



**Placement Test**  
**Cambridge Advanced English (CAE)**

You have 1 hour to complete this test  
Please do not use a dictionary

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# CAE Placement Test

Name: < \_\_\_\_\_ > Date: / /

You have 30 minutes to complete this part of the test. For questions 47-53, use the words in the box on the right to form **one** word which fits in the same numbered space in the text. The exercise begins with an example (0)

## IS THIS THE END FOR RECORD-BREAKING?

According to researchers, we have reached the limits for some sports. No matter how hard we train or whatever the (0) improvements in the design of our running shoes, they say we're just not going to get any better. A mathematical (47) \_\_\_\_\_ was carried out to show that most of our track and field records are in fact being broken by chance. The researchers looked at the best annual performances in 22 events in German athletics (48) \_\_\_\_\_ over the last 20 years. Only four events showed any kind of (49) \_\_\_\_\_ increase over that time and the record-breaking times fitted the (50) \_\_\_\_\_ distribution you would expect if the overall level of performance had stayed the same. The researchers concluded that the (51) \_\_\_\_\_ of record breakers is not (52) \_\_\_\_\_. Record breakers are just (53) \_\_\_\_\_ rare.

### Example:

0 IMPROVE

0 *improvement*

47 ANALYSE

48 CHAMPION

49 SYSTEM

50 STATISTIC

51 EXIST

52 MIRACLE

53 EXCEPT

For questions 16-30, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use **only one word in each space**. The exercise begins with an example (0).

## On the other hand?

We left-handed people lack collective pride. We (0) just try to get by, in our clumsy way. We make (16) \_\_\_\_\_ demands and we avoid a fuss. I used to say whenever someone watched me sign my name and remarked that he or she was also left-handed; 'You and me and Leonardo da Vinci!' That was a weak joke, (17) \_\_\_\_\_ it contained my often unconscious desire to belong to *Left Pride*, a social movement that (18) \_\_\_\_\_ far doesn't exist but I hope may one day come. There are many false stories about the left-handed (19) \_\_\_\_\_ circulation: for example, a few decades ago someone wrote that Picasso was left-handed, and others kept repeating it, but the proof is all (20) \_\_\_\_\_ the contrary. The great genius Einstein (21) \_\_\_\_\_ often still claimed as one of ours, also (22) \_\_\_\_\_ proof. And sadly there is also no truth (23) \_\_\_\_\_ the myth that the left-handed tend to be smarter and more creative.

(24) \_\_\_\_\_ the amount of research that has been carried out, researchers in the field still find it hard to decide precisely what we mean (25) \_\_\_\_\_ left-handed. Apparently a third of those (26) \_\_\_\_\_ write with their left hand throw a ball with their right. (27) \_\_\_\_\_, those using their right hand for writing rarely throw with their left. A difficult skill that becomes crucial at a most impressionable age, writing defines (28) \_\_\_\_\_ you will call yourself. I have never used scissors, baseball bat, hockey stick or computer mouse with anything but my right; (29) \_\_\_\_\_ so, I think I'm left-handed as (30) \_\_\_\_\_ everyone else.

