

Cambridge English, B1 Preliminary for Schools – Listening.

There are four parts to the test. You will hear each piece twice. You will have two minutes at the end of the test to check all your answers.

Part One.

Pause 05"

For each question, choose the correct answer.

Pause 05"

1

What will the boy bring for the barbecue?

Pause 02"

M: Hi, it's Jack. Just phoning to see if I should bring anything for the barbecue? Mum's got some chicken she says we can have.

F: Chicken's everyone's favourite, so we've got loads thanks.

M: I could bring some burgers.

F: Well, Anna's made about twenty.

M: Oh, that'll be plenty.

F: How about some sausages?

M: Hold on, I'll just look in the fridge...ah, there aren't any left.

F: Well, don't worry. We've probably got enough here.

M: I could pick some up on my way over. It's no trouble.

F: Well if you don't mind.

M: Sure, no problem..

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

2

Which part of the boy's body hurts now?

Pause 02"

F: How are you?

M: I was walking on the ice last week, and I wasn't really concentrating because I had a terrible headache. Anyway, I slipped and fell and I landed on my shoulder. At the time when I fell, my shoulder really hurt but that pain soon wore off. I think maybe I damaged something a bit more serious in my ankle though. I'm going to get my ankle checked at the doctor's, because the pain still hasn't gone.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

3

What will the visitors see last?

Pause 02"

F: Now, everyone, follow me into the museum. This room is where the ancient jewellery's displayed – some fantastic pieces here – and next door are paintings of rock stars by the artist Ben Soper. We'll visit that at the end of the tour, for the talk I'm going to give you about them. But before that, I'll take you into the garden where you can have a look at the old racing car we've got there! It was generously given to us by a famous racing team when the museum was built...

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

4

Where did the police catch the zebra?

Pause 02"

And finally we have a story about a zebra, which escaped from the local zoo this morning. Surprised motorists saw the animal walking down the side of the road during rush hour and reported it to the police, who followed it as it walked right through a shopping centre and on down to the river. They succeeded in catching it when it stopped to eat some grass. The zebra is now back in the zoo, and doesn't seem at all worried by its trip into town and the busy traffic it saw.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

5

What did the girl do yesterday?

Pause 02"

M: Did you have a good weekend?

F: Yes, I went out with a couple of friends yesterday.

M: Where did you go?

F: Well, they wanted either to see a movie or to go swimming. I said I'd rather go to the science museum, but they weren't so keen on the idea. Anyway we tried to get into the pool, but there was a big swimming competition going on there, and by that time the film had already started. So I got what I wanted in the end – and it was fun actually.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

6

Which computer game does the girl like most?

Pause 02"

F: Okay here are this week's new computer games. *Dance Moves* teaches you how to dance. There's a great range of moves and a great choice of classic hits from the last 5 years. The only problem is knowing when to quit. *Pet Project* has a choice of baby zoo animals to care for. Although they're super cute, you'll quickly feel as though you've seen it all before. The last game is *Cooking Star*, it seems a nice choice for anyone who's passionate about food, but imaginary food has a limited attraction.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

7

Which sport did the boy do for the first time on holiday?

Pause 02"

F: Hi Pat, how was the holiday at the watersports centre? Did you do lots of sailing?

M: I did yeah. I'm pleased I did a course last year...it meant I could go straight out on the water. And I was able to try windsurfing too. It's actually quite easy if you've already sailed. I just had to learn how to keep my balance.

F: Did you do any other sports?

M: Yeah, water skiing. My little brother was old enough to do it too this time, so he was really happy about that!

F: Great.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

That is the end of Part One.

Pause 10"

Now look at Part Two.

Pause 05"

For each question, choose the correct answer.

Pause 05"

8

You will hear two friends talking about a campsite they have been to.

Pause 08"

M: So, how did you like the campsite?

F: Brilliant! Thanks for telling my dad about it! It's got everything – shops, swimming pool, games room. And a beautiful beach five minutes away.

M: I knew you'd love that. The pool's good enough for me. I had the best time ever – so much to do!

F: When we first got there, I felt a bit lost. But then I started hanging out with loads of other teenagers.

M: That's why I'd go back any day – in other camps you don't get that sort of crowd. I remember one where it was mostly families with little kids.

F: I know what you mean.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

9

You will hear two friends talking about homework.

Pause 08"

- M:** I've got a friend who wants us to do homework together. I'm not sure it's a good idea.
- F:** Well, I've tried it and it works for me, depending on the subject. But if it's something you really need to concentrate on, then you're better off on your own.
- M:** I suppose it would make it less boring, having a few laughs and some jokes here and there ...
- F:** That's exactly it, and you can do it in half the time it takes you on your own, because you're helping each other.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

10

You will hear a boy telling his friend about a rock-climbing trip.

Pause 08"

- F:** So, how did your rock-climbing trip go?
- M:** It was harder than I expected. It's all very well climbing on an indoor climbing wall. I've always been pretty pleased with the way I've climbed there. But out on real rocks in the

hills, it's a lot scarier. You need to have someone with you who's got a lot of experience, who can tell you what to do or give advice.

F: I can imagine.

M: I'm looking forward to having another try, though. But next time I'll tell whoever I'm with that I need support.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

11

You will hear two friends talking about learning to play the guitar.

Pause 08"

M: Wow, it's so hard to get any better at the guitar. It feels like I'm not making any progress.

F: Well, you seem to spend a lot of time practising. I don't see how you could do much more. Don't you think it's better to focus on one type of music rather than on lots of different types?

M: I don't know. Maybe it's good to go for lots of different ones.

F: Well, anyway, you ought to pay attention to the really top players. They've been along the same path that you're on. Just notice how they do things.

M: I think I do that already really.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

12

You will hear two friends talking about a book they've read.

Pause 08"

M: I've just finished reading that book. It's brilliant – so much happens. It's exciting all the way through

F: Yeah, though it does get slower in the middle, when the hero Alan is trying to decide whether to tell his mum about the baby lion he found. Alan's personality seems really true to life, and so does his mum's – like the way she reacts when he tells her all about it.

M: I know what you mean – it reminds me of my mum and me. I never thought she'd let him keep the lion though. That was a nice surprise.

F: I kind of thought that might happen actually.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

13

You will hear two friends talking about a concert they've been to.

Pause 08"

F: What a great concert. I listen to that band a lot, but I'd never seen them live before.

M: Me neither. But why didn't they play their greatest hits, especially if you think what we paid to get in.

F: I liked what they did, though. As for the price, it was definitely more than I'd normally be willing to pay.

M: And the organisers didn't do a very good job. It was awful waiting so long for the main

act to start.

- F:** Don't blame the organisers. It's simply that the band hadn't arrived. There was nothing they could do about that.

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

That is the end of Part Two.

Pause 10"

Now look at Part Three.

Pause 05"

You will hear a man called Phil Lamb telling a group of students about his work as a TV news presenter.

For each question, write the correct answer in the gap. Write one or two words or a number or a date or a time. You now have 20 seconds to look at Part Three. You will have two minutes to check your answers at the end of this part.

Pause 20"

Hi, many thanks for inviting me. I've been a TV news presenter for four years now. I did a couple of other jobs after university, first in radio in my home city and then as a journalist on a magazine. I enjoyed both jobs very much.

I present the five o'clock evening news. There's a lot of preparation to do before I start. First I get the newspapers and go through each one carefully. That way I understand what's in the news reports I have to present that day. Then I have meetings with the editor of the news programme in the TV studio.

After that I have to spend a bit of time choosing the right jacket to put on! I think it's really important, because that's what you see when I'm sitting at my desk, reading the news. But at least I don't need to worry about my trousers or my shoes as no-one gets to look at those!

What do I find particularly difficult? Well, I sometimes say things wrongly! I don't often make mistakes with the names of cities or countries, whatever the language, but it's names of people which I sometimes find a real challenge to get exactly right!

Now, I can't choose what news to present of course! But I do have my favourite topic. I really enjoy business, so reading news about that is always interesting to me. For some of my colleagues, the most interesting subject is politics or even fashion. We're all different!

What about the future? I've been told I could make a good actor. I've never been attracted by that, though. As a teenager, I always dreamt of becoming a producer. I still think it would be exciting if I get the chance. Maybe I'll do that one day.

Now, any questions... (fade)

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

That is the end of Part Three. You now have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause 2'00"

Now look at Part Four.

Pause 05"

You will hear a radio interview with a young singer called Mandy.

For each question, choose the correct answer. You now have forty-five seconds to look at Part Four.

Pause 45"

Int: Hi Mandy. You started off as a successful disc jockey and now you're a singer in a great new band! When did you get your first job as a DJ?

Mandy: Well, when I finished school, I trained as a nurse for a year, but I wasn't very good at that. I'd always loved music, and I wanted to save money to buy equipment, so I started looking after elderly people. As soon as I had enough, I bought what I needed. I got my first job as a disc jockey almost immediately.

Int: But then you started singing instead. How did that happen?

Mandy: Well, I'd been a disc jockey for about four years, then last year, I read about a DJ competition in Ireland and I entered. I did some live singing on stage that night and one of the judges asked me if I'd be interested in singing professionally. I was very lucky, really.

Int: So now you're in a band called 'Dish'. Tell us about your new record, the one that's in the shops now...

Mandy: Yes. It's called 'Up and Down'. It's about a girl who is never really happy with her life. She's always up and down, wanting too much and never being satisfied. I'm not that kind of person fortunately, nor are my friends! It does have a nice ending.

Int: And you're working on a new CD?

Mandy: Yes, but we haven't finished recording that yet. There are still two more songs to do but I'm very proud of it. It's traditional rock but we've included some electronic music too to make it really unusual. I just hope the public will buy it! We think it's great!

Int: And what kind of music do you listen to at home?

Mandy: That's difficult. The music I like best has words that mean something to me, I suppose. I love dance music too, but you can't listen to it all the time and I generally prefer female artists to male, I think too. But that depends on the singer.

Int: And your future plans?

Mandy: Oh! I've got so much work to do at the moment – television performances and concerts, it's hard to plan. But I'd really like to own a night club one day... somewhere great to dance, so that's my next project. One day, perhaps I'll try to learn to play the guitar – that would be nice – but I'm too busy to think about it at the moment. I can write and sing, that's what I do best.

Int: Well, lots of luck with your new CD and thanks for coming.

Mandy: You're welcome!

Pause 05"

Now listen again.

Repeat

Pause 05"

That is the end of Part Four. You now have two minutes to check all your answers.

Pause 1' 00"

You now have one more minute.

Pause 1' 00"

That is the end of the test.

