

End of Primary Benchmark

2016

Second Session

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:

Dance Yourself Fit
China's Coolest Man
The Weather Report

Dance Yourself Fit

St. Anne's School has a new programme for its pupils called "Dance Yourself Fit". To stay fit and healthy, pupils dance for at least one hour a week. Miss Pauline Grima, the Head of School, says that the programme is a roaring success among pupils and teachers.

At first, some children were not so sure about the programme. They thought they would all have to do ballet. Pupils can do ballet if they want to, but they can also do other kinds of dance, like hip hop or country dancing.

The dancing takes place before the beginning of the school day and during PE lessons. Miss Grima says that some teachers are using dance to teach Maths. In future, it will also be used in Maltese, English and Music classes.

China's Coolest Man

Yesterday, a Chinese man sat in a bath of ice for more than an hour. The man, known in China as "Polar Bear", sat in ice that reached up to his waist wearing only a pair of swimming shorts. Although he was shivering, he managed to play and win many Chinese chess games.

He started taking part in ice challenges around a decade ago. Before that, he used to swim in ice-cold rivers and lakes in the wintertime.

In 2013, he won a competition against another Chinese competitor. He stood in ice that reached up to his neck for a total of one hundred thirty-eight minutes. Since then, he has also won challenges against Russian competitors.

To train for these challenges he practises regularly; he even sleeps in a bath of ice for half an hour every day.

And now for the weather report ... The day ahead is going to be a splendid one. The skies will be mostly clear throughout the day with only five percent chance of rain. Right now, the temperature is twenty-eight degrees Celsius although the maximum temperature for today is likely to be thirty-two degrees Celsius. Don't worry too much about the heat though; a Northern breeze will be blowing for most of the day.

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.)

Dance Yourself Fit

Number 1 This new programme is (not, slightly, very) successful. (4 seconds)

Number 2 Pupils (have to, may, cannot) do ballet at school. (4 seconds)

Number 3 Some teachers are already using dance to teach (Maltese, Maths, Music). (4 seconds)

China's Coolest Man

Number 4 Yesterday, a Chinese man sat in ice for (over, exactly, less than) an hour. (4 seconds)

Number 5 He won (no, only a few, a lot of) games of Chinese chess. (4 seconds)

Number 6 He has beaten competitors from (China only, Russia only, Russia and China).
(4 seconds)

The Weather Report

Number 7 There is (no, a small, a strong) chance of rain. (4 seconds)

Number 8 There will be (no, a slight, a strong) wind blowing for most of the day. (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 familiarize themselves with the three exercises.)

Listen carefully. You will hear the recording twice.

In this speech, Mary Jones talks about World Environment Day and how we can help the environment by taking part in a dive to clean up the seabed.

Hello, I'm Mary Jones speaking for Earth Force, the environmental organization in our locality. My friends and I are trying to make a difference to our planet.

Today, the 5th of June, is World Environment Day. Every year, capital cities like Paris, Vienna and Rome organize a number of activities, like a parade or a show to celebrate the environment. Natural colours like blue, green and brown are used to promote the environment.

We too are doing our bit to help the environment. Once a month, my friends and I go on a dive to clean the seabed from marine rubbish and make it safe.

Our dive, last month, was a huge success - we ended up with four large bags of rubbish. We collected glass bottles, tyres, metal pipes, loads of plastic bags and detergent bottles. We even found a washing machine!

Marine litter is very harmful to the environment. It is a real problem, especially if the litter is plastic, because it moves long distances with the strong currents! Did you know that in the North Sea, about 70% of the litter thrown in the sea ends up on the seabed? Some metal objects, such as a tin of baked beans, take 50 years to break down. Even then, microscopic particles just never go away.

Marine litter is dangerous. It is a threat to all marine animals and fish. Whales, sea lions and fish choke on the many objects that they think are food. Scientists found that in Australia alone, about one and a half million mammals choked on metal tins. Today, 47% of the dolphin population is in danger of dying out.

We must do something. We have to reduce marine litter in order to protect seabeds along our coast. When we go out on a boat, we must remember not to throw away our rubbish into the sea. We must also remember to report anyone who dumps appliances into the sea.

Therefore, I would like to invite you to join us on our next dive. Do come along with your friends. It is a great opportunity to contribute towards this important cause.

The dive is on Sunday the 3rd of July from noon till 3.30. It is going to be at West Beach. We will start by listening to Professor White who will first talk about the dangers of marine litter; and then, he will show us how best to remove rubbish from the seabed.

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

Let us take this opportunity to help the environment by removing dangerous litter from the seabed. 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.

World Environment Day celebrations take place on the 5th of _____ (*4 seconds*), in cities like Paris, Vienna and _____ (*4 seconds*). 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 seabed during the dive.

(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) Litter thrown in the sea is harmful to all marine animals and fish.
Tick the correct box now. (*4 seconds*)
- b) Last summer, dolphins were rescued in Australia.
Tick the correct box now. (*4 seconds*)
- c) There is going to be another dive in the morning.
Tick the correct box now. (*4 seconds*)
- d) Professor White will explain how to remove rubbish from the beach.
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.