

**OPEN COMPETITION
EPSO/AD/25/05**

**Administrators (AD5) in the field of
"European public administration/human resources"**

Test a)

A test comprising a series of multiple-choice questions to assess
your specialist knowledge

Questions numbered from 1 to 40

**This test will be marked out of 60
(pass-mark: 30)**

and

Test b)

A test comprising a series of multiple-choice questions to assess
your knowledge of the European Union, its institutions and its
policies

Questions numbered from 41 to 80

**This test will be marked out of 20
(pass-mark: 10)**

**Time allowed for tests a) and b) together:
1 hour 10 minutes**

Reminder:

- You may choose only **one** answer per question.
- No correction can be made on the optical reader form (do not use an eraser, correction fluid or similar).
- No new optical reader forms will be distributed.
- Incorrect answers will **not** be penalised.
- You may use the question paper as a draft.

Please do not turn this page until instructed to do so.

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**Administrators (AD5)
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Test a)

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(pass-mark: 30)**

1. Under the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament, the members of the Bureau are:
 - a) the President and the Vice-Presidents
 - b) the President, the Vice-Presidents and the questors
 - c) the President, the Vice-Presidents and the presidents of Parliament's committees
 - d) the President, the Vice-Presidents and the presidents of the political groups

2. In the field of the common commercial policy, which of the following statements is incorrect?
 - a) The Council decides by a qualified majority
 - b) If an agreement with a non-member country is to be negotiated, the Commission makes recommendations to the Council, which authorises it to open negotiations
 - c) Once negotiations have begun, the Council may no longer give directives to the Commission
 - d) The Council acts unanimously with respect to the negotiation and conclusion of agreements in the fields of trade in services and intellectual property

3. Performance appraisal in an organisation is an assessment of:
 - a) an employee's performance, potential and disciplinary record
 - b) an employee's performance, potential and development needs
 - c) an organisation's performance, potential and disciplinary rules
 - d) an employee's personality, potential and development needs

4. Under Article 17 of the TEU, which of the following do **not** form part of the so-called 'Petersberg tasks' under the common foreign and security policy?
 - a) Peacemaking tasks
 - b) Tasks to repatriate asylum seekers
 - c) Rescue tasks
 - d) Humanitarian tasks

5. The Union budget accounts for approximately what percentage of Member States' gross national product (GNP)?
 - a) 0.5%
 - b) 1%
 - c) 2%
 - d) 5%

6. If an EU Member State commits a serious and persistent breach of the principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law, the Council may:
 - a) exclude the Member State from the EU
 - b) suspend certain of the Member State's rights under the Treaty
 - c) bring an action against the Member State before the European Court of Human Rights
 - d) impose a fine on the Member State in question

7. In the field of social policy, which of the following statements is **incorrect**?
- a) The Commission has the task of promoting consultation of the social partners at Community level
 - b) The EC Treaty provides for the establishment of an advisory committee on social protection
 - c) The Council consults the social partners before adopting any decisions in this field
 - d) The EC Treaty requires each Member State to ensure application of the principle of equal pay for men and women
8. An interviewer is very impressed by the smart appearance and confident manner of a candidate for a post. The interviewer tends to seek positive information from this candidate and readily overlooks any negative information. This is known as:
- a) stereotyping
 - b) the contrast effect
 - c) closed questioning
 - d) the halo effect
9. The open coordination method is:
- a) the name of the working method of the political groups in the European Parliament
 - b) a method to reduce the power of the Commission
 - c) a method for coordinating the work of the Council and the Commission
 - d) an instrument to increase policy convergence between Member States in areas which remain the primary responsibility of national governments
10. In September 2005, what percentage (to the nearest whole number) of members of the European Parliament were women?
- a) 25%
 - b) 30%
 - c) 35%
 - d) 40%
11. The aim of the SOCRATES European Community action programme is:
- a) to strengthen the European dimension of education at all levels
 - b) to harmonise European educational systems
 - c) to enhance cooperation in the educational field between the EU and EFTA
 - d) to streamline the programmes of European universities

12. The tasks of the Court of Auditors do not include:

- a) publishing the results of its work by issuing relevant and objective reports at the appropriate time
- b) independent inspections of the collection and use of the funds of the European Union
- c) examining whether financial operations have been carried out legally and correctly and notifying the Court of Justice of the European Communities of cases of maladministration
- d) helping improve the financial management of the funds of the European Union to reassure citizens that their money is being used as well as possible

13. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is an Agency:

- a) responsible for the completion and smooth operation of the single market in the area of health and consumer protection
- b) responsible for providing independent scientific advice on all matters with a direct or indirect impact on food safety
- c) responsible for advising the European Parliament on matters related to public health and food safety
- d) set up under the World Health Organisation

14. Under the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament, a quorum is achieved when there are present in the meeting room:

- a) one third of its members
- b) one half of its members
- c) two thirds of its members
- d) three quarters of its members

15. Which of the following statements is incorrect?

- a) The budget of the European Union is financed wholly from own resources, without prejudice to other revenue
- b) Only the President of the European Parliament is authorised to establish that the budget has been finally adopted
- c) The Commission implements the budget
- d) Only the President of the Council is authorised to establish that the budget has been finally adopted

16. Under the Staff Regulations of officials of the European Communities, an official:

- a) may be dismissed for disciplinary reasons related solely to the exercise of his duties
- b) may be dismissed solely for disciplinary reasons, whether related to the exercise of his duties or to his private acts
- c) may be dismissed solely for disciplinary reasons, whether related to the exercise of his duties or to his private acts or for professional incompetence
- d) is appointed with no possibility of dismissal until he has reached the end of his duties

17. Under the Stability and Growth Pact, the excessive deficit procedure can be triggered when:

- a) a Member State's government deficit exceeds 6% of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- b) a Member State's government deficit to GDP ratio is 3% higher than the Community average
- c) the Member State fails to submit its Stability and Convergence Programme
- d) a Member State's government deficit exceeds 3% of its GDP, and its government debt exceeds 60% of its GDP

18. Known as the father of scientific management, F. W. Taylor advocated:

- a) separation of tasks
- b) developing business spirit
- c) participative management
- d) multi-skilled staff

19. In the context of the European Security and Defence Policy, EUJUST THEMIS is an:

- a) EU Police Mission in Kinshasa
- b) EU Rule of Law Mission in Georgia
- c) EU Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- d) EU Monitoring Mission in Aceh

20. Which of the following statements is incorrect?

- a) The EC Treaty has a special title on employment
- b) Each year the Council adopts conclusions on the employment situation
- c) The Council has set up an advisory committee on employment
- d) Every two years the Commission adopts guidelines which the Member States must take into account in their employment policies

21. The next multi-annual financial framework will cover the period:

- a) 2006-2012
- b) 2006-2011
- c) 2007-2013
- d) 2007-2012

22. The general purpose of Objective 1 of the Structural Funds for 2000-06 is to promote:

- a) the economic and social conversion of regions facing structural difficulties
- b) employment in thinly populated regions
- c) the adaptation and modernisation of the fisheries sector
- d) the development and structural adjustment of regions whose development is lagging behind

23. Which of the following principles concerning the establishment and implementation of the budget is not covered by the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities?
- a) Universality
 - b) Specification
 - c) Equilibrium
 - d) Autonomy
24. Any measure in the field of transport prices and conditions taken under the EC Treaty must take into account:
- a) the state of the trans-European networks
 - b) the value of the goods
 - c) the economic position of carriers
 - d) the economic position of suppliers
25. Any Union citizen resident in a Member State of which he is not a national has the right to vote in municipal and European elections in the Member State where he lives. This right is enshrined in the:
- a) Single European Act
 - b) Treaty of Maastricht
 - c) Treaty of Amsterdam
 - d) Treaty of Nice
26. The Staff Regulations of officials of the European Communities and the conditions of employment of other servants are adopted or amended on the basis of a proposal from the Commission by:
- a) the Council acting by a qualified majority after consulting the other institutions concerned
 - b) the Council acting unanimously after consulting the other institutions concerned
 - c) the Council and the European Parliament under the co-decision procedure after consulting the other institutions concerned
 - d) the Council and the European Parliament under the co-decision procedure
27. The EU Solidarity Fund provides assistance:
- a) to Member States whose Gross Domestic Product falls to less than 90% of the EU average
 - b) to candidate countries to assist their preparation for EU accession
 - c) to Member States whose Gross Domestic Product falls to less than 75% of the EU average
 - d) to Member States in the event of major natural disasters

28. According to theories on motivation at the work-place, to increase the organisation's performance, priority should be given to:
- a) taking an interest in employees as individuals
 - b) taking an interest in employees as consumers
 - c) taking account of employees' material needs
 - d) improving the means of production
29. Under the common commercial policy, who is responsible for the management of safeguard clauses?
- a) The Member of the Commission with responsibility for competition policy
 - b) The Commission acting collegially
 - c) The Member of the Commission with responsibility for the internal market
 - d) The ECOFIN Council
30. The Copenhagen criteria, which applicant countries have to fulfil to join the EU, do not include:
- a) the existence of stable institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, human rights and respect for minorities
 - b) the existence of a functioning market economy
 - c) the existence of a sustainable environmental policy
 - d) adherence to the various political, economic and monetary aims of the EU (l'acquis communautaire)
31. The adjustments made by the Council in 2004 to the rules governing officials and other staff of the European Communities introduced a new category of staff. What is it called?
- a) Local staff
 - b) Auxiliary staff
 - c) Contract staff
 - d) Special advisers
32. Which environmental objective is served by the CAFE Programme?
- a) Assessing safety of chemicals in Europe
 - b) Conservation of coffee plantations in the ACP countries
 - c) Improving European air quality standards
 - d) Promoting ethical and environmental standards in developing countries

33. Which of the following statements concerning the implementation of the budget of the European Communities is incorrect?
- a) Appropriations relating to staff expenditure may not be carried over to the next financial year
 - b) Appropriations relating to obligations duly contracted at the close of the financial year are carried over automatically
 - c) Appropriations entered in the reserve may not be carried over
 - d) Appropriations entered in the budget which have not been committed at the end of the financial year may be committed up to 30 June of the following year
34. Which of the following statements concerning the European Central Bank is incorrect?
- a) It alone is authorised to issue bank notes in the Member States using the euro
 - b) It has legal personality
 - c) It may not accept instructions from the governments of the Member States
 - d) It is not authorised to impose fines on businesses which do not respect its regulations and decisions
35. The adjustments made by the Council in 2004 to the rules governing officials and other staff of the European Communities created two function groups. What are they called?
- a) Assistants and administrators
 - b) Administrators and temporary staff
 - c) Administrative agents and auxiliary agents
 - d) Secretaries/assistants and administrators
36. The European Parliament has had the right to censure the Commission since:
- a) its election by direct universal suffrage
 - b) the establishment of the European Communities
 - c) the Treaty of Maastricht
 - d) the Treaty of Nice
37. Which of the following criteria is not defined in the EC Treaty as a convergence criterion?
- a) The inflation rate
 - b) The long-term interest rate
 - c) Economic growth
 - d) The national budget deficit

38. Which of the following statements is not true?

- a) The Commission is responsible for managing and implementing the EU budget
- b) The Commission has the power to authorise or prohibit mergers between companies
- c) The Commission is empowered to conclude international agreements between the EU and other countries or international organisations
- d) A member of the Commission shall resign if the President so requests, after obtaining approval of the College

39. The European Ombudsman:

- a) launches inquiries only following complaints
- b) investigates complaints against EU institutions and bodies as well as national authorities in the Member States, provided the complaints are about EU matters
- c) investigates only those complaints submitted by European citizens
- d) investigates complaints about maladministration in the EU institutions and bodies

40. The purpose of staff evaluation is to:

- a) ascertain the extent to which the skills available match those required
- b) redeploy staff
- c) draw up a remuneration policy
- d) draw up an internal communications plan

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Questions numbered from 41 to 80

**This test will be marked out of 20
(pass-mark: 10)**

41. Which of the following people has not received the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought awarded each year since 1988 by the European Parliament?
- a) Xanana Gusmao
 - b) Taslima Nasreen
 - c) Salman Rushdie
 - d) Leyla Zana
42. On what date was the "Robert Schuman declaration" on the pooling of coal and steel resources made?
- a) 9 May 1949
 - b) 9 May 1950
 - c) 9 May 1951
 - d) 9 May 1957
43. The European Parliament has been elected by direct universal suffrage since:
- a) 1971.
 - b) 1976.
 - c) 1978.
 - d) 1979
44. At the Edinburgh Council meeting in 1992, the seat of the European Parliament was laid down as:
- a) Strasbourg.
 - b) Luxembourg.
 - c) Brussels.
 - d) None of these answers is correct
45. Under the co-decision procedure, the conciliation committee is made up of representatives of:
- a) the European Parliament and the Commission.
 - b) the Council and the Commission.
 - c) the European Parliament and the Council.
 - d) the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.
46. Which Treaty expired in 2002?
- a) The Single Act
 - b) The ECSC Treaty
 - c) The EURATOM Treaty
 - d) The BEC Treaty

47. In 2005 the general budget of the European Union was approximately:

- a) EUR 30 billion.
- b) EUR 50 billion.
- c) EUR 100 billion.
- d) EUR 500 billion.

48. The judges of the Court of Justice are appointed for six years:

- a) by the highest legal bodies of the Member States.
- b) by joint agreement between the governments of the Member States.
- c) half by the European Parliament and half by the Council.
- d) by joint agreement between the Commission, the European Parliament and the Council.

49. The Treaty establishing the European Community does **not** apply to:

- a) the Azores.
- b) Madeira.
- c) the Åland Islands.
- d) the Faeroe Islands.

50. Under Article 5 of the Treaty establishing the European Community, the principle of subsidiarity lays down whether and to what extent:

- a) the Community must take action in areas which fall within its exclusive competence.
- b) the Community must take action in areas which do not fall within its exclusive competence.
- c) the Member States' local and regional authorities may replace the Member States' central authorities in their various areas of responsibility.
- d) the Member States' local and regional authorities may replace the Commission in exercising its various implementing powers.

51. The European Court of Human Rights is:

- a) an EU court of justice.
- b) a body of the International Court of Justice.
- c) a body of the Council of Europe.
- d) a tribunal for war crimes committed in the former Yugoslavia.

52. The Council shares budgetary power with:

- a) the Commission.
- b) the Court of Auditors.
- c) the European Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control.
- d) the European Parliament.

53. The Committee of the Regions:

- a) coordinates regional policy.
- b) implements territorial cohesion policy.
- c) manages the Regional Fund.
- d) is a Community advisory body.

54. What is meant by the “three pillars” of the European Union?

- a) The European Economic Community, economic and monetary policy, and cross-border cooperation
- b) The European Communities, the Common Foreign and Security Policy, and police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters
- c) The European Communities, economic and social policy, and police cooperation
- d) The European Economic Community, economic and monetary policy, and cooperation on the environment

55. The following are part of the European Economic Area (EEA):

- a) the Member States of the European Union and three member states of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).
- b) the Member States of the European Union and Switzerland.
- c) the four Member States of EFTA.
- d) the ten new Member States of the European Union and the three candidate countries.

56. Which of the following policies is **not** a “common policy” under the EC Treaty?

- a) Agricultural policy
- b) Transport policy
- c) Social policy
- d) Trade policy

57. The main task of the European Defence Agency is to:

- a) assist the European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- b) support the Member States and the Council in their effort to improve European defence capabilities in the field of crisis management.
- c) assist NATO in drawing up plans for crisis management.
- d) create a European Intervention Force.

58. Who is the High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy?

- a) The Secretary-General of the Commission
- b) The President of the General Affairs Council
- c) The Secretary-General of the Council
- d) The Chairman of the Political and Security Committee

59. Which of the following bodies is not an Agency of the European Union?

- a) The European Space Agency
- b) The European Training Foundation
- c) The European Agency for Reconstruction
- d) The European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia

60. The European Environment Agency is based in:

- a) Stockholm.
- b) Parma.
- c) Copenhagen.
- d) Helsinki.

61. The President of the General Affairs Council is:

- a) the Prime Minister of the state holding the Presidency of the Council.
- b) appointed by the European Parliament for a five-year term.
- c) the head of state of the country holding the Presidency of the Council.
- d) the Foreign Minister of the state holding the Presidency of the Council.

62. According to Article 251 of the EC Treaty, which of the following EU institutions/bodies participate in the co-decision procedure?

- a) The Commission, the European Parliament and the Council
- b) The Commission, the relevant committees of the European Parliament and the Council
- c) The Commission, the Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Parliament and the Council
- d) The Commission, the European Parliament, the European Court of Auditors and the Council

63. One of the following four statements is not correct. Which one?

- a) The Council meets on the initiative of the Commission
- b) The Council meets on the initiative of one of its members.
- c) The Council meets on the initiative of the President of the European Parliament
- d) COREPER (the Committee of Permanent Representatives) has the task of preparing the Council's work

64. In 2004 the European Council appointed a coordinator:

- a) of economic policies.
- b) of the Structural Funds.
- c) of action against terrorism.
- d) of action on employment.

65. Pursuant to Article 219 of the EC Treaty, the Commission shall act:

- a) unanimously.
- b) by a majority.
- c) by a qualified majority.
- d) by a two-thirds majority.

66. The satellite radio navigation system being developed by the EU and the European Space Agency is:

- a) COPERNICUS
- b) GALILEO
- c) RADSAT
- d) UMTS

67. In accordance with the decision setting up the Civil Service Tribunal of the European Union, the judges on the Tribunal are appointed by:

- a) the Council.
- b) the European Council.
- c) the Council following approval by the European Parliament.
- d) the President of the Court of Justice.

68. The Member States' action in the field of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters is coordinated by:

- a) the Commission.
- b) the Council.
- c) the European Parliament and the Council.
- d) the Presidency of the European Union.

69. The person to be appointed President of the Commission is nominated by:

- a) the governments of the Member States acting unanimously.
- b) the governments of the Member States acting by a simple majority.
- c) the European Council acting by a qualified majority.
- d) the President of the European Parliament.

70. In the area of the common foreign and security policy, the EU is represented by:

- a) the High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy.
- b) the Presidency.
- c) the President of the Commission.
- d) the President of the European Parliament.

71. The European Ombudsman is appointed by:

- a) the Council after consulting the European Parliament.
- b) the Commission.
- c) the European Parliament.
- d) the European Parliament and the Council jointly.

72. Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union lays down the procedure for countries wishing to become a member of the European Union. It provides that the Council is to act:

- a) by a qualified majority after consulting the Commission and after receiving the assent of the European Parliament adopted by an absolute majority of its component members.
- b) by a qualified majority after consulting the Commission and after receiving the assent of the European Parliament adopted by a two-thirds majority of its component members.
- c) unanimously after consulting the Commission and after receiving the assent of the European Parliament adopted by an absolute majority of its component members.
- d) unanimously after consulting the Commission and after receiving the assent of the European Parliament adopted by a two-thirds majority of its component members.

73. The European Parliament's Rules of Procedure set the term of office of its President at:

- a) one-and-a-half years.
- b) two-and-a-half years.
- c) four years.
- d) the duration of Parliament's term of office.

74. What is the Troika?

- a) The President of the Council, the President of the USA and the President of Russia
- b) A type of cooperation within EFTA that includes Norway, Iceland and Switzerland
- c) The three countries that have the presidency of the UN Security Council
- d) A type of cooperation between the previous, the current and the following presidencies of the Council of the European Union

75. Under the Common Foreign and Security Policy a common strategy is adopted by:

- a) the Committee of Permanent Representatives, acting on a proposal from the Commission.
- b) the European Council.
- c) the Council.
- d) the Council acting through co-decision with the European Parliament.

76. Since when has the European Community been a member of the World Trade Organisation?

- a) 1948
- b) 1951
- c) 1980
- d) 1995

77. International agreements and treaties negotiated by the Commission are formally approved:

- a) by joint agreement between the Member States.
- b) by the Council.
- c) by ratification by the European Parliament.
- d) by co-decision between the Council and the European Parliament.

78. Which of the following resources is not part of the Communities' own resources?

- a) Levies and other duties established by the institutions of the Communities in respect of trade between the Member States within the framework of the common agricultural policy
- b) Common customs tariff duties established in respect of trade with non-member countries.
- c) Revenue from the application of a uniform rate to the harmonised VAT assessment bases
- d) Revenue from the application of a rate to the sum of all the Member States' GNPs

79. The principle of the free movement of workers within the European Community was first mentioned in:

- a) the Schengen agreement.
- b) the Treaty of Rome.
- c) the Treaty of Maastricht.
- d) the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU.

80. What form does the decision-making process in the European Community take?

- a) The European Parliament proposes, the Council decides, and the Commission implements
- b) The Member States propose, the European Parliament and the Council decide, and the Commission implements
- c) The Commission and the European Parliament propose, the Council decides, and the Member States implement
- d) The Commission proposes, the European Parliament and the Council decide, and the Commission implements

OPEN COMPETITION**EPSO/AD/25/05****Administrators (AD5)****in the field of European public administration/human resources****Test c)**

A test comprising a series of multiple-choice questions to assess your general ability, and in particular your verbal and numerical reasoning skills.

Questions numbered from 1 to 40**This test will be marked out of 40
(pass mark: 20).****Time allowed: 60 minutes**

Reminder:

In each of the following exercises, you will be asked questions that refer to a given text or table. You must choose the correct answer to each question.

Use only the information provided in the text or table to reach your conclusion. It should be emphasised that you should not use (fore) knowledge of any kind and that the correctness of all answers is based solely on the information provided in the text or table.

You may only choose **one answer** per question.

No correction can be made on the optical reader form (do not use an eraser, correction fluid or similar).

No new optical reader forms will be distributed.

You may not use a calculator or any similar device.

Incorrect answers **will not be** penalised.

You may use the question paper for rough work

Please note that in a numeric value having four or more consecutive digits, a space is used to separate groups of three digits, and a full-stop as a decimal separator.

Example: 1 125.25 = one thousand one hundred and twenty-five and twenty-five hundredths

Please do not turn this page until instructed to do so!

The Commission authorises the acquisition of Edison by EDF and AEM

The European Commission has authorised the proposed acquisition of the Italian electricity company Edison by the French company EDF and the Dutch company AEM. Following an examination, the Commission concluded that the transaction would not significantly impede effective competition in the common market. The Commission found that the proposed concentration did not raise any competition problems. However, it will continue to monitor the competitive dynamics of the Italian electricity markets, where prices are among the highest in Europe. Edison is the second-largest electricity producer in Italy. However, its position on the Italian electricity markets is quite small compared to that of the more established operator ENEL, which still controls a large part of the generation capacity and, most of the time, is in a position to set the electricity price on the Italian Power Exchange.

1. What is the current situation on the energy market in Italy?
 - A. One electricity producer has a monopoly of electricity sales.
 - B. Italian prices are the highest in the European Union.
 - C. Italian electricity producers are too highly concentrated.
 - D. The price of electricity depends mainly on one producer.

2. Which of the following is a consequence of the acquisition of Edison?
 - A. Energy prices in Italy will fall.
 - B. Edison will continue to produce electricity, but under foreign control.
 - C. ENEL will remain the only Italian electricity producer.
 - D. ENEL will lose its monopoly on the market to EDF and AEM.

3. Why did the Commission authorise the proposed acquisition?
 - A. To solve the problems of concentration facing Italy.
 - B. To enable the Italians to have a new electricity producer.
 - C. Because the Italian energy market is controlled by the state.
 - D. Because this acquisition does not affect open competition in Italy or Europe.

Number of PCs

| | Number of PCs (million) | | Number of PCs per 100 inhabitants | Percentage of the working population using a PC for work | |
|-------------|-------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|--|------|
| | 2001 | 2002 | | 2001 | 2002 |
| Country I | 2 | 3 | 25 | 51% | 53% |
| Country II | 3 | 3 | 58 | 70% | 75% |
| Country III | 20 | 21 | 35 | 45% | 45% |
| Country IV | 2 | 2 | 40 | 43% | 50% |
| Country V | 11 | 13 | 25 | 50% | 60% |
| Country VI | 1 | 1 | 59 | 66% | 56% |

4. In 2002, how many inhabitants did Country I have?
 - A. 75 000 000
 - B. 750 000
 - C. 12 000 000
 - D. 7 500 000

5. In 2002, the working population of Country II was 2 500 000, i.e. 100 000 more than the previous year. How did the number of people using a PC for work change between 2001 and 2002?
 - A. It increased by 195 000.
 - B. It decreased by 50 000.
 - C. It increased by 150 000.
 - D. It stayed the same.

6. In 2001, the number of PCs per 100 inhabitants in Country V was 5 units smaller than in 2002. What was the population of Country V in 2001?
 - A. 27 500 000
 - B. 65 000 000
 - C. 2 200 000
 - D. 55 000 000

Commission action on air safety

The European Aviation Security Agency (EASA) was set up in September 2002 to promote a uniformly high level of safety and environmental protection in the field of civil aviation. The Community has powers in the areas of airworthiness and the environmental compatibility of aircraft products, parts and equipment. The EASA is putting in place a surveillance system to monitor the application of Community legislation, evaluate its impact and make any useful suggestions in this area. The EASA is involved in the certification of certain products for bodies in third countries; the national administrations issue individual certificates and accreditation for most of the bodies on their national territory, on the basis of common rules under the control of the EASA.

7. Which is one of the EASA's basic missions?

- A. Monitoring the application of Community legislation in the field of air safety
- B. Ensuring the application of European air traffic legislation.
- C. Coordinating the issuing of pilot licences in civil aviation.
- D. Developing new navigation systems compatible with the safety standards.

8. In which field does the Community have powers?

- A. In monitoring the compatibility of aircraft equipment with the environmental standards.
- B. In granting approval to the national bodies in European countries.
- C. In issuing individual certificates to bodies in third countries.
- D. In drafting Community environmental standards.

New EU spokesperson for SMEs

The new face of European small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) at the Commission will be the Estonian Maive Rute, appointed spokeswoman on 13 June 2005. She will defend the interests of a sector representing 25 million businesses and 75 million jobs. “Supporting the [...] SMEs, boosting their energy and creativity are the key to achieving more growth and jobs in the EU,” Mrs Rute said. The Commission's main concern is: how can we help SMEs to employ more people? Community actions have been launched to promote the sector and simplify its administrative environment. The Entrepreneurship Action Plan and the European Charter for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises contribute to this positive impetus.

9. What does the Commission want to do?
 - A. Give financial assistance to the most creative SMEs.
 - B. Double the number of SMEs so as to develop employment in European countries.
 - C. Increase the employment rate in SMEs.
 - D. Promote the development of those SMEs employing the most persons.

10. What can we deduce from the text?
 - A. On average, SMEs directly or indirectly employ three people.
 - B. SMEs are growing faster than other sectors.
 - C. The SME sector accounts for 1/3 of total employment in Europe.
 - D. SMEs are subject to a high level of tax pressure and administrative constraints.

11. What action has been taken by the Commission to help SMEs?
 - A. It has prevented the relocation of SMEs.
 - B. It has simplified the administrative constraints on SMEs.
 - C. It has set up a fund to facilitate the conversion of SMEs in difficulty.
 - D. It has reduced the burden of employers' social contributions on SMEs.

The Commission approves the acquisition of part of Philips' business by TPV

The European Commission has authorised the proposed acquisition by TPV of the activities of the Dutch company Philips Monitors in the sale of flat screens for computer monitors and televisions to original equipment manufacturers. The activities acquired by TPV will be managed by a new company under the exclusive control of TPV. The transaction does not have any harmful effects on competition in the European Economic Area as regards computer monitors for original equipment manufacturers. Although the combined market share of TPV and Philips Monitors is greater than that of their competitors, after the merger the two companies will continue to face strong competition from Samsung, LGE and BenQ in particular. Therefore, it cannot be expected that the new entity would be able to act independently of its customers and competitors, while switching suppliers on the market appears to be feasible within the short term.

12. What is the impact of the proposed acquisition?

- A. TPV will only acquire control of the activities of Philips Monitors in the Netherlands.
- B. TPV will now itself sell Philips computer monitors to retail customers.
- C. Consumers will be able to benefit from a general fall in prices.
- D. TPV will become market leader for flat screens for computer monitors and televisions.

13. Why has the European Community authorised the proposal?

- A. It enables Samsung's monopoly on the market to be broken.
- B. It was necessary to step up competition on the computer monitor market.
- C. It does not infringe the competition rules in the European Economic Area
- D. It enables TPV to be prevented from acting independently of its customers and competitors.

Property market in Brussels

| | 1995 | 2000 | | | |
|---|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | 1st quarter | 2nd quarter | 3rd quarter | 4th quarter |
| Non-residential property market | | | | | |
| Surface area authorised for new construction (in m ²) | 144 000 | 77 000 | 32 000 | 73 000 | 54 000 |
| Number of permits for new construction | -10 | 20 | -10 | -10 | -10 |
| Number of permits for building renovation | 30 | 60 | 40 | 50 | 40 |
| Residential property market | | | | | |
| Living area authorised for new construction (in m ²) | 42 000 | 58 000 | 63 000 | 52 000 | 29 000 |
| Number of permits for construction of new apartment buildings | 60 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 7 |
| Number of permits for construction of new houses | 540 | 730 | 720 | 610 | 26 |
| Number of permits for building renovation | 200 | 280 | 260 | 240 | 26 |

14. How did the number of permits for new construction on the non-residential property market change between 1995 and 2000?
- It stayed the same.
 - It increased five-fold.
 - It doubled.
 - It fell by half.
15. What was the average surface area for new construction for the residential property market (construction of new apartment buildings and new houses) for which a permit was granted in 1995?
- 52.5 m²
 - 70 m²
 - 600 m²
 - 240 m²
16. In 1990, there were half as many permits for building renovation on the non-residential property market as there were on the residential property market, on which there were 30 fewer permits than in 1995. How did the number of permits for building renovation on the non-residential property market change between 1990 and 1995?
- There were 170 fewer permits in 1995 than in 1990.
 - There were 85 fewer permits in 1995 than in 1990.
 - There were 55 fewer permits in 1995 than in 1990.
 - There were 140 fewer permits in 1995 than in 1990.

Xplora

Xplora is a new gateway to science education in Europe. Its aim is to stimulate science education to attract more young people. Teachers will find a wealth of information and resources for primary and secondary education. The section "Megalab" presents experiments and practical, innovative science projects. Studying the stars or plants, conducting experiments on wind energy or hydrogen cells, ... Thanks to Xplora, pupils can now take part in experiments that would not be feasible at school! Xplora also provides teachers and experts from all corners of Europe with a forum where they can talk to each other on-line, find tools for setting up on-line communities and instructions on free software for science teaching.

17. Which statement is correct?

- A. Xplora was set up to enable scientific research to be developed.
- B. Xplora makes it possible to teach science only outside school.
- C. Xplora provides science-teaching software free of charge.
- D. Xplora provides a virtual meeting place where teachers can interact.

18. Which of the following objectives is **not** being pursued by Xplora?

- A. Facilitating access to scientific information.
- B. Promoting interaction between experts and teachers.
- C. Enabling experiments to be conducted outside school.
- D. Replacing the classical methods of science learning.

19. What is Xplora?

- A. An internet portal designed to promote science learning in Europe.
- B. A free software enabling pupils to conduct experiments outside school.
- C. A scientific community bringing together European experts.
- D. An information centre set up for young people wishing to obtain information on scientific careers.

Cost of training in businesses in the Europe of 15 (2002)

| | Share of training in personnel costs | Average training costs by beneficiary, in euros | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--------------|--------------|
| | | Average M+W | Men | Women |
| <i>Industry (average)</i> | 1% | 1 400 | 1 500 | 1 300 |
| Mining | 1% | 1 300 | 1 300 | 1 200 |
| Manufacturing | 1% | 1 400 | 1 400 | 1 200 |
| Energy and water | 2% | 2 500 | 2 900 | 2 200 |
| <i>Construction (average)</i> | 1% | 800 | 800 | 1 000 |
| <i>Trade, transport and communications (average)</i> | 2% | 1 600 | 1 800 | 1 100 |
| Transport and communications | 2% | 1 900 | 2 100 | 1 400 |
| Trade and repairs | 1% | 1 000 | 1 200 | 800 |
| Hotels and restaurants | 1% | 600 | 600 | 600 |
| <i>Financial, property and business services (average)</i> | 2% | 2 300 | 2 400 | 2 200 |
| Financial and insurance services | 3% | 2 800 | 2 900 | 2 700 |
| Property and business services | 1% | 1 400 | 1 600 | 1 100 |
| Average for all businesses | 1% | 1 400 | 1 600 | 1 100 |

20. There were 20 000 000 workers in the industrial sector in the Europe of 15 in 2002, 45% of which were women. What was the cost of vocational training for men?
- A. EUR 13.5 billion
 B. EUR 11.7 billion
 C. EUR 16.5 billion
 D. EUR 14.3 billion
21. In 2002, there were 200 000 fewer women than men in the construction sector, which is the equivalent of 1/10 of the male population working in that sector. How many people worked in the construction sector in 2002?
- A. 2 000 000
 B. 1 800 000
 C. 3 800 000
 D. 4 000 000
22. In 2002, personnel costs in the industrial sector were EUR 1 000 billion, a quarter of which in the energy and water sector. How many persons worked in the latter sector in 2002?
- A. 1 000 000
 B. 8 000 000
 C. 100 000 000
 D. 2 000 000

The European Commission publishes its 2004 report on Hong Kong

In its 2004 annual report on Hong Kong the European Commission acknowledges the significant economic developments, the improvement in the legislative reform process and the growth in trade relations between the European Union and Hong Kong. The European Commission hopes that significant progress will be made towards the introduction of universal suffrage, in accordance with the Basic Law. However, the overall conduct of the September 2004 legislative elections testified to the political maturity of Hong Kong and showed that there is a sound basis for further democratisation. However, concerns remain about the lack of competition legislation. According to the Hong Kong report, the European Union and Hong Kong were each other's third trading partners in 2004, and trade and financial flows continue to grow.

23. What conclusion does the European Commission come to?

- A. European exports to Hong Kong, which fell sharply over the last few years, have begun to grow again.
- B. Europe should rapidly become Hong Kong's main trading partner.
- C. The organisation of recent elections shows Hong Kong's wish to pursue the democratisation of its institutions.
- D. Commercial ties with Hong Kong depend exclusively on the democratisation of its institutions.

24. What developments have taken place in Hong Kong?

- A. It has amended its Basic Law to engage in a democratic process.
- B. Major institutional reforms have been introduced in the last few years.
- C. It has changed from a state-run economy to a market economy.
- D. It organised its first democratic elections in 2004.

Registration of new vehicles in the Netherlands

| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| New vehicles registered | 645 000 | 595 200 | 550 000 |
| Passenger cars | 550 000 | 500 000 | 470 900 |
| Buses and coaches | 1 200 | 1 000 | 1 100 |
| Commercial vehicles for goods transport | 60 300 | 64 400 | 50 000 |
| Taxis | 5 500 | 5 800 | 4 000 |
| Tractors | 3 000 | 2 900 | 4 000 |
| Motorcycles | 25 000 | 21 100 | 20 000 |

25. In 2000, 1/3 of passenger cars registered were new, and the number of cars registered that year made up 1/4 of the number of passenger cars in the Netherlands. How many passenger cars not registered in that year were there in 2000?
- A. 1 237 500
 B. 4 950 000
 C. 1 650 000
 D. 137 500
26. In 2003, 50 000 fewer new vehicles were registered in the Netherlands than in 2002, but 5 times more second-hand vehicles than new vehicles, i.e. 100 000 more than in 2002. How many second-hand vehicles were registered in 2002?
- A. 2 500 000
 B. 2 650 000
 C. 2 400 000
 D. 500 000
27. The average price of a tractor in 2000 was EUR 40 000 and it increased by 5% each year between 2000 and 2002. By how much did the price of tractors in the Netherlands increase between 2000 and 2002?
- A. EUR 4 100
 B. EUR 4 000
 C. EUR 44 100
 D. EUR 12 300 000

World gathering in New York in September to eradicate poverty

Discussions at the New York summit will be based on the United Nations report entitled "Towards greater freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all". The report notes unprecedented progress in the fight against poverty, namely in Asia, but draws attention to continuing unacceptable delays, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. In order to reach the 2015 targets, Kofi Annan recommends in particular that all developed countries that have not yet done so "set themselves a timeframe in which to reach the target set for public development aid by 2015". He also recommends the "setting up of an international financing facility that would allow the unlocking of massive resources for public development aid" and "looking for new financing mechanisms for development".

28. What does Kofi Annan recommend?

- A. Organising a world summit on the problems of poverty in the world.
- B. Restricting financial aid to the most affected countries such as those in sub-Saharan Africa.
- C. Setting up new mechanisms promoting public development aid.
- D. Changing the timetable for development aid to meet the targets set.

29. As regards the fight against poverty, what, among other things, does the United Nations report do?

- A. It assesses how poverty has developed throughout the world
- B. It sets a timetable for international funding for the fight against poverty.
- C. It introduces new mechanisms for funding the development of poor countries.
- D. It lays down more ambitious targets for 2005.

A period of grace for the digital tachograph

The Commission has decided to extend for one last time the period of grace for the introduction of the digital tachograph until 31 December 2005. Although the final date for the introduction of the digital tachograph had been extended until 5 August 2005, an extra period of grace is needed. This decision is justified by the delays encountered by tachograph manufacturers in obtaining type approval for their equipment. It should also allow the Member States to take all the legislative, technical and administrative measures needed. Finally, the aim of the moratorium was to ensure that Member States do not impose penalties on drivers of foreign vehicles entering their respective territories without a digital tachograph. Since then, most Member States have adopted the necessary legal frameworks and application arrangements. The tachograph must be legally recognised and accepted by all Member States from 5 August 2005 onwards.

30. From when will it be possible for foreign vehicles without a digital tachograph to be penalised?
- A. From 1 January 2006.
 - B. From 31 December 2005.
 - C. From 5 August 2005.
 - D. Once the country has adapted its legislation.
31. For what reason, among others, has the moratorium been extended?
- A. Because there is a legal grey area regarding certain aspects of the use of the tachograph.
 - B. To enable the Member States to take the legal measures required for using the tachograph.
 - C. Because some manufacturers have specifically requested it.
 - D. To enable the feasibility of the proposed measures to be assessed.
32. What exactly is being proposed?
- A. The moratorium has been extended for a second time until 5 August 2005.
 - B. The Member States will have to have recognised the digital tachograph in their legislation by 5 August 2005.
 - C. Only foreign vehicles are covered by the moratorium up to 31 December 2005.
 - D. Installation of the digital tachograph in vehicles has been postponed to 31 December 2005.

Implementation of higher recycling and recovery targets due to be completed in the EU Member States

By today, all EU Member States should have transposed into their national legislation an EU Directive setting more ambitious recycling and recovery targets for packaging waste. This type of waste includes packaging made from paper, glass, metals, plastics and wood. The new Directive updates and strengthens an earlier Directive from 1994. It aims to further reduce the negative environmental impact of landfilling and incinerating packaging waste and the production of virgin materials. The new recycling targets are a further step on Europe's way towards a more sustainable society. They strengthen the recycling industry. They also enable consumers to actively participate in recycling schemes and to show their commitment to more responsible management of packaging waste.

33. What can we deduce from the text as regards recycling?
- A. Before 1994, Europe did not have any rules on the recycling of waste.
 - B. Consumers alone are responsible for recycling household waste.
 - C. All EU Member States have transposed the Directive into their national legislation.
 - D. The new Directive makes it possible for consumers to be more closely involved.
34. Which of the following is a feature of the new Directive?
- A. It bans landfilling and incinerating packaging waste.
 - B. It is a counter-measure to the waste-management model of 1994.
 - C. It proposes new steps to tackle the problem of waste recycling.
 - D. It gives a precise definition of sustainable development.

Doctors and dentists in the European Union

| | Doctors (per 100 000 inhabitants) | | Dentists (per 100 000 inhabitants) | | Population | |
|----------------|---|------|--|------|------------|------------|
| | 1990 | 2001 | 1990 | 2001 | 1990 | 2001 |
| France | 270 | 330 | 70 | 70 | 59 000 000 | 60 000 000 |
| Greece | 340 | 450 | 100 | 120 | 11 000 000 | 13 000 000 |
| Ireland | 160 | 240 | 40 | 50 | 4 000 000 | 4 000 000 |
| Italy | 470 | 600 | 20 | 60 | 57 000 000 | 58 000 000 |
| Luxembourg | 200 | 320 | 50 | 70 | 400 000 | 450 000 |
| Netherlands | 250 | 330 | 50 | 50 | 16 000 000 | 16 000 000 |
| Portugal | 280 | 300 | 20 | 50 | 10 000 000 | 10 500 000 |
| United Kingdom | 160 | 180 | 40 | 40 | 60 000 000 | 60 000 000 |
| Sweden | 260 | 400 | 100 | 90 | 9 000 000 | 9 000 000 |

35. How did the number of dentists in Portugal change between 1990 and 2001?
- It increased by 3 250.
 - It increased by 2 000.
 - It increased by 325 000.
 - It increased by 30.
36. For 2001, which of the following statements is correct?
- There were 10 times more doctors in Italy than in Portugal.
 - There were twice as many doctors in Italy than in Portugal.
 - There were 348 000 more doctors in Italy than in Portugal.
 - There were 316 500 more doctors in Italy than in Portugal.
37. In Belgium in 1990, there were one third as many doctors as there were in the United Kingdom, and its population was 10 000 000. How many doctors per 100 000 inhabitants were there in Belgium in 1990?
- 960
 - 540
 - 360
 - 320

Mining waste: MEPs stand firm

After serious accidents in Romania and Spain, the European Union decided that a specific Directive was needed to regulate the management and storage of mining waste. Old installations, where the sites are now closed, represent a real danger. Where necessary, rehabilitation work should be carried out within four years at the waste producers' expense. This point is particularly important for the new central European Member States, where many mining companies have long neglected safety standards. In future, every time a mining site starts up, a financial guarantee will have to be lodged and regularly adjusted to ensure that requirements are met during and after use of the site, for the rehabilitation, not just of the site itself, but also all the land directly affected.

38. What can we deduce from the text?

- A. Spain has long neglected the safety standards for mining waste.
- B. At present Europe does not have any rules on environmental management.
- C. The risk of accidents is greater on some mining sites in central Europe.
- D. The two-fold increase in the number of accidents over the last few years has prompted the European Union to legislate.

39. Why is a Directive necessary?

- A. More and more sites are closing their doors.
- B. Accidents are becoming more and more frequent and more and more serious.
- C. Most European mining sites represent a major hazard.
- D. A number of accidents have highlighted the hazards involved in the management and storage of mining waste.

40. What will waste producers have to do in future?

- A. Clean up the installations before opening a mining site.
- B. Provide a financial guarantee for closure of the site.
- C. Pay a fine where the Directive is not complied with.
- D. Lodge a financial guarantee to be adapted during exploitation of the site.

Oposición general EPSO/AD/25/05

**Administradores (AD5)
en el sector "Administración pública
europea/recursos humanos"**

Prueba escrita d)

Esta prueba, que se desarrollará en la lengua principal del candidato, sobre un tema a elegir relacionado con la especialidad de la oposición, tiene por objeto evaluar:

- los conocimientos del candidato,
- su capacidad de comprensión, de análisis y de síntesis, y
- su capacidad de expresión escrita.

Trate uno de los siete temas propuestos.

**Esta prueba se puntuará de 0 a 50 puntos
(mínimo exigido: 25 puntos)**

A fin de garantizar la imparcialidad en la corrección de las pruebas escritas y respetar el anonimato, no debe usted añadir en su ejemplar ni firma, ni nombre, ni signo alguno (por ejemplo: iniciales, rúbrica, texto ajeno a la prueba, número de teléfono, domicilio particular o profesional, símbolos u otro tipo de indicaciones) que pueda dejar al descubierto su identidad.

Duración: 2 horas y 30 minutos

¡No dé la vuelta a la página antes de la señal!

Elija UNO de los temas propuestos e indique su elección en el papel rayado.

1. Parlamento Europeo y sistemas parlamentarios nacionales: semejanzas y diferencias. Señale las características específicas del Parlamento Europeo en términos de organización, de funcionamiento y de competencias.
2. ¿En qué medida y de qué manera puede la estrategia de Lisboa contribuir a preservar o a hacer que evolucione el «modelo social europeo»?
3. ¿Cómo contribuye la política exterior y de seguridad común de la Unión Europea al equilibrio geopolítico internacional?
4. ¿Qué papel han desempeñado la armonización y el principio de reconocimiento mutuo, respectivamente, en el establecimiento del mercado interior, y qué papel podría desempeñar la armonización para favorecer la realización de un mercado único de los servicios?
5. La construcción europea se ha desarrollado con arreglo a determinados valores que se reflejan en los Tratados fundacionales.
 - a) Describa sucintamente las características de los diferentes conceptos que llevaron a la fundación de las Comunidades Europeas y, después, de la Unión Europea.
 - b) Describa los elementos del debate en curso sobre el futuro de la Unión Europea e indique qué evoluciones considera previsibles y deseables a corto y a medio plazo.
6. Acaban de nombrarle responsable del desarrollo de los recursos humanos de una organización internacional con más de 10 000 agentes.
Con el fin de crear un entorno que permita a todos dar lo mejor de sí mismos, el/la Secretario/a General le pide que redacte un proyecto de desarrollo de las competencias que, al crear un espíritu corporativo y generar un concepto compartido de las normas, ayudará a la organización a responder a los desafíos del siglo XXI.
7. El/la responsable de los recursos humanos de la organización internacional en la que trabaja le pide que redacte un plan de acción para aplicar el principio de no discriminación al acceso al empleo y durante toda la carrera, y para luchar contra el acoso en el trabajo.