

Script of the Listening Test

Now, we will start the listening test. This test has two parts: dialogues and passages. All of the questions in these two parts are multiple-choice questions. For each question, choose the best answer from among the four choices. The choices are NOT written in your test. You may take notes during the test.

(2 seconds)

Part 1 Dialogues. In this part, you will listen to two dialogues. The first dialogue has one question, and the second dialogue has two questions. The four choices will be read out after each question. The dialogues, the questions and the choices will be read out only ONCE. Now, let's start.

(2 seconds)

Dialogue 1. After listening to this dialogue, you will be asked one question. *(3 seconds)*

Joanna: Welcome back Miguel! Did you enjoy your vacation to the Caribbean?
Miguel: Thanks Joanna. It was an amazing experience and I've brought you a gift you might find interesting.
Joanna: Wow! Drums! I've never seen these before.
Miguel: They are replica steel drums. Steel drums are called steel pans locally. They are one of the national instruments of the Caribbean.
Joanna: Wow, really! The insides have an unusual concave shape, like a bowl.
Miguel: Yes. And these dimpled shapes allow them to produce various sounds. You should do some research about them on your laptop.
Joanna: According to the United Nations, steel drums are the only new instruments to have been invented in the twentieth century.
Miguel: That's impressive! It also says that most steel drum bands have several drums of various sizes, and all together they can rival an orchestra.
Joanna: Did you get an opportunity to play one of them?
Miguel: My family went on a tour of a factory where drums are made, and we took a demonstration lesson and enjoyed playing the drums.
Joanna: Fantastic!

(169 words)

(3 seconds)

Question

According to the dialogue, which of the following is true about steel drums?

(3 seconds)

- A** They are the only national instrument of the Caribbean countries.
- B** They are able to produce various sounds because of their shapes.
- C** They are one of the many instruments invented in the twentieth century.
- D** They can be combined in a variety of sizes in order to sound like an orchestra.

(8 seconds)

Dialogue 2. After listening to this dialogue, you will be asked two questions. (3 seconds)

- Roxy: Hi Teddy, how about visiting an aquarium this weekend?
- Teddy: Sounds nice, Roxy. But why an aquarium?
- Roxy: Well, I've heard about the coral restoration program done in some aquariums to tackle the issues that corals are facing.
- Teddy: I see. I've also heard that coral bleaching is one of the biggest problems.
- Roxy: Yes. Coral bleaching means that corals lose their vibrant colors and turn white. Corals are bright and colorful because of microscopic algae, which is essential for corals to stay alive. When the ocean environment changes due to rising sea temperatures, the coral becomes stressed and expels the algae. If the temperature stays high, the coral won't let the algae back in, and the coral will die.
- Teddy: So, climate change is the leading cause of coral bleaching.
- Roxy: Exactly. That's why some aquariums are working on the coral restoration program. The program aims at revitalizing degraded coral reefs to restore their ecological functions and biodiversity.
- Teddy: That sounds interesting, how does it work?
- Roxy: The program focuses on breeding resilient coral species that can better withstand environmental stressors like rising ocean temperatures. New corals are being grown in some aquariums then placed in the ocean to grow naturally.
- Teddy: What a great scientific achievement that would be if it helps to save the coral.

(209 words)

(3 seconds)

Questions

1. According to the dialogue, what is happening to corals?

(3 seconds)

- A** Corals are suffering from the damage caused by the sewage from the aquariums.
- B** Corals are changing their color from white to various colors.
- C** Corals are taking algae into their bodies under the stressful conditions.
- D** Corals are dying in the ocean where the temperature remains high.

(8 seconds)

2. According to the dialogue, which statement is true about the coral restoration program?

(3 seconds)

- A** The program aims to degrade coral reefs to maintain their biodiversity.
- B** The program focuses on breeding corals more tolerant of high ocean temperature.
- C** New types of corals have been transplanted into some aquariums from the ocean.
- D** Bleaching is a great scientific achievement to save the coral.

(8 seconds)

Part 2 Passages. In this part, you will listen to two passages. The first passage has one question, and the second passage has two questions. The four choices will be read out after each question. The passages, the questions and the choices will be read out only ONCE.

Now, let's start.

(2 seconds)

Passage 1. After listening to this passage, you will be asked one question. (3 seconds)

A big meal and a long nap is still a way of life in Madrid. Taking a long break in the middle of the day is not only healthier than the conventional lunch, it's apparently more natural. Sleep researchers have found that the Spanish biorhythm may be tuned more closely to our biological clocks. Studies suggest that humans are "biphasic" creatures, requiring days broken up by two periods of sleep instead of one "monophasic" shift. The drowsiness you feel after lunch comes not from the food but from the time of day.

"All animals, including humans, have a biological rhythm," explains Claudio Stampi, director of the Chrono Biology Research Institute in Newton, Massachusetts. "One is a 24-hour rhythm – we get tired by the end of the day and go to sleep – and there is a secondary peak of sleepiness and a decrease in alertness in the early afternoon. Some people have difficulty remaining awake, doing any sort of task between one and four in the afternoon. For others it's less difficult, but it's there. So there is a biological reason for siestas."

(182 words)

Adapted from Linda Lee, Erik Gundersen *Select Readings Second Edition* (Oxford University Press)

(3 seconds)

Question

According to the passage, which of the following is true about the mechanism of sleep?

(3 seconds)

- A The Spanish lifestyle is more in harmony with our biological clocks.
- B Humans need to have a single period of sleep instead of two periods.
- C Sleepiness after lunch is highly affected by what one has eaten on that day.
- D We are more attentive when doing something in the early afternoon.

(8 seconds)

Passage 2. After listening to this passage, you will be asked two questions. (3 seconds)

It can be hard to know what newborns want. They can't talk, walk, or even point at what they're thinking about. Yet babies begin to develop language skills long before they begin speaking, according to recent research. And, compared to adults, they develop these skills quickly.

For a long time scientists have struggled to explain how such young children can learn the complicated grammatical rules and sounds required to communicate in words. Now, researchers are getting a better idea of what's happening in the brains of society's tiniest language learners. The insights might eventually help kids with learning disabilities as well as adults who want to learn new languages. The work might even help scientists who are trying to design computers that can communicate like people do.

For decades scientists have debated how the brains of young children figure out how to communicate using language. With help from new technologies and research strategies, scientists are now finding that babies begin life with the ability to learn any language. By interacting with other people and using their superb listening and watching skills, they quickly master the specific languages they hear most often.

(191 words)

Adapted from Linda Lee, Erik Gundersen *Select Readings Second Edition* (Oxford University Press)

(3 seconds)

Questions

1. According to the passage, which statement is true about the language skills of young children?

(3 seconds)

- A They communicate what they are thinking by pointing at objects.
- B They develop language skills at the same time they begin speaking.
- C They develop language skills faster than most adults do.
- D Their abilities to learn grammatical rules and sounds have been easily explained by scientists.

(8 seconds)

2. According to the passage, which statement is true about the findings on the communication skills of young children?

(3 seconds)

- A There are no findings about how young children's brains work.
- B Research on the brain does not contribute to the development of computers.
- C All babies are born without possessing any language learning ability.
- D Babies master languages through interactions with others.

(8 seconds)

This is the end of the listening test. Start to answer the reading and writing tests in the time remaining.