

Content

Your proposal should state clearly what people do at your workplace, providing an explanation as to why this might interest TV viewers. It should also make some specific suggestions as to the approach the programme might take, e.g. you might suggest interviews with key people or focusing on one particular department in the workplace.

Organisation

Write in clearly defined paragraphs.

Include a title and headings.

3 Review

Model answer

This model has been prepared as an example of a very good answer. However, please note that this is just one example out of several possible approaches.

Have Fun at Panton Pool

Panton Swimming Pool is an excellent swimming pool. The main pool is Olympic-sized and there is also a smaller pool for young children. The facilities therefore are suitable both for the serious swimmer preparing for competitions and for families just wanting to have fun. The best thing about the pool is the fact that its walls are almost entirely glass. The building is set in a park surrounded by trees and so, as you swim, you have wonderful views and can almost imagine you are swimming out of doors. It is conveniently located near the town centre, and I use it regularly before work. I swim for pleasure and to keep fit. After my swim, I often enjoy a cup of coffee in a pleasant little café there. The café serves delicious soup and sandwiches and, even when I'm not planning to go in the water, I sometimes meet a friend there for a snack and a chat. The facilities there also include a small shop where you can buy costumes, swimming caps and goggles, as well as a few other items, such as sports bags and towels, that might be of interest to users of the pool. The one aspect of the pool I should like to see improved is the changing area. The cubicles are cramped, and there are not enough lockers, particularly as several of them always seem to be out of use with broken locks or hinges.

But once in the water, you should certainly have a thoroughly enjoyable time at the Panton Swimming Pool.

Notes

- Use of an appropriate title
- Opening paragraph sets the context
- All the points from the question are dealt with in the answer and are developed appropriately
- Clearly organised in paragraphs
- Good range of vocabulary relating to swimming
- Shows ability to construct more complex sentences, e.g. 'The best thing about the pool is the fact that its walls are almost entirely glass' and 'The one aspect of the pool I should like to see improved is the changing area'
- Variety of sentence length
- Appropriate register – neither very formal nor very informal
- No language errors
- Correct length (260 words)

4 Report

Style

Neutral to formal

Content

Your report should be about an electronic gadget. The specific

gadget should be named at the beginning of the report. The report must explain what the gadget can do, as well as how you yourself use it. It should also include an explanation of the extent to which it meets your needs. You should try to express your ideas clearly and constructively. It does not matter whether you describe a gadget that basically suits all your needs or one that is unsatisfactory in some way.

Organisation

Write in clearly defined paragraphs.

Include a title and sub-headings.

Listening Part 1

- 1 A B: The man says he will be going to somewhere fairly near the town where he grew up. He doesn't say that is his reason for applying for the job. C: He isn't sure he wants the extra responsibility.
- 2 C A: His house is in an area where a lot of people want to live. B: He says the house has a garden and garage, which people seem to expect.
- 3 A B: He thought the novel ended at a logical point in the story. C: He had difficulty with the style at first, but gradually started enjoying it very much.
- 4 C A: The book has been shortlisted for a prize for fiction – it hasn't won it. B: One of the other people in her book club recommended it.
- 5 B A: The woman is prepared to keep the dishwasher. C: She implies that they wouldn't be justified in asking for a refund because the shop hadn't *promised* to deliver the dishwasher in the morning.
- 6 C A: The woman mentions the complicated controls, but the man thinks they would get used to them. B: The man is concerned about having enough space in the kitchen, but the woman suggests moving a cupboard to make room for the cooker.

Listening Part 2

- 7 **security:** Gavin talks about the lack of job security that affects most football managers.
- 8 **name(-)plate:** Only the word 'Manager', without his name, is on the nameplate on his office door.
- 9 **rented accommodation:** He says many managers rent somewhere to live, but his home is close enough for him to live there and commute to work.
- 10 **resources:** Apart from some of the best-known clubs, most have very few resources, such as money, staff and equipment.
- 11 **dressings rooms:** He painted all the dressing rooms last summer, while his wife painted some of the offices.
- 12 **recruitment:** He says recruitment, particularly of players, is the most important part of his job.
- 13 **reporters / the press:** Gavin says he enjoys the conversations with reporters at the regular press conferences.
- 14 **ball control:** Yesterday's training session concentrated on ball control; practice for the goalkeepers was included, without being the main focus of the session.

Listening Part 3

- 15 D A: Jane refers to new shops in Buckworth East, but doesn't mention more customers using the existing ones in the village. B: The development only provides the new housing required for Buckworth, so it won't reduce the amount of new housing that the council wants in other villages. C: She mentions new shops and other facilities in Buckworth East, but doesn't say it will be a self-supporting community.

- 16 A B: Jane says many new residents will be able to walk to work. C: She says that jobs will be created on the site, but not that there will be too few. D: She says parking has been dealt with by providing a high ratio of garages to homes.
- 17 D A: He says he doesn't think concerns about the protection of animals and trees are justified. B: A bus company is planning a service to Buckworth East. C: He says the number of new homes has been reduced, but doesn't comment on the new number.
- 18 A B: Jane says objections have to be considered, and some projects have to go ahead despite the objections, but doesn't say it is necessary to explain why. C and D: She says most objectors are reasonable people, holding sincere views, but doesn't comment on the accuracy of their information or on a need to evaluate their motives.
- 19 C A: She mentions a proposed community centre, but it can't be built. B: She talks about the possibility of new residents joining existing clubs, without commenting on their level of interest. D: She says she expects new clubs to be started in Buckworth East, but that existing clubs will continue.
- 20 B A: The interviewer says some people think their objections have been overruled, but contrasts these with 'the vast majority'. C: He says there is little awareness of the opportunities. D: Some people believe village life will be damaged, but the interviewer contrasts these with 'the vast majority'.

Listening Part 4

TASK ONE

- 21 D The man says that the firm he worked for had a foreign owner (parent company). He moved to the parent company's head office in the foreign country, to join a team consisting of staff from around the world.
- 22 B A university in another country offered the woman a position.
- 23 F He thought that if he went abroad, he might find more job opportunities than at home.
- 24 H The university where the man worked invited him to teach on its new overseas campus.
- 25 A The woman thought the research position would look good on her CV – that is, it would make her an attractive candidate when she applied for jobs later on.

TASK TWO

- 26 H He says that not having much money made him realise a lot of the things he used to spend money on were unnecessary.
- 27 C The woman discovered that she wasn't as open to new experiences or as flexible as she had thought.
- 28 A The man realised that he had been wrong to think his job such an important part of his life. He was pleased that his job abroad gave him time to develop his interest in painting.
- 29 G Living abroad made him realise what came easily to him and what didn't.
- 30 F She says that she and her old friends were living different sorts of lives and had less and less in common.

Test 6

Transcript

Listening



This is Advanced Trainer Test 6, Listening Part 1.

I'm going to give you the instructions for this test. I will introduce each part of the test and give you time to look at the questions. At the start of each piece you will hear this sound: [tone]

You will hear each piece twice.

Remember, while you're listening, write your answers on the question paper. You will have five minutes at the end of the test to copy your answers onto the separate answer sheet.

There will now be a pause. Please ask any questions now, because you must not speak during the test.

Now open your question paper and look at Part 1.

PART 1

You will hear three different extracts. For questions 1 to 6, choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what you hear. There are two questions for each extract.

Extract 1

You hear two friends discussing a new job that the man is about to start.

Now look at questions 1 and 2.

Woman: I hear you've got a new job, Donald. Congratulations!

Man: Thanks, Liz.

Woman: But I gather it'll mean moving.

Man: Yes, back to Scotland, which is where I grew up. Fairly near the same town. I'll be able to go mountaineering as often as I like – it's only a short drive to my favourite area. That's the main reason I applied.

Woman: And is it a better job than you've got now?

Man: Well, it's higher up the ladder, and the pay's better, but I'm not totally convinced I'm ready for the extra responsibility.

Woman: I'm sure you'll manage! So I suppose you'll be selling your house.

Man: Yes, in fact, I've had it on the market for a few weeks now. It's quite a difficult property to sell, despite being in a sought-after area, because in terms of size and price it's suitable for first-time buyers – young married couples, in particular – but it's quite quirky. It's easier to sell a standard, small three-bedroom house, and in mine the rooms are irregular shapes, and the bathroom's downstairs, rather than in the usual place.

Woman: But you've got a garden and a garage, haven't you?

Man: Oh yes, which is just as well, because people seem to expect them, these days.

Extract 2

You hear two friends discussing a novel.

Now look at questions 3 and 4.

Woman: I've just bought this novel, Harry. Do you know it?

Man: Yes. In fact, I've just finished reading it.

Woman: Oh, do tell me what you thought of it.

Man: Well, it's written in a pretty idiosyncratic style. It took me several chapters to see what the author was doing, and why, but then I was hooked. In fact, I enjoyed the book so much that when I came to the end, I wanted to find out more – what happened to the characters in the rest of their lives! Even though it ended at a logical point in the story.

Woman: I've heard the hero is very complex.

Man: Yes. I could see a lot of myself in him, which was one reason I enjoyed it. I wouldn't have thought it's your sort of novel, though.

Woman: Perhaps it isn't, but one of the people at my book club mentioned it and praised it to the skies, and I really like other books by the same novelist, so even though this is supposed to be very different from what she's done before, I must read it. And it's been shortlisted for a fiction prize, so obviously a lot of people think it's good.

Extract 3

You hear a husband and wife discussing new appliances for their home.

Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Man: I think we should ring the shop about the dishwasher. After all, we paid extra for delivery, and it was very inconvenient having to wait all day. They ought to refund the money.

Woman: To be fair, they only said they'd try to come in the morning, but they couldn't promise. What annoys me is that the leaflet they gave me was very inaccurate. They really should revise it so other people don't get misled. I can understand them not having every model in stock, but it meant I could only go by what the leaflet said. I really think I should give them a call about it tomorrow.

Man: Why? Would you have chosen a different model?

Woman: Probably, but I suppose I can live with this one. Now what about the cooker I want? Have you looked it up online?

Man: Yes. It's much bigger than our present one.

Woman: I'm sure we could move a cupboard to create more space. My only reservation is that it looks quite daunting – all those controls!

Man: We'd get used to them. But do you think it's worth spending so much on it? We're away a lot, and often have cold food at home – isn't the old cooker good enough?

Woman: Hmm, you've got a point. OK, let's forget that idea.

That is the end of Part 1.

Now turn to Part 2.



PART 2

You will hear Gavin McFarland, the manager of a football club, talking to some students about his work. For questions 7 to 14, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

You now have 45 seconds to look at Part 2. You will need to play the recording twice.

Man: Hello. I'm Gavin McFarland, and I gather you're interested in hearing about the life of a football manager. Well, I manage a not-very-successful team, and if I don't put you off it as a career, nothing will!

Let me start with the worst thing about the work, and it affects most managers. My job security is extremely limited. I'm the club's eighth manager in ten years, and I'll almost certainly get fired if the team continues to do badly. If I'm lucky, and they begin to show signs of life, I might be told I can stay till the end of the season – with no guarantees beyond that. In fact, on my office door, there's a nameplate that simply says 'Manager': no name permitted, no need to replace it for the next manager.

For that reason, many managers live apart from their families, in rented accommodation – there's no point in going through the upheaval of moving to another town if you'll probably have to move again months later. I'm lucky – my home is a half-hour drive away, so I can live there.

Then if your club isn't very well off, with hardly any staff or equipment – and very few have the resources of some of the best-known clubs – you'll find yourself doing all sorts of things, simply because there's nobody else, and you can't afford to bring someone in. Last summer, my wife painted some of the offices – and let me assure you, she wasn't paid for that – while it fell to me to paint the dressing rooms – the whole lot. Not a bad job, but not what I was expecting when I became a football manager!

Right, I'd better go on to the nitty gritty of the job. At the heart of it is recruitment – particularly of players, of course. I knew I'd be judged on the basis of the first player I brought in – I simply had to get it right, or I'd soon be out on my ear. Night after night I went to watch matches around the country, to look for talent and, hopefully, persuade a player I could see had potential to join us. The first player I signed up has been very good for us. Since then, I've brought in two more guys, and they're doing well. Long may it continue!

Another interesting part of the job is the regular press conferences. We time them so they don't coincide with the ones held by bigger clubs in the region – otherwise we wouldn't manage to attract any reporters at all. As it is, we're lucky to get more than half a dozen. I enjoy the conversation – some of them really want to catch you out, and making sure you don't say anything you shouldn't is quite a challenge!

I'm normally involved in training sessions, along with the coach. Two days ago, we worked the players into the ground, so yesterday we gave them a fun session, concentrating on ball control, and ending up with some practice for the goalkeepers.

OK, now it's time to...

That is the end of Part 2.

Now turn to Part 3.

You will hear an interview on local radio with Jane Robinson, the Public Relations Officer of a company developing a former air base. For questions 15 to 20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

You now have 70 seconds to look at Part 3. You will need to play the recording twice.

Man: Next on the programme, we discuss the proposed Buckworth East development. As we all know, the air force has vacated its base in the village of Buckworth, and the site is about to be developed under the name Buckworth East. The plan is for 250 new houses and premises for small businesses. With me now is Jane Robinson, PR Officer for the development company. OK, Jane, what's so good about this development?

Woman: Quite a lot, actually. The council wants 5,000 new homes to be built in the whole area over the next ten years. That'll mean new housing estates in lots of local villages, which will have a major impact on existing facilities, like schools; not to mention the quality of life of the residents of the villages. The old airforce site is large enough to provide all the new housing that the council wants in Buckworth. Villagers will benefit, too, as the new shops, etcetera, in Buckworth East will provide extra facilities for residents.

Man: Mm, but isn't it true that a lot of people are against this development?

Woman: Yes, but they're overlooking the positive aspects. The new residents will probably have cars, and yes, they'll add to traffic flows, but the creation of jobs on the site will mean many residents will be able to walk to work, so they won't add to rush-hour travel. And there'll be a high ratio of garages to housing units, so parking has been dealt with. Then a third of the new homes will be sold at little more than cost price. Unfortunately, that's still beyond many potential purchasers' means, but that's a national problem rather than one specific to Buckworth.

Man: But local people are unhappy with quite a lot of aspects of the plan, aren't they? I know the initial proposal of 500 new homes has been scaled down, but surely there's a need for suitable premises for a playgroup and nursery: the ones in the village are far too small. It's been pointed out that public transport to the site is very limited, though I understand a bus company has announced it will modify existing services to call at Buckworth East. Something else that's been raised, though I don't feel this is justified, is that insufficient attention is being paid to protecting animals and trees on the site.

Woman: Let's face it, there are always people who'll object, because there's a downside to everything. I'm sure most of them are perfectly reasonable people, with sincerely held views, but if every project was cancelled because somebody objected, nothing would ever be done, and we wouldn't have enough homes or jobs. And they're surely fundamental entitlements for everyone. Of course, we have to consider all objections carefully, but there's a limit to how far they can be met.

Man: OK. How do you envisage relations between the residents of Buckworth East and of the village, Jane?

Woman: It's perhaps unfortunate that the site is physically slightly separated from the village, er, with what will be a public park between them, so there's a built-in division. But it certainly isn't inconceivable that they'll become a single unit in due course, given goodwill on both sides. To a certain extent, it's up to the current villagers. They should actively encourage new residents to get involved by joining existing clubs, like the historical association and the gardening club. We had hoped that the new community centre which we proposed for land between the two areas would have helped to solve potential problems, but the council refused planning permission, so that won't happen. It remains to be seen, when the new residents move in, how soon a sense of community develops, but my guess is that new clubs will spring up on the site, perhaps in competition with existing ones. Don't forget, Buckworth East will have a larger population than the existing village.

Man: The council has just published the results of a survey of Buckworth villagers. Have you had a chance to look at them?

Woman: No, I haven't.

Man: There seems to be little awareness of the benefits the development will bring them, like additional jobs and shops. Some people claim that the council has simply ignored their objections, and perhaps it's the same people who see it as the destruction of village life. The vast majority, though, are fatalistic: they know there's a need for additional housing in the area, and wish none of it was going to be in Buckworth, but recognise that the air base is a more suitable site than covering the countryside with new houses. So it's a necessary evil.

That is the end of Part 3.

Now turn to Part 4.

Part 4 consists of two tasks. You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about living in a foreign country. Look at Task 1. For questions 21 to 25, choose from the list (A–H) the reason why each speaker moved abroad. Now look at Task 2. For questions 26 to 30, choose from the list (A–H) what each speaker mentions about their experience of living abroad. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

You now have 45 seconds to look at Part 4. You will need to play the recording twice.

Speaker 1

Ever since university, I'd been a software engineer for the same firm, which had a foreign owner. Then the parent company offered staff in its subsidiaries around the world the opportunity to join a new team, based in their head office. I liked the idea, and my wife was keen, too, so I applied, and was given a six-month contract. The company only offered a limited relocation package, so we didn't take much with us. On top of that, the pay wasn't brilliant. It was hard to cope at first, but eventually it dawned on me that I didn't really need half the things I used to spend my money on.

Speaker 2

I've just come back from five years abroad – and not a moment too soon. I'd always boasted I was open to new experiences and pretty flexible, but boy, was I wrong! Almost everything was different from home, and I really missed the security of knowing what to do in most situations, without needing to think about it. I was really enthusiastic at first, though in retrospect I suppose I felt flattered that I'd been headhunted. Without wanting to sound arrogant, I had quite a good reputation in my field – I'm a geologist – so when a university in another country offered me a position, I was interested. My husband was happy about it, too, so we went.

Speaker 3

When I graduated, I couldn't get a job that fitted my career plans, and ended up as a paper pusher. It was humdrum work, with no prospects, and I felt trapped. Then a friend suggested going abroad. I had nothing to lose and thought there might be openings that didn't exist at home. My partner liked the idea, and we headed off, and both got jobs that covered the rent, but not much more. It was wonderful, and I realised my priorities had been wrong. OK, so my job was fairly tedious, but I had time for other things. I'd always dabbled in painting, and now I started taking it seriously. That more than makes up for an unfulfilling job.

Speaker 4

Living abroad taught me a lot. I've never described myself as introspective, but I spent a lot of time on my own while I was there, as I didn't have any family, and I don't make friends easily. And all the demands of living in a different environment highlighted what came easily to me, and of course what didn't. It was rather an eye-opener, to be honest. The reason I'd gone was that the university where I had a research position opened a campus overseas, and I was one of the people they approached about teaching there. Well, I was keen on the idea, the pay was good, so I said yes, and I'm glad I went.

Speaker 5

I'd finished studying, and my job applications were getting nowhere. Then I saw a research position abroad that would look really good on my CV, so I went all out to get it. A couple of eminent academics in my field agreed to be my referees, and I was offered the post on a three-year contract. It wasn't at all the type of environment I was used to. Some things were better than at home, others worse, but on balance the positives outweighed the negatives. But because I was living a very different sort of life from my friends at home, we seemed to have less and less in common. In some cases, we completely drifted apart.

That is the end of Part 4.

There will now be a pause of five minutes for you to copy your answers onto the separate answer sheet. Be sure to follow the numbering of all the questions. I will remind you when there is one minute left, so that you're sure to finish in time.

You have one more minute left.

That is the end of the test. Please stop now. Your supervisor will now collect all the question papers and answer sheets.