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# INTERNATIONAL GCSE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

## Listening Test Transcript

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Thursday 8 November 2018 07:00 GMT

Time allowed: 45 minutes

(including 5 minutes' reading time before the test)

**FOR INVIGILATOR'S USE ONLY**

**The pauses are pre-recorded for this test.**

### Instructions

This is what you should do for each item.

- After the question number is announced, there will be a pause to allow you to read the instructions and questions.
- Listen carefully to the recording and read the questions again.
- Listen to the recording again, and then answer the questions.
- When the next question is about to start you will hear a bleep.
- You may write at any time during the test.
- Answer the questions in **English**.
- You must answer all the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write on blank pages.
- Write neatly and put down **all** the information you are asked to give.
- **You must not ask questions or interrupt during the test.**
- You now have 5 minutes to read through the question paper. You may make notes during this time. You may open your answer book now.
- **The test starts now.**

Once the recording has started, the Invigilator must not pause it at any time as all pauses, including the 5 minutes' reading time, are pre-recorded.

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Questions and answers in **English**

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**Task 1**

- 1     **F1**     It was my birthday yesterday. I was 40, but I wish I was 21. I planned to go to the cinema, but instead, I went for a pizza with friends.
- 2     **M1**     I enjoyed my summer holiday. I went to Egypt in August for the whole month and returned home in September. Next year, I would like to go to Saudi Arabia.
- 3     **F2**     I am 15 years old and will finish college in 3 years' time. After that, I would like to go to study in England. It will take 4 years to complete my degree and then I would like to move back to Malaysia.
- 4     **M2**     Thank you for your order. If you would like all three of your items delivered to your home address, please press 1. If you would like them delivered to a neighbour, please press 2. Please make sure that our delivery people have your phone number in case they need to contact you.

**Task 2**

- 5     **F1**     Hi Farhan. Apart from doing your school work, what do you do at the weekend?
- M2**     It depends. I don't really like playing sport, but I like to watch football and often I go out with friends, or go shopping on my own.
- 6     **F1**     Do you like to watch films? If so, what type of films do you like to watch?
- M2**     I like comedy films and also action films – ones where exciting things happen. I don't really like films about relationships.
- 7     **F1**     Why don't you like watching films about relationships? Do they not interest you?
- M2**     That's right - I just find them too boring. Also, there isn't enough excitement in those films. I prefer action films.
- 8     **F1**     Where do you watch films?
- M2**     Sometimes, I go to the local cinema with friends, but mostly I watch films at home. I also like watching them on my laptop. It's cheaper to watch films at home.

**Task 3**

- 9 F2** My name is Simran and I'm going to talk about my mother and her difficult but interesting life. My mother was born in Turkey in 1952. Almost immediately her family brought her to England where she has lived ever since.
- 10 F2** My mother had a difficult childhood. She had the challenge of having to learn to speak two languages. Also, her father moved to China for work when she was 6. Her mother couldn't afford to feed the family, so my mother was sent to live with her aunt in a different part of England.
- 11 F2** My mother's life improved as she grew older. She worked hard at school and then went to university in London. She had always been interested in the human body, and so decided to train to be a doctor. Towards the end of the course she decided she would like to work with children, and so she got a job in a children's hospital in the north west of England.
- 12 F2** My mother got married in 1980 to my father, who was a manager at the hospital. They were both very busy, but somehow found the time to raise four children. I am the youngest and have decided, like my mother, to be a doctor.

**Task 4**

- 13 F2** Hi, welcome back to my show. I'm Molly. I'm delighted to interview one of my heroes, Alan Swift. Alan – I'm so excited to meet you! Can I start by asking how you got involved with running?
- 14 M2** Hi Molly. I can't really remember to be honest! I've always been interested in sport, but my first long distance run was on the beach with my father when I was 7. My first run in a competition was when I was 13 years old.
- 15 F2** So, as a successful long distance runner, what would you say are your biggest challenges?
- M2** That's easy – age! I'm getting older and so I haven't got as much energy these days. I also think that travelling is hard to cope with. I compete all over the world and plane journeys are tiring. Sometimes, getting enough rest between runs is difficult, and to be honest, long distance running can be quite a lonely thing to do. Coping with that is a challenge at times.
- 16 F2** You make it sound like a real challenge! Why do you think long distance running is a good thing to do? What are the best things about it?
- M2** Yes – that did sound negative! I really love running. It keeps me fit and is a great way to relieve stress. There's nothing better than being outdoors and feeling the wind in your hair. I have met lots of amazing people through running too, but most of all, I love crossing the finishing line first. The satisfaction of winning is superb.
- F2** Thanks, Alan. Best of luck with your next race.

**Task 5**

- 17 M1** Dr Choudhury, in your opinion, what are the biggest problems facing the world today?
- F1** There are many things which worry me. Global warming has been a big problem for years and it doesn't seem to be getting better. Air pollution is a concern too, but in my opinion, the world must do something about how much plastic there is in its oceans. The amount of plastic in the sea worries me tremendously.
- 18 M1** Why is this a problem? Surely the oceans are large enough to cope?
- F1** It's a problem because it's killing fish and birds. 90% of seabirds are eating plastic. One in three turtles have plastic in their stomachs. Last year I visited Norway and saw how the body of a dead whale contained more than 30 plastic bags. It's also a problem for humans. When we eat seafood, we are also eating the plastic that's in the fish.
- 19 M1** Some of our listeners might be surprised to hear this. Surely people would know if they were eating plastic?
- F1** Unfortunately not. Plastic never disappears – it just gets smaller. There are a huge number of tiny plastic pieces floating in our oceans, many of which are too small to see. There are also large patches of floating waste. In a single day in 2015, volunteers around the world removed 1 million plastic bottles from the sea.
- 20 M1** Why has plastic become such a problem in recent years?
- F1** Plastic is a relatively new invention, so before 1950, it wasn't used. Now it is used in so many products, from cars to medical machines. Plastic is a great invention for humans, but is also hard to get rid of and it's dangerous. Many countries send plastic into the seas or into landfill sites. We have rubbish the size of a city in our seas.
- 21 M1** Who or what do you blame for this problem? What can be done about it?
- F1** Some countries pollute more than others – in 2015, China and America were the biggest producers of plastic waste. Ships and oil rigs are also responsible for some of the waste. The way in which countries get rid of waste products isn't good enough either. In the end, anybody who throws away a plastic bottle or plastic bag is to blame. Nobody seems to realise how big this problem is. The world doesn't seem interested in the problem. We need to do something – and fast.

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