

Sample Test Format

Candidates will be expected to take part in a 5-7 minute speaking test and a 70 minute Grammar and Reading test which consists of 100 questions. You can expect to find the following type of questions as part of the test:

A) Multiple choice questions

Circle the correct answer.

1. What _____ in London last weekend?

- a. you were doing b. did you do c. you did d. did you

2. Is your English improving? _____

- a. I hope it b. Hoping c. I hope so d. I hope

B) A gap fill exercise

Choose the correct word to fill in the gaps in the text below.

The Pitcairn Islands are _____ in the South Pacific Ocean, about halfway _____ Peru and New Zealand. The larger island of Pitcairn was _____ in 1767 by the British and settled in 1790 by the mutineers from the English ship 'Bounty' and their Tahitian companions.

a) located b) sited c) stationed d) settled

a) middle b) between c) centre d) close

a) uncovered b) discovered c) created d) invented

C) A short reading comprehension exercise

Read the text and answer the questions that follow it.

Reassessing the Impacts of Brain Drain on Developing Countries

Brain drain, which is the action of having highly skilled and educated people leaving their country to work abroad, has become a source of concern for developing countries. Brain drain is also referred to as human capital flight. More and more third world science and technology educated people are heading for more prosperous countries seeking higher wages and better working conditions. This has of course serious consequences on the sending countries.

While many people believe that immigration is a personal choice that must be understood and respected, others look at the phenomenon from a different perspective. What makes those educated people leave their countries should be seriously considered and a distinction between push and pull factors must be made. The push factors include low wages and lack of satisfactory working and living conditions. Social unrest, political conflicts and wars may also be determining causes. The pull factors, however, include intellectual freedom and substantial funds for research.

Brain drain has negative impact on the sending countries economic prospects and competitiveness. It reduces the number of dynamic and creative people who can contribute to

the development of their country. Likewise, with more entrepreneurs taking their investments abroad, developing countries are missing an opportunity of wealth creation. This has also negative consequences on tax revenue and employment.

Most of the measures taken so far have not had any success in alleviating the effects of brain drain. A more global view must take into consideration the provision of adequate working and living conditions in the sending countries. Another option should involve encouraging the expatriates to contribute their skill to the development of their countries without necessarily physically relocating.

Comprehension:

1. Another term for brain drain is:
 - a. capital flight
 - b. human capital flight
2. To address the problem of brain drain we should understand:
 - a. the causes.
 - b. the effects.
3. Brain drain has terrible consequences on the economic development of :
 - a. sending countries
 - b. receiving countries
4. To limit the negative impact of brain drain, expatriates should
 - a. come back to their home countries for good.
 - b. try to help their home countries while staying there.

D) A Writing Assignment

Write about 80 words

You travelled by plane last week and your suitcase was lost. You have still heard nothing from the airline company.

Write to the airline and explain what happened. Describe your suitcase and tell them what was in it. Find out what they are going to do about it.