

Hello everyone! Today's test is the London Tests of English Level 5. The theme of this test is Coffee. This test lasts two hours and fifty-five minutes. There are five tasks. Tasks One and Two are listening. You must listen to the tape and write your answers in this booklet. Good luck!

1. Task One: A Short History of Coffee (15 marks)

While studying in Britain, your class is doing a project on food and drink. You have chosen to do some research into coffee. You visit an exhibition about coffee, which has some recorded information.

Listen to the recorded information and complete the notes below. Write one to three words. The first one is an example.

You will hear the information twice. Do as much as you can the first time and finish your work the second time.

You have one minute to look at the notes.



Cultivation

Coffee berries are also known as (Example)cherries.....

Coffee trees are tropical/sub-tropical, but will tolerate different soils, climates and (a)

Several different species, e.g. Arabica - high quality Robusta - so-called because the tree is (b)

Fruit is produced continuously, so needs to be picked repeatedly.

Early history

Before 1600s (c) coffee was grown outside Africa and Middle East.

First mention of coffee in writing was in the 10th century.

Originally berries were not made into a drink, but

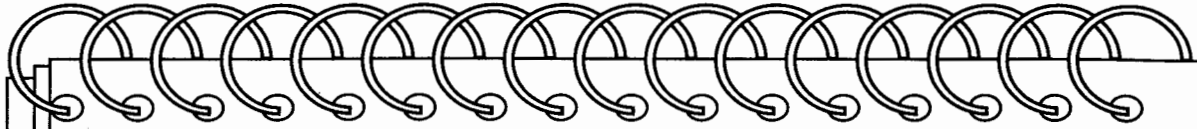
(d)

Coffee trade was very profitable to Arabia: strangers were not allowed to

(e) and coffee berries sent abroad had

to be boiled to stop them (f)





The spread of coffee

Coffee was planted in other regions by colonial powers, e.g. Dutch (Far East) and French (Caribbean).

Britain grew coffee in Jamaica and later India, where they used to specialise in (g)

Brazil's success originated in a gift: one coffee plant hidden in a (h)

Thanks to a (i) which destroyed Asian plantations, Brazil has been the world's biggest producer since the 19th century.

Brazil's (j) changed coffee from a luxury into an everyday drink.

(Total 15 marks)

Q1



2. Task Two: Coffee Houses (15 marks)

You hear an interview on the radio in which three people are discussing the spread of coffee houses in modern city centres. Listen to the interview and fill in the boxes next to the statements below.

In each box, put a cross (☒) if the person agrees with the statement or leave it blank if they disagree or do not say anything about it. The first statement is an example.

You will hear the interview twice. Do as much as you can the first time and finish your work the second time.

You have one minute to look at the statements.

Example:

The spread of coffee houses is an example of globalization.

1. All of the new coffee shops are basically the same.
2. Individual boycotts of companies are unlikely to be effective.
3. Large companies exploit coffee farmers to make excessive profits.
4. Offering a choice of "Fair Trade" coffee is a positive step.
5. Modern coffee houses are different from those of the past.

	Robert Oakes	Fiona Jackson	Jonathon Eaves
Example:	☒	☐	☒
1.	☐	☐	☐
2.	☐	☐	☐
3.	☐	☐	☐
4.	☐	☐	☐
5.	☐	☐	☐

(Total 15 marks)

Q2

That is the end of the listening tasks. The other tasks test your reading and writing of English. Now go on to Task 3.



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PERFORATED INFORMATION SHEET 1 FOR TASK 3 (a)

1

There are many legends concerning the origins of coffee-drinking, but probably the most well-known is the story of the dancing goats. According to this version, a young goatherd in the country now known as Ethiopia noticed that his normally sleepy goats became much more animated after chewing on the berries of a certain bush, jumping and dancing around in a state of high excitement. Curious, he tried the berries himself and found that he too was stimulated and became "the happiest man in Arabia". Later on, a passing monk, seeing him in this "happy" state, was encouraged to try the berries and in turn passed on the habit to his fellow monks, who found that they were better able to stay awake during night-time prayers.

2

Despite the religious elements in its supposed origins, the historical relationship between coffee and religion has not always been an easy one. As the use of coffee spread through the Islamic world, coffee houses began to spring up everywhere. They were enormously popular as places where people would gather to drink the fashionable brew, play backgammon and enjoy music and dancing. As these activities were disapproved of and discouraged by the more pious among the religious fraternity and also kept people from attending religious services, there were soon attempts to ban coffee and prohibit its consumption.

3

More generally, coffee drinking gained a reputation as an anti-establishment habit and coffee houses as hotbeds of rebellion. To authoritarian rulers, anywhere that encouraged people to gather together informally was treated with suspicion, especially if the main activity indulged in stimulated lively discussion and political debate. Consequently, it was common for coffee houses to be attacked and vandalised, usually with open, or tacit, official approval. In an extreme case, coffee was prohibited in the 17th century in the Ottoman Empire; first offenders were beaten, while the punishment for a second offence was death by drowning.

4

When coffee was introduced into Europe, it had its critics there too. A pamphlet was published in London called *A Women's Petition Against Coffee*, complaining that coffee houses distracted men from work and domestic responsibilities. In France, coffee consumption was discouraged as "a vile and worthless foreign novelty" that threatened the livelihoods of the country's wine producers, while, in 1777, the ruler of Germany declared, "It is disgusting to note the increase in the quantity of coffee used by my subjects and the amount of money that goes out of the country in consequence."

5

There were, on the other hand, plenty of people prepared to proclaim the virtues of the new drink. At various times, coffee has been claimed to be a cure for coughs and colds, stomach upsets and eye-infections, as well as promoting a strong heart and good digestion. In more recent times, especially in the United States, there have been regular health scares involving coffee. The supposed ill effects are various (often contradicting the benefits previously claimed); they include headaches, fever, weight loss, insomnia and stomach irritation.

6

As with many such controversies, the truth probably lies somewhere in between. While it is true that some of the above symptoms can be attributed to coffee, they are usually the result of over-consumption. The medical consensus these days is that in moderation it is not harmful. It can't be claimed that coffee has any significant nutritional value, yet it clearly aids digestion, stimulates the nervous system and increases perception. As the philosopher Voltaire said, if coffee is a poison, "I have been poisoning myself for more than eighty years, and I am not yet dead."

Source: Gerard Debry, "Coffee and Health" (John Libby, Eurotext, Paris)

3. Task Three: Effects of Coffee Consumption

As part of your research, you find some information about how coffee has been regarded by different societies and its effects on health.

Task Three (a): Reading (10 marks)

Read the article on **Perforated Information Sheet 1 for Task Three (a)**. Choose the most appropriate heading for each paragraph from the list **A to H** below and put a cross (☒) in the appropriate box.

There are more summaries than paragraphs. The summary for paragraph 6 is given as an example.

HEADINGS	PARAGRAPH					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
(a) Social and economic objections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) A subversive drink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c) The dangers of coffee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(d) A balanced view	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(e) Medicine or poison?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(f) An interesting experiment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(g) An instant success	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(h) A threat to spiritual values	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Q3(a)

(Total Q3(a) 10 marks)

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PERFORATED INFORMATION SHEET 2 FOR TASK 3 (b)

Caffeine

While coffee contains many chemical components, by far the most significant active ingredient is caffeine, a substance that has been identified in about sixty plants, including tea, kola nuts and some tree barks. Soft drinks constitute the main sources of caffeine for children and adolescents, whereas coffee and tea are the principal sources for adults. There have been numerous studies of the effects of caffeine on humans, for whom sleep appears to be the physiological function most likely to be affected. In general, when people ingest coffee 30 to 60 minutes before retiring, they experience a longer delay before falling asleep, and their sleep is of a shorter duration. Caffeine can therefore be described as a stimulant, although the question of whether it is an aid to concentration is difficult to answer as there are so many variables. It does, however, appear that small doses have a more noticeable effect on children, making them speak faster, react more quickly and make fewer mistakes. As to the suggested harmful effects, excessive consumption is known to lead to symptoms of nervousness, anxiety and insomnia in both adults and children. Advisable maximum quantities of consumption vary highly from person to person, ranging from 4 to 11 cups of coffee per day. Ultimately, therefore, it is up to individuals to determine limits of consumption based on their own tolerance.

Table 1: Caffeine content of various beverages

Beverage	Caffeine (per 150 ml)
Roasted ground coffee	90 mg
Instant coffee	63 mg
Decaffeinated coffee	3 mg
Tea	32 mg
Cola drinks	16 mg
Drinking chocolate	4 mg

Continued on p10

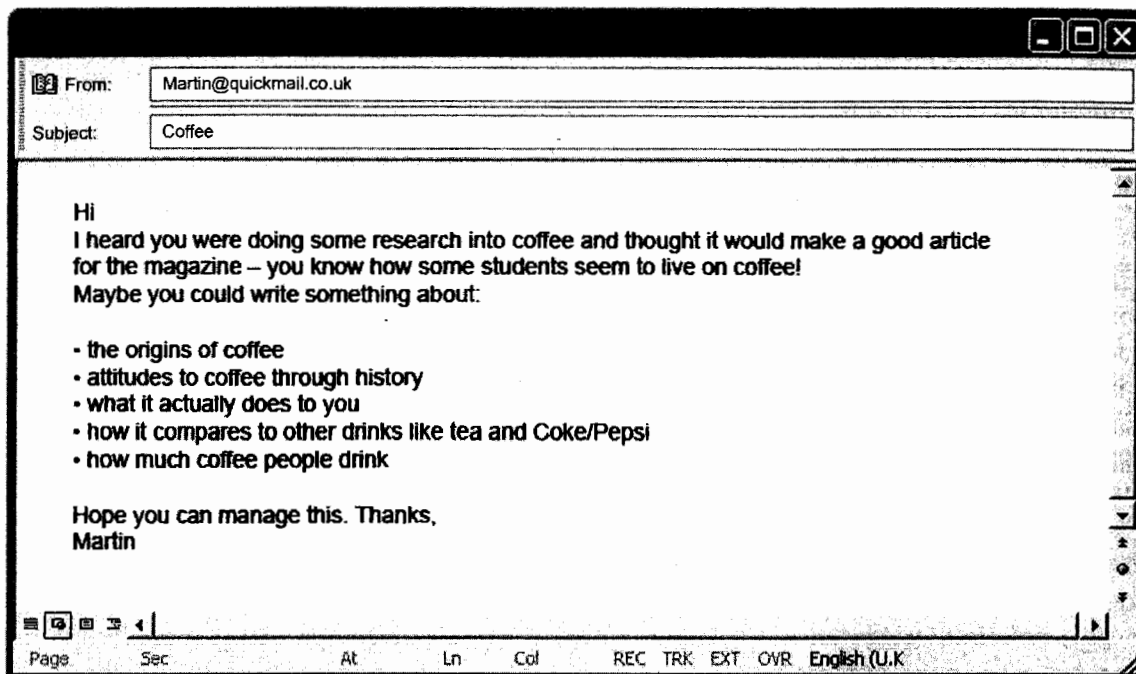
Table 2: Estimated caffeine consumption in USA and UK

Region	Caffeine source	Total consumption (in tons)	Daily consumption per head (in mg)
USA	Coffee	10,300	125
	Tea	2,850	35
	Other	4,150	51
UK	Coffee	1,700	84
	Tea	6,500	320
	Other	800	40

Source: Gerard Debry, "Coffee and Health" (John Libby Eurotext, Paris)

Task Three (b): Reading and Writing (20 marks)

You have received this email from Martin, another student you know, who edits the college magazine.



You agree to write an article containing all the points Martin has suggested.

Use the information on **Perforated Information Sheet 1 for Task 3 (a)** and **Perforated Information Sheet 2 for Task 3 (b)** to write your article.

Write 230–260 words. Use your own words as much as possible.

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Continued on p12



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Handwriting practice area with 20 horizontal dotted lines.

(Total Q3(b) 20 marks)

Q3(b)	
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PERFORATED INFORMATION SHEET 3 FOR TASK 4

The Cappuccino Trail

Peru's mountains are perfect coffee growing terrain

*The Cappuccino Trail is the first in a series of four BBC2 programmes entitled **Tales from the Global Economy.***

The Inca gold is long gone and the Peruvian people must scratch a living as best they can. But a geographical accident makes equatorial Peru's rough mountainous terrain perfect for growing the new Peruvian gold, coffee. The world now downs 2.5 billion cups of coffee daily, with many pairs of hands making money along the trail from the consumer to the coffee growing nations. "Coffee grows in a very narrow band around the equator, called the coffee belt. The finest coffees in the world grow above 1500 and 1600 metres," said Michael Fairholme of Urban Espresso coffee master classes.

But to taste this exotic brew requires nothing more arduous than popping down to your local supermarket where coffee, along with the produce of the entire world, is on display. With over 200 brands already vying for position as morning pick-me-ups or after-dinner espressos, very few would wish to travel 8000 miles in search of new coffee. But Cafe Direct is doing just this in its efforts to launch a gourmet brand. Managing Director Penny Newman has travelled to Peru to sample the goods, looking for a piece of the caffeine addict's \$50bn annual habit.

The bean with a buzz has come a long way since a 14th century Ethiopian goat herder made a brilliant connection between his frisky herd and some wild berries they had been eating.

Trading habit

A world away in the frenzied trading pits of the Coffee Sugar and Cocoa exchange in New York, the future value of billions of dollars worth of coffee is changing hands. Those involved directly in the coffee chain – producers, exporters and roasters – agree to buy or sell coffee for a fixed price at a future date, hedging against uncertain availability.

But there is another way to profit from coffee: It's called scalping the market, keeping an eye on shifting prices and guessing right. Merrill Lynch's commodities analyst Judy Gaines has successfully predicted the market often enough to have become its oracle. "Rumours that I was about to say something caused the market to move 5%. It gets difficult ... if I'm bullish on price then I am loved in Central America and all the producing countries, but the roasters who are buying the coffee will hate me."

Commercial conscience

The ruthless competitiveness of the global food industry is masked by the blandness of the supermarket. There is hardly a corner of a foreign field left that is not growing cash crops for the UK's out of season culinary desires. Consumers have become more discerning. Cafe Direct is banking on the fact that, as foodies without frontiers, we are now keen to indulge in a little exotic global taste tourism.

Coffee could almost be an emblem for globalisation, smuggled out of Ethiopia and spread to the four corners of the world through exploration, conquest and colonisation. In fact, the global coffee trade – for centuries a story of power, exploitation and deprivation – has now become a tale of oversupply, falling prices and third world poverty.

Cafe Direct says they want to change this to “commerce with a conscience”. But they must try and get customers to think about what they put in their trolleys. And the issues are **piling higher**. Both shopper and shop must now tick off a growing list of public and private concerns: E-numbers, additives, cruelty to animals, wasteful packaging, so the list goes on Supermarkets have become ethical and political minefields.

Customer choice could ensnare shoppers in a global trade war – the choice that is made could mean favouring one side over another. Coffee is therefore becoming a heady brew of great social and commercial value.

This is compounded by the now thousands of coffee shops competing fiercely to sell lifestyle in a cup. There is many a slip twixt cup and lip, but get it right and you're looking at liquid gold, with a mark-up potential of 200%.

Ironies of global trade

A coffee shop chain such as Starbucks gets 14 million customers a day or more. It sounds like good news for coffee producers, but the global coffee trade is fraught with ironies:

- Equatorial countries looking for cash crops have been planting and picking like there's no tomorrow. But over-production will eventually yield less cash.
- The more customers acquire a taste for quality coffee, the less they drink.
- With production up and consumption down, consumers must pay more and producers must accept less.
- When prices are high, farmers plant more and cause a sudden **glut** in the market which drives down prices.

So, the coffee growers of Peru's Santa Teresa will, along with the 20 million other rural coffee-growing peoples around the world, be aware that their fate is being determined by another global phenomenon – not natural like El Nino but equally devastating – market forces. Each sip of the legally addictive drug gives consumers a **fleeting** contact with the poor of some of the most destitute regions of the world: the global economy in a cup, from crop to the very last drop.

news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/business/newsid_1488000/1488758.stm

Friday, 24 August, 2001, 09:19 GMT 10:19 UK

4. Task Four: The Cappuccino Trail (20 marks)

You find an article on the Internet called 'The Cappuccino Trail'. Read the article on **Perforated Information Sheet 3 for Task 4** and complete the tasks that follow.

Task Four (a): (8 marks)

For each of the following statements, put a cross (☒) in the correct box to show whether the statement is TRUE, FALSE or NG (information not given in the text).

Example:

Coffee is grown all over the world.

	TRUE	FALSE	NG
Example: Coffee is grown all over the world.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. There is a connection between the quality of coffee and the altitude it is grown at.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. The convenience of purchasing coffee contrasts with the restrictions in cultivating it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. The supply of coffee is relatively easy to predict.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. The market moved by 5% following one of Judy Gaines's predictions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. Coffee symbolises the history of world trade.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Many consumers are now campaigning for coffee produced in a more ethical way.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. The majority of coffee shops make a big profit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8. There are many apparent contradictions connected with the coffee trade.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Q4(a)

(Total Q4(a) 8 marks)

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Task Four (b): (4 marks)

Choose the correct meaning for each of the following phrases, underlined in the text. Put a cross (☒) in the box next to the correct alternative (a, b, c or d).

1. “scratch a living as best they can”

- (a) do their job properly
- (b) survive on very little
- (c) begin to look for other work
- (d) find a better way of life

2. “foodies without frontiers”

- (a) international cuisine
- (b) produce from all over the world
- (c) tourists who go on food holidays
- (d) people with cosmopolitan eating habits

3. “commerce with a conscience”

- (a) ethical marketing
- (b) thinking about business
- (c) a moral approach to trade
- (d) corporate awareness-raising

4. “like there’s no tomorrow”

- (a) in a panic
- (b) without optimism
- (c) frantically
- (d) because they have no future

(Total Q4(b) 4 marks)

Q4(b)

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Task Four (c): (8 marks)

Find the word (A–L) below that has the same meaning for each word (1–9) below as used in the text. Words (1–9) are highlighted in the text.

The first one (*consumes*) is an example.

Put a cross (☒) in the appropriate box. Be careful, there are more words or phrases (A–L) than you need. Do not put a cross (☒) under a letter more than once.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| A excess | G accumulating |
| B playful | H over-excited |
| C demanding | I brief, temporary |
| D consumes | J regulated |
| E particular | K competing |
| F convenient | L competitive |

WORDS	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1. downs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. arduous	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. vying	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. frisky	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. frenzied	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. discerning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. piling higher	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. glut	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. fleeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Total Q4(c) 8 marks)

Q4(c)



5. Task Five: Writing (20 marks)

At the end of your research, your supervisor has asked you to do a piece of writing.

Choose ONE of the following tasks.

EITHER

A Your supervisor has given you the following essay title.

“Coffee, like sugar, is an unnecessary luxury produced by exploited workers in poor countries for the benefit of consumers in the rich countries of the world.” Discuss this statement.

Write the essay. Use your own words as much as possible.

OR

B You see the following in a magazine.

First it was butter, then meat, then too much salt, now a new study has just come out saying that coffee can lead to various health problem. It seems as if everything that we enjoy is bad for us in some way or another. What are we supposed to do – give it all up or just ignore the advice? What do you think? Write a short article and tell us what you think – we’ll print the best ones.

Write a letter to the magazine. Use your own words as much as possible.



KEY
LONDON TESTS OF ENGLISH

December 2005
Level Five

Listening

Task 1 – A Short History of Coffee (15 marks)

NB: 1 to 3 words.

- Ex* cherries
 a altitudes
 b a hardy plant
 c no
 d chewed
 e visit plantations
 f (from) germinating
 g tea
 h bouquet of flowers
 9 leaf disease
 10 huge production capacity

Listening

Task 2 - Coffee Houses (15 marks)

	Robert Oakes	Fiona Jackson	Jonathon Eaves
Ex	X		X
1	X		
2		X	
3		X	X
4		X	X
5	X		X

Task 3 – Effects of Coffee Consumption

Task 3a Reading (10 marks)

Headings	Paragraph					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
a				X		
b			X			
c						
<i>d-Ex</i>						X
e					X	
f	X					
g						
h		X				

Task 3b Integrated Reading and Writing (20 marks)

Article. Use all bulleted points in the email. Use your own words 'as much as possible'.

Task 4 The Cappuccino Trail**Task 4a (8 marks)**

	True	False	NG
<i>Ex</i>		X	
1	X		
2	X		
3		X	
4		X	
5		X	
6			X
7			X
8	X		

NB: 5 may be ambiguous. Does the progress from 6th century goats to Starbucks not represent the 'history of world trade', as well as its recent phase of 'globalization'?

Task 4b (4 marks)

	A	B	C	
1		X		
2				X
3			X	
4			X	

Task 4c (8 marks)

Define words as used in text

1- <i>ex</i>	<i>downs</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>consumes</i>
2	arduous	c	demanding
3	vying	k	competing
4	frisky	b	playful
5	frenzied	h	over-excited
6	discerning	e	particular
7	piling higher	g	accumulating
8	glut	a	excess
9	fleeting	i	brief, temporary

Task 5 Writing (20 marks)**Task A – Essay**

'Coffee, like sugar, is an unnecessary luxury ...' Discuss.

OR

Task B – Letter

Dealing with advice about possible bad effects of coffee.

No bulleted points for either choice.

Both are 'opinion/argumentative'. Conventional style and register may be considered by examiners. NB: 'use your own words as much as possible'.