

End of Primary Benchmark

2016

English Listening Comprehension Procedures

Time: 30 minutes

Teacher's Booklet

Note:

The English Listening Procedures are included in the audio text and candidates are expected to listen to the recorded text during the Listening Comprehension Assessment. This booklet, which includes the instructions, texts and tasks set, is to be read by teachers ONLY when the equipment used does not function properly.

Procedures for Task One

Look at Task One.

(Allow a 15-second pause while students familiarize themselves with the task.)

Listen carefully. You will hear the recording twice.

These are the news headlines:

Healthy Eating Video

Dutchman Breaks World Record

The Weather Report

Healthy Eating Video

St. Mark's School has made a new video on healthy eating. According to this phenomenally popular video, children should not have more than six teaspoons of sugar a day.

Jessica, a Year Six pupil who helped make the video, told us that she always ate healthy food at school but she often ate biscuits and cake at home. She also used to drink fizzy drinks with her meals. Now Jessica only drinks water.

The video shows how much sugar there is in certain food. For example, a large biscuit and a thick slice of cake contain around five teaspoons of sugar and a small bottle of fizzy drink contains seven teaspoons. It also shows children preparing healthy snacks, such as plain yoghurt with fresh fruit and cereal with milk.

Dutchman Breaks World Record

Yesterday, a Dutchman sat in a bath of ice that reached up to his neck for almost two hours, wearing only a pair of swimming shorts. This means that he has managed to break the world record that he set in 2010.

The man, who is popularly known as "Iceman", sat in a transparent bath of ice on the pavement with a large crowd of fans watching him. A journalist interviewed him and asked him how he was feeling. He said that he was feeling just fine and that he was actually enjoying the cold.

He trains by doing yoga and meditation. He also practises daily. Apart from this, he trains other people to do ice challenges. He claims that he can train a person in only four days.

And now for the weather report ... We will be having some unseasonal weather today. In fact, it is already raining in a few parts of Malta and Gozo. Right now the temperature is twenty-five degrees Celsius although the maximum temperature for today is likely to be thirty degrees Celsius. We expect the rain to stop in the afternoon thanks to a strong Westerly wind. However, do take your umbrellas with you; we may have a downpour in the evening.

That was the last news item.

(A jingle will be heard.)

Listen to the sentences and underline the correct word or phrase in each bracket as you listen.

(Include a 4-second pause after each number.)

Healthy Eating Video

Number 1 The video is (not, slightly, very) popular. (4 seconds)

Number 2 At home, Jessica used to drink (water, fizzy drinks, milk). (4 seconds)

Number 3 A large biscuit and a thick slice of cake have about (five, six, seven) teaspoons of sugar. (4 seconds)

Dutchman Breaks World Record

Number 4 Yesterday, a Dutchman sat in ice for (over, exactly, just under) two hours. (4 seconds)

Number 5 "Iceman" is the Dutchman's (first name, surname, nickname). (4 seconds)

Number 6 The Dutchman practises (every day, every four days, once a week). (4 seconds)

The Weather Report

Number 7 It is raining in (several parts, one part, all) of Malta and Gozo. (4 seconds)

Number 8 In the evening, it might (stop raining, rain lightly, rain heavily). (4 seconds)

Now you will hear the news items again. Listen carefully.

(The news items are read a second time.)

Listen to the sentences again. You may finish this task as you listen.

(The sentences are read a second time. Include the 4-second pause after each number.)

You now have some time to check your answers. (Allow 30 seconds.)

This is the end of Task One. (Allow a 30-second pause between Task 1 and Task 2.)

Procedures for Task Two

Look at the three exercises for Task Two.

(Allow a 50-second pause while students familiarise themselves with the three exercises.)

Listen carefully. You will hear the recording twice.

In this speech, Clare Ford talks about World Environment Day and how we can help the environment by taking part in a beach clean-up.

Hello, I'm Clare Ford speaking for Eco Club, the environmental organization in our town. I have been a member for the past 6 months. I feel so proud because together with my friends, I am trying to make a difference to the world we live in.

Today, the 5th of June, is World Environment Day. World Environment Day is celebrated in many countries such as Spain, Kenya, and New Zealand. An activity, such as a concert or a festival, is held to remind us of the importance of the environment.

We too are doing our bit to help the environment. Every week, my friends and I go to different beaches and clean up the rubbish. We help keep our sandy beaches clean and safe.

Our last beach clean-up was a huge success - we filled three whole bags with glass, paper and plastic. We found bottles, plates, cups and juice cartons. There was even a plastic Christmas tree!

Plastic is so harmful to the environment. It creates a great deal of litter on our sandy beaches! Did you know that it takes 100 years for plastic to break down? And some plastic objects like, for example, an ice-cream spoon, break down into microscopic particles that just never go away.

Plastic is dangerous. It is a threat to all marine animals and birds. Seabirds, crabs and turtles mistake the bright red, pink, brown and blue plastic pieces for their own food. Scientists found that in America alone, about 1 million seabirds have died from eating pieces of plastic. Today, 35% of the turtle population is in danger of becoming extinct.

We must do something. We have to reduce litter, especially plastic. This is an important way to protect sandy beaches. When we go to the beach, we should spend a few minutes picking up litter. We must also remember to throw away our rubbish in the bins.

Therefore, I would like to invite you to join us on our next beach clean-up activity. Do come along and bring your friends. It is a great opportunity to contribute towards this important cause.

The beach clean-up is on Saturday, 25th June from 9.30 till noon. We are going to meet at East Beach. First, there is going to be a talk. Professor Green will speak briefly about the dangers of litter on the beach and he will also give us some tips on how to rescue seabirds in distress.

It will be such fun too! You can sign up now or contact our leader John Potter.

Let us take this opportunity to help the environment by removing dangerous litter from the beach. Let us all think of the environment. It is your home and my home too!

Thank you for listening.

Listen to the exercises and complete them.

(Include a 4-second pause after each item.)

Exercise 1: Fill in the blanks with ONE word from the speech.

World Environment Day celebrations take place on the _____ (*4 seconds*) of June, in countries like _____ (*4 seconds*), Kenya and New Zealand. One of the activities held on this day is a _____ (*4 seconds*). Such activities are there to remind us of the importance of the environment.

Exercise 2: Tick the FIVE items found on the beach during the clean-up.

(Allow a 20-second pause for students to tick the five items.)

Exercise 3: True, False or No Information Given. Tick (✓) the correct box in the table below.

- a) Plastic takes a very long time to break down.
Tick the correct box now. (*4 seconds*)
- b) Last year, scientists rescued many seabirds.
Tick the correct box now. (*4 seconds*)
- c) The next beach clean-up is in the afternoon.
Tick the correct box now. (*4 seconds*)
- d) Anyone who wants to take part in the beach clean-up can contact Professor Green.
Tick the correct box now. (*4 seconds*)

Now you will hear the recording again. Listen carefully.

(The speech is read a second time.)

Listen to the exercises again. You may finish off any remaining exercises as you listen.

(The exercises are read a second time. Include a 4-second pause after each item.)

You now have some time to check your answers. (Allow 1 minute.)

This is the end of Task Two and the end of the Listening Comprehension Paper.