



Annual Examinations for Secondary Schools 2022

YEAR 11

ENGLISH
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

TIME: 15 min

TEACHER'S PAPER

Instructions for the conduct of the Listening Comprehension Examination

In the event of a power cut, teachers of English are to read the instructions below.

You have been given a sheet containing the Listening Comprehension questions. You now have **THREE** minutes to read the questions based on the passage, which you will listen to **TWICE**.

Pause – 3 minutes

You will now listen to the passage for the **FIRST** time. You may answer the questions while listening. After the passage is read, there will be a pause of another **THREE** minutes to allow you to answer the questions. I will read the passage now.

(Reading of passage)

Pause – 3 minutes

You will now listen to the passage for the **LAST** time and you may answer the rest of the questions. After this, you have a further **THREE** minutes for a final revision of the answers. I will read the passage now.

(Reading of passage)

Pause – 3 minutes

This is the end of the Listening Comprehension examination.

TEACHER'S PAPER

You are going to listen to this week's podcast in the series Historical Monuments.

For 500 years, the Colosseum was the biggest amphitheatre in the Roman Empire, hosting gladiator fights, executions and animal hunts. Then it fell into disrepair. Now, nearly 2,000 years after it was built, the Colosseum is getting a new high-tech floor. Made of carbon fibre covered in sustainable wood, it promises to give visitors a gladiator's view of Italy's most popular tourist attraction.

The Colosseum was built during the reign of Emperor Vespasian in 72 AD and completed under the rule of his successor, Titus, in 80 AD. It is believed that it could host up to 70,000 people when it opened. It had a wooden floor covered with sand that was built on top of a network of tunnels and rooms where gladiators and animals waited before entering the arena. The floor had moving parts and removable sections where gladiators and wild animals would pop up on stage through a complex system of elevators. But this floor was removed in the late 1800s when archaeologists began to excavate the subterranean levels of the structure. The underground area was opened to the public in 2010.

Fabio Fumagalli, an architect involved in the project said that the floor which will have an area of 3,000 square metres, will be retractable through electrical mechanisms. The slats can be tilted 90 degrees to allow in light and reveal a glimpse of the tunnels underneath. The floor also aims to protect the arena's foundations, which have been exposed to the elements for around 200 years. New ventilation units along the perimeter will help control the temperature and humidity of the underground rooms.

The idea of re-flooring the Colosseum was first proposed by the archaeologist Daniele Manacorda in an article published in 2014. The proposal was embraced by the country's culture minister, who called for engineers and architects to come forward with a plan. The tender was won by Milan Ingegneria, an engineering firm - one of 10 competitors who answered the Italian government's 2020 call. The firm will build the floor at a cost of €18.5 million. It is due to be completed in 2023, and will allow for cultural events to once again take place inside the Colosseum.

The project is reversible, meaning it can be removed if plans for the Colosseum change in the future. Prior to the pandemic, the Colosseum attracted on average 20,000 visitors per day with a yearly record of more than 7 million visitors.

Let's see what the future holds for this iconic monument.

And that brings us to the end of today's podcast.

(sources: theguardian/bbc/nbcnews)