

## ESAME DI STATO CONCLUSIVO DEL SECONDO CICLO DI ISTRUZIONE

Indirizzo: LICEO LINGUISTICO

(Testo valevole per tutti gli indirizzi del settore LINGUISTICO)

**Disciplina:** LINGUA E CULTURA STRANIERA 1 (INGLESE)

### IL CANDIDATO DEVE SVOLGERE TUTTE LE ATTIVITÀ COMPRESE NELLA PROVA

### PART 1 - COMPREHENSION AND INTERPRETATION

### **Question A**

### Read the following text

'Oh hello,' she said as she opened the hall door, the day I heard about Liam.

'Hello. Darling.' She might say the same to the cat.

'Come in. Come in,' as she stands in the doorway, and does not move to let me pass.

Of course, she knows who I am, it is just my name that escapes her. Her eyes flick from side to side as she wipes one after another off her list.

'Hello, Mammy,' I say, just to give her a hint. And I make my way past her into the hall.

The house knows me. Always smaller than it should be; the walls run closer and more complicated than the ones you remember. The place is always too small.

Behind me, my mother opens the sitting room door.

10 'Will you have something? A cup of tea?'

But I do not want to go into the sitting room. I am not a visitor. This is my house too. I was inside it, as it grew; as the dining room was knocked into the kitchen, as the kitchen swallowed the back garden. It is the place where my dreams still happen.

Not that I would ever live here again. The place is all extension and no house. Even the cubby-hole beside the kitchen door has another door at the back of it, so you have to battle your way through coats and hoovers to get into the downstairs loo. You could not sell the place, I sometimes think, except as a site. Level it and start again.

The kitchen still smells the same – it hits me in the base of the skull, very dim and disgusting, under the fresh, primrose yellow paint. Cupboards full of old sheets; something cooked and dusty about the lagging around the immersion heater; the chair my father used to sit in, the arms shiny and cold with the human waste of many years. It makes me gag a little, and then I cannot smell it any more. It just is. It is the smell of us.

I walk to the far counter and pick up the kettle, but when I go to fill it, the cuff of my coat catches on the running tap and the sleeve fills with water. I shake out my hand, and then my arm, and when the kettle is filled and plugged in I take off my coat, pulling the wet sleeve inside out and slapping it in the air.

My mother looks at this strange scene, as if it reminds her of something. Then she starts forward to where her tablets are pooled in a saucer, on the near counter. She takes them, one after the other, with a flaccid absent-mindedness of the tongue. She lifts her chin and swallows them dry while I rub my wet arm with my hand, and then run my damp hand through my hair.

A last, green capsule enters her mouth and she goes still, working her throat. She looks out the window for a moment. Then she turns to me, remiss.

'How are you. Darling?'

'Veronica!' I feel like shouting it at her. 'You called me Veronica!'

If only she would become visible, I think. Then I could catch her and impress upon her the truth of the situation, the gravity of what she has done. But she remains hazy, unhittable, too much loved.

(564 words)

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Say whether each of the following statements is **True (T)** or **False (F)**. Put a cross in the correct box in the table below and quote **the first four words of the sentence** where the piece of information is found

- 1. Veronica's mother has got a cat called Liam.
- 2. Mammy calls her daughter by her name.
- 3. The family is going to sell the site where the house is built.
- 4. Veronica's dad is sitting in the kitchen.
- 5. Mammy's gestures are mechanical and unaware.

Statement	Т	F	First four words of the sentence
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Answer the following questions. Use complete sentences and your own words

- 6. The house description is both subjective and objective. Justify this statement with relevant references to the text.
- 7. Consider Mammy and Veronica: outline these two characters and their relationship.
- 8. Analyse and discuss the atmosphere that is rendered and how it is achieved.







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#### **QUESTION B**

Read the following text

#### 'Luddite' Teens Don't Want Your Likes

On a brisk recent Sunday, a band of teenagers met on the steps of Central Library on Grand Army Plaza in Brooklyn to start the weekly meeting of the Luddite Club, a high school group that promotes a lifestyle of self-liberation from social media and technology. As the dozen teens headed into Prospect Park, they hid away their iPhones — or, in the case of the most devout members, their flip phones, which some had decorated with stickers and nail polish.

[...]

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After the club members gathered logs to form a circle, they sat and withdrew into a bubble of serenity.

Some drew in sketchbooks. Others painted with a watercolor kit. One of them closed their eyes to listen to the wind. Many read intently [...]

"Lots of us have read this book called 'Into the Wild," said Lola Shub, a senior at Essex Street Academy, referring to Jon Krakauer's 1996 nonfiction book about the nomad Chris McCandless, who died while trying to live off the land in the Alaskan wilderness. "We've all got this theory that we're not just meant to be confined to buildings and work. And that guy was experiencing life. Real life. Social media and phones are not real life."

[...]

Founded last year by another Murrow High School student, Logan Lane, the club is named after Ned Ludd, the folkloric 18th-century English textile worker who supposedly smashed up a mechanized loom, inspiring others to take up his name and riot against industrialization.

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It all began during lockdown, she said, when her social media use took a troubling turn.

"I became completely consumed," she said. "I couldn't not post a good picture if I had one. And I had this online personality of, 'I don't care,' but I actually did. I was definitely still watching everything."

25 Eventually, too burned out to scroll past yet one more picture-perfect Instagram selfie, she deleted the app.

"But that wasn't enough," she said. "So I put my phone in a box."

For the first time, she experienced life in the city as a teenager without an iPhone. She borrowed novels from the library and read them alone in the park. She started admiring graffiti when she rode the subway, then fell in with some teens who taught her how to spray-paint in a freight train yard in Queens. And she began waking up without an alarm clock at 7 a.m., no longer falling asleep to the glow of her phone at midnight. [...]





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At an all-ages punk show, she met a teen with a flip phone, and they bonded over their worldview. "She was just a freshman, and I couldn't believe how well read she was," Logan said. "We walked in the park with apple cider and doughnuts and shared our Luddite experiences. That was the first meeting of the Luddite Club.' [...]

Today, the club has about 25 members, and the Murrow branch convenes at the school each Tuesday. It welcomes students who have yet to give up their iPhones, offering them the challenge of ignoring their devices for the hourlong meeting [...]. At the Sunday Park gatherings, Luddites often set up hammocks to read in when the weather is nice.

(531 words)

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https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/15/style/teens-social-media.html

Choose the answer which fits best according to the text. Circle one letter.

- 1. The Luddite club is
  - a. a teenage reading club organised by Central Grand Library, Brooklyn
  - b. a teenage club whose members meet and spend their time away from smartphones and social media
  - c. a teenage club promoting reading and painting en plein air
  - d. a teenage band playing in a Brooklyn club
- 2. Chris McCandless inspires the Luddite club members
  - a. because club members love the Alaskan wilderness where he spent his life.
  - b. because he wished not to be restrained by city-life
  - c. because he was a nomad who spent his life fighting for the environment
  - d. because he is the writer of the nonfiction book 'Into the Wild'
- 3. During lockdown Logan Lane
  - a. deleted all her Instagram selfies
  - b. didn't bother about posting selfies at all
  - c. decided never to use social media again
  - d. was obsessed with social media and posting selfies
- 4. The girl Logan Lane met at an all-age punk show
  - a. established an immediate bond with her thanks to their common interest in flip-phones
  - b. shared her packed lunch with Logan at the park
  - c. astonished Logan because she was educated even though she was young
  - d. suggested Logan should read some books about the Luddites





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- 5. All Luddite club members
  - a. have renounced using their iPhones for good
  - b. give a hand in setting up hammocks in the park
  - c. are willing not to use their iPhones for an hour
  - d. meet at school once every fortnight

Answer the following questions. Use complete sentences and your own words

- 6. Where does the word 'Luddite' come from and why are these teens using it as a name for their club?
- 7. How has Logan's life changed since she decided to put her phone away?

#### PART 2 - WRITTEN PRODUCTION

Complete both Task A and Task B

### TASK A

Art, music and drama have been regarded as an essential part of all world cultures and as enriching human life. However, in contemporary society, people often tend to consider science, technology and business as more essential, indeed more important, than the Arts.

Discuss this statement in a 300-word essay expressing your point of view. Refer to your readings and personal experience.

#### **TASK B**

"You may not always have a comfortable life and you will not always be able to solve all of the world's problems at once but don't ever underestimate the importance you can have because history has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of its own."

Michelle Obama, 1964

Write a 300-word article for your school magazine commenting these words, expressing your ideas and feelings on this topic. Refer to your readings and personal experiences.