

INTERNATIONAL GCSE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Listening Paper Transcript

Tuesday 1 November 2022

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 the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write on blank pages.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- 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.

Questions and answers in **English**.

Task 1

- 1 **M1** School is closed tomorrow and I'm planning a trip. I wanted to go to a theme park but it's too expensive. I thought about going to the theatre but I went last year and there's nothing I want to see. I've decided to go to the zoo on my own.
- 2 **F1** I've always enjoyed being active and doing a lot of different sports. At the moment I play tennis, football and basketball. But football has always been my favourite. I do sport most days, including Sundays. I play tennis at a local club every Monday and Wednesday.
- 3 **M2** Hello. I recently bought tickets to watch *The Lion King* on Friday afternoon, but am now unable to go and would like to change my booking, please. I'd like to go on Saturday night instead. I have three tickets, two adults and one child.
- 4 **F2** If you want to start a blog, I recommend you write one about fashion or cooking. Don't blog about education because it can be boring. There are a lot of reasons to start a blog. The main reasons are to make new friends or earn money, not to practise English.

Task 2

- 5 **M1** Welcome to our presentation on travel to university. I'm Zain. I'm sure you all have your own preferences. Jon and I certainly do, although our ideas are very different. Neither of us can drive, Jon catches the train every day. I'm lazier, and I get a lift in my brother's car.
- 6 **M2** Zain and I agree we'd like to take the bus more often. The main reason we don't is the cost. If you buy a ticket every day, it can become expensive. I'm sure you understand! On the plus side, buses use dedicated bus lanes, meaning they don't get stuck in traffic.
- 7 **M1** If you don't want to catch the bus every day, there are plenty of alternatives to going by car. For example, you could try cycling. It's good for your health as you're doing exercise. It's also completely free! You'll also be helping the planet by not creating pollution.
- 8 **M2** The university could do more to make us drive less. Providing free buses to the university would encourage people not to drive, especially if students are charged to use university car parks. They could also provide secure places to park bikes, so people feel safe bringing their bikes onto campus.

Task 3

- 9 M2** In recent years, we've seen a huge increase in people working from home. Even in sectors that were traditionally office-based such as banking, workers are now based at home for at least part of their working week. In the past two years, we've seen an increase of 50%. At present, about 26% of people are working from home.
- 10 M2** There are obvious benefits to working from home, not least of which is an improved work-life balance. Being based at home means there is no need to travel to work, which can save people up to two hours a day in travel time. Obviously, this means that people will have more free time they can spend on hobbies or with family.
- 11 M2** That's not to say there aren't drawbacks. A lot of people have reported feeling lonely, as they have less opportunity to mix with colleagues. Some people also say they become more easily distracted at home, either by noise from other people in the house or other things they could be doing such as going online. Internet connection can also cause people some problems. If people don't have reliable broadband, it can be hard for them to work at home.
- 12 M2** Of course, not everyone will be able to work from home. There will always be sectors where this won't be possible. For example, it goes without saying that doctors will have to go into surgeries or hospitals. In many sectors, though, hybrid working – where people work in both the workplace and at home – will become the new normal.

Task 4

- 13 M1** Have you heard that Mrs Walters is retiring? It's a real shame, she's my favourite teacher. I know I'm not going to be the only person who's really upset she's going. She's been teaching for more than 40 years and I heard she's been at the school for thirteen years. We need to throw her a leaving party to say goodbye.
- 14 F1** That's a lovely idea. We can invite all the students in our class, and some of the teachers. First, we need to decide where to have the party. A restaurant would be a good choice, but it would probably be too expensive. It's probably best to have it somewhere at school because we don't need to pay for the rooms. The classrooms won't be big enough so I think the school hall will be the best option since there's plenty of space in there.
- 15 M1** Great idea. We need to start organising the party soon, we don't have much time before she leaves. Let's start by making a list of everything we need to do beforehand. The first thing we need to do is decide when to have the party and write the invitations. Then, when we know how many people are coming, we can get the food and drink. We also need to plan some party games – we want people to enjoy themselves.
- 16 F1** We should get her a gift as well so she's got something she can remember us by. It's not easy buying gifts for teachers, though. We could get her a sketch book – I know she enjoys drawing in her free time. Jewellery would be a good idea – she always wears lovely earrings. We could get her a necklace, then when she wears it, she'll remember us. How about getting her a gift voucher as well? She can use it to get herself something she really wants.

Turn over ►

Task 5

- 17 F2** Welcome to *Shopping Expert*, the podcast for careful shoppers. In this episode, we're going to look at online shopping. Why do we love shopping online? Firstly, when you shop online, it's possible to find more retailers than you might find in a town centre. This means that you have more choice when you're looking for goods on the internet. Online shopping can also be good value for money, as you can buy goods at a lower cost than in the shops. However, the main appeal for many has to be the ease of doing their shopping without leaving their homes.
- 18 F2** I'm sure many of you, like me, love to try and get a bargain online. There are lots of websites where you can find reduced price or second-hand products. Online auction sites, where you bid against other people to win goods, are also very popular. You have to be careful with online auctions, though. It can be very easy to get over-excited and end up paying over the odds for items. I'm sure most of us have done this at least once!
- 19 F2** There are other obvious disadvantages to online shopping. First of all, it's having a disastrous effect on our town centres, where so many shops are closing down. It's also not possible to see the goods before you buy them, so you might find you've bought damaged or poor-quality items. It also has an impact on our health – when you go shopping, you're being active whereas online shopping doesn't require any physical movement.
- 20 F2** Of course, this doesn't mean online shopping is all bad. Far from it. In fact, if you take reasonable precautions, there's no reason why you shouldn't have a very positive experience. Before you buy something, make sure you check the reviews of the product. If you're not familiar with the company, you can also use online review sites to check them out before you buy. These reviews can be really useful in helping you decide what to buy and where from. Remember to check the website is secure before you enter your payment details and always check the returns policy.
- 21 F2** Now, let's look to the future. Some experts predict online shopping will become our only way of shopping within 10 years. I disagree – I think we'll always want physical shops in our towns and cities. However, there's no question we've seen a permanent change in the way we shop and smaller businesses will need to adapt to survive. Companies that don't offer online shopping will need to become more creative in the way they offer goods and services to attract shoppers and stay relevant. I predict empty shops will be used for other purposes, such as housing or leisure services.

END OF SOURCES

Copyright information

For confidentiality purposes, all acknowledgements of third-party copyright material are published in a separate booklet. This booklet is published after each live examination series and is available for free download from www.oxfordaqaexams.org.uk.

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and Oxford International AQA Examinations will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team.

Copyright © 2022 Oxford International AQA Examinations and its licensors. All rights reserved.

