DIRECTORATE FOR QUALITY AND STANDARDS IN EDUCATION  
Curriculum Management and eLearning Department  
Educational Assessment Unit  

Annual Examinations for Secondary Schools 2014  

FORM 5  
ENGLISH  
LISTENING COMPREHENSION  

TIME: 15 minutes  

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. 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 students take notes  
c. 3 minutes - Students may answer questions  
d. 3 minutes - Second reading of passage and possibility of answering questions  
e. 3 minutes - Final revision
You are going to listen to a radio programme on a famous London landmark – the London Eye.

The London Eye is a giant Ferris wheel situated on the banks of the river Thames in London. The entire structure is 135 metres high and the wheel has a diameter of 120 metres. It is the highest Ferris wheel in Europe and the most popular paid tourist attraction in the United Kingdom. Since its opening in 2000, the London Eye has become a familiar and instantly recognisable sight on the London landscape. Annually 3.5 million people take a short but memorable thirty-minute ride and experience, first hand, a bird's eye view of the capital city.

Originally christened 'The Millenium Wheel' (because it is a Ferris wheel and was built to mark the new millenium), it is more commonly known today as 'The London Eye'. With views across London of up to 25 miles, passengers feel as though they can see the whole of the city at once. And sometimes, depending on the infamous English weather, they can.

The London Eye is located right in the heart of London across the River Thames from the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben. The structure itself is an arresting sight: a giant white, bicycle-like wheel adorned with 32 viewing capsules - each of which weighs 10 tonnes and is large enough to carry up to 25 passengers at a time. The airline company British Airways, sponsored the whole project. Erecting the wheel was an amazing civil engineering achievement, not only during its construction phase, but also while it was being lifted into place by massive cranes and equipment which was shipped into position from the river.

A ride on the London Eye is called a 'flight'. Flights are available throughout the day and well into the night. One of the best times to take a flight on the London Eye is at sunset or at night when passengers can view London lit up beneath them. The London Eye itself is also lit up at night and looks magnificent illuminated against the night sky. Since 1st January 2005, the Eye has been the focal point of London's New Year celebrations, with 10-minute displays taking place involving fireworks fired from the wheel itself.

When designed, the original idea was for the London Eye to be taken down five years after it was built. However, Londoners are now so in love with their Eye that it is hard to imagine anyone wanting to pull it down. As the Eiffel tower is a symbol of Paris, so the Eye has become an icon of London. The Eye has done for London what the Eiffel Tower did for Paris, which is to give it a symbol and to let people climb above the city and look back down on it. Not just specialists or rich people, but everybody. That's the beauty of it: it is public and accessible, and it is in a great position at the heart of London.
FORM 5  ENGLISH  TIME: 15 minutes
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Name: ________________________________  Class: __________

1. State whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F). (3 marks)

(a) The London Eye is the highest Ferris wheel in the world. _____
(b) Over 3 million people visit the London Eye every year. _____
(c) The viewing capsules are rather spacious. _____
(d) Part of the project was sponsored by British Airways. _____
(e) London’s Christmas celebrations are focused on the London Eye. _____
(f) The London Eye was designed as a temporary structure. _____

2. Fill in the missing information in the grid below. (4 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>the height of the London Eye</th>
<th>the time it takes for one flight on the London Eye</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>the number of viewing capsules</td>
<td>the limit of passengers in each capsule</td>
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<td>-------------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
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3. Based on what you have heard, underline the correct answer. (3 marks)

(a) The London Eye was built to mark the new millennium/ copy the Eiffel Tower/ celebrate the New Year.
(b) From the London Eye you can rarely/ sometimes/ always see views across London of up to 25 miles.
(c) The London Eye is located next to/ opposite/ behind the Houses of Parliament.
(d) The London Eye is a black/ grey/ white structure.
(e) Building the wheel and putting it in place was very challenging/ easy/ slightly difficult.
(f) The best time to go on the London Eye is in the morning/ in the afternoon/ at night.
There is something mysterious and moving about seeing a whale at sea for the first time. The boat trip, the anticipation, the first glimpse; the sudden realisation that you are seeing one of the world’s most extraordinary animals close-up. It really is one of those never-to-be-forgotten experiences. And there is now more reason than ever to go. Whale-watching is not just good fun; it is good for conservation too.

This came home to me on a recent trip with my family to New England in the USA. An hour’s drive from Boston brought us to Newburyport. This old fishing town now survives almost entirely because it is one of the best places in the world for whale-watching. The day of our whale-watching trip was bright and clear. We made our way to the dockside at 10.30am and soon boarded the “Prince of Whales” for our trip. Luckily the sea was remarkably calm and I did not need the motion sickness tablets that Pete, the boat’s captain, so kindly offered to me as we set out. After an hour of travelling and soaking up the June sunshine, we arrived at one of the main feeding areas. Pete heard by radio from the captains of other boats that whales were in the area. He slowed the boat right down and began a slow circuit.

All of a sudden we saw a huge spout of water and then the fin of a whale. It was a finback, a female, feeding on her own, about 20m long and weighing about 35 tonnes. She stayed close to the surface about 100m from the boat and then came for a closer look. Just when we were least expecting it she surfaced, mouth out of the water, preceded by an upsurge of fish and seawater that she forced upwards as she flushed her mouth. She was so close that I wanted to touch her. But whale watchers respect the needs of the whale and never come into physical contact with the animal. Nonetheless, I was left completely breathless with excitement. We moved further out to sea and were rewarded by the sighting of several minke whales and yet another finback. The previous day’s rain may have caused them all to come closer to shore to feed. After a couple of hours happily cruising in open water, Pete decided that we should head back home. Our trip had been remarkably successful. I felt extremely privileged to have seen some of these magnificent beasts in their natural habitat and had learnt a great deal about their feeding and breeding behaviour.

Although we had been very lucky both in terms of sightings and with the weather, I can recommend a whale-watching trip to you under any circumstances. As whale-watching becomes increasingly popular worldwide, it is now remarkably easy to do. Around 10 million people a year go whale-watching, spending more than $1.25 billion to do so. And the demand for whale-watching grows every year. In places famous for hunting whales in the past, fishermen and the wider community are finding ever rising value from most people’s awe and delight of coming close to a living whale. Some 500 communities in 87 countries now cite whale-watching as a crucial employer in this area. Not only does this form of eco-tourism provide important economic benefits to local people, but it also helps education, research and sustainable conservation of important marine habitats. So whale-watching seems to be good for everyone. So why not find out where whales are closest to you and give it a go!
Our Whale Watches sail from the Boardwalk in Newburyport. Each trip takes between 4 and 4 ½ hours, giving plenty of time to see the whales and still have time for other activities available on our beautiful coast. While at sea our on board naturalist, from the Blue Ocean Society, will explain many of the mysteries that surround these huge but friendly animals. Our comfortable ship will whisk you off to wherever these magnificent animals are playing in comfort. Our galley provides snacks, light lunches and drinks. Welcome aboard, we look forward to seeing you.

**Schedules**

- **May 18th – May 31st**  
  Saturday and Sunday 10.00am
- **June 1st – June 30th**  
  Friday, Saturday, Sunday 10.00am
- **July 1st – August 31st**  
  Monday to Thursday 10.00am  
  Friday, Saturday, Sunday 8.30am and 1.30 pm
- **Sept 1st – Oct 15th**  
  Saturday, Sunday 10.00am

**Prices**

- **Adults** $48  
  **Senior Citizens age 65 and over** $42  
- **Children 3 and under** Free  
- **Kids 4-12 years** $33  
- **Family Friendly Special** 2 adults and 2 kids $125
A. Fill in the blanks with a word formed from the one in brackets. The first one has been done for you. 5 marks [ ]

David Blane is a young (0) **American** (AMERICA) magician who performs quite (1) _____________ (DIFFERENT) from any other magician who has ever been seen. What makes his performance (2) _____________ (LIKE) other magicians’ acts is the fact that he does his magic in the street with very little (3) _____________ (EQUIP). In one of his card tricks he “reads” people’s (4) _____________ (THINK) and tells them which card they are thinking of. His coin tricks are (5) _____________ (FANTASY) too, but his act is really (6) _____________ (MEMORY) because of his flying trick. This is so (7) _____________ (SURPRISE) to some people that they scream when his feet leave the ground. The act is truly great (8) _____________ (ENTERTAIN). David Blane is also popular because, although he is (9) _____________ (FAME), he does not behave like some other (10) _____________ (PROFESSION) entertainers who seem to look down on their audience.

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

People (0) **around** the world have used products from plants and trees for (1) _____________ 6,000 years. Many ancient cultures, (2) _____________ as the Ancient Greeks, Romans and Egyptians, used them. The French chemist Rene’-Maurice Gattefosse’ (3) _____________ the name ‘aromatherapy’ in 1928 after he had treated a burn (4) _____________ lavender oil. Aromatherapy uses essential oils, (5) _____________ are concentrated liquids from plants and trees. People either heat the essential oils and inhale the aroma, (6) _____________ they dilute the oil and massage it into their skin. You can also put a couple of (7) _____________ of oil into
your bath. Not (8) _______________ thinks that aromatherapy works. Therapists believe that aromatherapy can relax the body and the brain. On the other hand, some scientists say that there is (9) _______________ clear evidence of this. Aromatherapy is popular in many countries, (10) _______________ in France.

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 [ ]

When Andy Barker from Manchester (0) forgot (forget) his wife’s birthday for the third year running she (1) _______________ (decide) she (2) _______________ (had) enough and (3) _______________ (lock) him out of the house. Sue Barker (4) _______________ (remind) her husband several times (5) _______________ (book) a table for a romantic meal, and she (6) _______________ (hope) for a nice present too. Andy had promised not to forget, but when the day (7) _______________ (come) it went right out of his mind. He (8) _______________ (work) late and when he got home the door was locked and a suitcase with his things in it was on the doorstep. Since then Andy (9) _______________ (live) in a tent in the garden. He says, “I’m hoping that if I stay here for a few days, she (10) _______________ (forgive) me.”

D. Complete the following dialogue with a suitable question tag. The first one has been done for you. 5 marks [ ]

Chris: Hi Sarah!
Sarah: Hi Chris. It’s a nice day today, (0) isn’t it?
Chris: Yes it really is. Finally the sun is shining again.
Sarah: The weather has been terrible lately, (1) _______________
Chris: You’re right. Last week it rained every single day, (2) _______________
Sarah: Why don’t we go and spend some time in the park and enjoy this weather while it lasts?
Chris: That’s a great idea! I’m sure Kelly would love to join us, (3) _______________
Sarah: Of course. Send her an sms, (4) _______________
Chris: OK. I’ve just did. Let’s go then, (5) _______________
E. COMPREHENSION

Read the passage on whale-watching which is on a separate sheet, and then answer the questions below.

1. Say whether the following statements are TRUE (T) or FALSE (F) and give reason from the passage. 5 marks [ ]

   i) On the day of the trip the sea and weather conditions were favourable. _______
   
   because
   
   ii) The writer saw the first whale immediately after they set out. _______
   
   because
   
   iii) The first thing they saw was the fin of the whale. _______
   
   because
   
   iv) On the trip they saw three different types of whales. _______
   
   because
   
   v) Whale-watching creates employment in more than eighty countries. _______
   
   because

2. What did Pete do when he heard by radio that whales were in the area? 1 mark [ ]

   ________________________________________________________________

3. List 4 facts about the first whale the writer saw on his whale-watching trip. 2 marks [ ]

   i. _______________________________    ii. _______________________________

   iii. ______________________________    iv. ______________________________

4. What might have been the reason which caused the whales to come closer to the shore to feed? 2 marks [ ]

   ________________________________________________________________

5. Explain in your own words why whale-watching is described as a form of eco-tourism? 2 marks [ ]

   ________________________________________________________________

   ________________________________________________________________
6. Why didn’t the writer touch the whale even though he really wanted to? 2 marks [ ]
   ________________________________________________________________

7. Give 2 reasons why the writer felt “privileged” after the whale-watching trip. 2 marks [ ]
   i. ________________________________________________________________
   ii. _______________________________________________________________

8. What do these words refer to in the passage? 3 marks [ ]
   i) it (line 6) - ________________________________
   ii) it (line 9) - ________________________________
   iii) He (line 14) - ________________________________
   iv) her (line 20) - ________________________________
   v) we (line 22) - ________________________________
   vi) their (line 27) - ________________________________

9. Find words or phrases from lines 1-15 which in context mean: 3 marks [ ]
   i) expectation - ________________________________
   ii) quick look - ________________________________
   iii) preservation - ________________________________
   iv) completely - ________________________________
   v) embarked - ________________________________
   vi) enjoying - ________________________________

10. Find evidence from the text which shows that annually a lot of money is spent on whale-watching trips by a big number of people. 1 mark [ ]
    __________________________________________________________________
    __________________________________________________________________

11. From the last paragraph write down 4 benefits of whale watching: 2 marks [ ]
   i. __________________________________________________________________
   ii. __________________________________________________________________
   iii. __________________________________________________________________
   iv. __________________________________________________________________
12. What is the intention of the writer in this article? 2 marks [    ]

Now look at Text 2 and answer the following questions.

13. Where would you find this text? Tick (✓) the correct answer. ½ mark [    ]

   |   i) catalogue  |   ii) magazine  |   iii) website |

14. During which months are whale-watching trips most frequent? ½ mark [    ]

15. Which special offer is being given by Newbury Whale Watch? ½ mark [    ]

16. How much will you pay if you go on this whale-watching trip? ________ ½ mark [    ]

17. Average duration of a whale-watching trip - ___________________________ ½ mark [    ]

18. One facility/service on board - ________________________________ ½ mark [    ]

F. COMPOSITION (30 marks)

Write between 180 and 200 words on ONE of the following:

1. Write a short story for a writing competition entitled ‘The well-kept secret’.

2. The editor of your school magazine has asked you to write a review of a book or film which you believe might interest teenagers. Write your review.

3. You have just returned from a holiday in England where you stayed with your uncle Colin and aunty Kate who live there. Write an email to them in which you thank them for the lodging they provided and the time they spent with you visiting different places. You can talk about what you liked about this holiday and whether you would like to visit them again.
   You are Kim Borg and your email address is kborg@global.net
   Your uncle’s email address is colin.wilson@worldweb.net.

Start your email like this:

|   To:   |   From:   |   Subject:   |

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