

PART 1

1. Read the article and choose the correct answer [5 marks]

Three hours in my city

Are you planning a stopover at Schipol airport? If the answer is 'yes', then visit Amsterdam. This beautiful city is only a short train journey away. We asked three people who live there: 'We have three hours in your city. What are the best things to do?'

Anika, 26

It depends on the weather. Check the forecast when you arrive at the airport. If the weather is not good, visit one of our famous cafés. Try some bitterballen – it's a kind of Dutch meat snack – or have some pancakes with Dutch cheese. I'm sure you're going to love Dutch food. If it's a sunny day, spend some time at the flower market. The flower shops are on small boats and it is also a great place to buy gifts. You will return to the airport feeling happy and with many colourful pictures to look at on your journey.

Hendrik, 34

Take a ride on a tram. A tram is a kind of electric bus that drives on metal lines in the road. Amsterdam has a great tram system – I use it every day to get to work. I think the number 2 route is best for tourists. That's the tram that drives past many of the main Amsterdam sights, like the Van Gogh art gallery. The trams leave Amsterdam Central Station regularly and tickets are not expensive. You can see your luggage is safe but you don't have to carry it. And you won't be stressed about getting back to the airport in time – you can get off the tram at any stop and return to the station on tram 2 in the opposite direction. It's perfect.

Issac, 23

The best way to see Amsterdam is to hire a bike. Everyone in Amsterdam loves to cycle! You can hire bikes at the main train station – it's easy. There are also lockers at the station where you can leave your luggage, although they are quite expensive. On a bike, you can see Amsterdam's beautiful buildings and canals. You can see the old houses very well from the street but a few are also open as museums. If you have children, visit one of the large parks. Vondelpark has an exciting playground where children can climb trees



- 1 Anika wants us to check _____ when we arrive at the airport.

A the time B our ticket C the weather

- 2 Anika says the flower market is good on a _____ day.

A sunny B cold C rainy

- 3 Hendrik says tram number 2 drives past _____.

A a gallery B a park C a main road

- 4 Hendrik says his idea is _____.

A stressful B perfect C expensive

- 5 Issac says that _____ are very popular in Amsterdam.

A bikes B trains C trams

2. Read the article again and choose **A** for Anika, **H** for Hendrik, or **I** for Issac. [5 marks]

- 1 The city has a great tram system. _____
- 2 The luggage lockers are quite expensive. _____
- 3 Our cafés are famous. _____
- 4 Children can climb trees in the park. _____
- 5 It's like a bus. _____

PART 2

1. Read a student's review of a shopping event and choose **TRUE**, **FALSE** or **DOESN'T SAY**. [10 MARKS]

My free shopping trip

Have you ever been to a shop and bought a dress that was too small or some shoes that were too uncomfortable? I have. Have you ever bought clothes online and then never worn them? Yes, me too. In fact, although my wardrobe is full I usually wear the same trousers and jumpers every week. I think most of my friends have the same problem.

Now imagine a clothes store with no check out and no prices! Last weekend, I went to a store like that. It was a 'Clothes swap' at my college. Here's how it works. You bring clothes that are nearly new which you don't want any more. Then you swap with other people. I took twelve items to the 'Clothes swap'. When I arrived at about 9.30, it was already busy. One of the student organizers checked that my items were clean and nearly new. Then she gave me twelve labels – one label for each of my items – which I could swap for new clothes.



There were changing rooms and mirrors, so I tried on a few things. I wanted a blue party dress but there wasn't anything blue in my size. I decided not to look at the shoes at all. (I don't need more shoes!) Instead, I tried on a cute black skirt and smart white shirt. They were perfect. By lunchtime, I still had ten labels but it was time to go. Although I swapped just two items for my original twelve – I was happy.

The 'Clothes swap' was a lot of fun. My wardrobe and my bedroom are tidier. Swapping is also good for the planet because it is a kind of recycling. The clothes I brought home are not new, but they feel new to me. I think swap events are something that everyone can enjoy. Happy swapping – and don't go shopping!

- 1 The writer doesn't have many clothes. _____
- 2 The items in the 'Clothes swap' were free. _____
- 3 The 'Clothes swap' was in a shopping centre. _____
- 4 The writer went to the event with her best friend. _____
- 5 People at the event could try on the clothes. _____
- 6 The writer found a blue party dress. _____
- 7 Nobody wanted any of the writer's clothes. _____
- 8 The writer chose ten items. _____
- 9 The writer stayed at the 'Clothes swap' for several hours. _____
- 10 The writer's bedroom is tidier than before. _____