

TASK 3 – MULTIPLE CHOICE

You are going to hear an extract from a promotional film by the US Department of State (min 00:00-8:14). Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zdh2oZ6NSgY>.

Read statements 1-12 carefully and listen to the recording. Choose the option (a, b or c) that best completes each statement. Mark (X) the correct option in the space provided, as in example 0. Only one option is correct.

Answers must be based exclusively on the information in the recording.

CHANGING THE WORLD: JOINING THE FOREIGN SERVICE

ANSWER GRID

Ex 0	Foreign services officers promote America's	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	values, culture and security	
☐ b)	values, economy and security	
☒ c)	values, interests and security	✓

1.	An ambassador's daily life varies according to the country and	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	its focus on foreign affairs	
☐ b)	what issues are in the spotlight	
☐ c)	your perspective on current issues	

2.	The embassy team in Indonesia had to act when	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	the country suffered terrible floods	
☐ b)	the embassy personnel was in danger	
☐ c)	there was a terrorist threat	

3.	The ambassador to Haiti	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	enjoys running in the fields	
☐ b)	prefers to work on the ground	
☐ c)	would rather work in an office	

4.	For the cultural affairs officer in Haiti	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	aspired to achieve this posting	
☐ b)	her posting was a disappointment	
☐ c)	is disillusioned with her current job	

5.	What the officer serving at the White House values most at a meeting is	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	the presence of her colleagues	
☐ b)	a caffeine jolt	
☐ c)	the support of her government	

6.	The operations center was created to	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	connect the president with his ambassadors	
☐ b)	house officers who are on call duty	
☐ c)	monitor and respond to crises straight away	

7.	Workers at operations center say "I'm going blue", when	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	they are going to the toilet	
☐ b)	they need to rest on the bunk bed	
☐ c)	they spot a crisis somewhere	

8.	Among other duties, the embassy press officer in Buenos Aires	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	encourages officers to organize talks at the embassy	
☐ b)	imparts information about what the U.S. does	
☐ c)	sends messages to the Argentinean government	

9.	The political advisor at the US mission to the United Nations	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	cope with cultural differences	
☐ b)	deals with over 100 countries	
☐ c)	works mostly in Libya and Syria	

10.	The press officer at the embassy in Argentina applied to the foreign service when she	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	lost her job as director of communications	
☐ b)	saw a letter in a newspaper, calling for candidates	
☐ c)	was working as a fashion designer in New York City	

11.	In order to join the U.S. Foreign Service you	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	must take a practice test before the final	
☐ b)	should study history and geography	
☐ c)	may need to take the test several times	

12.	The foreign service is a lifestyle, not just	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	an experience	
☐ b)	a degree	
☐ c)	a career	

13.	After passing the exam, the candidates must	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	attend a special school for over a year	
☐ b)	spend some time in a real life prison	
☐ c)	work hard to pass the real test	

14.	Members of the foreign service receive language training	Examiner's use only
☐ a)	from the foreign office	
☐ b)	at a school of their choice	
☐ c)	in secret learning centers	

Extra practice

Listen to the rest of the film and answer these questions.

1. How important is the relationship between the US and Mexico?
2. What was happening in Matamoros when the candidate was posted there?
3. What are the State Department's objectives as set in its mission statement?
4. What's so appealing about the Foreign Service?
5. Name at least three skills needed in Foreign Service officers.

KEY

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|------|-------|-------|
| 1. b | 6. c | 11. c |
| 2. a | 7. a | 12. c |
| 3. b | 8. b | 13. a |
| 4. a | 9. a | 14. a |
| 5. c | 10. B | |

Extra practice questions

1. The Foreign Service officers receive their assignments.
2. It's fascinating and probably one of the most important in the world.
3. It was in the middle of a very deadly drug cartel war.
4. Promote democracy, prosperity and security all over the world.
5. You get to reinvent yourself every time you move to a new destination.
6. They should be active, proactive and want to make a difference