindley Earnshaw, 1500".
  - b) "1623"
  - c) "Abandon all hope, ye who enter here".
  - d) Hareton Earnshaw, 1500".
  
2. (3%) Over the course of the novel, which characters claim to see Catherine's ghost?
  - a) Lockwood and Heathcliff.
  - b) Heathcliff, Hareton, young Catherine, and Joseph.
  - c) Edgar Linton and Heathcliff.
  - d) Joseph and Nelly Dean.
  
3. (3%) According to Heathcliff, when will Catherine's body decompose?
  - a) When a hundred centuries have passed.
  - b) When Edgar Linton is finally cursed to hell.
  - c) When Heathcliff can join her in the earth.
  - d) Never.
  
4. (3%) Which character speaks the words "I am Heathcliff".
  - a) Linton Heathcliff.
  - b) Hareton.
  - c) Heathcliff.
  - d) Catherine.

**III. (20%) Miscellaneous questions.**

1. (5%) "A Rose for Emily".
    - a) (2.5%) Why did Miss Emily's house smell so badly that her neighbours had to complain to Judge Stevens?
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- b) (2.5%) Why is the title of the story "A Rose for Emily"?  
Mention at least two possible reasons.

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2. (2.5) "Civilization and History" By C.E.M. Joad.

According to Joad are people today more civilized in any way than in the past? If so, in what way?

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3. (2.5%) "Big Numbers and Infinities".

(Circle the best answer a, b, c or d)

The author says the story of Sissa Ben is a "legend", which means that it may or may not be true. Is there any part of the story which is true and has to be believed?

- a) The game of chess was invented by Sissa Ben.
- b) Sissa Ben asked for the wheat grains as stated in the story.
- c) The number of wheat grains required to cover the 64 squares in the way described is really the large number stated in the story.
- d) King Shirham and Sissa Ben really lived in India.

4. (2.5%) "A Shocking Accident".

Sally asks "what happened to the poor pig?" Where has this been said before? Why is Jerome so happy to hear Sally say this?

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## 5. (2.5%) "Life of Aesop"

According to some scholars, what was Aesop's social status by birth?

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## 6. Circle the best alternative a, b, c or d.

## A. (2.5%) Foot in poetry is

- a) the creation and use of words which include sounds that are similar to the noises that the words refer to.
- b) a unit of division of a line of poetry containing one strong beat and one or two weaker ones.
- c) a pause usually near the middle of a verse line.
- d) a line of verse where only the last syllable of words are repeated.

B. (2.5%) "Glittering and still shall come the awful night."

This line is an example of the use of:

- a) Onomatopoeia.
- b) Assonance.
- c) Consonance.
- d) Alliteration.