
INTERNATIONAL GCSE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Listening Paper Transcript

Thursday 7 November 2019

07:00 GMT

Time allowed: 45 minutes

(including 5 minutes' reading time before the test)

FOR INVIGILATOR'S USE ONLY

The pauses are pre-recorded for this test.

Instructions

This is what you should do for each item.

- After the question number is announced, there will be a pause to allow you to read the instructions and questions.
- Listen carefully to the recording and read the questions again.
- Listen to the recording again and then answer the questions.
- When the next question is about to start you will hear a bleep.
- You may write at any time during the test.
- Answer the questions in **English**.
- You must answer all the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write on blank pages.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- Write neatly and put down **all** the information you are asked to give.
- **You must not ask questions or interrupt during the test.**
- You now have 5 minutes to read through the question paper. You may make notes during this time. You may open your answer book now.
- **The test starts now.**

Once the recording has started, the Invigilator must not pause it at any time as all pauses, including the 5 minutes' reading time, are pre-recorded.

Questions and answers in **English**.

Task 1

- 1 **F1** Passengers of flight 20 bound for New Zealand, with a stop in Hong Kong. The departure gate has been changed to 30B. There will be a delay due to bad weather outside. We will now begin boarding in 40 minutes' time.
- 2 **M1** I use my computer for homework, but I prefer using my tablet for watching films so that I can choose where I watch them. Some of my friends use their phones for streaming videos but I don't like them being on such a small screen.
- 3 **F2** Today is my birthday. I would like to go out for a quiet dinner to celebrate. Last year I had a party, which was fun but a bit chaotic. Next year, it's my thirtieth so I want to do something special – I think I'll go on holiday for it.
- 4 **M2** The rain we have had all week is finally going to end by the weekend so leave those umbrellas inside to dry out, but grab some layers instead as it is going to get chilly. By Monday, it will just keep getting colder and there may be some frost in the air.

Task 2

- 5 **M2** Have a seat, James. I have read through your report and I am impressed with how you have done. How do you feel?
- M1** Pleased, though I think I could still improve my geography grade.
- 6 **M2** You should be proud of achieving a B grade in geography. What subjects are you thinking of studying for your A-levels?
- M1** I definitely want to study English literature. I do enjoy history and would like to study it further, but I am happy to drop science. So now I'm struggling to decide between business studies and art.
- 7 **M2** You should consider what your plans are once you have completed your A-levels. Have you thought about university or perhaps an apprenticeship? You need to think about what career path you may want to follow as certain subjects are necessary to do these.
- 8 **M1** I have been thinking about journalism and I did look into a law degree but decided it was too difficult. I'm undecided about university. Degrees cost a lot of money nowadays and I'm not sure if I would prefer to get a job.

Task 3

- 9 F2** Greetings listeners and thank you for downloading this week's show. I am just back from travelling as I have been to visit my brother who lives in America. I don't get to see him very often and the time difference can make it hard to keep in touch. So, it's been lovely to spend some quality time with him this week.
- 10 F2** It's funny though; compared to when we were younger and all lived under one roof and couldn't get out of each other's way, I feel closer to my brother nowadays even though he lives thousands of miles away. Maybe it's just because we're older and don't annoy each other all the time like we did when we were children.
- 11 F2** I also have a sister, Nadia, who only lives 30 minutes away. We normally see each other every two weeks and so it's a very different relationship with her. We can still annoy each other all of the time but it's probably just because we are so similar to one another. She is older than me, so she does act like she always knows more than me, which drives me mad, but I love her anyway.
- 12 F2** Every year, we get together over the holiday period to celebrate as a family. Our parents get the train down and Nadia and I take it in turns hosting, which can get a bit competitive. My favourite thing is that no matter how far away they live or occasionally annoy me, I know that they will always support me and be there if I need them.

Task 4

- 13 M2** Hi Jack, you are looking very tanned! How was your holiday?
- M1** It was pure bliss! Seven days of relaxing, lying by a pool and doing nothing but sun bathing and a bit of reading. It has definitely recharged my batteries after a tough few weeks of work. Staying in a nice hotel is my perfect kind of holiday.
- 14 M2** I'm glad to hear you enjoyed yourself but that sounds so boring to me! I think I would feel worse after a week of doing nothing with all my pent-up energy. I need to have action-packed holidays to unwind especially after sitting at a desk all the time with work. I went camping and spent a week climbing, hiking and canoeing. Nothing but me and nature.
- 15 M1** Now that sounds like my worst holiday imaginable! I tried camping once and hated it – no proper showers, no electricity and sleeping on the ground.
- M2** It doesn't bother me as long as I've got the right kit. I like switching off and getting away from emails, shops and all the noise of a city – or even of a hotel.
- M1** How is that going to relax you when you haven't got a lovely cushioned bed and you're being eaten alive by every possible insect?
- 16 M2** The insects don't bother me, and I got to sleep under the stars every night. Yours seems like the perfect way to have an average holiday. I understand the importance of luxury every now and again but for me, I connected with nature and saw stunning views from the top of a mountain. I accomplished my goals.
- M1** I think we just have very different ideas on what relaxing looks like!

Task 5

- 17 F1** Good evening and thank you for joining me today. I am pleased to be here to share with you the outcome of some of the new hardware and software I have been trialling recently. In the digital evolution we are going through, the way we learn and complete day-to-day tasks is changing, and in ten years' time, much of my to-do list will cease to exist thanks to technology. We will also be able to engage with the world in completely new ways.
- 18 F1** I'm sure many of you, like me, spend much of your time stuck at a computer researching and analysing data – having to find the information you need in endless spreadsheets and reports. A lot of our time is taken up with this administration. Artificial intelligence does all this work for you in a fraction of the time! Instead of operating the computer, I communicate with it instead – I ask for what I want, and it shows me the data, the statistics and key information that would have taken me at least an hour to do myself.
- 19 F1** I used to spend tens of thousands of pounds annually on scientific lab equipment to conduct my experiments. Over the past few months, I have started using a virtual lab using this simple cardboard headset and my mobile phone – I have a hi-tech laboratory and it cost me nothing and I can use it anywhere I want, even from my bed!
- 20 F1** I worked with computer programmers and I can now conduct the same experiments using even better equipment, all in a virtual environment. I can even carry out experiments I couldn't do before due to health and safety concerns, yet in the simulated world of my phone, everything is safe and anything is possible.
- 21 F1** Admittedly, there are still limitations using this technology, but developments are being made every week. I can see us all interacting in this way as a normal part of our lives in ten years' time. It is important to recognise the need for increased online security with these developments though, so that your personal information remains safe. If we take the right steps, there's nothing we won't be able to do or experience at the touch of a button!

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