

LISTENING # 3

Snowball Fight Ban

Task 1

Listen to the first part of the recording (0–1.28). Mark the statements (1–6) True or False.

1. Cold, snowy weather means building snowmen, going sledding and snowball fights.
2. Snowball fights are illegal in California.
3. Severance gets about 101 centimeters of snowfall a year.
4. It's illegal to throw stones for 150 years.
5. It's hard for children to believe that they cannot have snowball fights in their town.
6. Children cannot change the law because they don't have such a power.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Task 2

Listen to the second part of the recording (1.29–3.05). For questions (7–12) choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

7. How old is Dane Best?
 - A. 8 years old
 - B. 9 years old
 - C. 10 years old
8. What does Dane say about the law of the snowball-fight ban?
 - A. It's old.
 - B. It's antique.
 - C. It's elderly.
9. What does Dane want to do?
 - A. He wants to get in trouble.
 - B. He wants to throw a snowball without any problems.
 - C. He wants to talk about how to change the law.
10. What did Dane write with his classmates?
 - A. notes
 - B. ads
 - C. letters
11. What did leaders vote for?
 - A. for lifting the ban
 - B. for speaking at a town meeting
 - C. for presenting the arguments
12. Whom does Dane want to hit with a snowball?
 - A. his four-year-old brother
 - B. his four-year-old sister
 - C. his classmates

7	8	9	10	11	12

EXAM CARD # 27

1. Read the text below. For questions (1–7) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

New Year's Traditions around the World

Many cultures follow different calendars and celebrate the New Year at different times. No matter when you celebrate, there are many New Year traditions around the world.

Many cultures have traditions to scare off demons and bad luck involving fire or loud noises.

In Scotland, for example, men from villages walk through the streets swinging giant fireballs over their heads which represent the sun and they are supposed to clean the coming year.

Just before the New Year, people in Denmark find the highest surface they can and jump from it as the New Year starts. They hope they leave behind the bad spirits and bad luck of the previous year and enter a New Year full of promise and new beginnings. There is one more tradition in Denmark. You can wake up with a pile of broken plates outside your door. It's a really weird way for friends and family to show their affection to each other.

To get rid of all bad luck and bad things, Ecuadorians set fire to scarecrows which are filled with paper. They can also burn the photos of the things that represent the previous year.

Many cultures have certain foods that are said to bring good luck.

In the southern part of the United States, people often eat black-eyed peas and pork for good luck in the New Year.

In Spain and some other countries, as the clock strikes midnight, people eat 12 grapes. Eating them all guarantees that the year will be filled with good luck. In the Philippines, many people eat 12 round fruits to bring them wealth and luck.

To start the New Year many people like to wear new clothing.

In Japan, for example, people who believe in Buddhism may dress up like the zodiac animal for the coming year.

In Romania, there is a tradition that involves dressing up in a bear costume and going from house to house. They hope this can scare off evil spirits.

People in the Philippines may wear clothing with polka dots which stand for wealth in the New Year.

In Brazil, Ecuador, Bolivia and Venezuela, some people wear colorful underwear on New Year's Eve. The most popular colors are red and yellow. Red is supposed to bring you love; yellow is supposed to bring you money.

No matter what country you are from, we wish you good luck in all the New Years.

1. What do some New Year traditions involve?

- A. demons and bad luck
- B. bad luck and fire
- C. fire and loud noises
- D. all the mentioned above

2. Why do people in Denmark jump from the highest point on the New Year's Eve?

- A. They do the bungee-jumping.
- B. They leave behind bad spirits and bad luck.
- C. They show love to their family and friends.
- D. They promise to start a new tradition.

3. What brings luck to the Spaniards?

- A. black-eyed peas
- B. scarecrows
- C. colorful underwear
- D. twelve grapes

4. What represents wealth in the Philippines?

- A. squares
- B. circles
- C. triangles
- D. ovals



5. Which countries have the tradition of wearing clothes for good luck?

- A. Ecuador, the USA, Denmark and Mexico.
- B. The Philippines, Brazil, Bolivia and Spain.
- C. Venezuela, Brazil, Romania and Scotland.
- D. Brazil, Bolivia, Romania and Japan.

6. Why do people from Ecuador burn the photos from the previous year?

- A. to get rid of bad luck
- C. to scare away evil spirits
- B. to scare off demons
- D. to clean the coming year

7. What should people from the Philippines eat to be rich and lucky?

- A. twelve grapes
- C. twelve round fruits
- B. twelve giant fireballs
- D. twelve polka dots

1	2	3	4	5	6	7

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Volunteer Work

Elaine Brettell, a widow and mother-of-two, (1) _____ her life serving the patients of Sanford Royal Hospital. The 79-year-old (2) _____ a nurse when she was 14. She retired at 60 but joined (3) _____ a volunteer in accident and emergency department a few months later.

She now works eight hours (4) _____ at the hospital changing the dirty linen and taking food and drinks to patients.

“The hospital (5) _____ my life since the time I was a teenager. It’s (6) _____ I gave birth to my two sons and where my husband was (7) _____ into after a heart attack at just 53.”

“The kindness I was shown made (8) _____ difference. That’s why I make a point of introducing (9) _____ to patients and their families and telling them useful information, or making them tea.”

“Being a volunteer (10) _____ me feel I’m still useful. It makes my children and grandchildren proud of me, too.

1.	A.	has spent	B.	spend	C.	spent	D.	is spending
2.	A.	become	B.	becomes	C.	has become	D.	became
3.	A.	in	B.	as	C.	like	D.	such as
4.	A.	a week	B.	week	C.	the week	D.	in a week
5.	A.	had always been	B.	has always been	C.	is always being	D.	was always
6.	A.	when	B.	which	C.	that	D.	where
7.	A.	bring	B.	bought	C.	brought	D.	been brought
8.	A.	such	B.	so	C.	such a	D.	so a
9.	A.	myself	B.	himself	C.	themselves	D.	yourself
10.	A.	help	B.	helps	C.	helped	D.	is helping

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10