

FACOLTA' DI STUDI UMANISTICI

PROVA SCRITTA LINGUA INGLESE 2

CDL Lingue e Comunicazione; Lingue e Culture per la Mediazione

Tutti i CdL vecchio ordinamento

Total Points ___/40 = ___/30

NAME _____ MAT. NO. _____

2nd Year Exam – FEBRUARY 2019 - ONE HOUR

**Reading comprehension – Open Question -Transformation questions – Verb Forms - Word
formation exercise**

CHOOSING WHAT TO WATCH ON TV

Imagine the scene: you and your family are relaxing after a hard day's work.. You've just watched the news on TV. What are you going to watch next? Or, perhaps more importantly, who decides what you are going to watch next. Deciding what to watch on TV is a battle of wills that is fought in homes all over the world. According to psychologists, it is much more serious than simply deciding between a soap opera and a sports programme, or between pop music and politics. This television conflict is part of a bigger power game which goes on in homes, even though most of the players are unaware that they are playing a game at all. The game is called "*Who's boss?*". "It's such a subtle game," says psychologist Dr Alan Smith, "that many people don't even know they're playing it. It's all about the balance of power in the home, and who's in control."

Unconsciously, people begin to play the game as soon as they meet their husband or wife. By the time the couple get married, the rules of the game are already well-established. The big decisions, like where to live and which school to send the children to, are usually joint decisions. When it comes to less important things, like deciding where to go on holiday, or what sort of car to buy, it's a different matter. Here's just one example of this process at work. He looks through a pile of holiday brochures and announces his preference: "The South of France". She quickly agrees, before he realizes that the only brochures she gave him were those for the South of France. Similarly, she may decide what time the children should go to bed, and how the home should be decorated, but he chooses the new car and decides what the family does at weekends.

"Family power struggles are fascinating," says Dr Smith. "Of course, some people are naturally more dominant than others, and the most dominant personality in a family tries to lead. These days, even though so many couples make a conscious effort to have a true and equal partnership, men generally have a greater need to appear to be in physical control. Women, on the other hand, are not as interested in physical control as in emotional control. On the whole they're more manipulative and can make a man think something was his idea in the first place."

The tussle over what to watch on TV is a good example of this fight for control. Recently, research psychologists persuaded 400 families to have a "C box" installed in their living rooms. This is a video machine which watches you as you watch TV. They found that 80% of the time it was the man in the house who had his finger on the button, followed by the eldest child, then the youngest child ' and only then the woman of the house. So, next time you've got your finger on the control button ready to ZAP the rest of the family with your assertiveness, think about the power game you're playing.

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A) Reading Comprehension

1. The arguments people have about what to watch on TV are
 - a) part of a larger conflict.
 - b) insignificant disagreements.
 - c) related to people's ages.

2. According to Dr Alan Smith, the most important family decisions are taken by
 - a) the husband.
 - b) the wife.
 - c) the husband and wife together.

3. The writer claims that in personal relationships, most women are interested in
 - a) controlling other people's feelings.
 - b) controlling other people's actions.
 - c) complete equality with men.<-----

4. What does research mentioned by the writer show about family viewing?
 - a) Women usually decide about what the family watches.
 - b) Men usually decide about what the family watches.
 - c) Children usually decide about what the family watches.

B) Open Question Choose ONE to answer. Indicate your choice; Question number _____.

- 1) What is your opinion of the TV programmes shown nowadays?
- 2) Who decides which TV programmes to watch in your house?

Write 50-80 words in your own words.

GO ON TO EXERCISE C

Points _____/

NAME _____ MAT. NO. _____

2nd Year Exam – FEBRUARY 2019 ONE HOUR

C) 5 key-word transformation questions

*Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. You must include the word in bold print . Do not change the word given. Use **NO MORE** than 5 words including the word given. Contractions (for example - isn't- count as two words).*

Example 0 What type of music do you like best?

FAVOURITE

What ***IS YOUR FAVOURITE*** type of music?

1. Women don't try to control the choice of TV programmes nearly as much as men.

LESS

Women try to control the choice of TV programmes _____ men .

2. Paul is so bossy that he always chooses which TV programme to watch.

SUCH

Paul is _____ that he always chooses which TV programme to watch.

3. Jack regrets buying a new TV .

WISHES

Jack _____ a new TV.

4. I am not happy when my husband changes the TV programme without asking me.

OBJECT

I ____ changing the TV programme without asking me.

5. Researchers have invented a new way to observe how people choose what to watch on TV.

COME

Researchers have _____ a new way to observe how people choose what to watch on TV.

Points ____/10

GO ON TO EXERCISE D

NAME _____ MAT. NO. _____

2nd Year Exam – FEBRUARY 2019 ONE HOUR

D) Verb forms *Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense. When necessary, put the adverb indicated into the correct position.*

1. My children _____ (never to allow) to use the remote control since we bought the new TV.
2. We're _____ (not to watch) a boxing match again tomorrow.
3. She is _____ (gradually to get used) to her children being in charge of the TV.
4. If I had chosen the children's school, I certainly _____ (to decide) to keep them nearer home.
5. You _____ to read) the TV magazine for ages. When are you going to decide what to watch?
6. After a hard day's work, Liz _____ (rather to relax) at home than go out.
7. By lunchtime the technician _____ (to repair) our TV for two hours.
8. I shouldn't _____ (to buy) a new TV last week.
9. She promised she _____ (not to use) the remote control during the film.
9. I wish I _____ (not to let) my daughter choose the TV programmes we watched yesterday.

GO ON TO EXERCISE E)

Points ____/10

NAME _____ MAT. NO. _____

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E) WORD FORMATION EXERCISE

Read the passage and use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits grammatically in the numbered gap. The words are already in order.

AN EXPERIMENT

Example (0) **BOSSY**

(0) _____ people always want to be the ones who decide which TV shows to watch. (0) **BOSS**
An interesting experiment with 400 families, produced some (1)_____ results. (1) **SURPRISE**
The aim of the experiment was to obtain some information for (2) _____ to analyse. (2) **SCIENCE**
(3) _____ like this had not been attempted before, and opinions had been subjective. (3) **SEARCH**
The families had to be willing to be filmed during the experimental (4) _____ and (4) **ACTIVE**
this caused a certain amount of (5) _____, particularly among the adults. (5) **EMBARRASS**
In order to make the experiment more (6) _____, the families were given the choice (6) **REAL**
of a wide (7) _____ of popular TV programmes which they could choose between. (7) **MIX**
It was hoped that the "C" box would provide useful (8) _____ for the organisers to (8) **FEED**
analyse. During the filming, quite a lot of the children became rather (9) _____ (9) **EMOTION**
and even upset, but the (10) _____ which was obtained was really useful. (10) **INFORM**

Write your answers here 1 _____ **SURPRISING** _____

- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____
- 9 _____
- 10 _____

Points _____/10

THIS IS THE END OF THE EXAM