

CORRECTION CONCOURS BLANC - ENGLISH

SECTION A: GRAMMAR (05 marks)

I. Complete the gaps in these sentences with *this, that, these or those*. (2.5 marks)

1. I don't seem to get much time to myself **these** days.
2. Why don't you wear **that** dress you wore to Petra's party? It looked great.
3. You are not going to school in **those** shoes – they're much too high.
4. I can't really see the Toshiba rep on the 20th – I've got two meetings already **that** morning.
5. Aren't your parents arriving **this** Friday? We'd better go to the supermarket tonight.

II. Cross out the option which is not possible in each of the sentences below. (2.5 marks)

1. I have seen that film ***three times / a long time / before***.
2. Congratulations! We've ***just / never / already*** heard the good news!
3. Have you been using a computer a lot ***lately / in the last few weeks / last week?***
4. Ateba and Ngono have known each other ***for ages / since they were little / recently***.
5. This isn't good enough Darren – that's the third mistake you've made ***for a week / so far this week / since the beginning of the week!***

SECTION B: VOCABULARY (5 marks)

Which phrase with “*way*” best completes each sentence? (2.5 marks)

1. Do you find that, when they get lost, men are much more reluctant to ***ask the way/ find their way/ know the way*** than women?
2. Many parents say that you shouldn't let children ***go out of their way/ have their own way/ get in the way/*** all the time, or they will grow up spoiled and selfish.
3. I just called the taxi firm, and they say that the cab is ***in the way/ on its way/ under way***.
4. 'Can I get past, please?' 'Oh, I'm sorry. Are my bags ***in the way/ from the way/ under the way?***
5. They started work on the bridge in April and they still haven't done much. ***By the way/ No way*** will it be finished by the end of the year?

I. Choose the correct words to complete the sentences. (2.5 marks)

1. I'm not at all sure what to do this weekend. I'm really at a loose _____ .
A. time **B. end** C. up
2. Have you got anything _____ up for tonight?
A. straight B. going **C. lined**
3. I'm afraid I'm _____ up all week sorting out the accounts.
A. **tied** B. turned C. lined
4. You need to just relax and put your feet _____ .
A. on B. down **C. up**
5. They've had to call _____ the wedding because she's changed her mind.
A. on B. of **C. off**

SECTION C: READING COMPREHENSION (10 marks)

I. Which of the following statements reflect the author's views? There are four correct answers (4 marks)

- a) **Beijing has the same attraction today it has always had for the people of China.**
- b) These days, people in Beijing have the same aspirations as people anywhere else.
- c) **It's hard to keep up with the pace of change in modern Beijing.**
- d) Beijing has been completely ruined by modernization.
- e) **Life in Beijing is more comfortable materially than it was in the 1980s.**
- f) **Beijing is an amazing place that all visitors will love.**

II. Identify and write down words and phrases in the text which show that the following sentences are true. (6 marks)

- a) Lots of people come to Beijing from the countryside to pursue their dreams. (*... people from the countryside still flock to the city in search of the elusive pot of gold at the end of the rainbow*)
- b) The capital is extremely attractive to these people. (*the lure of the capital proves too enticing*)
- c) The differences between old and young people's attitudes are very obvious in Beijing. (*perhaps nowhere else in China more than in Beijing is the generation gap more visible*)
- d) Old people are very enthusiastic about the Communist past. (*many older people still wax euphoric about Chairman Mao and the years of sacrifice for the socialist revolution*)
- e) Many young people have no respect for Communist ideals. (*...most youngsters disdain socialist sacrifice ...*)
- f) The builders are in a great hurry. (*...24-hour crews scrambling to build the new China*)
- g) Many new buildings are luxurious. (*plush shopping malls and five-star hotels rise from the rubble*)
- h) Traditional homes have been replaced by big blocks of apartments. (*...single-story homes built around courtyards. They have given way to the high-rise housing estates of the 1990s*)
- i) In the 1980s no-one expected to have such things as a TV set or a washing machine. (*TV sets and washing machines – unimaginable luxuries in the 1980s ...*)
- j) A lot of people now have these things. (*...are now commonplace*)
- k) People usually wear western clothes now. (*...now jeans and T-shirts, leather jackets and suits are the norm*)
- l) Near Beijing there are some extremely impressive things to see. (*Within its environs you will find some of China's most stunning sights...*)