

**English test 2**  
**Semester 1**

Final mark:  ...../40
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**Reading:**

**Youth, Technology and Art**

“I want to be part of the next generation of technology achieving the impossible”, said Jose Castellano, recipient of a 2006 Mexican National Laboratory Scholarship. “I hope to either work for NASA or the Department of Defense, although I just want to see what opportunities open up after college.”

This fresh young mind lives in Espanola in Northern New Mexico with his parents, Lawrence and Frances a surgeon and a computer engineer successively. He believes his family gives him the psychological and financial support every person needs to grow and flourish.

19-year-old Castellano, a recent graduate of New Mexico High School, said that he and his family were ecstatic when they discovered he was a recipient of the scholarship. “It opened up many opportunities for the future,” said Castellano. “It was such a relief knowing that college expenses wouldn’t be so great anymore and I could look forward to college more than worry about it. It was a great feeling of accomplishment.”

Castellano, who describes himself as a “nerd” when it comes to studying, says he has always been interested in problem solving and the art of building little gadgets. He looks forward to exploring those interests when he starts his undergraduate studies this year at New Mexico State University, where he plans to pursue a degree in aerospace engineering and hopefully move on to earn a master’s degree at Georgia Tech.

Young Castellano is not only a brilliant mind, but also a musical talent. With his deep love for music, he can play 11 instruments. “When I’m not working, I spend most of my time with music,” said Castellano. “I really love to draw and write poetry as well.” Inspiration for Castellano comes from his parents, teachers and, as he puts it, “those who never gave up when it came to achieving their dreams.”

This soon-to-be undergraduate also notes that working at New Mexico Technological Institute has been a significant help. “It has been a great experience working for the Institute as a student. It has helped me gain fruitful insight and expertise”, said Castellano. “It is nice to get a foot in the door because it helps with future employment opportunities”.

**Comprehension questions: (15points)**

**1. Fill in this identification card about Castellano: (7points)**

<b>Full name</b>	.....
<b>Age</b>	.....
<b>Location of residence</b>	.....
<b>Occupation</b>	.....
<b>Interests</b>	.....
<b>Free time activities</b>	.....
<b>Ambition</b>	.....

**2. What do the words in bold letters stand for? (4points)**

- They** support Castellano psychologically and financially:.....
- Castellano was ecstatic about **it**:.....
- Castellano will explore **them** at the university:.....

d. It has given Castellano insight and expertise:.....

**3. Which of these descriptions would apply to Jose Castellano? Explain (1points)**

- a. An ambitious youth.                      c. A brainy student.                      e. A grateful person  
b. A show off.                                  d. A industrious boy

Explain:.....

**4. Complete this summary according to the text: ( 3points)**

On receiving the 2006....., Jose Castellano expressed his hope to ..... He also thanked his parents because they helped him.....  
Apart from his technological interests, Castellano declared that he had great passion for .....and.....  
Now that he needn't worry about university expenses, Castellano looks forward to studying for a degree.....

**Language (15points)**

**A. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets: (3points)**

1. Do you promise that you (teach)..... me how to play the guitar?
2. I (want) .....to visit you yesterday, but you (be).....at home.
3. (You/ walk).....to school every morning?
4. When I saw Peter, he (talk).....to the estate agent about his flat.
5. Wait a minute; I (carry).....this box for you.
6. Shhhhh! Be quiet! John (sleep).....

**B. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one(use the suitable model) (5points)**

1. It's not necessary for students to learn those rules by heart.  
Students.....
2. Drivers aren't allowed to use mobile phones while driving.  
Drivers.....
3. It's very important for a model to keep fit.  
A model.....
4. It's permitted to park here.  
You.....
4. He was unable to play piano when he was young.  
He.....

**C. Fill in the blanks in each sentence with colour idiomatic expressions: (these colours may help: red/ black / blue/ green/ white) (2points)**

1. I sent off my application to the company, but heard nothing. Then completely.....  
..... They sent me a letter”.
2. I was .....when I heard that my colleague would be going to London for a month while I had to stay and work.
3. The manager caught the new employee..... taking money out of the box.
4. When she fell off her bicycle, she was.....for days.

**D. Use the words in capitals to make words which fit in the spaces: (5points)**

When a well-known (LAW).....came to visit our area and met us, he seemed very helpful and (FRIEND).....and he had lots of things to say to people here.  
“The authorities have to listen and do something. They must make (IMPROVE)..... so that the area will attract new businesses and more (PROFESSION) .....,” he said. Some people invited him into their homes and he told them he was (DETERMINE) .....to help when he saw the damp, (CRAMP).....apartments where some of the (RESIDE)..... live. He explained that he'd already helped people in other areas. He is a (BRAIN).....person, so I hope he will be able to achieve something for us, even if he has to use threats to influence the local (POLITICS).....and make them do something for us. He said he'd even appear (OFFICIAL).....on TV to help solve our problems. Let's hope for the best.

