

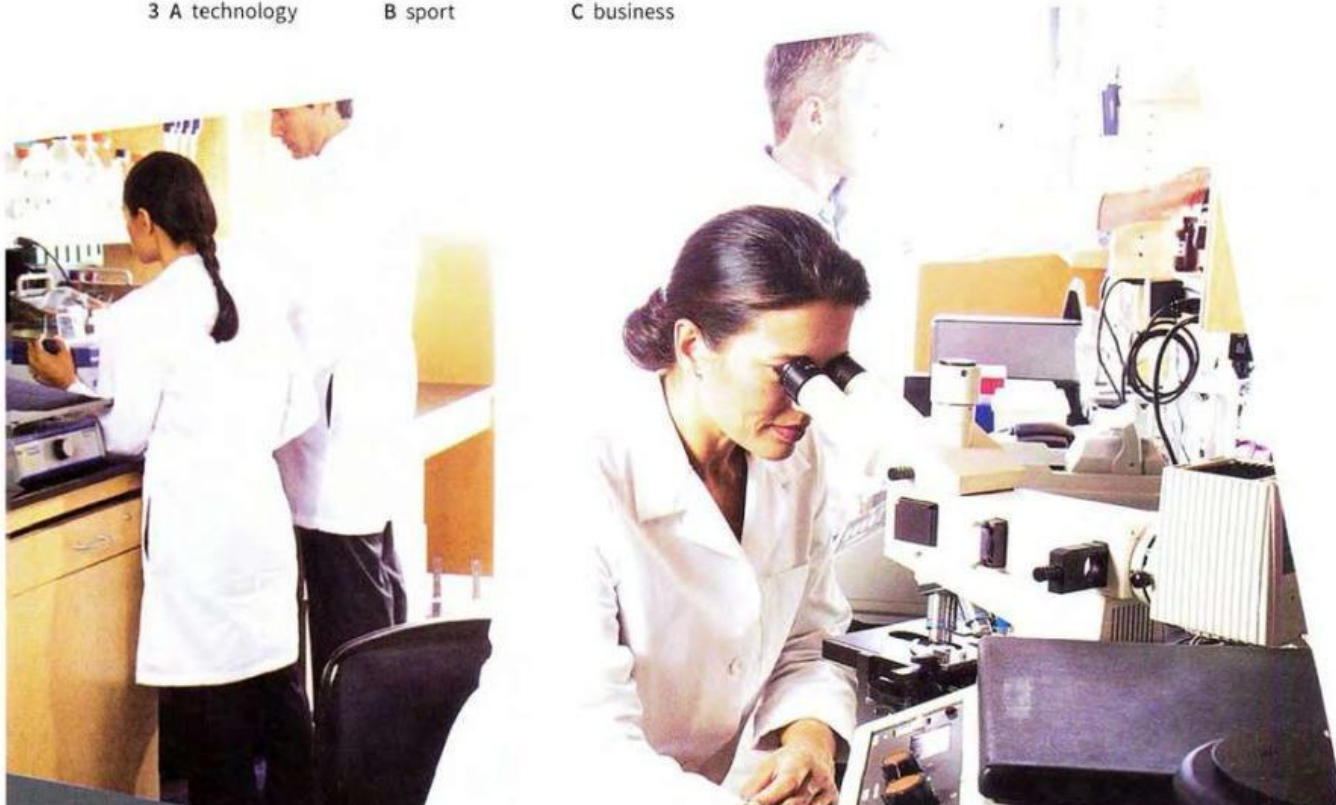
# LISTENING PRACTICE

## LEAD-IN

**01** Listen to three short discussions, each on a particular topic. In each discussion, another topic is also referred to. Choose the main topic in each discussion.

20

- |                |            |                 |
|----------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 A sport      | B politics | C economics     |
| 2 A business   | B science  | C entertainment |
| 3 A technology | B sport    | C business      |



**02** Look at these topics and listen to Speakers 1–3. Identify who has the positive attitude, the negative attitude and the neutral attitude. Write Speaker 1, Speaker 2 or Speaker 3.

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*Topic 1: Modern art*

Positive: \_\_\_\_\_  
Negative: \_\_\_\_\_  
Neutral: \_\_\_\_\_

*Topic 2: Combating climate change*

Positive: \_\_\_\_\_  
Negative: \_\_\_\_\_  
Neutral: \_\_\_\_\_

**TIP** 02

It is important to identify each speaker and understand their attitudes and opinions. Attitude can be shown through intonation, as well as through the expressions a speaker uses.

## IDENTIFYING SPEAKERS AND THEIR OPINIONS



**03** ▶ You will hear two media studies students, Maria and Simon, discussing three space expeditions in the news with their tutor, Dr Anita Thornton. They are deciding on a study topic. Listen and identify their final choice, A, B or C.



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- A Moon expedition
- B Mars expedition
- C Pluto expedition

**04** ▶ During the discussion, each of the three speakers gives their opinions on the three possibilities. Listen to the first part of the discussion again and decide what each speaker says they prefer first for each suggestion: positive, negative or neutral.



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|             | Pluto expedition | Mars expedition | Moon expedition |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Simon       |                  |                 |                 |
| Maria       |                  |                 |                 |
| Dr Thornton |                  |                 |                 |

## UNDERSTANDING SPEAKERS' ATTITUDES

**05** ▶ People often use expressions to show their attitude and opinions. Listen to six short conversations and choose Positive (A), Negative (B) or Neutral (C) for each attitude expressed by the *second* speaker.



23

- |              |            |           |
|--------------|------------|-----------|
| 1 A Positive | B Negative | C Neutral |
| 2 A Positive | B Negative | C Neutral |
| 3 A Positive | B Negative | C Neutral |
| 4 A Positive | B Negative | C Neutral |
| 5 A Positive | B Negative | C Neutral |
| 6 A Positive | B Negative | C Neutral |

**06** Listen to the conversations again and write the key words and expressions which express the speaker's attitude. Decide whether this is positive, negative or neutral.

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| Conversation | Key words/expressions | Positive / Negative / Neutral |
|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1            | seriously?            |                               |
| 2            |                       |                               |
| 3            |                       |                               |
| 4            |                       |                               |
| 5            |                       |                               |
| 6            |                       |                               |

### UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF DISTRACTORS

**07** Listen to part of the conversation again between Maria, Simon and Dr Thornton and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

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- Dr Thornton thinks studying the Mars expedition is a good idea because
- A she thinks the mission will be successful.
  - B robots and machines will be used to start a colony there.
  - C the students will have the chance to study it until it ends.

**08** Check your answer with your teacher and then answer these questions to help you find the reasons why are the other two options are not correct.

- 1 What does Dr Thornton say is actually successful?
- 2 Which expedition is sending robots and machines to find a suitable place for a colony?
- 3 What time references do you hear?

**TIP** In multiple-choice questions in the exam, there is one correct option and two wrong options. The wrong options are called 'distractors'. They are designed to be attractive, for example by talking about the correct answer but giving the incorrect information. The distractors do not answer the question.

**09** Listen to a conversation between Maria, Simon and Dr Thornton one month after the start of the project and read questions 1–3. There are two options for each question: one correct answer and one distractor. For each question, choose the correct answer and think about why the distractor is wrong.

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- 1 Alfonso has left the Mars project because
  - A he became ill while they were in Arizona.
  - B he had a problem unconnected to the project.
- 2 If someone leaves the Mars project, the rules say that
  - A a new person must take their place.
  - B no new people can join at a later date.
- 3 Simon agrees that
  - A only one person should look after the food production.
  - B more than one person should look after the food production.

### TIP 09

When you check the answers, think carefully about why the distractors are wrong and how you can identify the correct answer.

### RECOGNISING PARAPHRASES OF WHAT PEOPLE SAY

**10** Listen to the next conversation about the project and choose the answer, A, B or C, which correctly paraphrases the information in the recording. Look at this example.

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- One person has most probably been physically violent because
- A they do not speak very much as a rule.
  - B they might have difficulty being in a closed space.
  - C they always disliked another participant.

**TIP** The correct answer is B. It is mentioned that Joe is quiet, but only as an observation, not a possible reason, so A is not correct. It is also mentioned that he hit Martin, but there is nothing to say he has always disliked him. There is talk of isolation probably being the reason, which relates to being in a closed space, with no escape from the situation.

### TIP 10

In multiple-choice questions in the Listening test, there are always **three** options – one correct answer and two distractors.

**11**

Now listen to the next part of the conversation and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

27

- 1 Dr Thornton's main interest is in
  - A what kinds of people take part in projects like this.
  - B how she can be a psychology expert on the project.
  - C how people interact in long periods of isolation together.
- 2 Dr Thornton thinks it's good that
  - A it took some time for the first serious conflict to take place.
  - B problems like these happen on this type of project.
  - C the project is not like a television series or soap opera.
- 3 Simon states that
  - A Joe could cause problems for the environment of the building if he stays.
  - B Joe successfully dealt with a serious environmental situation.
  - C they could solve any environmental problems if Joe left.

## EXAM SKILLS

**12**

Listen to the final part of the conversation and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

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- 1 Simon is going to base his main study on
  - A why just over half of the participants stayed until the end of the project.
  - B how to make sure that people can survive on a real trip to Mars.
  - C how much the project was covered in the news media.
- 2 One surprising result of the project was that
  - A it was reported as a major news item.
  - B the participants were in danger of losing their lives.
  - C information from the project will be used in a new design.
- 3 One thing that Dr Thornton is interested in finding out about the people in the Mars project is
  - A why they had health problems.
  - B how they coped physically with living close together.
  - C how their physical well-being might develop in the future.
- 4 Maria intends to
  - A make a contribution to an important scientific publication.
  - B write about how well the participants performed while living in a small space.
  - C focus only on the psychological issues affecting the participants.
- 5 In the end, the total spent on the Mars project was
  - A just over the planned amount.
  - B twice the planned amount.
  - C just under the planned amount.
- 6 The person who would absolutely refuse to be a participant in a repeat project is
  - A Simon.
  - B Dr Thornton.
  - C Maria.

# READING PRACTICE



## Starting off

1 Work in pairs. Look at the photos of different media. Which do you normally use to do the following?

- keep up to date with the news
- do research for your work or studies
- relax when you're alone
- keep up with the latest ideas and fashions
- enjoy yourself with friends

## Reading Section 1

1 Work in small groups. You are going to read a passage about the World Wide Web. Before you read, discuss these questions.

- 1 How is the World Wide Web different from the Internet?
- 2 How do you personally use the Web?

2 Now read the passage on page 38 quite quickly. How many uses of the Web are mentioned?



# The World Wide Web from its origins

*Science inspired the World Wide Web, and the Web has responded by changing science.*

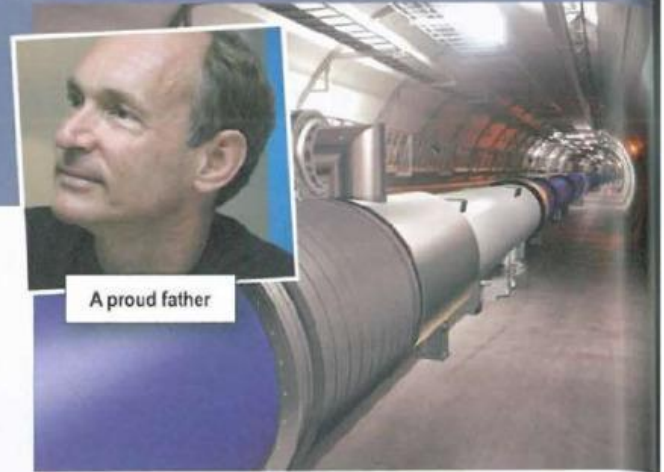
'Information Management: A Proposal'. That was the bland title of a document written in March 1989 by a then little-known computer scientist called Tim Berners-Lee, who was working at CERN, Europe's particle physics laboratory, near Geneva. His proposal, modestly called the World Wide Web, has achieved far more than anyone expected at the time.

In fact, the Web was invented to deal with a specific problem. In the late 1980s, CERN was planning one of the most ambitious scientific projects ever, the Large Hadron Collider\*, or LHC. As the first few lines of the original proposal put it, 'Many of the discussions of the future at CERN and the LHC end with the question "Yes, but how will we ever keep track of such a large project?" This proposal provides an answer to such questions.'

The Web, as everyone now knows, has many more uses than the original idea of linking electronic documents about particle physics in laboratories around the world. But among all the changes it has brought about, from personal social networks to political campaigning, it has also transformed the business of doing science itself, as the man who invented it hoped it would.

It allows journals to be published online and links to be made from one paper to another. It also permits professional scientists to recruit thousands of amateurs to give them a hand. One project of this type, called GalaxyZoo, used these unpaid workers to classify one million images of galaxies into various types (spiral, elliptical and irregular). This project, which was intended to help astronomers understand how galaxies evolve, was so successful that a successor has now been launched, to classify the brightest quarter of a million of them in finer detail. People working for a more modest project called Herbaria@home examine scanned images of handwritten notes about old plants stored in British museums. This will allow them to track the changes in the distribution of species in response to climate change.

Another new scientific application of the Web is to use it as an experimental laboratory. It is allowing social scientists, in particular, to do things that were previously impossible. In one project, scientists made observations about the sizes of human social networks using data from Facebook. A second investigation of these networks, produced by Bernardo Huberman of HP Labs, Hewlett-Packard's research arm in Palo Alto, California, looked at Twitter, a social networking website that allows people to post short messages to long lists of friends.



At first glance, the networks seemed enormous – the 300,000 Twitterers sampled had 80 friends each, on average (those on Facebook had 120), but some listed up to 1,000. Closer statistical inspection, however, revealed that the majority of the messages were directed at a few specific friends. This showed that an individual's active social network is far smaller than his 'clan'. Dr Huberman has also helped uncover several laws of web surfing, including the number of times an average person will go from web page to web page on a given site before giving up, and the details of the 'winner takes all' phenomenon, whereby a few sites on a given subject attract most of the attention, and the rest get very little.

Scientists have been good at using the Web to carry out research. However, they have not been so effective at employing the latest web-based social-networking tools to open up scientific discussion and encourage more effective collaboration.

Journalists are now used to having their articles commented on by dozens of readers. Indeed, many bloggers develop and refine their essays as a result of these comments. Yet although people have tried to have scientific research reviewed in the same way, most researchers only accept reviews from a few anonymous experts. When *Nature*, one of the world's most respected scientific journals, experimented with open peer review in 2006, the results were disappointing. Only 5% of the authors it spoke to agreed to have their article posted for review on the Web – and their instinct turned out to be right, because almost half of the papers attracted no comments. Michael Nielsen, an expert on quantum computers, belongs to a new wave of scientist bloggers who want to change this. He thinks the reason for the lack of comments is that potential reviewers lack incentive.

adapted from **The Economist**

\* The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is the world's largest particle accelerator and collides particle beams. It provides information on

- 3 Read Questions 1–6 below, underline the key words in the statements, then use these to find the right place in the passage.
- 4 Now read those sections of the passage carefully to decide if the statements are true, false or not given.

#### Questions 1–6

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the reading passage?

Write

**TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information

**FALSE** if the statement contradicts the information

**NOT GIVEN** if there is no information on this

- 1 Tim Berners-Lee was famous for his research in physics before he invented the World Wide Web.
- 2 The original intention of the Web was to help manage one extremely complex project.
- 3 Tim Berners-Lee has also been active in politics.
- 4 The Web has allowed professional and amateur scientists to work together.
- 5 The second galaxy project aims to examine more galaxies than the first.
- 6 Herbaria@home's work will help to reduce the effects of climate change.

#### Exam advice True / False / Not Given

- Find words in the passage that are the same as or similar to words in the statement.
- Quickly find the part of the passage that deals with each statement; you will be able to find this, even when an answer is Not Given.

- 5 Work in pairs. Look at Questions 7–10 in the next column.

- 1 Read the title of the notes and find the section of the passage which deals with this.
- 2 Read Questions 7–10 and decide what type of information you need for each gap.
- 3 Read the relevant section of the passage carefully and answer Questions 7–10.

#### Questions 7–10

Complete the notes below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

#### Social networks and internet use

Web used by social scientists (including Dr Huberman) to investigate the 7 ..... of social networks.

Most 8 ..... intended for limited number of people - not everyone on list.

Dr Huberman has also investigated:

- 9 ..... to discover how long people will spend on a particular website;
- why a small number of sites get much more 10 ..... than others on same subject.

#### Exam advice Note completion

- Read the title of the notes and find the section of the passage which deals with the subject.
- Read the notes and decide what type of information you need for each gap.
- Be careful to copy the answer from the passage exactly.

- 6 Look at Questions 11–13 below.

- 1 Underline the key idea in each question and find the part of the passage which deals with it.
- 2 Read the passage and underline the words you need to answer the questions, then copy the answers carefully.
- 3 Check that your answer gives the correct information, e.g. for Question 11 your answer should be a name (*Whose writing ... ?*).

#### Questions 11–13

Answer the questions below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

- 11 Whose writing improves as a result of feedback received from readers?
- 12 What type of writing is not reviewed extensively on the Web?
- 13 Which publication invited authors to publish their articles on the World Wide Web?

#### Exam advice Short-answer questions

- Underline the key idea in each question and find where it is dealt with in the passage.
- Read that part carefully and underline the answer.