

## Not the Queen's English

1 The name—Cambridge School of Languages—suggests images of Anglo-Saxon aristocrats conversing in the  
2 Queen's English. But this Cambridge is composed of a few rooms with chairs at the edge of a Delhi suburb. Its  
3 rival is not stately Oxford but the nearby Euro Languages School, where a three-month English course costs  
4 \$16. "We tell students you need two things to succeed: English and computers," says Chetan Kumar, a Euro  
5 Languages manager. "We teach one. For the other"—he points to a nearby Internet stall—"you can go next  
6 door."

7 The professors back in Cambridge, England, would no doubt question the schools' pedagogy. There are few  
8 books or tapes. Their teachers pronounce "we" as "ve" and "primary" as "*primmry*." And yet such shops aren't  
9 merely the edge of the massive English-learning industry, which in India alone is a \$100 million-per-year  
10 business. They are the front lines of a global revolution in which hundreds of millions of people are learning  
11 English, the planet's language for commerce, technology—and, increasingly, empowerment.

12 China's English fever—elevated to epidemic proportions by the country's recent accession to the World Trade  
13 Organization and the coming 2008 Olympics—even has its own Mandarin term, *Yingwen re*. And governments  
14 from Tunisia to Turkey are pushing English, realizing that along with computers and mass migration, the  
15 language is the turbine engine of globalization.

16 Non-native speakers of English now outnumber native speakers 3 to 1, according to English-language expert  
17 David Crystal, whose numerous books include "English as a Global Language." "There's never before been a  
18 language that has been spoken by more people as a second than a first," he says. In Asia alone, the number of  
19 English-users has topped 350 million—roughly the combined populations of the United States, Britain and  
20 Canada. There are more Chinese children studying English—about 100 million—than there are Britons.

21 The new English-speakers aren't just passively absorbing the language—they're shaping it. New Englishes are  
22 mushrooming the globe over. E.g. in post-apartheid South Africa, many blacks have adopted their own version  
23 of English, combined with indigenous words, as a sign of freedom—in contrast to Afrikaans, the language of  
24 oppression. "We speak English with a Xhosa accent and a Xhosa attitude," veteran actor John Kani recently told  
25 the BBC.

26 All languages are works in progress. But the globalization of English, unprecedented<sup>1</sup> in the history of  
27 languages, will revolutionize it in ways we can only begin to imagine. Researchers are starting to study non-  
28 native speakers' mistakes. Linguist Jennifer Jenkins, an expert in world Englishes at King's College London,  
29 asks why some Asians, who have trouble pronouncing the "th" sound, should spend hours trying to say "thing"  
30 instead of "sing" or "ting." International pilots, she points out, already pronounce the word "three" as "tree" in  
31 radio dispatches, since "tree" is more widely comprehensible.

32 To achieve fluency, non-native speakers are learning English at an ever-younger age. Last year primary schools  
33 in major Chinese cities began offering English in the third grade, rather than middle school. For some mothers-  
34 to-be, that is not early enough; Zhou Min, who hosts several English programs at the Beijing Broadcasting  
35 Station, says some pregnant women speak English to their fetuses.

36 For the traditional custodians of English—the British and, more recently, the Americans—this means money.  
37 The demand for native English-speakers is so huge that there aren't enough to go around; China and the Middle  
38 East are starting to import English teachers from India. The average price of a four-day business-English course

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<sup>1</sup> unprecedented: never known before

39 in London for a French executive runs 2,240 euro. Despite—or perhaps because of—all the new Englishes  
40 cropping up, it is the American and British versions that still carry prestige. Australia and Britain, in particular,  
41 have invested heavily in branding themselves as destinations for learning English. More than 400 foreign  
42 English-teaching companies are trying to break into China. Thus, owning English is very big business.  
43 To see big business in action, one need only walk down London's busy Oxford Street, where ads promise instant  
44 access to the language of success: DOES YOUR ENGLISH EMBARRASS YOU? BUSINESS ENGLISH FOR  
45 BEGINNERS; LEARN ENGLISH IN JUST 10 WEEKS! Above clothing stores, bustling English-language  
46 schools are packed with eager twentysomethings from around the world.  
47 Why such enthusiasm? In a word, jobs. A generation ago, only elites like diplomats and CEOs needed English  
48 for work. Throughout organizations, more people need more English. In China, the Beijing Organizing  
49 Committee for the 2008 Olympics is pushing English among staff, guides, taxi drivers and ordinary citizens. For  
50 lower-middle classes in India, English can mean a ticket to a call-center job. "With call centers, no longer is  
51 speaking English one of the important skills to get a good job," says Raghu Prakash, who runs an English-  
52 language school in Jaipur. "It is *the* skill."  
53 Governments, even linguistically protectionist ones, are starting to agree. Last year Malaysia decided to start  
54 teaching school-level math and science in English. In France, home of the Academie Française, whose members  
55 are given swords and charged with defending the sanctity of the French language, a commission recommended  
56 last fall that basic English be treated like basic math: as part of the mandatory core curriculum beginning in  
57 primary school. As it turns out, the minister of Education didn't agree. No matter; French schoolchildren are  
58 ahead of their government: 96 percent of them are already studying the language as an optional subject.  
59 Technology also plays a huge role in the global triumph of English. Eighty percent of the electronically stored  
60 information in the world is in English; 66 percent of the world's scientists read in it, according to the British  
61 Council. New technologies are helping people pick up the language, too: Chinese and Japanese students can get  
62 English-usage —tips on their mobile phones. English-language teachers point to the rise of Microsoft English,  
63 where computer users are drafting letters advised by the Windows spell check and pop-up style guides. Sanjukta  
64 Chatterjee, an Indian woman, says she's astonished by the way her 7-year-old son learns the language, through  
65 CDs and video. "Our teachers were strict that we should practice, and speak the language till we were near-  
66 perfect," she says. "Now there's an additional technological incentive<sup>2</sup> to learning English."  
67 Schools are becoming more and more creative. Last August, South Korea set up its first English immersion  
68 camp. The Gyeonggi English Village comes complete with a Hollywood-style fake bank and airport, where  
69 students must conduct all transactions in English. "Through the camp, we want to train capable global citizens,  
70 who can help Korea win international competition," says Hak Kyu, who started the program. In one class,  
71 eighth grader Chun Ho Sung, wearing a long black wig and posing as British heartthrob<sup>3</sup> Orlando Bloom,  
72 sweats under the lights of a mock television studio as he prepares to be interviewed. "Do you think you are  
73 handsome?" asks the anchorwoman<sup>4</sup>. Shyly, in broken English, Chun responds: "Yes, I do. I am very  
74 handsome." The audience of other students bursts into giggles.  
75 *From: Newsweek International, March 7, 2005 (adapted)*

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<sup>2</sup> incentive: a thing that motivates or encourages one to do something:

<sup>3</sup> heartthrob: a celebrity whose good looks excite romantic feelings

<sup>4</sup> anchorwoman: a female presenter of a television or radio programme

**A Comprehension (contents: 18 points; Language: 12 points total)**

**Name:**

.....

*Answer the following questions in full sentences. No credit will be given for copied passages. With good English you can get a maximum of 12 additional points.*

1. Formulate the contrasts or contradictions which are presented in the first two paragraphs.  
(4 points)

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2. Why is China's situation special? (2 points)

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3. Describe the behaviour of "the new English-speakers"(21) (2 points)

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4. Give some context for speaking English to foetuses.(35) (2 points)

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5. “owning English is very big business”(42) Explain! (4 points)

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6. What is the role of technology? (59ff.) (4 points)

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**B Paraphrase the following excerpts from the text, in particular the underlined words. (13 points; ½ for each paraphrased underlined word)**

1. ... merely the edge of the massive English-learning industry (9)

.....

2. English, the planet's language for commerce, technology – and, increasingly, empowerment.(11)

.....

3. Non-native speakers of English now outnumber native speakers 3 to 1 (16)

.....

4. New Englishes are mushrooming the globe over. (21-22)

.....

5. ... many blacks have adopted their own version of English (22-23)

.....

6. Asians who have trouble pronouncing the “th” sound (29)

.....

7. ... since "tree" is more widely comprehensible (31)  
.....
8. To achieve fluency, ... (32)  
.....
9. The demand for native English-speakers is so huge that ... (37)  
.....
10. Raghu Prakash, who runs an English-language school (51-52)  
.....
11. ... charged with defending the sanctity of the French language (55)  
.....
12. French schoolchildren are ahead of their government (57-58)  
.....
13. The audience of other students bursts into giggles. (76)  
.....

**C Give a word with similar meaning or explain with a sentence (17 points)**

1. merely (9)	
2. roughly (19)	
3. shaping (21)	
4. researchers (27)	
5. major (33)	
6. recently (36)	
7. in particular (40)	
8. thus (42)	
9. skill (52)	
10. fall (56)	
11. optional (58)	
12. mobile phones (62)	
13. drafting (63)	
14. astonished (64)	
15. mock (72)	
16. responds (74)	
17. handsome (74)	

**D Word formation. Please give the requested form  
(an = abstract noun; vb = verb; adj = adjective) (12 points)**

1. suggests (line 1; an)		13. average (38; vb)	
2. succeed (4; adj)		14. action (43; adj)	
3. doubt (7; adj)		15. access (44; adj)	
4. increasingly (11; an)		16. embarrass (44; an)	
5. realize (14; adj)		17. agree (53; adj)	
6. include (17; adj)		18. decide (53; adj)	
7. progress (26; vb)		19. recommended (55; an)	
8. widely (31; an)		20. treated (56; an)	
9. comprehensible(31;vb)		21. basic (56; an)	
10. achieve (32; an)		22. scientists (60; adj)	
11. major(33; an)		23. advised (63; an)	
12. means (36; adj)		24. creative (67; n. not abstract)	



Name: .....

**Language Paper (70 points)**

**A Transformations (12 points)**

*(Reformulate the sentence using the word in capitals or starting it in the given way. Elements that do not change need not be written.)*

- 1) When they were young they always played football. USED  
.....
- 2) It occurred to us that she might like to leave that place. WONDERING  
.....
- 3) It won't help if you worry about it. POINT  
.....
- 4) Please don't go there now. RATHER  
.....
- 5) She said that he had stolen her money. ACCUSED  
.....
- 6) She ought to go to bed now.  
*It's high* .....
- 7) If you don't hurry you'll miss the train.  
*Unless* .....
- 8) I am sure she knew that I was there.  
*She must* .....
- 9) I won't wash that car myself.  
*I will have* .....
- 10) She always took someone with her when she visited the old man.  
*She never* .....
- 11) As far as I can recall, I didn't mention it to anybody.  
*I don't remember* .....
- 12) I intended to do my homework last night, but my dog ate my exercise book.  
*I was* .....

**B Fill in the correct tense of the verbs in brackets and complete the sentences. (12 points)**

1. When he (travel) ..... through Zimbabwe a few years ago, he (get) ..... hungry and (stop) ..... at a restaurant. He (never, eat) ..... snake before, so he (order) ..... it and it was delicious!
2. In his mid-twenties, he (drive) ..... around the whole of South Africa. He (live) ..... in Lesotho for a year before he (decide) ..... to go on this tour. It was a very exciting time.
3. The doctor (come) ..... yesterday. He (not like) ..... my cough. I (lie) ..... in bed looking at the ceiling since Tuesday. I (never, be) ..... ill like this before. It (rain) ..... all day, and I can't even have a cup of tea to cheer myself up, because the milkman (not, come) ..... this morning.
4. I can't turn the key. – Why (not, try, put) ..... some oil in the lock? This (usually, work) .....
5. What (you, do) ..... this coming weekend? – Our friends from Milan (come) .....
6. How many times (you, go) ..... to Ireland? – Oh, many times. In 1994 I (spend) ..... eight months there. I (be) ..... there at least a dozen times before.
7. An accident (happen) ..... on the motorway. One person (kill) ..... and one person is now (operate on) ..... at the hospital.
8. Look at those clouds. It (rain) ..... soon. I (go) ..... for a walk, but now I think I (stay) ..... at home.

**C Prepositions (8 points)**

- 1) Did you realize what he was referring .....?
- 2) I don't approve ..... that behaviour.
- 3) He had never complained ..... a headache.
- 4) They devoted at least three hours ..... that job.
- 5) Do you think he did it ..... purpose?
- 6) Did they eventually resort ..... violence?
- 7) She forgot to remind me ..... my promise.
- 8) Everybody envies him ..... his money.

- 9) They made no attempt ..... apologizing.
- 10) What will my future job consist .....?
- 11) She urged us to allow ..... his young age.
- 12) He didn't prevent the children ..... fighting.
- 13) Do these birds feed ..... fish?
- 14) He is often mistaken ..... Frenchman.
- 15) The traffic jam was due ..... a strike.
- 16) They are very suspicious ..... foreigners.

**D Turn the following sentences into indirect speech. Complete the sentences. (4 points)**

- 1) "Why can't we hitchhike to the next station?"  
*Paul suggested* .....
- 2) "Are you cold? I can light a fire."  
*Our hostess asked us* .....
- 3) "I have never seen such a mess."  
*He said* .....
- 4) "If we leave immediately after breakfast we'll be there before midnight."  
*She explained* .....

**E Conditional sentences (4 points)**

- 1) No matter what (happen) ....., I (always, stand)  
 ..... by you!
- 2) I'm sure that if you (run) ..... you (can catch) .....  
 that train. But you are too lazy.
- 3) Suppose your computer (break down) ....., what (you, do)  
 .....
- 4) If they (phone) ..... earlier I (pick up)  
 ..... at the station. But now it's too late.

**F Phrasals (6 points)**

Rewrite the following sentences, replacing the underlined words by a phrasal verb from the box – in the appropriate form. Not all the phrasals in the box are to be used.

get away with, call off, look after, go off, do away with, give in, call at, put forward, carry on, make up, mix up, see to it, cut down on, run into, go through, come across, make out, come to, let somebody down

- 1) She keeps confusing ..... those two languages.
- 2) This is a law we should abolish .....
- 3) I wonder whether he won't be punished for .....that.
- 4) When did they cancel ..... the match?
- 5) Without assistance I cannot continue ..... much longer.
- 6) He was lucky to regain consciousness .....after a short time.
- 7) Few people know what he suffered .....in those days.
- 8) I think he invented it. ....
- 9) They really ought to reduce the amount of money they spend on ..... sweets.
- 10) Do you think this milk is no longer drinkable.....?
- 11) I can't read .....this address; his handwriting is awful.
- 12) He does not easily yield / cease to resist .....

**G Translate the following sentences as precisely as possible. (24 points)**

- 1) Gibt es irgend etwas Besonderes, das ich ihnen sagen soll? (2 points)  
.....
- 2) Die meisten Schülerinnen meinten, die Chorprobe habe noch nicht begonnen. (2)  
.....
- 3) Wie oft haben Sie bei diesem Auto den Service machen lassen? (2)  
.....
- 4) Als Lehrerin muss sie fähig sein, solche Fragen zu beantworten. (1 ½)  
.....
- 5) Wenn ich nur wüsste, wo die nächste Apotheke ist! (1 ½)  
.....
- 6) In diesen Ländern ist das südliche Klima extrem verschieden vom nördlichen. (2)  
.....
- 7) Ich kann die Hunde bellen hören, aber ich weigere mich, ihnen zuzuhören. (2)  
.....
- 8) Ben lebt in Paris. Er ist seit vielen Jahren dort. (1)  
.....
- 9) Er verlor das Bewusstsein, weil er es unterlassen hatte, seine Medizin zu nehmen. (2)  
.....

10) Ich weiss nicht, ob sie Chemie oder Physik studiert. (1)

.....

11) In der zweiten Ausgabe des Taschenbuches vergass der Verlag das  
Inhaltsverzeichnis.(2)

.....

12) Wir können nicht umhin, Vermutungen anzustellen. (1 ½)

.....

13) Wenn wir ein Dreibettzimmer teilen würden, käme das viel billiger. (1 ½)

.....

14) Sie kam mir bekannt vor, aber ich erkannte sie nicht als ehemalige Klassenkameradin.  
(2)

.....

**Kollegium St. Fidelis / Mittelschule Nidwalden  
Matura 2005**

**Essay (50 points)**

*Write a thoughtful and well-structured essay on ONE of the following topics.  
A good personal title is welcome.*

1) English in Switzerland

Formulate your assessment of the role of English in Switzerland in the near future.

2) Imagination vs knowledge

Discuss Albert Einstein's dictum that imagination is more important than knowledge.

3) Literature

What impressed me about ... (Choose one of the literary texts you have read in English.)

4) Draw inspiration from Gary Larson's cartoon. Write an essay, not a story.

Manfred Kämpfen

## **A Comprehension**

1. (4 points) name of school vs venue – multi-million-dollar business vs scarce teaching material – substandard pronunciation and teacher training
2. (2) China now a member of WTO and hosting Olympics in 2008
3. (2) They are creating new forms of E, new Englishes, combine with their own languages and dialects
4. (2) non-native speakers are learning E at ever-younger age; some pregnant mothers even speak E to their foetuses
5. (4) English-speaking countries, esp. Britain & America can make a lot of money with their language – evidence: thousands of language schools, many thousand English teachers at a premium e.g. in China - almost everybody needs to learn this language
6. (4) high percentage of electronically stored texts and media material in English – techn also helps in learning English – Software and hardware manufacturers also clearly favour English language

## **B Paraphrase**

1. only at the border of the huge ...
2. world's ...trade – more and more
3. There are three times as many non-native speakers as native ones.
4. are cropping up all over the world
5. Africans have created
6. find it difficult to
7. because 'tree' is easier to understand
8. to be able to speak without hesitating
9. There is an immense need of native
10. is in charge of
11. whose job it is to keep the French clean
12. are better than, more progressive
13. start laughing

## **C similar meaning**

1. only
2. approximately
3. creating
4. people who study problems and find solutions
5. important, big, great
6. lately
7. especially
8. in this way
9. developed or learned ability
10. autumn
11. not compulsory
12. handy
13. prepare a preliminary version of
14. surprised
15. not real, fake
16. answer
17. beautiful man

## **D word formation**

1. suggestion
2. successful
3. doubtful
4. increase
5. real
6. inclusive
7. progress
8. width
9. comprehend
10. achievement
11. majority
12. meaningful
13. average
14. active
15. accessible
16. embarrassment
17. agreeable
18. decisive
19. recommendation
20. treatment
21. basis
22. scientific
23. advice
24. creature

## Language Paper

### A Transformations

- 1) ... they used to play
- 2) We were wondering whether she...
- 3) There's no point in worrying
- 4) I'd rather you didn't go there now.
- 5) She accused him of having stolen
- 6) It's high time she went
- 7) Unless you hurry
- 8) She must have known
- 9) I will have my car washed
- 10) She never visited the old man alone, without taking someone along
- 11) I don't remember mentioning it
- 12) I was going to do

### B Correct tense

1. was travelling – got – stopped – had never eaten – ordered
2. drove – had been living – decided
3. came – didn't like – have been lying – have never been – has been raining – didn't come
4. don't you try putting/to put – usually works
5. are you doing – are coming
6. have you gone – spent – had been there
7. has happened – was killed – is now being operated on
8. is going to – was going – I'll stay

### C Prepositions

- |             |       |            |           |
|-------------|-------|------------|-----------|
| 1) to       | 5) on | 9) at      | 13) on    |
| 2) of       | 6) to | 10) in     | 14) for a |
| 3) of/about | 7) of | 11) for    | 15) to    |
| 4) to       | 8) –  | 12) (from) | 16) of    |

### D Indirect speech

- 1) Paul suggested hitchhiking to the next station.
- 2) Our hostess asked us whether we were cold. And (she) added that she could light a fire.
- 3) He said he had never seen such a mess.
- 4) She explained that if we left ... we'd be there ...

### E Conditionals

- 1) No matter what happens, I will always stand by you!
- 2) I'm sure that if you ran you could catch that train.
- 3) Suppose your computer broke down, what would you do?
- 4) If they had phoned earlier I could have picked them up at the station.

**Kommentar:** not counted

### F Phrasals

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1) mixing up          | 10) has gone off |
| 2) do away with       | 11) make out     |
| 3) will get away with | 12) give in      |
| 4) call off           |                  |
| 5) carry on           |                  |
| 6) come to            |                  |
| 7) went through       |                  |
| 8) made it up         |                  |
| 9) cut down on        |                  |

## G Translation

- 1) Is there anything in particular (that) I am supposed to tell them?
- 2) Most pupils thought that the choir rehearsal had not yet started.
- 3) How often have you had this car serviced?
- 4) As a teacher you are supposed to be able to answer such questions.
- 5) If only I knew where the nearest pharmacy is!
- 6) In these southern countries the climate is extremely different from the northern one.
- 7) I can hear the dogs bark, but I refuse to listen to them.
- 8) Ben lives in Paris. He has been there for many years.
- 9) He lost consciousness, because he had failed to take his medicine.
- 10) I don't know whether she is studying chemistry or physics.
- 11) In the second edition of the paperback the publishers forgot the table of contents.
- 12) We cannot but form assumptions.
- 13) If we shared a triple room it would be much less expensive.
- 14) She looked familiar, but I didn't recognize her as a former classmate.

M.K.