

Listening • Part 1

Questions 1 – 8

You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions **1 – 8**, choose the best answer (**A**, **B** or **C**).

- 1** You hear an art teacher talking about learning to draw cartoons.

What does he say about the lessons he gives?

- A** They will make it easy to do.
- B** They are aimed at beginners.
- C** They will give enough practice.

- 2** You hear a boy talking to a friend about butterflies.

What does he find difficult?

- A** locating butterflies in the city
- B** identifying certain butterflies
- C** pronouncing the names of butterflies

- 3** You hear a boy talking about a long walk he did to raise money for charity.

What did he dislike about it?

- A** being interviewed by the media
- B** getting increasingly painful feet
- C** having to walk in bad weather

- 4** You hear a teacher talking to her class.

What is she talking about?

- A** ideas for doing research
- B** ways of finishing homework
- C** preparing for a presentation

- 5** You hear two friends talking about a competition.

How does the boy feel about entering it?

- A** unsure whether he's old enough
- B** interested in finding out more
- C** confident he could do well

- 6** You hear a teacher talking about writing a poem.

What does she want her students to do first?

- A** read famous poems aloud
- B** read poems on the internet
- C** read poems by other teenagers

- 7** You hear two friends talking about a book about a footballer.

What do they agree about it?

- A** It contains surprising information.
- B** It shows what a good writer he is.
- C** It says things that may be untrue.

- 8** You hear part of a programme on the subject of animals.

What is the presenter doing?

- A** inviting listeners to suggest names for an animal
- B** giving information about an unusual species
- C** describing a problem a zoo has experienced

Reading and Use of English • Part 5

You are going to read an extract from a novel about a teenager called Scotty Weems. For questions **31 – 36**, choose the answer (**A, B, C** or **D**) which you think fits best according to the text.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Scotty Weems

It began falling in the morning. I noticed it at the start of second period, biology, but I guess it could have started at the end of first period. There wasn't much to it at first, and it had been snowing a lot that month, so I didn't give it a great deal of thought. It was those small flakes, like grains of sugar. By third period, the flakes had fattened up and got serious, and people were starting to talk about it.

'Think they'll let us out early?' my friend, Pete said as we gathered our stuff and headed for our next class, Spanish. I looked out the window and sized it up. It was really coming down and there were already two or three centimeters on the windowsill. 'Maybe,' I said. 'Is it supposed to be a big one?' 'Supposed to be huge: 'Winter Storm Warning,' 'Where have you been?' he said. 'School, basketball practice, homework, whatever. Excuse me for not watching the weather forecast.' 'Well, if it's as big as all that, they'll probably let us go.' 'I hope you're right, Weems,' he said.

My name is Scotty Weems. I prefer 'Scotty', but most people, even my friends, call me 'Weems'. I guess it's easy to say. Anyway, I'm an athlete, so since I was a little kid, I've heard it shouted every time I've done something right and every time I messed up, too. These days it's on the back of my basketball jersey. I like to think that someday people will be chanting it from the sidelines: 'Weems! Weems! Weems!' Chanting fans make any name sound good.

It was a Tuesday, and before the snow started falling the main thing on my radar was the start of the basketball season. The first game was supposed to be that night. So when Pete said, 'Think they'll let us out early?' what I heard was, 'Think they'll cancel the game?' Pete Dubois was one of my best friends, him and Jason Gillispie. The three of us were pretty tight. Pete blended in.

It was sort of his role. It might sound strange, being known for what you aren't, but Pete wasn't super hip or incredibly smart. He listened to mainstream rock and wore whatever clothes he'd been given by his parents. You needed some kids like that, otherwise all you had were competing groups, all dressed in outfits that amounted to uniforms and trying to play their music louder than yours.

So for Pete, early dismissal just meant more time at home, playing video games and eating pizza. For me, it meant not collecting the payoff for all those hours of practice I'd put in over the off-season, all those jump-shots I'd taken in the gym and out in the driveway. 'They're going to cancel the game,' I said to Pete. 'That's for sure.' 'Oh, yeah,' said Pete. 'That's bad.'

Pete didn't play basketball, not in a team anyway. Neither did Jason. They were the same friends I'd always had, the neighborhood kids I'd ridden bikes with when we were nine. I guess it's kind of weird to still have the same friends as when you were a little kid. It's not like you're expected to move on by high school, but you're definitely allowed. And most sporty kids run in packs, you know? But I had only just got onto the first team, so I was still kind of an outsider there anyway. I knew those guys would like me just fine when I became one of the top players, and that was my goal for this season. As for my real friends, Pete and Jason, I didn't have to prove anything to them.

line 46

line 52

- 31** How does Scotty say he felt about the snow at first?
- A** It was far too boring to think about.
 - B** It was no real cause for concern.
 - C** He was shocked by its sudden appearance.
 - D** He was relieved it was only falling lightly.
- 32** What does Scotty say about being called 'Weems'?
- A** It is appropriate for an athlete.
 - B** He thinks his supporters will find it memorable.
 - C** He has become accustomed to it.
 - D** He regards it as an expression of admiration.
- 33** What does 'like that' in line 46 refer to?
- A** being an average type of person
 - B** being interested in rock music
 - C** wearing carefully chosen clothes
 - D** hiding your real personality
- 34** What does 'not collecting the payoff' in line 52 mean?
- A** failing to take a break from
 - B** doubting the result of
 - C** getting fed up with
 - D** missing out on the rewards of
- 35** What point is Scotty making when he talks about sporty kids running in packs?
- A** they have a shared natural ability
 - B** they grew up together in the same neighbourhood
 - C** they have a strong group identity
 - D** they are all motivated to achieve
- 36** What do we learn about Scotty in the final paragraph?
- A** He is embarrassed to be friends with people who aren't sporty.
 - B** He lacks confidence in his ability to make new friends.
 - C** He feels secure about the friendships he already has.
 - D** He values the friendship of the people in his basketball team.

Reading and Use of English • Part 6

You are going to read an article about a special kind of skateboard. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A – G** the one which fits each gap (**37 – 42**). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

An amazing skateboard

The skateboard controlled by brainwaves that moves wherever you think it should.



Thinking of getting somewhere in a hurry? A new gadget from a company called *Chaotic Moon Labs* proves that the future of travel is only limited by the imagination. A skateboard they have developed, aptly named the *Board Of Imagination*, takes commands directly from the rider's brainwaves and transfers them to a motor that propels the board forward. You just think of a destination, and how fast you would like to get there, and the *Board Of Imagination* will set off – hitting a top speed of around 50km per hour. If you think that's too fast, it will slow down.

A film on the internet of the board being put through its paces by the general manager of *Chaotic Moon Labs*, who refers to himself simply as 'Whurley', shows that he has mastered the art of thinking his way from Point A to Point B. The secret of his success is special software in an onboard computer – and a clever headset that monitors and interprets brainwaves. So far, he's the world's leading pilot of the board.

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On the video, Whurley demonstrates how the board is handled. He gets on, looking relaxed and confident. **38** As he puts it through its paces, he manages to hit fairly high speeds. The computer can be seen attached to the front of the board, and the motor is underneath. Whurley compares the process to imagining pulling yourself along with a rope. If you 'see' the destination in your mind, and how fast you want to get there, the *Board Of Imagination's* gadgetry will do the rest.

The whole concept started with another motorised board, called the *Board of Awesomeness*. That gadget used a tablet computer and an adapted computer games console to analyse hand movements. **39**

The new version is more sophisticated and uses a special wireless headset which can detect signals from the brain and process them.

Whurley explains that the headset sends signals from the rider's brain to the computer via a connector built into the headset. Then, software installed on the computer controls the electric motor. Of course, riders who want to use the board need to be able to balance.

40

Whurley says this was a simple and painless process. He practised with just the headset and a computer so that a profile of how he 'thinks' could be made. That profile was then loaded onto the computer on the board. **41** Thinking about lunch, or boring work could bring the board to an abrupt halt.

Sounding like a man speaking from painful experience, Whurley says: 'We quickly realised that we would have to find a way to handle distraction. We've done the best we can to compensate. **42** The only thing they can do is practise. Hopefully over time they can learn to focus.'

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| A The only problem is that users really do have to keep their minds focussed. | E Apart from that basic requirement, they just have to get their brainwaves and the computer software to work together. |
| B As a result, they became easier to ride. | F It's clear, however, that there could be other skaters thinking themselves to various destinations in no time at all. |
| C Then, the board seems to take off of its own accord. | G These were then converted into commands for the motor. |
| D However, it will always be an issue for most riders. | |