Instructions for the conduct of the Listening Comprehension Examination

The teacher should instruct the candidates to answer the questions on the paper provided. The following procedure for reading the Listening Comprehension passage is to be explained to the candidates immediately before proceeding with the examination.

You have been given a sheet containing the Listening Comprehension questions. I shall first read through the questions and then read the passage at normal reading speed. You may take notes on the blank sheet provided during the reading. After this reading there will be a pause of another three minutes to allow you to answer some of the questions. The passage will be read a second time and you may take further notes and answer the rest of the questions. After this second reading you will be given a further three minutes for a final revision of answers.

a. 3 minutes - Teacher reads out the questions
b. 3 minutes - First reading aloud of passage while candidates take notes
c. 3 minutes - Candidates may answer questions
d. 3 minutes - Second reading of passage and possibility of answering questions
e. 3 minutes - Final revision
THE BLOG

You are going to listen to Marvis Wilson talking about a recent phenomenon - blogging!

In the last year or two blogging has exploded in popularity. It’s considered the latest way to communicate on the net. But what is blogging and how much do you know about it?

A weblog is a journal that is published on the web. A weblog, or blog for short, has many different forms. Some weblogs have links and quotes from other sites on the web; many are personal diaries; and some are a platform for expressing opinions about world events or a specialist interest.

It all started when the World Wide Web was invented. People started creating websites, others browsed them, and so web surfing was born. Then, people wanted to tell their friends about interesting pages they’d found and comment on them. So they began to create their own web pages with links to the addresses of interesting sites and their thoughts on what they’d read there.

The number of weblogs has increased dramatically in the last few years. Recent figures show there are now 4.12 million blogs on the eight biggest web publishing sites. One of the best-known weblogs, written by Andrew Sullivan, an independent journalist, receives around 33,000 visits a day.

All kinds of people write blogs. However, a recent survey has shown that they are most popular with teenagers; about 52 per cent of all blogs are created and maintained by 13- to 19-year-olds.

People write about anything at all, from what they did yesterday to what they think about world politics. Teenagers tend to describe their everyday lives: about 40 per cent talk about music and bands, while others report what’s happening at school. For many teenagers in particular, blogs provide a space to discuss personal problems they can’t talk about elsewhere.

Early research on the net suggested that girls communicate more often than boys. However, studies of blogs show that they are used by both sexes equally. Surprisingly, boys use emoticons, which are symbols like smiley faces, more than girls.

Blogs are a great place to look for personal reviews of websites. You can follow the reflections of people who share familiar interests and views and respond to them on their message board. Unlike professional journalists, bloggers can offer independent commentaries on daily news.

Apart from being fun and a way to meet new people, blogging can improve literacy. Educationalists are looking at ways to incorporate blogging into school curricula. One teacher commented that the average blog post is over 2,000 words per page, which is more than students write in a normal essay.
## LISTENING COMPREHENSION

### Name: ______________________________  Class: __________

#### Questions (10 marks)

1. **State whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F).** (3 marks)
   
   a) A weblog, or blog consists only of diary writing.
   
   b) The first blogs were lists of links to websites.
   
   c) There are now about 1.24 million blogs on the net.
   
   d) The majority of blogs are written by teenagers.
   
   e) People usually write about world events and what they think of them.
   
   f) Boys write more blogs than girls.

2. **Match the words in Column A to the corresponding meaning in Column B.** (3 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Girls tend to use</td>
<td>blogging in the school syllabus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) The average blog is</td>
<td>of making friends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Blogging is a different way</td>
<td>symbols less often than boys.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Blogging improves</td>
<td>much shorter than a normal blog.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Educational experts wish to include</td>
<td>reading and writing skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) A student’s essay is usually</td>
<td>about 2,000 words long.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. **Fill in the missing information in the grid below, with information given in the passage.** (4 marks)

| a) Lately, the number of weblogs              | amount to eight.                                                          |
| b)                                             | is written by Andrew Sullivan.                                            |
| c)                                             | 33,000 visits a day.                                                      |
| d)                                             |                                                                          |
SECTION A – LANGUAGE  (20 marks)

A. Fill in the blank spaces in the text below with a word formed from the one in brackets. The first one has been done for you.  

Since my brother has been (0) unemployed (employed), he has gradually become more and more  
(1) __________________________ (forget). I suppose it’s because he doesn’t have to be so  
(2) __________________________ (system) anymore. He doesn’t have the same  
(3) __________________________ (day) routine as the other members of the family. We all get up  
quite early, (4) __________________________ (prefer) before 7 a.m., shower, have a  
(5) __________________________ (health) breakfast and leave for work or school before my brother  
gets up. We try to be (6) __________________________ (tolerate) of his  
(7) __________________________ (behave) but it’s not always easy. Of course we all feel very  
(8) __________________________ (sympathy) towards him, because it’s not his fault that most of  
the (9) __________________________ (technical) at the factory lost their jobs.  
(10) __________________________ (Product) levels were above average but people are not buying  
so many cars.
B. Change these statements and questions into reported speech. The first one has been worked out for you. 5 marks [

(0) “What do you usually drink?” he asked.
He asked me what I usually drank.

(1) “I can never confide my fears in any other friend,” she added.
She added ______________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________.

(2) “Why do you stay with your friends?” I asked.
I asked ______________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________.

(3) “Would you like a cup of coffee?” she asked.
She asked ______________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________.

(4) “If he doesn’t find everything in order, he will simply leave,” she explained.
She explained ______________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________.

(5) “I’ll tell you all my secrets but you must promise not to reveal my identity,” she said.
She said ______________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________.
C.  Fill in the blank spaces with the correct form of the verb in brackets. The first one has been done for you.  5 marks [   ]

Haiti was hit by a powerful earthquake a year ago. A year after, this is what Amanda George, working for International Charity says:

“Right now, I (0) **am living** (live) for a whole year in Haiti, working for International Charity. I (1) __________________________ (work) for the Red Cross in London for about four years and when I heard that they (2) __________________________ (need) people to work in Haiti, I jumped at the chance. I applied for the job, and (3) __________________________ (delight) to get it. Of course, I (4) __________________________ (see) a lot of pictures and read a lot about the country from other Red Cross workers. But that (5) __________________________ (not, prepare) me for what I saw. It (6) __________________________ (shock) to see the capital Port-au-Prince. It (7) __________________________ (look) as if it (8) __________________________ (completely, bomb). There (9) __________________________ (be) areas where there’s nothing left, just rubble. I (10) __________________________ (not, can) ever get used to it.”

D.  Fill in each blank space with a suitable word. The first one has been worked out for you.  5 marks [   ]

Computers are (0) **reshaping** children’s lives, at (1) __________________________ and at school, in (2) __________________________ ways. Common sense suggests that we consider both the beneficial as well as the (3) __________________________ side of these aspects. Computers can (4) __________________________ damage children’s health. The health (5) __________________________ include obesity, stress injuries, eyestrain, and social isolation. Some children also suffer (6) __________________________ damage to their physical, emotional or intellectual (7) __________________________. Very (8) __________________________ what computers actually connect children to, is aggressive advertising and silly games. This can cut children off, (9) __________________________ and physically, from the world of (10) __________________________.
SECTION B – COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions below.

Gad and Hans Rausing are among the richest men in Britain, their wealth surpassing even that of the Queen. These Swedish brothers, who came to Britain in 1983, have made their millions from one product – Tetra Pak, the aluminium and plastic laminated container for milk and fruit juice found all over the world.

One evening, around Christmas 1944, a young Swedish economist called Ruben Rausing was watching his wife Elisabeth making sausages in the small kitchen of their home in the university town of Lund, Sweden.

He was impressed by the manner in which the sausages were contained in a skin and kept fresh by pressing hard each end. So, he began questioning his wife about the method she used. Their conversation that evening was to lead to the invention that would revolutionise lives throughout the world, and make the couple – and their family – billionaires.

Rausing’s invention was eventually applied to milk, leading to the low-cost, germ-free packaging system which he called Tetra Pak – a roll of cardboard twisted and sealed into a rectangular carton. Today if you buy milk or orange juice in a carton, at virtually any supermarket, from Dublin to Peking, it will have come from Rausings’s idea that day in his kitchen.

This is the legend of Tetra Pak. However, it seems that the reality could be rather different. It is certainly true that Ruben had realised the huge potential if a form of germ-free sealed packaging could be found for household items such as milk. But the alternative version of the story suggests that at this point he approached Erik Wallenberg, a young research scientist working for his company. Wallenberg claims that he was in fact the person who had designed the first Tetra Pak, working on Ruben’s original idea. He recalls the day Ruben Rausing came to him. Rausing told him that he had bought a herd of cows which needed milking, and wanted a container made to package the milk.

“He was under a lot of pressure to find a solution,” Wallenberg said, but “strangely enough it was while I was at home with flu that I came up with the idea of the tetrahedron-shaped milk package.”

Rolling up a piece of paper to demonstrate the process, he continued, “I made up my mind that a cylinder – a tube – should be made and that it should be pressed together at one end. I decided it should also be pressed together at the other end. I went back to the laboratory and we began testing. That is simply how the Tetra Pak was born.”

Wallenberg said Ruben had early doubts about the possible success of the idea, “but we tested it by putting water inside for several days and, when there was no leakage, he was convinced. I think that Ruben Rausing realised its potential immediately. He bought the patent and all rights from me for 3,000 Pounds Sterling, which to some people was half a year’s wages at that time. Obviously, at the time, those in the company knew of my work but after a while another story began to emerge regarding the invention, namely, that it had all been the work of Mr Ruben Rausing. I was very angry about it.” Whatever the reality, in 1952 the first Tetra Pak containers were being successfully produced, and in a few years Ruben had built up a huge business.
In the late 50s, Ruben’s two sons had joined their father within the company. But it was already clear that Hans would play the leading role. According to Wallenberg, Hans was extremely able and, like his father, single-minded. He only seemed to have one interest, and that was to make money. Despite their enormous wealth, both Hans and Gad still live modestly. As far as Hans is personally concerned, he recently admitted, during an interview, that he had no idea how much money he had, adding that some day he would ask his financial advisor!

(1) Underline the best title for the passage. (1 mark)

a) Gad and Hans Rausing
b) Ruben Rausing and his sons
c) A successful invention
d) How to become a billionaire

(2) What happened on the following dates according to the passage? (2 marks)

a) 1983: ______________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

b) 1944: ______________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

c) 1952: ______________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

d) Late 1950s: __________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

(3) Say whether each of the following statements is TRUE (T) or FALSE (F). Give one reason for each answer. (3 marks)

a) The Rausing brothers are as rich as the Queen. __________
Reason: _________________________________________________________________________

b) Ruben Rausing was living in Sweden in 1944. __________
Reason: _________________________________________________________________________

c) Ruben Rausing was behind Tetra Pak’s idea whilst Wallenberg realised it. __________
Reason: _________________________________________________________________________
(4) From line 8 to line 40, find one word with a similar meaning to: (2 marks)

a) change radically _____________________  b) stress ______________________

c) clearly _______________________________  d) come out ______________________

(5) What do the following words refer to in the passage? (3 marks)

a) their (line 1) ________________________________________________________________

b) Their (line 9) ________________________________________________________________

c) it (line 15) __________________________________________________________________

d) he (line 22) _________________________________________________________________

e) we (line 28) _________________________________________________________________

f) it (line 30) __________________________________________________________________

(6) How did Elisabeth help Ruben Rausing to invent Tetra Pak? (2 marks)

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

(7) According to the passage, what made Ruben Rausing approach Erik Wallenberg? (3 marks)

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

(8) Mention two things which Ruben Rausing did when he understood how successful this product might be. (2 marks)

a) __________________________________________________________________________

b) __________________________________________________________________________
(9) Why, according to the passage, is it surprising that Hans and Gad Rausing live modestly? (2 marks)

________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

(10) How do we know that Hans Rausing does not give much attention to money? (2 marks)

________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

(11) Carefully read the information on the flyer below and then say whether the statements that follow are TRUE (T) or FALSE (F). Give one reason for each answer. (6 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Private</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>Food packaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Founded</td>
<td>Lund, Sweden (1951)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Founder(s)</td>
<td>Ruben Rausing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters</td>
<td>Lausanne, Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area served</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key people</td>
<td>Dennis Jönsson (President) &amp; (CEO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hans Rausing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gad Rausing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Erik Wallenberg (Inventor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>€9.98 billion (2010)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>21,640 (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>Tetra Laval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Tetra Pak.com/ (<a href="http://www.tetrapak.com/">http://www.tetrapak.com/</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tetrapack@mail.com">tetrapack@mail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50, Main Avenue, Lausanne, Switzerland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
a) Tetra Pak is a public company. ______________
Reason: _________________________________________________________________________

b) Tetra Pak is a food producer. ______________
Reason: _________________________________________________________________________

c) Tetra Pak started in Switzerland. ______________
Reason: _________________________________________________________________________

d) Tetra Pak was founded more than 50 years ago. ______________
Reason: _________________________________________________________________________

e) Tetra Pak is run by four distinct figures. ______________
Reason: _________________________________________________________________________

f) Tetra Pak can be contacted by post only. ______________
Reason: _________________________________________________________________________

(12) Why do you think that Tetra Pak is a large company? Give two reasons. (2 marks)
a) ___________________________________________________________________________
b) ___________________________________________________________________________

SECTION C – COMPOSITION (30 marks)
Write between 180 and 250 words on ONE of the following:

(1) Imagine that you have had a chance encounter with a famous person you admire. Write an e-mail to a friend describing what happened.

(2) What sport do you enjoy playing most? Write about it including information about when you started practising it, what attracted you to it and whether there are any other sports that you would like to try.

(3) Write an article for a local magazine, offering advice to people about choosing suitable pets and looking after them properly.

(4) The amount of television children watch should be limited. Discuss.