

English 102 – Final Exam



**Philadelphia University
Language Centre
English Skills 2 (0130102)
First Semester 2017/2018**

Student's Name: _____

No: _____

Instructor's Name: _____

Section: _____

Part One: Reading Comprehension (10 Points)

Read the following text and answer the questions that follow.

Offshore Italy

Unspoiled, even wild, the Italian island of Sicily gives an unexpected flavor to holidays in the Mediterranean.

Holidays are often about nostalgia. What most of us want is to visit a “real” country. We want unspoiled landscapes, markets, traditions, cuisine and distinctive architecture. We want people who are welcoming yet different from us.

Historically there are two ways in which local character is preserved. The first is poverty; the second is physical separation from the mainland – they key reason why Sicily has stayed unspoiled.

Sicily – Mosaics, Ruins and Gleaming Churches

I recently went to Taormina, Sicily's best-known seaside resort. Its location is so charming that the English writer, D. H. Lawrence, made it his home for a while. Now, although the maze of traffic-free medieval streets is crowded in high summer, and pools are stacked up in blue terraces overlooking the sea, nothing has diminished the town's magic.

In the East of Sicily, there's a link with southern Italy, but move further west and the influence is decidedly more Arab. By the time you enter the Sicilian capital, Palermo, with its souk-ish Vucciria street market as well as its cafes serving Arab authentic dishes, especially couscous, there is an exciting whiff of North Africa.

In Palermo, this fusion of the two traditions has produced some of the most beautifully decorated buildings in this part of the world.

Sicily may not have much mountain wildness, but it is a lovely broad landscape with rolling plains and corn-colored hills. Life is taken at a relatively slow pace and sleepy hilltop towns come to life only for a festival or wedding (both astonishingly frequent events). In some of this lovely country, farmers are waking up to the possibilities of boosting an income by offering hospitality (converted cottages and, sometimes, country food) to enthusiastic tourists.

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Visiting Sicily now, it is easy to forget that for nearly three thousand years, it was the most fought-over island in the Mediterranean. The ancient Greeks loved it as one of their richest colonies and left behind a marvelous (and well-preserved) collection of temples to prove it.

A. Circle the correct answer. (4 points)

1. According to the text, what holiday in Sicily would be like?

- a) The island is a perfect place for voluntourism, as people can work in developing projects on the one hand, and enjoy entertaining activities on the other hand.
- b) Sicily is an example of a global village, where tourists are introduced to cultures and traditions from all over the world.
- c) Sicily is a place which hasn't been spoiled by modern urban features. Hence, people can enjoy the wild beauty of the island.
- d) A holiday in Sicily would be comfortable, as tourists can enjoy a modern lifestyle and luxurious accommodation.

2. How does the writer describe a real country?

- a) A place with unspoiled natural views, welcoming people, traditional markets, unique architectural structures and traditional delicious dishes.
- b) According to the writer, a real country is a place where people can live altogether in peace.
- c) A real country is the one which has many touristic attractions.
- d) A real country does not suffer from urban problems like poverty and pollution.

3. The text cannot be published in a book about:

- a) Touristic attractions worldwide
- b) The Mediterranean islands
- c) The Italian history
- d) Modern urban art in Italy

4. Which of the following information is NOT mentioned about Sicily?

- a) When there is a festival of wedding in Sicily, the place becomes livelier.
- b) Sicily was influenced by the Arab culture, which is apparent in Arab food.
- c) The island of Sicily was reigned by the Greeks, and witnessed many wars in the past.
- d) There are many Roman monuments and leftovers in Sicily.

B. Complete the following sentences with the correct answers: (3 points)

1. According to the writer, the key reason which made Sicily remain unspoiled is that: it preserved a physical separation from the mainland.
2. The English writer who lived in Sicily is: D. H. Lawrence.

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3. Although Sicily was occupied by the Greeks, there is also an exciting whiff of the Arab/ North African culture.

C. Decide whether the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE. (3 points)

1. When the maze of traffic-free medieval streets become crowded in high summer, the island of Sicily turns into a noisy and ugly place. (TRUE / FALSE)
2. Sicily is more famous with its mountain wildness than its plains and hills. (TRUE / FALSE)
3. Farmers sometimes offer converted cottages and country food to excited tourists who visit the island. (TRUE / FALSE)

Part Two: Vocabulary (10 points)

A. Circle the most suitable word that completes the meaning. (5 points)

1. These Islands are _____ for authentic ancient architectural remains.

- a) remarkable
- b) liable
- c) available
- d) breakable

2. This is a luxurious hotel where you can find excellent facilities and expensive _____.

- a) vulture
- b) furniture
- c) vision
- d) mission

3. The hotel received a letter of complaint expressing the _____ of one of its earlier guest who hadn't received good services.

- a) discussion
- b) disability
- c) dissatisfaction
- d) decoration

4. At the airport, you can buy many of the _____ that would remind you of your visit to a certain country.

- a) guests
- b) peasants
- c) souvenirs
- d) surroundings

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5. Prairie in the USA is indeed the landscape of one's dreams, a paradise still largely untouched and _____ by the activities of man.

- a) unpleasant
- b) uncivilized
- c) unspoiled
- d) unreliable

B. Complete the sentences below using words from the box: (5 points).

local community / reservation/ two minds/ try out/ local area / balustrades

1. Scientists are going to _____ **try out** _____ a new drug in the fight against Cancer.
2. A _____ **reservation** _____ is needed for the busy hotel since rooms are usually booked months in advance.
3. Residents in the _____ **local area** _____ are protesting against the new developing project which would demolish the old buildings.
4. The rooms in this hotel developed into more sophisticated roomed with stone walls, vaulted ceilings and _____ **balustrades** _____.
5. I am in _____ **two minds** _____ about whether or not to go to the party tonight. I'm sure it will be fun, but I have a lot of work to do too.

Part Three: Structure (7 Points)

A. Circle the best answer.

1. On our vacation, we stayed _____ days in Florence in order to visit as many historical places as possible.

- a) a few
- b) a little
- c) any
- d) little

2. _____ on vacation this year.

- a) Let's don't go.
- b) Let's not go
- c) Let's go not
- d) Don't let's go.

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3. In April 1967, boxer Cassius Clay, who later changed his name to Mohammad Ali, refused _____ the United States Army for religious reasons.

- a) join
- b) to join
- c) joining
- d) him join

4. The driver of the car had to swerve suddenly to avoid _____ a young child who ran into the street after a ball.

- a) hit
- b) hitting
- c) to hit
- d) hits

5. Dana and Diana work as a pair, but _____ women are also outstanding when they work individually.

- a) any
- b) either
- c) both
- d) each

6. A:” _____ you told her about us?”

B:” No, not really.”

- a) Do
- b) Didn't
- c) Haven't
- d) Don't

7. Mohammad used to be a pretty good mechanic, _____ he?

- a) isn't
- b) did
- c) didn't
- d) wasn't

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Part Four: Writing (3 points)

Write a three part paragraph on the following topic:

- **What do you plan to do on your winter vacation? Discuss the following:**
 - a) **Whether you are leaving Jordan or staying in the country.**
 - b) **Your everyday routine during your vacation.**
 - c) **The places you would like to visit.**

Good Luck!