Classe: 3C
Compiti per le vacanze
Materia: Inglese

Coloro che avranno il debito in inglese dovranno studiare tutto il programma sia di lingua che di letteratura ed eseguire gli stessi compiti dei loro compagni sotto indicati. L’esame per l’estinzione del debito formativo sarà diviso in due parti: la parte scritta verterà su tutti gli argomenti grammaticali e lessicali, la parte orale verterà su tutti gli argomenti di letteratura e gli articoli citati nel programma. La valutazione finale della prova sarà la media della prova scritta e della prova orale. Per potenziare la pronuncia e la fluidità orale si consiglia di ascoltare leggere e ripetere articoli a scelta del sito wwwbbclearningenglish, dove si possono trovare esercizi di fonetica e di grammatica.

Per coloro che hanno ottenuto la sufficienza, all’inizio di settembre ci sarà una verifica su tutti gli argomenti grammaticali e lessicali contenuti nei compiti assegnati ed interrogazioni orali sugli articoli e sul testo di Hemingway.

SUMMER HOMEWORK:

1. GRAMMAR FOR FIRST CERTIFICATE
   Tutti gli esercizi : p. 4, 5, 6, 7
   Tutti gli esercizi: p. 11, 12, 13, 14,
   15, 20, 21, 30, 32, 33, 49, 50, 51, 60, 68, 103, 123, 168, 169, 177

2. Leggere e fare un literary file del testo: The old man and the sea by Ernest Hemingway

3. Cercare vocaboli sul dizionario, riassumere in 300-350 parole i seguenti articoli e fare gli esercizi annessi

ARTICOLI:

Addiction to Internet ‘is an illness’
New evidence shows that heavy users suffer isolation, fatigue and withdrawal symptoms
David Smith, technology correspondent
March 23, 2008
Tense? Angry? Can’t get online? Internet addiction is now a serious public health issue that should be officially recognised as a clinical disorder, according to a leading psychiatrist.
Excessive gaming, viewing online pornography, emailing and text messaging have been identified as causes of the disorder by Dr Jerald Block, in the respected American Journal of Psychiatry. Block argues that the disorder is now so common that it should be included in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. He says Internet addiction has four main components:
Excessive use, often associated with a loss of sense of time or a neglect of basic drives;
Withdrawal, including feelings of anger, tension and/or depression when the computer is inaccessible;
The need for better computers, more software, or more hours of use;
Negative repercussions, including arguments, lying, poor achievement, social isolation and fatigue.
A case study is South Korea, which has the greatest use of broadband in the world. Block points out that 10 people died from blood clots from remaining seated for long periods in Internet cafes and another was murdered because of an online game. Their country now considers Internet addiction as one of its most serious public health issues. The government estimates that around 210,000 South Korean children are affected and in need of treatment. 80 per cent of them might need drugs targeting the brain and nearly a quarter could need to go to hospital. Since the average high school pupil there spends about 23 hours per week gaming, another 1.2 million are believed to be at risk of addiction and require basic counselling. There has been alarm over a rising number of addicts dropping out of school or quitting their jobs to spend more time on computers. In China it has been reported that 13.7 per cent of adolescent Internet users, about 10 million, could be considered addicts. Block, a psychiatrist at the Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, writes that the extent of the disorder it is more difficult to estimate in America because people tend to surf at home instead of in Internet cafes. But he believes there are similar cases and says: “Unfortunately Internet addiction is resistant to treatment and has high relapse rates.” He told The Observer that he did not believe specific websites were responsible. “The relationship is with the computer,” he said. “First, it becomes a significant other to them. Second, they exhaust emotions that they could experience in the real world on the computer, through any number of mechanisms: emailing, gaming, porn. Third, computer use occupies a tremendous amount of time in their life. Then if you simply try to remove the computer, they've lost their best friend. That can take the form of depression or rage.”
Harry Husted, a single 51-year-old from New York, spends 16 hours a day on the Internet. He insists that he is not addicted, but admits that he used to be. “I used to work with computers for eight hours, then get home and go online for seven hours. I would stay up until two or three in the morning or until I got so sleepy I had to go to bed. I wouldn’t go out to get the groceries and I couldn’t have cared less about friends, TV, anything. After a while I realized what was happening and did something about it. Now if I use MySpace it's only to advertise my business.”
Internet addiction clinics have sprung up around the world in an attempt to wean people off their need for a fix. Many people have turned, apparently without irony, to web discussion boards with names such as Internet Addicts Anonymous. The Centre for Internet Addiction Recovery in Bradford, Pennsylvania, says Internet addiction has become a growing legal issue in criminal, divorce and employment cases.

**Comprehension check**

**Find the answers to the questions in the article.**
1. What are the four basic components of Internet addiction?
   a) Emailing, viewing online pornography, texting and isolation.
   b) Excessive use, withdrawal symptoms when the computer is not accessible, the constant need for better computers and software and negative repercussions on the user’s life.
   c) Spending at least 16 hours a day on the Internet, quitting jobs, leaving school and social isolation.
2. In Korea, the main cause of Internet addiction is...
   a) ... playing online games.
b) ... viewing pornography.
c) ... spending time on social websites such as Facebook and MySpace.

3. The case study revealed that many Internet addicts...
a) ... are in financial trouble.
b) ... take recreational drugs.
c) ... left their jobs or stopped attending school.

4. Ironically, self-help groups can be found...
a) ... in Internet cafes.
b) ... on the Internet.
c) ... in Pennsylvania.

Robert Freedman, editor of the American Journal of Psychiatry, said Internet addiction can be diverse. “In Korea, it seems to be primarily gaming sites. In America, it seems to be Facebook. Additionally, it’s porn, it’s games, it’s gambling, it’s chatting with friends. All these things existed before, but now they’re a lot easier.”

To beat the addiction, he advised: “A self-help group might be a place to start. Maybe replace an online group with a real one.”

**Vocabulary: Negative emotions**

In the article, there are many words that are used to describe negative emotions and states of mind.
a) Find words that mean the following.
   - tiredness __________________
   - despondency ________________
   - loneliness _________________
   - anxiety _________________

**Fill the gaps using forms of these key verbs from the text.**

vaporise excavate obliterate probe ensue monitor eject estimate

1. To __________ means to happen after something else, often as the result of it.
2. If you __________ something, you guess or calculate it from the available information.
3. If something is __________ , it is changed into steam or hot air.
4. If you __________ something, you observe it closely and check it regularly.
5. To __________ means ‘to make a hole in the ground’.
6. If something is __________ , it is completely destroyed.
7. If you __________ something, you investigate it carefully.
8. The literal meaning of to __________ is ‘to throw out’.
Nasa gladly loses a spacecraft By Tim Radford

A little American spacecraft flew into a comet the size of a city last week 133m km from Earth, taking pictures at the rate of one a minute before it vaporised in an explosion equivalent to exploding five tonnes of TNT.

The $335m mission involved split-second timing, collision speeds of 37,000km/h and a triumphant series of pictures that ended with a close-up just three seconds before the craft's own destruction. "Right now we are minus one spacecraft," a delighted NASA engineer said, while a colleague at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena said, "There is a comet in the sky wondering what the hell hit it." Deep Impact was a July 4 fireworks display which took many years to plan and which ended in a flash.

A mothership dropped a copper projectile the size of a washing machine in the path of comet Tempel 1 and then photographed the resulting jet of ice, dust and organic chemicals from the surface, as the explosion excavated a huge impact crater and dramatically intensified the native brightness of the mysterious visitor.

The celestial traffic accident obliterated the projectile but barely affected the comet: experts estimate that the impact would have slowed it by no more than 1/10,000th of a millimetre a second. The aim was to probe for the first time the interior of one of the ghostly visitors that have haunted human imagination throughout history. It is likely to become one of the most intensely studied encounters made in space. Deep Impact's copper-coated bullet carried its own camera and radio.

The mothership steered a course 480km from the explosion and observed the impact, and the ensuing jet eruption, with instruments for 800 seconds. Seven satellites, including the Hubble space telescope, monitored the moment of drama, and over the next day and night an estimated 50 earthbound telescopes locked on the tiny, faraway flare.

The first to produce pictures in Britain, even ahead of NASA, were pupils from King's school, Canterbury, using data from the 2m Faulkes telescope in Hawaii, an instrument intended for schools. But long before giant telescopes could begin to analyse the minutiae of the collision in the optical ultraviolet, infra-red and x-ray wavelengths, astronomers and planetary scientists from the US and around the world were enjoying a moment of triumph. For the first time, they had clear and close-up studies of a comet. They could count the impact craters on its surface, they could hazard an early guess at its density and they could estimate the firmness of its surface from the violence of the flare after the collision. And in the gusts of material ejected from the collision crater, they could begin to see the pristine raw material of the whole solar system.

Frequent visitors such as comet Halley fly close to the sun and have been weathered and altered by solar radiation. But comets such as Tempel 1 have spent most of the past 4.6bn years parked far beyond the orbit of the outermost planets. Because of their relative isolation, these icy time capsules could hold the secrets of the planets, the Earth's oceans and even of the primeval organic chemistry from which life must have been fashioned. "If you are thinking of comets as possible sources of organic material, then you want the organic elements carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen. And we now know enough about comets to know that some of these elements are in the form of organic molecules," said John Zarnecki of the Open University.

For Andrew Coates of the Mullard space science laboratory of University College London, it was one of the most audacious experiments in history. "You have the comet getting bigger and bigger in the field of view, the level of detail on the comet getting better and better," he said. "We know that comets produce jets. What we have now is the first artificial jet from a comet," he added. "The fact that there are craters tells us the surface has a solid type of composition. We see a relatively dark
surface, probably some organic molecules and silicates, and it is the composition of that mixture which is going to be really exciting."

*The Guardian Weekly 15/07/2005, page 19*

© Macmillan Publishers Ltd 2005 Taken from the Magazine section in www.onestopenglish.com
Choose the best answer.
1. Why were scientists at NASA pleased that they had lost a spacecraft?
   a. because the spacecraft was old and was no longer useful.
   b. because they wanted to see what would happen when it crashed into the comet.
   c. because they preferred it to crash into a comet rather than a planet.

2. What was the effect of the collision?
   a. it produced clouds of smoke.
   b. it produced a crater and ejected clouds of material.
   c. it produced hydrogen, nitrogen, carbon and oxygen.

3. Why are comets like Tempel 1 interesting to scientists?
   a. because they are outside the solar system.
   b. because they are isolated.
   c. because they might hold the secrets of the planets.

4. What did scientists have for the first time as a result of the experiment?
   a. craters full of material.
   b. the pristine raw material of the whole solar system.
   c. clear close-up studies of a comet.

Find the adjectives that mean:
1. extremely successful
2. very large
3. clean, neat and new (in a natural state)
4. relating to the period when the earth first began to exist
5. very bold or daring
6. relating to the sky
7. happening very often
8. very distant

Syrian army retakes key town of Qusair from rebels
Syrian government forces have taken full control of the strategic town of Qusair, state TV and the rebels say.
The town, near the Lebanese border, has been the focus of fierce fighting for more than two weeks between rebels and Syrian troops backed by fighters from the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah.
State TV said a large number of rebels had died and many others had surrendered as troops advanced swiftly.
The rebels said they withdrew overnight in the face of a massive assault.
Television pictures showed widespread destruction, with many buildings reduced to rubble and no civilians in sight.
The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said it hoped to gain access to the town to help civilians caught up in the fighting.
"There are reports of hundreds of people that have been wounded that have not been able to receive the necessary medical treatment," ICRC spokeswoman Rima Kamal told the BBC.
The fall of Qusair to government forces has been hailed by Damascus as an important strategic victory.
But given the massive firepower deployed by government forces, and the fact that their assault was spearheaded by Hezbollah fighters, the fact that it took more than two weeks to achieve was an embarrassment to Damascus, which prematurely announced the town's conquest at the beginning of the campaign.
Since both sides had chosen to attach political and symbolic value to the battle for the town, its loss was none the less a blow for the opposition, although activist groups put a brave face on it by saying they had lost one round but that the contest goes on. Government control of most of the surrounding countryside had already virtually cut an important rebel supply line to Homs and central Syria. The loss of Qusair itself consolidates that gain.

The political impact will also be felt by the Americans in their talks with Russia and the UN in Geneva on preparations for an international peace conference on Syria. Russia and its Syrian government allies have been left looking strong and coherent, both militarily and politically. With the Western-backed opposition in political disarray and having taken a blow on the ground, the Americans are left with a weak hand. She said there were also reports of shortages of food, water and medical supplies. Qusair's fall comes as plans have stalled for an international peace conference to find a political solution to the two-year-old Syrian conflict. The UN and Arab League envoy to Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi, said the talks might now be held in July, rather than June as had been planned.

'Clear message'
The Syrian government hailed the capture of Qusair - which had been in rebel hands for more than a year - as an important strategic victory.

The town lies just 10km (six miles) from the Lebanese border and is close to important supply routes for both sides in the conflict. The army said Qusair's capture was "a clear message to all those who share in the aggression on Syria... that we will continue our string of victories until we regain every inch of Syrian land".

The state news agency, Sana, reported that a large number of "terrorists", as the government refers to the rebels, had been killed and many had surrendered. It said the army was now destroying barricades and weapons caches, and searching the town for booby-traps.

Lebanon's al-Manar TV, which is owned by Hezbollah, reported the "widespread collapse" of the rebel forces in the town, while one Hezbollah fighter told the Reuters news agency: "We did a sudden surprise attack in the early hours and entered the town. They escaped."

Rebel commanders said their fighters had withdrawn overnight. "In the face of this huge arsenal and lack supplies and the blatant intervention of Hezbollah... tens of fighters stayed behind and ensured the withdrawal of their comrades along with the civilians," said a statement quoted by Reuters.

The military leader of the main rebel umbrella group, the Free Syrian Army, had earlier said his fighters were prepared to take the conflict inside Lebanon in pursuit of Hezbollah fighters.

Speaking before the rebels lost Qusair, Gen Selim Idriss told the BBC that Hezbollah fighters were "invading" Syria and that Lebanon was doing nothing to stop them. The battle for Qusair has highlighted the growing role of the Lebanese Shia militant group in the Syrian conflict - a development that has heightened sectarian tensions in the wider region.

The BBC's Jim Muir in Beirut says the fall of the town has symbolic importance in the run-up to a proposed peace conference, because neither side wants to go into the talks looking weak.

Russian and US officials met in Geneva on Wednesday to try to arrange a date and other details of the conference, but they were unable to agree on who would attend and no talks were now expected this month.

The Syrian opposition has neither confirmed that it will attend nor established a delegation. The government has said it will attend "in principle", as long as no unreasonable pre-conditions are set.
'New levels of brutality'
More than 80,000 people have been killed in Syria and more than 1.5 million have fled the country since an uprising against Mr Assad began in 2011, according to UN estimates.
The UN reported on Tuesday that the war had reached "new levels of brutality", with evidence of massacres and children being taken hostage of forced to witness - sometimes participate in - atrocities.
There is also growing evidence that chemical weapons have been used in the conflict. France's Foreign Minister, Laurent Fabius, said on Tuesday that samples taken from Syria and tested in France showed the nerve agent sarin had been used in a localised manner.
Mr Fabius said there was no doubt that "the regime and its accomplices" were responsible.
He said all options - including possible military action against chemical weapons stores - were on the table.
But a French government spokeswoman later said France would not intervene unilaterally.
The UK also says it has tested samples which show sarin has been used in Syria. The Syrian government has repeatedly denied using chemical weapons, and has in turn accused the rebels of doing so, which they have also rejected.

Per potenziare la pronuncia e la fluidità orale si consiglia di ascoltare leggere e ripetere articoli a scelta del sito wwwbbclearningenglish, dove si possono trovare esercizi di fonetica e di grammatica.

Milano, 6 giugno 2013

Patrizia Zampetti