



**Philadelphia University  
Language Center  
English Skills 99 (0130099)  
Second Semester 2017/2018**

**Student's Name:** .....  
**Instructor's Name:** .....

**Student's number:** .....  
**Section:** .....

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**Part One: Reading Comprehension (6points)**

**Read the following text and answer the questions.**

**A. Crazy Competitions!**

Ross McDermott and Andrew Owen travel around the United States going to different festivals. They blog about their experiences on The American Festivals Project. Many of the festivals are also competitions.

**The Idiotarod**

The Idiotarod is an annual race in New York City. Each team must have five people and a shopping cart. They can decorate their carts but they can't change the wheels. All the teams have to start and finish at the same place but they don't have to run on the same roads. The teams can choose their route but the members of each team must reach the finish line together. And they can't finish without the cart!

**Mud Bowl Championship**

Mud Bowl Football is similar to normal American football. The game is shorter but there are two teams and a referee. The winner is the team with the most points at the end of sixty minutes. The only real difference is that the players have to play in a foot and a half of mud!

**Combine Harvester Fight**

Combine harvesters are normally found on farms, but for one day every summer in the small town of Hillsdale, Michigan, farmers compete against each other for a prize of \$1,500. For three hours, the giant machines have to fight until only one combine harvester is still moving.

**A. Choose the correct answer.**

- 1. In The Idiotarod, the members of each team need to reach the finish line .....**
  - a. one by one
  - b. after sixty minutes
  - c. with their shopping cart
  - d. after running on the same road

**2. The main important difference between Med Bowl football and the American football is.....**

- a. that it has only one referee
- b. that it last for 16 minutes
- c. that the players have to play in a foot and a half of mud
- d. that the winner is the team with the least points

**B. Answer by *True or False***

- 1. The team members of the Idiotarod are allowed to change the wheels of their cart.(        )
- 2. Combine Harvester Fight is an annual fight. (        )

**Read the following text and answer the questions.**

**B.** The Enduring Voices Project was set up to stop languages from dying out. The people in the organization believe that one language dies every fourteen days. That means by the end of this century, about seven thousand languages may no longer exist. The Enduring Voices Project tries to discover places where languages may die. They call them "hotspots". For example, in the hotspot Eastern Siberia there are ten languages in danger. The younger generation is using the main language –Russian- at school, but many families still use different languages at home. Further south in Southeast Asia, the main languages are Cantonese, Vietnamese, or Thai. But there are also languages like Arem. There are only about forty speakers of this language left in the world. But perhaps Aboriginal Australian languages in Northern Australia are in the worst hotspot of all. Because the Aboriginal groups are small and spread over such a wide area, it's difficult to pass on their languages and cultures to the younger generation. With one language called Amurdag, there is only one surviving speaker and it isn't written anywhere. The Enduring Voices team have now made recordings of this language.

**A. Choose the correct answer.**

**1. In Eastern Siberia, there are places where.....languages will probably die out.**

- a. seven thousand
- b. forty
- c. two
- d. ten

**2. There is no written form of**

- a. Amurdag
- b. Russian
- c. Cantonese
- d. Arem

**B. Answer by *True or False***

- 1. It is believed that one language disappears every two weeks. (        )
- 2. Younger people in Eastern Siberia speak Russian at School. (        )

**Critical Thinking**

**In 4 sentences, answer the following question:**

**1. What is your favorite sport? Why?**

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Part Two: Vocabulary ( 4 points)**

**Read the following sentences carefully and then fill in the blanks with the most suitable word that completes the meaning:**

<b>impatient</b>	<b>fit</b>	<b>applauded</b>	<b>injured</b>	<b>complain</b>
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1. Sometimes you have to ..... in writing to the government to have things done.
2. Seven passengers were .....in the last accident in Ma'an.
3. No one ..... during the performance. Only a few laughs were heard.
4. The manager gets..... as she has to wait every time she has a meeting with the staff.

**Part Three: Grammar (5 Points)**

**Read the following sentences carefully and then circle the most suitable answer.**

**1. Since I'm the best at ..... Mansaf, my family always insists that I prepare it at all our gatherings.**

- a. to cook
- b. cooking
- c. cook
- d. be cooking

**2. I don't have to explain myself to you. The underlined modal verb means:**

- a. It is not allowed.
- b. It is necessary and an obligation.
- c. It is prohibited.
- d. It is not necessary but allowed.

- 3. .... a healthy breakfast is one of the most important reasons to be energetic for the whole day.**
- a. Have
  - b. To have
  - c. Has
  - d. Having
- 4. .... you like to study abroad one day?**
- a. Do
  - b. Are
  - c. Would
  - d. Did
- 5. It is necessary for people to know that they ..... always win; sometimes we learn important lessons from losing.**
- a. can
  - b. can't
  - c. must
  - d. have to