

# **FCE**

**(B2 First)**

**PRE-ENTRY TEST 1**

**You have 1 ½ hours to complete.**

**30 minutes for WRITING**

**60 minutes for READING**

**Write all your answers on the  
answer sheet.**

## SECTION A

This is a newspaper article about a television presenter called Sue Barker. For questions 1 - 8 choose the answers (A, B, C or D) which you think fit best according to the text.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Sue Barker, the former tennis star, is to present the BBC TV sports Program *Grandstand* this summer. The BBC will shortly announce her promotion to one of television's top sports posts, confirming a rise in the media ranks that has been almost as rapid as her progress up the ladder of international tennis in the 1970's.

- 4 It is a remarkable comeback to national fame for a woman originally known for being the girlfriend of a pop star and for being a British player who won the French Open tennis tournament.

Her new media career is already very successful. It had a sudden beginning. A succession of injuries and a fall in her ranking from 16th to 63rd caused her to announce her retirement from the game in a dramatic on-court speech at the Australian Open tournament in 1984.

'I took the car back to my hotel where a message was waiting for me to ring a TV station in Sydney. I thought, "Oh God, not another interview", but they asked me to come and start on their sports program the next day to give expert comment. There was no training, nothing.'

There was no training either when David Hill, then head of sport on Sky TV, recruited her two years ago to be one of the presenters on its Saturday sports program.

'I turned up and was told my first broadcast was in a few minutes' time. It was a classic, absolutely awful. I rattled through it, it wasn't even making sense, and then I was left for the last four seconds just smiling at the camera.

It was the longest four seconds of my life. Afterwards I said I wanted to give up, but David said, "You've only made two mistakes, I never sack anyone until they've made three." So I carried on doing five-minute slots - the sports news round-ups - which proved to be very good on-the-job training. Then came the approach from the BBC.'

While Sky took a quiet pride in the fact that the BBC wanted to sign its star, its annoyance at losing Barker was understandable. It had allowed the BBC to have her for the tennis session and offered a half and half arrangement when the BBC wanted to sign her full time - but the BBC was not interested. Sam Chisholm, Sky Chief Executive, decided to take legal action.

In the BBC's tennis team, the strengths of Sue Barker were immediately obvious. She offered a number of technical insights, not just into the game but into the player's mental state, and was not afraid to be critical of those on the court who are still friends, a rare quality among the large number of former sports stars that fill the BBC commentary boxes.

For Barker, being a critic was not always easy, especially as she mixed socially with the players. They did sometimes get upset about it. "Martina Navratilova watches everything, absolutely everything, and she came up to me quite angry one day, saying, "I heard you, I heard what you said about Steffi Graf". But I will tell them exactly why I thought they weren't playing well, compare their performance with a previous one and, if they can honestly say to me they did play well, then I will apologise.'

Having been angry at some of the criticism of *her* during her 13 years of playing international tennis, she feels she can turn that knowledge to good use. 'I know what hurts and what doesn't hurt, and athletes tend to trust other athletes.'

1. What does the writer say about Sue Barker's career?
  - A. She took a long time to become famous as a tennis star
  - B. She is better known as a TV presenter than a tennis star
  - C. She obtained an important TV job after a short time
  - D. She has tried a career in pop music
  
2. What does 'it' in line 4 refer to?
  - A Her tennis career
  - B Her comeback
  - C Her success on TV
  - D Her fame
  
3. She became a sports commentator because
  - A. She was advised to do so by tennis experts
  - B. An Australian TV channel suggested it
  - C. She decided she would prefer it to tennis
  - D. She was tired of being interviewed by other people
  
4. What happened when Sue presented a Saturday sports program?
  - A. She made a better impression than she expected
  - B. The TV company liked the way she smiled at the camera
  - C. She talked for too long and too fast
  - D. The boss wasn't sure whether to sack her or not
  
5. How did Sky TV feel when the BBC employed her?
  - A. They turned down the offer to share
  - B. They were glad for her sake
  - C. They did not want to lose her
  - D. They had expected this to happen
  
6. How is she different from other sports commentators?
  - A. She still has a lot of friends in the game
  - B. She has a very good technical background
  - C. She finds it difficult to praise the players
  - D. She speaks the truth about friends.
  
7. What does she feel she can offer as a sports commentator?
  - A. She can give athletes advice on dealing with the camera
  - B. She can make comments which athletes accept
  - C. She can help athletes to get on with each other
  - D. She can attract new viewers to sports programs.
  
8. This article was written about Sue Barker because
  - A. She is going to be in the public view a lot
  - B. There is a court case between Sky TV and the BBC
  - C. She has recently given up tennis
  - D. A well-known tennis star was recently upset by her

## SECTION B

### PART 1

For questions 1- 15 read the text below and decide which answer A, B, C, or D best fits each space. **MARK YOUR ANSWERS ON THE SEPARATE ANSWER SHEET.**

There is an example at the beginning (0).

### ACTION SCENES IN FILMS

Modern cinema audiences (0) expect to see plenty of thrilling scenes in action films. These scenes, which are (1) ..... as stunts, are usually (2) ..... by stuntmen who are specially trained to do dangerous things safely. (3) ..... can crash a car, but if you're shooting a film, you have to be extremely (4) ....., sometimes stopping (5) .... in front of the camera and film crew. At an early (6) .... in the production an expert stuntman is (7) .... in to work out the action scenes and form a team. He is the only person who can go (8) .... the wishes of the director, (9) .... he will usually only do this in the (10) .... of safety.

Many famous actors like to do the dangerous parts themselves, which produces better shots, since stuntmen don't have to (11) .... in for the actors. Actors like to become (12) .... in all the important aspects of the character they are playing, but without the recent progress in safety equipment, insurance companies would never (13) .... them take the risk. To do their own stunts, actors need to be good athletes, but they must also be sensible and know their (14) ....., If they were to be hurt, the film would (15) .... to a sudden halt.

- |     |    |           |    |          |    |           |    |           |
|-----|----|-----------|----|----------|----|-----------|----|-----------|
| 1.  | A. | Remarked  | B. | Known    | C. | Referred  | D. | Named     |
| 2.  | A. | Performed | B. | Given    | C. | Fulfilled | D. | Displayed |
| 3.  | A. | Everyone  | B. | Someone  | C. | Anyone    | D. | No-one    |
| 4.  | A. | Detailed  | B. | Plain    | C. | Straight  | D. | Precise   |
| 5.  | A. | Right     | B. | Exact    | C. | Direct    | D. | Strict    |
| 6.  | A. | Period    | B. | Minute   | C. | Part      | D. | Stage     |
| 7.  | A. | Led       | B. | Taken    | C. | Drawn     | D. | Called    |
| 8.  | A. | Over      | B. | Against  | C. | Through   | D. | Across    |
| 9.  | A. | Despite   | B. | So       | C. | Although  | D. | Otherwise |
| 10. | A. | Interests | B. | Needs    | C. | Purposes  | D. | Regards   |
| 11. | A. | Work      | B. | Get      | C. | Put       | D. | Stand     |
| 12. | A. | Connected | B. | Arranged | C. | Involved  | D. | Admit     |
| 13. | A. | Allow     | B. | Let      | C. | Permit    | D. | Admit     |
| 14. | A. | Limits    | B. | Ends     | C. | Frontiers | D. | Boarders  |
| 15. | A. | Come      | B. | Fall     | C. | Pull      | D. | Go        |

**SECTION B continued****PART 2**

FOR QUESTIONS 1- 15 READ THE TEXT BELOW AND THINK OF THE WORD WHICH BEST FITS EACH SPACE. USE ONLY ONE WORD IN EACH SPACE. THERE IS AN EXAMPLE AT THE BEGINNING (0). WRITE YOUR ANSWERS ON THE SEPARATE ANSWER SHEET.

**SHARKS**

For anyone who wants either to film (0) or study great white sharks, Australian expert Rodney Fox, is the first contact.

Fox knows exactly (1) .... the sharks will be at different times of the year, and can even predict (2) .... they will behave around blood, divers and other sharks. He understands them as well as (3) .... else alive. In fact, he's lucky to be alive, a 'great white' once (4) .... to bite him in half.

Three decades (5) .... this near fatal attack, Fox still carries the physical scars, but feels (6) .... hate for his attacker. Instead he organises three or four trips (7) .... year to bring scientists and photographers to the kingdom of the great white shark. (8) .... main aim of these trips is to improve people's understanding of an animal (9) .... evil reputation has become an excuse for killing it.

Great white sharks are not as amusing as dolphins and seals, (10) .... their role in the ocean is critical. They kill off sick animals, helping to prevent the spread (11) .... disease and to maintain the balance in the ocean's food chains. Fox feels a responsibility to act (12) .... a guardian of great white sharks. (13) .... the scientists, film makers and photographers can communicate their sense of wonder (14). .... other people, he is confident that understanding (15) .... replace hatred.

**SECTION C****WRITING**

An international young people's magazine is investigating the question:

**DO YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY REALLY KNOW WHAT THEY WANT FROM LIFE?**

**WRITE A SHORT ARTICLE FOR THIS MAGAZINE ON THIS TOPIC BASED ON YOUR EXPERIENCE.**

**WRITE 120 WORDS. PLEASE WRITE YOUR ANSWER ON THE ANSWER SHEET.**

# FCE

## (B2 First) PRE-ENTRY TEST 1

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Course: \_\_\_\_\_ Education Consultant: \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION A

Circle the correct answer

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1.    A    B    C    D | 5.    A    B    C    D |
| 2.    A    B    C    D | 6.    A    B    C    D |
| 3.    A    B    C    D | 7.    A    B    C    D |
| 4.    A    B    C    D | 8.    A    B    C    D |

### SECTION B

**Part 1 Circle the correct answer**

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1.    A    B    C    D | 9.    A    B    C    D  |
| 2.    A    B    C    D | 10.    A    B    C    D |
| 3.    A    B    C    D | 11.    A    B    C    D |
| 4.    A    B    C    D | 12.    A    B    C    D |
| 5.    A    B    C    D | 13.    A    B    C    D |
| 6.    A    B    C    D | 14.    A    B    C    D |
| 7.    A    B    C    D | 15.    A    B    C    D |
| 8.    A    B    C    D |                         |

**Part 2**

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1.    _____ | 9.    _____  |
| 2.    _____ | 10.    _____ |
| 3.    _____ | 11.    _____ |
| 4.    _____ | 12.    _____ |
| 5.    _____ | 13.    _____ |
| 6.    _____ | 14.    _____ |
| 7.    _____ | 15.    _____ |
| 8.    _____ |              |

**SECTION C****WRITING**

An international young people's magazine is investigating the question:

*Do young people today really know what they want from life?*

**Write a short article for this magazine on this topic based on your experience. Write 120 words.**