

End of Primary Benchmark
2019
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 familiarise themselves with the task.)

Listen carefully. You will hear the recording twice.

You are going to hear a radio programme presenting cool facts for children. The first fact is about the Maltese black hen. The second is about plastic in our soil and the third fact is about a museum of computer games.

Hi there, kids! We have some cool new facts for you:

Fact Number 1: Saving the Maltese Black Hen

Did you know that the Maltese black hen is leaner than many other breeds? And that it is completely covered in silky, black feathers? It may have been around for over two thousand years. In fact there were hens like these in the Mediterranean region even in ancient times. These hens were very common in Malta in the past but in 2001 there were only around 20 and it looked like this breed could become extinct. In 2008, farmers began breeding the hens once more and by 2012 they already had around 100 black hens. Nowadays you can see these hens on some farms around the Maltese countryside.

Fact Number 2: Plastic in our Soil

Every day we throw away a lot of plastic items but hardly any of this plastic is recycled. Scientists have discovered that a plastic bag takes at least 10 years to decompose, a plastic foam cup takes at least 50 years while a disposable nappy may take up to 600 years to break down. One of the main problems is that dangerous chemicals come out of plastic and enter our soil. We can now find plastic in the food we eat, even in salt and sugar!

Fact Number 3: Museum of Computer Games Opens Locally

After its official opening last Thursday, the Museum of Computer Games opened its doors to the public on Saturday. Visitors to the museum can see old video games like the ones that children played with in their sitting rooms in the 1980s. They can also see many old arcade games like Donkey Kong and Pac Man. The best thing about the museum though is that it's interactive. Children can play all the games in the museum. They can also code simple games like Frogger in the computer lab and make superhero costumes in the museum workshop. The museum is open every day from eight in the morning to six in the evening, except for Mondays.

These are all the cool facts for today. We'll be back tomorrow with some more cool facts for you.

Listen to the sentences and underline the correct answer in each bracket as you listen.
(Include a 4-second pause after each number.)

The Maltese Black Hen

Number 1. The Maltese black hen is (totally, partly, not) covered in silky, black feathers.
(4 seconds)

Number 2. Farmers started breeding Maltese black hens again in (2001, 2008, 2012). (4 seconds)

Plastic in our Soil

Number 3. It takes (10, 50, 600) years for a plastic foam cup to break down. (4 seconds)

Museum of Computer Games

Number 4. Children can code games like (Donkey Kong, Pac Man, Frogger). (4 seconds)

Number 5. The museum is closed on (Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays). (4 seconds)

True (T), False (F) or No Information Given (NIG).

Listen to the following sentences and tick the correct box.

- a) Today we can find the Maltese black hen on Maltese farms.
Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)
- b) Chemicals in our soil change the behaviour of animals.
Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)
- c) Children can play only some of the games in the museum.
Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

Now you will hear the programme again. Listen carefully.

(The radio programme is 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 today's radio programme, you are going to listen to Jenny Mitchell reading her winning story *The Magic Kite*.

The wind came from the north on that cold January night, when Mr Tell went out for his daily walk. The wind sounded its mighty roar and howled around every corner, so that everything shook in fear and every leaf seemed to tremble in terror.

Mr Tell hurried his steps down the narrow, uneven path. The wind blew even harder whipping his dark blue scarf around his face and blowing him backwards. Tucking his head, Mr Tell attempted a few more weary steps. He felt the squishy wet grass as he plodded on his way, when out of the corner of his eye, he perceived something red flapping just by the huge oak tree. A kite!

He couldn't believe his eyes. He hadn't flown a kite since his childhood days! Feeling pleased, Mr Tell hastened his steps towards it and snatched it up. It was made of yellow, waxy paper and the tail was made of red cloth. A green dragon snarled across the front and its fierce red eyes glared at the world, as fire and smoke poured from its flared nostrils, so that it looked like a dragon ready to attack anything. It was magnificent!

Mr Tell raised the kite above his head and started pulling at the string. Then, something remarkable happened. As the kite caught up with the wind, his feet left the ground and an astonished Mr Tell rose from the ground into the wind with a semi-chaotic grace. He felt lighter and lighter as the kite zigzagged higher and higher into the wild, dark night until he was about twenty metres above the ground. He was flying! He was so impressed with the bird's eye view he had of the countryside.

He gave a delighted cry as he hovered there and gazed down towards the muddy fields, which looked like a patchwork quilt of dark brown and green squares. He could see a scattered array of apple trees swaying in the night wind, and a tractor too! The farmhouses and stables huddled together for warmth, as though the wind might blow them away too. He saw rows and rows of crops and vegetables bursting with flavour.

And still the wind carried him on. Holding on to the long, white string with all his might, Mr Tell floated over the fields. Despite being scared, he grinned from ear to ear as he drifted higher again. He felt as light as a feather.

At that very instant, Mr Tell began to slowly descend. He moved downward and lower until he landed gracefully in the lower bushes, just a stone's throw away from his house. He looked around to check whether anybody was looking, before treading his way back home. A warm blanket and a cup of freshly brewed tea welcomed him. As he stood in his living room, he carefully folded the kite and decided to keep the night's adventure all to himself. He had had the time of his life.

Adapted from <https://www.literacywagoll.com/uploads/3/1/3/1/31318533/umbrella.docx>

Listen to the exercises and complete them.

Exercise 1: Tick FOUR items Mr Tell saw while he was flying. Do not tick more than four.
(Allow a 16-second pause for students to tick the four items.)

Exercise 2: Put the following actions of the story in the correct order by writing the number (from 1 – 4) in the right box. The first one (0) has been done for you. Start writing the numbers now. (Allow a 16-second pause.)

He checked to see if anyone was looking.

He felt his feet sweep off the ground.

Mr Tell went for a walk to town on a cold, windy day.

He saw farmhouses in the countryside.

He spotted a kite by the huge, oak tree.

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

- a) Mr Tell held the string in his left hand.
Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

- b) He made his way back gently to the ground.
Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

- c) Mr Tell landed far away from his home.
Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

- d) He was really eager to share his experience.
Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

Now you will hear the recording again. Listen carefully.

(The story 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.)

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.