# LISTENING PART 4 3

## City life

**1** **Test your knowledge! Complete the compound nouns.**

1. There's usually a red one at the top and a green one at the bottom. Sometimes there's an orange one.
   t..... l.....
2. This type of transport travels in dark tunnels.
   u..... t.....
3. This includes trains and buses. It's used a lot by people who don't have their own car.
   p..... t.....
4. You can find out about the attractions in the area you are visiting here.
   t..... i..... c.....
5. Lots of people in cities live in one of these. It has a lot of floors.
   a..... b.....
6. This is the middle of a very large town. It's where most of the shops and businesses are.
   c..... c.....

## Exam task

**2** Track 12 **For each question, choose the correct answer.**
**You will hear an interview with an architect called Scott Tenbury.**

1 What does Scott say about his 'capsule' apartment in Japan?
- **A** It was too small for him to feel comfortable in.
- **B** There was a lot of noise from nearby apartments.
- **C** He had to think carefully about where to put things.

2 Scott says that the 'upside-down' house he lived in
- **A** wasn't as exciting as he thought it would be.
- **B** attracted a lot of interest from tourists.
- **C** needed repairing regularly.

3 How did Scott feel when he had to leave his home in London?
- **A** disappointed that it had become so expensive to live in
- **B** pleased to escape the effects of the weather
- **C** amazed that so many people wanted to buy it

4 What does Scott enjoy about living in cities?
- **A** having access to facilities
- **B** getting interesting jobs
- **C** seeing lots of people



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**5** What problem has Scott had with his 'water building'?

- **A** It's hard to find the right colour for it.
- **B** It's difficult to build on water.
- **C** It's not easy to get the right shape.

**6** Why would Scott like to design a railway station?

- **A** to create something people love
- **B** to test his design skills
- **C** to improve transport services

## 3 Add a prefix or suffix from the box to complete each word in the sentences.

| -ment | un- | dis- | -ship | -ful | im- | -ous | -ation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|



1. The Eiffel Tower is an .....forgettable monument. It's beautiful!
2. The subway near my house is a bit danger..... I never go there alone at night.
3. What a wonder..... square to live in!
4. I find it a bit of a .....advantage living so far away from work.
5. You live opposite that enormous depart..... store, don't you?
6. I live next to a big road. It's .....possible to sleep with all the traffic.
7. Excuse me. Could you give me some inform..... about bus times?
8. Friend..... is very important – everyone needs friends.

### Get it right!

**Look at the sentences below and choose the correct one.**

I remember the beautiful beaches where we used to play volleyball.
I remember the beautiful beaches where we were playing volleyball.

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## Reading Part 3

**For each question, choose the correct answer.**

### Trip to Paris

*by Stephen Mitchell*

When my mum told me she had to go to Paris for a business trip and suggested that I go with her, I have to admit I wasn't that keen on the idea at first. It's not that I wasn't interested in going to Paris, but I just didn't think it would be much fun with a parent! In the end, though, Mum managed to convince me that we would have a good time.

We live in London so we didn't have to fly. We took the Eurostar, which is a high-speed train that takes about two hours to get there. I thought that I might be a bit scared as the train travels through a 50-kilometre-long tunnel underneath the sea between England and France. But as we were travelling when it was already dark, I didn't even realise that we were in the tunnel until we were almost out of it.

Once we were in Paris, and apart from a couple of meetings on the first day, Mum was free the rest of the time. We did lots of sightseeing, including going to the Louvre Museum to see Leonardo da Vinci's painting called the *Mona Lisa*. I'm not usually a big fan of art galleries, but Mum persuaded me to go, and it wasn't as boring as I thought it was going to be. It was actually quite exciting to see such a famous painting in real life.

The highlight of the trip was when we visited the Eiffel Tower. This famous monument is 324 metres high and has three floors, which you can get to by lift, or you can walk up 669 steps to get to the first two floors! I wanted to go up to the top floor, but Mum refused. She's afraid of heights, and said she couldn't manage anything higher than the second floor. I was a bit disappointed – a friend had been all the way to the top and he'd told me that the view was amazing – but I tried not to show Mum that I minded. In any case, the view from the second floor was pretty spectacular.

1 In the first paragraph, how does Stephen feel about the trip to Paris?
- A He wasn't clear why he had to go to Paris.
- B He wasn't sure about going on this type of trip.
- C He couldn't believe he was going to Paris.
- D He was immediately interested about the trip.

2 How did Stephen feel before his journey on the Eurostar train to Paris?
- A calm about going through a very long tunnel
- B pleased that he didn't have to fly
- C nervous about part of the journey
- D curious to see what a high-speed train was like

3 The visit to the Louvre Museum
- A confirmed Stephen's views about art galleries.
- B was quite disappointing.
- C was a better experience than he had expected.
- D made him really want to visit other art galleries.

4 What happened when Stephen and his mother visited the Eiffel Tower?
- A They were annoyed by how many stairs they had to climb.
- B Stephen made an effort to hide his feelings from his mother.
- C They were impressed with the view from the top floor.
- D Stephen realised that he was scared of heights.

5 What would Stephen say to a friend about the trip?
- A It wasn't all perfect, but I really enjoyed it.
- B It was all fantastic. We did everything that I wanted to do.
- C It wasn't great. I don't think I'll go on a business trip with Mum again!
- D It was all right, although I didn't see anything really amazing.



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## Reading Part 4

**You are going to read an article about holidays spent at home.**

**Five sentences have been removed from the text below.**

**For each question, choose the correct answer.**

**There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.**



# HOLIDAYS AT HOME OR 'STAYCATIONS'

I love travelling. **(1)** ..... There is nothing better than seeing new places, exploring different cultures, trying different food, just breathing different air. And there are so many places in the world that I want to see. **(2)** ..... But that doesn't mean that you can't go on vacation (as they say in American English) at all. Instead, you can have a 'staycation'. This is a holiday spent in your home country or even in your own home.

A staycation could involve going away to a different part of your country or sleeping at home and going on day-trips to places near where you live. You won't get the chance to experience a completely different culture with a staycation, but it does have advantages, particularly if you go for the stay-at-home option. You don't have to decide which clothes to pack – and which to leave behind. **(3)** ..... And you won't have expensive hotels to pay for as your accommodation will be free.

**(4)** ..... We couldn't afford to go abroad on holiday so my dad suggested having a home-based staycation instead. He and my mum booked two weeks off work, just as if we were going away somewhere. Then we all made lists of things that we would like to do together locally. We knew that we couldn't do everything that everyone wanted to do, but the plan was to try and do at least three or four from each person's list.

I would say that, in general, our staycation was a success. There were some things that I wasn't mad about doing, like the 10-mile walk in the countryside that was on my mum's list, or the trip to the nearest big town to spend a whole day shopping – my sister's choice, of course! **(5)** ..... Doing that with Mum and Dad, seeing them trying not to fall off, was really fun!

**A** But we did quite a few things from my list, including horse-riding.
**B** In fact, my friends joke I spend more time away than at home.
**C** It's not possible to visit them all though, because of time and cost.
**D** Last summer, for various reasons, we didn't have a lot of money.
**E** There were several things on my staycation list.
**F** This year, I am going to stay at home.
**G** You will also avoid the stress of airports and delayed flights.
**H** You won't be able to sleep in your own bed.

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