

Ecole de commerce Fribourg – Bulle

Handelsschule Freiburg – Bulle

**Entry Examination**

**2012**

# **ENGLISH**

Length	60 minutes
Books or scripts allowed	none
<b>Assessment</b>	
This examination is divided into 4 parts for a total of	<b>50 points</b>
A) Comprehension and interpretation	<b>15 points</b>
B) Vocabulary	<b>10 points</b>
C) Grammar	<b>10 points</b>
D) Expression	<b>15 points</b>

## Rock Band

Two years ago, our 14-year-old son, Ben, asked us for a set of drums for his birthday. At first, we were very much against the idea because of the noise. « It's better than watching television or playing computer games in my free time, » Ben argued, « and it'll keep me out of trouble. » In the end we gave in. « All right, » we said, « but you must consider the rest of the family and the neighbours when you play. »

That was just the beginning. Because drums are not the easiest instruments to transport, the other members of Ben's band started appearing at our home with their guitars and other electrical equipment. And so, for several hours a week, the house shakes to the noise of their instruments and their teenage singing.

At least Ben's hobby has been good for our health : whenever the band start practising, my husband and I go out for a long walk. And I must admit that, although their music may sound a little strange, they are a friendly and polite group of young men. I cannot judge their musical skill – after all I didn't expect my parents' generation to like the same music as I did when I was a teenager – but they do play regularly in local clubs for young people.

Our main worry is that they won't spend enough time on their school work because of their musical activities, though this hasn't happened yet. I am always stressing to Ben how important his studies are. But one thing is certain – Ben was right : it has kept him out of trouble and he is never bored.

### A) COMPREHENSION AND INTERPRETATION

Read the text, then circle the correct answer for each question.

/ 10 pts

1. What is the writer trying to do in this text?
  - a. Complain about her son's friends
  - b. Give advice to teenagers
  - c. Describe her son's hobby
  - d. Compare herself with her parents
  
2. Why did the writer give Ben the present he wanted ?
  - a. She wanted to reward him for working hard
  - b. He already had too many computer games
  - c. She knew he would use it sensibly
  - d. He persuaded her it would be a good idea

3. Why do the band always practise at Ben's house?
  - a. It is difficult for Ben to move his drums
  - b. The neighbours don't mind the noise
  - c. Ben's parents enjoy listening to them
  - d. They can leave their equipment there
  
4. What does the writer say about the band members?
  - a. Their influence on her son worries her
  - b. Their taste in music is different from hers
  - c. They play their instruments well
  - d. They avoid any contact with her
  
5. What might the writer say to her son?
  - a. Your teacher has just phoned. He wants to know why you weren't at school today
  - b. When are you playing at the club next? Dad and I would love to come along again
  - c. If you don't know what to do with yourself, there's a good programme on the television in a few minutes
  - d. Are you sure you've finished your homework? It's more important than band practice

**Answer these questions with complete sentences.**

**/ 5 pts**

1. Is the writer a man or a woman? Find the element in the text proving your answer.

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2. Why was Ben's hobby good for his parents' health? Give one argument.

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3. Has the band ever played in public? Find the element in the text proving your answer.

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## B) VOCABULARY

Read the text and circle the correct answer.

/ 10 pts

### The History of Shoes

In the past, importance \_\_\_\_ (1) not given to shoes being comfortable or fashionable. These early foot covering were probably animal skins, which people tied round their ankles during cold \_\_\_\_ (2). We still use leather today, but \_\_\_\_ (3) materials such as silk, plastic, or cotton are also popular, \_\_\_\_ (4) on what is in fashion.

It was only one hundred and fifty years \_\_\_\_ (5) that people began to wear a different shoe on each foot. Formerly, the two shoes had been straight instead of shaped and \_\_\_\_ (6) be worn on the left or the right foot. All shoes used to be made by hand, but now, \_\_\_\_ (7) there are shoemakers still using their \_\_\_\_ (8) skills, most shoes are now machine-made in large factories. The introduction of sewing machines (*machines à coudre/Nähmaschinen*) \_\_\_\_ (9) the shoe industry to produce large \_\_\_\_ (10) of cheaper shoes for a wider range of buyers.

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|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1.  | A was        | B is        | C has         | D had         |
| 2.  | A weather    | B climate   | C temperature | D condition   |
| 3.  | A either     | B both      | C another     | D other       |
| 4.  | A turning    | B depending | C resting     | D taking      |
| 5.  | A before     | B beyond    | C ago         | D after       |
| 6.  | A must       | B could     | C ought       | D might       |
| 7.  | A although   | B if        | C unless      | D since       |
| 8.  | A typical    | B usual     | C model       | D traditional |
| 9.  | A let        | B allowed   | C gave        | D got         |
| 10. | A quantities | B totals    | C sums        | D sizes       |

**C) GRAMMAR**

**Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first.  
Use no more than three words. / 5 pts**

**eg:** Daniel started Italian classes six months ago.

Daniel's had Italian classes for six months.

1. It's eight weeks since I last went swimming.

I \_\_\_\_\_ swimming for six months.

2. I didn't go to the theatre on Monday because I was very busy.

I was \_\_\_\_\_ busy to go to the theatre on Monday.

3. Probably, no other painting is as famous as *La Gioconda*.

*La Gioconda* is probably \_\_\_\_\_ painting in the world.

4. The museum was near the school.

The museum was not \_\_\_\_\_ the school.

5. Football is the most popular sport in our country.

Football is \_\_\_\_\_ than any other sport in our country.

**Write the question. The underlined words are the answer. / 5 pts**

1. My brother is twenty-two. \_\_\_\_\_

2. I play football twice a week. \_\_\_\_\_

3. I'm crying because I'm sad. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Suzan has bought a new coat. \_\_\_\_\_

5. I ate five donuts yesterday. \_\_\_\_\_

