

COLEGIO HELVETIA
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
NINTH GRADE
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL – 2021/2022
READING - LISTENING FOURTH BIMESTER EXAM

INSTRUCTIONS.

Answer the questions to each section of the exam based on the abilities practiced both at home and in class.

PART 1. LISTENING.

Complete the following exercises based on the information provided in the tracks. **You will listen to the tracks twice.**

Listening 1. School Chess club

You will hear an interview with a girl called Selina Stead who runs a chess club at her school. For each question, choose the correct answer.

1. **Why did Selina decide to start a school chess club?**
 - a. A family member gave her the idea.
 - b. It was something she'd always wanted to do.
 - c. Her school was looking for somebody to do it.
2. **Selina says that when buying chess equipment, it's best to**
 - a. buy it from different places.
 - b. get a large amount at the same time.
 - c. go to the company with lowest prices.
3. **At club sessions, Selina likes to make sure**
 - a. members can always choose who they play against.
 - b. new members can learn from the best players.
 - c. all members get an enjoyable game.
4. **Selina had to ask for the help of a teacher when**
 - a. some of the club's property went missing.
 - b. one of the club's members behaved badly.
 - c. the club needed space for extra sessions.
5. **Selina says that playing chess can help students to**
 - a. spend less time online.
 - b. concentrate better in class.
 - c. think more clearly.
6. **In future, Selina would like the chess club to**
 - a. play chess against other schools.
 - b. enter chess competitions at national level.

- c. get everyone in the school interested in chess.

Listening 2. Video game review.

For each questions, write one or two words or a number or a date or a time. You will hear a student giving a review of a new video game to his class.

Action takes place in: a

Players answer questions about:

Name of most difficult level of game: the

Best thing about the game: the

Maximum number of players:

Website for more details: www. .com

Listening 3. Mini conversations.

You will hear six conversations about different topics. Select the most appropriate answer A, B, C to the questions provided below.

1. You will hear two friends talking about a film they've just seen. Why didn't the boy enjoy the film?
 - a. it was very frightening.
 - b. it lasted too long.
 - c. it had terrible acting.
2. You will hear two friends talking about some biology homework. The girl suggests that the boy should
 - a. ask his teacher for help.
 - b. get information from the internet.
 - c. look in the biology textbook.
3. You will hear two friends talking about an interview with a singer they've seen on TV. They agree that
 - a. the singer's answers were interesting.
 - b. the interviewer was quite rude.
 - c. the questions were confusing.
4. You will hear a girl telling her friend about a diving trip. How did the girl feel about it?
 - a. sure she will go again
 - b. glad she went with a relative
 - c. pleased with her diving skills
5. You will hear a girl talking to a friend about basketball. The girl is trying to
 - a. explain the rules of the game.
 - b. describe a game she took part in.
 - c. encourage the boy to start playing.

6. You will hear a boy talking about a trip to a city with his family. Why did the boy's family get lost?
- they couldn't understand their map.
 - someone gave them the wrong directions.
 - the guidebook contained incorrect information.

PART 2. READING.

Complete the following questions based on the comprehension of the texts provided.

Reading 1. The first underground train.

Activity 1. Read the following text about subways and underground trains. Choose the best title for each paragraph from A–F below. There is one title you don't need.

- Why the first underground train system was built
- Tickets for the first underground system
- People's feelings about the first underground train system
- What the first underground system was like
- Railroads of the first underground system
- Modern underground train systems

Paragraph 1.

Today there are underground train systems in over 40 countries. For example, you can take underground trains in Paris, New York and Tokyo. Modern underground systems use electric trains, and they are clean, safe and quiet. They usually arrive on time. There are no traffic jams. Most people are happy to use them. But the first underground train systems were quite different from the modern systems we see in big cities all around the world.

Paragraph 2. The first underground trains ran in London in 1863. It was a very busy city and the streets were full of traffic. There were too many people, horse carriages, houses and buildings. There just wasn't enough space above ground, and so people decided to put the trains underground. But unlike today, there were no electric trains in 1863 and all of the trains used steam engines — which made power from fire and water.

Paragraph 3. In 1863, all of the trains used steam engines. Because these engines were powered by very hot water and fire, the tunnels were smoky, steamy, and noisy. People wanted some fresh air, but it was difficult to get it into the tunnels and stations. The tunnels were dark, too. The train cars and stations were made of wood, and lighted with gas. Sometimes there were accidents because of fires.

Paragraph 4. Before the London Underground opened, people were very scared about the idea of going into underground tunnels. Many were afraid of the tunnels full of the smoke, the steam and the noise from the train engines. And indeed, travelling in the tunnels of the first underground system was a very noisy, dark, and smelly experience. But on the first day, the new London Underground carried 40,000 passengers. It was very quick, and the trains ran every 10 minutes. The people of London fell in love with their new train system.

Paragraph 5. The London Underground had three classes of travel. First class was the most expensive and most comfortable. Second class was less expensive but still comfortable. Third class was the opposite of first class. When the London Underground opened, the third class tickets were the most popular. About 70% of the tickets sold were these cheap tickets for ordinary working people. Nowadays the prices have gone up, but the underground experience around the world is definitely cleaner and quieter!

Activity 2. Based on the text read, select True or False for the following statements.

- a. The stations and tunnels of the first underground system were smoky.
- b. The first underground trains were late because of traffic jams.
- c. There were three types of tickets for the first underground trains.
- d. The first underground trains were built in Paris.
- e. At first, people were worried about using the first underground trains.
- f. The first underground train stations were made of wood.
- g. Ordinary working people could not buy first class underground tickets.
- h. The ticket prices today are still cheap for ordinary working people.

Activity 3. Complete the sentences with an exact word, phrase or number from the text (maximum three words).

- 1. In 1863, there weren't any _____ trains.
- 2. Steam engines used the power of _____.
- 3. Thousands of people used the London Underground on _____.
- 4. The old London Underground used _____ lights.
- 5. When the London Underground opened, most of the tickets sold were the _____.

Reading 2. Jacques Cousteau: a remarkable man.

Read the following about Jacques Cousteau and answer the questions below by selecting the best option A, B, C or D.

Jacques-Yves Cousteau was an explorer, ecologist, filmmaker, inventor and conservationist. He was a man, who spent nearly his whole life underwater exploring the hidden depths of the ocean and who did more to educate the world about the mysteries of the deep sea than any other scientist before or since. He was born in June, 1910 in the village of Saint-André-de-Cubzac, in south western France. Jacques was a sickly boy and spent much of his time in bed, reading books and dreaming about a life at sea. In 1920, Jacques' family moved to New York and he was encouraged to start swimming to build up his strength. This was the beginning of his fascination with water and the more he learnt through his own experiences, the more passionate he became about "looking through nature's keyhole".

Nevertheless, his career in underwater exploration came about by accident. After entering France's naval academy and travelling around the world, he was involved in an almost fatal car accident that left him seriously injured with two broken arms. He began swimming in the Mediterranean Sea to strengthen his arm muscles as part of his recovery process and rediscovered his love of the ocean.

Cousteau developed a pair of underwater breathing apparatus to allow him to stay underwater for long periods of time.

His experiments led to the development of the first Aqua-Lung which was a great commercial success. During World War II, he worked for the French Resistance and experimented with underwater photographic equipment. He helped to get rid of German mines and was awarded the Legion D'Honneur and the Croix de Guerre medals for his bravery. In 1942, he filmed his first underwater film Sixty Feet Down. It was 18 minutes long and was entered in the Cannes Film Festival.

1. **What is the writer trying to do in the text?**
 - a. teach readers how to make films
 - b. explain how Jacques-Yves Cousteau has made a lot of money
 - c. introduce readers to the filmmaker JacquesYves Cousteau
 - d. describe particular films directed by Jacques Cousteau
2. **Being a child, Cousteau had**
 - a. strong will
 - b. bright mind
 - c. heart attacks
 - d. delicate health
3. **In a car accident he ...**
 - a. burnt both of his arm
 - b. broke his extremities
 - c. injured his leg
 - d. hurt his eyes
4. **Cousteau developed underwater breathing equipment a**
 - a. to extend his underwater investigations
 - b. to gain fame
 - c. to achieve commercial success
 - d. having no certain goals
5. **During World War II Cousteau collaborated with**
 - a. Polish resistance movement
 - b. German antifascists
 - c. American troops
 - d. underground resistance fighters in France

Reading 3. Antarctica.

Five sentences have been removed from the text below. For each question (1-5), choose the correct answer(A-H). There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

Antarctica is the coldest, emptiest and driest place on Earth. Ninety-nine percent of Antarctica is covered by ice about 5 metres thick. The coldest temperature ever recorded on Earth was minus 89.2 degrees Celsius, registered on July 21, 1983, at Antarctica's Vostok station. Antarctica's climate is also

very dry and windy. _____ There is an area called Dry Valleys that has not had rain for more than a million years!

The existence of Antarctica was completely unknown until the continent was first discovered in 1820. Antarctica doesn't have a government and belongs to no country. _____ There are 30 various countries that operate 80 research stations located around the continent. In summer, more than 4000 scientists from all over the world work in research stations. Tourists arrive here, too.

Antarctica has no trees or bushes. The only plants that can live in a place that cold are algae, moss and fungi. _____ They live close together in large colonies and build their nests on the ice. In the ocean around the continent you can see seals, whales and orcas but there are no big and large native land animals on the continent _____.

- a. More than 56,000 people travelled to Antarctica during the 2018-2019 season.
- b. Also hiding under the Antarctic ice is an entire lake called Lake Vostok.
- c. But there are a lot of penguins.
- d. Winds in some places of the continent can reach 320 km/h.
- e. But Antarctica hasn't always been an icy land.
- f. It's just too cold!
- g. The Antarctic is land surrounded by ocean.
- h. It is the only region in the world which is not ruled by any nation.