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1 Vocabulary – Types of Tests

| IQ test | eye test | entrance exam | drug(s) test | physical fitness test | driving test | written test | oral test | medical exam |

2 Discussion

1. Which tests are shown in the pictures
2. Why and where would a person take the exams listed above?
3. Which of these tests and exams have you taken? Which ones will you take over the next few years?

3 Complete these sentences with tests from the box above.

1. I don’t think ______________ are an accurate measure of intelligence.
2. Opticians recommend having an ______________ at least once every two years.
3. I’m hopeless at ______________ because I get too nervous and can’t speak properly.
4. She had to return her medal after she failed a ______________.
5. The hardest part of the ______________ is the five-mile run.
6. He didn’t have to do his military service because he failed the ______________.
Exam Experiences

4 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

marks  take  measure  memory  coursework  sitting

1. Exams are the best way to ____________ how much students have learnt. They are very fair because everyone in the country has to answer the same questions. However, coursework such as essays and projects should be included. I think a student’s final mark should be 60% exams and 40% ____________.

2. I’m not very good at taking exams. Before an important exam, I usually get very nervous so I can’t sleep very well. That means I’m pretty tired when I’m ____________ the exam which just makes things worse.

3. I’m quite good at taking exams because I have a good short-term ____________ and I don’t get too nervous. I got good ____________ for most of my classes when I was at high school. In fact, I usually got As for all my classes except for maths.

4. Some companies ask their employees to ____________ drugs tests. I think that employers should trust their workers rather than treat them like criminals.

5 In pairs, discuss 1–4.

6 Advice for Taking Exams
Do you agree with these suggestions? Can you think of any others?

1. Drink some coffee before you sit it. 4. Go to a church, mosque or temple and pray.
2. Don’t study the day before the exam; do something relaxing instead. 5. Stay up late revising your notes.
3. Start revising three weeks before it. 6. Sit next to a good student and copy his/her answers.

Talking about your school exam results

I got 97% in/for biology. I usually get very good marks in/for maths.

What mark did you get in/for the chemistry exam? I got nineteen out of twenty.

I was expecting a B, but I got a D.
What things could cause you to have a bad day at school?

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the box.

fell asleep  go off  cheating  fainted  forgot
broke  missed  fell out  twisted  caught

1. I overslept because my alarm didn’t _____________.
2. I ____________ the school bus so I was late for class.
3. While I was playing softball, I ____________ a classroom window.
4. My maths teacher was angry because I ____________ in class.
5. I ____________ to take my homework.
6. One of my contact lenses ____________ and I couldn’t find it.
7. I ____________ my ankle while I was playing football.
8. My science teacher caught me ____________ in an exam.
9. I ____________ during a school assembly.
10. My English teacher ____________ me playing games on my cell phone.

2. Which of these have happened to you? Can you think of any other bad things that could happen?

3. Have you ever failed an exam for any of the following reasons?

Why might you fail an exam? You might fail an exam because:

- you’re not good at that subject.
- the exam was too hard.
- you didn’t feel well.
- you were too nervous.
- you didn’t study for it.
- you missed a lot of classes before the exam.
- you didn’t turn the exam paper over so you only answered half of the questions.
**Writing a Narrative Essay**

**Essay topic:** “Yesterday was my worst day at school.” Continue the story.

4. Complete the essay by filling the blanks with the time words from the box.

   moment       continued       when       from now on       after       while

My day at school yesterday was a nightmare! I overslept because I had gone to bed late and forgotten to set my alarm. (1)________ I woke up, I got a terrible surprise. It was ten o’clock! I put on my uniform and ran to school. Unfortunately, (2)________ I was running, I slipped and fell into a muddy puddle.

(3)________ arriving at school, I apologised to my teacher, Miss Evans. She told me to go to the boys’ toilets to clean myself up. While I was there, I saw a boy from the year ahead of me smoking. He handed me his cigarette. I took it but said I didn’t want to try it. At that very (4)________, the headmaster walked in and saw me holding the cigarette. He called my parents and told them that I had been caught smoking.

My bad luck (5)________ during the lunch break. I was playing cricket with some friends when suddenly I hit the ball really far. It flew over the sports field and crashed through a classroom window.

All in all, yesterday was the worst day that I’ve ever had at school. (6)____________. I’m going to go to bed earlier, remember to set my alarm, and be more careful.

5. **Useful Time Phrases for Telling Stories**

Find the following patterns in the essay above. Underline and mark them A–D.

A. While I was V-ing, I V-ed
B. After V-ing, I V-ed
C. I was V-ing when (all of a sudden, suddenly) I V-ed
D. All of a sudden /Suddenly / At that very moment, sb V-ed

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**The Past Perfect (had + past participle)** is used when we are talking about two things that happened in the past. The past perfect shows which event happened first. We often add ‘already’. *When I got home, they had already eaten.*

What happened first in these two sentences?

*I overslept because I had gone to bed late.*

*He called my parents and told them that I had been caught smoking.*