LISTENING PRACTICE 1

Listening Section 1

1 **Work in pairs. You are going to hear a man who is interested in protecting the environment talking to a travel agent about eco-holidays. Before you listen, discuss these questions.**

1 What do you think eco-holidays are?
2 Can you think of examples of eco-holidays?

2 **Work in pairs. Look at Questions 1–6 and decide what type of information you need to fill each gap.**

Questions 1–6

Complete the notes below.

*Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.*

Customer's name: Igor Petrov
Length of holiday: 1 .....
Will pay up to £2 .....
Told him about 3 ..... for advance payments
Needs quote for 4 ..... during holiday
Requires 5 ..... on plane
Must check if he needs a 6 .....

3 19 **Now listen and answer Questions 1–6.**

Exam advice *Note and table completion*

- Check how many words you are allowed to use.
- Take care to spell your answers correctly.
- Write numbers as figures, not words.

4 **Read Questions 7–10 below and decide what information you might need for each gap.**



Questions 7–10

Complete the table below.

*Write **ONE OR TWO WORDS** for each answer.*

Eco-holidays

	type of holiday	accommodation	advantage
Dumbarton Tablelands	*watching animals*	*house in a* 7	*close to nature*
Bago Nature Reserve	*live with a* 8	*village house*	*learn about way of life*
San Luis Island	*working in a* 9	*hostel*	*holiday location without* 10 .....

5 20 **Now listen and answer Questions 7–10.**

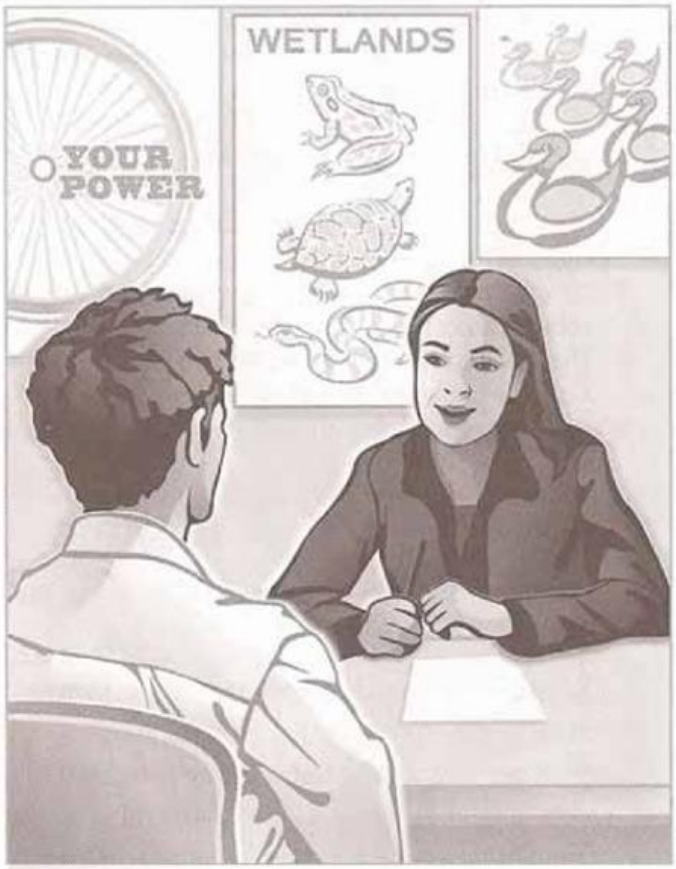
6 **Work in pairs.**

1 Would you enjoy an eco-holiday?
2 Which of the eco-holidays in Exercise 4 would interest you? Why?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

LISTENING PRACTICE 2

Listening Section 1



❶ **Look at the first task, Questions 1–6.**

Which questions might need a number **only** for the answer? .....

❷ **Now listen and answer Questions 1–10.**

Questions 1–6

Complete the notes below.

*Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.*

The Volunteer Agency

- has recruited 1 ..... people for environmental projects
- project abroad involves doing 2 ..... or going into the rain forest
- major project for dealing with 3 ..... in the countryside
- project for improving conditions for 4 .....
- 5 ..... projects in urban areas
- some projects do not have any 6 .....

Questions 7–10

Complete the table below.

*Write **ONE WORD** for each answer.*

Name of organisation	Numbers	Example volunteer activity
Wildlife Link	24,000 volunteers	getting information about 7 ..... of wildlife
Wildlife Watch	300 8	doing administrative work
9 ..... Earth	908 projects	building 10 ..... and walls

LIVEWORKSHEETS

READING PRACTICE

Multiple Choice

DIRECTIONS *Choose the correct letter, **A, B, C,** or **D**.*

Write the correct letter in boxes 1–4 on your answer sheet.

STRATEGY Scan the reading passage looking for the words, dates, or phrase in the multiple-choice options. Read the sentence where these key words are found. Does that sentence answer the question? Remember the key word may be a synonym, antonym, or paraphrase of the correct answer.

TIP Read the question and try to guess the answer. Scan the passage for the key words in the answer options. Circle the key words when you find them. Do they match your guess?

The answers to the questions are in sequence. The answer to the first question is in the first part of the passage. The answer to the second question follows that. The answer to the third question follows the answer to the second question.

PRACTICE (answers on page 230)

*Read each passage and answer the questions that follow. For each question, choose the correct letter, **A, B, C,** or **D**.*

Passage 1

Supporting children who struggle with reading is a challenge for teachers. Difficulty with learning to read often leads to issues such as low self-esteem and loss of motivation, which only exacerbates the problem. In order to help children in this situation, some schools and libraries are starting to use specially trained therapy dogs. The process is very simple. The child sits with a dog for a certain period of time and reads aloud to it. The presence of the dog is comforting to the child. Dogs enjoy attention from people, so the child feels like she has an interested listener who won't criticize her. With a therapy dog, the child has the opportunity to practice reading in a positive environment. Any dog, large or small, can be trained to be a reading therapy dog as long as it has a peaceful personality. Most of the dogs and their owners are volunteers who have gone through a special training course.

1 How do dogs help children learn to read?
- **A** They make sure the child reads for the required amount of time.
- **B** They give the child something to love and care for.
- **C** They provide the child with a safe audience.
- **D** They protect the child from strangers.

2 What kinds of dogs make good therapy dogs?
- **A** gentle
- **B** intelligent
- **C** interesting
- **D** large

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Passage 2

Charles Dickens, a famed British novelist known for his stories depicting the sufferings of the poor in Victorian England, grew up in a family that struggled with poverty throughout his childhood. Dickens, the son of a navy payroll clerk, was born in Portsmouth, England in 1812. Despite his father's steady employment, the family struggled financially. Mrs. Dickens, at one point, hoped to alleviate the family's financial difficulties by setting up a small school, but she was unsuccessful in this endeavor. When Dickens was just twelve years old, his father was imprisoned for debt. As a result, the young Dickens had to leave school and go to work to help support the family. He got a job at a factory that produced blacking, a type of shoe polish.

Fortunately, Dickens' father was soon able to pay off his debts, and Dickens returned to school. However, the family's financial difficulties continued, and he had to leave school again in order to work. This time he got a job as a helper at a newspaper office. Dickens was able to turn this situation to his advantage, and after a short while, began working as a reporter at the London law courts. Eventually, Dickens moved from working as a reporter to publishing a magazine, in which he serialized his first novel, *Oliver Twist*. This story of an orphan boy drew on Dickens' own childhood struggles to survive the challenges of poverty. The novel was popular in both England and the United States.

3 When Dickens was a boy he
- **A** was put in prison.
- **B** worked in a factory.
- **C** planned to join the navy.
- **D** had a job polishing shoes.

4 As a young man Dickens
- **A** studied law.
- **B** started his own school.
- **C** paid off his father's debts.
- **D** was employed at a newspaper office.

5 The story of *Oliver Twist* was inspired by
- **A** an orphanage in Dickens's neighborhood.
- **B** stories Dickens's father told him.
- **C** Dickens's experiences as a boy.
- **D** a childhood friend of Dickens.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

VOCABULARY PRACTICE



Language

1.1 **Which of the following aspects of English do you find the most difficult?**

A vocabulary B grammar C reading D writing
E pronunciation F speaking G listening

1.2 6a **Listen to somebody talking about learning a language and say which THREE things in 1.1 she had difficulty with.**

.....

1.3 6a **Listen again and find words that match these definitions.**

1 change words from one language to another .....
2 the ability to do something without making mistakes .....
3 something that prevents successful communication .....
4 a person who has spoken the language from birth .....
5 the ability to speak without hesitation .....
6 work or carry out daily tasks .....

2.1 IDIOMS **Use a dictionary to check the meaning of the phrases in the box. Then complete sentences 1–8 with the correct phrase.**

There is something to be said for	You can say that again!	having said that	have a say
When all is said and done	Needless to say	That is to say	to say the least

1 **Bill** Hello, Sam, what a surprise meeting you here!
Sam ..... !
2 Nuclear power has its problems. However, ..., many people believe it is the energy source of the future.
3 ..... switching to solar energy, although it is still too expensive for many people.
4 Life without a constant supply of water can be difficult, ...
5 ....., there is little we can do to save the environment without the full support of industry and the government.
6 The tanker spilled 5,000 megalitres of oil into the ocean. ....., this had a devastating effect on marine life in the area.
7 There is a clear link between humans and environmental problems. ....., wherever humans live, they damage the environment in some way.
8 I think it's important for everyone to ..... in how the government is elected.

Error warning

Note the following common errors with *say*, *speak*, *talk*, *tell*.
I speak German. NOT ~~*I talk German*~~. *She's always* ***talking about*** her dog. NOT ~~*tell about*~~. *Can I* ***tell you*** *something?* NOT ~~*tell something*~~. NB Tell can be used to refer to a chart /graph: *The chart* ***tells*** *us how many students were enrolled.* However, it is better to use language that is more impersonal: *The chart* ***shows*** *how many students were enrolled.* NB You should not use *say* to talk about charts: ~~*From the chart I can say how many students.*~~

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2.2 **Correct the mistakes in these sentences.**

1 The chart ~~talks~~ us how many students were studying in the college in 1990. tells
2 I can't understand what he is speaking. He's almost incoherent. .....
3 Today I'm going to tell about my last holiday in America. .....
4 I can talk three languages fluently, but Italian is my mother tongue. .....
5 I learned English from a textbook, so I don't really understand it when it is said. .....
6 The table says the percentage of people moving into urban areas between 1960 and 1990. .....

2.3 **The words in column B should be similar in meaning to those in column A. Cross out the odd word in each group.**

A	B
communicate	*contact correspond ~~indicate~~ interact*
1 *conclude*	*close summarise recap recall*
2 *explain*	*clarify define express illustrate*
3 *mean*	*indicate intend signify stutter*
4 *meaning*	*conjecture connotation significance sense*
5 *say*	*demonstrate express speak verbalise*
6 *suggest*	*imply intimate propose state*
7 *tell*	*gesture narrate recount relate*
8 *understand*	*appreciate comprehend contradict follow*

WRITING PRACTICE

Writing Task 2: Two-part essay questions

Model essay 1

i Sometimes Task 2 questions can be two-part questions. Instead of having just one question to answer, you need to deal with both. This means that the organisation of your essay will be slightly different from when you only have to answer one question.

1 Discuss these questions in pairs.

1 How do you think the internet has changed how people get information? How was it different in the pre-internet age?
2 Are there any drawbacks of information and websites being freely available to people?
3 When you were a child, did your parents control what you could look at on your computer? If so, how?
4 Do you think there should be controls on what adults can look at on the internet? If so, how could we do this?

2 Read the two-part essay task below and think about these questions.

1 How would you organise your answer?
2 What would you write in the introduction?
3 How many paragraphs would you write, and what would you write in each paragraph?
4 What would you write in the conclusion?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

In the modern internet age, information is freely available to anyone who has a computer and an internet connection. In the pre-internet age, information was more tightly controlled and regulated by governments. However, these days there is virtually no control by governments of what people can read and look at on the internet.

Is this unlimited access to information on the internet a good thing?
Should there be any controls on what information adults and children can have access to on the internet?

3 Try writing an answer for the task in Exercise 2.



4 Read the model essay, then compare it to the one you wrote in Exercise 3.

As a result of the development of the internet, people can now search for anything they want and find it at the touch of a button. In my view, having access to information online is generally a positive thing, but I also believe that it is important to place some limits on what children can look at on the internet. This essay will explain my opinion in more detail.

One benefit of having access to information online is that it is much easier for people to gain knowledge than in the past. To take one example, people who cannot attend a face-to-face university course now have access to online courses and can study at home, whenever they want. It is also easier to get information as a consumer. People can read online reviews and compare different products and services online, and therefore make better choices about what to buy.

However, there are also disadvantages of having unlimited information online, particularly for children. The biggest downside of the internet is that children can sometimes access websites with adult content. It is much easier than in the past for children to come across violent or sexual images, and this can have a negative effect on their well-being. Therefore, I believe that there should be controls and limits on what children can watch online. One way to do this is for parents to use a filter on their children's computers which blocks adult content.

In conclusion, my view is that although it is generally a good thing that people have access to information online, there should also be some controls on what children can watch. However, I believe that adults should be trusted to decide what to look at online, and it is important that governments do not prevent adults from getting information about whatever they like.

(304 words)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 Analyse the model essay by answering these questions.

1 How many sentences are there in the introduction, and what does each sentence do?
2 Has the writer given an opinion about one or both of the questions in the introduction?
3 What is the main idea of paragraph 2?
4 How many examples are used to explain the main idea in paragraph 2?
5 What are the main ideas in paragraph 3?
6 Does the conclusion answer one or both of the questions?
7 What is the writer's conclusion? Do you agree with it?
8 How is the organisation of this essay different from the essays in Units 1, 2 and 3?

6 Read the model essay again and find words or phrases with a similar meaning. The answers are in order.

1 Because of the development of the internet, …
As a result of the development of the internet, …
2 find something very quickly online
3 For example, …
4 where you study with a teacher in a classroom
5 the main disadvantage
6 see violent or sexual images by accident
7 This is bad for their happiness.
8 a computer application which stops adult content being seen by children
9 stop adults from finding out information

i When you are planning to write an essay for a two-part Task 2 question, you should:
- make sure you mention both questions in the introduction;
- divide the main body of the essay into two paragraphs. Answer the first question in the first paragraph, and the second question in the second paragraph of the main body;
- make sure that your conclusion talks about both questions.

Grammar: Noun phrases

i One way to make your Task 2 answers more interesting and more academic is to use noun phrases. A standard sentence is based around a verb and is called a **verb phrase**:
One change in recent years is that ***the internet has developed.***

To make a noun phrase, change the verb *developed* into a noun, then use the structure *the* + noun + *of* + noun:
One change in recent years is ***the development of the internet.***

1 Change these verb phrases into noun phrases.

1 One change in recent years is that internet access has expanded.
One change in recent years is ____ .
2 One development in the last few years is that universities have introduced free online courses.
One development in the last few years is ____ by universities.
3 A key transformation in recent decades is that business has become more global.
A key transformation in recent decades is ____ .
4 One improvement to the way we watch television in the last few years is that catch-up television has been invented.
One improvement to the way we watch television in the last few years is ____ .

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Match the halves of these noun phrases. Most follow the pattern of *the* + noun + *of* + noun, but some are slightly different.

1 the expansion of	a the mobile phone
2 the invention of	b well-paid jobs
3 increasing competition for	c internet access
4 the shift towards	d flights in Europe
5 the shift away from	e working from home
6 the need to	f speak English for work
7 the accessibility of	g having one job for life
8 the low cost of	h information on the internet

i

Another common noun phrase structure is:

In the last few years, there has been … *The last few years have seen …*	*a rise/a fall/an increase/a decrease in the number of people who …*

In the last few years, there has been a rise in the number of people who work from home.
The last few years have seen a fall in the number of people who study subjects like history or literature at university.

3 Write complete sentences using these prompts.

1 In the last few years | increase | people who go abroad to study English.
2 The last few years | rise | people who change jobs several times in their career.
3 In the last few years | fall | women who stay at home to look after children.
4 The last few years | decrease | people who can afford to buy a house in London.
5 In the last few years | rise | people | study free online courses.
6 The last few years | increase | people | want to move out of big cities and live in the countryside.

i

Noun phrases can be used to give reasons or explanations. Common linking phrases to do this are:
Due to …
Because of …
As a result of …
As a consequence of …

Communication between people has become much faster, ***due to the invention of the mobile phone.***
Because of the introduction of low-cost airlines, *it is now much easier for people to visit other countries for a short break.*

4 Complete these sentences with noun phrases formed from the words in brackets.

1 As a result of ____ (*the internet has been invented*), almost unlimited information is available to most people at the touch of a button.
2 More are more people are choosing to study abroad, due to ____ (*speaking English is necessary to get a good job*).
3 As a consequence of ____ (*the cost of a house is rising*), more and more young people are forced to go back and live with their parents after they finish university.
4 There are more and more water shortages these days, because of ____ (*global temperatures have increased*).

5 Discuss these questions in pairs.

1 Do you remember what it was like before the invention of the mobile phone? How was life different?
2 How would your life be different without the internet?
3 Do you think the introduction of catch-up television is a good thing? Has it changed how you watch TV programmes?

LIVEWORKSHEETS