This is a Class 2 exam

Lebanon Evangelical School for Boys and Girls

Lebanon Evangelical School
for Boys and Girls Loueizeh - Baabda

SE01 Exam

10NOV2025

Do NOT write in this box. Your MARK will be placed here.

Subject :	English
Class :	8A
Teacher :	Mrs. Lilian Hadaya
Duration :	1 hour

Write the answers on the exam paper itself.

You are to answer the questions to this exam on : This exam paper

Your name :		*Time taken to complete exam*
Your Class :		
Exam Room :		
How many sheets, including cover sheet :		

- Do not open this paper until the teacher in charge instructs you to do so.
- The most important thing to remember in taking an exam is NEVER PANIC.
- If you are caught cheating in this exam, you will be awarded zero for ALL exams that are taken on this day.

A. Read the following article then answer the question that follows.

Why it's so important to celebrate life's milestones

adapted from an article by Hannah Keegan

In this passage, the writer presents her ideas about why it is important for people to celebrate.

For centuries, the way we choose to mark occasions has mattered. Think of the birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and national holidays that are scattered across your calendar every year. The hours you have spent thinking about the gifts you've bought for the people you love – to congratulate, celebrate and show affection for them when they get promoted or hit a new goal.

Birthdays first became 'A Thing' in Ancient Egypt. When pharaohs were crowned, they were believed to be reborn as gods, making their coronation date their birthday and they were celebrated as such: with a big party.

The first ever reference to a birthday appears in the Bible when a pharaoh is described as holding a feast in celebration, around 3,000 BCE. The first record of an invitation to a birthday party was written in Latin on a wooden tablet by a Roman woman, Claudia Severa, to a commander's wife around 100 CE. It read, 'On 11 September, sister, for the day of the celebration of my birthday, I give you a warm invitation to make sure that you come to us, to make the day more enjoyable for me by your arrival, if you are present.' In short: please come to my party. Later, it became customary to give someone celebrating their 50th birthday a special cake made of wheat flour, olive oil, honey and grated cheese. But women's birthdays weren't generally celebrated until around the 12th century.

But whether it's a birthday, Eid or a career milestone that we're celebrating, where does our urge to rejoice collectively actually come from?

According to psychotherapist Dr Sheri Jacobson of Harley Therapy, it's innate (born with it). 'It's part of the human experience to mark the times of positive and negative change,' she explains. 'On the celebratory side, this involves birthdays, marriages, achievements and awards, but on the other hand, it's about coming together around times of loss, too.

'Community plays a big part in this because we are fundamentally social creatures. Evolution and psychology tell us that we are built for living in small communities and, while we're far more networked these days, and our circle of influences are much wider, we still need other people for survival. Celebrations reinforce the community network and allow us to get to know people better. Even trauma bonds people during these occasions because it reinforces social ties and empathy.'

Let's not forget that the common thing to do when we're celebrating someone's achievements is to give them a hug, and for good reason. 'In the western world, we've become really tuned into our mental health and we understand the benefits of talking and sharing with loved ones, and therapists, but we're less conscious of the healing benefits of physical touch,' says Jacobson. 'A chemical called oxytocin is released during a hug or physical contact and it's basically a stress reliever; cortisol – which

is stress-causing – is also reduced.' So, we're actually prolonging that feeling of wellbeing on receiving good news or celebrating a holiday.

When we talk about celebrations, we're essentially talking about being grateful for the things, we have in our life. A wedding or religious holiday, for example, is about expressing gratitude for the people you love and the opportunity of being with them. Tuning into that sense of gratitude can make the experience much richer.

Getting together to celebrate the passage of time is an important tradition. As consumer psychologist Patrick Fagan puts it, 'It's cathartic. People overeat, party, dress up, which is a change from normal social order,' he says. 'Most importantly, it's life-affirming. It's about marking the passage of time and bringing structure to a world which is chaotic and frightening.' At a time when a lot feels uncertain, enjoying how far you've come is about as uplifting as it gets.

Eid – a worldwide festival for Muslims that occurs twice a year

Cathartic – helpful/beneficial

Question: In your opinion, do you agree with the writer that celebrations are important? (20 points)

Use Point (direct answer to the question), Evidence (quotations from text), Explanation (explain your quotation), and a concluding sentence to answer in 12 lines only.

B. Grammar Exercises

1. **Put the verbs in brackets using the simple present. (10 points. 1 pt. each)**
   a) Emma always (eat) _____ an avocado a day.
   b) James often (run) _____ 20 km a week to stay in shape.
   c) People (believe) _____ in the one and only God.
   d) The professional football player (train) _____ on a daily basis.
   e) Does the dog (protect) _____ its owner all the time? Yes, it does.
   f) This student (be) _____ very lazy at doing his work.
   g) Veronica (dance) _____ ballet beautifully.
   h) John the tailor (sew) _____ my dad elegant suits to wear for weddings.
   i) Do we sometimes (play) _____ tennis on weekends?
   j) Lebanese people (love) _____ drinking Turkish coffee.
2. **Put the verbs in brackets using the present continuous. (10 points. 1 pt. each)**
   a) The masons (build) _____ the new playground at the moment.
   b) The reckless driver (speed) _____ over the limit.
   c) Are you (come) _____ to my party next Saturday?
   d) Amy (draw) _____ natural scenes on her easel now.
   e) Stop! He (drink) _____ my bottle of milk!
   f) Why is he (shout) _____ at the children so loudly?
   g) Jose (paint) _____ his bedroom green today.
   h) Who are you (look) _____ at? That man over there.
   i) I (iron) _____ the dresses now, I can't come with you.
   j) She (wash) _____ her car at the gas station.
3. **Ask questions to the answers provided using the simple present or the present continuous. Check the time words well. (10 points. 2 pts. each)**
   a) What time _____ you (come)_____ to my house? **This week.**
   b) How often _____she (clean) _____ her house? **Every Saturday.**
   c) How long _____he (plan)_____ to stay in Italy? **Two months.**
   d) Why _____ you (smell) _____ the milk? **It's very sour.**
   e) Which color _____ they prefer to (buy) _____ for the wedding? **Sky blue.**

You can do it! I believe in you!

SE01 20252026

Answer Key

8A

Class Exam 2

A. Comprehension (20 pts.)

Yes, I agree that celebrations are important in life, as they give people happiness and brings them together. For example, "Celebrations reinforce the community network and allow us to get to know people better." This means that when people celebrate, they share the happy experience and get to know each other. They will share experiences together and open up about some difficulties they could be passing through. This way they will have a bigger circle of friends that they enjoy their company. Having friends does make life much easier and better. In addition, "a wedding or religious holiday, for example, is about expressing gratitude for the people you love and the opportunity of being with them." This means that when people gather to celebrate an event with each other, they are actually being thankful for those beloved ones that are present there with them. The more gratitude we show for others, the happier we become. As has been noted, celebrations are essential in the life of everybody as they bring forth happiness and contentment every time they occur.

B. Grammar exercises (30 pts.)

1. **(10pts. 1 each)**

   a) Eats, b) runs, c) believe, d) trains, e) protect, f) is, g) dances, h) sews, i) play, j) love.

2. **(10 pts. 1 each)**

   a) Are building, b) is speeding, c) coming, d) is drawing, e) is dinking, f) shouting, g) is painting, h) looking, i) am ironing, j) is washing.

3. **(10 pts. 2 each)**

   a) Are you coming?

   b) Does she clean?

   c) Is he planning?

   d) Are you smelling?

   e) Do they prefer?