

## LISTENING (20 marks)

### I Listen to Archie talking to his mum. Choose A, B, or C. (10 marks)

- 1 Mum has already cleaned \_\_\_\_\_.  
A the kitchen    B the bathroom    C Archie's bedroom
- 2 Mum asks Archie to help her \_\_\_\_\_.  
A tidy his room    B put his clothes away    C make his bed
- 3 Mum thinks Archie's news will be \_\_\_\_\_.  
A exciting    B interesting    C boring
- 4 Archie has just \_\_\_\_\_.  
A made mum a sandwich    B done his homework    C used mum's phone
- 5 Archie says that \_\_\_\_\_ helped him.  
A his dad    B no one    C his little sister

### II Listen to five conversations. What promises do the people make? Match the conversations with the promises (A–G). There are two answers you do not need to use. (10 marks)

- Conversation 1 C  
Conversation 2 A  
Conversation 3 E  
Conversation 4 B  
Conversation 5 D

- A invite someone to a party  
B help someone repair a bike  
C pay someone back £20  
D call back in 10 minutes  
E remember a time and a place  
F practise the piano  
G reply to an email

## READING (20 marks)

### III Read the article and mark T (True) or F (False). (8 marks)

#### New year, old customs by travel editor, Lauren Briard

Have you ever made a New Year's **resolution**? Perhaps you have decided to learn a new language, or take up more exercise? You are not alone. In many cultures, people choose to change something about their life at the beginning of the year. And all over the world, people celebrate the new year with interesting **customs**.

My favourite traditions come from Mexico and other Latin American countries. For example, at midnight on New Year's Eve in many Spanish-speaking cultures, everyone eats twelve grapes – one grape for each month of the year. People say that eating the grapes brings good fortune for the new year. And don't be surprised if your friend from Peru wants to walk around the outside of his or her house with heavy luggage. Traditionally, if you complete this **challenge** you will be a successful traveller in the new year. Would you like to go on a dream holiday next year? Then try it!

Cleaning the house is perhaps the most common new year tradition. From Mexico to Japan people **sweep** their homes from top to bottom. Some people believe this **removes** bad luck and allows good luck to enter the house. In other countries, such as Britain and Iran, the cleaning happens later in the year, so it's called 'spring cleaning'. In Iran, just before the March spring **festival**, people empty their houses of all their furniture. They clean the house from top to bottom, mend broken furniture or replace old items. People bring flowers and **herbs** indoors too so their homes smell fresh and clean.

New Year is often celebrated with friends, so my final story is from Denmark. If you are in Denmark at New Year, you will probably see piles of broken plates outside front doors. What's going on? Well, traditionally, people take their old or broken plates and **smash** them on their friend's front door. It brings good luck to your friend. It's great fun, too! So, a big pile of broken plates means you are a popular person. Enjoy the new year festival, wherever you are in the world. I hope you are ready with your grapes, luggage and plates!

- 1 One of the writer's favourite New Year traditions comes from Latin America.
- 2 At midnight, there is a tradition of eating one grape. ....
- 3 In Peru, there is a New Year tradition that includes suitcases. ....
- 4 The tradition from Peru will give you good dreams in the new year. ....
- 5 House cleaning is a very popular new year tradition. ....
- 6 In Britain, people clean their homes at New Year. ....
- 7 In Denmark, there is a special tradition between friends. ....
- 8 The most popular people have the most broken plates. ....

**IV. Match six of the highlighted words / phrases with the definitions. There are TWO extra words you don't need. (12 marks)**

- 1 activities that have been common for a long time \_\_\_\_
- 2 something that is difficult to do \_\_\_\_
- 3 takes something away \_\_\_\_
- 4 a special day of celebration \_\_\_\_
- 5 to break into lots of pieces \_\_\_\_
- 6 plants often used to add flavour to food \_\_\_\_

**USE OF ENGLISH (20 marks)**

**V Complete this text with the correct verbal tense. Choose a, b or c. (7 marks)**

Kevin Adams 1) \_\_\_\_\_ trains. He first 2) \_\_\_\_\_ one when he was four years old and he 3) \_\_\_\_\_ it was great. He 4) \_\_\_\_\_ to a different railway station every week and 5) \_\_\_\_\_ the engine number of every train he sees. One day, Kevin 6) \_\_\_\_\_ all his collection to his children, he promised so. He 7) \_\_\_\_\_ this since he was eight. By the time he was fifteen he collected over ten thousand different engine numbers in various countries.

Once, while he 8) \_\_\_\_\_ in a station in Cheshire he saw something very unusual. He 9) \_\_\_\_\_ for over an hour for a train to go by when suddenly he 10) \_\_\_\_\_ a very old stream train coming down the track. It 11) \_\_\_\_\_ at the station and, as it passed, Kevin noticed that all the passengers 12) \_\_\_\_\_ old-fashioned clothes. When he told the station guard about this, the poor man turned pale. He said that no stream train 13) \_\_\_\_\_ through

that station for years, and that the last one 14) \_\_\_\_\_ a long time ago, killing everyone on board.

- 1) a) love    b) loves    c) loved
- 2) a) saw    b) sees    c) have seen
- 3) a) thinks    b) thought    c) have thought
- 4) a) goes    c) is going    c) was going
- 5) b) writes    c) is writing    c) was writing
- 6) a) is going to show    b) will show    c) shows
- 7) a) did    b) has done    c) does
- 8) a) is standing    b) was standing    c) is going to stand
- 9) a) was waiting    b) waited    c) has waited
- 10) a) saw    b) sees    c) was seeing
- 11) a) hasn't stopped    b) wasn't stopped    c) didn't stop
- 12) a) wore    b) were wearing    c) was wearing
- 13) a) passed    b) has passed    c) was passing
- 14) a) crashed    b) has crashed    c) crashes

**VI Read Jane's email and choose the correct options. (5 marks)**

Hi John,

It was great to hear from you. Yes, thanks, I had a great time visiting my family. 1) The best / the good / the better day was when we all went 2) to / for / in a walk together. We started walking at midday and a short time 3) later / finally / while, something really funny happened. We were walking along by the side of a river, 4) after a few minutes / then / when my brother decided to try and jump across it. 5) Suddenly, / While, / To begin with, we saw him run towards the river, 6) so / but / although we all

stopped to watch him. Unfortunately, the river was 7) wider then / more wider / wider than he thought and he landed right in the middle. 8) At first, / But after / Half an hour later, we didn't say anything, 9) at last / but then / next my brother started laughing. That made the rest of us laugh, too. 10) At first, / In the end, / When, my sister went to help him get out of the river. As you can imagine, he was very wet!

Anyway, I'll call you soon to show you the photos.

Love,

Jane

## **VII Read the article and choose the best option. (8 marks)**

### **Online Holidays**

Technology has changed the way we do 1) everything / anything / nothing, especially when it comes to organizing a summer holiday. You no longer need to go to a travel agency because you can do everything yourself on the internet. 2) Much / Many / Any airlines have websites 3) which / when / where you can 4) book / reserve / keep your flight and these companies usually offer extra services, too. If you are 5) worry / worrying / worried about losing your possessions, you can get travel insurance from the company you travel with. Another thing you can do is to 6) book / hire / pay a car and read online reviews for each of the hotels you are 7) interested / interesting / interest in. So, the internet has made it much 8) easier and cheaper/ the easiest and the cheapest / easy and cheap than any other, the way to organize a holiday.