



TASK 1: CREOLES - KEY

Group no.: School:

Participants:

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Information

Pidgins (mispronunciation of the word ‘business’) are languages which were formed mainly on isolated, plantation-based islands, where labourers came from different linguistic backgrounds. When children were born, pidgin became their native language and gradually developed into a *creole*. Creoles are as formalized, efficient and expressive as any other languages. The following table contains some Creole expressions from Papua New Guinea and Africa:

Instruction

Your task is to provide the missing etymologies and translations (and feel free to smile) (10 points).

Creole Expression	Etymology	Translation
gras belong fes	grass that belongs to the face	beard
gras bilong hed	grass that belongs to the head	hair
gras belong pisin	grass that belongs to a pigeon (bird)	feathers
gras antap long ai	grass on top of long eye	eyebrow
mausgras	mouth grass	moustache
rop belong blut	rope that belongs to blood	vein
pul bad briz	pull bad breeze	pass gas
bottom bottom waka waka	bottom bottom shine shine	submarine

(Author: mgr Jacek Woźny IFA. Based on: Bryson, Bill. 1990. *The Mother Tongue: English and How it Got That Way*. New York: William Morrow and co. inc.)



TASK 2: WORDS THAT ARE OFTEN MISPELLED - KEY

Group no.: School:

Information

Spellings In English are so treacherous and opportunities for flummoxing so abundant that most of us sometimes stumble. Just a quick test to see if you can tell which of the following words are misspelled: supercede, conceed, procede, idiosyncracy, concencus, accomodate, rhytm, irresistable, grafitti, cesarian.

In fact, they all are. So was *misspelled* at the end of the preceeding paragraph. So was *preceding* in the previous sentence. Maddening, isn't it?

Instruction

Try to correct all the misspelled words repeated again in the table below, and provide a brief explanation of the meaning of each word (**20 points**).

wrong spelling	correct spelling	brief explanation of the meaning
supercede	supersede	succeed, replace, surpass, etc.
conceed	concede	Admit, give in, etc.
procede	proceed	carry on, etc.
idiosyncracy	idiosyncrasy	eccentricity, etc.
concencus	consensus	agreement, etc.
accomodate	accommodate	accommodate, etc.
rhytm	rhythm	beat, tempo, etc.
irresistable	irresistible	tempting, overpowering, etc.
grafitti	graffiti	words or images marked (illegally) in a public place, esp. using aerosol paint.
cesarian	cesarean/caesarian/ caesarean	e.g., Caesarean section

(Author: mgr Jacek Woźny IFA. Based on: Bryson, Bill. 1990. *The Mother Tongue: English and How it Got That Way*. New York: William Morrow and co. inc.)



TASK 3: RHYMING PAIRS - KEY

Group no.: School:

Information

The raucousness of English pronunciation is often exemplified by the multitude of possible pronunciations of the ‘ough’ cluster as in: *through, though, tough, thought, thorough, hiccough and cough*. Have a quick look through the following pairs of words to see how many of them rhyme: heard – beard, road – broad, filet – skillet, early – dearly, steak – streak, ache – moustache, low – how, scour – four, paid – said, break – speak. How many? Well, none of course.

Instruction

Your task is to find true rhymes for all of the above words (**20 points**)

word	rhyme (examples)	word	rhyme (examples)
heard	nerd	beard	feared
road	woad	broad	fraud
filet (as in <i>file mignon</i>)	relay	skillet	billet
early	fairly	dearly	nearly
steak	break	streak	creek
ache	cake	moustache	ash (AmE)
low	foe	how	now
scour	hour	four	door
paid	afraid	said	red
break	fake	speak	geek

(Author: mgr Jacek Woźny IFA. Based on: Bryson, Bill. 1990. *The Mother Tongue: English and How it Got That Way*. New York: William Morrow and co. inc.)



TASK 4: THE DEFINITE ARTICLE - KEY

Group no.: **School:**

Information

In the points below you will find a brief explanation of the principles governing the use of the definite article with English proper names. Please read them carefully and decide if the definite article has to be used with the names used in the story that follows.

1. The definite article is used in the names of locations that lack clearly visible and fixed borders that go all the way around them like seas and oceans, e.g. *the Baltic Sea* and *the Atlantic Ocean*. The article is not needed if fixed and clearly visible borders are present, e.g. *Lake Ontario*, *Germany*, etc.

2. The definite article is used if the name of a location reveals what the place is like, e.g. *the United Kingdom* (in fact it is a kingdom and a union of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland). The definite article is not needed if the name of a location fails to reveal what the place is like, e.g. *Poland*.

Instruction

Fill in the gaps with the definite article where necessary (**20 points**).

Last summer we flew to **the** USA and visited a few interesting places. First we went to ___ Grand Canyon National Park. We hiked across **the** Kaibab Plateau and along **the** South Rim to take fabulous pictures of the northern part of the park. Then we drove to ___ Canyon de Chelly, where many westerns were filmed, **the** Painted Desert, which is full of rocks in unbelievable colors and **the** Four Corners, a point where the borders of four American states meet. We rested a bit on a ranch in ___ Colorado in **the** Sawatch Range and went on. We crossed **the** Great Plains, stopped for the night in a motel in ___ Sioux County in ___ Nebraska and in **the** Black Hills. It was fun to visit ___ Jewel Cave, the second longest cave in the world and ___ Mount Rushmore, where the heads of four US presidents are carved in rock. Finally we took a plane to Washington and took a quick tour of the main attractions. We saw **the** White House, **the** Lincoln Memorial with a giant statue of Lincoln inside, **the** Pentagon, ___ Arlington Cemetery and the headquarters of **the** Federal Bureau of Investigation.



Glossary

plateau	wyżyna
rim	krawędź
plains	równina
range	łańcuch górski

(Author: Prof. dr hab. Leszek Berezowski IFA)

TASK 5: BRIEF PHRASES - KEY

Group no.: School:

Information

English speaking journalists are famous for creating brief versions of long phrases by changing the word order to get rid of articles prepositions and noun endings. Please study the pattern illustrated below and try to abbreviate the phrases listed in the table.

a meeting of spies = a spy meeting
 a picture from the meeting of spies = a spy meeting picture
 an old picture from the meeting of spies = an old spy meeting picture
 an old picture from the summer meeting of spies = an old summer spy meeting picture
 an old picture from the summer meeting of retired spies = an old summer retired spy meeting picture

Instruction

Abbreviate the phrases in the table (10 points)

1	A CD with old pictures	An old picture CD
2	A bottle of fizzy mineral water	A fizzy mineral water bottle
3	The song at the end of the film	The film end song
4	A short summary of the latest news	A short latest news summary
5	The picture on the cover of the book	The book cover picture
6	A webpage for fans of reggae music	A reggae music fan webpage
7	The end of the season for water skiing	The water skiing season end
8	A large cup of hot coffee from McDonald's	A large hot McDonald coffee cup
9	A box with round bags of green Chinese tea	A round green Chinese tea bag box
10	A small sample of sand from the shore of Lake Michigan	A small Lake Michigan shore sand sample

(Author: Prof. dr hab. Leszek Berezowski IFA)



TASK 6: CLIPPINGS - KEY

Group no.: School:

Participants:

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Information

English is known for many words which have been or can be cut short. For example in **administrator** the end can be cut off to create **admin**, in **telephone** the beginning can be dropped to create **phone** and **fridge** in fact is the mid part of **refrigerator**. All such examples are called clippings.

Instruction

Please try to reconstruct the missing parts of the clippings listed in the table below (**20 points**):

#	Clippings	Original words
0	info	information
1	photo	photograph
2	exam	examination
3	lab	laboratory
4	pro	professional
5	teen	teenager
6	bio	biography / biology
7	hippo	hippopotamus
8	croc	crocodile
9	auto	automobile
10	memo	memorandum
11	gym	gymnasium
12	bro	brother
13	corp	corporation
14	disco	discotheque
15	ref	referee
16	fan	fanatic
17	decaf	decaffeinated
18	deli	delicatessen
19	carb	carbohydrate
20	pub	public house

(Author: Prof. dr hab. Leszek Berezowski IFA)