



Annual Examinations for Middle Schools 2023

YEAR 8

**ENGLISH
LISTENING COMPREHENSION**

TIME: 15 minutes

TEACHER'S PAPER

Instructions for the conduct of the Listening Comprehension Examination.

Listening and Viewing Instructions:

The exam should take approximately 15 minutes. Before the Listening and Viewing Examination, please ensure that the equipment is functioning properly, that all students are able to follow, that the sound is clear and the voices are intelligible. Teachers / Invigilators are asked to play the 15-minute recording in its entirety and to only stop it when it is over. Teachers are kindly asked not to pause or stop the recording. The intervals are included in the recording. The following script is included in case the recording malfunctions and the teacher would need to read the text. Thank you.

Listening and Viewing Instructions:

Teacher says:	Annual Examination 2023, English Listening and Viewing, Year 8 Track 2. This exam is 15 minutes long. You will listen to and view one text. You have three minutes to read the questions before you listen to the text. Next, you have 3 minutes to answer the questions. Then you will listen to and view the text for the second and last time. Lastly, you have 3 minutes to check your answers. You are allowed to write during all parts of the exam.
Teacher says:	Look at the listening and viewing exam questions. Your 3 minutes to read the questions start now.
3-minute timer	
When the three minutes are up, Teacher says:	You will now listen to and view the text. You may answer your questions while listening.
Text	<i>Audio visual text</i>
Teacher says:	Now you have 3 minutes to answer your questions.
3-minute timer	

When the 3 minutes are up, Teacher says:	You will now listen to and view the text for the second and last time. You may answer your questions while listening.
Text	<i>Audio visual text</i>
Teacher says:	Now you have 3 minutes for a final revision of your answers.
3-minute timer	
Teacher says:	This is the end of the English Listening and Viewing Annual Examination, 2023.

Listening Task – Audio-Visual

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3StWheKtq8>

Transcript

Icy and remote, the continent of Antarctica is the coldest, driest, windiest, and southernmost place on Earth. It is located almost entirely below the Antarctic Circle, and is surrounded by the frigid Southern Ocean.

As a continent, Antarctica is a large expanse of land. It is the Earth's fifth-largest continent: larger than Europe, and nearly twice as large as Australia. About 98% of Antarctica is covered in sheets of ice that average more than a mile or nearly two kilometres in thickness.

Compared to other continents, Antarctica was only recently discovered. Although the existence of a huge southern continent was rumoured for thousands of years, Antarctica was not seen by humans until the 19th century. It was believed to be first sighted in 1820, but the first confirmed landing was not until 1895. This is because Antarctica was so cold and unwelcoming that there was little interest in exploring it. Map makers called the new continent 'Antarctica,' from a Greek word meaning 'the opposite of the Arctic,' or north. Although it is so cold, Antarctica is a desert, with very little rain or snow. What snow there is accumulates, and builds up into massive sheets of ice. This ice takes different forms, including glaciers, ice shelves, and icebergs. Because of the thick sheets of ice covering the continent, Antarctica has the highest average elevation of any continent in the world.

There are only two seasons in Antarctica: summer, and winter. Because Antarctica is located at the Earth's south pole, each summer brings long periods of sunlight, and winter brings long periods of darkness. During the summer, the sun remains in the sky longer and longer each day, until midsummer, where near the south pole the sun stays up for 24 hours a day. During the winter, it is dark for longer and longer each day, until midwinter, when there are some days that the sun does not rise at all.

Adapted from:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3StWheKtq8>