

Test 4

LISTENING PART 1

Questions 1–7



46 1

Girl: I bought a nice coat yesterday.

Boy: That one you tried on the other day? The long one with a nice belt?

Girl: I wasn't sure about the buttons on that one – they were very big and looked a bit strange. The new one's got a belt, but it's not a long coat like the other and the buttons are much smaller. It has a fur collar, too, to keep my neck warm in the winter. Don't worry! It's not real fur! That other coat just had a collar like a jacket.

2

Girl: I'm thinking of starting drum lessons.

Boy: Really? I thought you wanted to learn the piano like me.

Girl: I do, but I think it'll be too difficult.

Boy: It takes time to become good at any musical instrument, but I found it fairly easy. And now I'm pretty good at it, it's time to have lessons on something else.

Girl: You could come to drum lessons with me.

Boy: My parents wouldn't be pleased if I practised at home, though. I think the guitar would make a better option, so I'm going for that.

3

Boy: How's your new apartment?

Girl: Fine. I've got no complaints about my new bedroom – the one I had before was tiny. The view's not so good now, though. We're not so high up and you can only see it through the windows. It was so nice to be able to sit outside with a drink and look down at what was going on in the street below. There was no big fire in the living room at the old place, though, so where we are now is much warmer.

4

Boy: Phew! I'm real tired.

Girl: I'm not surprised if you've had a basketball match today, like you usually do on Saturdays.

Boy: I've given that up actually. I joined a table tennis club a few weeks ago, which I love, and couldn't carry on doing both – I just don't have time.

Girl: That's a shame – you were pretty good.

Boy: Maybe, but don't forget that I'm a member of the school hockey team too, so I have practice and matches with them every week as well, although I missed the last game due to illness.

5

Girl: Richard Ellis has won the school poetry competition.

Boy: Who?

Girl: Richard Ellis ... you know, in Mrs Greenwood's class.

Boy: Oh, is he the one with short, dark hair, who always wears a shirt and tie for school, even though he doesn't need to?

Girl: I've never seen him wear anything else. I don't know why he doesn't just wear a sweatshirt and jeans, like us. His hair's a bit like mine, though – it comes right down to his shoulders.

Boy: I know who you mean, and it's quite light actually.

Girl: That's him!

6

There's a great evening's entertainment to look forward to. A new series of nature documentaries starts tonight, and the first programme is all about a year in the life of a family of giraffes. That's coming up just after Larry Lane brings us his Chat Show in a minute or two. His guests tonight include the actor Vincent Malibri and explorer, Katarina Lingstrom. Immediately after the news, there's a concert of classical music to enjoy, brought to you live from the National Theatre.

7

Girl: We need to decide what to buy mum for her birthday.

Boy: I thought you'd got her a necklace.

Girl: I saw a lovely one in the jeweller's and was going to get that, but then dad said he'd already bought one for her.

Boy: There's that book she wants, that she was telling us about yesterday – one of us could get that and the other could get her some flowers. She always loves those.

Girl: My dance class is near the bookshop, so it'd be easy for me to call in there.

Boy: OK.

PART 2

Questions 8–13



47 8

Boy: Hi, Angela. Waiting for the bus again? It's just as quick to walk into town from here, you know.

Girl: I know it's strange, especially as it takes 15 minutes to walk here from home, but I work in a shop in town on Saturdays with a friend. She lives further out of town, so she gets the bus in. It's a bit more sociable if we go together.

Boy: But how do you know which one she'll be on?

Girl: The buses come every 10 minutes on weekdays, but only once an hour on Saturdays, so I know exactly which one to get!

9

Boy: Have you seen the video for Lionheart's new song yet?

Girl: Yes, I watched it last night. It's really not like their other stuff, but I couldn't stop listening to it.

Boy: Maybe I'll start to like it once I've heard it a few more times. I don't think I've ever seen such an incredible video, though.

Girl: I think they hired a Hollywood director to make it – you can tell because of the quality.

Boy: The dancing looked like something from another planet!

Girl: I thought it was the costumes that created that effect. The routines themselves were quite like other videos I've seen.

10

Girl: My parents say I can get a new phone for my birthday.

Boy: Hey, that's great. So which model are you going to choose? Reading what phone buyers have written about their phones is probably more

reliable than listening to a sales assistant telling you which one is best. I've heard that some phone companies give stores money for selling more of their phones, especially the newer, more expensive ones, so I'm not sure you could trust what they'd say.

Girl: That's useful to know. I'll ask my parents what they think is the best way to choose, too.

Boy: Good idea.

11

Boy: You don't usually look so happy at the end of a school day.

Girl: That's because we've usually been given a load of maths problems to do for the next day. Not today, though.

Boy: But you're good at maths – you usually get high marks.

Girl: I know, but it still takes time. Anyway, you know I finished that physics project last week?

Boy: Yeah ...

Girl: Well, the teacher was so impressed with it, she gave me a book.

Boy: Wow, that's great. Next thing you know, they'll make you captain of the football team.

Girl: That'd be unbelievable, but fairly unlikely as I hardly ever play football.

12

Girl: How was the weekend away?

Boy: Good, thanks. I had a really nice time with my cousins – we got on really well, and I always miss them for a few days after we come home. My aunt and uncle love having us there too, although he got a bit angry when my brother broke one of their vases.

Girl: Oh, dear!

Boy: Fortunately, it wasn't an old one, but I've never heard my uncle shout like that before. Visiting them for only a weekend's a bit cruel in a way. It feels like you've only just arrived and suddenly it's time to go.

13

Boy: Have you tried the new pool? It's awesome.

Girl: I went with my family last week. I had a few goes on those tubes with the water in – you know, the ones you can go down really fast and end up in the pool.

Boy: Oh yes, that was amazing.

Girl: I think I'd go back just to play on them. Lots of teenagers used the old pool too, but only because they didn't have anywhere else to go. The water in this new one is nowhere near as warm, but it's better in a way because it keeps you moving.

Boy: True.

PART 3



Questions 14–19



Hi everyone. I'm going to tell you about my trip to the new science museum last week. I went with my family and we looked around the whole museum. There are loads of different rooms and each one contains displays about a particular topic. We spent ages looking around the room that was all about 'space' and even longer in the one with loads of stuff on 'energy', which I thought was the best bit.

The museum's free, but there are also two special exhibitions that you have to pay for. You can't go into the one on 'health' yet because it doesn't open for another couple of weeks. I'd like to go back and see that. The other exhibition on 'computers' was good, though.

As well as the displays, there are lots of things you can actually do there too. My brother made this fantastic car that went quite fast, using only power from the sun, while I created a rocket that used gas to fly. It went really high!

As well as the interesting things to see and do, there's a nice shop. My mum and dad let me get something because it was my birthday. There were so many chemistry sets to choose from, it took me ages to decide which one I wanted. They have the usual toys and games, and a few nice books there, too.

You can also take a tour of the museum with a guide. When we arrived, they said we'd have to wait for at least sixty minutes for the eighty-minute tour because it was so popular, so we decided against it.

If you want to go, the entrance is on Lockhart Road. I'll spell that for you, it's L-O-C-K-H-A-R-T Road.

Thanks for listening.

PART 4



Questions 20–25

49

Woman: Erik, you've recently returned from a cycle trip with your dad across the USA. Why did you want to do this ride?

Erik: I suppose the usual reason for doing something as mad as cycling five thousand kilometres in just two months is to make thousands of pounds for various charities. We certainly did that, and spent large amounts of time with each other too, which was wonderful. We decided to go, though, because we fancied doing something really different during the summer holidays.

Woman: What made you choose to go across the USA and not other countries?

Erik: We'd thought about going through Central Asia, but you need lots of different visas, all of which take ages to arrange. With the USA, there was none of that – one country means one visa. It's a shame that I didn't get to practise speaking any other languages, though. I'd wondered about how safe some of the cities would be, but they were fine.

Woman: How did you feel as you set off?

Erik: I was expecting to be so keen to set off that I wouldn't be able to sit still. When the time arrived, though, my Dad and I both felt pretty calm, which I found quite amazing. I don't think either of us had any worries about not finishing the ride – we were very confident.

Woman: What was a typical day like?

Erik: Every day was different. Some were good and some were quite difficult, but all were good experience. It wasn't actually how far we rode that made a day good or bad, it was more what happened. Having a long conversation with some of the local people seemed to make us even happier than feeling the sun on our faces.

Woman: And how did you and your dad get along?

Erik: We've always got on really well, so although we didn't agree about everything on the trip, we were always able to deal with any arguments, which didn't happen often. And although we spoke about a few of the things that are important to us, over the two months we learned it was OK to spend a few hours saying absolutely nothing, too.

Woman: And have you got plans for doing more cycling?

Erik: I'm in my final year at school now, and I need to do well to get to university, so it wouldn't be the best time for me to go cycling across Australia, or wherever. Rather than just going out on weekend rides, though, I'd much prefer to enter some competitions – over shorter distances of course! I've never tried that before.

Woman: Good luck, Erik!

Practice Test Key

Test 4

Reading

Part 1

1 A 2 B 3 B 4 C 5 C

Part 2

6 H 7 B 8 F 9 E 10 D

Part 3

11 D 12 B 13 A 14 C 15 C

Part 4

16 F 17 C 18 H 19 D 20 A

Part 5

21 B 22 C 23 A 24 B 25 A 26 D

Part 6

27 never/not 28 have 29 where
30 of 31 keep 32 it

Writing

Part 1

Question 1

Sample answer

Hi

Thanks for getting me a ticket for the science festival. I'm really excited about going to it!

Don't worry about picking me up, my dad can drive me to the festival. I'll meet you outside the front entrance at 10 a.m.

I really don't want to watch a film about dinosaurs for the main activity. I'd rather build a robot because I've never done that before.

Thanks very much for reminding me about the money. I can bring my phone to take photos, but maybe you could bring yours too in case I run out of battery during the day.

See you on Saturday,
Reese

Comment

This reply email is organised well into paragraphs and clearly includes the four content points. Reese has written the email in the required word length (107 words).

Part 2

Question 2

Sample answer

My family always looks forward to our village autumn festival, which takes place one weekend every September. Many villages in my country have a similar festival to celebrate a particular food that they

produce, and for us it is the mushroom! The main event of our festival consists of a huge meal cooked in the open air and afterwards a dance. There is also a competition for all the children, where they dress up as famous characters and walk around the streets. What I like most is that it is a festival for all ages, from tiny children to ancient great-grandparents. All the neighbours come out of their houses and have fun together.

Comment

This article is a good example because it answers the three questions. It uses a range of vocabulary and sentence structure with accuracy. The word length (113 words) is acceptable.

Question 3

Sample answer

As my friend and I arrived at school yesterday morning, we saw something incredible! A huge dinosaur was sleeping in the middle of the playground! We couldn't believe our eyes. Although we were very frightened, we decided to quietly approach it. Just as we reached the dinosaur's giant head, it opened its big yellow eyes. We were so terrified we couldn't move! Then the dinosaur opened its mouth and we saw its long sharp teeth shining in the morning sun. We were about to start running when we heard somebody cry 'It's Dinosaur Day today!' We started laughing as we realised that the dinosaur wasn't real!

Comment

This is a good example of a story where the writer has paid close attention to the pronouns (I, we) used in the opening sentence and ensures the story follows the same pattern. The use of adjectives help to describe what the dinosaur looks like to make the story more interesting. It does not exceed the word limit too much (108 words).

Listening

Part 1

1 B 2 C 3 B 4 A 5 A 6 B 7 C

Part 2

8 B 9 C 10 C 11 A 12 C 13 B

Part 3

14 energy
15 health
16 rocket
17 chemistry sets
18 80 / eighty
19 L-O-C-K-H-A-R-T

Part 4

20 B 21 C 22 A 23 C 24 B 25 A