

TEST - UNIT 11

Listening

You will hear five people talking about how they get the news. For questions 1–10, choose the best answer (A, B or C). There is an example at the beginning (0).

Speaker 1

0 The speaker reads a newspaper

A every day.

B at weekends.

C occasionally.

1 The speaker likes real newspapers because

A you don't usually have to pay to read them.

B they have better news coverage than online news sites.

C he enjoys finding new and interesting articles.

Speaker 2

2 The speaker accepts that newspapers are

A too expensive.

B not eco-friendly.

C still popular now.

3 Newspapers won't last much longer

A because of the growing necessity to conserve paper resources.

B for many of the same reasons that books will die out.

C because things we throw away don't need to be printed any longer.

Speaker 3

4 The speaker says he prefers reading website articles because

A they usually contain fewer inaccuracies than newspaper articles.

B they will have been written or rewritten more recently than newspaper articles.

C they are often more well-written than newspaper articles.

5 The speaker says that it is important for readers to

A write their own articles.

B comment on articles they read.

C read articles from a reliable source.

Speaker 4

6 The speaker says that she

A reads more than one newspaper every day.

B buys newspapers every lunch break.

C takes newspapers home to read.

7 The speaker is most interested in

A in-depth sports coverage.

B any kind of celebrity news.

C news connected to her studies.

Speaker 5

8 The speaker says that news websites

A are his preferred way of getting the news.

B are a way of getting the news he never uses.

C are just one way he uses of getting the news.

9 The speaker says the news on TV is

A more reliable than other sources.

B easier to access than other sources.

C not as trustworthy as it could be.

10 The speaker says that the problem with online news is that

A none of the stories are true.

B it isn't edited enough.

C each article takes too long to read.

Reading

Making international calls

In the days before mobile phones, staying in touch while you were on the road was pretty straightforward. You found a landline, made a call and paid your bill. But in the Information Age, it's anything but easy. Now, when you're away, it's hard to know whether your mobile will or won't make or take a call. It depends on so many different factors. It may work if you can connect to a wireless hotspot. Then again, it may not. And then there are all those charges! Calls may be cheap at home, but, on the road, they can be ridiculously expensive.

Communicating while you're travelling, it turns out, isn't that simple. Experts have advised me not to take my phone if it is incompatible with the system used in the country I'm visiting, or if I'm planning to leave my country for an extended period of time. That's because most international calling plans aren't worth keeping for longer than a month. It's better to buy a new phone and a phone plan in the country you're in. On the other hand, I'm told to bring my

phone if I'm travelling somewhere already covered by my calling plan, or if I'm travelling internationally, and I've negotiated a reasonable calling plan for my trip. Without a plan you should only use your phone if you know how to turn your phone's various options on and off, know how to use a wi-fi hotspot, and consider yourself a bit of an expert with a mobile phone. If you have any doubts, don't chance it; leave the phone turned off or don't take it with you.

The fastest way to determine whether your wireless device will work is by calling your mobile phone provider. As a general rule, if you live in the United States, your phone should work in North and South America. Depending on the handset, it may work in Europe and Asia. Remember that even if it's compatible with a foreign carrier, that doesn't necessarily mean it will make a call. You may need to activate a calling plan before you leave to do that. Not surprisingly, the system favours the mobile phone carrier when the tables are turned. If, by chance, your phone does work overseas and someone calls it, you may be charged for the cost of the call (as high as \$5 a minute) even if you don't answer the call.

There are two major mobile phone systems in current use: CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) and GSM (Global System for Mobiles). CDMA phones are dominant in North America, and GSM phones are used in much of the rest of the world. The systems aren't compatible with each other, but some phones have the technology embedded so you may use either CDMA or GSM. The benefit of a GSM phone is that you can remove your personal information, which is stored on a tiny card called a SIM card. That allows you to swap accounts without having to change your phone. Theoretically, that allows you to take your phone with you when you travel. The gap between GSM and CDMA may be partially bridged by emerging technology, but don't hold your breath – some incompatibilities will remain, probably for years to come.

If you're travelling internationally on business and need to be in touch with the office at all times, your employer will probably cover the high cost of a calling plan or a SIM card. If you're on holiday, it's up to your budget and communication needs. For most leisure travellers, it is worth considering doing the unthinkable: switch your phone off! Stay offline. It's your holiday, after all.

You are going to read some advice about making international calls. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)? Or is there not enough information (N) to say if the sentences are true or false? There is an example at the beginning (0).

0 In the past, it was easier to know what to do when phoning home from abroad.

 T

1 People often don't know whether their phone will work or not, when travelling abroad.

2 These days it costs a lot of money to make a call even if you are not travelling away from home. _____

3 Getting an international calling plan is only a good idea for shorter trips. _____

4 Nobody should consider travelling without any sort of international calling plan.

5 A good way of getting advice about what to do about making calls abroad is to contact the company

that provided your phone. _____

6 If you have an American phone, it is more likely to work in Europe than South America.

7 It usually costs \$5 a minute if you accept a call you receive when travelling abroad without an international calling plan. _____

8 If you have the right phone, it is possible to use both the CDMA and GSM systems.

9 Both the CDMA and GSM systems have SIM cards. _____

10 It is likely that very soon new technologies will mean that the GSM and CDMA systems are more similar. _____

(10 points)