



A LISTENING

(___/16 Marks) [Click here to listen](#) or scan qr

You are going to listen to people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1–8, choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what you hear.

- 1 You hear a girl talking to a friend about an activity camp she went to. How did the girl feel about going there?
 - A. afraid of the activities she'd have to do
 - B. nervous about being on her own
 - C. unsure about meeting new people
- 2 You hear part of an interview with a travel agent. What does she recommend doing on holiday?
 - A. researching good restaurants
 - B. identifying peak travel times
 - C. trying to communicate in the local language
- 3 You hear a boy talking about his part-time job. What has he learned from doing it?
 - A. to get on well with customers
 - B. the value of being part of a team
 - C. how important communication skills are
- 4 You hear a girl talking about the place she lives in now. What does she like the most about it?
 - A. It is quiet and peaceful.
 - B. She can live more healthily.
 - C. There are outdoor activities to do.
- 5 You hear two friends talking about the sports they do. What do they agree about?
 - A. Music makes exercise easier to do.
 - B. Using apps can help you get fit.
 - C. It's difficult if you don't do the right thing in class.
- 6 You hear two friends talking about social media. What does the girl think about it?
 - A. It's useful to see what is going on in friends' lives.
 - B. It's not a good way to find out about social events.
 - C. It gives a false picture of people's lives.
- 7 You overhear two school friends talking about a restaurant project at school. How does the girl feel about it?
 - A. worried that she won't finish the all preparation in time
 - B. concerned the restaurant won't get the assistance it needs
 - C. doubtful about her ability to cook well enough
- 8 You hear a boy leaving a message on a friend's phone. Why is he calling?
 - A. to give his friend information about the school concert
 - B. to persuade his friend to babysit his sister
 - C. to ask his friend for help

B READING . (___/15 Marks)

Read the article and choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

- 1) What point does the writer make about bees in the first paragraph?
 - A. Everyone is frightened of them.
 - B. It's important to take care of them.
 - C. They're often misunderstood.
 - D. They're difficult to study.
- 2) Why does the writer say that explorers 'don't write reports or give presentations'?
 - A. to provide an amusing image for the reader
 - B. to make a joke about what bees are unable to do
 - C. to explain how people usually pass on information
 - D. to compare the bees' method of sharing information with what people do
- 3) According to the writer, why isn't it easy for people 'to put self-interest to one side'?
 - A. They are usually rather selfish.
 - B. They often have their own ambitions.
 - C. They are unable to consider the opinion of others.
 - D. They don't want to make decisions with other people.
- 4) What does **'this'** refer to in the 5th paragraph ?
 - A. The most popular restaurant.
 - B. The reason the restaurant is full.
 - C. The location of the restaurant.
 - D. The result of choosing a particular restaurant.
- 5) What does **'take a leaf out of their book'** mean in the last paragraph?
 - A. You should copy the way bees make decisions.
 - B. You should read about the way bees behave.
 - C. You should learn from the mistakes bees make.
 - D. You should avoid making the same choices bees do.

Let's all think about bees

Like many people, I've always had a fear of bees. I don't know whether it's how they look, the way they fly, the noise they make - whatever it is, I've usually chosen the easy way and tried to ignore them. Yet I've discovered that this is a short-sighted attitude for any of us to take. It's common knowledge that bees are vital for the environment - they play a crucial role in the circle of life, though total awareness of what they actually do is frequently incomplete or even wrong. Sci-fi stories base whole plot-lines on what might happen were the bees to leave the planet, and surprisingly I really enjoy those!

However, there's even more to bees than one might suspect. Apparently they're great at decision-making - who knew? When bees need to find a new hive, they don't simply fly around looking for any old place. No, they're more sophisticated than that. What they do is send out groups of bees - let's call them 'explorers' - to assess potential places, and report back. Clearly they don't write reports or give presentations - they use particular body movements to explain what they've found. All the bees then make a group decision by going back to each of the most popular sites identified by the explorers and repeating their body movements. When all the bees (the swarm) perform the same movements at the same time in the same place - bingo, that's the site for them. It must be great fun to watch!

Ok - so what do we learn from these bees? One study shows that if they had simply chosen a single site by chance, the swarm might have been left without a hive and would therefore have been exposed to danger. On the other hand, if they had simply followed the initial suggestions of the explorers without doing any follow-up research for themselves, then they might not have achieved the best outcome. The conclusion is that it seems to be a very efficient way of making decisions.

Apparently, we could all learn a thing or two from this process. People in general tend to be poor at making group decisions because things get in the way - time, ego, promotion prospects can all influence the thinking process of individuals within a group. It's not easy to put self-interest to one side and make a decision that's in the best interests of everyone. Mr Spock in Star Trek said, 'the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few' - but how often is that actually the case in real life?

Let's look at some examples of how people make bad decisions. Think about something as simple as the restaurant we choose to go to. If we visit a new town and need to choose a restaurant, knowing nothing about any of them in advance, it's likely that we will choose the one with the most people eating in it. **This** is based on the theory that everyone has chosen to eat there because it's good. But this could be misleading. Everyone there could have followed the same line of thought, but the first people in the restaurant could simply have chosen it by chance. The result - we all make a bad decision and eat bad food. Likewise, if people make their choice simply by wandering around and eating in restaurants they happen to come across, superb restaurants in out-of-the-way locations may not get many customers because people just don't find them.

The bees' approach avoids both these problems. Nature has given them the right mix of independence (they make their own initial choice) and interdependence (they accept the final decision together). So, when drawing conclusions about human behaviour, you should **take a leaf out of their book**. Understanding the way they make decisions can improve the way people make their own group decisions. Obviously it's a mistake to ignore bees!

C VOCABULARY .

1) **Choose from the words below to complete the gaps.** (___/7 Marks)

**ARROGANT - COURAGEOUS - DO - FINAL - IDEA - IMMATURE -
JUDGEMENT - KEEP - MAIN - MAKE - MIND - RAVE**

The novel Again got (1) _____ reviews. The (2) _____ character is an (3) _____ person called Alice, who thinks she is the most important person on the planet! She is also very (4) _____ for her age, since she is aged eighteen, and therefore should be acting like an adult. She will have nothing to (5) _____ with her parents and sister who love her very much. On top of this, she is late for everything and is happy to (6) _____ her poor friends waiting. Another bad thing is that she is always changing her (7) _____, which annoys everyone.

2) **Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.** (____/5 Marks)

1. I can't persuade him to see a doctor; he's very **eccentric / stubborn** and doesn't listen to me.
2. She thinks she's the most attractive person in the school and the most important. I think she's the most **arrogant / irresponsible**.
3. I don't want to spend all my free time with you. Stop being so **loyal / possessive**.
4. He has hair to his waist, and walks around in a long green coat and silver hat. He's so **flamboyant / courteous**.
5. I read that she sailed solo across the Atlantic at the age of eighteen. I have a lot of **sympathy / admiration** for her strength.

D GRAMMAR .

1) **Complete the sentences with a participle formed from these verbs** (____/5 Marks)

BORROW - GIVE - INVITE - LEAVE - USE

- 1) Students _____ a mobile in class will be reported to the head teacher.
- 2) Jackets _____ in the classroom after school hours will be removed.
- 3) _____ your homework in late is not acceptable.
- 4) Books _____ from the library must be returned on time.
- 5) Musicians _____ to join the orchestra are expected to practise regularly.

2) **Use the word given in capitals at the end of some lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line.** (____/7 Marks)

Buying and selling online

Whether you're getting rid of old stuff or buying something new, here are some tips you may find useful: Have in mind a price that is. (1)..... -buyers won't pay more than they think is fair. Do some research on similar (2).....so you have a good idea of what something should be worth. When you're selling, ensure you have an easy-to-use payment method set up and be sure to include postage and (3)..... costs. Be careful when writing a (4)... of an object. you want to sell. Accuracy is of great (5).....because you don't want (6)..... customers who might write bad reviews and affect your potential sales. If you are a buyer, you need to have confidence in the seller, so check them out carefully before you purchase anything. Finally, don't be. (7)..... may take a while for your items to sell.

**REAL
PRODUCE**

**DELIVER
DESCRIBE
IMPORTANT
SATISFY**

PATIENCE

3) Complete the text with a relative pronoun or a participle. (____/10 Marks)

When is it legal?

In most countries of the world, (1)_____ you can vote is at the age of eighteen, although there are some countries, including Cameroon, Lebanon, Malaysia and Singapore (2)_____ the voting age is twenty or twenty-one. In the USA the ages at (3)_____ different things become legal are quite odd. For example, anyone (4)_____ has reached the age of eighteen is allowed to vote. However, at eighteen, you are still not allowed to drive a school bus, (5)_____ you will have to wait another seven years for. Also, in Alaska, Arkansas and Kansas, (6)_____ obtained a learner's permit at just fourteen, a young person can get a full licence at the age of sixteen. In Indiana and Connecticut, however, you have to be eighteen to get a full licence. It's interesting to look at laws 200 years ago, (7)_____ some very strange crimes existed in various states of the USA. In Kentucky, for example, a woman (8)_____ husband had not given her permission, could not rearrange the furniture in their house. And in North Carolina, (9)_____ milk on a train could result in a fine. And, in Alabama, any man (10)_____ false moustache made people laugh in church was breaking the law!

4) Read the text and complete the gaps with one word only. (____/5 Marks)

I LOOK HOW I FEEL!

If anyone else tells me to cheer (1)_____ ^{up}, I think I will scream! Sometimes I don't look cheerful precisely because I am not feeling cheerful. For example, sometimes I run (2)_____ of energy and need to catch (3)_____ on sleep. Sometimes I have to figure (4)_____ the solution to a problem, or I am trying to keep in mind a serious decision I have to make. People can't count (5)_____ me to show a cheerful face however bad I am feeling inside. I may come off as quiet and possibly strange occasionally, but my real friends, who understand me, know when I am down and know that soon we will get back together and make (6)_____ for lost time.

5) **SENTENCE TRANSFORMATION** - Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence using the word given. Do not change the word given. Use between two and five words, including the word given. (____/10 Marks)

- A lot of new houses have been built in this area recently. **PLENTY**

There have been _____ in this area recently

- 'I think you should work harder', my teacher said to me. **ADVISED**

My teacher _____ harder.

- I couldn't see her because it was too dark. **TO**

It wasn't _____ see her because it was too dark

- I don't think it was George I saw last week, because he's in the USA. **BEEN**

It _____ I saw last week, because he's in the USA

- It's a shame that nobody gave the new students a warm welcome. **OUGHT**

The new students _____ a warm welcome.

E WRITING .

You see this announcement on an English-language website. (___/20 Marks)

Articles wanted! 👉 *We're looking for articles about free-time activities.*

Can leisure activities and hobbies teach you useful skills? How can they be useful?

Tell us about how your activities and hobbies have helped you develop your own skills.

We'll publish the best articles on the website.

Write your article. Write 140-190 words

● Use appropriate verbal tenses. ● Use a semi-formal style, with a wide range of vocabulary and linking words. ● Use suitable linking expressions.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no vertical margin lines or other markings present. The paper appears to be a standard piece of stationery used for writing or drawing.