Università degli Studi di Brescia - Centro Linguistico di Ateneo

B2 English Level TEST

The B2 CLA- UNIBS level test includes two parts: WRITTEN PART and ORAL PART

WRITTEN PART:

Total max points: 100/100

Time: 60 minutes

The pass mark TO ACCESS THE ORAL TEST IS 70%

| 4 sections: | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY 48/100 | |
| • READING COMPREHENSION | 20/100 |
| • LISTENING COMPREHENSION | 20/100 |
| • WRITING | 12/100 |

You will have to organize your time in order to complete all tasks within 60 minutes.

You **WILL NOT BE ABLE** to navigate to the previous sections. So, <u>complete each section answering all the</u> <u>questions prior to proceeding to the next one.</u>

You will be awarded points for each correct answer and no points will be taken away for wrong answers or unanswered questions.

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY

Multiple choice questions. Points depend on the difficulty of the question.

She ______ the book since she was in her thirties and at last it's finished.

- A. has written
- B. had been writing
- C. has been writing
- O D. wrote

READING COMPREHENSION

Multiple choice questions

A PORTRAIT OF AMERICA

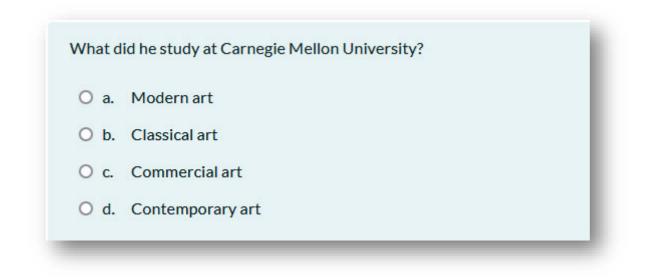
Andy Warhol's art is fun and fascinating. Paintings, sculptures, screen prints and films portray household products or 1960s icons in repetition or in slow motion, larger than life or splashed in bright colours.

Warhol grew up in Depression-era Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania but by the mid-1960s his New York City studio 'The Factory' was the place for socialites and celebrities, desperate to become subjects for his pop art. Yet while this may suggest that his interests were superficial, as Patrick Moore, director of the Andy Warhol Museum, says, both in theme and intention Warhol's work was radically different from anything that came before it. As disarming as the publicity images that inspired it, from his portfolio emerges a portrait of America that is both glamorous and gruesome, that reveals and reproduces the seductive power of the media with precision and prescience...

Warhol came from a poor family of immigrants who worked in the steel industry in Pittsburgh. It was a very rough place and he dreamed of being an artist. They were a very religious family, Byzantine Catholics, and when he was young he was a sickly little delicate boy and his mother taught him how to draw. Warhol was sent to study commercial art at what is now Carnegie Mellon University. After that he moved to Manhattan and became a successful commercial illustrator. But he had other ambitions, says Moore: «He was working for the New York Times and Harper's Bazaar illustrating women's fashions, drawing handbags and shoes...and he was never ashamed of that, he loved doing it. He was wildly successful but he was looking around at all these magazines and advertisements and he thought that they were beautiful, so he started lifting images from these commercial advertisements and decided to make fine art from those. Fine art was at the time a serious business that looked down its nose at the world of commerce - although some of its artists became very rich. The emphasis placed on the artisanal and authentic was undermined by Warhol's work, which appeared to revel in capitalist American culture, and even adopted its techniques of mass production. He thought that they represented American life: they were a portrait of America. So everything from Campbell's soup cans to Coca-Cola. He was lifting images of movie stars from his childhood. He loved Hollywood and glamour. The idea that somebody would take an image like that and put it on a canvas and show it in a gallery, was like an earthquake. The Factory soon became a hub for celebrities and 'wannabees'.»

There is a darkness that comes in Warhol's work because he soon started to paint movie stars who were tragic, soup cans that were destroyed, not pristine, he also started to take images from newspapers that were of car crashes. Warhol lived in celebratory yet troubled times, with the assassination of John F. Kennedy in 1963, of Martin Luther King Jr in 1968 and, that same year, a near-fatal attempt on his own life by the radical feminist Valerie Solanas. So, in the same way that celebrity and fame has power, so does tragedy. That's exactly what Warhol was looking at.

Adapted from A portrait of America, by Molly Malcolm (Speak Up, 2017).



LISTENING COMPREHENSION

You will be given an approx. 3 min audio/video file, which can be listened to/watched as many times as you need. You will be asked to answer multiple choice questions.



WRITING

You will be asked to write a 150-word text, based on the information given.

Last week you and your partner went to a fancy restaurant, and we were really disappointed with the quality of food and the very poor service.

Describe what was wrong with the food and the service. Be specific and give as many details as possible

Tell them what you would have expected from a restaurant of their level and reputation. Tell them how they could get in contact with you in case they wanted to ask you questions about the incident.

ORAL TEST (approx. 10 minutes)

Task 1: Very easy questions about yourself. E.g.: What do you do in your spare time? Where did you go on holiday last summer? What are your future plans?

Task 2: You will be shown a couple of pictures and you will be asked to tell something about them

E.g.: a picture of a Christmas tree: who do you usually spend your holidays with? Tell me about a typical celebration or festival in your Country.

A picture of social media logos: *How often do you use the Internet? Do you think some social media apps, such as TikTok or Instagram, can influence teenagers? Why?*



Task3: Engage a short conversation with another candidate, asking her/him a few questions and answering hers/his. E.g.: *What would make a job interesting for you? Would you like to live in the same place for a long time? Do you prefer to go out with your friends or with your family?*

GOOD LUCK!