

SKILL TEST 5-LISTENING 5

PART 1 Listening Questions 1-6

You will hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B, or C) which fits best according to what you hear. There are two questions for each extract.

EXTRACT 1

You hear a lecturer in psychology talking about the Western World's attitude to Dubai.

1. What transformation has Dubai made?
 - A. it has turned into a global centre of trade
 - B. it has moved away from a consumerist mentality
 - C. it has become a major tourism hub
2. What does the speaker find disturbing?
 - A. the way tourists embrace Dubai's capitalist culture
 - B. tourists' willingness to pretend not to see the injustices going on
 - C. tourists' ignorance about what is really happening

EXTRACT 2

You hear two guests on a radio talk show discussing a recent banking scandal.

3. What did the report reveal?
 - A. U.K. and U.S. banks were laundering money
 - B. widespread misconduct in the U.K. banking system
 - C. an isolated case of improper conduct by a U.K. bank
4. What does the female speaker think should happen to those in charge of the banks?
 - A. they should be forced to quit their jobs
 - B. they should have to stand trial
 - C. they should admit their guilt and move on

EXTRACT 3

You hear a lecturer in politics talking to a group of students about tactics in U.S. presidential elections.

5. What point is the speaker making about Kennedy's choice of running mate?
 - A. it was a confusing one since the two men were not likeminded
 - B. it is preferable to pick a running mate with contrasting political views
 - C. his decision was motivated by wanting to win; not personality
6. Why did John McCain fall out of favour with the public?
 - A. he was a poor public speaker
 - B. his running mate undermined his credibility
 - C. he was associated with incompetence and corruption

PART 2 Listening Questions 7-15

You will hear a journalist talking about the life of a famous Scottish poet. For questions 7-15 complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Thanks to his parents' advocacy, Burns dedicated himself fully to his

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and developed a love of reading.

Burns found a release for his frustration at his impoverishment by turning to drink and taking a keen

interest in members of

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The fathering of children out of wedlock caused a **9** for the Burns and Armour families.

Burns' first book of verse enjoyed **10**, a factor which motivated him to remain in his homeland.

In Edinburgh, Burns mingled in **11** and made some very wealthy and important friends.

Burns' **12** became more extreme over time, and he started to use his writings as a means to express them.

His **13** was part of the reason for the rapid deterioration of his health, as was his early-years toil.

The day he was laid to rest coincided with that of the **14** of one of his sons.

Burns has a considerable number of living **15**, a legacy of having fathered 12 children during his lifetime.

PART 3 Listening Questions 16-20

You will hear part of a discussion between two well-known business people, Sam Boland and Jimmy Glynn, and a radio current affairs show host about a recent newspaper article on the subject of jobless graduates. For questions 16-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

- 16** What does Jimmy say about the qualifications graduate jobseekers have?
- A. they help them avoid having to take 'survival jobs'
 - B. few graduates are sufficiently qualified for the jobs available
 - C. few degrees teach skills relevant in the workplace
 - D. they are not really an advantage in the present job market
- 17** Why is Sam wary of employing graduates in his own company?
- A. their superior performance can lead to workplace hostility
 - B. they can have a damaging effect on the chemistry of their team
 - C. he prefers to hire unskilled workers and invest in training
 - D. they only accept positions above lesser-skilled employees

- 18 In what respect have things changed since the speakers were job-seeking graduates?
- A. jobseekers used not to lie about their qualifications
 - B. jobseekers used to pretend they had better qualifications
 - C. jobseekers used to be far fresher and more enthusiastic
 - D. jobseekers used not to mind dumbing down their CVs
- 19 Why does Jimmy have some sympathy for graduates?
- A. he admires their sense of entitlement
 - B. they were too young to understand what they voted for
 - C. they have accumulated huge debts at college
 - D. they are victims of other people's incompetence
- 20 Jimmy believes that college-goers of the future should
- A. not rule out the Arts and Humanities.
 - B. work for foreign in preference to local firms.
 - C. choose their courses of study carefully.
 - D. be selective about where they study.

PART 4 Listening Questions 21-30

You will hear five short extracts in which athletes talk about how they got into their sports and what they put their success down to. You will hear the recording twice. While you listen, you must complete both tasks.

TASK ONE

For questions 21-25, choose from the list (A-H) how each athlete became interested in their sport.

- A they discovered it on vacation abroad
- B they did it as a way to deal with a drug and alcohol problem
- C they saw it as a chance to impress a love interest
- D they had a very competitive and motivational parent
- E they wanted to emulate their parent
- F their parents were thrill-seekers
- G it was a way to keep them occupied
- H it is a sport they associate with their national identity

Speaker 1		21
Speaker 2		22
Speaker 3		23
Speaker 4		24
Speaker 5		25

TASK TWO

For questions 26-30, choose from the list (A-H) what each athlete says is behind their success.

- A hard work and commitment
- B mental strength and positive thinking
- C a passion shared with a colleague
- D a desire to make the most of their talents
- E a strong cultural association with their sport
- F a desire to become more disciplined
- G a desire to compete against others
- H the continuing search for love

Speaker 1		26
Speaker 2		27
Speaker 3		28
Speaker 4		29
Speaker 5		30