Listening Comprehension

Task 1

For each question choose the correct answer A, B or C.

1. When will the science fiction film start?

		
A	B	C

2. Which poster will the boy hang on his bedroom wall?

		
A	B	C

3. How did the girl travel to school this morning?

		
A	B	C

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. What does a student think about studying psychology?

A. it's more enjoyable than she thought it would be
B. she finds the research fascinating
C. it's going to be very useful for her career

5. Why does the boy think his parents will be annoyed?

A. there are a lot of passwords on his phone
B. he's missed the bus
C. they keep warning him about losing things

6. Why is the girl calling her friend?

A. to find out what a test will cover
B. to suggest doing some revision together
C. to check some dates she's not sure about

Task 2

You will hear a conversation between a boy called Alex and a girl called Sian about planning a surprise meal for their parents. Decide if each sentence is correct (T) or incorrect (F).

	T	F
1. Alex accepts Sian's suggestion for a meal as a family.		
2. Sian suggests they look at recipe books for ideas.		
3. Alex and Sian agree that pasta is too plain.		
4.Sian thinks they should only use ingredients that they already have.		
5. Sian believes that the food's appearance is essential.		
6. Alex is confident that they can produce his choice of dessert successfully.		

Task 3

You will hear part of the interview with the journalist Terry Peters, author of the book *Celebrity Lives*. For each question choose the correct answer A, B or C.

1. What did Terry especially want the book to show?

A. what celebrities are like as employers
B. where celebrities go during the day
C. how celebrities behave as people

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2. Why did he move to Hollywood?

A. he wanted to hold celebrity parties
B. he had a celebrity friend who invited him
C. he wanted to become friends with the celebrities

3. What did he do to really find out about the celebrities?

A. he looked through their bins
B. he asked them interesting questions
C. he tried to copy their behavior

4. How did he feel about the methods he used?

A. he felt he didn't have a choice
B. he wasn't proud of his behavior
C. he says that anyone would have done the same

5. How did the celebrities act towards Terry?

A. some of them invited him to the gym
B. they wanted to know more about him
C. most of them were too busy to take any notice of him

6. How far has Terry changed his views on the celebrities?

A. he feels the same as when he began the book
B. he now understands why they need a private life
C. he says that really they are no different to any other human

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 19

READING

TASK 1

Match choices (A—H) to (1—5). There are three choices you don't need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

5 TIPS FOR BACKPACKING

1_____

This may seem fundamental to most but I, like many others, set off on my first backpacking Europe trip with just a one way ticket. When the money ran out sooner than expected it was a major hassle getting back home. Make sure you have a (preferably open dated) return ticket with you.

2_____

Do some research and have an outline of your backpacking trip and possible places to stay (hostels are the best for meeting up with other backpackers and like-minded travellers) but aim to go with the flow and don't pre plan your trip too much. Don't try to pack in too many places. Backpacking Europe does not mean you have to visit every European capital in four weeks, or even four months. Relax, taste and feel the different culture, get to know the locals and immerse yourself a little.

3_____

Backpacking is hard work! Whatever you take with you on your backpacking trip will be carried on your back for the duration. Obvious? Yes but it's amazing how heavy that backpack can become after you've lugged it on and off buses and trains numerous times. Travel light. Really really light. Wear a pair of comfy shoes and pack one more pair. One jacket, a couple of jumpers and Tshirts, an extra pair of jeans, shorts, swimwear, towel. You shouldn't need much else.

4_____

You'll meet lots of new people, other backpackers, travellers, locals, and you'll most likely end up chatting easily to strangers. Most of them will be good people, but not all of them. Girls should be particularly vigilant. Stay in touch with family. If immediate strangers ask, always tell them that your family or friends at home know exactly where you are, i.e which city you are in and the address where you are staying.

5_____

This from a female backpacker (me again!) who hitched thousands of miles in the 80's across France, Italy and Greece. Yes there are plenty of wierdos out there. You may feel there is safety in numbers but that's not always so. Catch the bus or the train, really it's worth it!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A Don't travel alone
B Be aware of personal safety at all times
C Avoid hitchhiking
D Don't put too many things into your backpack
E Try to enjoy every minute of it
F Don't plan to visit too many places
G Carry little cash
H Get a ticket back home in advance

TASK 2

Read the text below. For questions (6—10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C, or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Genius though he was, Leonardo da Vinci didn't produce many paintings because he was a perfectionist and spent years on each one. Only seventeen of them survive, and they are all very valuable. Leonardo began painting the *Mona Lisa* in 1503 and finished it shortly before his death in 1519. Today many consider it the most famous painting in the world, and one of the most precious, but this hasn't always been the case.

The *Mona Lisa* didn't become well-known until the Symbolist movement in the mid-nineteenth century, when it was viewed as the embodiment of eternal femininity. The painting's fame skyrocketed in the twentieth century, when it was stolen from the Louvre in 1911. The theft closed the museum down for a week. Pablo Picasso was one of the suspects, but it turned out the painting had been taken by a Louvre employee, Vincenzo Peruggia, who was apprehended two years later when he tried to sell it to the Ufizzi Gallery in Florence.

Perhaps the most important element of the painting is the gaze: it meets ours, while Mona Lisa's posture and the visual impression of distance between sitter and observer that Leonardo created give her an almost divine inaccessibility.

Mona Lisa is a realistic woman and an ideal at the same time, full of contradictions. Dynamism, and a sense of movement, are always hailed as hallmarks of a masterpiece, and Leonardo succeeds in capturing dynamism in motion, rather than someone holding a halt smile. Complex paintings evoke complex responses – there are no easy analyses or interpretations. The painting continuously toys with our perceptions and emotions.

Speculations about the identity of the sitter also contribute to the painting's fame, until 2005 when a library expert at the University of Heindelberg discovered a 1503 margin note written by Agostini Vespucci. The sitter is now confirmed as Lisa del Giocondo, the wife of Francesco del Giocondo, a wealthy Florentine silk merchant. The painting was commissioned to celebrate the birth of their second child. Detailed analysis of the painting has shown that she is wearing a typical garment, worn by women while pregnant or after giving birth. Before then there had been much speculation about the woman's identity, including the suggestion that the painting was meant as an ironic self-portrait.

Above all, it is the enigmatic smile that continues to hold the public imagination in both popular culture and the art world. It is a smile that seems to disappear when you look at it directly and Leonardo painted it with this intention. Professor Margaret Livingstone at Harvard University explains that "her smile is almost entirely

LIVEWORKSHEETS

in low special frequencies, and so is best seen by your peripheral vision," and says that artists like Leonardo "discovered fundamental truths that scientists are only now unraveling."

6 Why didn't Leonardo da Vinci produce many paintings?

A He preferred to work slowly.
B He wanted his paintings to be ideal.
C He wanted his paintings to cost a lot.
D He wasn't especially interested in painting.

7 According to paragraph 2 the *Mona Lisa* _____.

A was stolen for Pablo Picasso
B became world famous overnight
C was bought by an Italian gallery
D waited for 500 years to get to fame

8 The painting is famous for all the reasons **EXCEPT** _____.

A it is Leonardo's last painting
B it is a symbol of womanliness
C it has caused a lot of arguments
D it makes a mysterious impression

9 According to the passage the *Mona Lisa* _____.

A is different from the rest of da Vinci's paintings
B was Leonardo's present to Lisa del Giocondo
C used to be missing for a couple of years
D depicts the most beautiful smile ever

10 Which of the following is **TRUE** of Leonardo and his paintings?

A He got a lot of money for his paintings.
B He presented his paintings to museums.
C His paintings immediately became famous.
D His *Mona Lisa* has excited people's interest for centuries.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK 3

Read the texts below. Match choices (A—H) to (11—16). There are two choices you don't need to use.



11 GEMINI

It is likely to be one of those annoying days where nothing seems to go right. From missing the bus to misdirected emails you will find that poor communications slow your day right down. Allow extra time for journeys for today, and be assured that tomorrow will be much better!



12 LIBRA

The planets haven't been brilliantly kind to you over the last few days, and thanks to the continuing challenges from the stars you're likely to be feeling a twinge of dissatisfaction today too. Arm yourself with a couple of trusty friends who will be able to keep you feeling as optimistic as possible!



13 VIRGO

It's going to be a very relaxing day for you today thanks to the positive influence of the moon. At the beginning of the day you may feel a little drained after all the energy that has been buzzing around you lately. However, by the end of the day you will have found a way to simply ease into a more relaxed state!



14 LEO

You can look forward to a generally good day, but for the one or two obstacles that are standing in the way of your happiness in matters of the heart. Maybe you need to rethink the way you approach this. Being more tolerant will certainly help you overcome the problem!



15 PISCES

You are not usually one for loving lots of attention, preferring to sit back and quietly take stock. However, thanks to the power of the elements you will be full of witty comments today and everyone around you will be keen to allow you to take center stage in any social gatherings!



16 SAGITTARIUS

You should try and avoid the mall today, because the planetary line-up suggests that you're likely to fritter your money away, especially if you're not feeling on top of the world. To give your mood a boost you should arrange an evening of dancing the night away instead!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

People of which sign _____

A are going to have the most enjoyable day?
B are likely to need a helping hand?
C should be ready to get out of the background?
D may hope for a more successful day in the near future?
E are sure to succeed in business?
F are going to have a wonderful day for romance?
G should be more flexible?
H are going to have a bad day for shopping?

TASK 4

Read the text below. Choose from (A—H) the one which best fits each space (17—22). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

New York City is the birthplace of Broadway, which began in the early I900s and soon became the cultural center of New York.The theatre district fascinated large groups of middle-class people in search of music, excitement, and romance. The best seats in the house cost only $2.00. The relationship between audience and actors was lively and high-spirited. Audiences became caught up in the plays, **(17)** _____ .

Broadway reached its prime during the 1920s. Lawrence Langner, organizer of the Theatre Guild, helped Broadway become a performing arts center **(18)** _____ .

After the stock-market crash of 1929 and the Great Depression, Broadway plunged. The number of productions declined and **(19)** _____ . Ironically, this became a creative period. Many of Broadway theatres now included dramas of social protest, **(20)**_____ .

Broadway began to compare with television and movies during the 1940s. Most theatres on Broadway were turned into film houses. By this time, television was becoming a competitor. Television was providing the public with free entertainment.

Modern day Broadway is alive and well and Broadway theatre is considered the most prestigious form of professional theatre in the United States, **(21)**_____ . Some ticket booths sell same-day tickets for many Broadway shows at half price. This service helps sell seats that would otherwise go empty, and **(22)** _____ . Many theatres also offer special student rates, same-day "rush" tickets, or standing-room tickets to help ensure that their theatres are full.

A using the slogan "Theatre as a Weapon"
B makes seeing a show in New York more affordable
C talking to the actors, clapping and cheering
D giving a start to many stars
E put many theatre people out of work
F that influenced the theatre of the world
G getting more and more famous
H as well as the most well known to the general public

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK 5

Read and complete the text below. For each of the empty spaces (23—32) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Personal space can be imagined as a kind of bubble surrounding a person that **(23)** _____ his or her privacy and which other people may not normally enter. People from cultures that like a lot of personal space **(24)** _____ awkward when somebody comes too close to them; people who need less personal space are often offended when others seem to want to keep them at a (an) **(25)** _____.

The amount of personal space people need also **(26)** _____several other factors. People of the same sex may stand closer to each other than to somebody of the opposite sex. Strangers try to **(27)** _____ each other's space. Some British people avoid sitting next to strangers on buses and if there are lots of **(28)** _____ seats they choose one by itself.

For a private conversation Americans need at least 30 centimetres between each other, and British people more. **(29)** _____ somebody to enter your personal space may be a sign of trust or love.

British people tend to avoid touching or being **(30)** _____ close to people outside their own family. Women often greet members of their family with a kiss on one cheek, and may also greet friends in this way. Men are often **(31)** _____ about "kissing female members of the family or children in public, and never kiss men. Men rarely touch their friends unless to shake hands or slap them on the **(32)** _____ in congratulation.

23	**A**	liberates	**B**	frees	**C**	protects	**D**	supports
24	**A**	seem	**B**	feel	**C**	appear	**D**	experience
25	**A**	distance	**B**	reach	**C**	length	**D**	interval
26	**A**	depends on	**B**	trusts to	**C**	relies on	**D**	rests on
27	**A**	admire	**B**	honor	**C**	respect	**D**	appreciate
28	**A**	free	**B**	empty	**C**	occupied	**D**	unfilled
29	**A**	letting	**B**	enabling	**C**	approving	**D**	allowing
30	**A**	mentally	**B**	physically	**C**	psychologically	**D**	visibly
31	**A**	happy	**B**	bored	**C**	embarrassed	**D**	tired
32	**A**	face	**B**	ear	**C**	back	**D**	head

TASK 6

Read the texts below. For each of the empty spaces (33—42) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

More than 100 **(33)** _____ Chinese have the surname Zhang. Over 40 percent of China's population has one of the 10 major surnames: Zhang, Wang, Li, Zhao, Chen, Yang, Wu, Liu, Huang, and Zhou.

In a language that uses an alphabet, the letters are clues to how a word **(34)** _____. Chinese characters also give few clues to pronunciation. That is why Chinese **(35)** _____ different dialects can write to one another and be understood. If they **(36)** _____, they would probably not understand each other.

LIVEWORKSHEETS