

Name: _____

Listening test

Task 1

You are going to listen to an interview with Travis White, a teenager who has created an app to help reduce rubbish on the street. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what you hear.

- 1 Travis learnt how to write apps
 - A by reading a book.
 - B using online videos.
 - C at school.
- 2 Travis had the idea for his app after
 - A seeing rubbish in the road.
 - B listening to a talk about rubbish.
 - C hearing people complaining about rubbish.
- 3 Travis thinks other people don't pick up their rubbish because
 - A it's someone else's responsibility.
 - B it stops other people from doing their job.
 - C it doesn't actually look that bad.
- 4 Why does Travis think his app is a success?
 - A It includes game-playing as well as having serious uses.
 - B It can be used all around the world.
 - C It attracts people of all ages.
- 5 What would Travis like to create an app for next?
 - A choosing environmentally friendly products
 - B saving electricity in the home
 - C using less water
- 6 What advice does Travis give other young app designers?
 - A Try to understand people from different countries.
 - B Watch the news to get good ideas for apps.
 - C Talk to other people who are making apps.

Task 2

- 7 Explain in your own words what Travis White's app does.

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Reading test

Task 1

Read the article. Choose from the sentences (A-H) the one which fits each gap (7-11). There are three extra sentence which you do not need to use.

- A The sound of these whales has therefore become less common.
- B Surprisingly, perhaps, for the largest animal on the planet, they eat tiny creatures called krill.
- C However, people never wanted to hurt the whales.
- D However, it can be heard by other blue whales thousands of kilometres away.
- E Other species can grow much more quickly.
- F The blue whale is a good example as, at one point, there were only a few hundred left.
- G Before this hunting started, it is thought that there were over 200,000 whales worldwide.
- H Because of this, whales live close together in small family groups.

Task 2

Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 12 At one point, there were less than a thousand blue whales left on Earth.
- 13 Some blue whales are over 30 metres long.
- 14 People used to catch blue whales for food.
- 15 People walking near the sea can sometimes hear blue whales singing.
- 16 Blue whale numbers today are similar to before people started hunting them.

___/5

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Saving blue whales: a success story

Stories about the environment are rarely good news these days: climate change, species in danger, and so on. Occasionally, however, there is a real success story to celebrate.

(7) These days, however, their numbers have thankfully risen to several thousand.

Scientists believe that the blue whale is the largest animal ever to have lived on Earth. It grows to a length of thirty metres and can weigh up to two hundred tonnes. (8) Whales need to consume a lot of them, as they typically eat around 36,000 kilos of food each day!

During the 19th and 20th centuries, blue whales were killed for their meat and oil. (9) At its maximum, 30,000 blue whales per year were being caught. A ban on whaling was finally introduced in the 1960s.

Since then, the number of blue whales has slowly increased. Scientists think their population in some areas is growing by as much as ten percent per year. (10) However, blue whales only have a baby once every three years.

Though we can't hear them on land, of course, blue whales are one of the loudest animals on the planet. Their unusual method of communication sounds a little like low, deep singing to us. (11)

So although there's a long way to go until the blue whale's song is heard in as much of our oceans as it once was, there are highly positive signs that this species is heading in the right direction.