End of Primary Benchmark

2021

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.

Bell ringing. Ms. Gatt enters the room. Mr. Vella is seated at a teacher’s desk while correcting pupils’ work. Ms. Gatt joins him for a conversation where they discuss the Fun Day the school is organising in May.

Ms. Gatt: Good morning. How are you?
Mr. Vella: Fine, thanks. How are the plans for the Fun Day activity coming along?
Ms. Gatt: Well, so far, we have permission to use the playground for Fun Day.
Mr. Vella: Have you thought about organising any activities yet? I could give you a helping hand with that if you wish. We could have sports activities like races, a go-karting activity or archery for the older kids. We could also have activities for parents, like zip-lining. And how about crafts and face painting for the younger ones? I could stay after school to help you set up; I’m sure other teachers would be willing to help.
Ms. Gatt: What a brilliant idea! I was also thinking about having animators dressed as cartoon characters. I think pupils, especially the younger ones, would love it.
Mr. Vella: Yes, I agree. How about bringing in a professional photographer to capture this memorable event? Or else a teacher, if we don’t want to spend any extra money.
Ms. Gatt: Oh yes. I’ll ask the Science teacher. He’s really into photography and takes amazing pictures.
Mr. Vella: Really? I didn’t know that! What about food? We could have another section with a variety of food stalls.
Ms. Gatt: We’ve already contacted our usual caterer who’s going to set up some stalls with healthy food options and drinks.
Mr. Vella: And a DJ? I’m sure music would liven up the atmosphere. Maybe we could also have a dancing contest for the older pupils.
Ms. Gatt: Oh, that would be great! And the music teacher has already volunteered to stand in as DJ. I love the dancing contest idea. Pupils could pay a small fee to enter the contest. The donation would go towards the mid-day break crafts group. What do you think?
Mr. Vella: I think that’s wonderful!
Ms. Gatt: You’ve been ever so helpful! Thank you so much!
Mr. Vella: You’re welcome.
Exercise 1: True (T) or False (F)

Listen to the following sentences and tick the correct box.

a) The Fun Day activity will be held outdoors.
   Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

b) There will be different activities for different age groups.
   Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

c) A professional photographer will take pictures during the event.
   Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

d) Teachers are going to set up food stalls with healthy food and drinks.
   Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

Exercise 2: Tick FOUR activities which the teachers are planning for Fun Day.
   Do not tick more than four.

(Allow a 16-second pause for students to tick the four items.)

Now you will hear the dialogue again. Listen carefully.

(The dialogue 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 the 4-second pause after each number for the first exercise and a 16-second pause for students to tick the four items in the second exercise.)

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.)

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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.

You are going to listen to Global News.

The news today has been dominated by one young person’s surprising find. A nest of eleven dinosaur eggs was discovered quite by chance by ten-year-old Zang in South China.

It was morning when Zang was playing outside, in the open space by the river in the city. Out of the corner of his eye, he spotted a strange stone with shell-like circles in the soil, so he hurried to take a closer look. He said it looked like a cement circle or a huge, round stone. He was quick to call his mum to take a look at it as well. He was quite certain that the shell was a dinosaur egg.

Young Zang knew all about dinosaurs from science books. He explained that he was crazy about them. The boy’s mother said that her son was in the sixth grade of Primary School and really loves science. He was always reading books on dinosaurs. She went on to say that the school often organises educational outings to the National Dinosaur Museum. Children must inform their parents or the police if they find dinosaur eggs and hand them over to the authorities.

The young boy’s mum called the police. They rushed to the scene together with staff from the Museum. A team of fossil experts were very careful to dig around this stone. They were soon able to confirm that this was indeed a nest of dinosaur eggs. The police immediately closed off the area to protect the eggs. Later, these experts from the museum checked the area around the river and they were able to excavate another nest of eggs in the vicinity. They cleaned them from soil and put them on display. The complete set of eggs can be viewed at the National Dinosaur Museum.

The museum curator explained that different dinosaur eggs have different shapes. They have a hard shell, which can be dark brown or dark blue. They are usually found near rivers because reptiles lay their eggs in riverbanks. The largest dinosaur egg is 20 centimetres in diameter. The 11 dinosaur eggs that Zang found are smaller. They are just 9 centimetres in diameter and they are still intact. They are nearly 65 million years old. Experts say that these eggs date back to the time just before dinosaurs became extinct.
Zang is very proud of his city which is known as the ‘Hometown of the Dinosaur’ in China. Since 1996, over 17,000 dinosaur eggs have been dug out in this city. This is one third of the total number of dinosaur eggs in the world. This city was listed in the Guinness Book of World Records after more than 10,000 dinosaur eggs were found all over the city.

Well, this is certainly a day Zang will not be forgetting in a hurry!

Adapted from: https://www.unilad.co.uk/science/young-boy-accidentally-finds-65-million-year-old-dinosaur-eggs-while-playing-outdoors/

Listen to the exercises and complete them.

Exercise 1: Fill in the blanks with the correct number.

(Allow a 16-second pause for students to write the four numbers.)

A great discovery!

Zang, a ____-year-old boy, discovered a nest of ____ dinosaur eggs dating back to ____ million years ago in China. These eggs were only ____ centimetres wide.

Exercise 2: Underline the correct answer.

a) When Zang noticed the strange stone, he (moved back, ran away, approached it) quickly.
   Underline the correct answer now. (4 seconds)

b) In this city, schools (frequently, seldom, sometimes) organise educational trips to the Museum.
   Underline the correct answer now. (4 seconds)

c) Another nest of dinosaur eggs was found (at, near, far from) the site.
   Underline the correct answer now. (4 seconds)

d) Dinosaur eggs had been found (in one part of, outside, throughout) this city in South China.
   Underline the correct answer now. (4 seconds)
Exercise 3: True or False. Tick the correct box in the table below.

a) Some of the eggs discovered by Zang were taken to the National Dinosaur Museum. 
   Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

b) All dinosaur eggs are identical. 
   Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

c) Dinosaur eggs are likely to be found near rivers. 
   Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

d) The dinosaur eggs that Zang found were not damaged at all. 
   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.