

LISTENING

Listening Section Instructions

This section of the test has three parts. Mark all your answers on the separate answer sheet. Do not make any stray marks on the answer sheet. If you change your mind about an answer, erase your first answer completely. If you do not know the answer, you may guess. Try to answer as many questions as possible.



Scan for Audio

Part 1

In this part, you will hear 20 short conversations. After each conversation, you will hear a question about it. You will hear each conversation and question once. The answer choices are printed in the test booklet. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet, not in the test booklet. You should mark A, B, C, or D.

Do you have any questions?

GUIDED SECTION

Study the Listening Tips and Strategies on pages 194-197 before attempting the Listening Section, and refer to them as needed.

1. Why is the woman surprised?
 - A. The man has been improving his physique.
 - B. The man has arrived late for an appointment.
 - ☒ C. The man did not use the elevator on his way up.
 - D. The man cannot make it to his meeting with Kim.
2. What can be inferred about the man?
 - A. He is requesting information from the woman.
 - B. He doesn't have a smartphone of his own.
 - C. He recently passed an important exam.
 - ☒ D. He attended university a long time ago.
3. What are the speakers doing?
 - ☒ A. compiling a dress code for the office
 - B. shopping for a new perfume
 - C. deciding what to wear to a party
 - D. filing a complaint about a coworker
4. Who is the woman complaining about?
 - ☒ A. a fellow student
 - B. a neighbor
 - C. a schoolteacher
 - D. a public figure
5. What do the speakers disagree about?
 - A. whether to pay a parking ticket
 - ☒ B. where to leave the car briefly
 - C. how to drop off a large parcel
 - D. which of them should do the driving
6. What do the speakers say about Simon?
 - A. He will take the express train.
 - B. He will be late for the conference.
 - ☒ C. He will give a talk at the conference.
 - D. He will take a coach instead of the train.
7. What do we learn about Madison?
 - A. It is where the man currently works.
 - B. It is easy to find good jobs there.
 - ☒ C. It is the woman's hometown.
 - D. It is on the other side of the country.
8. What is the woman's attitude to Mike?
 - ☒ A. She does not approve of his behavior.
 - B. She admires his communication skills.
 - C. She feels sorry for having offended him.
 - D. She finds him interesting.

Teacher's note: Refer students to the tips below before each item is heard to help them focus on what is important.

TIP

General tip: The answer is very often found in the last sentence of the conversation, so listen carefully to the end!

Item 1: Listen for tone of voice. At which point in the audio does the woman sound surprised?

Item 2: Be careful with inference questions. The correct answer is often something the speaker never says directly but strongly suggests.

Item 6: Listen for paraphrase. Which words in the answer choices mean the same thing as a phrase heard in the audio? Check the transcript and try to identify the paraphrase if you are not sure.

Item 7: Pay attention to place names. Ask yourself whether the speakers are talking about where they live now, where they lived before, or somewhere else entirely. Location questions often contain attractive distractors.

READING: CLOZE

GUIDED SECTION

Study the Cloze Tips and Strategies on pages 198-199 before attempting the Cloze texts, and refer to them as needed.

This passage is about reading for pleasure.

According to a recent survey, fewer and fewer children and young adults enjoy reading for pleasure in their spare time. The survey, which asked (67) aged eleven to eighteen years about their reading habits, found that only around a third (68) books to be a worthwhile way to spend their leisure time.

Some may dismiss any concerns raised by these findings. Official tests of specific reading skills show that, while there has been some decline, school students who have (69) reading at the expected grade level are still in the (70). Most young people can read proficiently when (71), in other words.

(72), the fact that youngsters are apparently capable of reading, but are disinclined to do so in their free time, does raise legitimate concerns. Reading for pleasure has been linked with a (73) many positive outcomes, from enhanced academic performance to healthier lifestyles. For these reasons, young people who are not interested in reading except (74) schoolwork are sorely (75) out.

But there is also (76). According to the survey, young people are more inclined to read books that are closely related to their own lives and to their personal interests, especially movies, series, and music.

TIP

General tip:

Read the whole paragraph to get the gist. Do not focus on the blanks. Guess a word to fit the blank before looking at the options. Very often, the answer is the one that 'is on the tip of the tongue.'

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| 67. A. queries | C. matters |
| ☒ B. subjects | D. applicants |
| 68. A. viewed | ☒ C. considered |
| B. opined | D. assessed |
| 69. A. ease | C. obstacle |
| B. ability | ☒ D. difficulty |
| 70. A. superiority | C. inferiority |
| B. priority | ☒ D. minority |
| 71. ☒ A. required | C. having required |
| B. requiring | D. is required |
| 72. A. Consequently | ☒ C. Nevertheless |
| B. Subsequently | D. Therefore |
| 73. A. real | ☒ C. great |
| B. top | D. high |
| 74. A. from | ☒ C. for |
| B. of | D. the |
| 75. A. leaving | C. placing |
| ☒ B. missing | D. finding |
| 76. ☒ A. reason to be hopeful | C. opportunity for change |
| B. room for doubt | D. cause for concern |

TIP

Item 67: Read the whole sentence and the sentence before that. The missing answer is linked to an idea in the previous sentence and also to what comes after the blank.

Item 70: Look at words around the blank. Is the answer choice part of a fixed phrase or collocation?

Item 72: Check the meaning. Sometimes more than one answer choice may fit grammatically but only one fits in with the overall meaning of the text. Follow the logic of the text. Does this sentence continue an idea or oppose it?

Items 74 and 75: Be careful! Memorize set phrases when learning vocabulary.

Item 76: Before choosing, ask yourself whether the paragraph is ending on a positive or negative note.