# مسابقة في مادة اللغة الإنكليزية

# المدة: ساعتان ونصف

الاسم: ........................................

الرقم: ........................................

*The following selection highlights the positive effects of using online language learning apps. Read it carefully, and then answer the questions that follow.*

## A Language Learning Phenomenon

**1** Over 1,000,000 people have turned to technology as an effective way to learn a language. A study has been done to investigate why app-based learning (learning by using an application) is proving to be such a popular method, and what advantages it may hold over traditional methods.

**2** Facebook now has about 1.6 billion users, which is almost one quarter of the world's population. This number becomes even more surprising when you consider that 3.3 billion of the world's 7.2 billion people are connected to the internet in order to communicate. Actually, Facebook has over half the world's connected population. The other internet giant, which is Google, has around 4 billion search **queries** a day. Our Information Age of hyper-connectivity has started a new understanding of achievable scale. Every two days, we **generate** the same amount of information as that generated from the dawn of civilization until 2003.

**3** Companies that operate on the huge scale of Google and Facebook address and satisfy important human needs — mainly, access to information and social interaction. It is a formula for success which is to identify a need and provide a product or service that fulfills this need. What happens, though, when a web company focuses not on need, but on aspiration or ambition? Can **it** also unite thousands of people in a common wish to educate and improve themselves?

**4** In 2007, the language experts at Babbel, a language learning app and e-learning web page, set out to make language learning easy, effective, and available to everyone. During nine years, the four founders of Babbel have multiplied into over four-hundred linguists, teachers, and authors, **who** produce courses for learners of fourteen different foreign languages from seven different native languages, which equates to ninety-eight combinations of individually designed courses. The numbers speak for themselves: over 1,000,000 people have chosen to learn a language with Babbel, and that number continues to grow.

**5**  Babbel headquarters has evolved to include many experts united by the common goal of producing the best language learning tools possible. At the beginning, it was a roof space established by a small group of language enthusiasts in Berlin.  Such an ambition possesses a strong force of attraction. For a company that needs experts in ninety-eight language combinations, this force of attraction is important to finding the right people. This special multilingual, intercultural knowledge has provided the company with special skills, and an extraordinary ability for innovation within the world of language learning.

**6**  App-based learning carries a few advantages. It is very practical: you have your smartphone by your side at all times, fully-charged and ready to guide you in the **contemporary** life.

**7**  Moreover, an online product can be always developed and updated as it simplifies the difference between product and service. A Babbel learner's progress is measured, and stages within difficult courses are modified in order to ensure that information is given as effectively as possible.  Actually, Babbel makes the complicated simple.

**8**  Over 1,000,000 learners have their own story and their own reason for learning a language. They have taken part in many challenges to see how much they can learn within a given period of time, whether that be Turkish in seven days or French in a working week.

**9**  Science fiction is rapidly becoming science reality. The education industry has often been behind other industries, such as gaming and traveling, in developing new digital technologies. Babbel aims to change this — bringing in innovation to keep education in step and addressing the **soaring** trend toward informal, auto learning that has been produced by the Information Age.

**Questions**

A. **Answer** the first three questions in 1-4 complete sentences using your own words.

1. In reference to **Paragraph 2, identify** <u>two uses</u> of the internet. **(01)**

2. **In Paragraph 4**, the writer <u>describes Babbel as a learning app</u> with **(01)** continuous development. **Explain**.

3. Based on **Paragraph 5**, <u>what two factors</u> have caused the important development **(01)** of Babbel?

4. Based on **Paragraph 9**, what will happen <u>in case Babbel experts fail to fulfill</u> **(01)** <u>their aim</u>? **Choose** <u>two answers</u> from the list below.

   a. Education will remain behind other competing industries.

   b. Education will be like other competing industries.

   c. Education will be developed according to the needs of the Information Age.

   d. Education will not be developed according to the needs of the Information Age.

B. **Answer** the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What <u>function</u> do **the questions in Paragraph 3** serve? **(01)**

   **Choose** the <u>correct answer</u>.

   a. They introduce the main ideas that will be developed in the paragraphs that follow Paragraph 3.

   b. They contradict the main ideas that were developed before Paragraph 3.

   c. They give examples.

2. **Identify** the <u>thematic relation</u> between <u>Paragraphs 6 and 7</u>. **(01)**

3. What <u>adjective</u> best describes the <u>writer's tone</u> in <u>Paragraph 8</u>? **(01)**

   **Choose** the <u>correct answer</u>.

   a. Pessimistic

   b. Admiring

   c. Sarcastic

**C.** Babbel conducted <u>a survey</u> in six countries (France, Germany, the UK, Spain, Italy, and the USA) <u>about the reasons behind learning a language</u>.

**Read** <u>the table</u> carefully, and then **answer** the <u>question</u> that follows. **(01)**

| Top Reasons Why People Learn Languages | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Reason** | To communicate better when traveling | To find a job | To refresh language skills | To stay mentally fit | To enjoy the language |
| **Percentage** | 31% | 10% | 13% | 20% | 26% |

What <u>do you conclude</u> from the table**? Explain** <u>your answer</u>**.**

**D.** Each of the following extracts is the <u>correct part that completes ONE paragraph</u> in the selection. **Read** them carefully.

**Choose** from <u>Paragraphs 2 to 6</u> the one that correctly fits with each extract**. (01)**

**Extract A**: *Certain platforms provide an amount of information related to how we interact with one another and shape the way we access the vast source of human knowledge.*

1. **Paragraph 2**
2. **Paragraph 3**

**Extract B:** *But why has the Babbel app become very popular?*

1. **Paragraph 4**
2. **Paragraph 6**

**E.** Refer to <u>Paragraphs 2, 6 and 9</u> to **find words** that can best <u>replace the underlined words</u> in the sentences below. **(02)**

1. Only linguists can provide accurate answers to the **queries** raised in the conference.
   a. statements
   b. questions

**2.** The overuse of online apps can **<u>generate</u>** many adverse effects especially on the young users.

    **a.** produce

    **b.** take

**3.** The **<u>contemporary</u>** society has been enormously affected by the new digital technology.

    **a.** old

    **b.** modern

**4.** Online learning has proven to be a **<u>soaring</u>** approach among young learners who find it very easy.

    **a.** rising

    **b.** useless

**F.** What does each of the following <u>pronouns</u>, **bold-typed** in the selection above, **(01)** refer to?

  1. **it** (Paragraph 3)

  2. **who** (Paragraph 4)

**Part Two: Writing**     **(Choose ONE of the two prompts below.)**     **(Score: 08/20)**

**Prompt A**: *Media can be a tool of some active learning strategies such as participating in online group discussions, producing video projects, or analyzing newspaper articles.*

**In an expository essay of 250-300 words explain the statement above, showing the positive impacts or effects of media on education** (engaging students, arousing interest in the subject matter, enriching many new concepts, etc.)

**Use the outline below as needed.**

I.    Introduction

     A. Hook related to media and its importance

     B. A narrower statement (linking the hook to the thesis statement)

     C. Thesis statement related to the positive impacts of media on education

II.    Topic sentence 1: the first positive impact of media on education

     A. Supporting evidence 1 (details and examples)

     B. Supporting evidence 2 (details and examples)

     C. Supporting evidence 3 (details and examples)

     D. Concluding sentence

III.    Topic sentence 2: the second positive impact of media on education

     A. Supporting evidence 1 (details and examples)

     B. Supporting evidence 2 (details and examples)

     C. Supporting evidence 3 (details and examples)

     D. Concluding sentence

IV.    Conclusion

     A. Restatement of the thesis

     B. Final thought

**Prompt B:** *"Overreliance on online resources to learn results in a world of depersonalized communication."*

**Write a persuasive essay of 250-300 words in which you show how important it is to have face-to-face communication in order to build social skills and family relationships** (team work, communication, values and manners, social responsibilities, tolerance, etc.)

**Use the outline below as needed.**

**I.** Introduction

    A. Hook related to face-to-face communication

    B. A narrower statement (linking the hook to the thesis statement)

    C. Thesis statement related to the importance of face-to-face communication (building social skills and family relationships)

**II.** Topic sentence 1: The importance of face-to-face communication in building social skills

    A. Supporting evidence 1 (details and examples)

    B. Supporting evidence 2 (details and examples)

    C. Supporting evidence 3 (details and examples)

    D. Concluding sentence

**III.** Topic sentence 2: The importance of face-to-face communication in building family relationships

    A. Supporting evidence 1 (details and examples)

    B. Supporting evidence 2 (details and examples)

    C. Supporting evidence 3 (details and examples)

    D. Concluding sentence

**IV.** Conclusion

    A. Restatement of the thesis

    B. Final thought

**[Content and organization of ideas (3.5), language and style (3.5), tidiness and legible handwriting (01)]**

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دورة العام ٢٠١٩ الاستثنائيّة
السبت ٣ آب ٢٠١٩
مكيّفة

| مسابقة في مادة اللغة الانكليزية |
| :---: |
| المدة: ساعتان و نصف |

### A Language Learning Phenomenon

| Q | Answer | Score |
|:---:|:---|:---:|
| **I-A-1** | The first use of the internet is helping people communicate through social media means like Facebook. Another use of the internet is helping users find answers to different questions (provide information) through Google. **(0.5 for each)** | **01** |
| **I-A-2** | Babbel was established by only four founders; but in nine years, this number has increased to reach four hundred "language enthusiasts". Moreover, Babbel users' number, which reached 1000,000 people, is on a continuous increase. **(0.5 for each justification)** | **01** |
| **I-A-3** | First, the presence of many experts who work together is one important factor. Second, the experts are ambitious. Third, the intercultural knowledge has provided Babbel with important skills and innovation in the language learning. **(two are enough; 0.5 for each)** | **01** |
| **I-A-4** | a. Education will remain behind other competing industries. <br><br> b. Education will be developed according to the needs of the Information Age. <br><br> **(0.5 for each)** | **01** |
| **I-B-1** | a. They introduce the main ideas that will be developed in the paragraphs that follow Paragraph 3. | **01** |
| **I-B-2** | The thematic relation between Paragraphs 6 and 7 is one of addition. | **01** |
| **I-B-3** | a. Admiring | **01** |
| **I-C-3** | The table shows the five reasons behind people's learning a new language, in terms of percentages (statistics). The highest percentage, which is 31%, is for Babbel users learn a new language to improve communicate abroad. Then comes those who learn a new language because they are interested in it (26%) and those who learn it in order to stay mentally fit (20%). Then 13% of the users are motivated to learn a new language to refresh their language skills, while only 10% learn a new language to find a better job. Thus, the highest percentage of language learners is motivated to learn a new language in order to communicate, while the least percentage is | **01** |

| | motivated to learn it in order to find a job. | |
|---|---|---|
| **I-D** | **Extract A** is the correct part that completes Paragraph 2. <br> **Extract B** is the correct part that completes Paragraph 4. <br> **(0.5 for each)** | **01** |
| **I-E-1** | b. questions | **0.5** |
| **I-E-2** | a. produce | **0.5** |
| **I-E-3** | b. modern | **0.5** |
| **I-E-4** | a. rising | **0.5** |
| **I-F-1** | "**it**" refers to web company | **0.5** |
| **I-F-2** | "**who**" refers to linguists, teachers and authors **(or: language enthusiasts)** | **0.5** |
| **II-A** | Content and organization | **3.5** |
| **II-B** | Language and style | **3.5** |
| **II-C** | Tidiness and handwriting | **01** |