

TEST 1

This is the Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English Listening Test. I'm going to give you the instructions for this test. I'll introduce each part of the test and give you time to look at the questions. You will hear each piece twice. There'll now be a pause. Please ask any questions now, because you must not speak during the test. PAUSE 5 SECONDS

Part 1

You'll hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, 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 will hear two people talking about a play that they saw at the theatre. Now look at questions 1 and 2.

Jane: Well that was certainly original. I've seen quite a few of his plays and that one was completely different to the others.

Bill: Yes, it was quite dark, wasn't it? Maybe it's because he'd become aware of his own mortality when he wrote it.

Jane: That's right. He'd been seriously ill, hadn't he?

Bill: Apparently it was touch and go for a while.

Jane: Mind you, the main character was hilarious, in a sick kind of way. I think that kind of humour would go right over most people's heads.

Bill: Well, I don't know how he'll follow up that story. He really seems to be a different character to when he first started to write.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 2

You will hear part of a radio interview with a trade and commerce researcher. Now look at questions 3 and 4.

Interviewer: The old mantra about the three most important factors for a shop's success - location, location, location - has been borne out by a new mathematical model. It could help retailers pinpoint lucrative sites for their stores. Physicist Pablo Jensen is here with us today. Good morning Pablo.

Pablo: Good morning. We have analysed location records for more than 8500 retail outlets in Lyon, France. We found that the shops formed clusters, with shops such as butchers and delicatessens in one group, for example, and laundromats and bookstores in another. Stores of the same group seemed to attract each other, while stores from different groups repelled each other.

Interviewer: You've created a theory haven't you?

Pablo: Yes, that's right. It's a theory of magnetism to calculate a number, 'Q' for shops, based on the proximity of attractive and repellent businesses in the area. 'Q' represents the suitability of a site for a particular type of shop: the higher the number, the better the site. We tested this theory with all of the bakeries in Lyon between 2003 and 2005. During that period, 19 bakeries shut down and their average 'Q' was lower than the average for all bakeries. Actually, the Lyon Chamber of Commerce is using the model to help entrepreneurs identify promising new premises.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 3

You will hear part of a report about holiday homes in the Mediterranean. Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Speaker: For a beautiful alternative to the bigger Spanish coasts, try the Costa de la Cruz, 'the coast of light'. The government of Andalucia is taking care to protect this little known region, which has earned the nickname, 'the Spanish Algarve' thanks to its charm and proximity to the Portuguese border. A property in the area represents a sound investment because homes are cheaper than their Portuguese equivalents, and land laws mean that it will never become so built up that it is spoiled. National parks, farmland and beautiful beaches all abound, and Chris Mercer of *spanishproperty.co.uk* says that more homes will be built soon. 'More land will have to be made available for development soon because demand is quite simply starting to outstrip supply', he says. 'The government is being careful to preserve the natural beauty and character though, so your investment should stay strong.'

Now you will hear the recording again. That's the end of Part 1

Part 2

You will hear a representative from British Waterways called John Sampson talking about a canal network in England. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

John: The extensive network which makes up the Grand Union Canal is, without doubt, a truly extraordinary piece of engineering. Begun in the late 18th century, the majority of the canal system was built without the benefits of modern technology or public finance. It is a truly grand canal. But why is

it known as the Grand Union Canal? From 1790 to 1929 a large number of competing, independently owned canals were constructed, their waterways not uniform in size and often unable to carry the larger vessels from other sections. Through a series of takeovers, the various companies eventually amalgamated and created a 'union' of canals which could form a continuous link between Birmingham, London and other important industrial areas. Along every stretch of canal, you will find this heritage retained. Traditionally-painted narrow boats are still guided by original mile posts, while working examples of mills, pump houses, ancient locks and keepers' cottages are a common sight on any journey.

The Grand Union Canal boasts an extraordinary variety of wildlife, from feeding herons and hunting owls to rare water voles. Natural habitats are numerous as a result of cleaner waters and the declining industrial traffic. The hedgerows and canal banks have proved an ideal location for a number of diverse species to thrive in this tranquil and often unique environment.

A car-free and carefree way to appreciate the beauty of the canal - and at your own pace - is by walking. Whether you are looking for organised or independent towpath walks, we can help you with your planning. Each waterway office can supply information on circular walks, waterside pubs plus suggested routes and specific points of interest. There are many stations within easy reach of the Grand Union Canal. Why not try a one-way walk, returning to your starting point by train?

We're keen to encourage both experienced and inexperienced anglers onto the well-stocked canal network and reservoirs. We lease certain sections to established clubs who welcome non-members for a small daily fee. Before you fish, check with your local British Waterways office for information on access and availability. Rod licenses are obligatory, and can be obtained from your local post office.

Last but not least, the towpaths are wonderful for cycling. Free of traffic, free of fumes and free of hills. Miles of accessible towpaths through some of England's finest countryside. We can all share the delights of the canal system so please be considerate to other users. Surfaces vary from stony pathways to smooth asphalt - but that's all part of the enjoyment!

Now you will hear Part 2 again. That's the end of Part 2.

Part 3

You will hear part of a radio interview with the comedian, Lenny Henry. For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D), which fits best according to what you hear.

Interviewer: Lenny, you are currently studying English literature with the Open University. Why English Literature? And why the Open University?

Lenny: All of the people I admire in showbiz are very, very smart. Quite a lot of them have been to university and benefited from it. Doing my BA is really helping me to structure my thoughts. It's helped me to understand that good work is not an accident. You know the best writers like Flaubert and George Eliot and people like that took a long time to plan their work and the Open University has shown me that if you take the time to plan your work and structure it properly, you can do well. It's just helped me organise my thoughts a bit better and I think the challenge of producing an essay every month or so is good, it keeps me on my toes.

Interviewer: Why do you think comedy is such a powerful fundraising tool?

Lenny: I think it's powerful because if I'm going to communicate with an audience they remember something I said with a bit of a twinkle in the eye better than boring old facts. There is a lot of really heartbreaking and moving documentary stuff on the Comic Relief night and if we can make people laugh in between it softens the blow and cushions the effect of the harder stuff we show.

Interviewer: This year is the tenth anniversary of Comic Relief, but there's still a lot of poverty out there. Do you think it has made a real difference?

Lenny: I think it has made an immense difference. It's empowered the public, given them the ideas and tools to raise money off their own back without anybody telling them what to do. I think it's fantastic when I come to Africa and I see the grain banks, the new wells that have been built, the children being inoculated and terraced mountains that have been funded by Comic Relief. There are huge problems in Africa like HIV and Aids, but a drip of water can erode a rock and I think Comic Relief is becoming a strong and mighty drip. We've got to keep going until the rock dissolves and it will dissolve but it's going to take a long time, so people have to stay committed.

Interviewer: Work for Comic Relief has taken you to some pretty depressing places. How does seeing people coping with terrible poverty affect you personally?

Lenny: I've been in Addis Ababa. This time round I went to a place called Debre Zeit where I watched this wonderful care worker called Fanti visiting various people who were suffering from HIV. Even though these people were in immense pain, there was a lot of dignity involved. And what's wonderful is Comic Relief, by funding people like Fanti, are doing something to help.

Interviewer: You've received numerous accolades and awards during your career and you are a husband and father and a mammoth fundraiser. Do you have any ambitions left?

Lenny: I'd like to write something on my own that I feel was a good piece

of work, and the only way I'm going to do that is if I have confidence and faith in my own ability. I've always worked with other writers. There's nothing wrong with collaborating but I'd love to write something on my own and know it was good before I gave it to someone else to read. I think the Open University is helping me to judge my work in a way that writing something and giving it to someone to read for me simply doesn't.

Now you'll hear Part 3 again. That's the end of Part 3.

Part 4

Part 4 consists of two tasks.

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about animals. For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the person who is speaking. Now look at task 2. For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker is expressing. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

Speaker 1

I'm proud of the relationship we have with the animals. It's not always easy here, and there are days when I get deeply upset because an animal is sick and nothing can be done to save it. On the other hand, we're doing some wonderful things in the way of conservation and we are linked up with satellites and with other institutions worldwide to keep track of certain species. The value of this work cannot be underestimated. We are protecting different species for future generations to enjoy.

Speaker 2

I was always a very active person and I've always been surrounded by animals. As a child we would have several cats and dogs in the house. Now that I live in sheltered housing, my dog is good company for me. I'd be tempted not to leave the house at all some days, but he gives me a reason to get some fresh air and exercise. I think I'd put on a lot of weight if I didn't have him. He keeps me young at heart too. On the whole, I prefer my own company but you do chat to people a lot when you have a dog. They are good ice breakers.

Speaker 3

I have immense respect for animals. Well, let's face it, my life would be totally different without them. It's not just about companionship, it's mutual trust. We couldn't do without each other. What we could do without is people on the street coming up to us and causing a distraction. I can understand why it happens but people don't stop to think. Basically, she's doing a job and people forget that.

Speaker 4

It's surprising how common animal allergies are. I've been allergic to cats all my life. My eyes start to water and I have trouble breathing. I have a lot of patients with allergies of various kinds and finding the cause of the allergic reaction can be quite tricky at times. I have one patient who is seriously allergic to her dog but she insists on keeping it. Now that to me doesn't make any sense at all - no matter how attached they may be to the animal.

Speaker 5

I have great respect for all the animals that I work with. Some people may not approve of what I do or they may wonder how I can be so brave. Really that's not what it's all about. It's to do with years of training and experience and knowing what you are doing. There's no room for error in this job. We used to have endangered species, but the climate has changed now and they are no longer part of the show.

Now you'll hear Part 4 again. That's the end of Part 4.

TEST 2

Part 1

You'll hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, 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 will hear two people talking about a problem at work.

Now look at questions 1 and 2.

Man: One of my colleagues is always complaining about his job, or moaning about our boss, or the company's management. It's making other team members dissatisfied because some of his complaints are true and it's created a very negative atmosphere. I've tried to speak to him about it, but now he just thinks I'm trying to be the boss' favourite.

Woman: Well, I'm not trying to question your analysis of the problem or your motives for trying to sort it out, but I do suspect you've gone about trying to solve it in a way that casts you, however unjustly, as a bit of a self-important bore. Why don't two or three of you put your complaints to your boss in a fair and constructive way? And, it might be a good idea to involve your unhappy colleague in that.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 2

You will hear two people talking about how the woman got her job. Now look at questions 3 and 4.

Janet: I'm glad you persuaded me to go to the recruitment fair. It was nothing like I thought it would be.

Paul: Yes, it was really interesting.

Janet: I was quite sure that I would become a translator before I went to the fair because I was just about to finish my degree in modern languages. I wandered up to a stall that was promoting careers in Public Relations, just to have a nose really. I was blown away. It seemed perfect to suit my skills and interests.

Paul: Well, I'd been looking for a job in the papers and in employment agencies and I didn't find anything at the fair, but one of the employees I spoke to there passed on my CV to the marketing and business development manager and a week later I was invited for an interview. I couldn't believe my luck when they offered me the position.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 3

You will hear two people talking about the man's job as a prison officer. Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Man: It's not just a job for men you know and it's a career where you can achieve promotion very quickly.

Woman: What's the salary like?

Man: Typically, graduates who join can expect to earn £28,000 within a year and achieve two promotions within the first two years. Of course, you can join up straight from school but it will take you longer to get to a higher position such as management.

Woman: To be honest, I didn't think I could ever do your job. You've got to be out of your mind to want to work with dangerous people like that, plus I wouldn't have the courage to face violent criminals. You never know what they are going to do next.

Man: Well, I just wanted to be sure of a career where I could do well without having to wait until I was a lot older.

Now you will hear the recording again. That's the end of Part 1

Part 2

You will hear a woman talking about her job as a probation officer. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

Woman: My background is from a family of six children from a council estate where I saw friends drift in and out of crime. I had a desire to help people see that there are choices in life. I was interested in probation work but having left school with little in the way of qualifications, I never thought I could do it. It was only after taking an IQ test that I realised that I might have a chance.

After leaving school, I joined the army. Then I started to study for a degree in Health and Social care. At the same time I was a volunteer for the St. John's Ambulance Service, the Probation Service and at a residential children's school. Then I applied to be a trainee probation officer.

Time management is the most important skill, especially the need to prioritise deadlines, read and digest information and then write clear reports for the courts. I also have to be able to interact with people from all walks of life. There is a lot of one-to-one work with offenders and this requires you to work through both your own and their emotional barriers.

Every day is different. Of a working week, about three days are spent in the office with the remainder split between prison and being in court.

The best thing is that you get to work with a huge spectrum of people from the homeless to professionals who have made mistakes. The worst thing is that the job is generally very pressured and there are times when you have to engage with people that have committed crimes that involve domestic violence. That is really hard to take.

My role is currently that of Case Manager where I manage up to 35 offenders at one time. I liaise with the courts which is basically providing guidance on the best sentence for people to be given. I also visit prisons where I am involved in the release process. As a next step, I'd see myself as a Practice Manager, monitoring a team and ultimately I'd like to be a senior Probation Officer.

Now you will hear Part 2 again. That's the end of Part 2.

Part 3

You will hear part of a radio interview with an economist.

For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D), which fits best according to what you hear.

Interviewer: Today we have the economist, Jim Bower in the studio. Jim, according to the government's Women and Work Commission, women are still earning 17% less than men. Now the government has released new policies to tackle gender inequalities in pay, but will they be enough?

Jim: Well, according to the Fawcett Society, under the current system it will

take about 80 years before women working full-time earn as much as their male counterparts, and 140 years before part-time female workers catch up with men. Despite girls consistently outperforming boys at GCSE, A level and Degree, findings show that within three years of graduating women are still earning less than men.

Interviewer: So would you say that inequality starts in the classroom?

Jim: According to the Equal Opportunities Commission, 15% of young people in school are neither given advice nor encouraged into work experience placements in professions dominated by the opposite sex. The government's response in schools is being praised by most, and involves introducing new schemes to give young girls better understanding of the wider choice of careers available to them, but there is still room for improvement.

Interviewer: Do you think that the government is missing the point?

Jim: Well, instead of closing the gap between wages of men and women in careers that require similar skill levels, the government is instead planning to spend £20 million to raise the skill level of women working in these roles, encouraging them to change careers altogether. This policy will only reduce the available 'woman-power' in these lower paid jobs. What we have to do is revalue the kind of work that women are doing such as cleaning, catering and caring for others - we've got to value it more highly.

Interviewer: Is it true to say that children cost mothers more than fathers?

Jim: According to the London School of Economics, mothers who returned to their previous jobs as part-timers quickly fell behind their male colleagues financially, and those that entered new jobs on a part-time basis did even worse. Currently many companies still conform to 'stuffed shirt' policies that have no openings for part-time workers in senior positions. This is forcing a large workforce of highly skilled and qualified women with young children out of the boardroom, because they cannot deliver a 40-plus-hour week, and into jobs below their capabilities. Basically, the whole system still needs further reform if women are to have equal rights in the workplace and be able to bring up a family too.

Interviewer: I'm afraid that's all we have time for today. Jim, thank you very much.

Jim: My pleasure.

Now you'll hear Part 3 again. That's the end of Part 3

Part 4

Part 4 consists of two tasks.

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about work. For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the person who is speaking. Now look at task 2. For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker is expressing. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

Speaker 1

If you put all the country's chief executives in one room, all they would produce would be a range of share options that would only benefit themselves and a load of corporate waffle and gossip. We are the people that actually organise and lay out coherently all the facts and figures. They wouldn't even remember half of what was said if we didn't record it for them. You'd be surprised what we know about a business. Our internal knowledge should never be underestimated. I suppose I could earn a small fortune blackmailing the many bosses I've had over the years.

Speaker 2

One thing I've learned quickly is never offer to make coffee. In many businesses there is a ritual where everyone waits hours for the first person to say, "Who wants coffee?" That person then finds themselves in the kitchen for the rest of the day working as a junior catering manager. I should know, it happened to me when I first started here. Being the new person leaves you vulnerable, especially as I'm kind of on the lowest rung on the ladder. Once I'm qualified, I'm going to get someone else to make coffee for me!

Speaker 3

I run a tight ship and the secret is not to allow time wasting. Half of every working day is spent in meetings, half of which are not worth having, half the time is wasted. Which means that nearly one third of office life is spent in small rooms with people you don't like, doing things that don't matter. The only reason people have so many meetings is that they are the one time you can get away from your work, your phone or your customers. People say that the secret of a good meeting is preparation. But if people really prepared for meetings, the first thing they would realise is that most are unnecessary. In fact, a tightly run meeting is one of the most frightening things in office life. These are meetings for which you have to prepare, in which you have to work and after which you have to take action.

Speaker 4

I've always had a strong work ethic. I believe that the best way to approach work is to write a list at the end of each day of what has to be achieved the next day. Then, get the most important jobs done first. Most people do the opposite and do the easy, trivial things first, but that difficult report is not going to go away. I still maintain a routine in my life, although, of course, the activities and jobs to be done have changed quite a lot. The working environment is so different from my day. I'm not exactly a technophobe, but

I'm glad I haven't got to learn how to do everything by computer. I escaped the technological rat race just in time.

Speaker 5

I have to deal with everyone in the company to some extent. Everyone knows me and I believe it's important to try to keep some harmony between my fellow workers. Being the first face they see, I try to be cheerful even if I'm not feeling on top form. Think how easy it is to upset someone at home and then triple it: that's how easy it is to upset someone at work. Upsetting your boss is the easiest thing to do. All you have to do is turn up and you are in their bad books. Keeping on the right side of them is simply a matter of anticipating their every whim and laughing at their pathetic jokes. People at the bottom are also easily upset. Helping them do their job is only going to be appreciated if you are the undisputed master of what they are trying to do.

Now you'll hear Part 4 again. That's the end of Part 4.

TEST 3

Part 1

You'll hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, 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 will hear part of a radio interview.

Now look at questions 1 and 2.

Interviewer: Drivers will soon have to pay tolls to use Britain's roads - or face sitting in endless traffic jams, it has been claimed. A study by Bob Aldridge, a former British airways chief executive has suggested that the move would cut congestion in half. Bob, is this true?

Bob: Yes, unless steps are taken, Britain will soon grind to a halt, with 13% of traffic reduced to stop-start conditions by 2025 and there will certainly be more overcrowding on trains.

Interviewer: So are you in favour of road pricing?

Bob: Yes, good transport has a direct effect on the economy. But money raised in any road pricing scheme must be ploughed back into transport network improvements. Air travellers should pay the full environmental costs of their journey to make the industry sustainable but I think there is still a case for expanding airport capacity. I don't however, believe there is much evidence in favour of building new high-speed rail lines. Longer trains would be more cost-efficient.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 2

You will hear two friends talking about a trip one of them went on. Now look at questions 3 and 4.

man: Don't you worry about travelling on your own abroad?

Woman: I lost count of the number of people who told me it was dangerous for a woman to be travelling on her own. As someone whose only experience of crime was being mugged outside my own home in London, I never felt that I was taking any extra risks. Then again, I was always extremely careful, plus it seems that believing the best about a place and its people is often the very thing that helps keep you safe.

Man: But what about what happened to you in Thailand, with the military coup? That must have been terrifying.

Woman: Well I know the media showed chaotic scenes with both tourists and locals looking frightened and bewildered but by the following morning it became clear that the coup had been bloodless and well organised and as coups went, it almost wasn't exciting enough. I was fascinated by the whole event so I didn't really have time to freak out. You ought to go to Thailand it's a wonderful place.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 3

You will hear two people talking about digital cameras.

Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Woman: You are the camera expert. What kind of camera should I buy for my trip to Africa?

Man: Well, that depends why you are taking photographs.

Woman: Well, it's not simply to have something to laugh over in the pub after and I'm not bothered about creating the greetings cards that I used to do although I suppose I might show them somewhere one day. It's more important to me that I have images to keep that reflect my own personal experience of the places. I'm not interested in taking typical pretty tourist shots.

Man: Well, you probably need a good quality camera for what you want to do. There are so many on the market now, it can be difficult to choose the most appropriate one. If you just wanted to take snaps you would only need one of the smaller size digital cameras. On the other hand a good digital

camera with all the extras will satisfy your requirements. You don't need a big bulky film camera these days to get a professional image.

Now you will hear the recording again. That's the end of Part 1

Part 2

You will hear a radio report about British people buying holiday homes abroad. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

Speaker: Attracted by the prospect of their own place in the sun and an easy way of making money, the number of British people owning a second home abroad is booming as never before. Around 800,000 British households now own a second home abroad, up by 15 percent since June 2004, according to research published this week.

The boom has been fuelled by television programmes about people buying abroad and assisted by the rise in property values in Britain, low interest rates and the availability of cheap no-thrill flights. A better climate remains the main reason, with more than half of the nearly 2,000 people questioned giving that as their principal reason for buying overseas. However, an increasing number are seeking to invest in new-builds, with 40 per cent of respondents saying that making money was their prime motivation, while 38 percent wanted a future retirement property and somewhere to take their family. A senior financial analyst said that the property boom has increased levels of housing equity while the low interest rate environment has allowed other prospective property purchasers to take advantage of relatively cheap borrowing. Overall, Spain remains the most popular destination for living abroad, with 43 percent naming it as their preferred location; next is France, followed by Australia and Italy. Despite the increased interest in eastern European countries, they still remain a target for a minority, with only 7 percent choosing such destinations.

People like Bulgaria, because it is a short flight from London, enjoys a Mediterranean-style climate in summer as well as skiing in the winter. It has safe swimming in the Black Sea and boasts the cheapest property prices in Europe. Additionally, it is about to join the EU and low-cost airlines are expected to expand their routes there.

However, many of the latest wave of buyers plunged in without considering the consequences after watching television programmes. Generally, it tends to work better if you want a holiday home rather than an investment, because a lot of people don't realise that tax and inheritance laws are different abroad. Plus, ownership rights can also be problematic.

Now you will hear Part 2 again. That's the end of Part 2.

Part 3

You will hear an interview with a man who enjoys ice-skating in the Netherlands. For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D), which fits best according to what you hear.

Interviewer: When winter comes, get yourself to the Netherlands, strap on some skates and sloop along the canals and frozen fields. For Conrad Wimmer, it's the only way to travel. Conrad, how did your passion for skating begin?

Conrad: Well, my passion started 15 years ago when I was living in the canal-crossed city of Delft during a ten-day freeze. I'd already studied skating technique as demonstrated by the muffled-up skaters in the paintings of Averkamp and Brueghal. I joined friends to swoop and glide across the ice. Well actually it was more skids and tumbles, but with a bit of practice on the local duck pond I mastered a rough approximation of the classic skate pose. Hands clasped behind my back, and legs lazily scissoring back and forth.

Interviewer: So how can someone join in with this wonderful ice frolicking?

Conrad: Ah, there's the problem. Unlike mountains or oceans, which are always there to climb up or sail across, a good freeze only comes from a win in the climatic lottery. Thus the chance for the Dutch to be wild adventurers on their own land comes only every few years.

Interviewer: And then, I guess, a few keen skaters skid around on the ice for a day or two, right?

Conrad: No, actually. Pretty much the whole country closes down while everyone takes to the ice. Kids traditionally demand ice time, but then so do all the adults!

Interviewer: Still, surely you must need to be an obsessive skater to attempt the long tours?

Conrad: Only if you want to skate the 200km cross-country race around the eleven cities course in less than seven hours. Even then, 16,000 non-racing amateurs start before dawn to follow the same 200km, with most managing to cross the finish line before midnight. But racing aside, if you explore the frozen canals of the Netherlands you'll enter the wonderful, romantic world of the authentic, traditional Netherlands - a country of hidden farmyards, lazy cattle and interesting locals who look as though they are from another era. You'll glide across solidified frozen lakes with fish frozen into the ice. Occasionally signs will lean out of holes in the ice announcing dangerous ice as the surface cracks and groans with shifting temperatures. And you'll see lines of laughing skaters shooting past like colourful water snakes.

Interviewer: Finally Conrad, do you have any tips for the novice skater?

Conrad: Well, for a start forget the hardcore all-in-one skates. Learn from the skaters on the old paintings who wore normal boots with blades attached to them. They're cheap to buy secondhand or new. Never skate alone, or away from other skaters, and always stick to recognised routes where the ice has been checked for strength. Avoid ice under bridges, near to factory outflows, under trees or close to locks. Fields flooded to make outdoor rinks provide the safest place to learn on. Figuring out how to stop should be your first priority, and for goodness' sake keep warm. Speedy skaters - you never know, you might be a natural! - tuck sheets of newspaper down the front of their trousers to avoid windchill-assisted hypothermia.

Now you'll hear Part 3 again. That's the end of Part 3

Part 4

Part 4 consists of two tasks.

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about their experiences travelling abroad. For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the person who is speaking. Now look at task 2. For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker is expressing. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

Speaker 1

I've worked here for many years and it is now possible to tackle the Sydney Harbour Bridge from the inside. Since 1998 visitors have been able to teeter over the top of the structure, if they were brave enough, to reach the apex, 134m above the sea. The new climb, through the core of its construction, means you can now marvel at this much-loved landmark from the interior. In addition to the stomach-churning views of the harbour, you get to climb up the staircase between the inner and the outer arches to reach the top. I can tell you, this is what's really attracting the crowds. I've never been so busy!

Speaker 2

I've just returned from my 67th visit to Iceland. But when I mentioned this interesting fact to a friend he politely pointed out that I was pathetically sad. Don't I have anything better to do than count how many times I've been to the same place, and haven't I recorded everything there is to know about it? But actually I don't agree with him. Well not entirely anyway. I think it's been time well spent. But on the other hand, maybe he has got a point. Can I justify going back to Iceland? I do love it there, or should I strive to go somewhere new every time I go away now so that I really broaden my horizons? We'll see.

Speaker 3

I thought my days in Colombia's coffee region would begin with a freshly ground coffee and perhaps a maize cake and some scrambled eggs while I gazed at the mist rising in the valleys. I couldn't have been more wrong. We were up at the crack of dawn and marching up the mountain before I was really awake. Once we'd reach a fair way up the instructors from the nearby town, attached a wire to the cable above me in a casual manner as I wondered how safe the clips were. They assured me that everything was fine and before I knew it I was speeding across the coffee plantations, held on only by the aforementioned, dubious clips and cable. Of course, they were right and I had the ride of my life and remained in one piece.

Speaker 4

It was mid-August and I was on a ferry that was more crowded than an Indian river boat. I had a few hours in between flying back to the UK and I thought I'd pop over to see the joys of Venice. My family had flown out for a few days and I'd met up with them while I was off duty. As Campanile came into view, it looked stunning.

"Is it really floating in the water?" asked my two children nervously. They looked shocked when I told them that it was actually sinking. As soon as we disembarked, Joe stamped his foot on the pavement and his younger sister looked up at me expectantly.

"There you go, safe as houses." I said. They seemed reassured but I got some funny looks from the locals.

Speaker 5

It was a beautiful drive down to the Italian forest on our search for truffles. I was with one of the world's experts on fungi and I could think of nobody better qualified to teach me how to prepare this delicacy. We went armed with a funny-looking helper in the form of Kiki, a scruffy, grey-haired dog that bounded out of the truck with great enthusiasm when we finally stopped in the forest.

"He never fails me." said my companion. It seemed that kiki was the region's best truffle hunter. I found this a little incredible. How could a dog find truffles buried in the ground, especially in such a dense forest with so much thick vegetation on the ground? But my doubts were proved to be unfounded. Kiki certainly was the canine king of truffle hunting. That night we dined on the exquisite rewards of our hunt and I had another delicacy to pass on to my customers back home.

Now you'll hear Part 4 again. That's the end of Part 4.

TEST 4

Part 1

You'll hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, 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 will hear two people talking about their grandparents. Now look at questions 1 and 2.

Man: I've just got back from visiting my grandfather. It's been ages since I last saw him. I really miss him now that we live so far apart.

Woman: Where does he live?

Man: Up in Scotland in a tiny fishing village. It's beautiful up there and it really suits his character as it's such a serene and isolated place and yet there's a really warm community spirit.

Woman: All my grandparents have passed away, sadly. But, my father's parents were great fun when we were kids. We used to do all sorts of things together. They usually had more energy than we did to be honest. They'd take us on hikes over the hills and we could barely keep up with their great strides. They thought it was hilarious, watching us panting behind them.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 2

You will hear two people talking about their childhood. Now look at questions 3 and 4.

Woman: You always got away with murder because you were the baby of the family.

Man: No, I was just better behaved than you.

Woman: Sure you were. That's why you were always finding excuses for all the things you did and blaming stuff on us when you were about to get caught.

Man: It's not my fault if I was smarter than you.

Woman: Cunning would be a better way of putting it. It had nothing to do with intelligence. In fact, you were a bit of a dunce at primary school.

Man: Oh cheers! Well I certainly made up for it didn't I? Where's your degree then clever clogs?

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 3

You will hear two people talking about their partners. Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Paul: How are things between you and Brian, Jenny?

Jenny: Oh you know, the same old situation. I don't see why he bothered to propose. I doubt if we will ever get round to tying the knot. I think his divorce really affected him more deeply than he's prepared to admit.

Paul: Don't be so harsh on him. You need to look on the bright side. You have a great relationship and the very fact that he has proposed shows that he's committed to you. He just needs a bit more reassurance. Be supportive and have some fun together. You two both work too hard.

Now you will hear the recording again. That's the end of Part 1

Part 2

You will hear a report about the 11-plus exam in Britain. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

Speaker: Children as young as eight are being tutored to pass the 11-plus exam as competition for grammar school places increases. But many struggle when they arrive and the experience can be damaging, say leading headteachers. Experts also say, over-tutoring does not significantly help. The warnings follow a *Times* investigation which found that parents are spending up to £1,500-a-year on personal tutors to get their children into the 164 surviving grammar schools. These schools admit to receiving, on average, five applications for every place.

Headteachers warned this week that the practice could be damaging children's confidence and risks undermining academic performance later in school life. Dr Mike Walker, headmaster of a grammar school in Chelmsford said that the nature of 11-plus type exams requires accuracy at speed, and with unpredictable questions, tutoring can only teach familiarity and technique. What is fundamentally important is what's appropriate for an individual. If a child is tutored above their natural level of capability for any exam then they could have a miserable time on joining the school.

The Grammar School Association estimates that 75,000 children annually sit the 11-plus for only 20,000 places. Its chairman said that children should not be pushed beyond their natural ability to pass the 11-plus. If they are over-tutored then there is a chance they may become unhappy during their subsequent seven years at school.

A study by Bristol University in 2004 showed that children from disadvantaged backgrounds are less likely to go to grammar schools than their

more affluent peers, even if they are just as clever. In the 19 counties where significant selection remains, just 2 per cent of pupils attending grammar schools are entitled to free school meals, compared with 12 per cent at other secondary schools in those areas.

The number of children being tutored to pass the 11-plus has been fuelled by the growth in websites offering coaching for children. Prices for online tutoring differ hugely, but some parents are paying up to £1,500 for one-year courses. One web-based tutoring service offers a 91-hour course costing £1,365 with an additional £285 for materials. Tutors offer contradictory advice about the suitability of courses as preparation for the 11-plus. One website claims these courses gradually prepare children as young as eight for the exam, but another suggests that it is never too late to start preparation.

Now you will hear Part 2 again. That's the end of Part 2.

Part 3

You will hear two psychologists talking about modern childhood. For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D), which fits best according to what you hear.

Daniel: I hope this isn't going to deteriorate into a "What is childhood?" discussion - the one about solemn little miniature adults in old portraits and infants who toiled from dawn to dusk in the fields, and poor unfortunates whipped within an inch of their lives by sadistic schoolteachers. Or, alternatively, a debate about the adventures of Huck Finn and the Famous Five, and apparent carefree innocence. There have been many versions of childhood in fact and fiction, and I dare say there'll be many more.

Louise: Well, according to a recent newspaper report, childhood is dying. So those cheeky little scamps I saw challenging each other to throw their school bags on top of a bus-stop must have been a figment of my imagination. Or perhaps they were making a political stand against the rigidities of the formal curriculum. Who knows? Apparently a group of adults do. Academics and professionals have put their signatures to a letter, subsequently championed by the Daily Telegraph newspaper and the Tory Party, articulating the fall of childhood innocence. My heart is with the sentiments of this campaign, but I worry that it loses sight of practical wisdom.

Daniel: At birth, all children are distractible, impulsive, egocentric creatures, but by the time they reach teenage years we expect them - as a result of their experiences, environment and education - to have acquired a degree of self-control, an ability to see other people's points of view and the basic skills needed to enjoy their life ahead.

It's the development from babyhood to adolescence that I investigated for my book, *Toxic Childhood*, and my conclusion was that many children in Britain today are indeed being robbed of the chance of a healthy childhood. Many reach adolescence with poor attention spans and self-control and a distinct lack of empathy for the people around them. Their main basic skill is ticking boxes on tests, and this is scandalous.

Louise: As one of the richest, most highly developed nations in the world, we really should be able to provide the sort of childhood that allows the next generation to grow up happy, healthy and civilised. Instead many of our children have developed a taste for unhealthy food, a couch-potato lifestyle and have related problems with sleeping.

An unacceptable number suffer from inadequate early emotional bonding, lack of interaction with their parents and a high level of emotional instability. Rather than stimulating, real-life experiences, children have TV and computer games at home and a narrow test-and-target driven curriculum at school.

Moral guidance has suffered as societies have become increasingly confused, while children are constantly exposed to manipulative advertising and the excesses of celebrity culture. In a recent survey of children's well-being among the countries of the European Union, the UK came 21st out of 25. We should be ashamed of ourselves.

Daniel: Yes, I believe we are robbing our children of something we could provide: the conditions in which we grow up bright, balanced and well-behaved. Somehow in the turmoil of rapid social, cultural and technological change over the last 20 years or so, our society has lost sight of essential truths about child development and education.

As a nation, we need to provide parents with information on children's developmental needs, including real food, real play, first-hand experience and real-life interaction with the significant adults in their lives. Since parents are terrified by media hysteria about "stranger danger" and the fevered imaginings of the health and safety lobby, they also need information about the real dangers from which children should be protected - for instance, TVs and other technological paraphernalia in their bedrooms.

As a profession, teachers should refuse to participate in the drive to accelerate childhood with an ever-earlier start to formal education and a competitive winners-and-losers approach to primary education. We should boycott the tests, targets and league tables and do what we as professionals know is best for children. It's time we stopped robbing the next generation of their right to grow up healthy, happy and whole.

Now you'll hear Part 3 again. That's the end of Part 3

Part 4

Part 4 consists of two tasks. You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about workaholism. For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the person who is speaking. Now look at task 2. For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker is expressing. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

Speaker 1

The word 'workaholic' implies we're addicted to work in the way that alcoholics are addicted to drink; that we are out of control. And I see no evidence anywhere to suggest that there has been an increase in actual addiction to work. I'm out and about and work strange hours, depending on what's happening in the world on a particular day. In today's labour market of flexitime and remote working, we probably work fewer hours overall. And the people who are working too hard are not the poor masses, they are the corporate lawyers in air-conditioned offices; the senior people who manage their own working hours.

Most of them are not paid overtime, so the obvious conclusion is that they are working because they're committed to what they're doing. It's not something that's going to be solved by governments or regulations: predominantly, it's an internal conflict. I really wanted to be good at my job and I enjoy presenting the facts in an honest and unbiased way. That involves a lot of research and a lot of time out at events and incidents. But, I also want to go home and spend time with my kids.

Speaker 2

I worked for years with companies such as Saatchi, and I'd regularly be up at 5am. I did it because I was passionate about my work, and commanding good money, and that's a heady thing to resist. I prided myself on my creativity and the fact that my work directly increased the turnover and status of the companies I promoted. I had a sleeping bag under my desk at work and eventually when my wife threw me out, I lived in the storeroom. One day my brain just went 'bang'. I came home from work and it was as if my whole body had shut down. I had to create some boundaries, to safeguard my home life, creativity and sanity.

Today, I have my own business. I do the same thing as I did before but I'm usually home by 6.30pm and with the kids at weekends. The key has been working less, and more intuitively. Workaholism is not about putting in the necessary hours, it's about not being able to make up your mind. It's lack of clarity, hedging bets, staying late and going with 60 options instead of the one right one.

Speaker 3

My stresses are not the stresses of a managing director in the City, but they are financial and physical: stooping down, straining my back, carrying heavy equipment every day. You have to make a lot of sacrifices just to survive in a city like London. The cost of living is very high and it's hard to find work. I would like to work as an administrator or a translator but because I have bills to pay I do a manual, boring job because I know I can rely on the work. I work probably 45 hours a week to be able to afford my lifestyle - which is a room in a shared household with many other people. I'm not complaining. It's OK, it is honest work and it keeps me fit, but it is not necessarily what I imagined myself doing at 38. Maybe a managing director lives to work, but I am working to live. If he is a workaholic, it is because he loves his job. That is a privilege and a luxury. If he works too much it is out of choice; if I work too much it is out of necessity.

Speaker 4

I love my job. I am a conscientious worker. I spend most of my time working and my mind is always full of work. Mentally you're always on duty with this kind of work. I believe we all have a need to be a functioning part of society and, strange as it sounds, just having to pay my taxes makes me feel as though I'm contributing to society. As a nation, our identities are bound up with our jobs. In my job there is an element of danger and so there has to be discipline and order but it also defines who I am. The first question people ask each other is, 'What do you do?' But there is a line between a committed, contributing and conscientious worker and somebody who really doesn't know when to put his pen down and go home. If workaholism is on the rise, then that's a sad symptom of modern life. These are people who don't watch their children grow up because they are too busy playing golf with the boss. Sadly, they are also the ones who seem to die within two or three years of retiring.

Speaker 5

I have brought my workaholic attitude over with me. I'm in the office at the crack of dawn until early evening, dealing with branches all over the world. I haven't seen any worrying evidence of workaholism here. People here take their work/life balance pretty seriously; they are religious about their weekends. You get 27 days holiday here, and feel an obligation to take all 27. In the US, in my field, no one ever took all 20 holiday days. After all, the world of finance never really stops for a break. I also find the Brits mix work and socialising to a far greater extent than we do in the States. Here, you can't get going on a Monday morning unless you first ask about people's

weekends. Americans tend not to engage in that kind of nicety. There is something to be said for civility, but at times it can get in the way of progress.

Now you'll hear Part 4 again. That's the end of Part 4.

TEST 5

Part 1

You'll hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, 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 will hear two people talking about wildlife in the area they live in. Now look at questions 1 and 2.

Man: You know, I find it quite astounding the way that people flock through this area to go birdwatching and yet on route they are completely oblivious to the marvel of the birds here on [in] the Lowlands.

Woman: I know. Every Friday night when I'm driving home from the shop, the motorway plays host to a rush of weekend visitors, buzzing past the flat lowlands, on their way to the hillier areas of Dartmoor and Exmoor.

Man: It seems it's a locals' well-kept secret that the starlings' dance in the sky here is probably one of the best natural sights there is to be seen in this area. It makes me want to stop them all and tell them.

Woman: Maybe it's not such a bad thing. They'd start to build tea shops and car parks and the area would be ruined.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 2

You will hear two people talking about a disturbance in the night. Now look at questions 3 and 4.

Woman: Did you hear that terrible racket last night?

Man: Yes, it woke me up.

Woman: It sounded like a battleground. I thought it was a gang of youngsters messing around at first.

Man: I went to investigate because I thought we might have prowlers.

Woman: There has been a spate of burglaries in this area recently. I did consider calling the police but I couldn't see anyone out of the window.

Man: Well, from the mess around our rubbish bins this morning it was obvious what it was as there was litter everywhere where it had been looking for food.

Woman: Our bins weren't touched but I'm glad my cat was in or it could have been eaten. **Now you will hear the recording again.**

EXTRACT 3

You will hear two people discussing a site where domestic rubbish is officially dumped. Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Woman: I can see why people are campaigning to block the new landfill site as the one just outside town is pretty smelly and unsightly. But, on the other hand, it provides food for many species of birds.

Man: Well, yes, it's a fact that some species have seen their numbers increase substantially due to the abundance of insects and worms found on or around the dumps.

Woman: If the new site isn't opened - and in fact the original one may be closed - it could send the bird population into decline again in this area.

Man: But it has been argued that birds feeding on these sites, regularly die of poisoning.

Woman: I don't know if the council will opt for incineration instead of creating more tips, but I think that the smoke from the incinerators causes more pollution than the tips do.

Man: I've heard that the whole thing has been put on hold until more research can be carried out.

Now you will hear the recording again.

That's the end of Part 1

Part 2

You will hear part of a radio report about marine life in the UK. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

Speaker: Nowhere is the need for the ecosystem-based management more pressing than in British waters. According to WWF-UK, our marine environment is facing more problems than ever, not only from conventional threats such as overfishing, pollution and coastal development, but also from sand and gravel extraction and construction associated with off-shore wind farms and the sequestration of carbon dioxide. Those species most in danger include the turtle, shark, Atlantic salmon and pink coral, while such habitats as salt marshes and seagrass and maerl beds also face considerable pressure. At present, specific areas within UK waters are protected according to UK and EU legislation as Marine Nature Reserves or special Areas of

Conservation. But these areas are failing to halt the decline. Scientists recommend that 20-30 per cent of the marine environment should be fully protected from damaging and extractive activities. However, at present, the only region in which all species and their habitats are managed in this way is a 3.3-square-kilometre area off the east coast of Lundy Island in the Bristol Channel - a mere 0.002 per cent of our waters.

Organisations such as the MCS, the British Sub-aqua Club and WWF-UK are currently campaigning for the creation of a network of highly protected marine reserves - what the fishing industry would call no-take zones - where all extractive activities are prohibited. Case studies from around the world show that fully protected reserves are the only way to maintain marine biodiversity. It's quite clear that the current system is inadequate. We have to protect a representative number of habitats as a whole if we are to stop the decline of wildlife in UK waters. Not only do we need a network of protected areas, we should also manage fisheries from the perspective of biodiversity and the health of the ecosystem. Historically, we've always looked at these things independently, so at the policy level, fisheries aren't integrated into the planning process. They are considered separately from environmental issues. So when fisheries councils consider stocks and quotas and so on, they don't consider the environmental impact unless they have some impact on the stock. We need an overall strategy for marine spatial management that considers the impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems not just the stocks.

Now you will hear Part 2 again. That's the end of Part 2.

Part 3

You will hear part of a radio interview about fox hunting. For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D), which fits best according to what you hear.

Interviewer (woman): Given that it's been two years since the ban on hunting with hounds came into effect, it's a strange experience to attend a fox hunt these days. Strange, because they seem to operate in the same way they did before the ban. At a hunt in north Dorset, I watched as hounds sniffed around a thicket as if there were a fox hiding within it. If a fox had been there and it broke cover, the dogs would surely have given chase. Today we have Brian Hook in the studio. Brian is a hunt monitor for the International Fund for Animal Welfare. Brian, what is the situation these days?

Brian: Well, Sally, it seems to us that most hunts have barely changed their *modus operandi*. A reasonable person seeing hounds chasing foxes from one part of the countryside to the other would believe they are hunting. I attend at least three hunts a week during the season, but that's out of 200 that go out about twice a week. There is no way we can possibly know what is going on everywhere.

Interviewer: Clearly monitoring hunts is never going to be a police priority is it? But, it has to be said that this law has attempted to eradicate the hunters' way of life and they will do anything to keep the infrastructure in place.

Brian: Well there is another issue here and that is that it is very difficult for the police to get a successful prosecution because you have to prove intent. Hunts can go out with their hounds and draw them through a cover. It's called trail hunting and it's perfectly legal. If the hounds chase, catch and kill a fox, then in order to prosecute, the police need not only evidence, but have to prove that the huntsman intended this to happen.

Interviewer: But there have been successful prosecutions, haven't there?

Brian: Yes. In 2006, Exmoor Foxhounds huntsman, Richard Black was found guilty of breaking the ban after two hounds were filmed hunting a fox. Black argued that he was using the hounds to flush the fox so that it could be shot, which is permitted under an exemption to the act. But the magistrate found that Black had failed to shoot the fox as soon as possible after it had been flushed, and to keep the hounds under his control. Hunts have since been advised not to hunt using the exemptions, because they are more likely to be prosecuted.

Interviewer: What impact do you believe the hunting act is having on the countryside?

Brian: It was always intended to be a welfare bill. People are saying more foxes are being killed because more are being shot. A minority believes the opposite, that the countryside will be overrun with foxes. Basically the aim of the bill was to stop them being killed inhumanely. Where people disagree is over whether hunting is more or less humane than shooting as some people claim that shooting is less reliable as some foxes are not cleanly shot and may suffer for days before they die.

Interviewer: This debate has been going on for many years, and given that there are no hard statistics on wounding rates, and that your view on the relative humaneness of being torn apart by dogs is bound to be subjective, it's not going to be resolved in the near future. So, even though hunting most mammals with dogs is now illegal, the debate is very much alive and looks as though it will continue for the foreseeable future and the animal rights activists will continue to be busy.

Now you'll hear Part 3 again. That's the end of Part 3.

Part 4

Part 4 consists of two tasks.

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about animals. For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the person who is speaking. Now look at task 2. For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker is expressing. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

Speaker 1

There are very strict laws now about the movement of animals, especially from abroad. But, unfortunately some people still smuggle animals into the country as people will pay a high price for them. The fact that they are endangering many species by doing this doesn't seem to bother them. Of course, we don't deal in anything illegal as there are plenty of interesting creatures that can be purchased without having to break the law.

Speaker 2

Obviously in different parts of the world the problem of animal conservation varies. In my work I try to capture the essence of the animal. I have tremendous respect for animals and I am aware that my job can be quite dangerous if I get too close. It's upsetting when you come across something like a wounded deer that has been shot. I always do my best to contact the authorities in that situation so that it can be put out of its misery.

Speaker 3

Yes, it's true that I make a living out of wild animals in a way and I'd like to think that I'm quite knowledgeable about the animals in Africa. People come all year round to take hundreds of photographs. They all want an elephant and a big cat. I don't think the tourists I escort harm the environment though and if every now and then we have to shoot a threatening animal to protect our clients - well, that's the law of the jungle as they say - I'm not going to lose any sleep over it.

Speaker 4

It's becoming harder and harder to survive in our trade. Everything is changing - thanks largely to the huge supermarket chains who want to pay us the absolute minimum. After expenses there's very little money left for us and they are on a huge profit. We are in danger of becoming a dying breed, and if that happens, people will get a nasty shock. Even the vegetarians would have a problem. Where will they get their dairy products if we are put out of business?

Speaker 5

So, I may get caught. It wouldn't be the first time. I got a small fine last time and that was it. No big deal. I feel so strongly about this cause that I will never give up. I have a full time job but I'm prepared to give up all my free time to protect these unfortunate creatures. I'm sick of people justifying such atrocities. And, if it means that I have to be in violent situations, so be it. As long as it wakes people up to what is really going on in these places. Someone has to take a stand.

Now you'll hear Part 4 again. That's the end of Part 4.

TEST 6

Part 1

You'll hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, 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 will hear two people talking about a lost Leonardo Da Vinci painting. Now look at questions 1 and 2.

Woman: After thirty years on the trail of Leonardo Da Vinci's lost masterpiece, 'The Battle of Anghiari', an Italian engineer and art expert, Maurizio Seracini thinks he is about to solve one of the art world's greatest mysteries.

Seracini: Please don't make me out to look like Indiana Jones searching for the lost ark. I'm more like a mixture between a doctor and a detective.

Woman: Well, your unassuming manner and typical professor's appearance couldn't be further from Harrison Ford's image.

Seracini: I've been using medical and military technology such as thermography, X-ray and radar scans to look behind a mural painted by Vasari, a great admirer of Da Vinci's work. It looks like Vasari probably put a wall in front of Da Vinci's mural to paint his own commissioned painting without damaging Da Vinci's.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 2

You will hear two people talking about the new Sylvester Stallone film. Now look at questions 3 and 4.

Man: What did you think of the film then? Was it as good as you'd expected it to be?

Woman: Well the plot was a bit thin and the fast car chases made it a bit

like a mafioso film. I'd expected it to be more romantic from all the reviews that I'd read about it.

Man: Yes, I agree, it was the same old Rambo stuff really, wasn't it? Although I quite enjoyed the car chases and the boxers punching each others lights out.

Woman: I guess it was an improvement on his last movie and I wouldn't mind buying the soundtrack, but then Stallone isn't on that, is he?

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 3

You will hear two people talking about sailing.

Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Woman: Look at those yachts. Some of them are stunning, aren't they? They must be worth a million. Talk about luxury.

Man: Well yes, exactly. Your average man or woman off the street couldn't take up sailing for a hobby - not in one of those yachts anyway. It's an expensive pastime.

Woman: I'm completely in awe of those intrepid chaps who go out there against waves as big as a house.

Man: They are daft if you ask me. No not really, I admire those kind of sailors too. You've got to have your wits about you. After all, it's not about being good in the water, it's about staying out of the water!

Now you will hear the recording again.

That's the end of Part 1

Part 2

You will hear a radio report about an art exhibition. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

Speaker: A major new exhibition traces the decline of the absolute monarchy and rise of the Enlightenment that swept through Northern Europe in the 18th and 19th centuries, and shows how portraits reflected the revolutionary changes of that era. Called "Citizens and Kings", the show at London's Royal Academy of Arts gathers works by artists like Goya, Ingres, Joshua Reynolds, Jaques-Louis David and Thomas Gainsborough. The early works feature kings and queens in their pomp and finery, confident in the supreme power they believe they have been given as their birth right.

But war and revolution in the United States and France challenged that assumption, and painters and sculptors began to portray Enlightenment leaders as statesmen weighed down by civic duty and championing reason and scientific development. Philosophers, naturalists and poets became favoured subjects along with the tools of their trade, the aristocracy with its privileges and family portraits lost their dynamic stiffness to take on new intimacy and affection.

According to Mary Anne Stevens, exhibition curator, the intention of the exhibition was to survey a period in history where the Western World was undergoing seismic changes. The first room shows a 1789 painting of France's Louis XVI by Antoine-Francois Callet, where the king stands in his full regalia with a scepter and staff of justice, all in a grand architectural setting. Four years later he would be executed a few months before his wife, Marie Antoinette, in a death that changed European attitudes to the monarchy.

The American and French upheavals of the late-18th century brought with them radical changes in the way the two nations were captured on canvas. George Washington, in a painting by Gilbert Stuart dated around 1800, wears a sober black outfit and stands back with a large hat, quill and inkwell for writing and two historic books in his hands. Significant political changes become clear when comparing two portraits of women separated by just one year. In 1789, the beginning of the French Revolution, Elisabeth Vigée-Lebrun paints a French Comtesse sitting on an elegant Rococo sofa in a fine white dress and large rimmed hat, confidently confronting the onlooker. In 1790, David paints the Marquise D'Orvilliers demurely dressed, looking to one side and against a neutral background showing that she had lost her social standing. The exhibition also includes Enlightenment heroes whose claim to fame was talent rather than birth, including the scientist James Hutton in a distinctly unglamorous pose next to fossils and shells that signify his scientific discoveries.

Now you will hear Part 2 again. That's the end of Part 2.

Part 3

You will hear an interview with a yoga teacher. For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D), which fits best according to what you hear.

Man: What comes into your mind when you hear the word yoga? Well, if you think of women in seemingly impossible poses, that require endless practice, then you may have an inkling of what yoga is. But that's it - an inkling. You've got a long way to go before fully understanding yoga. I am certainly no expert, but I have someone in the studio today who can let us in on the

yoga secret. Sarah, welcome to the show.

Sarah: Thank you, John. Well yoga is an ancient Indian body of knowledge that dates back more than 5000 years ago. The word "Yoga" comes from the Sanskrit word "yui" which means "to unite or integrate". Ancient Yogis had a belief that in order for man to be in harmony with himself and his environment, he has to integrate the body, the mind and the spirit. For these three to be integrated, emotion, action and intelligence must be in balance. The yogis formulated a way to achieve this balance and it is done through exercise, breathing and meditation - the three main yoga structures.

There is a general misconception that in meditation, your mind has to go blank. It doesn't have to be so. In meditation, students bring the activities of the mind into focus resulting in a 'quiet' mind. By designing physical poses and breathing techniques that develop awareness of our body, yoga helps us focus and relieves us from our everyday stress.

Man: So what does one need to get started with yoga? I get the impression that you don't need any special equipment. Is that correct?

Sarah: Yes, you basically don't need anything to practice yoga. The important thing is your attitude - a big heart and a small ego. Some loose fitting clothes and a small secluded spot in your house will be enough for you to start with. A balanced diet also adds a great deal in yoga practice. A four hour interval between meals is advised. To get to know the basic postures, you can buy an introduction book, video or DVD.

Man: There are so many books, DVDs, videos etc; how can someone know which one to buy? How can we know if someone really knows what they are talking about or if it's dangerous to follow their advice? I mean, it seems to me that you could do yourself a lot of damage if you don't know what you are doing and there isn't a professional instructor to keep an eye on you.

Sarah: You have some valid concerns there John and I think the best advice is to go for a few classes with an instructor and then if you want to purchase a book or DVD, make sure it is by someone who is qualified to teach yoga.

You can do yoga at different times of the day. Practising first thing in the morning is an excellent way to revitalise the mind and body, while practising yoga, breathing and meditation exercises at night helps induce a deep, restful sleep. Like in regular exercise, you always start with the easy poses to condition your body for the more difficult exercise that follows. Do not strain yourself. Pause when you feel pain or fatigue. As little as 15 minutes of breathing and meditation each day can yield benefits.

Man: So how does someone decide if yoga is for them?

Sarah: Yoga is for anyone who is willing to learn its ways and ideas. All you require is the will to have a healthier, stress-free self. You may first approach yoga as a way to achieve a great body or to keep fit and that is perfectly alright. Yoga really does improve your entire skeletal system. But, do not just take advantage of what yoga can offer. Yoga encourages you to reflect on yourself and to find your inner peace. It exercises not just your body but your mind as well. With a healthy body and mind, you're on your way to a more fulfilling life.

Now you'll hear Part 3 again. That's the end of Part 3.

Part 4

Part 4 consists of two tasks. You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about extreme sports. For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the person who is speaking. Now look at task 2. For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker is expressing. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

Speaker 1

Mountain bike Endurance Races are becoming more popular through the years. These events are well-known to the non-professional and recreational riders like myself as these are more like races against oneself. Unlike Lap Racing, Endurance Racing courses are either larger laps or point-to-point. Rehydration and refreshments may be taken anytime and anywhere.

Assistance between competitors is allowed in order to promote camaraderie amongst riders. This sport keeps me fit and absolutely doesn't allow me to smoke, which is something I preach about to my patients all the time but I have struggled to completely quit myself.

Speaker 2

People of almost all ages can enjoy this sport and recreation. There are many diving variations that you can try. Some of these are recreational diving, cave diving, wreck diving and professional diving. Each one guarantees a different kind of adventure and experience you will never forget. No matter what type of diving you try, you can be sure that it will be exciting and fun. It will also be educational since you get to know the various facets of marine life and [the] underwater world in general. In my profession, we have a bit of a reputation for having [a] vast general knowledge and passengers love to chat so it's a great sport to tell people about. It's not just a fun and challenging sport. Diving can take you to places you never knew existed. Like many people say, 'It's a different world down there.'

Speaker 3

Ice climbers are drawn by relatively untouched regions which provide stunning scenery. Moreover, there are countless challenging vertical ice walls one can choose from. It is a great exercise outlet during winter season as it helps in toning muscle and improving balance, endurance and flexibility. It gets me back in shape after the indulgence of Christmas. It's a physically and mentally challenging sport that really tests one's climbing skill and technique. It's also a sociable activity that draws groups of climbers into one climb or expedition. Needless to say camaraderie among ice-climbers is developed. But, on the other hand, you can find yourself in a silent world and completely alone which is quite wonderful. During term time, I sometimes think of those moments and yearn for them when a group of loud teenagers are giving me a headache!

Speaker 4

I'm actually very fit. I'm on the go all the time with my job. I've got an old-fashioned bike. No warm van for me on my round. Maybe that's why I don't mind spending my free time in the cold weather. Snowboarding is an extreme winter sport with a considerable chance of injuries ranging from innocent little slips to high impact crashes. Beginning [beginner] snowboarders are the ones who normally get injured even though they attempt less dangerous moves than advanced snowboarders. This is because they haven't learned how to maintain a stable stance on the snowboard yet and are thus more likely to lose [their] balance and fall. In fact, nearly 25% of injuries occur during a snowboarders first experience and almost one-third occur during the first season of snowboarding.

Speaker 5

I'm cooped up all day and most evenings so when I get a day off, there's nothing I enjoy more than the free feeling of bungee jumping. Bungee jumping is an activity in which a person jumps off from a high place with one end of an elastic cord attached to his body and the other end tied to the jumping off point. When the person jumps the cord stretches and the jumper will fly upwards as the cord snaps back. The jumper then oscillates up and down until the initial energy of the jump is dissipated. There are strict guidelines governing jumps and the most important is the calculation of the length of the cord, its elasticity and the height of the jump. You need to know the impact on the cord from the fall of the person. Different materials have different rates of stretch. It's a bit like when I decide on the right amount of an ingredient for a recipe.

Now you'll hear Part 4 again. That's the end of Part 4.

TEST 7

Part 1

You'll hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, 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 will hear two friends talking.

Now look at questions 1 and 2.

Brian: How did your riding weekend with Annie go, Karen?

Karen: Well, it was a bit of a mixed bag to be honest. My riding is a bit shaky to say the least and it had been years since I'd been on a horse, but I thought it would be worth it to do a bit of mother-daughter bonding.

Brian: Annie is quite proficient on a horse isn't she?

Karen: Yes, well she's had a lot of lessons with a good friend of mine who is an instructor. In fact I should have had a few myself before going on the weekend trip. By the time we arrived at the stables I was beginning to doubt whether the whole thing was a good idea. Annie had been happily telling me horror stories of riding accidents that she knew about, but I thought I'd got that far and I'd stick with it. Unfortunately, I was worse than I thought and I really felt like the class dunce. I spent the whole weekend with a group of seven-year-olds while Annie had a whale of a time in the adult group. So much for our bonding weekend!

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 2

You will hear part of an interview with an actor about how he tries to keep fit. Now look at questions 3 and 4.

Woman: Now Bob, you lead a hectic life. How do you keep on top of everything without getting too rundown?

Bob: Well, I have to make a real effort to keep in reasonable shape because I do have a lot of work on. If you aren't fairly fit, it affects everything you do. I hate jogging especially as it rains so much in this country and I'd miss so many mornings by hiding in bed instead of getting up for a run. So I go to the gym. It's not my favourite pastime but it's a necessary evil.

Woman: So have you joined half of the population by making a New Year resolution to keep fit?

Bob: I don't really believe in New Year resolutions myself, but anything that spurs people on to improve their life in some way has to be a good thing. It would be good if more people gave themselves a fighting chance though and didn't give up so easily.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 3

You will hear two people talking about a new activity they have taken up. Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Alison: Hi George, how did the skating go?

George: Well, you know I decided to take little Susan skating because I'd found my old skates while I was clearing out the loft. We hired a pair for Susan to wear and I was dying to see if I still had what it takes. Actually, although I say so myself, I was quite good.

Alison: Well I went to my first line dancing class on Saturday and it was great fun. I'd expected a lot of people to be wearing cowboy hats and of course it was nothing like that. The music was a bit old-fashioned, but boy, it was hard work. I really worked up a sweat. I'll definitely keep it up.

Now you will hear the recording again. That's the end of Part 1

Part 2

You will hear a radio report about panic attacks.

For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

Speaker: Panic attacks are the subconscious mind's 'fight or flight' response to what it perceives to be a threatening situation. It is common for people to experience their first panic attack following periods of high stress. Initially, you seem to have coped well with the situation and then suddenly, often months later, you have an attack. The first physical sign is usually heart palpitations. Most people feel that they are not getting enough air so they gasp, hyperventilate or in other words, over breathe. Other symptoms include tingling in the hands and feet, chest pain, sweating, faintness and stomach pains. Each person has their own symptoms, which usually remain the same.

There are, however, things you can do to stop or reduce the impact of a panic attack. It's worth buying a diary so that you can record any negative thoughts you have about a situation before it happens. Then, challenge them by considering how accurate they are. Set about turning them into positive, constructive thoughts.

If you do have an attack, stay where you are, so your mind gets the message that the place isn't really threatening. Although your immediate anxiety will decrease if you run away, this might lead to increased anxiety in the future, so it's the worst thing you can do.

You need to learn to relax. Active relaxation involves tensing for a few seconds and then relaxing, in turn, every muscle that you can think of in your body - usually starting from the face, scalp and neck and moving down to the feet. Using this relaxation technique at night can also aid sleep.

An attack can be treated very simply by breathing in and out with a paper bag held to your mouth. This helps to reduce your loss of carbon dioxide as you re-inhale the carbon dioxide you've exhaled. Holding your breathe for as long as possible can also help prevent loss of carbon dioxide. If you can hold your breath for between 10 and 15 seconds, and repeat this a few times, it will be sufficient to calm hyperventilation. In the long term, you can lower your stress levels and stop the likelihood of panic attacks by learning deep, diaphragmatic breathing. If you practice this regularly, several times a day, your body will have no choice but to relax.

Finally, try a natural remedy such as camomile tea which works on the same brain receptors as anti-anxiety drugs, or the herb, Valerian or aconite which can ease the effects of acute panic attacks.

Now you will hear Part 2 again. That's the end of Part 2.

Part 3

You will hear an interview with a psychologist about friendships.

For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D), which fits best according to what you hear.

Presenter: Walk into any bookshop and there are self-help manuals on every aspect of human behaviour, including how to cope with difficult partners, awkward bosses, contrary children - but very little on how to manage friendships. 'Managing' friendships sounds cold, but it's essential if you value them and want to keep them, or want to learn when it's time to let them go. Your friendship landscape changes through life. You marry and have less in common with single friends. You move and keeping up with old friends proves hard. Sometimes the changes are more subtle: you experience a life crisis and some friends can't or won't support you. You become successful and friends feel awkward around you. Change in one of you means the fit between you alters. That's when you find out if the relationship has the capacity to evolve, or if it's just come to a natural end. In the studio today we have Barbara Smith, a psychologist. Barbara, welcome to the show.

Barbara: Thank you John. Well, there's only one rule of friendship: it must be mutually beneficial. Friendships can be put into categories. Firstly, let's look at the foul-weather friend. On the surface, this is a totally dependable, loyal friend, particularly when you are having a bad time. But the downside with this foul-weather friend is that they'll put a dampener on you when you're up, forever pointing out what can go wrong. They are rarely looking for a more balanced relationship: their self-esteem may be invested in their superior feeling that you are a bit of a disaster area, and they have everything under control. When actually, of course, the opposite is true.

Presenter: Now, you've got a category called the trophy friend, haven't you? What do you mean by that exactly?

Barbara: Ah yes. That's the friend that you admire because they are so interesting and popular, or successful in a way you want to be. You can bathe in their reflected glory and feel part of a different social sphere but you must remember that this isn't necessarily the world you fit into. If they are nice as well, this relationship can bring out the best in you, as you stretch it to be deserving of the friendship. But beware if being with them makes you behave falsely so that you are not true to yourself or to others. This situation can only lead to a downfall and great disappointment.

Presenter: What about the friend since childhood who you grew up with?

Barbara: The sisterly friend. She might live next door or have gone to school with you. Over the years you have built up a strong relationship that makes her feel more like a sister than a friend. On the plus side, she can bring a real sense of security and support. You can ring her any time and confide in her. She can be a powerful ally, but because she'll be there whether you like it or not, she has the power to make you miserable if you don't keep her informed and involved in your life. This friend is like family, you're so close it can become claustrophobic. For example, if you start a new relationship, she'll expect to be as big a part of your life as she's always been. Then you need to define clear boundaries.

Presenter: But that sounds like the kind of friend you'd want to hang on to on the whole. So how can you make the decision who a good friend really is and who is no longer a valid person to have in your life?

Barbara: Well, good friends should be low maintenance - and that goes for you too. See enough of each other to keep the rapport going: neither demand too much nor avoid so frequently that the relationship becomes unbalanced. If it's always a moan session, or one of you is often looking for favours or support, the goodwill will soon burn out. It's always important to be open to making new friends too. Most of us want to see people who make us feel good. It doesn't mean you have to be a barrel of laughs all the time (which can be off-putting); it's about showing real interest, being light-hearted and not too obviously needy. Don't force the pace. Some people need time to get to know you better. It's best to be pleasant and casual. Don't bombard them with too many invitations. Don't assume that one good heart-to-heart makes you best friends. Respect their time and other commitments and the friendship will blossom naturally in time.

Now you'll hear Part 3 again. That's the end of Part 3.

Part 4

Part 4 consists of two tasks. You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about their weight. For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the person who is speaking. Now look at task 2. For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker is expressing. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

Speaker 1

Achieving my goal of being slim is wonderful, but the main thing I've gained from losing weight has nothing to do with the way I look. It's the fact that I can join in with anything my children do and the same goes for the children at work. My weight problems started when I was made redundant. I became depressed and I hid myself away. I didn't realise that depression is a treatable illness. I just thought that I was going crazy and at the same time I was getting bigger and bigger. If only I'd gone to the doctor earlier, I could have recovered sooner. Still, I'm fine now and I have a good job that keeps me both mentally and physically fit.

Speaker 2

When I decided to get back into shape, going to the gym was the obvious choice for me; there's one at the hospital where I work so I don't have to make a special effort to go anywhere. It was much easier than I'd expected. I'm not into weights but I enjoy the treadmill and the rowing machine. There's quite a sense of camaraderie there too as lots of people are in the same boat - under doctor's orders to get fit and lower their blood pressure. We spur each other on when the going gets tough. As I spend most of the day sitting down, it's crucial that I keep doing the exercise.

Speaker 3

You'd think I'd be quite fit as I'm on my feet all day, but I don't actually get much exercise, apart from my jaw of course. We chat all day, especially to the customers. Restocking shelves is about the most physical my day gets and I don't have to do that very often. The staff canteen is a disaster area

for anyone trying to lose weight. It's dirt cheap and there's always fresh bread and cakes from the bakery department. When it's someone's birthday, there are extra cakes and chocolates on the scene, and it always seems to be someone's birthday with so many staff. I've basically lost weight by starving myself over the last few months.

Speaker 4

I have a very sociable job and I enjoy making people feel good about themselves. I guess that's what inspired me to lose weight really as I want to look my best to create a good impression when a client walks through the door. Basically I'm selling a product and my job is all about changing or improving a person's image. I get real pleasure from holding up a mirror and making someone smile. Mind you, you should see me first thing on a Sunday morning after a night painting the town red. Good thing my clients can't see that!

Speaker 5

Yes I know I'm out in the fresh air every day and doing a physical job but I'm so tired when I get home that I collapse in front of the TV with a takeaway and have a few drinks. Even at lunchtime I tend to grab a burger in between houses and the clients often bring me out tea and biscuits or a slice of cake. However, my New Year resolution is to join a slimming club and really get to grips with my health. My cousin is going to join with me so hopefully we'll keep it up.

Now you'll hear Part 4 again. That's the end of Part 4.

TEST 8

Part 1

You'll hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, 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 will hear two people who are waiting for a friend.

Now look at questions 1 and 2.

Man: You'd think in today's world of modern technology she could manage to be on time, wouldn't you?

Woman: You know what Pam is like. There are always a hundred last minute jobs to do before she can finally walk out of the house.

Man: Does she really need to check everything three times before she leaves?

Woman: It's not as if she is deliberately late. You know that.

Man: I know. It's not her fault but it still annoys me.

Woman: Well, we've got a lot to do today so I suggest we get the 'must dos' over and done with first and then we'll see if we still have time to go to the matinee cinema.

Man: OK. But I need a hot coffee once Pam arrives. I'm freezing!

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 2

You will hear two people talking about forensic technology. Now look at questions 3 and 4.

Woman: I was watching a fascinating programme last night about forensic evidence and how the police use technology to solve crimes. It showed how DNA testing is used more and more to link a suspect to a crime scene. An eyelash can be enough. Of course, it's still got a long way to go and who knows what method of detection they'll dream up next. But it's remarkable what's already been achieved.

Man: I agree with you, but I'm a little apprehensive about the idea of our DNA information being put onto a central police computer. Someone could have left DNA at a crime scene and be a suspect but they may not have committed the crime, especially if they know the victim. No system is fool-proof. **Now you will hear the recording again.**

EXTRACT 3

You will hear two people talking about their son.

Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Man: Jimmy doesn't seem to communicate with me anymore. If he's not out with his friends, he's in his bedroom doing goodness knows what on the Internet. He used to be much more chatty at dinner time.

Woman: Well can you blame him? You are always at work and when you come home you are so tired that you fall asleep in front of the TV after dinner. You have no idea what his interests are and actually you spend a fair amount of time surfing the net yourself.

Man: You have a point. Perhaps I'll ask him if he wants to go out on Saturday and we'll have a lads' shopping spree and lunch together.

Woman: Good idea.

Now you will hear the recording again. That's the end of Part 1.

Part 2

You will hear a radio report about a new security body scanner. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

Speaker: It may sound like a gadget from a futuristic film but the full body scanner, which sees straight through people's clothing, is coming soon to airports in the UK. A hi-tech security screening system, designed to detect guns and other offensive weapons concealed on the body, will be unveiled this month by the defence technology firm Qinetiq, which is part-owned by the government.

The scanners, expected to be deployed within a year as part of Britain's armoury against terror, capture the naked image of a traveller even if he or she is wearing several layers of clothing. But, to protect peoples' modesty, they come replete with "fig-leaf technology" that detects which parts of the body need screening out.

The system, which uses a special light frequency to see through clothing, was tried out successfully at Gatwick airport and will go on display at this year's Farnborough air show.

The technology was originally developed by the Ministry of Defence to use in military helicopters to enable pilots to see through fog. It has been adapted by Qinetiq, which used to be part of the top secret defence research establishment at Porton Down, for civilian use.

The airport scanners are designed to detect concealed metal objects including knives, guns, hand-grenades and shoe bombs on a fully-clad human being. But the millimetre wave sensors will also highlight metallic items of clothing including zips and buttons. The technology is also expected to show the presence of heart pacemakers and metal pins that have been used to help mend broken bones. Airport operators will be thoroughly screened to ensure their motives are not voyeuristic, Qinetiq said. Government sources say the scanners could help tighten security at airports while ensuring that passengers are not subjected to delays.

Experts say that the millimetre wave scanner, unlike X-rays, poses no health risk because it uses part of the light spectrum, which people are exposed to every day, to see through clothing. They believe it will cut significant waits for security screening at airports, and dispense with "pat down" searches by security guards. Only people who are shown to be carrying suspicious-looking metallic objects in clothing or shoes will have to be checked by security personnel.

"It has the ability to penetrate natural materials," said one expert. "What you would aim to do is project any threats that are found on to a screen. It would look as if someone was wearing a body stocking." The technology has already been successfully piloted at British ports, where scanners have seen through lorry walls to detect illegal immigrants being smuggled into Britain. The body scanners are expected to be available within a year for other premises with high security, including government buildings and VIP conferences.

Now you will hear Part 2 again. That's the end of Part 2.

Part 3

You will hear part of a radio interview with a literary critic about Huxley's novel, *Brave New World*. For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D), which fits best according to what you hear.

Presenter: This morning we have Samantha Protheroe, Professor of Literature at the University of Bristol. Professor Protheroe, there have been many novels written about life in the future. It has always been a subject that has intrigued writers. Why do you think that we have such a fascination for a world that we will never live long enough to see?

Professor: It is part of human nature to strive to grow and develop intellectually and so there is an innate interest in where our children and grandchildren and great grandchildren will end up. It's not so much a fear for their future or a desire to be there with them. It's more about the adventure in us.

Presenter: Can you give us some background on Huxley and his acclaimed novel, *Brave New World*?

Professor: Aldous Huxley wrote *Brave New World* in 1932 while he was living in France and England. By this time, Huxley had already established himself as a writer and social satirist. He was a contributor to *Vanity Fair* and *Vogue* magazines, had published a collection of his poetry entitled *The Burning Wheel* in 1916 and published four successful satirical novels.

Presenter: So he had already made his mark in the literary world. What was the inspiration behind *Brave New World*?

Professor: *Brave New World* was inspired by the H.G. Wells utopian novel *Men Like Gods*. Wells' optimistic vision of the future gave Huxley the idea to begin writing a parody of the novel. Contrary to the most popular optimistic utopian novels of the time, Huxley sought to provide a frightening vision of the future. Huxley referred to *Brave New World* as a "negative utopia", somewhat influenced by Wells' novel, *The Sleeper Awakes* and the

works of D. H. Lawrence.

Presenter: And what is the novel actually about?

Professor: Although the novel is set in the future, it contains contemporary issues of the early 20th century. The Industrial Revolution was bringing about massive changes to the world. Mass production had made cars, telephones and radios relatively cheap and widely available throughout the developed world. The Russian Revolution of 1917 and the First World War were resonating throughout the world. Huxley was able to use the setting and characters from his futuristic fantasy to express widely held opinions, particularly the fear of losing individual identity in the fast-paced world of the future. The event that gave *Brave New World* much of its character was an early trip to the United States. Not only was Huxley outraged by the culture of youth, commercial cheeriness and inward-looking nature of many of the people, he also found a book by Henry Ford on the boat to America. There was a fear of Americanisation in Europe, so to see America firsthand, as well as read the ideas and plans of its foremost citizens, spurred Huxley on to write *Brave New World* with America in mind. The sex-hormone chewing gum in the novel is a parody of the ubiquitous chewing gum which is something of a symbol of America (especially at that time) as well as the jazz music they listened to which seemed quite anarchic to Huxley.

Presenter: I'm afraid that's all we have time for today. Professor Prothero, thank you very much.

Now you'll hear Part 3 again. That's the end of Part 3.

Part 4

Part 4 consists of two tasks. You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about inventions. For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the person who is speaking. Now look at task 2. For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker is expressing. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

Speaker 1

I know there is a lot of controversy on their effect on the environment, but I think the aerosol can is an amazing invention. The concept of the aerosol originated as early as 1790, when self-pressurised carbonated beverages were introduced in France. In 1949, canned spray paint was invented by Edward Seymour and the first colour was aluminium. Seymour's wife suggested the use of the aerosol can filled with paint. I use these for large murals and of course the modern robotic versions are used in industry to spray things such as cars. I get a lot of criticism for using aerosols but I don't drive a car so my contribution to the pollution problem is a lot less than most people I know so I don't lose sleep over it.

Speaker 2

Now you may argue that this isn't really an invention, because it's not a machine or a gadget but denim jeans that have revolutionised the world. Look around you, denim is everywhere and is a great equaliser of class as the poorest kid on the street to the wealthiest film star wears jeans. I wear them to work every day and wouldn't cope without them outside in the weather and dealing with the cattle. The only time I don't wear them is if I go to the theatre or to a nice restaurant. That's quite a rare event though.

Speaker 3

I have a lot of free time now so I often go to fairs and exhibitions, and the toy fair is always a favourite of mine, despite my age. In my day of course there was no such thing as a robotic toy. This robotic dog was just wonderful. I used to have a dog but I don't have the energy to walk one now so this would make a great substitute. I spent an hour playing with it at the toy fair and I did get some funny looks. It works on voice recognition so you really do feel like you are the master and it has its own personality, like a real pet. Of course it doesn't but the fantasy is fun. I'm very tempted to spend some of my retirement fund on one.

Speaker 4

This invention goes back hundreds of years. In fact Leonardo da Vinci actually designed a bicycle in 1490, although it was never made. Mind you, he seemed to draw just about every modern invention hundreds of years before they were actually invented. Pure genius. You wouldn't catch him without a job. My friends and family call me the biker because I cycle everywhere. Until I get a salary, I can't afford a car, but I'm not sure that I really want one. Maybe I should be a postal worker, I could cycle all day delivering letters. Sounds good.

Speaker 5

I love detective novels and films and have always been interested in forensic science. I think the polygraph machine, or lie detector is a fabulous device. I'd love to have one. I certainly know a few people I'd like to try it on, especially when I suspect someone is being aggressive towards a relative. My job is pretty stressful at times and it's hard to get the truth out of people especially when they are frightened of the consequences. It's often what they don't say that gives the game away.

Now you'll hear Part 4 again. That's the end of Part 4.

TEST 9

Part 1

You will hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, 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 will hear a discussion in which a woman talks to her good friend about his career choice. Now look at questions 1 and 2.

Renee: So, David. You've been teaching at Liggett for almost five years now. **David:** I know, I can't believe it. Time has really flown by.

Renee: Did you always want to be a teacher?

David: Not at all. To be honest, I just took this job the year after I finished university, because I didn't know what I wanted to do. I thought teaching maths was a safe thing to do for a year, while I figured out what my next step was [going to be]. I figured with my maths ability I'd go on to get my doctorate in the field and then do research.

Renee: What made your plans change?

David: In short, I just liked teaching too much! It was very unexpected, as I never saw myself as a teacher before. But, I love the interaction with the students - whether it is challenging them or just having fun and joking with them. And in addition to the job itself, I love the lifestyle it affords me. It provides me with the opportunity to coach and to take the children on excursions. I never have to work nights and I get summers off. If I were a researcher, I'd be working strange and long hours and I wouldn't have time for hobbies and friends. Sometimes I think my friends wonder why I don't do something more prestigious... and to be honest, I used to wonder that too... like I ought to be doing more with my talent in maths. But now I realise that prestige doesn't compare with true happiness.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 2

You will hear a conversation where two friends discuss the concert they just attended. Now look at questions 3 and 4.

Joan: I really found his performance very disappointing. I feel like I really wasted money on that concert.

Tom: I thought it was a fine performance. I think the rain just put you in a bad mood and tainted your view of the rest of it.

Joan: No, it's not that at all. Besides the rain was light and it didn't last long. No, I am strictly talking about Luda's performance. I mean, first of all, all the opening acts sang more songs than he did.

Tom: You've got to admit though, they were pretty good! I saw you dancing to the beat and putting your hands up in the air!

Joan: I'm not saying they weren't talented! In fact they were better than the main performer and that's my point. I didn't pay to see them. Luda came out nearly two hours after the concert started and only sang a handful of songs.

Tom: Is that your only complaint?

Joan: Of course not. As I was saying I paid to see HIM...and with all his songs he kept pointing the microphone out to the crowd. I don't want to hear a bunch of crazy fans screaming the lyrics. I wanted to hear the artist!

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 3

You will hear a conversation in which two friends talk about how they can do things to change their way of life.

Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Alexandra: What on earth made you want to start training for this marathon? Last time I saw you, you kept complaining about how you had to walk too far from the parking lot to your office building. And now you are running hours and hours every day.

George: It is quite a change...but that's the whole point really. A few months ago, I took some blood tests which basically showed I was too stressed out, didn't eat well and needed more exercise. It really had an impact on me, because I am still young and should be healthy!

Alexandra: Well, I can understand that realisation, George. I mean, I too have been trying to make the effort to be healthier...but I simply go to the gym three times a week and try to cut back on the donuts! What you are doing is rather extreme.

George: I suppose you are right. But in all honesty, I never planned on making any extreme changes. I started out just running to the end of my street and back. But then one day, I thought, 'I wonder if I could make it all the way to the next block.' I tried and made it. From then on, I gave myself a new landmark to reach and before I knew it I was running 30 kilometres a day.

Alexandra: Are you at least enjoying the exercise?

George: Not all the time; like when I am so tired I feel like I couldn't go on. But there are those days where I feel so strong and capable. It's truly a great feeling. And then when I finish I am always so proud of myself. That's why I'm going to run the marathon. I can only assume the feeling of accomplishment will be stronger.

Alexandra: Well, to say I am impressed would be an understatement. Don't expect me to be running along with you, but you sure have my support!

Now you will hear the recording again. That's the end of Part 1.

Part 2

You will hear a woman talk about an adventurous bike ride she recently took. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

It started harmlessly enough - I got home from work late and I thought to myself, 'I have just enough time for a bike ride before it gets dark.' I decided to ride out in the cow pasture on my mountain bike. Easy riding, just slightly challenging for someone who is far from '20-something', and just the right amount of time before sunset for a good cardiovascular workout.

I decided to ride to the top of the nearest sagebrush-covered hill. It was a very nice evening with no wind and quite warm. Perfect for a bike ride. Perfect for a bike ride in a manicured park with well maintained perfectly flat bike trails that is!

After much puffing and huffing, I reached the top of the hill and stopped for a swig of water and a look around. Turning to look behind me, I spotted IT. IT was a young angus calf all by itself placidly cropping grass. My husband had turned the mama cows out the day before into the larger pasture, with all the calves at their sides - or so he thought.

I thought to myself: If I ride down the hill, and go really wide, I can move the calf towards the corner where the gate is. Surely I can get one little calf through the fence on my mountain bike! So off I went.

Now, for those who aren't savvy about riding through cow pastures on a mountain bike - try and stay on the cow trails. Then the only thing to worry about is sandy holes that suck in your tires and bring you to a dead stop which throws the rider over the top of their handlebar to land painfully on prickly-pear "swords". However, when one is riding through the unmarked wilderness of a cow pasture, trying in vain to keep a calf in sight who is running in fear of his life from the crazy lady on a mountain bike, one has to also watch out for large patches of sage brush, hardened cow piles, large holes, and the giant man-eating prickly-pear cacti.

Now, to my credit, I did manage to get the calf in the corner by the gate. Of course, the gate was closed. So, I stood there looking at the calf, who stood looking at me. He did not seem terribly worried at this point as I was a good 30 yards away and no longer moving.

I slowly, put the mountain bike down and approached the calf hoping to calmly urge him into the gate opening. But the unwary little animal ran as fast as his short legs could carry him in the opposite direction from that which we came, bounding in great leaps, tail and head held high.

I ran through the sandy draw surrounding the cattle gate and picked up my bike. I gamely pedaled through the sage brush once again - now uphill. This time I got within feet of him, but alas! I was too close - he turned and scrambled south - away from the gate. We were now a good ½ mile from the gate and darkness was closing in rapidly. So I chased him again. Of course this was all uphill and probably took a good hour...and I ended up losing the little monster.

Defeated, I returned to my house and told my sad tale to my husband. He asked why I hadn't just left the gate open. He explained in an infuriatingly calm voice, that the calf would have gone out the gate and paired up with its mother in the night if I had left the gate open.

The next day, my husband and I did manage to drive him without incident back to his mother who hadn't really seemed to notice his absence. My husband and I drove out to the pasture in the pick up truck where we walked the little monster - I mean calf, back to his mother.

Now you will hear Part 2 again. That's the end of Part 2.

Part 3

You will hear part of a radio interview in which a Japanese astronaut, Dr. Takao Doi, talks about his work. For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D), which fits best according to what you hear.

Lydia: Astronomy Today is honoured to speak to Dr. Takao Doi, a longtime member of Houston Astronomical Society, who has been designated by NASA to duties on a shuttle mission next year. He is the first Japanese astronaut to conduct a spacewalk. Welcome, Dr. Doi.

Dr. Doi: I am pleased to be here.

Lydia: Why don't you start talking about when your career really started to take off.

Dr. Doi: Certainly. In 1983, the National Space Development Agency of Japan announced that it would recruit three Japanese astronauts in order to conduct the first Japanese space experiments aboard the Space Shuttle. I applied for it and that was the start of my career.

Lydia: There was an unfortunate delay in your career at that time, wasn't there?

Dr. Doi: Yes, three months after I was selected by NASDA in 1985, the Challenger accident occurred. I became extremely depressed since I felt the future of space development looked dark, however in 1988 the Space Shuttle

programme resumed and I felt more positive about the future of space development.

Lydia: What was the next big accomplishment in your career?

Dr. Doi: My next challenge was to participate in the ASCAN class in 1995, and I was certified as a mission specialist in 1996. It finally opened up my chance to fly in space.

Lydia: Dr. Doi, what type of preparation was involved besides the obvious required training from NASA? For instance, is there any type of psychological testing to make sure one doesn't "go bonkers" in space?

Dr. Doi: In this line of work you must be true to yourself. In space, we encounter unexpected things so you must be able to believe in yourself and do what you think is right. You also must be physically healthy in order to fly in space. We exercise regularly.

Lydia: Tell me about your last thoughts as you were being suited up and then upon being jettisoned into space? What does one do while waiting?

Dr. Doi: The Space Shuttle Columbia, lifted off on schedule. I waited for the launch aboard the Shuttle [for] about three hours. During that time, I calmly thought about my career and all the training I had received. We reached space in 8 minutes and 30 seconds. During the launch I sat mid-deck with Leonid Kadenyuk who was the first Ukrainian astronaut. We shouted, 'Go! Go! Go!'. We were very happy. When the main engine stopped, and I started floating I realised that I was in space.

Lydia: ... and when you got back to earth? What was the first thing you did?

Dr. Doi: I opened the circuit breaker in the cockpit, and cut the power to the shuttle's landing gear and then felt I was home.

Lydia: And what lesson did you bring back with you and would like to reveal to your fellow earthlings?

Dr. Doi: I rediscovered the beauty of the Earth during my flight: the glittering blue ocean, white clouds changing their shapes every moment, and the land where we live. The shining Earth in the pitch-dark universe was divine. I am very proud to have been born on this Earth.

Lydia: As a young schoolboy, did you ever think you were headed for a space adventure?

Dr. Doi: When I was in eighth grade, my friend asked me to observe sunspots with him. Soon after I got a telescope and have loved star gazing ever since. In 1971, I observed Mars and the M13 star cluster with a 20cm reflecting telescope. Around that time I started thinking that I would like to work in a space-related field and dedicate my life to solving the mysteries of space.

Lydia: What personal goals do you have? Is there anything else you would like to accomplish? "Astronaut" is a tough act to follow!

Dr. Doi: I am also interested in astronomy. I would still like to solve the mysteries of the Universe.

Lydia: Well, listeners that was the affable Dr. Doi... the first crew member assigned to the Space Shuttle crew that will deliver the first module of the Japanese laboratory, Kibo, to the International Space Station. His duties involve attachment and initial set-up of the Kibo Japanese Experiment Logistics Module... A tall order for a very well prepared professional and most deserving individual.

Now you'll hear Part 3 again. That's the end of Part 3.

Part 4

Part 4 consists of two tasks.

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about their position in a company. For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the person who is speaking. Now look at task 2. For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker is expressing. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

Speaker 1

I've been at Miffler and Dundlan Paper Branch for eight years and in this position for over five years. I started out in sales. To be honest, I had no real aspirations to get this position and was quite surprised when corporate offered me the promotion. I'm a friendly person. I went into sales because I like making relationships with clients and I believe it was a real gift of mine. My first year on the job, I made more sales and earned more money for the company than people who had been there for years. Needless to say, I made quite an impression with the corporate branch and they decided to promote me. So now, here I am. The money is definitely a lot better. But, in my position now, I get a lot less contact with clients and don't have too many opportunities to be that friendly person I was in sales. In fact, the managerial aspect of it means I often have to be the 'bad guy'. I'm in charge of holding people accountable when their work falls short and just recently the corporate branch made me let some of my employees go due to downsizing. I try to ... you know... still be friendly with my employees and hold office parties to boost moral. However, the reality is that now that I am in charge, my friendly-jokester days in this office are over.

Speaker 2

I've had this job for three and a half years although it was never part of my

life plan. I came to this company right out of university. I graduated with a degree in graphic design and really wanted to work for an internet company designing websites. However, after graduation, I really struggled to find work and it got to the point where I just had to get any job I could find in order to earn some money. I registered with a temporary work agency and they connected me with Miffler and Dundlan. The pay and the benefits are decent; nothing worth bragging about, but I am able to live comfortably. I work with some nice people, which really helps me get through the day, as there really isn't a lot of work for me to do. My main job is to answer the phone and take messages. I also occasionally schedule meetings and file documents. But the employees here are pretty independent in that regard. So when the phone doesn't ring there isn't a lot for me to do. Killing time has become an art for me. I spend a lot of time checking my e-mails and playing solitaire. It's almost embarrassing how good I am at the game because it reveals how often I actually play. I used to spend time working on my own personal webpage and online portfolio. That has been placed on the back burner these last few years and I'm not really sure why. I mean, I don't want to be in this position forever and I truly do want to pursue graphic design. I guess I've just gotten myself into a rut and need to find the motivation to get out of it.

Speaker 3

I've been working in this department of Miffler and Dundlan for twenty years now and I love it more with each passing day. My main responsibilities are recruiting, training, and looking after [the] welfare of the staff. My job is the most important thing in my life right now. I am always the first in the office and the last to leave. I often work weekends and holidays and I've never taken a sick day - even when I was suffering with pneumonia. I really admire my boss and I somewhat consider myself his wingman. He values my loyalty and dedication which is why I am always his go-to person for important tasks or when he needs someone to keep an eye on the other employees when he is not around. I consider myself the assistant to the regional manager. Although, no one else really does. I'm OK with that. I don't need total recognition for all the behind the scenes work I do. I have been offered other jobs during my time here, some of which had better pay and benefits. I've looked into it, of course. However, none of those places seemed to place the emphasis on loyalty like Miffler and Dundlan does. That is why I've stuck around and will probably be here until retirement...if I can get myself to retire. I can't imagine not coming into work every day.

Speaker 4

I have been working here for two years now. I have to be honest; it's a really easy job for me. I guess I'm just a natural at talking to clients and potential buyers. Just today I closed two important deals over lunch, which is more than some of my co-workers can do in a week. If I were really ambitious, I'd try to keep this pace up all day, but I like that I have spare time to relax and goof around a bit. I'm a little bit of a prankster. Ok, that's an understatement. I pull practical jokes all the time. Just yesterday, my co-worker opened his desk to find his stapler inside a dome of gelatin. The entire office was in stitches. I don't think I cross any lines with my practical jokes. Nor do I think that I impede the efficiency of this company. If anything, I think I make us a little more efficient. This is not the most interesting job in the world and if people honestly spent eight hours straight glued to their work I think they would go insane with boredom. Giving them reasons to laugh boosts office morale and makes this a more pleasant working environment. I have some co-workers who try to push me to look for a better job. They think that this place is a waste of my talent, and perhaps they are right. But I'm satisfied here. I am able to pay my bills and I get to laugh everyday. I suppose I'm not that typical ambitious business person, but I'm OK with that. I can't imagine the prestige of a better job making the quality of my life improve too much. So I'm staying put. Besides, the office is only a ten minute drive from my house. You can't get much better than that.

Speaker 5

I've been at Miffler and Dundlan for ten years now. There are so many negative connotations attached to my job title. People always ask me: '*How on earth can you spend everyday working with numbers?*' But I honestly enjoy myself. I can't really explain why, but I really love my job and everything it entails. Or at least, I like the work aspect of it. I like keeping the books. However, sometimes, my co-workers really get on my nerves. I mean, when I come into work, I come to work and nothing else. My social life is something totally separate from the office and I find it inappropriate to mix professional and social life. The other two guys that I work with are not as focused as me and are always talking about football, their families or what they did over the weekend. I often have to push them to get back on track. That makes them resent me a little, but that's not my fault. We have a job to do. Most of the employees here go out together on weekends or go to get a drink together after work, but I always opt out of those activities. It's not that I'm anti-social, I just choose to spend my free time with other people. I mean, I see these people forty hours a week. That's quite enough.

Now you'll hear Part 4 again. That's the end of Part 4.

TEST 10

Part 1

You'll hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, 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 will hear a discussion in which a man talks to his good friend about her upcoming trip.

Now look at questions 1 and 2.

John: So Michelle, you are leaving for Australia, huh? This seems kind of sudden. What made you want to pick up and leave so suddenly?

Michelle: Well, it only seems sudden to you and everyone because I haven't told anyone about it. But I've honestly been thinking about it for a few months now. I don't know. I guess I just needed to get out of here for a bit. I guess I'm in a bit of a rut in life and want to do something drastic to get out of it.

John: What do you mean you're in a rut?

Michelle: John, I have the same routine everyday! Work, home, sleep, get up and do it all over again. I'm bored. Plus, I've never left the country before ever and I say it's high time. I'm still young with no one else to be responsible for, and I haven't taken even one day off work for over two years. I'm due.

John: What do you think you're going to do there? I mean, where are you going to stay?

Michelle: I guess I haven't thought of that. I just bought the ticket about an hour ago. But I'm sure there are hostels everywhere. I'm trying to just go where the wind takes me. I'm not going to do a lot of planning.

John: Wow, that sounds exciting! Have a wonderful time.

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 2

You will hear a conversation where two friends discuss the restaurant they just left.

Now look at questions 3 and 4.

Julie: That restaurant was absolutely divine! It was such a beautiful restaurant - so classy. It has got to be one of the best I have ever dined at.

Tate: I think the atmosphere went to your head a little too much, Julie. It was definitely a good-looking restaurant. But I think the food left something to be desired. I couldn't even finish my steak and you *know* that I usually clean my plate. But it was so dry. And speaking of dry... that wine was terrible. I can't believe it cost that much money. Cheap boxed wine is a thousand times better than whatever that was that we just consumed.

Julie: Tate, you must be mad. Everything about that experience was wonderful. Yes, I admit, I loved the decor, the violins and the servers dressed in tuxedos. But my taste buds left pleased as well! I suppose that type of food is an acquired taste... Anyway, I loved it.

Tate: Well, I'm still hungry. Could we get a burger before we go to the show?

Julie: No way. A burger dressed like this? We're really going to stand out.

Tate: I honestly don't think I am going to make it to the intermission if I don't eat some decent food really soon.

Julie: OK I suppose we can go, if we have to. It'll be my treat, since you didn't want to go to the restaurant in the first place. I guess next time I go there, it won't be with you.

Tate: You can say that again!

Now you will hear the recording again.

EXTRACT 3

You will hear part of an interview with a medical student.

Now look at questions 5 and 6.

Interviewer: So you are in your fourth year of medical school now, is that correct?

Gus: That's right. Wow, time has really flown by. My first day of class feels like yesterday.

Interviewer: And why did you want to pursue medicine?

Gus: I suppose for the same reason why anyone pursues any career. Because I love science and medicine...and throughout undergraduate school I discovered that I have a talent for it as well. I think that's got to be the key to being happy in your career: enjoying it and using your talents. Well that and also feeling like your job is important. And for me, I really feel like I will make a real difference in this career.

Interviewer: What kind of medicine do you want to go into?

Gus: Ophthalmology. In layman's terms, I will be working with eyes.

Interviewer: Really?

Gus: I know it doesn't sound as exciting as running around the Emergency Room and saving lives every day, but in reality it fits perfectly in [with] my life plans.

Interviewer: How so?

Gus: Well, it has a normal schedule - as in, no overnights. This is important for me because I want to have a family and this allows me to have more time with my children. Also, there is a high demand for cataract surgery in Latin American countries. I speak Spanish and I love travelling. This will give me the opportunity to take regular trips to these countries to work. The last reason is quite simple...the pay is really good.

Interviewer: Those all sound like good reasons to me! Best of luck to you.

Now you will hear the recording again. That's the end of Part 1.

Part 2

You will hear a freelancing Graphic Designer called Alec Zaki talking about how he came into his career. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

My name is Alec Zaki. I do freelance 3D computer graphics and animation, with a whole lot of multimedia thrown in too. Although I've worked for other people in the past, I'm primarily my own boss these days. I much prefer being self-employed. Originally, when I started out, I planned on doing the usual big-blockbuster animated features thing, but eventually found my own niche.

My stuff tends to be more down-to-earth. I'm not too "arty." I usually create animations and graphics for TV commercials, TV shows and other video productions, as well as visualization stuff, such as in the medical or architectural areas.

A lot of my work ends up as elements in print and web design, too. As a freelancer, I found it limiting to make a freelance career out of just 3D animation, so I became an expert on all sorts of multimedia skills; flash animation, web design, CD authoring and so on. I find it extremely rewarding.

Between my freelance work and my work for TV production facilities, it's really hard to list the work I've done in the past. I know I can document over 900 television commercials, TV shows and infomercials that I've done graphics for (3D or otherwise). I've also done print and web elements, as well as animations for corporate projects.

Besides animations, I've also created 3D virtual sets for TV, such as one I did for a show called "Power Play." This show featured new and upcoming computer game releases, with the host interviewing game programmers and such. The show took place in space, in a spaceship that looked very much like a game controller, which I modelled and animated in 3D. I loved doing that show. It was heavily 3D graphics oriented and kept me really busy. It was filled with 3D rooms, animations, bumpers, elements, and so on.

I didn't get into animation the way most people do. I came by way of TV. Behind-the-scenes stuff such as television production, master control, stuff like that. I loved doing the work, having spent almost twenty years doing it. But, it started running its course with me. I found myself in a rut. This was the late 1990s and by that time, I'd fallen completely in love with 3D graphics.

My wife suggested I go back to college full-time for 3D animation. Being a bit older than the other students, I worked really hard to make myself stand out. At the time, I thought I needed to graduate with as much talent as if I had been in the industry all along, just to compete with everyone else. I probably tortured myself a bit too much, but I loved the subject and it worked for me. My wife was also earning the income for the two of us and I felt I owed it to her to succeed.

When I graduated, I thought I was getting out of the TV racket, but a month later I got a job in...you guessed it...television. This time in broadcast graphics. I loved the job but in 2002, the lousy economy forced me to become a freelancer. The rest is history.

Now you will hear Part 2 again. That's the end of Part 2.

Part 3

You will hear part of a radio interview in which professional golfer, Amy Hartman, is being interviewed. For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D), which fits best according to what you hear.

Jackson: We are here today with golfing phenomenon, Amy Hartman. She won countless national and international tournaments. Now, Amy, I was glancing through your website profile and noticed that you were involved in a variety of sports throughout junior high and high school. What did golf have that these other sports were lacking that pushed you to keep playing?

Amy: I felt like I could become more successful with golf. I realise it more and more now that unlike track, volleyball and gymnastics, golf is a lot easier on my body as well. I will be able to play golf a lot longer than any other sport that I have ever participated in.

Jackson: On any given day, is there any specific food diet you try to stick to on and off the course?

Amy: I always stick to my fruit smoothies in the morning. I am overall a pretty healthy person. Once in a blue moon, I will have a cheeseburger... and not feel guilty about it. I am a fruits, nuts, and grains kind of girl. I didn't like the health food that my parents fed me as a child but am thankful now for

it's just become a habit. I don't even consider cooking greasy food, or having a doughnut for breakfast because it's never been an option for me.

Jackson: I'm sure you spend endless amounts of time at the driving range each week, but what do you do when you're not swinging a golf club?

Amy: (laughter) Are you asking whether or not I have a social life? I admit it's hard, because I do not have a lot of time. And of course, when I do have time, I am often quite exhausted. This may make me sound really pathetic, but I spend a lot of time with my cat at home actually. He's a little goofy. He is constantly at my feet when I am at home, especially when I have been gone for a few weeks. I also watch a lot of movies, and spend time catching up with my friends. I always keep myself busy somehow whether it's any of the above or working out at the gym, reading a book, or working on some art piece that I always promise myself that I would finish. I can't remember the last time I was bored.

Jackson: Your website, Amy Golf, has grown huge in popularity in the golf blog community in only the few months it's been around. What do you contribute the success of your site to?

Amy: I didn't realise this at first but many golf fans want to get more insight into the life of touring professionally beyond the scoreboard or a random article on some random website. So simply the fact that I frequently updated my blog or shared what I have on my iPod or photographs from my life got me a big following. And now it is almost viral. I got more interviews - that get me more fans - and more bloggers have rolled my site as a result of the fresh content and updates. I always thank a lot of people on my site because my site's success is as much mine as it is theirs.

Jackson: There are plenty of superstitious people in the world. Do you have any superstitions such as an item you must have with you when you're playing? If so, how did you come by it?

Amy: You may believe me or not but I have absolutely no superstitions. I have been asked this same question several times and still have not been able to come up with an answer. I have a favourite shirt that I like to wear during big tournaments...but I'm not superstitious about it at all. I simply like it! Sorry if that's a disappointing answer.

Jackson: With turning only 26 in May, are there any other goals or plans you'd like to accomplish in your lifetime?

Amy: Well, although I am only 26 years old, I am one of the oldest girls out there on the futures tour. A lot of girls have 3 or 4 years more experience in competition than me. So for right now I am very dedicated to the goals that I've set for myself on tour, and to making it to the PGA Tour. I don't like to plan too far ahead in life. I just take it one step at a time.

Now you'll hear Part 3 again. That's the end of Part 3.

Part 4

Part 4 consists of two tasks.

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about their job in transport. For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the form of transport that the speaker is talking about. Now look at task 2. For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker is expressing. While you listen you must complete both tasks.

Speaker 1

I like it best when the people I pick up like to talk and know how to hold a conversation. I know a lot of people in my line of work prefer just to take people from point A to point B without the needless chit chat, but I would get too bored if it wasn't for the social aspect of this job. I especially love tourists. I'm definitely rare in that regard. But I love pointing out parts of the city that I think they should visit - or warning them to avoid certain tourist traps. I love hearing people's stories - learning what brought them here, where they come from, etc. Certainly, many people prefer to simply tell me their destination and then sit in silence or doodle on their blackberry until we arrive. Of course, I should respect that, but that's not always easy to do. That's probably one of my faults: I don't know when I should just be quiet and I end up annoying people. Of course, I like to believe that most people truly love listening to me. And perhaps this is unethical, but if I meet someone who's company I found particularly enjoyable, I will lower their fare.

Speaker 2

Sometimes it's hard working with such wealthy people on a daily basis. I admit it, I overhear their conversations about their country clubs, their fancy cars or their mansions and I definitely get jealous. It's not that I am poor by any means, I live a comfortable life and we are not in need of anything. But when I work it's like I am entering an entirely different world than the world that I live in. Despite this being my job, when my family flies, we sit economy class. Like most people, we get our elbows hit by the drink cart and complain of the lack of leg room. But the people I fly around not only do not have to worry about the other passengers bothering them, they also have beds and champagne on board with them! It's really quite a life. They treat

me well though. When I do overnight flights, they usually arrange for me to stay at a pretty fancy hotel, so I get to experience how the other half lives.

Speaker 3

I absolutely love my job. These children light up my life and give me something to smile about every day. Of course they also can tire me out. Many of them are too energetic to sit in their seats their entire route. Moreover, as is natural with young children, there are always some older children picking on the younger ones. That is the biggest challenge of the job because I can't discipline like a teacher would be able to. I need to keep my hands on the wheel and my eyes on the road. Luckily, I have earned enough respect that many of them listen to me when I holler at them to sit down and behave. To help me out, I have asked one of my older students to be on patrol. I think she likes the responsibility. I gave her a badge that she wears as she walks up and down the aisle telling people to sit down or not to yell. It's actually quite amazing how well the other students respond to her! She's the first one I pick up in the morning and the last off on the way home in the afternoon. After all the other students get off in the afternoon I give her a handful of candy. She considers it her salary.

Speaker 4

I mostly just take couples around. People see my ride as something extracted from a fairy tale. Like it's the way a prince and a princess ride off together to live happily ever after. Now of course, having been doing this for nearly twenty years, I certainly have a different take on it. The horses are usually the ones breaking the romantic ideal for the couple. Mostly because they really do not carry the most pleasant aroma. Let's just say, it's not always just pure romance in the air. I still remember one time when a man was proposing to his girlfriend and he had to stop in the middle of his beautiful romantic overture because he kept gagging from the horrible stench coming a few feet in front of him. It was quite funny actually. But I do admit, I am lucky to bear witness to so many proposals or anniversaries or just people in love celebrating for no other reason except for that. And I enjoy the ride, too. We pass through some amazing scenery that even after all this time I'm still not tired of looking at it. It's all quite enchanting.

Speaker 5

People think that I mostly drive wealthy people around. But that is not the case. You'd be surprised how many people just want to take a night to spoil themselves and in a way, pretend to be rich for a night. My main jobs are weddings and high school dances. It's especially entertaining when there are teenagers in the vehicle because they are so fascinated by everything. The phone is usually the favourite, which is annoying from my point of view. They think it is just so funny that they can call me from the back seat. I love driving. I admit it, I do feel a little powerful driving such a large vehicle on the road. It's amazing how many people will get out of my way. Of course, parallel parking is out of the question! You do have to drive it very carefully though and always check your mirrors. Because it is so long, there are more blind spots than in a normal-sized car. I had to get a special licence to drive it.

Now you'll hear Part 4 again. That's the end of Part 4.