

Test 9

Breaking the law in Japan can be a nightmare. Even before they are indicted (*accusati*), suspects can be held for 23 days. Last year, the international organization Human Rights Watch reported that "suspects may be shouted at, deprived of food and drink, or forced to stand in a fixed position for prolonged periods of time. If none of these methods produces a confession, interrogators use violence." An indictment is followed by a trial. Prosecutors make heavy use of confessions and the conviction (*condanna*) rate is 99.9%. The next step is prison. When Kevin Neal Mara arrived at Fuchu prison south-west of Tokyo in 1993 to begin serving a 4 year sentence, the rules were explained to him in detail. But Mara, 32, an American who had been caught bringing nearly 14 kg of marijuana into Japan, kept forgetting them. One day he opened his eyes prematurely at lunch (prisoners must sit with their eyes shut until signaled to begin eating). Another time he made eye contact with a guard (strictly forbidden while prisoners are working). Then one morning early last year he ran water through his hair when he should have only washed his face.

After his first mistake, Mara was handcuffed and bound with a leather belt that immobilized his arms for two days. Following the latest incident in February, Mara announced he was suing the Japanese government for \$90,000. As a result, say his lawyers, he is in his 42nd week of solitary confinement. His home is a 5-square-metre concrete cell, where for eight hours each day he must sit silently, gluing paper bags.

For a society that prides itself on civility, the brutal world of Japanese prisons is an incongruous anachronism. Of course, by some standards the results are impressive. There are no gang fights or riots in Japanese prisons. There is no overcrowding. The country's low crime rate has kept the prison population level at about 46,000 over the past five years - fewer than 37 out of every 100,000 citizens, in contrast to 415 in the US and 75 in Germany. But the protests are increasing. More than 100 complaints from Japanese prisoners are before the courts; such suits were once unknown. And since word has spread of Mara's lawsuit, former prisoners have begun to speak out. "The Mara case is symbolic. Unless Japanese prisons do things by international standards," says Koichi Kikuta, a Meiji University law professor, "problems will keep coming up."

PART 1

Scegliere la risposta più adatta (barrare la risposta considerate corretta)

1.
 - a) Convicted Japanese criminals are often sent to prison for about three weeks.
 - b) Human Rights Watch is critical of the methods used to extract confessions from suspects.
 - c) If a suspect confesses, no trial is necessary.

2.
 - a) Kevin Mara is in prison for drug smuggling.
 - b) Kevin Mara is in prison for murder.
 - c) Kevin Mara is in prison for theft.

3.
 - a) Prisoners must eat lunch with their eyes closed.
 - b) Prisoners are not permitted to wash.
 - c) Working prisoners must not look he guards in the eye.

4.
 - a) The Japanese government has offered Mara \$90,000 compensation.
 - b) Mara's lawyers say that he is in solitary confinement because he is taking legal action against the Japanese government.
 - c) Mara has no work to do in solitary confinement.

5.
 - a) There are fewer prisoners in Japan than in many countries of the West.
 - b) Koichi Kikuta thinks that there will be more problems if Japan introduces international prison standards.
 - c) Indiscipline is a major problem in Japanese prisons.

6. Which of the following titles best summarizes the content of the article?
 - a) Hard prison conditions keep Japan's crime rate down.
 - b) Japan gives foreign prisoners a hard time.
 - c) Japan's tyrannical penal system.

PART 2

A. Riempire i vuoti inserendo i verbi tra parentesi nella forma appropriata

(a) Scegliere fra il **Simple Present** (es. do/does) e il **Present Continuous** (es. is/are doing)

1-2. Hurry up! The bus.....(come) and I(not/want) to miss it.

3. "Can you drive?" "No, but I (learn)."

4. ".....(you/ever/read) novels?"

5-6 " Yes, I(usually/like) modern fiction,
but I(read) a Dickens novel at the moment. "

(b) Scegliere fra il **Past Simple** (es. did) e il **Past Continuous** (es. was/were doing)

7-8. Mr. Lawrence(not/drive) very fast when the
accident (happen).

9. "..... (Tom/be) at work yesterday?"

10-11. "No, he (not/be). He(have) a bad cold."

(c) Scegliere fra i due tempi futuri: **will e going to**

12. When (you/know) the result of your exam?

13. "Why is the television on?" "I(watch) the news."

14. "What(Danilo/study) at university?"

15. "He's not sure, but he thinks he(try) Political Science".

B. Completare le seguenti frasi scegliendo fra **it/they/there** con la forma appropriate del verbo "**to be**" (es. There is a castle on the hill. It is 500 years old)

16. " a petrol station near here?"

17-18. "two in the square, butclosed on Sundays. "

C. Scegliere fra i verbi difettivi: **shall/should/may/might**

19. The government really do something about unemployment.

20. The mechanic cannot repair my car, so I suppose Ibuy a new one.

21. Take an umbrella just in case! Itrain later on.

22. we go to Sicily at Easter?

D. Completare le seguenti frasi scegliendo fra **much/many/a few/a little**

23. We haven't hadsnow this winter.

24-25. "Howpeople came to the lesson?" "There were onlystudents."

26. You need some tomatoes and olive oil.

E. Inserite **a, an, o the** se lo ritenete opportuno

27-28. William Blake was interesting painter as well as poet.

29-31. They have apartment in centre of New York and two
houses in..... France.

F. Completare le frasi scegliendo la **preposizione giusta**

32-33. My father goes the office car.

34. Luisa is married a German.

PROVA DI CONOSCENZA DELLA LINGUA INGLESE N. 9
CHIAVE

PART 1

1B; 2A; 3C; 4B; 5A; 6C.

PART 2

- 1 is coming
- 2 do not want
- 3 am learning
- 4 do you ever read
- 5 usually like
- 6 am reading
- 7 was not driving
- 8 happened
- 9 was Tom
- 10 was not
- 11 had
- 12 will you know
- 13 am going to watch
- 14 is Danilo going to study
- 15 will try
- 16 is there
- 17 there are
- 18 they are
- 19 should
- 20 should
- 21 may/might
- 22 shall
- 23 much
- 24 many
- 25 a few
- 26 a little
- 27 an
- 28 a
- 29 an
- 30 the
- 31 –
- 32 to
- 33 by
- 34 to