

SECONDARY SCHOOL ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS 2009

Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education
Educational Assessment Unit

FORM 5

ENGLISH
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Teacher's Paper

Instructions for the conduct of the Listening Comprehension Examination

The teacher should instruct the candidates to answer the questions on the paper provided. The following procedure for reading the Listening Comprehension passage is to be explained to the candidates immediately before proceeding with the examination.

You have been given a sheet containing the Listening Comprehension questions. I shall first read through the questions and then read the passage at normal reading speed. You may take notes on the blank sheet provided during the reading. After this reading there will be a pause of another three minutes to allow you to answer some of the questions. The passage will be read a second time and you may take further notes and answer the rest of the questions. After this second reading you will be given a further three minutes for a final revision of answers.

- a. 3 minutes - Teacher reads out the questions
- b. 3 minutes - First reading aloud of passage while students take notes
- c. 3 minutes - Students may answer questions
- d. 3 minutes - Second reading of passage and possibility of answering questions
- e. 3 minutes - Final revision

ANNUAL SECONDARY ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS 2009

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TIME: 15 minutes

Reality TV – love it or leave it.

The first reality TV show in the world was called Expedition Robinson and it was shown in Sweden in 1997. Half of the population of the country watched the final episode and a new kind of TV programme was born. Two years later in Holland, the first series of Big Brother was filmed. Again it was a fantastic success and the final programme was watched by 15 million people. There are now more than 20 countries around the world which have Big Brother or Survivor on their TV screens. The ordinary people who take part in the programmes are known by millions of people in their own countries and reality TV has become a big, big business.

For the TV producers, reality TV is a dream come true because many of the programmes cost nothing to make. At some point, the television viewers are asked to telephone the programme to vote or to take part in the show. It is the cost of these telephone calls that pays for the shows. One of the most popular shows is Pop Idol. In the show, a group of attractive people are turned into pop stars. The viewers vote for their favourite person in the show. The winners make records, their pictures are published on the covers of magazines, millions of copies of the record are sold and then... they are quickly forgotten.

But not everyone is happy about reality TV. In Portugal, two TV channels got into trouble because they showed too much of the private lives of the people in the shows. In France, reality TV is called ‘rubbish TV’ and the studios of Loft Story, the French version of Big Brother, were attacked three times in one week. In Greece, Big Brother was described as ‘an insult to human rights and civilisation’. But despite problems, reality TV continues to do well in most countries and it will be there for some time to come.

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FORM 5

ENGLISH

TIME: 2 hours

Name: _____

Class: _____

MARKS			
Listening Compr.	Oral Assessment	Written Paper	Total

Section A – Language.

(20 marks)

A. Fill in the blanks in the sentences below with the best answer from those provided. (5 marks)

1. The tourists finally _____ on their journey at 10 o'clock in the morning.
(got about; came up; set off; went out)
2. The police will have to _____ security for the band's visit. (take up; loosen up; tie down; tighten up)
3. Kirsty was so angry at the news that she _____ the phone and rushed out of the room. (turned out; hung on; slammed down; called up)
4. The children were so upset that they could hardly _____ their tears.
(wash out; set off; hold back; keep off)
5. Kurt is quite a nice chap. Don't be _____ by his appearance.
(put down; set out; put off; taken over)

marks

B. Fill in each blank space with ONE suitable word.

(5 marks)

The first real libraries we know (1) _____ existed around 8,000 years (2) _____! The Mesopotamians wrote (3) _____ wet clay tablets (4) _____ a wedge – shaped stick. These tablets were baked, (5) _____ the rarest of them were placed (6) _____ clay envelopes (7) _____ safe - keeping. Thousands of (8) _____ tablets, which were stored in palaces and temples, and arranged by subject, have been (9) _____. Such collections (10) _____ the first real libraries.

marks

C. Work out the following exercise by forming a word from the one in brackets. The first one has been worked out for you. (5 marks)

It is (real) (0) **really** amazing how (medicine) (1) _____ practice as we know it began during the time of the Greeks. More than two thousand years ago, a man called Hippocrates put together a (collect) (2) _____ of (science) (3) _____ books called “The Hippocratic Collection.” It was the beginning of medicine as we know it today because it depended on close (observe) (4) _____ of patients to learn about diseases. In these books there were records of actual cases and what happened to the patients. For the first time, instead of depending on some magic formula, (treat) (5) _____ was given as a result of past experience. In this way modern medicine was born.

marks

D. Finish each of the following sentences in such a way that it means the same as the sentence above it. The first sentence has been worked out for you. (5 marks)

0. William Shakespeare wrote “Macbeth.”
“Macbeth” was written by Shakespeare.

1. Sue will not improve her German accent without spending some time in Germany.

Unless Sue _____

2. “Don’t ask so many questions,” Greg told his friend.

Greg told _____

3. All the students rushed to the notice board as soon as the examination results were put up.

No sooner had _____

4. Tom applied for the post because his parents encouraged him .

If his parents had not _____

5. The children were given the message by a man wearing a red coat.

A man _____

marks

Section B

E. Comprehension.

(30marks)

Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions below.

Mobile Madness

What are the advantages of mobile phones?

Surveys show more than half of UK 11 to 17-year-olds say their parents give them more freedom because they have a mobile, and they are allowed to stay out later as a result. Owning a mobile phone makes 80 per cent of young people feel safer, whether driving, shopping, or at school.

- 5 Mobiles make it easier to contact friends. According to a study by an American research group, mobiles are the most common means of socialising, and teens will often avoid contact with peers who don't have a mobile phone. In another survey, 49 per cent of 11 to 17-year-olds said they have either received text messages asking them out on a date or have sent texts to end a relationship. Is there such a thing as too much communication? Speaking about a previous relationship, 16-year-old John confessed, "I was texting my girlfriend all the time. I could have told you everything she did every minute of the day."

Many teens seem to relish this constant communication to the point where they actually feel isolated without it. Twenty-six per cent of 11 to 17-year-olds say they'd feel unwanted if a whole day went by without their mobile phone ringing. Only 11 per cent of their parents felt the same.

- 15 Two years ago, a UK medical survey made headlines when it claimed mobile phones might cause headaches, mood swings and hearing problems in up to 5 per cent of all users. The culprit? Radiation, or energy waves in the form of particles. Mobiles emit a low level of radiation through radio waves, which can be very harmful. Since you place your mobile against your ear and head, radiation comes in direct contact with head tissue. Other recent studies show that children under 20 eight shouldn't use mobiles because there may be a link between frequent mobile use and ear or brain tumours. A ten-year study in Sweden showed these tumours were twice as common among mobile phone users than among non-users. Sir William Stewart, chairman of the UK National Radiological protection board, says, "I don't think we can put our hands on our hearts and say mobile phones are safe. If there are risks – and we think there may be risks – then the people who 25 are going to be most affected are children."

But a 2006 UK study found no clear connection between brain tumours and mobile phone use for any age group. The study claims previous research failed to link mobile use to tumours or cancer. "We still don't know about the long-term effects of mobile phone use," says Dr. Kat Arney at Cancer Research UK. "That's because any health risks could take decades to show up."

1. Underline the best answer.

(2marks)

The passage is about:

- a) Parents, teenagers and mobiles;
- b) Relationships between teenagers;
- c) Sending messages by mobile;
- d) Mobile phones in our lives.

2. Say whether the following are **True (T)** or **False (F)**. Give a reason for your answer. (3 marks)

a) Fewer than half of young people feel safer because they own a mobile. _____.

Reason: _____

b) Teenagers without a mobile feel at a disadvantage. _____.

Reason: _____

c) 16-year-old John rarely sent messages to his girlfriend. _____.

Reason: _____

3. What do the following words refer to in the passage? (4marks)

a) them (line 2) _____

b) who (line 7) _____

c) it (line 13) _____

d) you (line 18) _____

4. Find one word from the passage with a similar meaning to : (4 marks)

i. permitted _____ ii. enjoy _____

iii. give out _____ iv. influenced _____

5. From the first ten lines of the passage, find two reasons why 11 to 17 – year olds consider a mobile phone something positive? (2 marks)

a) _____

b) _____

6. Give two reasons why many teenagers feel unhappy if their mobile phone does not ring at least once a day. (2 marks)

a) _____

b) _____

7. Mention three negative effects of mobile phones which are mentioned in the passage. (3 marks)

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

8. Why is Sir William Stewart not ready to say that mobile phones are safe? (2marks)

9. Imagine you are a doctor informing and giving advice to parents about the use of a mobile phone by their children. Basing your answer on what you have learnt from the passage and using between 55 and 65 of your own words, say which points you would emphasise most. (8 marks)

F. Composition.



(30 marks)

Write between 180 and 250 words on ONE of the following:

1. Students should look for a part-time job in summer. Discuss.
2. A local radio station is holding a 'Best parent of the Year' competition. Write a letter to the Head of Programmes giving the reasons why, in your opinion, one of your parents qualifies for the award. Write to: Funky Radio Station, Green Avenue, Dingli.
3. Clint: How about going to the cinema this evening?
Sue: Oh no! I've watched enough DVDs at home this week. I'd rather go bowling....
Continue this dialogue.
4. My best friend is a two-year-old dog. Write about this particular friend.

Title: _____
