



# **Coventry University English Test**

## **Example Test Paper**

### **Reading Text**

**Very important:**

No dictionaries to be used at all;

No copying;

No talking;

Mobile phones off;

Write names clearly on the test paper.

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Test taken at** \_\_\_\_\_ **Administered by** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Reading 1**

Coventry University (2018, August 22). Aspiring architect up for national award thanks to Coventry ring road development design. *Primary News*. Retrieved from <https://www.coventry.ac.uk/primary-news/aspiring-architect-up-for-national-award-thanks-to-coventry-ring-road-development-design/>

Note: This text has been adapted for test purposes.

### **Aspiring architect nominated for national award thanks to Coventry ring road development design**

An aspiring architect has been nominated for a national award for her design for a development next to Coventry's ring road that will bring students and the community closer together. Architecture student Melita Domenica created the plans for the patch of land near the Belgrade car park for her final year project. She wanted to design a building that could be used by students and local residents and build links between the city's communities. Melita, 22, was also keen to address the problem of the ring road as a barrier in the city. She has now been nominated for the Architects' Journal's AJ Student Prize – and her work has been featured on the organisation's website. As well as a nomination for the AJ Student Prize, she also won the Design Prize for architecture at the Coventry University degree shows earlier this year for her project. The winner of the Architects' Journal award will be announced at a ceremony in London in September.

The three-storey building she designed reaches the height of the ring road and also goes under the highway, creating a breakthrough for people to move between residential areas such as Radford. It features exhibition spaces, gaming rooms for both students and residents, restaurants, community facilities, mixed accommodation for students and residents, as well as an outdoor space that could be used for public events. Some parts of the buildings design change their layout and functionality depending on the time of the year so as to benefit both the student population and local people and businesses. For example, there is a hostel which will provide cheap accommodation for students and visitors to the city to stay in during autumn, winter and spring. However during summer, when there are fewer students, this hostel will be changed into a nursery for local community needs.

Melita, who is originally from the Republic of Moldova, secured a job as an architect for an international company in Romania 4 weeks ago. She will be working on 3 UK projects and 1 Romanian project. Melita was interviewed and said: I think I was the happiest person in the world when I found out about this award nomination as it actually happened a few days before my wedding day. It's very exciting as I did not expect it at all.

I wanted to design a new gateway for the city that would engage both students and the community, helping them to feel part of the city again. The ring road is a massive

barrier, and so I designed the building to go underneath it. By creating a climbing wall, internal game rooms and a skatepark under the highway, it does not feel as much of a barrier anymore. The ring road will actually become part of the new proposed development.

I wanted the building's uses to fluctuate depending on the season so that it would not be empty when students go home. That's why I thought a hostel and nursery would be helpful. I wanted to make sure it had something for everyone, at any time of the year, and there will always be something new to be discovered, every time you come back.

I've really enjoyed my course – it's been a pleasure. The knowledge of my lecturers, including Mike Elcoat and Liam Edmonds, has really pushed me forward and I'm so pleased to be starting a job as an architect soon."

Senior lecturer Mike Elcoat had positive things to say: "Melita's project was of an extremely high quality and it's fantastic that she has been nominated for this award. Her project has challenged the barrier and issues created by the Coventry ring road; a dominating piece of infrastructure that many people in the city have strong views on. Melita took account not only of hypothetical scenarios but also real life issues, conducted rigorous research and engaged directly with site-users.