



هيئة جودة التعليم والتدريب
Education & Training Quality Authority

English – Grade 9

Listening

Practice Items

- Sample of Practice Items -

Part 1

You will hear five short recordings.

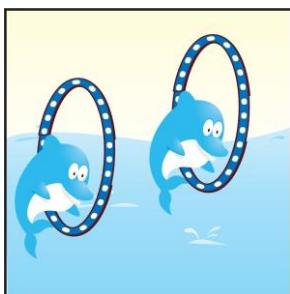
For each recording there is a question and three pictures **A**, **B** and **C**.

Choose the correct answer.

Click on the speaker icon to listen to the recording. You may listen to it more than once.

Example

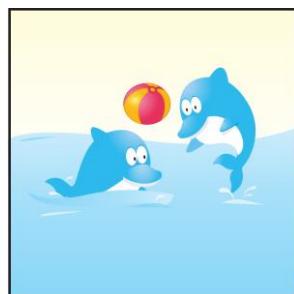
0 Which activity will the dolphins do in the show? 



A

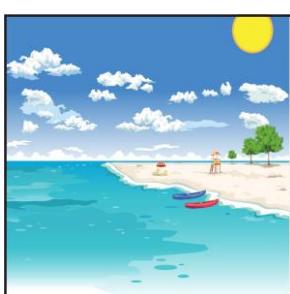


B

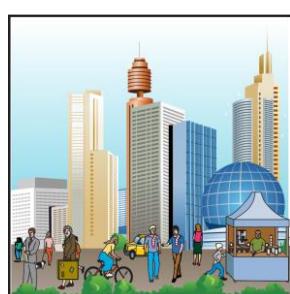


C

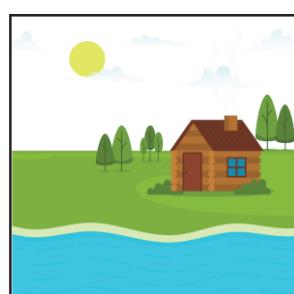
1 Where is the family going to spend their break? 



A



B



C

2 What does Jane's mum want her to do? 



A



B



C

– Sample of Practice Items –

3 Where is Sam going? 



A

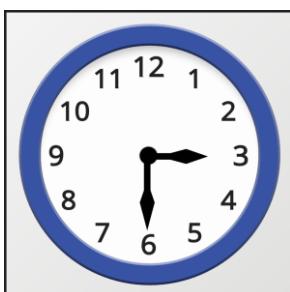


B

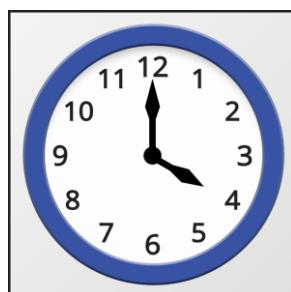


C

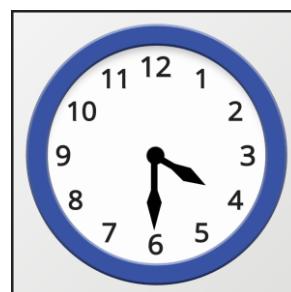
4 What time is David's appointment? 



A

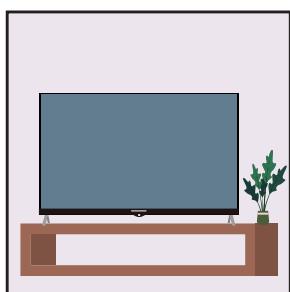


B

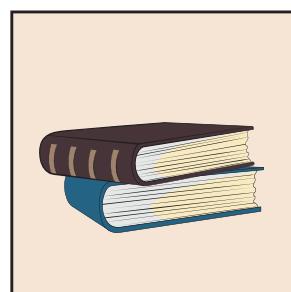


C

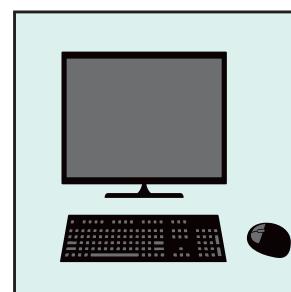
5 What was Rachel doing? 



A

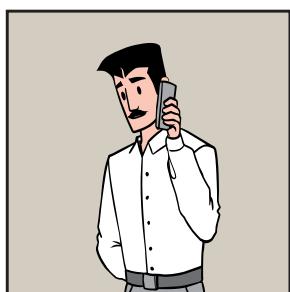


B

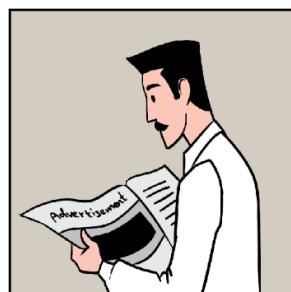


C

6 How did Mark know about the job? 



A



B



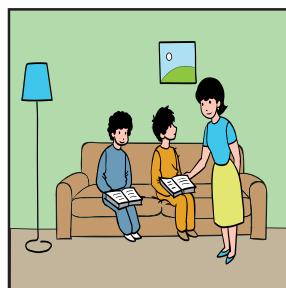
C

- Sample of Practice Items -

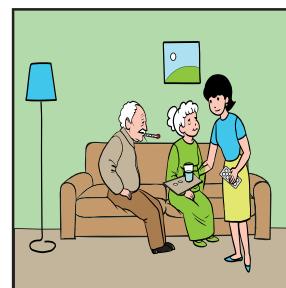
7 Why has Samantha been busy recently? 



A

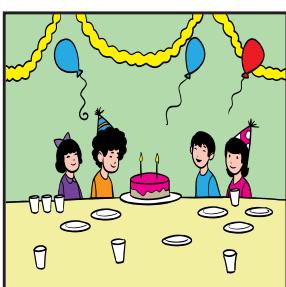


B



C

8 What is the celebration for? 



A



B



C

9 Why is Leena going to miss the school talent show? 



A



B

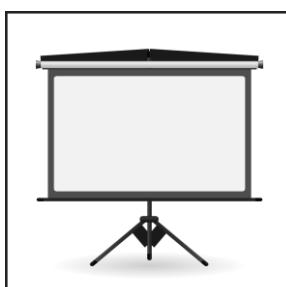


C

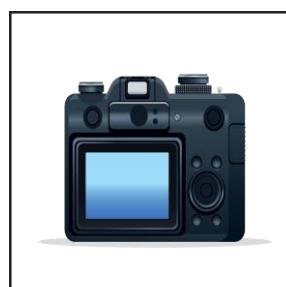
10 What will Fatima borrow for the school presentation? 



A



B



C

- Mark scheme -

Part 1

Questions 1 – 10

Question Number	Answer	Mark
1	A	1
2	A	1
3	B	1
4	C	1
5	C	1
6	A	1
7	B	1
8	C	1
9	B	1
10	A	1

Part 1

You will hear five short recordings.

For each recording there is a question and three pictures A, B, and C.

Choose the correct answer.

Before we start here is an example.

0 Which activity will the dolphins do in the show?

F: Hello, can you tell me what kinds of things the dolphins do in the show? Do they just swim around?

M: Well, actually you will see them dancing with each other. Last year we trained them to play with a ball – like a football game but people who were standing too close used to get wet.

F: Right, will the dolphins jump through hoops?

M: No madam, I'm afraid they won't.

The dolphins will dance in the show, so there is a circle around the letter B.

Now we are ready to start. Listen carefully.

Question 1

Where is the family going to spend their break?

F: David, why don't we stay in my sister's countryside cottage? It is free.

M: It always rains there, it's horrible.

F: How about going to the city, you meet your friends there while I shop.

M: Mm, it's noisy there. The children will love a break by the river.

F: Yes, but we did that last year. I think they'll definitely prefer playing on the beach.

M: Lovely, let's go there then.

Question 2

What does Jane's mum want her to do?

F1: Can I ask you to do something for me Jane?

F2: Sure Mum. How can I help you? The laundry or the dishes? I know you won't ask me to vacuum the carpet again! You know I did that yesterday.

F1: You're such a sweet girl. What would I do without you! Actually I need you to iron some clothes and put them back in the wardrobe please.

F2: No problem, mum.

Question 3

Where is Sam going?

F: Morning Sam. Did you sleep well?

M: Morning Mum. Yes I did.

F: Good. This evening we're going to your uncle's house, it's your cousin Jack's birthday. And of course we have to go to the shop now to buy him a present.

M: Sorry Mum, I can't go with you. I have to study for the Maths test. And later on, I'll go with John to play football in the park, the one near the cinema.

Question 4

What time is David's appointment?

F: By the way David; your appointment with the dentist is tomorrow.

M: Tomorrow!!! I've forgotten all about it. Thanks for reminding me. It's at 3 isn't it?

F: No, that was last month's appointment. Tomorrow's appointment is at 4:30. Remember to be home early so that you can drive Sally to her friends at 4.

M: OK. I'll be home by 3:30 but she should be ready by then.

F: Don't worry she will.

Question 5

What was Rachel doing?

M: How did you find the book? Are you still reading it?

F: Oh sorry Dad, I haven't had time to read it. I was so busy searching for information from the internet for my geography project.

M: It's ok, you can keep it for another week.

F: Make it a month please, this is my busiest time of the year, I don't even have time to watch my favourite TV programme or go to the gym.

Question 6

How did Mark know about the job?

F: Mark, I've been checking the newspaper for days, trying to find a job that suits you, but no luck so far.

M: Thank you for trying, Ann. But don't worry, my friend John actually saw a job post on a noticeboard in his company, which he thought would be suitable. So, he called right away to tell me about it.

F: Great! That's really thoughtful of him. Good luck with the interview!

Question 7

Why has Samantha been busy recently?

M: Hey Samantha! I've been trying to reach you since Monday.

F: Hi David! Sorry about that. You know our nanny has just gone home because her parents are sick. And I was supposed to have guests from Dubai this week, but luckily, they have delayed their visit until next month. My kids have exams these days, and I have to take care of them all the time. So, what's up?

M: No problem at all, sister. I completely understand. Mom asked me to check on you. Do you need any help?

Question 8

What is the celebration for?

M: Jane's coming home soon, but she'll miss the New Year celebration!

F: Oh really? What a shame! It'll be great to see her again, though.

M: Yeah, and we can always do something special for her.

F: Like what? What are you thinking of?

M: Well, we're planning a graduation party for her! Her 18th birthday was a big day, and this should feel just as important.

F: Absolutely. Let's make it a day to remember.

Question 9

Why is Leena going to miss the school talent show?

F: The school talent show sounds like a lot of fun. I'm sorry, I'm going to miss it.

M: Oh, Leena, why?

F: Remember, I flew to Spain for the exchange programme this time last year?

M: Yeah, that was awesome.

F: Well, now it's my Spanish friend Maria's turn to fly here and visit me next month. She doesn't speak much English, so I've arranged some Spanish lessons, which I've already paid for, so I'm afraid I can't skip them. Bad timing, I know.

M: No worries! We'll send you the video.

Question 10

What will Fatima borrow for the school presentation?

M: Fatima, by the way, didn't you want me to lend you something for the school presentation?

F: Oh, yes, I've just remembered. I don't need to borrow your smart camera after all.

M: Really? What changed?

F: Sara is going to bring hers.

M: Ok. Got it. Anything else?

F: Yes! There is. Your laptop will still be very useful.

M: For the presentation?

F: Yes, because we'll be using a projector screen to show the documentary.

Part 2 

Sample 1

Question 11 – 15

You will hear the captain of a large passenger ship talking to a group of school pupils.

Choose the correct answer **A**, **B** or **C**.

Click on the speaker icon to listen to the recording. You may listen to it more than once.

Example

0 What does the captain do when the ship arrives at a port?

- A** He arranges special dinners for the crew.
- B** He handles the necessary checks for the ship.
- C** He organises tours for the students on board.

11 What is the favourite type of entertainment on the ship?

- A** musicians performing live
- B** the cinema on board
- C** daily circus show

12 Where can ship passengers do water sports on board?

- A** around the ship
- B** on the top level
- C** in the fitness centre

13 What options are available for passengers who prefer self-service?

- A** drinks and salads
- B** ice cream and pizzas
- C** fruit and vegetables

- Sample of Practice Items -

14 When the ship arrives at a port, passengers

- A** shop in the ship's stores.
- B** do their jobs on board.
- C** explore different places on buses.

15 What is the first stop on the tour of the ship?

- A** the best guest room
- B** the ship's hospital room
- C** the engine room

[5 marks]

- Mark scheme -

Part 2

Sample 1

Questions 11 – 15

Question Number	Answer	Mark	Total Marks
11	B	1	
12	B	1	
13	A	1	
14	C	1	
15	A	1	5

Part 2

Sample 1

Questions 11 – 15

You will hear the captain of a large passenger ship talking to a group of school pupils.

Choose the correct answer A, B or C.

Before we start, here is an example.

Good morning. My name's Captain Williams. Welcome on board the Ocean Wave, one of the largest cruise ships in the world. Whenever we spend a few days in one place, I invite local schools to come and look around my ship, so it's great to have you all here. During these stays, mechanics check the ship for any repairs needed. Also, the ship crew organise special dinners to relax and reduce their stress.

When the ship lands for a few days in one place, the captain organises tours for the students on board, so there is a circle around the letter C.

Now we are ready to start. Listen carefully.

Good morning. My name's Captain Williams. Welcome on board the Ocean Wave, one of the largest cruise ships in the world. Whenever we spend a few days in one place, I invite local schools to come and look around my ship, so it's great to have you here.

During these stays, mechanics check the ship for any repairs needed. Also, the ship crew organise special dinners to relax and reduce their stress. I know that none of you has been on a ship of this size before. So here's an idea of the facilities it has to offer. The ship provides its own entertainment. Think of the ship as a floating hotel with restaurants, cafes and much more! If we're going on a cruise that lasts one or two weeks or more, our passengers expect to be entertained. For kids, we have our famous circus show every evening. Our cinema is the most popular of all. We also have our own musicians – singers, pianists and so on.

- Tapescript -

In addition to all this, we have a range of water and sports facilities. There's a fitness centre, gym, and indoor tennis courts on the level below this one. We even have a special jogging track marked out around the ship for people who like gentle running. On the top level, where we are standing, there are two pools, one for swimming and another for diving.

Now for some facts and figures. Imagine that with as many as 900 passengers on each cruise and 370 crew, whenever we are at a port, we buy a huge amount of food. Fresh fruit, vegetables, and water are taken on board. At each meal, we offer a choice of menus, and there are drinks and salads for people who like to help themselves. We have at least 10 freezers just for ice cream and pizzas!

During the cruise, we stop in some places and start loading goods, passengers are free to leave the ship and walk around. We organise bus trips for passengers at various ports we stop at, so people can make the best use of the few hours available. The crew stays on board for cleaning and tidying up. Many people like doing souvenir shopping in these countries, even though we have shops on the ship.

Right, enough introduction and back to our tour. We're going to end up at the part of the ship that matters the most, the engine room, where you'll see the best in modern technology. However, let's begin by taking the lift to the next level to see our best guest room with a shower, bath, sitting room, TV, and internet access. After that, we'll go to the ship's hospital room, so this way (fade)

Part 2 

Sample 2

Questions 11 – 15

You will hear a speaker talking to a group of parents and teachers in a school.

Choose the correct answer **A**, **B** or **C**.

Click on the speaker icon to listen to the recording. You may listen to it more than once.

Example

0 What is the speaker's job?

- A** a doctor
- B** a chef
- C** a journalist

11 What is the main reason why we get less exercise now?

- A** mobile phones
- B** modern TVs
- C** fast food

12 According to the speaker, who controls what people eat?

- A** farms
- B** supermarkets
- C** restaurants

13 The speaker advises reading food labels to

- A** save money.
- B** get the healthiest food.
- C** check the amount of sugar.

- Sample of Practice Items -

14 The speaker recommends cooking at home because

- A** it's cheaper.
- B** it's healthier.
- C** it's tastier.

15 What gives students more energy during the school day?

- A** taking rest
- B** having a snack
- C** playing games

[5 marks]

- Mark scheme -

Part 2

Sample 2

Questions 11 – 15

Question Number	Answer	Mark	Total Marks
11	A	1	
12	C	1	
13	B	1	
14	C	1	
15	A	1	5

Part 2

Sample 2

Questions 11 – 15

You will hear a speaker talking to a group of parents and teachers in a school.

Choose the correct answer A, B or C.

Before we start, here is an example.

Hello everyone, my name's John Brown. I'm from London and for the last ten years I've been working hard to save lives. That means you probably think that I'm a doctor. It's true that a journalist once called me a lifesaver. The fact is I use my knowledge as a chef to help families and schools.

The speaker is a chef, so there is a circle around the letter 'B'.

Now we are ready to start. Listen carefully.

Hello everyone, my name's John Brown. I'm from London and for the last ten years I've been working hard to save lives. That means you probably think that I'm a doctor. It's true that a journalist once called me a lifesaver. The fact is I use my knowledge as a chef to help families and schools.

Many things have changed since our grandfathers' generation. One of those things is people exercise less. It is generally known that fast food is available everywhere. It's delicious and there's no cooking and no washing the dishes. Also, we can all get most of our adventures and games from the screens of our modern TVs. But one must admit that we all live on our mobile phones, talking to anybody, anytime, anywhere without having to move.

Now, as you know, I'm here to save lives. Let's start with the fast food business which, through the big restaurants gives the world its popular diets. The vegetables that used to be found in people's back gardens are now grown in huge farms and prepared in factories. You can now find everything you need to eat packed in cans and kept on supermarket shelves for years.

- Tapescript -

This is something you need to teach yourself and your kids. Food companies spend a lot of time and money advertising their goods. Why should you read the food labels before you buy? Of course, if you don't want to pay too much money, you need to know the price. To keep your teeth healthy, you might also want to see how much sugar is in the product. However, if you really want to buy food that's good for you, you should read all the ingredients and not only the extra ones.

Cooking for yourself is a great way to avoid all that. In my opinion, there is no more delicious meal than one freshly cooked at home using the best ingredients and the right amount of salt. The jobs in the kitchen can be shared among family members. Depending on what you cook, or where you buy it from, it is usually less expensive than eating out. And all this helps you look healthier and feel more active too.

So, all of you, as school staff, have a very important job to do for your students' health. They have a long day. Providing a variety of activities is so important to use up their energy. Their break time is when you can help them the most by letting them rest. This gives them the chance to get back their strength and pay attention. Remember also, students love games – they can help keep their minds active and they don't get tired. Make sure too, that they have a healthy, sweet snack – like an apple, not candy of course.