PART 1

LISTENING TASK 1

Listen to the audio and choose the answer which fits best according to what you hear.

You will hear part of a discussion between two language experts, George Steadman and Angela Conti, who are talking about how advances in communication are affecting English usage.

1. What point is made about the effect of the internet on language?

a. It is making the standard written form of language obsolete.
b. It will radically alter the way grammar rules are followed.
c. It may have less serious consequences than feared.
d. It will bring about more changes than TV and radio have.

2. When discussing the main criticism of text messaging, George reveals…

a. his concern that there is insufficient research.
b. his understanding of the annoyance some people feel.
c. his certainty that the criticism is totally unfounded.
d. his doubt as to how widespread the criticism is.

3. What view is stated about abbreviations in texting?

a. They are mainly to be found in commercial messages.
b. Some are beginning to enter official documents.
c. Adults are just as much to blame for them as teenagers.
d. They are not as novel as many people imagine.

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4. When discussing the new genre of text-poetry, both researchers agree that …

a. limiting a poem to a fixed number of letters is unhelpful.
b. it will never match some of the traditional verse forms.
c. it has potential if the writer is gifted.
d. the means of delivery is effective.

5. What final conclusion do both the researchers reach about the state of English today?

a. Language development need no longer be a concern in schools.
b. The negative predictions about its decline are mistaken.
c. Children's written style is improving significantly.
d. The pace of change is unprecedented.

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