

LEVEL C on the scale set by the Council of Europe
MODULE 1 Reading comprehension and language awareness

November 2013

PART A - CHOICE ITEMS

ACTIVITY 1

Read the text below and respond to the task that follows.

OCTOBER 2013 | ISSUE 12

Ethical... consumption?

Bet you that when the Greeks invented ethics, it hadn't occurred to them to talk about "ethical consumption" simply because in those days consumers did not have an opportunity to be... unethical. First, to explain what ethical consumerism is: it refers to our responsibility as buyers of products and services to prevent the exploitation of people (especially women and children) in sweatshop factories. It also refers to the consideration of the environmental costs of production, including the depletion of natural resources, as well as human costs.



Now, think for a minute of your everyday life and ask yourself how frequently you, as a consumer, are informed by the producer of a product where this product was made, how and by whom. You'll come to the conclusion that a respectable airline will inform you about the carbon emissions of your journey and that the label of a reputable firm will tell you about where its chickens were born and give you details about their living environment. But, buy a T-shirt from street retailers, and you will learn nothing about the person who produced it. We have come to know more about the living conditions of the animals that we eat, than the humans who clothe us.

The revelation this week, by the *Primark* firm that it was pulling orders from three Indian factories that have violated its code of conduct, has cast the spotlight on ethical sourcing. *Primark* was right to come clean about suppliers that subcontract to unapproved facilities. But abuses like these are common in today's global supply chains.

It is true that many global retailers now hire monitors to inspect their suppliers abroad so that, when scandal breaks, they can reassure their customers at home and show the press that they have an ethical code of conduct, and that their intentions are honourable. But retailers still want their goods cheaply, so factories in China and elsewhere give them their low prices and provide a veneer of compliance with the regulations. A few of the most progressive companies are grappling with these issues, but for far too many others, crucial questions remain unanswered.

We all deserve to know more. Consumers have been the driving force in convincing companies to tell us more about where, how and by whom their products are produced. This pressure has forced companies to start thinking about these issues more. This means that we have the power to do the same for global supply chains. All we have to do is pick up the telephone, call our favourite retailers, and start asking questions...

ATTENTION

- Mark your answers on Answer Sheet 1 [ΑΠΑΝΤΗΤΙΚΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1].
- You have **120 minutes** to complete this part of the exam.
- Provide a single answer for each item.

Read the text and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 1a-5a.

- 1a. How is the concept of ethical consumption defined in the text?
 - A. As an awareness raising action.
 - B. As a government trade policy.
 - C. As a charitable initiative.

- 2a. According to the text, the cut-price fashion chain *Primark* this week ...
 - A. cancelled an agreement because of irregularities.
 - B. collected a consignment of goods it had requested.
 - C. tried to conceal a supply scandal.

- 3a. The text suggests that many global companies
 - A. have been attempting to get better quality products from suppliers.
 - B. are compelled to respond to rules for ethical consumption.
 - C. only take action against fraud when it is brought to their attention.

- 4a. After reading the text, the reader is more likely to
 - A. avoid cheap products.
 - B. boycott global retailers.
 - C. take effective action.

- 5a. Who could be the author of this text?
 - A. A volunteer in an Environmental Association.
 - B. A global retailer representative.
 - C. A spokesperson of a Consumers' Rights Movement.

ACTIVITY 2

Read extracts 6a-10a and decide where they might appear. Use each of the options (A-F) only once. There is one option you do not need.

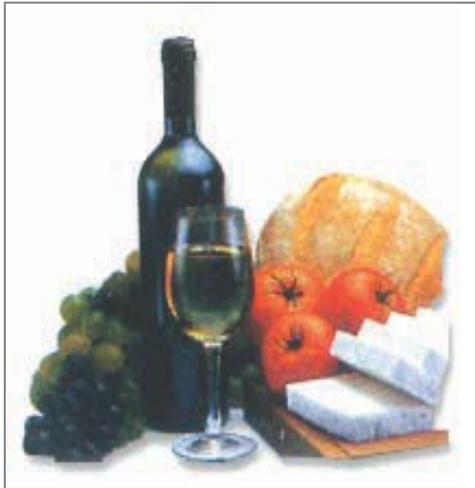
A.	Catalogue of building products	B.	A sightseeing map.
C.	Extract from an employment contract	D.	Small print on a theatre ticket
E.	Disclaimer from a mail order company	F.	Introduction to a dictionary

6a.	Some derivatives have developed distinct meaning from those of their roots. So, <i>satisfy</i> and its derivative <i>satisfaction</i> , and <i>scarce</i> and its derivative <i>scarcely</i> , are all separate headwords.	
7a.	We regret that we cannot accept cancellations of contracts for the purchase of video, DVD, audio, video games and software products where the item has been unsealed.	
8a.	Saint Hubert: The covered arcades were built in 1847 and are undoubtedly the most beautifully covered arcades in Europe. Its tranquil atmosphere, the sound of your footsteps will echo as you pass the splendid shop windows with its chic stores and up market bookshops. The arcades are divided into three parts: The Gallery de la Reine, the Gallery du Roi, the Gallery des Princes.	
9a.	Top quality range of heavy duty extruded 2mm aluminium products. Half Round must be fitted with fascia brackets at 750mm centres. Ogee can be fitted through the back of the profile or using fascia brackets at 1000mm centres.	
10a.	If such non-performance results in delays to the schedule in Clause 1 of more than one month, the affected party may terminate this agreement on one week's notice.	

ACTIVITY 3

Read the text and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 11a-20a.

The roots of the traditional Cretan diet: Honey in the Wine



Much has been written in recent years about the traditional Cretan diet and it would be difficult to be in Crete for long without realising how valued the fresh local ingredients still are to local gourmets. And of course every Cretan is a gourmet specialist by definition. The general scorn for supermarket food among the indigenous population makes me wonder how the supermarkets survive. 'Ochi supermarket!' seems to be the proud cry any time we sit down to eat in a Cretan home. Only the paper serviettes, we are assured, have been shop purchased. Tables groan with delicious dishes conjured from the local soil and hard labour. While English tables demand beans from Kenya, strawberries from Spain, and meat from New Zealand, the only air miles required by the Cretan table are those travelled by bees.

But what do we mean by 'traditional' Cretan diet? I have been fascinated by some recent discoveries about not only the history, but the prehistory of eating on this fertile island. We all know the term 'a land flowing with milk and honey' and the word 'cornucopia' (horn of plenty) to describe the idea of abundance. Both these terms are associated with ancient Crete, for it was here that the baby God, Zeus, was fed milk from a wild goat's horn by the Goddess Amaltheia, and honey by the bee Goddess Melissa.



But science as well as myth can now vouch for the ancient roots of the abundance that we still enjoy when we sit down to eat a traditional Cretan meal. Recent developments in DNA analysis have allowed researchers to reveal fascinating details about what the original inhabitants of Knossos and other Minoan settlements had for dinner, and even

the tipples they washed it down with! By scraping the inside of vessels and cooking pots up to 5,000 years old, they have revealed an array of dishes that would be remarkably at home on a taverna menu today. For instance, they have found that to make stews, meat was first roasted before being stewed with green vegetables. This is a method I have only seen in Cretan kitchens. Other refinements they have discovered from the astonishingly sophisticated civilisation of around 2,000BC are herb-flavoured milk, olive-oil flavoured with saffron, and yes, you've guessed right: retsina!

Drinking vessels found in the settlement at Myrtos were found to contain resinated wine, and what's more, it was toasted oak that had been used to flavour the wine! Tell that to the waiter next time you're served up with a vinegary retsina! The Minoan wine list seems to have been at least as varied as it is today, with barley beer, mead (wine sweetened with honey), and herb-flavoured wines being enjoyed. Even more incredible, not all the ingredients were local. Some of the resin was found to be copal resin from Africa, and terebinth resin was found in Palestinian wine jars in a late Minoan shipwreck off the coast of Crete.

- 11a.** The text is most likely to have been written by
- A.** a Cretan historian.
 - B.** a cooking expert.
 - C.** a holidaymaker on Crete.
- 12a.** Another possible title for the text is
- A.** Cretan cuisine then and now.
 - B.** Crete: traditional recipes.
 - C.** Crete: the origins of Mediterranean cuisine.
- 13a.** The writer's attitude to Crete is
- A.** skeptical.
 - B.** disappointed.
 - C.** enthusiastic.
- 14a.** The writer suggests that Cretans
- A.** are beginning to use exotic ingredients.
 - B.** have a low opinion of non local ingredients.
 - C.** use few local ingredients in cooking.
- 15a.** What impresses the writer about ancient Cretan cuisine?
- A.** It used unique cooking techniques.
 - B.** It influenced the cooking methods of other civilisations.
 - C.** It was based inclusively on imported products.
- 16a.** What does the writer tell us about English cuisine? It uses
- A.** mostly local ingredients.
 - B.** a lot of imported ingredients.
 - C.** a great variety of ingredients.
- 17a.** What does the author discover about ancient Cretan cuisine?
- A.** It used a lot of milk and honey.
 - B.** It was inspired by the gods.
 - C.** It had enormous variety.
- 18a.** The writer suggests that ancient Cretan food was
- A.** surprisingly similar to modern Cretan food.
 - B.** was unique in the ancient world.
 - C.** more sophisticated than modern Cretan food.
- 19a.** The writer says that wine in ancient Crete
- A.** was less varied than it is today.
 - B.** was exported to other countries.
 - C.** tasted of herbs and honey.
- 20a.** The next part of the text, which has been omitted, is likely to contain
- A.** information about trade between ancient Crete and other countries.
 - B.** a description of outstanding tavernas in ancient times.
 - C.** interesting places for wine tasting events.

ACTIVITY 4

Complete the text below. Choose the right option (A-F) for items 21a-25a.

A.	if that wasn't enough	D.	whereas there are many
B.	it is true to say though	E.	if past experience is anything
C.	it comes as no surprise	F.	there is her intelligence

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying an article titled "The call of Lily Cole" from the website "Interview". The article text is as follows:

LILY COLE

The call of Lily Cole

It's not often that I interview a model and am blown away by the complexity of their thinking. But then, from the moment she burst on to the scene, nothing about super-model Lily Cole has been ordinary.

First of all, there are her striking looks. With her flaming red hair, tiny rosebud mouth and round face, **(21a)** _____ that photographers seem compelled to cast her as a lost princess or otherworldly being. And then **(22a)** _____. Cole graduated in 2011 with a double first in history of art from King's College, Cambridge. As **(23a)** _____, she also gave a remarkably accomplished performance as an actress in Terry Gilliam's film "The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus". Finally, there is her commitment to a host of ethical campaigns. **(24a)** _____ in fashion who are content to amiably cut around the edges of good causes, Cole plunges straight into their hearts, and numerous charities have benefited from her support.

Today, in her latest venture, Cole launches a collection of jewellery created to help save a billion trees in the Amazon rainforest. And **(25a)** _____ to go by, this Renaissance woman will soon be clocking up yet another remarkable financial and eco-friendly success.

ACTIVITY 5

5.1 Read the text on the next page and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 26a-27a.

- 26a.** According to the text, Nicol's recent study of hens
- A.** is in line with the conclusions of previous research.
 - B.** concentrated on examining how they used their senses.
 - C.** has caused some disagreements among academics.
- 27a.** Professor Nicol's study indicates that chickens
- A.** are capable of reasoning logically.
 - B.** are reluctant to act aggressively.
 - C.** can organise their time effectively.

NOVEMBER 10, 2013

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Logic, language, maths: chickens are more egghead than bird brain

For many, the chicken languishes at the bottom of the avian intelligence pecking order. Mistakenly so, according to recent research, for the hen, far from being a bird brain, is actually an egghead with a capacity for mathematical reasoning and an ability to empathise. “The domesticated chicken is something of a phenomenon,” said Christine Nicol, professor of animal welfare at Bristol University. “Studies over the past 20 years have revealed their finely honed sensory capacities and cognitive abilities.”



She cites, among other evidence, the animal’s ability to distinguish between numbers up to five and a familiarity with

transitive inference — the idea that, if A is greater than B, and B is greater than C, then A is greater than C. In the chicken’s case, this has been shown to manifest itself in the time-saving skill of determining that if Henrietta the chicken has already beaten you up, and Henrietta has herself lost a fight to Barbara, then there is no point in challenging Barbara for access to the grain bowl.

Actually, in the area of mathematical reasoning at least, science is only now catching up with what Las Vegas has known for years. Ginger the chicken, who roamed ‘The Strip’ in the early part of this century, has been described as a “chicken extraordinaire” (as opposed to chicken supreme). Certainly for casinos the title was merited by her revenue-earning abilities alone, because Ginger was something of a wizard at noughts

and crosses and, when allowed to go first, consistently won — as much as \$10,000 a pop. Admittedly, going first is a significant advantage but, then again, so is not being a chicken.

In another seminal study published this year *Do Hens Have Friends?* (Its conclusion: no), Siobhan Abeyesinghe shows that chickens have more capabilities than people are aware of. “I do think they are unjustly maligned,” she says. “It suits us to do so because we have something invested in farming them in large numbers. We have this psychological shielding to devalue animals we use for meat. So we must stop and think: yes, chickens are smarter than we thought, but also we should use that information to enrich their environment in a biologically relevant way and think about the implications as regards how we treat them.”

5.2 Read the text again and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 28a-30a.

- 28a. ‘Ginger the chicken’ was unusual because she appeared
- A. to be capable of counting.
 - B. to bring gamblers good luck.
 - C. to know how to play a game well.
- 29a. Why does Ms Abeyesinghe believe that people malign chickens?
- A. Because it would be expensive to improve their living conditions.
 - B. Because people do not realise that they can be intelligent.
 - C. Because it makes people feel less guilty about exploiting them.
- 30a. What is the position of this text regarding previous research on animal welfare?
- A. Critical.
 - B. Neutral.
 - C. Ironic.

ACTIVITY 6

Complete the text below. Choose the right option (A-F) for items 31a-36a.

A.	far fewer	B.	a decent old age
C.	are mostly	D.	more closely
E.	on average	F.	or close to it

NEW INTERNATIONALIST | OCTOBER 2006

Europe vs US – in figures

Europeans work, **(31a)** _____, 350 fewer hours per year than US citizens. Most Europeans take 4-6 weeks holiday, while the figure in the US is 2-3 weeks. The workweek in Europe is **(32a)** _____ regulated, with France leading the way with a reduction to a 35-hour workweek. Productivity per hour worked is higher in Europe than in the US. While the US spends \$935 per person on its military, Europeans spend much less. For example, France spends \$766, Germany \$470, and Belgium \$296.

European societies incarcerate **(33a)** _____ people than the US. Whereas the US incarcerate 702 people per 100,000 population, Sweden incarcerated only 73 in 2002, and England with

Wales, the most punitive European countries, incarcerated 139.

Whereas in most of Europe 100 per cent **(34a)** (_____), citizens are covered by public health insurance, in the US that figure is 45 percent, and the excluded **(35a)** _____ the old and the poor. The US health system, based on private insurance, costs anywhere from 75 to 200 percent more than European health systems. In most European countries, public pensions provide **(36a)** _____. In Germany these cover 72 percent of the average male wage, in France 95 per cent, and in Italy 85 per cent. In the US they are the equivalent of 55 per cent.

ACTIVITY 7

7.1 Read Text 1, on the next page, and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for items 37a-41a

37a. What is the overall purpose of this text?

- A. To contradict a public perception.
- B. To clarify the writer's point of view.
- C. To extend the reader's knowledge.

38a. Why does the writer describe the claim about the importance of engineers as 'perverse'?

- A. Engineers were more interested in developing photography and cinema.
- B. Engineers are generally thought to have a relatively minor role in drama.
- C. Engineers often had considerable financial interests in theatre companies.

39a. What point does the writer make about theatre audiences before the 19th century?

- A. They demanded a greater degree of realism.
- B. They viewed theatregoing as a social event.
- C. They preferred stages of traditional designs.

40a. Theatres were initially reluctant to adopt gas lighting technology because of ...

- A. ... the technical complications of installing it.
- B. ... the danger of an adverse audience reaction to it.
- C. ... the possibility of the buildings burning down.

41a. How did the new systems of lighting affect the theatre?

- A. They led to conflicts between actors and managers.
- B. They restricted some of the freedoms actors had enjoyed.
- C. They allowed writers to present character in different ways.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2013

The 19th Century Theatre

Advances in Engineering

It can be argued that most of the major changes that overtook European theatre in the nineteenth century owed more to engineers – civil, mechanical and optical – than to actors and dramatists.



If such a claim is thought to be perverse, it has to be remembered that the candles and oil lamps, which had provided the sole form of lighting in every theatre until the end of the eighteenth century, were banished, first in favour of gas and limelight and then in favour of electricity. Furthermore, the invention of photography, and more especially of motion pictures, obliged the theatre to consider whether it had a future at all. It is thus worth examining some of the salient features of industrial engineering.

Playhouse lighting

The illumination of indoor playhouses pioneered in Italian proscenium-arched theatres of the Italian Renaissance had been adopted during the seventeenth century throughout Europe virtually unaltered. While some theatre managers attempted to provide audiences with more natural and pictorial effects, their efforts applied solely to angular perspective and to the illumination of the stage. The auditorium was not darkened and the spectators, therefore, continued to attend theatres as much to be seen as to see the actors or hear the play.

It was only with the invention of illumination by coal gas in 1803 that it became possible for a stage manager to control both the quantity and direction of light used. The first theatres to risk installing gas (together with the literally miles of rubber piping which supplied the jets) were Drury Land and the Lyceum in London, both of which advertised its use as a special attraction to open their autumn seasons in 1817. Thereafter, with safety fears allayed after the season, the practice became general both in England and abroad.

With the auditorium darkened, the attention of an entire audience could automatically be focused on the stage; and with the addition of lime (or calcium) light, introduced shortly afterwards, that focus could be sharpened and narrowed to particular acting areas. Thus, as managers found themselves called upon to provide ever more realistic pictorial effects, it became inevitable that actors would be forced to subject their own predilections to the will of the scenic designers, painters and illuminators, and that forestages and proscenium doors would gradually disappear.

7.2 Read Text 2 and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 42a-45a.

- 42a.** What point does the writer make about the traditional audiences to the theatre?
- They resented the influence of the new working class audiences.
 - They wanted to see more innovative stage productions.
 - They preferred plays that were intellectually challenging.
- 43a.** What does the writer suggest about the changes introduced by theatre architects?
- They were unnecessarily complex.
 - They only applied to the largest theatres.
 - They were an ambitious response to a need.
- 44a.** What is the main purpose of the paragraph beginning '*German and American engineers ...*'?
- To show that modern innovations had their roots in and ancient traditions.
 - To show how engineering innovations affected the content of performances.
 - To show that engineering innovations had an international dimension.
- 45a.** What is the best sub-heading for the text?
- The stage reinvented.
 - Changing tastes.
 - Theatrical revolution.

TEXT 2

Second only to lighting among theatrical advances was the growing demand for more lavishly realistic scenic spectacle, which was occasioned as much by the needs of barely literate communities of factory workers migrating from the country to the new manufacturing towns as it was by romantically-minded middle class



theatre-goers with antiquarian interests. Habitual patrons were already bored with the stock stage settings that had been trotted out time and again to service new plays; newcomers without the schooling needed to listen to lengthy arguments wanted sights to amaze them and to remember afterwards.

To meet this demand, theatre architects and their engineering consultants translated the floor area of their stages during the nineteenth century into a kind of jig-saw puzzle, fret sawed into long narrow strips running down the sides of stages from front to back, and laterally across the whole width of the proscenium arch, to permit scenic walls and painted profiles to be raised from and lowered to, cavernous basement storage areas.

German and American engineers provided mechanically operated double stages; an earlier British innovation was the provision of aquatic facilities for the representation of naval battles, river crossings and other heroic incidents reminiscent of the Renaissance and Roman naumachia. Without the aid of such technological advances, Wagner could hardly have required the Rhein to overflow its banks when '*Der Ring des Niebelungen*' was given its first complete performance in the purpose built Festspielhaus at Bayreuth in 1876.

By the end of the century, lighting and stage engineering had brought the theatre to an unprecedented pinnacle of realism as well as to a mass and ever-growing audience. Nevertheless, within a few decades, the theatre was to be faced with a challenger that would threaten not just its popularity but its entire existence –the moving picture.

ACTIVITY 8

With which of the options (A-F) could each of the underlined words (46a-50a) be replaced?

A.	grim	B.	exoneration
C.	resolute	D.	blessing
E.	durable	F.	obstinate

Smart Traveller | October 2013

THE GREAT BARRIER REEF



Covering an estimated 110,000 square miles, coral reefs support over 25% of all known marine species including some 4,000 different species of fish and 700 species of coral plus thousands of other plants and animals.

Two thousand miles east of Mombasa, in the world's largest marine reserve, coral reefs thrive. The reserve is centred on the Chagos Islands, whose natives were pushed out by the British in the 1960s to make way for a Cold War air force base. Though a tragedy for them that should not be belittled, this was also a **(46a)** boon for nature. Thanks to the water quality of this lonely archipelago, the coral that forms its bedrock is now in rude and **(47a)** resilient good health. Australia should take note after yesterday's announcement by the environment ministry news.

Half the inshore portion of the Great Barrier Reef has apparently disappeared since 1985. And the future looks no less **(48a)** bleak, as the quality of its marine environment has declined from "moderate" to "poor". It does not have to be this way. True, much of the recent degradation of this wonder of the natural world was caused by a cyclone that wreaked havoc with the reef's ecosystem. But this offers no **(49a)** exculpation. Dredging, dumping and pesticides carried into the ocean from coastal farmland are also to blame, and these can be controlled. Along Queensland's coast, nature faces competition from humanity

in a way that it does not in the middle of the Indian Ocean. Even so, the authorities should realise they have a vested interest in preserving the reef. This natural wonder brings snorkellers and glass-bottomed boat trip buyers from across the planet, and there is no excuse for fatalism. The World Wildlife Fund is **(50a)** adamant that solutions do exist. Even in some densely populated areas elsewhere, reefs have recovered if left well alone for long enough. The good people of the Gold Coast, for their own sake and ours, need to stop sullyng their magnificent back yard.

ACTIVITY 3

Solve the puzzle below. Put the jumbled words in column B in the correct order to complete the sentences (11b-15b) in column A.

UTTERANCES		WORDS IN JUMBLED ORDER
11b.	THEATRE REVIEW This was a truly lamentable performance, so much so that _____ members of the audience began to vote with their feet.	act - finished - first - had - scarcely - the - when
12b.	LEGAL LETTER The vendor's solicitor has written to me to _____, and this seems mutually beneficial.	be - that - next - meeting - postponed - suggest - until - the - week
13b.	BUSINESS EMAIL Of the three candidates, I'd go for David Wilson, largely _____ more experience than the others.	of - having - the - strength - on - his - had
14b.	SPORTS REPORT What made the match even more extraordinary was the fact _____ scoring the winning goal.	who - was - that - up - it - the - ended - goalkeeper
15b.	TRAVEL ADVERTISEMENT The Panorama Museum graphically displays the tale of the Crimean war, _____ Maritime Museum centred on the port's former role as a base for the Black Sea Fleet.	but - is - the - fascinating - equally

ACTIVITY 4

Fill in the missing words to provide the definitions of the following expressions (16b-20b), whose origin is included below to help you.

To have something up one's sleeve =

The expression goes back to the 16th c. when sleeves were cut wide, so it was quite easy to stow or even secrete things away in their folds.

Straight from the horse's mouth =

Originally a racing slang, alluding to that a horse's age can be deduced just by inspecting its teeth. A dealer may twist the truth but the evidence in the horse's mouth is reliable.

To rack one's brain =

The rack was an instrument of torture. From the 16th c. onwards rack was a favourite figure for expressing something that caused intense suffering.

The die is cast =

The phrase is a translation from Latin words attributed to Julius Caesar as he crossed the river of Rubicon in 49 BC thus committing himself to war against Pompey.

To fall on one's sword =

The phrase refers to the practice that Roman generals had of committing suicide by falling on their swords if they had acted dishonorably or suffered defeat in a strategic battle.

16b. To keep a resource _____

17b. [Hear something] from a reliable _____

18b. To stretch one's brain in order to _____

19b. A _____ step has been taken.

20b. To take full responsibility for a grave _____.

ΣΑΣ ΥΠΕΝΘΥΜΙΖΟΥΜΕ ΟΤΙ ΠΡΕΠΕΙ ΝΑ ΜΕΤΑΦΕΡΕΤΕ ΟΛΕΣ ΤΙΣ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΙΣ ΣΤΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1

ΤΕΛΟΣ ΜΗΝΥΜΑΤΟΣ