***PROVA UNICA III ANNO February 2nd 2015***

***COGNOME…………………………. NOME……………………………….matricola……..***

***PART TWO****: Read the following passage and answer the questions 1-10 that follow. Then translate the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from line 11 to line 20. You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the 2 tasks. Write the translation in the lines provided.*

***TASK ONE***

Rose Arden’s husband was in a bad mood. She knew as soon as he walked in and went straight to pour himself a drink, after a brief ‘Hi’, and a quick kiss on the cheek. She was busy getting dinner. Anyway, it was useless trying to talk to him when he was in that frame of mind.

They sat opposite each other in the dining room. He looked up and said, ‘This is good. I love sole.’

Then he went on eating, sipping his wine. She hadn’t been late, for once. She’d cleared her desk and hurried home to be there when he got in. He hated coming back to an empty house. The trouble was he sometimes did these days.

She looked at him. He was the same man she had fallen in love with six years ago. Good-looking, fair and blue-eyed. A sportsman, full of energy and enjoyment of life.

**They’d been so happy for the first three years after they got married but she hadn’t been so successful then; she was still on the bottom of the career ladder at the Foreign Office while he was a top-salaried manager in a big City Investment Bank. She wasn’t a challenge to him.**

**I wish I could talk to him, she thought in the silence. Really talk, instead of arguing.**

**‘Sorry, Rose,’ he said suddenly. ‘I didn’t mean to be so unsociable. It’s been a terrible day. Poor old David got fired this morning. It’s not going to be easy to find another job at forty-four. Most firms are getting rid of staff, not taking anyone on.’**

**‘I am sorry.’ She meant it. She knew David Hughes slightly. He was a nice man, with three sons, an expensive wife and a heavy mortgage on a house in Brompton Square. She couldn’t imagine what he would do.**

‘Did you take him out for a drink?’

James Arden nodded. ‘Yes, we had a wake in the local wine bar. I left him to it.’

‘Poor man’, said Rose.

**QUESTIONS**

1. Rose Arden knew her husband was in a bad mood because when he came home

a) he had drunk too much.

1. he wouldn’t let her speak to him.
2. he didn’t say much to her.

2. Which of the following statements is MOST true?

1. Rose was always late home.
2. Rose was never late home.
3. James might get home before Rose.

3.Which of the following statements is true?

1. Rose and James are happily married.
2. Rose and James are less happily married than before.
3. Rose and James have never been happy together.

4. At first Rose ‘ *wasn’t a challenge to him’* because

a) she was a housewife.

b) she wasn’t as good at her job as him.

c) she had a less important job than him.

5 What can you deduce about Rose Arden’s husband’ s character?

1. He is competitive.
2. He is always bad tempered.
3. He is unkind.

6.What has happened to David Hughes?

1. he has lost his job
2. he has been shot.
3. he fired a lot of people.

7. In this context ‘*an expensive wife’* means

a) a wife who spends a lot of money.

b) a wife who has more money than her husband.

c) a woman who married her husband for his money.

8.What does James mean when he says ‘*we had a wake in the local wine bar’*.

a) there was a funeral reception in the local wine bar.

1. they had a great party in the local we bar.
2. they had a sad farewell drink in the local wine bar.

9.‘ *I left him to* ***it****’* . In this sentence ‘***it****’* refers to:

a) continue drinking in the local wine bar.

b) the local wine bar .

c) offering drinks to everyone.

10. When Rose heard about David Hughes

a) she was shocked.

b) she wondered how he would cope.

1. she worried about his wife.

**TASK 2 Write your translation of lines 11-20 here**

FEBBRAIO 2015 LISTENING TEXT III ANNO

Students are told the speaker is an Indian who emigrated to Britain

TEXT TAKES 1min 40 sec TO READ. Read it TWICE.

Way back in the 70s, when my family arrived in England, there weren’t very many Asians and, as we arrived at the end of the summer, I was immediately thrown into school life, which was a bit of a shock really. On my first day at secondary school in London, there certainly was no big welcoming committee.

I stood out like a sore thumb with my long black hair and dark skin, everyone stared at me, and my clothes, as if I were an alien just arrived from Mars. Quite frankly I got lots of racist comments in the playground. Young people can be very cruel; I got called darky but then again other kids were getting called four eyes or spotty or fatty or worse, so I learnt not to take too much offence and fortunately, given my age, I was only at secondary school for three years before going on to university in Leicester. Things improved there, the other students just accepted me. University was a great time for me; it’s where I met my husband – he was studying marketing and I was studying design, we graduated together and immediately went into my family’s business, which specialises in Indian clothes and music.

My parents decided to leave London and set up a business in Leicester, not because I was studying there, but because there was more opportunity to make a go of it there, and they had already been in touch with some Indians who had settled there. It wasn’t their first choice though. They had already had a successful business in Uganda but they’d had to abandon it when the political climate became difficult and Asians were thrown out of the country. So, if that hadn’t happened, I would have had a totally different upbringing.

I feel part of the well-established Indian community in Leicester, but the experience of being British with cultural roots elsewhere means that I can celebrate and enjoy the best of both worlds. What I’ve learnt is that it’s important to take up the good things from all communities and religions. I’d like to pass that philosophy on to my daughters as well.

2nd February 2015 III ANNO PART ONE Listening paper

COGNOME……………………..NOME…………………MATRICOLA………….

*THE PASSAGE WILL BE READ* ***TWICE****. FIRST READ THE QUESTIONS 1-10.* ***CIRCLE*** *THE ANSWER WHICH IS* ***TRUE*** *according to the text.*

**PART ONE**

1. On arrival in England the speaker

1. had time to get used to the lifestyle before starting school.
2. had no time to get used to the lifestyle before starting school.
3. thought she could never get used to the lifestyle in England.

2. On her first day at school the speaker

1. felt everyone was looking at her.
2. was welcomed by some students.
3. wore a school uniform.

3.Which statement is true?

1. The speaker was the only student who was victimised at school.
2. None of the British students at school were victimised.
3. Other students were victimised at school too.

1. On arrival in England the speaker was
2. a young child.
3. a teenager.
4. a baby.
5. At University the speaker
6. continued to be a victim of racist comments.
7. felt part of university life.
8. studied the same subjects as her future husband.
9. The speaker’s parents moved from London to Leicester because
10. there seemed to be more opportunity there.
11. they had relatives there.
12. the speaker studied there.

7. The speaker and her husband

1. set up their own business.
2. joined the husband’s family business.
3. joined the speaker’s family business.

8. The speaker’s family left Uganda because

1. their business wasn’t doing well.
2. Asians were not welcome there.
3. their political outlook was not accepted there.

9. The speaker feels

1. totally Asian.
2. totally British.
3. a mixture of Asian and British.
4. The speaker intends
5. to teach her children only Asian traditions.
6. to teach her children philosophy.
7. to bring her children up with an open mind.

**III YEAR ESSAY TITLES FEBRUARY 2nd 2015**

Time: 1 hour and 45 minutes.

**PART THREE**

Choose **ONE** of the following tasks:

1. **ESSAY 300 words**

To perfect the foreign language they are learning young people at school often go on organised study holidays to visit the relevant country and attend schools there; university students may choose to spend a year or less abroad, for example, thanks to the Erasmus project.

Write an essay on the advantages and disadvantages of **either** school language study projects abroad **or** temporary university experience abroad.

2. **REPORT 300 words**

The Film Board for Catania is worried by the drop in the number of cinemagoers in the city’s cinemas. You have been asked to conduct a survey to discover what factors have caused this drop. You could consider factors such as times of showing, cinema location, their facilities, ticket prices or any other factors you believe relevant.

Write the report. Describe your questionnaire, report your findings and make recommendations on how to encourage cinema going.

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***PROVA UNICA III ANNO March 2015***

***COGNOME…………………………. NOME……………………………….matricola……..***

***PART TWO****: Read the following passage and answer the questions 1-10 that follow. Then translate the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from line 10 to line 18. You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the 2 tasks. Write the translation in the lines provided.*

I was six years old when I first felt the freedom of my own home. One rainy day, with the help of some old bedspreads and a few towels, I built my own little house under the kitchen table. I furnished it with sofa cushions and filled it with books and supplies. I put up a sign to say that visitors were by invitation only. I didn’t want anyone disturbing my peace. It was heaven to me since I had never had a bedroom of my own. Sadly, my little house had to be dismantled far too soon – the table was needed for dinner – but for many years to come I dreamed about a place of my own.

It was a long time until I got a whole apartment to myself. I suffered years of living at home with argumentative sisters, then roommates both good and bad. Finally, I moved into a place by myself. It was scary, exhilarating, and very grown up: I would now sink or swim on my own.

**This was it – pure freedom. I could decorate it with all the things I loved without ever having to accommodate someone else’s collection of cat ornaments or knick knacks. I could crank up the stereo and sing at the top of my lungs. I could spend as long as I liked in the shower, or take a bath in the middle of the night. I could do what I wanted, when I wanted.**

**But when the euphoria died down I had to face some cold, hard facts. It’s an undeniable truth that it costs a lot more to live alone than to share. Unlike the first little house under the table, this apartment came with a big, ugly rent bill. The apartment might have been all mine, but so was the rent, and the utility bills. There were other problems too. Not being very domesticated I easily let things slip. It was so easy to think that I didn’t need to cook meals or bother too much with housework; after all, nobody would notice but me.** But doing whatever you want can be ill-advised. Spending a huge chunk of the budget on takeout meals. Flirting with malnutrition when you decide to survive on canned soup, for example. Not to mention huge piles of dirty dishes and laundry.

It took me some time to learn how to keep things running smoothly. I used some common sense rules to keep the bills down. I also learned to cook efficiently for one. Half the battle, I discovered, was shopping sensibly. The other half of the battle was convincing myself that I’m worth cooking for. As for the housework, that’s been a whole other ball game. Living on your own might mean less housework to do, but it also means fewer people to pitch in. But as much as I loathe it, I’ve fallen into the routine of spending Saturday mornings cleaning my apartment.

Nothing beats sitting down with a good book, the house sparkling clean, the phone off the hook, and nobody in the world to disturb you. Despite all the hassles, I love living on my own.

1. What was the writer like as a child?
2. She was lonely.
3. She was inventive and resourceful.
4. She didn’t want friends at all.
5. Why did the writer build a house under the kitchen table?
6. She wanted to invite her friends over.
7. She wanted some privacy.
8. She wanted to annoy her mum.
9. While she was in her little house, the writer experienced feelings of
10. sadness.
11. happiness.
12. annoyance.
13. What does the writer mean when she says “I would now sink or swim”?
14. Living on her own wasn’t necessarily going to be a success.
15. Living on her own was something she found easy.
16. Living on her own meant she would have to grow up.
17. When the writer moved into her own apartment
18. she missed her sisters.
19. she missed her roommate’s cat collection.
20. she missed someone to share the rent with.
21. What was the writer used to doing when she had shared a flat?
22. Enjoying caring for the house.
23. Acting spontaneously.
24. Showing consideration for her roommates.
25. What does the writer mean by “I easily let things slip”?
26. She was always dropping things in the house.
27. She became a good housewife.
28. She allowed the house to get untidy.
29. What were the dangers of her new-found freedom?
30. Not washing.
31. Not eating properly.
32. Not worrying about current affairs.
33. Which of the following did the writer find the **MOST** difficult to do?
34. Keeping the bills down.
35. Cooking for one.
36. Doing the housework.
37. What impression of the writer do we get at the end of the passage?
38. She would prefer to go back to the house under the kitchen table.
39. She wouldn’t swap living on her own for sharing again.
40. She would like to shut herself away from the outside world.

**Write your translation here**

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**WRITING PAPER III ANNO March 2015**

Write between 280 and 320 words on ONE of the following topics:

***1. Essay***

Parents are the best teachers. Do you agree or not agree with this statement? Give specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

OR

***2. Report***

People attend college or university for many different reasons (for example, new experiences, career preparation, increased knowledge).

The Dean has asked you to conduct a survey to discover what people want from a university education in order to improve and update the University’s offer. Create a questionnaire, report your findings and make recommendations.

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THIRD YEAR LISTENING COMPREHENSION. MARCH 2015

READ THE TEXT TWICE ONLY

Now some shock news for music fans : Mick O’Riley, lead singer of the Irish group “Dubliners”, announced today that he’s leaving the band. They are the only group to have had a record breaking 12 number one singles and have sold an amazing 30 million records. But now it seems their success story is about to change. Not least because Mick has long been considered the most creative element in the song-writing team, namely O’Riley and Murphy, both responsible for all the group’s hits. Mick said he has no interest in writing new songs right now, though he admitted that things could change in the future. “It’s hard to imagine not writing songs ever again”, he said. “Though I feel I’d like to get away from pop and try writing blues one day. I don’t know – for now my priority is spending more time with the kids”.

Since his second child, Lucy, was born, he feels he hasn’t been either a good father or singer. He wants to be there for his children and he loves the idea of having more, as he comes from a big family himself. But his wife is not happy on her own with two little ones and having all the responsibility when he’s away on tour, so she has told him if he wants more children, he’ll have to be around more.

The band formed when the guys were all students at Trinity College and it has been hugely popular since their first success five years ago. Mick said the split was amicable and there were no hard feelings. The rest of the band were like brothers to him and he would continue to support them.

The rest of the band are determined to continue, unlike their rivals “ Galway Boys”, who split up last year when their lead singer decided to go it alone. But they admitted they were upset by Mick’s decision. Patrick Murphy read a statement on behalf of the band. He said they had enjoyed some amazing times, sharing good times and bad. Mick’s departure, he said, was a big shock but they had no plans to replace him. Patrick joked that the band would continue until someone else set up family, like Mick, but in the meantime it would be crazy for the rest of them to give up both fame and fortune.

Whatever the future may hold for all of “Dubliners”, their success over the last five years means the band are already a part of pop history.

III ANNO MARCH 2015 LISTENING COMPREHENSION

COGNOME …………………………… NOME………………………..MATR. NO:…………….

**WHICH OF THESE STATEMENTS IS TRUE? CIRCLE THE CORRECT ANSWER.**

1. a. The band “Dubliners” has had thirty number one hits.

b. No other band has sold as many records.

c. No other band has had as many number one hits.

2. Mick O’Riley

a. wrote all the band’s songs himself.

b. was only the lead singer of the band.

c. co-wrote the songs with another member of the band.

3. At present, Mick

a. totally excludes the idea of writing songs in the future.

b. wants to continue writing hit songs

c. thinks he may try another musical genre in the future.

4. Mick says he now wants to dedicate more time to

a his daughter Lucy and his wife.

b. his two children.

c. being a better singer.

5. Mick’s wife

a. says she doesn’t want more children.

b. says she wants her husband to be at home more.

c. says she wants to tour with her husband.

6. The members of the band

a. are Mick’s brothers.

b. met while studying.

c. want to join other bands

7. Their rivals, “Galway Boys”,

a. broke up last year.

b. all decided to go solo.

c. also continued playing after their lead singer left.

8. The remaining members of the band

a. had been expecting Mick to leave the band.

b. were sad Mick was leaving.

c. will look for a new member for the band.

9. In his statement Patrick Murphy

a. accused Mick of abandoning them.

b. made affectionate comments.

c. declared Mick was mad to give up fame and fortune.

10. The speaker believes

a. they are an important band.

b. they will be an important band in the future.

c. their fame will not last.

**III ANNO April 2015**

**COGNOME …………………………NOME ………………………... MATR:…………..**

***PART TWO****: Read the following passage and answer the questions 1-10 that follow. Then translate the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from line 16 to line 25. You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the 2 tasks. Write the translation in the lines provided.*

One day Miss Brown asked James what a baby horse was called and James couldn’t remember.

He blinked and shook his head. He knew, he explained but he just couldn’t remember. Miss Brown said:

‘Well, boys and girls, imagine that! James Machen doesn’t know what a baby horse is called.’

She said it very loudly so that everyone in the classroom could hear. James became very confused. He blinked and said hopefully:

‘Pony, Miss Brown?’

‘Pony! Huh! Hands up everyone who knows what a baby horse is.’

All the pupils’ right arms shot up, except James’s. Miss Brown looked at James.

‘Everyone knows what a baby horse is called except James’, she said.

James thought: ‘I’ll run away. I’ll join the gypsies and live in a tent.’

‘What’s a baby horse called?’ Miss Brown asked the class and the class shouted:

‘Foal, Miss Brown.’

‘A foal, James,’ Miss Brown repeated. ‘ A baby horse is called a foal, James.’

Miss Brown laughed and the class laughed, and afterwards nobody would play with James because he was so silly to think that a baby horse was a pony.

**When Miss Brown married she stopped teaching, and James imagined he had escaped her forever. But the town they lived in was a small one and they often met in the street or in a shop. When Miss Brown had been married for about a year she had a baby. He was a fine child with a good long head and blue eyes. Miss Brown was delighted with him and her husband bought cigars and drinks for all his friends. In time mother and son were seen daily taking the air: Miss Brown on her trim little legs and the baby in his pretty pram. James, meeting the two, said: ‘Miss Brown, may I see the baby?’ But Miss Brown laughed and wheeled the pram hurriedly away, as though the child within it might be affected by the proximity of the other.**

**‘What a dreadful little boy that James Machen is,’ Miss Brown said to her husband. ‘ I feel so sorry for the parents.’**

# ‘Do I know him? What does the child look like?’

‘ Small, dear, like a weasel wearing glasses. He quite gives me the creeps.

1. James answered Miss Brown’s question

1. but his answer was wrong.
2. and his answer was correct.
3. and he believed his answer was correct.

2. Miss Brown

1. made fun of James.
2. didn’t want James’s schoolmates to make fun of him.
3. thought James was being funny.

3. Why did James think, *‘I’ll run away. I’ll join the gypsies and live in a tent’?*

1. He felt humiliated.
2. His teacher made gypsy life sound fascinating.
3. James wanted to have a pony like the gypsies.
4. James’s schoolmates
5. never played with him.
6. wouldn’t play with him that day.
7. felt sorry for him that day.
8. After Miss Brown had got married,
9. James never saw her again until she had the baby.
10. James often saw her around town.
11. James missed her at school.
12. James was relieved because
13. Miss Brown had got married.
14. Miss Brown had given up teaching.
15. Miss Brown had taken some time off teaching.
16. “*taking the air*” in this context means
17. going out for a walk.
18. breathing deeply.
19. showing off.
20. When James saw Miss Brown and her baby
21. he tried to avoid them.
22. he wanted to see the baby.
23. he was jealous of the baby.

9.Miss Brown ‘*wheeled the pram hurriedly away*’ because

1. she was pleased to show James the baby.
2. she didn’t want James to be near the baby.
3. after James had seen the baby, she had to hurry.

10. This passage is ESSENTIALLY about

1. Miss Brown’s marriage.
2. Miss Brown and her baby.
3. James and his experience with Miss Brown.

Write your translation in the lines below

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III year listening April 2015

Good afternoon. Thank you for inviting me to speak about my new book, ‘Matthew’. You may ask what inspired me to write ‘Matthew? Well, there was a terrible spell of stories from the U.S.A about school kids shooting up their high schools and this shocking violence really frightened me. You see, I’ve always made connections between current events, and what is important to me personally. And I’m addicted to news programmes. I spend an average of four hours watching the news.

Of course, this compulsive behaviour could just be an excuse: I mean, am I **really** interested in the news or is it just that I’ve got a problem with chapter ten and I don’t want to face it? The mother in my book, Eva, has this problem too, she’s always putting off doing unpleasant things.

In fact Eva has plenty of my less charismatic qualities although she is not Me – as some critics have suggested. I heard a couple of TV reviewers declare that not only did they not like Eva, they personally disliked the author. This really made me laugh because it’s so superficial. Eva is a really complex character.

She never really wanted children. She was 42 when she became pregnant with Matthew, her only child. She had a comfortable marriage and a successful business career and she didn’t want to give either of them up. Her husband left her shortly after Matthew’s birth and she blamed her son for that.

Matthew turned out a bad kid. Eva felt extreme dislike for him as she watched him grow into a cold and cruel person. Then Matthew murdered seven of his fellow high school students, a cafeteria worker and a teacher and injured 2 policemen. Eva felt it was her fault so she visited her son in prison to try and understand what made him do such a terrible thing. She communicated her thoughts and feelings in letters to her ex-husband.

Of course the story is depressing but I am pleased when someone notices that, to their surprise, the novel does have its funny moments – in a dark, black humour kind of way - of course you couldn’t call it hilarious.

What I was aiming to do, was to make readers question their own morality and hypocrisies. Of course, I hope you feel that I succeeded. Well, enough from me. Are there any questions?

394 words

Surname…………………………..........Name…………………Matric no..........................

The speaker is a writer who is talking about herself and her book ‘Matthew’.

1. The speaker says she was inspired by

a) stories written by school kids..

b) current events.

c) gangs on the streets of the U.S.A.

2. Which of these statements is true? The speaker

a) watches news programmes every day.

b) reads four newspapers every day.

c) writes for four hours every day .

3. What does the speaker have in common with Eva, the character in her novel?

a) a tendency to avoid dealing with problems.

b) a sense of humour.

c) charisma.

4. The speaker thinks some TV reviewers’ comments are

a) too personal.

b) too complicated.

c) silly.

5. Before she had Matthew, Eva

a) was satisfied with her life.

b) was unhappy.

c) wanted her life to change.

6. Eva’s feelings toward her son were

a) resentful.

b) loving.

c) indifferent.

7. Matthew actually killed

a) nine people.

b) seven people.

c) two people.

8. After Matthew committed the crime

a) Eva never communicated with her son again.

b) Eva wrote to her son in prison.

c) Eva visited her son regularly.

9. The speaker’s purpose in writing the novel is to

a) make readers feel sorry for people like Matthew and Eva.

b) make people reflect upon their own beliefs.

c) make people sad.

10.The novel

a) is autobiographical.

b) is fictional.

c) is extremely funny.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ III ANNO WRITING PAPER **PART THREE** APRIL 2015

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Choose **ONE** of the following tasks. Remember to observe the word limit. Time: 1 hour and 45 minutes

ESSAY (280-320 words)

Learning about the past has no value for those of us living in the present. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

ARTICLE(280-320 words)

Write an article to your fellow students commenting on how safe the university is, motivate your comments giving concrete examples.  You may suggest how the situation could be improved. Remember to give your article a title

JUNE 2015 THIRD YEAR

*Read the passage then answer the questions.*

And so it seems that the only thing my son Albie has taken from my side of the family is my father’s skinny height. Oh, and smoking, he’s taken that from my father, too. In consideration of my views on the subject, he smokes in secret, though it’s not a secret that he holds precious, given the number of lighters and cigarette packets he leaves lying around, given the smell of it on his clothing and the burn marks on the window ledge of his filthy bedroom. Ah yes, let me tell you about the state of his bedroom – a room so filthy that it is effectively a no-go area, an immense Petri dish of furry toast crusts and lager cans. And this is not just because he is really lazy – no, he has made a real effort designed to cause the maximum upset. Not to his mother, but to me, to me, so that it is no longer a bedroom but a massive act of spite.

**What else? He is fond of T-shirts with such low-cut V-necks that his sternum is constantly on display. He refuses to wear a coat, an absurd affectation, as if coats were somehow ‘square’ or uncool, as if there were something ‘hip’ about hypothermia. What is he rebelling against? Warmth? Comfort? “Let it go,” his mother says, as he strides out into a gale with his rib-cage showing, “it won’t kill him” – but it might, and if it doesn’t then the sheer frustration of it all will kill me. And he mumbles, he swallows his words. Despite spending the last six years in a perfectly nice part of Berkshire, he speaks in a bored cockney drawl because God forbid anyone should think he comes from a respectable family, that he’s comfortable and loved, loved equally by both his parents even if he only seems to desire and require the attentions of one.**

In short, my son makes me feel like his step-father. I have had some experience of unrequited love in the past and that was no picnic, I can tell you. But the unrequited love of one’s only living offspring has its own particular acid burn**.**

1. Albie
2. takes after his father.
3. is tall like his grandfather.
4. loves taking sides in the family.
5. Which statement about smoking is **true**?
6. Everyone in their family smokes.
7. Albie’s father doesn’t agree with it.
8. It’s a much-loved habit.
9. Albie
10. is always losing his lighter.
11. is good at keeping his smoking a secret.
12. smokes in his room.
13. Albie’s room
14. is in a disgusting state.
15. is a dangerous place.
16. is full of science equipment.
17. Albie’s father feels that the state of the bedroom
18. is only the result of Albie’s laziness.
19. couldn’t get any worse.
20. is an indication of how intentionally provocative Albie is.
21. According to the father, Albie doesn’t wear a coat because
22. it’s trendy to be ill.
23. he likes showing off his body.
24. he wants to impress people.
25. What impression do we get of Albie’s mother?
26. She is more easy-going than his father.
27. She doesn’t care if he falls ill or not.
28. She’d rather her son went out.
29. Albie’s father
30. is proud of the way his son speaks.
31. is irritated by the way his son speaks.
32. is impressed by how much cockney his son can speak.
33. What impression do we get of Albie’s family?
34. They come from Berkshire.
35. They are dysfunctional.
36. They are a good, middle-class family.
37. Albie’s father is suffering from ‘unrequited love’ because
38. he feels his son doesn’t love him back.
39. he experienced it when he met someone at a picnic.
40. he is really Albie’s step-father.

*Now translate from lines 9 -17 (highlighted in bold).Do not translate the whole passage.*

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\_\_ JUNE LISTENING THIRD YEAR 2015

Most days I can be seen putting loads of washing into the machine, changing beds, cleaning out toilets– all day and every day. This is my brand-new career an Airbnb host. Over the past six months, I have welcomed more than 100 people from all over the world into my home, thanks to the Airbnb website which now has nearly a million listings in 33,000 cities.

My current guest is a German professor, here for a month. During this time his wife and daughter will also come to stay. Over breakfast we chat about opera, physics and computer science. He speaks excellent English, as do most of my foreign visitors.

Airbnb began in 2008 as a sofa-surfing website whereby students could, for a small sum, crash down in people’s living rooms for the night. Gradually, it became more upmarket until gracious ladies like myself opened up their homes to visitors. Nowadays, the majority of hosts are over-55s whose children have left home and who now have spare rooms and want to have a bit of extra cash.

Mostly, I have to say, it works well. I provide breakfast but do not offer cooking facilities. Many guests ask if they can cook and the answer is a resounding no. Nor can they sit in my living room to watch television. They are emphatically not one of the family, and what I offer is a purely business arrangement.

I do suffer, though, when guests lug in huge suitcases and carelessly bang them against the sides of my newly-painted walls. I do not accept small children and the youngest age I will take is 16. I give a front door key to guests so they are free of restricting time limits.

Once a Chinese guest locked me out in the middle of the night. I hammered on the door, rang the bell, rang his phone, but he slept through the lot. Eventually, in despair, I called the police who forced open the door. Still my guest did not wake. The police went to his room and banged on the door. No sound from inside. Was he dead?.

Finally he awoke, He was sorry, but he had caused £280 worth of damage to the front door for which, admittedly, he paid.

You do have to be a bit of a mum, I find. One day a guest asked if I could sew a button on his jacket before an interview. Fortunately, I could.

You hear life stories and become friends over breakfast – then never see them again. Because I live near the Oxford colleges, some of my guests are visiting academics attending conferences and the like, but some come for other reasons. Two girls who came from Hong Kong, instead of booking guided tours, simply wanted to shop at a nearby outlet.

470 words

June 2015 III ANNO PART ONE Listening paper

COGNOME………………………NOME…………………MATRICOLA………….

*THE PASSAGE WILL BE READ* ***TWICE****. FIRST READ THE QUESTIONS 1-10.* ***CIRCLE*** *THE ANSWER WHICH IS* ***TRUE*** *according to the text..*

1. Liz uses a website

1. with 100 other subscribers.
2. with a million subscribers.
3. with 33,000 subscribers.

2. Which statement is true?

1. Liz’s German visitor loves having breakfast alone.
2. The German visitor’s family is already staying with Liz.
3. Most of Liz’ s visitors can speak English well.

3. Airbnb originally aimed to

1. attract the student market.
2. attract a wide market.
3. to sell comfortable sofas.

4. Most people who host in AirBnB

1. have had no children.
2. do it to have company.
3. are middle-aged or older.

5. Liz

1. lets her guests cook.
2. lets her guests join her watching TV.
3. doesn’t consider her guests as family.

6. Which statement is true?

1. Liz enjoys having young children to stay.
2. Liz will not have under 16s to stay.
3. Liz gets upset because people have too much luggage.

7. At Liz’s home

1. guests can come and go when they like.
2. the police check her front door every night.
3. a Chinese guest died.

8. Which statement is true?

1. Liz had to pay for the damage to her door.
2. The police had to pay for the damage to the door.
3. A guest paid for the damage to the door.

9. Which statement is true?

1. Liz offers sewing services to her guests.
2. Liz sometimes does guests small favours.
3. Liz interviews her guests before accepting them.

10. Some people who visit Liz

1. have a permanent job at an Oxford college.
2. come to do shopping.
3. become lifelong friends.

III ANNO WRITING PAPER **PART THREE** JUNE 2015

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Choose **ONE** of the following tasks. Remember to observe the word limit. Time: 1 hour and 45 minutes

1. Article

Talent shows such as X- Factor, Italy’s Got Talent and Masterchef are extremely popular today. Write an article for a student magazine on **why** there are so many talent shows and **what effect** they have on the **participants and the public** .

OR

2. Report.

The use of marijuana, despite being decriminalized in Italy, is still not legally available. You have been asked by the producers of a current affairs TV programme to discover students’ opinions on whether marijuana should be made legally available for **personal use.**

You need to find out students’ reasons for being **pro or contro** the legalization for personal use, define your questionnaire, report your findings and draw conclusions.

III ANNO WRITING PAPER **PART THREE** JUNE 2015

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III year listening September 2015

Read the text TWICE

TEXTAnd to finish tonight, here’s another interesting reaction to economic change - the case of Simon Baron, a student in Vancouver, who has just downsized his home. This means he has exchanged his 55 sq metre apartment for one, less than half the size. He was determined to live closer to the city centre and cut his transport expenses. He achieved both, but the trade-off was space. But Simon says he isn’t concerned about space.

This new idea for smaller living space is on the rise. Developers offer tiny living spaces to young professionals who want urban conveniences, job opportunities and city life in places like New York, London, Paris and Vancouver. Like many others, Simon doesn’t mind trading space for the buzz of city living and told our reporter, “Between work and school, I’m rarely home. My flat functions as a place to simply store my possessions, and to sleep, because I live in a neighbourhood that has plenty of coffee shops, restaurants and pubs.” For Simon, the only problem of living small is having to constantly shuffle his three bikes around the space.

And this is another aspect of this phenomenon – a lot of thought is given to how to best maximize space. Buildings are being designed with shared spaces, such as gyms, storage and laundry rooms, since these are all facilities which people really need but don’t need to own individually.

Attention also goes into the interior design of micro flats. In such small spaces, it would be easy for untidiness to become total chaos. Built-in furniture is important, and furniture with multiple functions is especially useful. Chairs, for example, have many uses, also serving as shelves, and clothes hangers.

Many young people want to live in the city because that’s where the excitement is and downsizing is one way to afford it, but the trend doesn’t just apply to young people. It seems many older people have been selling their houses in the suburbs to buy a place in the city when their children leave home. And there are also people who just hate those long commutes into the city.

The biggest cities will always attract more people, so the demand for affordable, purpose-built accommodation near work will also continue to increase in city centres where land is limited. Small living space may not be for everybody, but, for the environment, micro living is preferable to more high rise building

September 2015 III ANNO PART ONE Listening paper

COGNOME……………………………………………….NOME………………………………………………………….MATRICOLA………….

*THE PASSAGE WILL BE READ* ***TWICE****. FIRST READ THE QUESTIONS 1-10.* ***CIRCLE*** *THE ANSWER WHICH IS* ***TRUE*** *according to the text*

1) Simon has just

a) bought a small flat.

b) sold a small house.

c) bought a large flat.

2) For Simon the most important thing is

a) the size of his home.

b) the location of his home.

c) the cost of his home.

3) At the moment downsizing is seen

a) in major cities.

b) only in Europe.

c) only in Vancouver

4) Simon

a) likes to spend a lot of time at home.

b) spends little time at home.

c) likes to cook at home.

5) People are interested in downsizing

a) because they want to enjoy everything the city offers.

b) because they hate living in the suburbs.

c) because they hate working in the city.

6) In new micro apartment buildings people

a) have some communal areas.

b) have personal gyms.

c) need washing machines in their flats.

7) Micro apartments

a) are easy to furnish.

b) are easy to keep tidy.

c) need specially designed furniture.

8) People who are interested in downsizing are

a) students.

b) older people buying for their children.

c) both young and old.

9) According to the speaker, the number of people living in big city centres

a) will increase.

b) will decrease.

c) will remain the same.

10) According to the speaker,

a) micro flats are a good idea for everybody.

b) micro flats are a good idea for the environment.

c) skyscrapers are a better soluti

III ANNO SEPT 2015

When I first met Sheila, I disliked her at once. She was wearing skintight leggings, a sexy top and sneakers with no socks – bizarrely inappropriate even at our very informal company. Soon, Sheila was doggedly pumping me for information about the new department I was running where she hoped to get a permanent job. *Not a chance,* I thought. *Not if I have anything to say about it.*

However, I didn’t. Within a few days Sheila was ‘trying out’ for me. I gave her a moderately difficult, uninteresting and unimportant project that I didn’t need for months. It would take that long for her successor to untangle the mess she had made out of it afterwards. **Although I couldn’t have predicted exactly what Sheila would do, in three minutes flat I had assessed her as someone who could not be relied on to get a job done.**

**We all make snap judgments about strangers. Within seconds after we meet someone we take in a host of details and draw rather large conclusions from them. We may decide in an instant whether it is someone’s nature to be warm or cold, friendly or hostile, anxious or calm, happy or troubled. Unconsciously, we often ask and quickly answer questions about how we would get on with that person. If we get to know the person better we may change our minds but we may never get the chance to.**

**As uncomfortable as it may be, we are under the microscope every day. Our employees, our colleagues, and our customers judge us by how we look, how we dress, our table manners, and sometimes even how we do our job.** From Sheila’s inappropriate dress and aggressive behavior toward me, I’d decided she was pushy, insensitive and had poor judgment. I also had a lot of vague impressions I couldn’t explain. It was as if a warning bell went off in my head. Its message: this person was not to be trusted; her behavior would be unpredictable; she was motivated by an agenda of her own that I would never understand.

1. Sheila dressed

1. appropriately for the job.
2. over casually for the job.
3. elegantly for the job.

2. Sheila’s manager

1. was annoyed by Sheila’s questions.
2. asked Sheila a lot of questions.
3. liked the fact she asked a lot of questions.

3. Sheila’s manager

1. could decide whether she worked with him or not.
2. had the power to decide whether to give Sheila a permanent job.
3. had no say in which department Sheila would work.

4. The manager gave Sheila a job which

1. had to be finished within a few months.
2. was not needed until much later.
3. should have taken her three minutes.

5. In line 8 ‘*her successor’* refers to

1. the person who would replace Sheila.
2. the person who would replace the manager.
3. the person who succeeds the most at the job.

6. The manager

1. has been trained to assess members of staff immediately.
2. believes everyone judges another person quickly on a first meeting.
3. believes initial judgments on meeting another person can never be changed.

7. The manager believes ‘*large conclusions’* (line 12)

1. help you to decide who to be friends with.
2. may be hasty conclusions.
3. are the most reliable conclusions.

8. According to the manager

1. we are aware we are making judgments on meeting new people.
2. we are not aware that we are judging people on first meetings.
3. judging people on appearances is unacceptable.

9. ‘*Its message’* (line 22) refers to

1. Sheila’s behavior.
2. the manager’s vague impressions.
3. the warning bell.

10. The manager thought Sheila was

1. judgmental.
2. untrustworthy.
3. reliable.

Now translate from lines 7-16 written in **BOLD**

**WRITING PAPER III ANNO September 2015**

Write between 280 and 320 words on **ONE** of the following topics:

1. **Essay (280-320 words)**

*“You can’t judge a book by its cover”* is an old British saying. Discuss just how important appearances can be in your society.

OR

2. **Report (280-320 words)**

A hotel owner wants to discover how well or badly his guests would evaluate their stay in his hotel. You have been asked to conduct a survey to establish this and recommend how the staff, facilities and services can be improved for the next summer season. Write your questionnaire for the hotel guests, report their response and make recommendations for the future summer season.

October 2015 III ANNO PART ONE Listening paper

Today, I would like to address the many Americans who work hard, bring home their daily bread, save money and build a better life for their families. They are not concerned simply with paying their taxes, but in their own quiet way, sustain the life of society. Their actions generate solidarity and they help those most in need.

I would also like to address the many elderly persons who are a storehouse of wisdom and experience, and who seek in many ways, especially through volunteer work, to share their stories and their insights. I know that many of them are retired, but still active.

I also want to address all those young people who are working to realise their dreams, who are not distracted by facile solutions, and who face difficult situations, often as a result of immaturity on the part of many adults. I wish to address all of you through your historical memory.

Millions of people have come to this land to pursue their dream of freedom. The people of this continent, are not fearful of foreigners, because most of you were once foreigners. I say this, knowing that so many of you are descended from immigrants. On this continent, too, thousands of persons travel north in search of a better life.

Now our world is facing the greatest refugee crisis in modern times We must not be alarmed by their numbers, but see them as persons, listening to them, responding to them, in a humane and fraternal way. Remember the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” This points us in a clear direction: if we want security, let us give security; if we want life, let us give life; if we want opportunities, let us provide opportunities.

This rule has also led me to call for the global abolition of the death penalty. I am convinced that this way is the best, since every life is sacred. Recently my brother bishops here in the United States renewed their call for the abolition of the death penalty. Not only do I support them, but I also feel that a just punishment must never exclude hope and rehabilitation.

This also includes the earth, the central theme of the encyclical which I recently wrote in order to discuss our common home. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all.

This in turn also means being truly determined to end the many armed conflicts throughout our world. Why are deadly weapons being sold to those who plan to inflict suffering? Sadly we all know the answer is simply for money: money that is drenched in innocent blood. In the face of shameful and culpable silence, it is our duty to stop the arms trade.

I will end my visit to your country in Philadelphia, where I will take part in the World Meeting of Families. How essential the family has been to the building of this country! Yet I cannot hide my concern : the family is in danger, perhaps as never before, from within and without and especially for the most vulnerable, the young.

In conclusion, I hope the spirit of the American people continues to grow, so that as many young people as possible can inherit a land which has inspired so many people to dream. God bless America.

October 2015 III ANNO PART ONE Listening paper

COGNOME……………………..NOME…………………MATRICOLA………….

*THE PASSAGE WILL BE READ* ***TWICE****. FIRST READ THE QUESTIONS 1-10.* ***CIRCLE*** *THE ANSWER WHICH IS* ***TRUE*** *according to the text.*

**PART ONE**

1. The speaker thinks many people

a) benefit their communities.

b) think exclusively about their jobs.

c) think only about paying their taxes.

2. The speaker thinks older people

a) have a lot to offer society.

b) have little to offer society.

c) should retire and rest.

3) The speaker says young people have problems because

a) they are immature.

b) they want life to be easy.

c) adults may make problems for them.

4. People

a) no longer emigrate to America.

b) are still emigrating to America.

c) are afraid of immigrants.

5. The speaker says

a) we should be worried about the refugee crisis.

b) we should worry about security.

c) we should treat refugees like anybody else.

6. The U.S. bishops

a) oppose the death penalty.

b) are in favour of the death penalty.

c) think rehabilitation of criminals is impossible.

7. The speaker has recently written about

a) the importance of housing.

b) the impact of global warming.

c) the importance of dialogue.

8. The speaker says the arms trade continues because

a) people are too embarrassed to talk about it.

b) there is a lot of profit in it.

c) people don’t know about it.

9. The speaker was going to Philadelphia next, to talk about

a) the threat of war.

b) the environment being threatened.

c) the family being threatened.

10) The text probably comes from

a) a speech.

b) a talk show.

c) a party political broadcast.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO October 2015***

***COGNOME…………………………. ……………………..NOME……………………………….matricola…………………………***

***PART TWO****:* ***Read*** *the following passage and* ***answer the questions*** *1-10 that follow. Then* ***translate*** *the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from* ***line 5 to line 12****. You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the 2 tasks. Write the translation in the lines provided.*

Serena stood at the old-fashioned kitchen sink and as she worked she thought about Larry. No one in their right minds fell in love like this, to the exclusion of everything and everyone else. She was a sensible girl, no longer young and silly like little Susan; she saw also that there was a lot more to marriage than falling in love.

**Besides, Larry, even though he had told her so delightfully and surprisingly that she was going to marry him – for surely that was what he had meant – might be in the habit of falling in love with any girl who chanced to take his fancy.**

**She began to dry the dishes resolving that, whatever her feelings, she would not allow herself to be hurried into any situation, however wonderful it might seem. She had put the china and the cutlery away and was on her way to make the beds when she remembered that strange intent look Nicholas had given her when Larry suggested she should go out with him. There had been no reason for it and it puzzled her that the small episode should stick so firmly in her memory. She shook it free from her thoughts for the moment and joined her mother, already busy in the boys’ room.**

The day passed pleasantly so that she forgot her impatience for Monday’s arrival. When she had finished her chores she duly visited the vicar’s wife, admired the baby, the sixth and surely the last? – presented the proud mother with a small gift for the tiny creature, and turned her attention to the vicar’s five other children, who had arrived with almost monotonous regularity every eighteen months or so.

They all bore a marked resemblance to each other and, Serena had to admit, they all looked remarkably healthy. She asked tentatively: “Do you find it a bit much – six, Mrs. Snow?

Her hostess smiled broadly. ”Heavens no, Miss Serena. We wouldn’t be without them. You’ll see when you’re married and have little ones to bring up.”

Serena tried to imagine herself with six small children, and somehow the picture was blurred because deep in her bones something told her that Larry wouldn’t want to have a houseful of children to absorb her time – and his.

He would want her for himself. The thought sent a small doubt niggling at the back of her mind for she loved children; provided she had help she was quite sure she could cope with half a dozen, but only if their father did his share too, and Larry, she was sure, even though she knew very little about him, wasn’t that kind of man.

1.Serena

1. appreciates marriage is a complicated business.
2. knows she is mad to love Larry.
3. is too young and immature to marry Larry.

2. Which statement is true?

1. Serena expected Larry to ask her to marry him.
2. Serena is unsure Larry wants to marry her.
3. Serena knows Larry has gone out with a lot of girls.

3. *She shook* ***it*** *free from her thoughts* (lines 15-16); *The pronoun* ***‘it’*** *refers to*

1. Nicholas.
2. Larry’s suggestion to go out together.
3. the small episode.

4.Which statement is true?

1. Serena understands why Nicholas looked at her strangely.
2. Serena doesn’t understand why Nicholas looked at her strangely.
3. Serena wants to forget why Nicholas looked at her strangely.

5. In line 20 “*the last”* refers to

1. the last baby.
2. the last chore.
3. the last visit.

6. Which statement is true?

1. Serena cleaned house for the vicar’s wife.
2. The vicar’s wife had just had a baby.
3. The vicar’s wife had 5 children and an eighteen-month-old baby

7. The vicar’s wife

1. complains about her children.
2. loves all her children.
3. doesn’t want any more children.

8. The closest in meaning to “*deep in her bones”* line 30 is

1. intuitively.
2. profoundly.
3. sadly.

9. Serena thinks

1. she could look after a lot of children by herself.
2. Larry wouldn’t approve of having a lot of children.
3. Larry would help her bring up any children they might have.

10. Which statement is true?

1. Serena knows Larry very well.
2. Serena knows Larry is kind.
3. Serena hardly knows Larry at all.

*Now translate the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from* ***line 5 to line 12*** *and write your translation clearly within these lines.*

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**III YEAR ESSAY TITLES OCTOBER 2015**

Time: 1 hour and 45 minutes.

**PART THREE**

Choose **ONE** of the following tasks:

1. Essay (280-320 words)

Many people believe that women make better parents than men and that this is why they have the greater role in raising children in most societies. Others claim that men are just as good as women at parenting. Discuss.

2. Article (280-320 words)

Write an article for the newspaper *La Sicilia* which explains the impact shopping centres have had on the city centre of Catania, its commerce and how customers’ shopping habits have changed for better or worse.

III ANNO FEBRUARY 2016 listening text

Read twice.

A few years ago my husband and I decided to move to Italy and open a holiday rental. We were living in a flat in Bristol at the time, which is a lovely city, if a bit rainy, and both working in fairly regular jobs but we were spending all our time commuting just so we could pay for a house we were never in and put petrol in the cars that took us to work. There just didn’t seem to be much point in it all.

So, we wracked our brains and came up with this idea. We did a few wildly inaccurate sums and worked out we could afford it (we couldn’t…) and from that point on realised that we had to give it a go otherwise we would always regret it.

I’m **saying** it was a joint decision. However, if it doesn’t work out, it was all my husband’s idea! We decided that, rather than a flat, we should buy a big house, somewhere for families or groups to holiday - a house for up to 12 people, with its own private pool, kitchen, living room and garden.

We decided Piedmont just had the perfect combination. We chose Barolo as it’s near the mountains for skiing in the winter, near the sea, well-placed for reaching the rest of Europe, but most importantly it’s ridiculously beautiful in every season. I still find myself stopping to take photos every time we go out.

Piedmont is easily as beautiful as better-known places like Tuscany and Umbria, but there are fewer tourists so you can get a much more “Italian” experience. Also, thanks to the grape harvest in the autumn and white truffles, which are typically found from about November, the tourist season is really long.

The new house needed some renovation and we had some surprises! If I had a Euro for every time builders tried to persuade us to use plastic wood instead of the real thing I’d be rich. Wood moves you see, and it cracks, and Italian builders seem to hate it. We were offered various plastic options: plastic front doors, tiles that look like wood and this plastic stuff to go around the swimming pool.

Anyway, we’re pleased that we can spend as much time as we want with our baby daughter. Had she been born in the UK we would barely get to see her.

My advice for anyone who is considering renovating a property in Italy? Firstly, do it. But secondly, be prepared. It’s hard work, physically and mentally. We work every minute of every day and our dreams are filled with people not turning up when they’re supposed to.

We’ve learnt a lot, we’ve cried a lot, we’ve certainly spent a lot, but we wouldn’t change it. We love this lifestyle for and you could never persuade me to swap it for the daily commute on the M4.

February 2016 III ANNO Listening paper COGNOME.......................... NOME.....................MATRICOLA.............

*THE PASSAGE WILL BE READ* ***TWICE****. FIRST READ THE QUESTIONS 1-10.* ***CIRCLE*** *THE ANSWER WHICH IS* ***TRUE*** *according to the text.*

1. The speaker and her husband decided to move to Italy because

1. they lost their jobs in Bristol.
2. they didn’t like the city of Bristol.
3. they were dissatisfied with their lifestyle in Bristol.

2.The couple

1. made a careful estimate of their financial situation.
2. didn’t make an accurate estimate of their financial situation.
3. regret making this financial decision.

3. The speaker

1. always does as her husband suggests.
2. jokes that if the move to Italy fails it was all her husband’s decision.
3. does not agree with her husband on anything.

4. The couple

1. wanted to buy a small flat in Italy.
2. had lived in a big house in Bristol.
3. wanted to buy a big house in Italy.

5. One advantage of Barolo is

1. its convenient geographical position.
2. it is more popular than Tuscany or Umbria with photographers.
3. having white truffles in the summer.

6. According to the speaker

1. tourists get a more authentic experience in Piedmont.
2. business is booming in Piedmont.
3. Piedmont is not as beautiful as Tuscany and Umbria.

7. Unexpectedly, Italian builders proposed

1. a plastic swimming pool.
2. wood which cracked.
3. alternative products to wood.

8. The speaker’s daughter was born in the U.K.

1. TRUE
2. FALSE
3. DON’T KNOW

9. The speaker says one of the worries they have now is

1. not having time to spend with their daughter.
2. about guests failing to show up.
3. the intense workload.

10. The couple

1. would like to go back to the U.K.
2. have had to spend a great deal of money on renovation.
3. discourage people from making the same move as them.

3rd year listening March 2016

Good afternoon and welcome to the 2 o’clock news round-up.

There have been developments in the hunt for the murderers of 20-year-old university student, Mary Grey, whose body was found yesterday in woodland outside Manchester. Police have found footprints and items of clothing in vegetation in the isolated area where the body was discovered. They hope this will lead to a quick identification of the murderers. They say evidence points to at least two people having been involved in the death.

Later this afternoon Her Majesty will formally open Parliament, despite earlier fears that poor health might have prevented her taking part in the ceremony for the first time in the 64 years of her reign. Buckingham Palace stated that the Queen had been determined to attend the occasion.

Rail companies announced a 1% increase in train fares today, while consumer groups reacted with alarm, claiming that commuting costs in the U.K. are already much higher than in the rest of Europe. A monthly ticket costing £350 in London would cost only £37 for an equivalent distance in Rome. And commuters in Paris, who are highly critical of their public transport costs, pay 30% less than Londoners for a comparable journey. The Rail minister stated that the decision to increase fares was the result of market forces and the government would not be intervening. Meanwhile protests took place at more than 60 stations in the Greater London area, against price increases and in favour of a return to public ownership of the railway system.

Elsewhere, junior doctors were protesting in general against the government’s cuts to the National Health and to the government’s refusal to listen to their demands that the new contract contain a ceiling on maximum number of hours worked in a week. The doctors say that if overworked and overtired, they cannot guarantee the level of service and safety which they would like.

Finally, it appears that the dramatic weather situation in the north-east of the United States is improving, as the sun comes out, temperatures rise and the metre or so of snow melts. 29 people are reported dead, most of them in traffic accidents. However authorities also say that many potentially dangerous situations were avoided by people simply helping their neighbours out, especially those with mobility problems. Meanwhile people are beginning to count the cost, in damage to homes, cars and infrastructure, as well as to the economy. The mayor of New York, Bill di Blasio, said he was sure New Yorkers would soon bounce back, as they have always done after natural and man-made disasters.

And that is the end of the news.

(439 words)

1st March 2016 III ANNO PART ONE Listening paper

COGNOME……………………..NOME…………………MATRICOLA………….

*THE PASSAGE WILL BE READ* ***TWICE****. FIRST READ THE QUESTIONS 1-10.* ***CIRCLE*** *THE ANSWER WHICH IS* ***TRUE*** *according to the text.* You are going to listen to a radio news programme.

1) Mary Grey’s body was found

a) at the university.

b) in the country.

c) in Manchester.

2) The police

a) know the identity of the killer.

b) think there was one killer.

c) hope to identify the killers soon.

3) The Queen

a) will participate in the ceremony to open Parliament for the first time.

b) will not participate in the ceremony.

c) has always participated in the ceremony.

4) Commuting is more expensive in

a) Britain.

b) Italy.

c) France.

5) The government

a) will take action to reduce travel costs.

b) thinks the increase in travel costs is acceptable.

c) will take action to increase travel costs.

6) Protests were held

a) in favour of price rises.

b) in favour of privatizing the railway system.

c) in favour of re-nationalising the railway system.

7) Junior doctors are protesting

a) only about government cuts to hospitals.

b) only about their own conditions of work.

c) about both cuts in general and their own conditions of work.

8) Junior doctors are most worried about

a) working long hours.

b) earning more money.

c) providing the best possible service.

9) In the snowstorm in the north-eastern U.S.

a) nobody was hurt.

b) people co-operated with each other.

c) many people died of the cold.

10) Which statement is true?

a) The Mayor of New York is sure the city will recover quickly.

b) The damage caused by the storm in New York was limited.

c) This was the first disaster of this kind to hit New York.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO March 2016***

***COGNOME…………………………. ……………NOME……………………………….matricola…………………………………***

***PART TWO****: Read the following passage and answer the questions 1-10 that follow. Then translate the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from line 13 to line 25 You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the 2 tasks. Write the translation in the lines provided.*

Home Secretary Theresa May is facing calls to rethink the “discriminatory” new earnings threshold of £35,000 for non-EU migrants that could starve Britain of vital talent in the teaching, charity and entrepreneur sectors when the changes take effect in April 2016.

Non-EU migrants who have lived in the UK for five years will have to prove they will be paid the new minimum threshold in order to stay in the country.  Those who fail to demonstrate earnings of more than £35,000 will be denied settlement in the UK and will face deportation according to the new Home Office policy.

Mr Harbord urged fellow ministers to “look more closely” at the threshold, which is currently £20,800 – around £5,000 less than the average UK salary.

**A petition launched earlier this week to try to force the Government to rethink the sharp rise in the minimum income requirements has attracted more than 2,000 signatures. Mr. Harbord, who set up the petition on the Parliament website, told *The Independent* that he decided to take action because he knew a number of “incredibly upset and scared” people who were bound to be affected by the changes but had no one speaking up on their behalf.**

**“These people aren’t the benefits-scrounging, budding terrorists that everyone seems so afraid of,” he said.**

**"They're people who have worked in the UK for years, making friends and bringing up families, building homes and contributing to this country's culture and economy.”**

**The petition, which calls for the Government to scrap the new £35,000 threshold for non-EU citizens, could be debated by MPs if it reaches 100,000 signatures but only needs 10,000 to receive a response from the Government. M**

“At the very least, I want an answer from the Home Office, and for the population in general to realise it's impossible to rationalise this insanity,” Mr Harbord said.

"I want the Home Office to take responsibility for this incredible mistake, even if they never intend to correct it or make amends. “Ultimately, I just want my friends and the thousands of other people who face deportation to be allowed to remain in their homes and their jobs."

Mr Carmichael, the Liberal Democrat home affairs spokesman, is writing to Ms May calling on her to publish the Government’s latest assessment on how many people will face deportation when the new rules take effect in April. The Home Office’s own assessment of the policy in 2012 admitted that the higher threshold would have a significant impact on teachers, nurses, marketing managers and IT professionals.  The Government temporarily exempted nurses from the new rules last autumn in response to fears about widespread shortages of workers across the NHS. But the earnings threshold could be applied to migrant nurses in the future should the Government decide to take them off the Shortage Occupation List

Mr Carmichael told *The Independent*: “Britain must remain open for business – we should be looking to attract the best and brightest not turn them away.  "Discrimination based on income fails to take talent and new sectors like tech start-ups, whose staff might be paid less than £35,000, are essential to keeping the UK at the forefront of the global economy.”

The Home Office has yet to respond to a request for comment

PART TWO

1. Theresa May’s proposal to raise the earnings threshold for non-EU citizens

1. is well accepted by the British public.
2. requires all European and non-EU migrants to earn £35.000 a year.
3. is considered unreasonable by many.

2. To settle in the UK

1. non-Eu migrants must show proof of present earnings in their home country.
2. non-Eu migrants must show proof of future earnings in the UK.
3. non-Eu migrants must earn the average wage in the UK.

3. The current average wage of all workers in the UK is

1. £25,800.
2. £35,000.
3. £20,800.

4. Mr. Harbord

1. already handed in a petition to the Home Office.
2. set up a petition on a social network.
3. believes the Home Office is being irresponsible.

5. If the petition reaches 10,000 signatures

1. the government will debate the issue in Parliament.
2. the government is required to explain their policy.
3. the government is required to change their policy.

6. Mr. Harbord believes the new regulations will

1. prevent terrorism in the UK.
2. stop non-Eu citizens taking advantage of the welfare benefits in the UK.
3. affect honest working non-Eu citizens.

7. Mr Harbord aims to

1. speak up for non-EU residents in the UK.
2. deport non-EU residents from the UK.
3. protect the British population.

* 8. Mr Carmichael wants the Home Office to

1. evaluate and declare the number of people who risk deportation.
2. pay talented migrants a salary of £ 35,000 minimum.
3. encourage business with non- EU countries.



9.Which statement is true?

1. Non-EU nurses are presently exempt from deportation.
2. Non-EU nurses were made exempt from deportation in 2012.
3. Non-EU nurses could never be deported in the future.

10. Mr. Carmichael feels entry regulations to the UK should

1. be based on the potential earnings of non EU- migrants.
2. be based on attracting talented and skilled people.
3. discriminate between European and non- Europeans.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO March 2016***

***COGNOME…………………………. ……………NOME……………………………….matricola…………………………………***

PART THREE

Choose **one** of the following topics. You have 1hr and 45 minutes.

1. ESSAY (280-320 words)

Brain Drain refers to the immigration of scientists, engineers, doctors and other technically qualified persons trained in one country but who move to another country to work for a variety of reasons.

Every year thousands of skilled professionals leave Italy and go to work abroad. Discuss why this phenomenon occurs and how it affects Italy.

2. REPORT(280-300 words)

You have been asked to write a report for the political party “5 Stelle” on the students at this university’s opinion of the contribution of past and present political leaders in Italy. Write a questionnaire, conduct your survey, report the responses and draw a conclusion.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO March 2016***

***COGNOME…………………………. ……………NOME……………………………….matricola…………………………………***

PART THREE

Choose **one** of the following topics. You have 1hr and 45 minutes.

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***PROVA UNICA III ANNO April 2016***

***COGNOME…………………………. ……………NOME……………………………….matricola…………………………………***

***PART TWO****: Read the following passage and answer the questions 1-10 that follow. Then translate the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from line 16 to line 28. You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the 2 tasks.*

**One wonders whether it's time for the UK to consider an alternative to the national anthem God Save the Queen.**

After the terrible events in Paris on 13 November 2015, we heard a lot about the French national anthem, the Marseillaise - including when the members of the French National Assembly spontaneously burst into song, and even at the England-France football match at Wembley a few days later. It was all very stirring, not just because the brutality of the terrorist outrage was so horrifying, but also because of the anthem itself.

The point is that La Marseillaise sounds marvellous, and brings a tear to the eye. In other words, it does the job of a national anthem, which is rallying "les citoyens", superbly.

Here in Britain, the leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition got into trouble recently when observers noticed that he was failing to sing our national anthem. But I don't blame him myself. It's a terrible tune, with banal lyrics.

**God Save the King was first sung in 1745, when Bonnie Prince Charlie\*, the Scots pretender to the throne of Great Britain, had just beaten the English army near Edinburgh and the troops needed rallying.**

**After 270 years, we have different enemies, and I humbly propose it's time we had a new anthem. Last week, I gave** [**my view**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-35261049) **in Parliament, and today I want to put 21st Century British patriotism on a secure footing because I agree with George Orwell that while nationalism is an evil in the world, patriotism has its place.**

**Unlike our US cousins, we Brits feel rather embarrassed about patriotism. My friends in Norway and Switzerland regularly fly their national flag outside their houses. If I did the same, my neighbours would think I was a fascist. I oppose nationalism, but at the same time, I'm a patriot.** To quote George Orwell: "By 'patriotism' I mean devotion to a particular place and a particular way of life, which one believes to be the best in the world but has no wish to force on other people.

So if we're agreed about feeling patriotic, what could possibly be wrong with God Save The Queen? Well, it's meant to be a national anthem, but it actually doesn't have anything to say about England, Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland (in fact a version briefly popular in the 18th Century added a final verse about crushing the "Rebellious Scots"). Instead, our national anthem variously discusses saving, protecting and defending the monarch, and pouring gifts on her.

Whatever your views on the Royal Family, I do not think they fully personify the diversity and vibrancy of contemporary Britain. Our national anthem is very dated, and it mentions

God in 12 separate places, which may be of some concern to those Britons who no longer believe in the deity.

We need a song that even the tone deaf have a chance of singing effectively. If I had my way, I would prefer us to find a new anthem, one that was stirring and memorable, but also said something about British values - fairness, inclusivity, politeness and probably also self-deprecation

.

**\* non bisogna tradurre Bonnie Prince Charlie**

1.The main theme of the article is

1. changing the words of the British national anthem.
2. choosing a new British national anthem.
3. the French national anthem.

2. The writer states

1. the French national anthem should only be sung at sports events in France.
2. the French national anthem unites the French people.
3. the British national anthem does not unite the British people.

3.The writer thinks

1. everyone must sing the national anthem when played.
2. the Leader of the Opposition should have sung the national anthem.
3. it’s not surprising the Leader of the Opposition did not sing the national anthem.

4.The first time the national anthem was sung

1. was to frighten the Scots.
2. to celebrate a Scottish victory over the English.
3. was to encourage the English army.

5.The writer feels

1. patriotism is outdated.
2. nationalism can be dangerous.
3. patriotism gives rise to fascism.

6. Which statement is true?

1. Americans and Brits feel the same way about their national flags.
2. Only Norwegians and Swedes fly their national flag outside their homes.
3. Americans and Brits do not feel the same way about their national flag.

7. According to the writer in Britain

1. it is forbidden to fly the national flag at your home.
2. flying the national flag at your home may give the wrong impression.
3. It is embarrassing to fly the national flag at your home.

8.Today the lyrics of , “God save the Queen”

1. encourage the English to crush the Scots.
2. dedicate a verse each to England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
3. invite the people to honour the Queen.

9. The writer thinks

1. the Royal Family are not representative of modern UK.
2. all Britons believe in God.
3. all Britons approve of the Royal Family.

10. The writer thinks a national anthem should

1. talk about its country’s values.
2. have a complicated tune.
3. should mention God.

III ANNO APRILE 2016 - listening text

Read twice.

When I met Gillian Anderson, she arrived alone, on foot, wearing jeans and boots, put her bag on the floor and sat next to me on the sofa. She looked fantastic and I asked her how she was:

“Well, I’m fine, thanks, but terribly busy! I’m here to promote the BBC production of “War and Peace”, but I’ve got so much else going on! The new episodes of “The X Files” will be shown next month. I made a film in India last autumn. We’ve been filming the third series of “The Fall” in Belfast and when that’s finished, I’ll be going back to New York where I’m playing Blanche Dubois in a theatre on Broadway! Oh, yes and I’ve written a book!”

Was it strange doing “The X-Files” again?

“I wasn’t sure at first. Before we did 24 shows a year but I can’t do that any more. We’re both a lot older now. I used to be able to run forever, but now I’m, like: my legs aren’t working! What was weird when we started was that it was both strange and familiar. But it was wonderful to work with David again.

Had she considered leaving her other series “The Fall?

“No! It’s my favourite! It’s so compelling and mysterious. The controversy about it glamorizing violence against women is just ridiculous. If anything, it shows there is still so much violence against women in the world. There are many series’ that are far more violent, but nobody says anything because the characters are all vampires or something. Ours is so real, and its characters are so recognizable.

Her new book also faces the problem of women’s low self-esteem that often means keeping quiet about abuse. She says:

“It’s a book about facing oneself, it’s about working through personal things in order to help people better. And it’s about the community of women, too: the fact that there is so much competition and negativity out there, especially on social media, when we should sustain each other, help each other to find our voices. Far too many women are inhibited by fear”.

How does she feel about her age?

“It depends. I did a job once where I felt like the oldest person in the make-up room, and I literally cried for two days afterwards. But then it becomes about embracing what you’ve got, and so much is great about this age. When I see grey hair, I feel comforted – and part of me can’t wait for my hair to be grey.”

What about her private life?

Well, I’m single! I am content, I don’t feel anything is lacking in my life. But aside from that… I don’t meet anybody! It’s not like people ask me out, and I say no. I just don’t meet them at all. I’m either on plane, or on set, or with my children. I haven’t been in a relationship for a couple of years. But I’m not anxious about it, nor am I interested in starting to see someone who isn’t right.

Aprile 2016 III anno Listening

COGNOME.................................................. NOME.............................................MATRICOLA.....................

*THE PASSAGE WILL BE READ* ***TWICE****. FIRST READ THE QUESTIONS 1-10.* ***CIRCLE*** *THE ANSWER WHICH IS* ***TRUE*** *according to the text.*You are going to hear an interview with actress Gillian Anderson.

1) When she arrived, Gillian Anderson

a) behaved like a Hollywood star.

b) behaved like anybody else.

c) looked tired.

2) Ms Anderson

a) only works on TV series.

b) never works on TV series.

c) works on different projects.

3) Ms Anderson will be doing a play in

a) India.

b) Belfast.

c) New York.

4) For Ms Anderson, doing “The X Files” for the second time

a) was easy.

b) was exactly like the first time.

c) was very tiring.

5) Ms Anderson thinks the series “The Fall”

a) justifies violence against women.

b) realistically portrays violence against women.

c) is more violent than other series.

6) Her book is

a) about social media.

b) an autobiography.

c) for and about women in society.

7) Ms Anderson feels

a) women should be more competitive.

b) women should be more supportive of each other.

c) women should join a community.

8) Which statement is true?

a) Ms. Anderson is terrified of getting old.

b) Ms. Anderson is ambivalent about getting old.

c) Ms. Anderson is totally relaxed about getting old.

9) Ms Anderson has

a) a very busy social life.

b) no social life.

c) a limited social life.

10) Ms Anderson

a) is currently in a relationship.

b) really wants to be in a relationship.

c) isn’t worried about being in a relationship.

**April 2016 3rd YEAR COMPOSITION TITLES**

1. Essay (280-320 words)

“Patriotism has no place in a modern society”. Discuss this idea with reference to Italian society in general and young people today.

2. Article (280-320 words)

People are reading newspapers and watching TV news programmes less. Today young people especially are using other news media more to find out about the news and world events. Write an article for a general interest magazine describing this phenomenon and the validity of the alternative media preferred, with particular reference to young people.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO JUNE 2016 EXPIRY DATE JUNE 2018***

***COGNOME…………………………. ……………NOME……………………………….matricola…………………………………***

***PART TWO****: Read the following passage and answer the questions 1-10 that follow. Then translate the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from line 32 to line 43. You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the 2 tasks.*

Mexico City sits on an inland plateau hemmed in by a ring of volcanic peaks. This pollution-trapping topography makes air quality a constant concern for the 23m people who live here.

The country took a decisive step toward improving air quality by enacting a temporary periodic ban on private and federal vehicles in the city. The rule — which will be in effect from 5 April through 30 July — prohibits driving in the city one day each week and one Saturday each month. Hybrid and electric vehicles are exempt from the ban, as are government service vehicles, public transport options and school buses.

The strategy isn't a new one to Mexico City; it has employed variations of the so-called "no circulation" tactic for close to 30 years. And Mexico City isn't the first urban centre to dabble in car-free living.

Paris, a city with some air-pollution challenges of its own, [slowed to pedal-powered speed on 27 September last year](http://www.bbc.com/autos/story/20150923-on-27-september-paris-goes-car-free) for an event that was designed to raise awareness for a citizens collective called Paris Sans Voiture (Paris Without Cars), itself inspired by the popular Car-Free Sundays in Brussels.

But Mexico City's ban is more than an awareness-raiser; the ban was enacted with the direct aim of mitigating air pollution. Last February, the city sank into a deep brown haze of smog when pollution levels, according to the US Environmental Protection Agency’s Air Quality Index scale passed the 200 mark, prompting officials to issue the metropolitan zone's first air-pollution alert in 11 years. The city ordered some 1.1m of the area's 4.7m cars — and close to half a million of them in the city centre — off the streets and offered free bus and subway rides as a further incentive to leave cars parked.

Mexico City's temporary vehicle ban and events like those in Paris and Brussels raise questions about the best ways to improve urban air quality. India, whose urban dwellers breathe some of the world's dirtiest air, has tried a variety of solutions — not the least of which was a decision in 1998 to switch smog-shrouded Delhi's 1,600 city buses and 25,000 auto-rickshaws from diesel to cleaner compressed natural gas.

Last year, Delhi officials unveiled a plan that would allow vehicles with licence plates ending in odd and even numbers to operate only on alternate days — this following a decision to ban diesel vehicles older than 10 years. And earlier this year, in an effort to curb congestion (and, by extension, cut pollution) by discouraging car-ownership, the Indian government instituted a 4% sales tax on new-car purchases.

**Thanks to strict limits on car use,/ Beijing saw blue skies for the Victory Day military parade on 3 September 2015./ Notoriously smoggy Beijing /also has experience with modulating roadway congestion/ to clean the air. /The city instituted alternate-day rules in advance of the 2008 Olympic games/ and before last year's** [**globally publicised Victory Day**](http://www.bbc.com/autos/story/20160324-the-story-behind-chinas-minecraft-military-camo) **/. Both efforts produced dramatic, if short-lived, results /— the Victory Day event's dazzling skies earned the nickname "parade blue"./ The day after, the vehicle-use restrictions were lifted/ and the blue faded back to grey./**

**And then there is London's oft-derided congestion charge,/ instituted in 2003./ The charge (presently £11.50, up from £5 in 2003)/ has yielded billions of pounds of revenue/ (a good portion of which has gone toward public-transport and infrastructure improvements)/, but it has also had a measurable effect on air quality. /Within a year of congestion-charge implementation,/ Transport for London reported that pollution levels /fell by more than 13%./**

For now, Mexico City — named by the United Nations as the most polluted city on the planet in 1992 when its AQI number touched 398 — can look forward to the late-June start of the region's rainy season, when daily showers will help scrub the atmosphere of ground-level ozone and airborne particulates.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO JUNE 2016 EXPIRY DATE JUNE 2018***

***COGNOME…………………………. ……………NOME……………………………….matricola……***

1. The problem of pollution in Mexico City is due to

1. volcano eruptions.
2. only to the fact it is inland.
3. the fact it is on flat land surrounded by mountains.

2. Which statement is true? From April to July this year

1. cars powered by electricity can drive at any time during the week.
2. diesel or petrol cars can circulate in the city on one weekday a week.
3. no vehicles at all can circulate on Saturdays in the city.

3. The article states

1. no circulation policy has been used before in other Mexican cities.
2. Mexico City has been experimenting with no circulation policy for many years.
3. Mexico City aims to become a car free zone.

4. Paris Sans Voiture

1. aimed at encouraging people to use bicycles.
2. was organised by cyclists.
3. had the same aims as another event previously held in Brussels.

5. Last February in Mexico City

1. all cars were banned from circulating in the city.
2. half a million cars were banned from circulating in the city.
3. close to 2 million cars were banned from circulating in the city.

6. Today Delhi has pollution problems caused by

1. city buses and auto-rickshaws using diesel.
2. city buses and auto-rickshaws powered by natural gas.
3. traffic congestion.

7. To discourage people from buying new cars in India

1. the government totally banned their use in the city centre.
2. the government raised taxes on new car sales.
3. the government decided diesel cars could not circulate at all.

8. Bejing’s alternate-day car-use policy before Victory Day

1. ensured smog free skies for the celebratory day.
2. had a long term positive effect.
3. was kept in force after Victory Day.

9. London’s congestion charge

1. is widely praised.
2. has gathered funds to better the country’s transport and infrastructures.
3. has had no effect on air quality

10. Mexico City

1. is reckoned to be the most polluted city in the world today.
2. now has good air quality.
3. has a rainy season which helps reduce smog.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO JUNE 2016***

PART THREE

WRITE BETWEEN **280-320** WORDS ON ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS.

1. ARTICLE

Write an article for an environmental journal on pollution which highlights the risks people are facing today and the public’s general attitude towards acting in order to combat these risks.

OR

2. REPORT

The Town Council of your hometown has asked you to carry out a survey to establish how its residents would feel about making the entire city CENTRE a car free zone in order to reduce pollution. Write your questionnaire, report the findings, draw conclusions and make recommendations based on your conclusions to the Town Council.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO SEPTEMBER 2016 EXPIRY DATE SEPTEMBER 2018***

***COGNOME…………………………. ……………NOME……………………………….matricola…………………………………***

***PART TWO****: Read the following passage and answer the questions 1-10 that follow. Then translate the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from line 1 to line 13. You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the 2 tasks.*

**Public buildings and street demonstrators around the world flew rainbow flags to show solidarity with the 49 people shot dead in a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida last June. How did this symbol become so widely recognised?**

**It's among the best-known political symbols in the world. The six-bar rainbow flag is regularly flown and held aloft in demonstrations in cities around much of the world.**

**Figures as diverse as Paul McCartney - who draped himself in one during a concert in Berlin - and the leaders of** [**Moray Council**](https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/moray/948578/rainbow-flag-flies-moray-council-solidarity-orlando-shooting-victims/) **in north-east Scotland used it to show they were at one with the families and friends of the people gunned down in Orlando's Pulse nightclub. Similar commemorations took place at baseball games in the US, while Paris's Eiffel tower was illuminated in the colours of the flag.**

**"I can't think of any other symbol that has such widespread recognition and adoption," says human rights campaigner Peter Tatchell. "Since the early 1990s it's become ubiquitous.”**

"It shows the diverse spectrum within the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) community, but also reflects the diverse spectrum of the wider community."

The design isn't universally welcomed as a symbol of liberation. The attorney general of Jamaica, which has laws criminalising gay sex, complained about the raising of the rainbow flag above the US embassy in the country following the Orlando shootings, arguing it is "disrespectful".

The rainbow flag's adoption as a symbol for the LGBT community dates back to 1978, when San Francisco-based artist Gilbert Baker released his original eight-colour design. The first hand-sewn versions flew on 25 June, Gay Freedom Day. Baker has said he wanted to convey the idea of diversity and inclusion, using "something from nature to represent that our sexuality is a human right".

The flag's use spread from San Francisco to New York and Los Angeles. By the 1990s, it was recognised as a global symbol for LBGT rights. "It replaced the use of the pink triangle, which was itself reclaimed from its use as a symbol of oppression in Nazi Germany," says Tatchell. "The rainbow flag is a more positive, uplifting symbol."

The eight different colours of Baker's original flag each represented a different aspect of life. These were:

* Pink to represent sexuality, Red for life, Orange for healing, Yellow – sunlight, Green – nature, Turquoise – art,
* Indigo – harmony and Violet for the human spirit. The number of stripes was later reduced to six. Blue replaced turquoise and pink and indigo were removed.

"The reason the rainbow flag has caught on so well is its simplicity, which allows it to be so inclusive. It works a bit like the Olympic rings, which were designed to feature colours used in the flag of every participating nation."

Had Baker added more images related specifically to male homosexuality - such as the "double Mars" symbol, showing two interlinked circles with protruding arrows - his flag would not have succeeded in the same way, says Bartram.

The rainbow flag has a long and diverse history. The 18th Century revolutionary Thomas Paine suggested using one to identify neutral ships during periods of warfare.

In the early 20th Century US peace campaigner James William van Kirk designed a flag showing rainbow stripes connected to a globe. It was intended to show how people of different nations and colours could live together in harmony. And a rainbow features on the flag of the International Co-operative Alliance.

"The rainbow is something we all draw from a young age," Bartram says. "So we all know it and can read into it what we like. That's why it works."

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO SEPTEMBER 2016 EXPIRY DATE SEPTEMBER 2018***

***COGNOME…………………………. ……………NOME……………………………….matricola…………………………………***

1. The rainbow flag

1. is often used in political demonstrations.
2. is an apolitical symbol.
3. Is always flown at American sports events.

2. Last June the rainbow flag

1. was flown by the singer, Paul McCartney.
2. was flown from the Eiffel Tower.
3. was flown in many countries.

3. Peter Tatchell says

1. the rainbow flag is the most universally recognised.
2. the rainbow flag only represents the LGBT community.
3. the rainbow flag does not represent all kinds of people.

4. After the Orlando shootings

1. all countries approved of flying the rainbow flag.
2. all countries agreed not to criminalise gay sex.
3. the US Embassy in Jamaica was criticised for raising the rainbow flag.

5. Gilbert Baker aimed at communicating

1. people should be free to express their sexuality.
2. the LGBT community was exclusive.
3. the colourful nature of the LGBT community.

6. Which statement is true?

1. The pink triangle was originally used in Germany.
2. The LGBT rainbow flag originated in Germany.
3. Today everyone recognises the pink triangle as representing the LGBT community.

7. Today the rainbow flag’s colours are

1. pink, red, orange, yellow, green and turquoise
2. red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet
3. red, orange, yellow, green, pink, and indigo

8. Graham Bartram explains the rainbow flag is popular because

1. it looks like the Olympic flag.
2. it is a simple concept.
3. it is colourful.

9. Bartram states that if the design of the flag had been more specific,

1. it would have been rejected by the LBGT community.
2. it would have offended the heterosexual community.
3. it would not have had the same impact.

10. Bartram adds that the flag is successful because

1. a child could have designed it.
2. it is a childhood memory.
3. everyone can interpret it personally.

**III YEAR ESSAY TITLES SEPTEMBER 2016**

PART THREE

WRITE BETWEEN **280-320** WORDS ON **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS.

1. ESSAY

Burkhini? BIKINI? NO BIKINI?

In August 2016 Muslim women in France were asked to leave the beaches because they were wearing a burkhini. Write an essay on whether the burkhini should or should not be allowed in European countries. How important do you think dress code is? Does it affect women more than men? Motivate your argument clearly.

OR

2. ARTICLE

*Il comune di Catania dice si alle unioni civili: le prime due cerimonie si sono svolte il 29 agosto e l'1 settembre.*

Write an article for the Times on the civil unions which recently took place in Catania and the reaction of Catanese residents to this event.

**III YEAR ESSAY TITLES SEPTEMBER 2016**

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3RD YEAR LISTENING SEPTEMBER 2016

And finally today, some good news from Defra, the Department of the Environment. Apparently the number of single-use plastic bags used by shoppers in England has fallen more than 85% since the introduction of a 5p charge last October.

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Defra reported that in the 12 months before the charge, more than 7bn bags were handed out by the seven main supermarkets, but this figure fell to slightly more than 500m in the first six months after the charge was introduced,. This is the first official assessment of the impact of the charge, which was introduced to help reduce litter and protect wildlife and is seen by ministers as a sign that it is working.

There are already indications that the charge has had positive effects, as it has encouraged shops to donate more than £29m of the money that was raised from it to go towards good causes including charities and community groups.

The rules say that shops with 250 or more full-time employees have to charge a minimum of 5p for the bags they provide for shopping in stores and for deliveries, but smaller shops are not included. Some experts think it would be more logical if all shops made the charge. And there are also exemptions for some goods, such as raw meat and fish, prescription medicines, seeds and flowers. Vegetables, of course, still come on plastic trays and wrapped in clingfilm, although this could also change soon.

Experts hope this will happen because about 8m tonnes of plastic get into the world’s oceans each year, threatening the marine environment. They estimate that plastic is ingested by 31 species of marine mammals and more than 100 species of marine birds.

The environment minister, Therese Coffey, said: “Taking 6bn plastic bags out of circulation is fantastic news. It will make marine life safer, our communities cleaner and future generations won’t have mountains of plastic which takes hundreds of years to break down. It shows small actions can make the biggest difference, but we must not be complacent, as there is always more we can all do to reduce waste and recycle what we use.”

The charge was introduced to influence consumer behaviour after the number of bags given out by the big supermarkets in England rose by 200m in 2014 to more than 7.6bn – an astonishing equivalent of 140 per person, amounting to a total of 61,000 tonnes of plastic. The only negative note is that England was the last part of the UK to adopt the 5p charge, after successful schemes in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland which were responsible for promoting the idea throughout Europe.

436 words

3RD YEAR LISTENING SEPTEMBER 2016

NAME……......................SURNAME……………………………… NO. MATRIC………………

INDICATE CLEARLY BY CIRCLING THE OPTION WHICH IS CORRECT ACCORDING TO THE TEXT.

1. Since the 5p charge was introduced, the number of plastic bags in use has

a) slightly diminished.

b) dramatically diminished.

c) increased.

2. Defra,

a) feels the charge seems to be a good idea.

b) feels it’s too soon to evaluate the idea.

c) feels the charge has had no impact on people’s habits.

3. As a consequence of the charge, some shops

a) have increased their profits.

b) have given money to help people.

c) have taken on more employees.

4. The charge is made

a) by all shops.

b) by large supermarkets.

c) on home deliveries.

5. Free plastic bags are still used for

a) all uncooked food.

b) uncooked meat and fish.

c) uncooked vegetables.

6. According to the text, at present, one of the main problems with plastic bags is

a) that you have to pay for them.

b) that our streets are full of them.

c) that sea birds and animals eat them

7. The environment minister says that, in the future

a) there will be no plastic in use.

b) there will be less plastic in use

c) there will be more plastic in use.

8 .The environment minister says

a) individual people cannot make any difference to environmental problems

b) individual people are not interested in environmental problems.

c) individual people can do more to solve environmental problems.

9. In 2014, the total number of free plastic bags from supermarkets was

a) 200 million.

b) nearly 7.7 billion

c) 61,000.

10. England

a) was the first place in Europe to introduce the charge.

b) was the last place in Europe to introduce the charge.

c) was the last place in the U.K. to introduce the charge.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO OCTOBER 2016 EXPIRY DATE OCTOBER 2018***

***COGNOME………………………….……………NOME……………………………….***

***Matricola…………………………………………***

***PART TWO****: Read the following passage and answer the questions 1-10 that follow. Then translate the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from line 8 to line 20. You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the 2 tasks.*

In Switzerland, a slowing economy and an investigation into the country’s secretive banking industry has led to almost 2,000 jobs being cut over three years, according to the [Geneva Financial Center](http://www.geneve-finance.ch/fr-ch/la-place-financiere/statistiques). In the coming years, more jobs could disappear following Brexit, since the UK is Geneva’s [fourth largest trading partner](http://www.ge.ch/conseil_etat/2013-2018/communiques/20160624.asp).

Yet the city remains an incredibly popular place for expats to relocate to for work. [Mercer’s 2016 Quality of Living Survey](https://www.imercer.com/content/mobility/quality-of-living-city-rankings.html#list) ranks Geneva among the top ten cities to live in, scoring highly for personal safety and quality of life.

**One of these fans is Silvana Soldaini. After nearly 20 years working in Milan, Soldaini received a job offer to work in banking in Geneva. She arrived in March 2004 as a single parent of two.**

**Before she arrived in Geneva, she held some common preconceptions about it.  “Being an Italian, my stereotype of the city was that it was stiff, that it had a culture without much soul to it,” she says.**

**Twelve years on, she’s a convert. She lives in a spacious apartment a 10-minute walk from Lake Geneva and has no desire to move back to Italy. Her two teenage children speak French, Italian, German and English.**

**Switzerland is one of those places where the 1% – that tiny chunk of the global population who are rolling in money – are conspicuous. Luxury watchmakers specialising in diamond-encrusted watches line the riverfront, and it’s not uncommon to see Ferraris and Lamborghinis cruising down the spotless streets.**

Geneva is small compared to most European cities but it’s a significant global financial hub, home to the world’s private banking community plus many multinationals. Foreigners therefore make up a large part of the population, [about 41%](http://www.ge.ch/statistique/domaines/apercu.asp?dom=01_02_1). Initially drawn here by higher salaries, expats – especially those with families – often choose to stay for the year-round cultural events such as the Geneva Music Festival or Nuit de Bains, a contemporary art event, plus a wide range of outdoor activities around Lake Geneva.

Last year, Switzerland topped [HSBC’s Expat Explorer Survey](https://expatexplorer.hsbc.com/survey/country/Switzerland) with the most “economic” potential for expats; the opportunity to progress your career is a big draw.  According to the survey, nearly a third of expats in Geneva earn more than $200,000 a year, second only to Hong Kong’s high-earners.

While it used to be standard practice for multinational firms to fork out for housing and children’s school fees when relocating, this is not always the case today. Now, most foreign hires will either get no allowances or they will only get relocation services, tax assistance and medical benefits.

EU citizens can enter Switzerland freely but must apply for a work authorisation before starting a new job. Companies usually take care of visa needs; if you are hired, your company submits an application for you, and it can take anywhere from two weeks to three months to clear.

According to research from ECA International, [Geneva is one of the most expensive cities in Europe](https://www.eca-international.com/news/june-2016/zurich-tops-the-european-rankings-of-most-expensiv), second only to Zurich. In other words, you will need good salary prospects to even consider living there.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO OCTOBER 2016 EXPIRY DATE OCTOBER 2018***

***COGNOME…………………………. ……………NOME……………………………….matricola…………………………………***

1. The article states that 2, 000 jobs in Geneva have disappeared

1. in the banking industry.
2. because of the UK leaving the EU.
3. in the past three years.

2. The text states Geneva is rated

1. the most popular city for expats to live in.
2. the tenth most popular city to live in.
3. one of the ten best cities to live in.

3. Silvana Soldaini

1. has lived in Geneva for 20 years.
2. is unmarried and has two children.
3. got a job in Geneva looking after two children.

4. Silvana Soldaini imagined

1. she would be lonely in Geneva.
2. she would enjoy the different culture in Geneva.
3. Geneva would be dull and unfriendly.

5. Silvana Soldaini’s children

1. are now 10 and 12 years old.
2. are polyglots.
3. live on the banks of lake Geneva.

6. The majority of people in Geneva

1. wear luxury Swiss watches.
2. show off their wealth.
3. are not extremely rich.

7. Expats are first attracted to Geneva by the opportunity to enjoy

1. its sports.
2. its artistic events.
3. greater economic benefits.

8. According to HSBC’s Expat Explorer Survey, Hong Kong’s high earners

1. are the second highest earners.
2. have the highest salaries.
3. get a third less than expats in Geneva.

9. Today, when families relocate, multinational firms

1. pay for all the family’s expenses.
2. might take care of some of the family’s needs.
3. never contribute towards the family’s expenses.

10. The article states

1. an Italian needs a visa to work in Switzerland.
2. getting a visa takes at least 3 months.
3. Zurich is the most expensive city in Europe.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO OCTOBER 2016 EXPIRY DATE OCTOBER 2018***

**III YEAR ESSAY TITLES**

Time: 1 hour and 45 minutes.

**PART THREE**

Choose **ONE** of the following tasks:

1. **ARTICLE 280-320 words**

You are an Italian student and will soon be a graduate. How do you think Brexit will affect EU citizens wishing to work or study in the UK ? Write an article for a student magazine

on this subject. Give examples.

**OR**

2. **ESSAY 280-320 words**

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Famous people’s words and actions often influence public opinion. Discuss, giving examples.

***PROVA UNICA III ANNO OCTOBER 2016 EXPIRY DATE OCTOBER 2018***

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OCTOBER 2016 III Listening text

Finally on our programme this evening, let’s see how the real identity of a writer has been the centre of a social media storm since Sunday. The true identity of Elena Ferrante, author of *The Neapolitan Novels,* has long been a mystery. Journalist Claudio Gatti, claimed in the New York Review of Books that her real name is Anita Raja and she lives in Rome, causing an outcry among her fans. One wrote, “He thinks he has put us out of our misery, but no-one really wanted to know her real identity. It was a puzzle we enjoyed”.

"Ferrante fever" reached its height last year when the books became bestsellers. They tell the story of lifelong friendship between two women from a poor neighbourhood of Naples. The books have been sold in more than 40 countries, with sales of one million books in Italy and 2.6 million in English alone.

But Ferrante is very private and has guarded her anonymity closely. She wrote that what began out of reticence, then became essential. She said, “Anonymity lets me concentrate exclusively on writing. To relinquish it would be very painful”.

But her success brought intense speculation about her true identity. Some critics said that the author must be a man, with the subtext that no woman could have written such books. Ferrante's supporters defended her, saying **only** a woman could write about a female friendship with such force.

Gatti’s article may stop the speculation, but at a cost. Ferrante has said that she would never publish again if she lost her anonymity. So why did Gatti do it? The most likely reason is believes Ferrante did not tell the truth when writing about her personal life. He accuses her of inventing a personal story to relate to the Neapolitan setting of the novels themselves.

Many people feel it is ironic that a man has outed Ferrante. There is something misogynistic about Gatti's behaviour - would an Enrico or Emilio Ferrante have been pursued in the same way? It’s also striking that the women protagonists of the books, Elena and Lila, are in a constant power struggle - intellectual, business and sexual - with men.

And again, the fact that author and protagonist share the same name, Elena, adds an interesting dimension to the saga, allowing her readers the freedom to imagine her as both, to speculate whether this is fiction or autobiography. This creates an even more powerful fantasy world.

But the fact that Fandango, the Italian production company, owns the rights to Ferrante’s novels, may change the situation entirely. They have a 32 part series in the works. This is the company which adapted [Roberto Saviano](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jan/14/-sp-roberto-saviano-my-life-under-armed-guard-gomorrah)’s *[Gomorrah](https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2014/aug/05/gomorrah-review-mob-camorra-drama)* for Sky, a very successful but very different project. While the Ferrante saga may well be a commercial success, it may also not please fans of the books, as often happens when imaginative freedom is replaced by a visual reality.

October 2016 III anno Listening

COGNOME..................................................NOME.............................................MATRICOLA.........

*THE PASSAGE WILL BE READ* ***TWICE****. FIRST READ THE QUESTIONS 1-10.* ***CIRCLE*** *THE ANSWER WHICH IS* ***TRUE*** *according to the text*

1) On hearing the news of her true identity, Elena Ferrante fans were

a) relieved.

b) miserable.

c) angry.

2) According to Claudio Gatti the “real” author lives in

a) New York.

b) Naples.

c) Rome.

3) Ferrante’s books have been a success

a) world wide.

b) only in Italy.

c) only in Britain.

4) Ferrante said that she values her anonymity because

a) it is fundamental to her writing.

b) she is shy.

c) writing is a painful exercise.

5) Most Ferrante fans were convinced that

a) that the author was really a man.

b) that the books were too good for a woman to have written them.

c) that only a woman could have written them.

6) According to the speaker, why did Gatti reveal Ferrante’s identity?

a) To end the uncertainty about Ferrante’s real identity.

b) Because he wanted her to stop writing.

c) Because he believes she lied about her background.

7) Others think Gatti ‘s article on Ferrante was

a) ironic.

b) sexist.

c) good business.

8) The books

a) tell a true story.

b) are autobiographical.

c) are multi-dimensional.

9) Which statement is true?

a) There are plans to make *The Neapolitan Novels* into a film.

b) There are plans to make *The Neapolitan Novels* into a TV series.

c) *The Neapolitan Novels* have already been made into a film

10) Adaptations of books for the screen

a) are always successful.

b) can be disappointing.

c) are always different from the original story.

III ANNO ***PROVA UNICA III ANNO January 2017***

***COGNOME………………………………………… NOME………………………………. matricola…………………………..***

***PART TWO****:*

*TASK 1: First read the following passage and answer the questions 1-10 that follow.*

*TASK 2: Translate the section indicated in* ***bold*** *from line 13 to line 22. You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the 2 tasks.*

***TASK 1***

The seasons of a love affair are played out in this wonderfully sweet, sad, movie *La La Land* from director, Damien Chazelle. It’s an unapologetically romantic homage to classic movie musicals, splashing dream-chasing optimism on the screen.

In the first 5 minutes, a bunch of young kids with big dreams, stuck in a traffic jam on the freeway leading to Los Angeles, get out of their cars and stage a big dance number. To be honest, this is where an audience might find its tolerance for this picture’s unironic approach tested, coming as it does right at the beginning of the show. It takes a little while to get into the mood, but very soon I was totally absorbed by this movie’s simple storytelling energy and the terrific lead performances from [Ryan Gosling](https://www.theguardian.com/film/ryan-gosling) and Emma Stone who are both excellent – particularly Stone, who has never been better, her huge eyes radiating wit and intelligence when they’re not filling with tears. Gosling, for his part, has a nice line in sardonic dismissal to conceal how hurt he is or how in love he is.

**The two of them meet in this symbolic traffic jam. Every car holds an aspiring artist or performer of some kind or other. If they shared their rides, the commute might be easier and the smog less heavy, but of course part of the point is that each individual has to make the trip alone. Stone is Mia, a wannabe movie star and while waiting, she is distractedly going through her pages for an audition she has later in the day so she doesn’t notice the cars ahead starting, and holds up the driver behind her - a disagreeable guy in a macho convertible, who pulls aggressively round to overtake, scowling at her. This is Seb, played by Gosling, a pianist and jazz musician who is living in a shabby apartment in the city. Seb is a purist, a difficult guy to get to know or like. He is lonely and unhappy.**

Seb gets fired from a restaurant, where the manager is enraged by his tendency to favour brilliant free-jazz improvisations instead of the tinkling background music he gets paid for. Seb meets Mia there, and then again at a party, where he has humiliatingly got a gig playing in an 80s-style band. It is fate.

Their affair begins to take of. Mia encourages Seb to find a way to open the jazz club he dreams of, but to prove to her he’s not a fake, he takes a regular gig playing the piano in a jazz-rock band. Suppressing his fears that he is selling out, Seb in his turn encourages Mia to write her one-woman show. But there is trouble in store - Mia and Seb find that success and careers are to come between them. There is a brilliant scene in which a surprise supper Seb has cooked for Mia descends into a painful row as they quarrel about how their lives are panning out.

Chazelle creates musical numbers for the pair of them, and Gosling and Stone carry these off with delicacy and charm, despite or because of the fact that they are not real singers. [La La Land](https://www.theguardian.com/film/la-la-land) is such a happy, sweet-natured movie – something to give you a vitamin-D boost of sunshine.

III ANNO ***PROVA UNICA III ANNO January 2017***

***COGNOME………………………………………… NOME………………………………. matricola…………………………..***

***PART TWO****:*

*TASK 1: Read the following passage and answer the questions 1-10 that follow.*

1. In *La La land* the director Damien Chazelle

1. recounts the love story of two musicians.
2. respects the tradition of classic movie musicals.
3. should apologise for his interpretation of the classic movie musical.

2. The writer feels the audience

1. might be disoriented by the initial dance scene.
2. might be surprised there is a stage in the middle of the freeway.
3. will have no difficulty accepting the initial dance scene.

3. The writer says that

1. Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone perform equally well.
2. Stone is slightly better in the film than Gosling.
3. Gosling’s character has no sense of humour.

4. Stone’s character, Mia,

1. has caused the traffic jam.
2. is carefully practising for an audition in the traffic jam.
3. keeps one driver waiting when the traffic starts moving.

5. Gosling’s character, Seb,

1. seems like the kind of guy it is easy to get along with.
2. immediately tries to make a good impression on Mia.
3. is annoyed with Mia.

6. Seb is fired from the restaurant because

1. he plays 80s music there.
2. he plays the music he likes there.
3. he plays boring mood music there.

7. Seb and Mia’s love story begins

1. the moment they see each other.
2. after a few encounters.
3. after Seb has become a successful musician.

8. Seb encourages Mia

1. to start a jazz club with him.
2. to get a job in a shop.
3. to write a script.

9. Seb and Mia

1. find success interferes with their love for each other.
2. quarrel because Seb has to cook all the time.
3. choose success over love.

10. Part of the charm of the film may be that Gosling and Stone

1. are professional singers.
2. sing as well as professional singers.
3. are not professional singers.

JANUARY 2017 LISTENING III ANNO

Read TWICE

Hello, everyone. And, for the last time, welcome to the White House. Well, we are thrilled to be here to celebrate the 2017 National School Counselor of the Year, as well as all of our State Counselors of the Year. These are the fine women, and a few good men- well, one good man—who are on this stage, representing schools from across this country. Also we have with us our Education Secretary, John King. I want to take this time to thank you for your dedication and leadership.

I'm so grateful to all of you for stepping up on so many occasions. Congratulations on the work that you've done, and the work we're going to keep doing. It hasn’t been easy and won’t be in the future, either, having to work miracles with hardly any staff or budget to speak of—which is how things go in the First Lady's Office! And I am so proud and grateful to you all for everything you've done.

When we launched Reach Higher in 2014, we had one clear goal in mind - we wanted to make higher education cool. We wanted to change what it means to be a success in this country. Because let's be honest, if we're always shining the spotlight on professional athletes or recording artists or Hollywood celebrities, if those are the only achievements we celebrate, then why would kids ever see college as a priority?

We are also very proud of all we have done to make higher education more affordable. We doubled grants. We made it easier to apply for financial aid for college. And we provided new funding and support for school counselors. Altogether, this administration has made the largest investment in higher education since 1945. And today, more young people than ever before are going to college.

And school counselors have played a critical role in this. The 2017 School Counselor of the Year, Terri Thomas, is a perfect example. She works at the Calhoun Career Center, in Michigan. When some of her students told her they felt unprepared to apply for higher education, Terri created workshops on CV writing, form completion and interview preparation. They did career and personal assessments. She helped them figure out their life paths.

One of her students, Kyra, said "Mrs. Thomas helped me with my doubts and insecurities. She changed my life for the better. She showed me that even if my family doesn’t have much money, college is an option for me. I can **choose** what I want to do"

And this is what you do every day. You see the promise in your students. You show these kids that they matter. I can think of no better message to send our young people in my last official remarks as First Lady. You must all know that this country belongs to you, from every background and walk of life. If you or your parents are immigrants, know that you are part of a proud American tradition—the infusion of new cultures and ideas, generation after generation, that has made us great.

If your family doesn't have much money, remember that in this country, plenty of folks, including me and my husband, started out with very little. But with a lot of hard work and a good education, anything is possible—even becoming President! That's what the American Dream is all about.

565 words

January 2017 III ANNO PART ONE Listening paper

COGNOME………………………NOME…………………MATRICOLA………….

*THE PASSAGE WILL BE READ* ***TWICE****. FIRST READ THE QUESTIONS 1-10.* ***CIRCLE*** *THE ANSWER WHICH IS* ***TRUE*** *according to the text.* The text is a shortened version of a speech made by Michelle Obama on 6th Jan 2017.

1. This speech came at the beginning of

a. the selection of National School Counselor of the year.

b. the celebrations for the National and State School Counselors of the year.

c. the selection of a new Education Secretary.

2. Which statement is correct?

a. The majority of people on stage are women.

b. The majority of people on stage are men.

c. Women and men are on stage in equal numbers.

3. The school counselors organization

a. has existed for a few years.

b. will end with the Obama administration.

c. has existed for a long time.

4. The organization

a. has great resources.

b. has few resources.

c. is financed by Michelle Obama.

5. The *Reach Higher* program wants to encourage young people

a. to do sports.

b. to go to college.

c. to become famous.

6. Going to college

a. is now cheaper because of lower costs.

b. is now easier because of increased financial help for students.

c. is an option few young people consider.

7. Terri Thomas helped students

a. by filling in their college applications for them.

b. by teaching them specific skills.

c. by telling them what choices to make.

8. Terri Thomas helped Kyra

a. by giving her money.

b. by giving her advice.

c. by giving her self-confidence.

9. Kyra

a. is definitely applying for college.

b. is considering applying for college.

c. will definitely not go to college.

10) Michelle Obama feels anything is possible

a. if your family is rich.

b. if you have a good education.

c. unless you are an immigrant.

III ANNO JANUARY 2017

Choose one of the following tasks and write about 280-320 words, You have 1 hour and 45 minutes to complete the task of your choice.

REPORT (280-320 words)

Fiorello, the Sicilian showman,  has recently broadcast an appeal to ask television channels to stop broadcasting programmes dealing with crime  in the afternoon belt. The director of Canale 5 has asked you to conduct a survey to see if people agree with Fiorello and what they would like to watch in the afternoon. Write a questionnaire, report your findings and propose alternative solutions.

OR

ARTICLE (280-320 words)

You are an Italian journalist who was sent to report on the inauguration ceremony where Donald Trump was sworn in as the President of the USA. Write an article reporting the event  for a national newspaper..