FORM 4  ENGLISH  TIME:  15 minutes
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

TEACHER’S PAPER

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. You will be given three minutes to read the questions based on the passage. The passage will be read at normal reading speed. You may take notes during the reading. After this reading there will be a pause of another three minutes to allow you to answer some of the questions. I shall read the passage 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 the answers.

a. 3 minutes – Students read questions.
b. 3 minutes – Teacher reads passage aloud for the first time while students take notes.
c. 3 minutes – Students answer questions.
d. 3 minutes – Teacher reads passage for the second time. Students may answer more questions.
e. 3 minutes – Students revise final answers.
Listen to part of a documentary about language; this episode, called Hip-hop and Rap is about
trends that have changed language and people.

Pop culture from the early twentieth century onwards has injected countless new words and
expressions into our language. As the students from Berkeley High University point out, music
acts as a vector for words; one of the most influential forms these days is hip-hop and rap.

Hip-hop is a style of music which started in the 1970’s in the United States amongst the African-
American and Jamaican-American communities of the big cities. It began with disc jockeys
creating rhythmic beats by repeating small portions of songs on two turn-tables. This was later
accompanied by rap, which is the lyrical part of hip-hop, a sort of verbal rhyming chanted over
the beats. Rapping is also called MCing or emceeing, short for Master of Ceremonies.

Samy Alim, a professor of linguistic anthropology at California’s Stanford University,
specializes in black language and hip-hop culture. In the company of rapping DJ Kenard ‘K2’
Karter, he discusses how rapping can be seen as an extension of an African-American oral
tradition that stretches back through the passionate oratory of the black preachers to the
generation-to-generation story-telling of the slaves.

‘The word rap,’ says Professor Alim, ‘was used in the black community long before it was
associated with music. If you could rap, that was your talking ability…The gift of the gab.’

‘It’s metaphors,’ adds ‘K2’. ‘The hip-hoppers we see today aren’t just describing their own
experiences; they’re describing the experiences of others.’

Professor Alim is excited by the linguistic daring of rap: ‘Rapping is a verbal art form that
depends on your delivery, your lyrical inventiveness, your ability to create new rhyming
structures. It’s something that really speaks the truth to you – a punch line that could be funny
and make people want to rewind and hear again or a story that’s really powerful and moving;
one that gives you goose bumps and the hair on your neck stands up.’

Rappers have different styles of what’s called ‘flow’, the rhymes and rhythms of their lyrics
vary but staying on the beat is crucial as, of course, is not stumbling in mid-flow. The smallest
falter would ruin the whole effect. For rapping to work, it’s got to be perfect, and as in most
things practice makes perfect. Professor Alim thinks that rap’s short, to-the-point sentences
make it an ideal language for Twitter and Facebook. It’s one of the reasons why, from Tokyo to
Timbuktu, rap has such a widespread youth appeal and why, even today, this verbal art form is
having such a profound effect on social movements around the world.
A. Put a tick (✓) in the correct box to indicate whether the statement is TRUE (T) or FALSE (F).

3 marks [ ]

1. Hip-hop and rap are very influential forms of music acts.
2. The hip-hop music style started in Africa.
3. Hip-hop began when disc jockeys started repeating portions of songs.
4. Professor Alim says that rapping was passed down in written form.
5. The word ‘rap’ was first used when it became associated with music.
6. Rapping depends on an uninterrupted flowing rhythm.

B. Write a word or phrase from the documentary that means the same as the following:

4 marks [ ]

The study of the origin and development of humans.

The ability to speak fluently.

The final important words in a joke or story.

The way you feel when you are deeply moved.

C. Answer the following questions:

2 marks [ ]

1. Mention two abilities that a hip-hopper must have to produce rap.

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

2. List two characteristics of rap music.

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

D. Mention TWO areas where the influence of rap is growing worldwide.

1 mark [ ]

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
Climate Change and Extreme Weather

Are they linked?

Nine of the top 10 warmest years on our planet have occurred since 2000. Are these extremes a result of man-made climate change and of global warming that comes from greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide?

The issue of climate change is very complex and detailed studies have often produced indefinite results. Temperature rises have affected countries throughout the globe and have had a knock on effect with precipitation and an increase in sea level.

In the summer of 2012, the US experienced a heat wave that spread across almost all of the country and resulted in more than 40 deaths. Temperatures in Washington, New York and Chicago and other cities rose to 39°C. In south Carolina thermometers recorded 45°C – possibly an all-time high in the state.

In the last two decades, extreme weather seems to have become more commonplace. In 2011 record temperatures caused wildfires in Russia, hurricane Irene led to deaths and destruction in the Caribbean and on the East coast of the US. In Asia, floods in Bangladesh and Thailand left thousands homeless. Some regions had too much rain: in Brazil, downpours caused mudslides. Other areas had too little rain: the Horn of Africa region suffered its worst drought in 60 years.

In their research about climate change, scientists attempt to understand past and future climate by using observations and theoretical models. A climate record – extending deep into the Earth’s past – has been assembled, and continues to be built up, based on geological evidence from borehole temperature profiles, cores removed from deep accumulations of ice, floral and faunal records, glacial and periglacial processes, stable-isotope and other analyses of sediment layers, and records of past sea levels. More recent data are provided by the instrumental record. General circulation models, based on physics, are often used in theoretical approaches to match past climate data, make future projections, and link causes and effects in climate change.

Until very recently, most experts on climate have said that it is highly unlikely that record temperatures and unusually heavy rains are linked to global warming because extremes are caused by weather patterns. But now, for the first time, the annual State of the Climate report from the National and Atmospheric Administration, a US government weather and science agency, says that there is a connection between some extreme weather events and global warming.
Several hundred scientists from all over the world contributed to the highly detailed report. As part of the research, they observed the drought in Texas. They analysed the conditions of temperature and dryness that cause drought but found that they could not explain the intensity of what happened in Texas in 2011 – until they added climate change as a factor.

In an interview, Tom Karl, the head of agency, said, “What we’re seeing all over the world, are phenomena that can’t be explained by natural variability alone. They’re just too rare, too uncommon.” According to the report, climate change makes extreme weather events more probable. The researchers say that a drought may be twenty times more likely because of man-made climate change.

The effects of climate change have also been observed in European countries. Scientists looked at the UK’s unusually cold December 2012 and the exceptionally warm November. They found that while cold Decembers were only half as likely to happen today, warm Novembers are 62 times more likely to occur.

However, not all the weather events the scientists studied in their report were linked to climate change. The floods in Thailand during the 2011 monsoon season were the worst since 1942, affecting 9 million people. But they were influenced by humans in other ways than global warming. The amount of rain that fell was very high but not exceptional for the region. Experts say that deforestation and the rapid growth of cities played a role in turning the monsoon into a disaster. Because of this human activity, the earth was less able to absorb the heavy rainfall.

The world will have to adapt to the increase in unusual weather events and their consequences. Chris Field, the director of the Carnegie Institution’s Department of Global Ecology and leading expert on climate change, says that the extreme weather we have been seeing over the past few years is just a taste of what’s to come, and shows us what warming looks like; he added that we need to think very seriously about the future.

TEXT B
A. Fill in the spaces with a word formed from the words in brackets. The first one (0) has been done for you.

The two German brothers were the 0 (old) oldest surviving sons in a family of nine children; they were professors, and their research into the relationship between similar words of different languages was an important 1 (contribute) ________________ to the study of how language develops. But we know them better as story 2 (collect) ________________, the writers of tales of wicked stepmothers and frog princes and sleeping princesses that permeate all of our 3 (child) _________________. They were of course the Brothers Grimm. The tale of this 4 (separate) ________________ pair is a 5 (compel) ________________ one. They published their first collection of eighty-six German fairy stories, ‘Tales of Children and Home’ in 1812. The brothers clearly didn’t intend the tales to be read by children and non-scholars. The first 6 (edit) ________________ had a long 7 (introduce) ________________, reams of notes and no 8 (illustrate) ________________, and the stories themselves were certainly not child-friendly. They were earthy tales, full of 9 (cruel) ________________ and hunger and loss, of witches and trolls and 10 (ravage) ________________ wolves prowling through dark forests. This, clearly was not Walt Disney.

B. Fill in the spaces with an appropriate word. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Six days a week an Englishman 0 named Roy Dean sits down and does in a 1 ________________ of minutes something that many of us cannot do at 2 ________________: he completes the crossword puzzle in The Times. Dean is the, well, the dean of the British crossword. In 1970, under 3 ________________ conditions, he solved The Times crossword in just 3 minutes and 45 seconds, a feat 4 ________________ phenomenal that it has stood unchallenged for twenty years.
According to a Gallop poll, the crossword is the most popular sedentary activity.
The very first crossword, containing just thirty-two clues, appeared in the New York World on December 21, 1913. In April 1924 a new publishing company called Simon and Schuster brought out a volume of crossword puzzles, priced at $1.35. It was an instant hit and two other volumes were quickly produced. By the end of the first year the company had sold half a million copies, and crossword puzzles were a craze across America—so much so that for a time the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad installed dictionaries in each of its cars for the convenience of puzzle-solving travellers.

C. Rewrite the following sentences in such a way that the meaning remains the same. The first one (0) is an example. 5 marks

0. We still speak Italian at home so I’m bilingual.
   I’m bilingual because we still speak Italian at home.

1. Mum doesn’t speak English as well as Dad.
   Dad speaks __________________________________________

2. She speaks with such a strong accent some people can’t understand her.
   Her accent __________________________________________

3. We didn’t learn English at primary school so we couldn’t follow cartoons in English.
   If we ______________________________________________________________

4. They ought to start learning a new language.
   It’s time __________________________________________________________

5. I like reading mysteries more than fantasy.
   I prefer __________________________________________________________
D. Put the verb in brackets in the correct form. The first one (0) has been done for you. 5 marks

Suzanne Collins says she 0 (get) got the idea for her best-selling book ‘The Hunger Games’ while she was channel surfing between reality TV shows and news reports of war. She 1 (feel) ___________________ tired and the lines between the programmes began to blur. That’s when she 2 (think) ___________________ of her story. ‘The Hunger Games’ is about a brutal society in the future. The people in Panem 3 (starve) ___________________ and the heroine of this book, 16-year-old Katniss Everdeen, goes hunting in the woods to provide food for her family. Her hunting skills 4 (need) ___________________ when she becomes one of her district’s ‘tributes’ or representatives. The tributes are chosen in a kind of lottery and when the name of Katniss’s younger sister 5 (draw) ___________________, Katniss bravely volunteers to go instead. ‘The Hunger Games’, first published in 2008, 6 (translate) ___________________ into 26 languages. The other books in the trilogy 7 (also, top) ________________ the bestseller list. Suzanne Collins spoke about the ideas that had influenced her before she wrote the book; she 8 (say) ___________________ that she 9 (inspire) ___________________ by the Greek Myth of the Minotaur and the Roman gladiator games where people 10 (force) ___________________ to fight to death thus providing a popular entertainment.

E. READING COMPREHENSION 30 marks

Read TEXT A which is on a separate sheet and then answer the following questions.

1. The passage is taken from
   a. a geography text book.  ½ mark
   b. a biography.
   c. a newspaper.
   d. a scientific journal.

2. The passage claims that
   a. global warming may be causing weather extremes.  ½ mark
   b. the global temperature has dropped dramatically.
   c. the amount of rain has increased worldwide.
   d. climate change is only a theory.

3. Underline to indicate whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE and give a reason for your choice.  4 marks

   a. In the summer of 2012 the entire US experienced a heat wave.
         True / False because ____________________________________________

   b. Thousands lost their homes to the floods in Bangladesh and Thailand.
         True / False because ___________________________________________
c. Scientists have finalised a climate record extending deep into the Earth’s past.

True / False because ____________________________________________

d. According to the detailed report, extreme weather phenomena are in no way linked to global warming.

True / False because ____________________________________________

4. Which phrase between lines 1 and 16 shows that it is not yet definite that extreme weather has actually become more common?  

________________________________________________________________________________________

5. List four points to describe how several hundred scientists drew up their analysis and conclusions in the detailed report.  

4 marks

a. ______________________________________________________________________________________

b. ______________________________________________________________________________________

c. ______________________________________________________________________________________

d. ______________________________________________________________________________________

6. Mention two man-made factors that in 2011 turned the heavy monsoon rainfall in Thailand into a disaster.  

2 marks

a. ______________________________________________________________________________________

b. ______________________________________________________________________________________

7. Quote the expression used by Chris Field that tells us that what we are experiencing is a very minor indication of what is going to happen in the future.  

________________________________________________________________________________________

8. Find TWO words that mean the same as rain.  

1 mark

a. ___________________________________     b. ___________________________________

9. Find a phrase that refers to a set of events or actions each caused by the one before.  

1 mark

________________________________________________________________________________________
10. What do the following refer to in the text?  

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. its (line 15)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. They (line 33)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. They (line 37)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Their (line 52)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2 marks

11. Find single words between lines 17 and 31 that mean:  

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. proof:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>b. relating to animal life in a given time or place:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c. predictions based on actual data and observations:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>d. improbable:</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2 marks

12. Write 60 words about the instances of weather extremes that may be linked to global warming mentioned in the passage.  

______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  

Number of words   _______
TEXT B

5 marks

The pictures attempt to make people more aware of present and future environmental problems. Make a list of these problems using the pictures to help you.

a. ______________________________________________

b. ______________________________________________

c. ______________________________________________

d. ______________________________________________

e. ______________________________________________

F. COMPOSITION

30 marks

Write a composition of about 300 words on ONE of the following:

1. Write a story which ends with the sentence: “As she closed the door behind her, she knew she had made the right decision.”

2. ‘Social networking does not lead to real communication.’ Discuss.

3. Write a biography of a famous person. (The person could be real or imaginary.)

4. Write a letter to the newspaper to draw attention to the problems that young people under sixteen come across when they go out at the weekend.

Composition Number:  

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________