

Part 1

You will hear three different extracts. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what you hear. There are two questions for each extract.

Extract One

You overhear part of a conversation between the secretary of a golf club and a visitor to the club.

1 What does the visitor feel about installing satellite navigation in her car?

- A worried about its cost
- B unsure of its usefulness
- C doubtful about its reliability

2 When he talks about in-car satellite navigation systems, the secretary is

- A helping his visitor to choose the best model.
- B providing his visitor with information about them.
- C warning his visitor about the drawbacks of using one.

Extract Two

You hear part of a discussion in which the anthropologist Paula Drew and the comedian Mike Morton are talking about their lives.

3 What does Mike say about his use of comedy as a child?

- A He appeared to have an instinctive talent for it.
- B His long-term friendships depended on it.
- C It was one of a number of skills he developed.

4 Both speakers agree that, for a successful life, people need

- A a belief in themselves.
- B a clearly defined goal.
- C a commitment to hard work.

Extract Three

You hear part of a radio discussion about holiday reading.

5 The man reads books which

- A remind him of people he's met.
- B make a change from his work.
- C are set somewhere he doesn't know.

6 His work involves

- A a lot of travel.
- B looking out for new words.
- C studying classical literature.

Part 2

You will hear a reporter called Ruth Sampson describing a visit she made to the Arctic Circle with a team of Canadian wildlife experts. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

A visit to the Arctic Circle

As her plane was landing, 7 _____ were the first animals Ruth saw.
Soon after arriving, the team of biologists was able to identify a 8 _____ in the distance.
The word 9 _____ is used to describe a small patch of ground where the growth of plants is possible.
The largest part of the yellow Arctic poppy is its 10 _____.
The majority of birds returning to the area in the spring feed on 11 _____.
The team stayed in tents with small 12 _____ at the entrance.
Ruth was given advice on what to do if approached by a 13 _____.
It was difficult for Ruth to carry out her work because 14 _____ are affected by freezing temperatures.

Part 3

You will hear a radio interview with the gardening experts Jed and Helena Stone. For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

15 How does Helena feel about the use of Jed's name for their joint business?

- A occasionally frustrated that her contribution goes unnoticed
- B amused that they have a name people tend to remember
- C appreciative of the respect that the name has brought her
- D irritated by the fact that Jed is more of a celebrity than she is

16 What is Jed's attitude to his public profile?

- A He likes the fact that complete strangers often want to talk to him.
- B He's unhappy that it prevents him doing everyday activities.
- C He enjoys it more now than he did when he was younger.
- D He's proud of the way it reflects his achievements.

17 How did Helena feel about her work on The Travel Show?

- A She would have enjoyed it more in different circumstances.
- B It was convenient for her to be away from the house then.
- C It was a welcome alternative to manual work.
- D She felt obliged to do it at that particular time.

18 What gave Jed the incentive to make a jewel garden?

- A He wanted to realise a long-held ambition.
- B He had led people to believe that it already existed.
- C He wanted to show pictures of it at a gardening event.
- D He was inspired by the illustrations at a talk he attended.

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19 What explanation does Helena give for the name of the garden?

- A It provided a useful framework for the project.
- B It was a response to the bright colours they wanted there.
- C It allowed them to experiment with a wide range of options.
- D It was meant to inspire them to embrace unconventional ideas.

20 Jed says that, for him, the name 'jewel garden' is

- A a reminder of the value of creativity.
- B an appropriate one for something so beautiful.
- C a positive way of combining both past and present.
- D a way of explaining his philosophy of design to people.

Part 4

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about their recent experiences.

TASK ONE For questions 21-25, choose from the list A-H the activity each speaker is describing.		TASK TWO For questions 26-30, choose from the list A-H what each speaker felt about their activity.	
A mountaineering	Speaker 1 21 []	A It was disappointing	Speaker 1 26 []
B going to the theatre		B It was confusing	
C swimming in a lake	Speaker 2 22 []	C It was uneventful	Speaker 2 27 []
D dining in a restaurant		D It was overcrowded	
E watching a football match	Speaker 3 23 []	E It was frightening	Speaker 3 28 []
F fishing in a river		F It was unusual	
G wandering around a market	Speaker 4 24 []	G It was amusing	Speaker 4 29 []
H attending a wedding		H It was exhausting	
	Speaker 5 25 []		Speaker 5 30 []

Tapescript

The part of the text containing the answer is underlined with the question number given in square brackets []. If you still struggle with CAE Listening, please refer to [Listening tips](#).

Part 1

Extract 1

Woman: Sorry to be late. This club's a bit off the beaten track, isn't it? Thought I'd never find it!

Secretary: You don't have an in-car satellite navigation system, then?

Woman: A sat-nav? No I don't, though I suppose I should invest in one. I often have this sort of trouble - getting to a town's a piece of cake, but after that... well. It's not so much the cost - my friends all have them and tell me the price is going down all the time. But electronic gadgets aren't my favourite things. Fine when they work; nightmare when they don't [1]. A little black box could hardly have been less useful than my map today, though!

Secretary: I wouldn't be without mine now. I won't try and blind you with science, but I do know quite a bit about satellites. The technology's amazing - position can be pinpointed to within a metre. Of course, accuracy's down to the mapping companies who do the updating work, but new models come out all the time [2]. It's entirely up to you of course, but imagine never having to ask for directions again!

Woman: That'd be good - I'll certainly give it some thought!

Extract 2

Paula: We both grew up in a fairly rough part of the city, Mike, so I'm assuming you used comedy to keep yourself safe - and popular in the long run!

Mike: Well, in school, as you know, if you could run fast or make people laugh, you had a very good chance of surviving and emerging unscathed. I wasn't a fast runner, so I exploited comedy to avoid unwelcome attention. It seemed to come easy [3], and it worked.

Paula: Your type of comedy is less spontaneous than reflective. You see things from your own point of view, don't you, and create a world for other people to see. Whereas I explore the world that's already there, which most people don't see.

Mike: Don't you think that the key to achieving what you want in life is the realisation that it's going to be tough,

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and the sheer persistence that gets you there in the end?

Paula: What you have to have is massive self-confidence. With that you can do anything.

Mike: And being specific about what it is you want to do.

Paula: Ah well, that goes without saying [4].

Extract 3

Woman: If you're English, a nice sad nineteenth-century romance is very useful if you're on holiday and you get attacked by homesickness because it conjures up dripping English autumn days perfectly.

Man: I always take something by this chap who's written a number of books about the criminal underworld of Boston, Massachusetts, which is hardly culturally or geographically a place that I know [5], but I find it fascinating. There's no doubt about it if you compile, as I do, dictionaries of slang for a living [6], one is drawn inevitably not alas to the great classics, who are on the whole rather light on slang, but to someone like this fellow who has this amazing ability, far beyond quoting, of writing 20 or 40 pages of dialogue in almost incomprehensible slang, which I have the most wonderful time going through. I find it very alluring.

Part 2

Ruth Sampson: Last year I found myself flying to the Arctic Circle with five biologists from the Canadian Wildlife Service. As our small plane descended towards a snow covered runway, I looked out of the window at the frozen ocean below. I could see small holes in the ice, and, around them, lots of extraordinary little figures rather like ants. I was told they were seals [7], basking on the ice in the sun. Ten minutes after we'd landed, I had my first sighting of a wolf [8], which my eagle eyed colleagues pointed out to me at least seven hundred metres away, and later on I was lucky enough to see a caribou with its huge antlers at much closer range.

At first sight, the Arctic seems to be a kind of desert, but there are plants and animals around - you just have to look around for them. You may find what's called an oasis - this is a little confined area with access to water, where vegetation can establish itself and provide nutrients for animals [8]. Arctic plants have evolved to cope with this harsh environment, like the yellow Arctic poppy, which only has a tiny tuft of leaves visible, as the bulk of the plant - a network of roots - stays underground [9]. Its leaves remain green all winter, so it can make the most of the short growing season. The diversity of bird species decreases as you travel north, but there are birds which spend the winter here, and others that come back in the spring. Most of these birds get their nourishment from seeds [10], although a predator like the snowy owl feeds on small mammals called lemmings, and others do manage to find fish.

For accommodation, we had tents which looked just like the igloos the local Inuit people build out of ice, with little tunnels at the front [11], only ours were orange and made of nylon! And our only connection to the outside world was our radio link. You notice how light the snow cover is - it scatters with the wind, and there are hardly any deep drifts.

Apart from the cold, the main hazard is the wildlife, and I received a brief introduction on the correct action to take if a polar bear came to visit [12]. There are other large animals, like the musk ox, but they seldom pose a threat. Another thing was that recording the team's descriptions of wildlife, which was my task, was incredibly difficult. The recorder itself was fine, but batteries just don't work in the cold [13], so I had to hold them inside my thick coat to keep them warm.

Part 3

Interviewer: Jed Stone's best known now for his talents as a garden designer - but he and his wife Helena ran a highly successful jewellery business in the nineteen nineties, which brought them fame and high living. Then they lost it all and, some years later, bought a derelict house which they renovated and now together they've created a garden. They join me in the studio today. You do seem to do most things in partnership, like the jewellery business, but using Jed's name. Why's that? Helena?

Helena: Well, this is a bit of a bone of contention, actually. We have a friend in PR who said, 'You have a great name, Jed Stone. People would pay a fortune for such a good name.' But, sadly, at the time, it never crossed my mind that I wouldn't get the credit for what we do, and that does get to me sometimes [15] - but, there again, I'm very bad at putting myself forward. People see Jed as a figurehead, which is fine, actually, because I don't enjoy being recognised or get any thrill out of that, whereas Jed loves it.

Interviewer: Is that right, Jed?

Jed: Obviously, I'd love to say, 'No, I don't,' but yeah, I do. Even as a child, I thought it must be marvellous to walk down a street and have people know who you were. Ironically, that's the worst of it now. It would be nice just to go and buy a paper without somebody saying something. But I suppose I do like being a public figure. It gives me a sense that I've done something people appreciate [16]. It doesn't stop me doing anything, but it does modify how I do it.

Interviewer: But Helena, you did appear on our television screens briefly as a presenter on The Travel Show. That must have been a dream job, travelling around the world?

Helena: Actually, I thought I was being heroic taking that job. I'd actually rather have gone down a coal mine. It was ironic really, because Jed adores travelling, whilst I hate it. The timing was critical though; I mean, we were living in this derelict house. We'd knocked huge holes in the walls to make windows and we could hardly afford to get the job finished and I wanted to be there when it was done. So I genuinely didn't want to do the job they were offering, but I felt I had no choice [17] because, apart from anything else, it would provide us with a reasonable income.

Interviewer: So what about this jewel garden? Did you have a clear idea of what you wanted to do when you bought the house?

Jed: Not at all. In fact, we were provoked into action. I was giving a lecture on gardening and I was including some snaps of our own wilderness to show what certain plants looked like. But these photos hadn't loaded onto my laptop properly, and you couldn't see a thing. So I started to make it all up - describing this jewel garden with magical colours - it came straight out of my imagination, it hadn't been a long-term plan or anything. Anyway, as soon as I'd finished, these journalists came rushing up saying, 'We must come and take pictures of your jewel garden.' And I heard myself replying, 'Fine, but come when the colours are good, don't come now.' To cut a long story short, we had to make the jewel garden before they came, and actually, we did ninety per cent of the work that summer [18]. That was our incentive!

Interviewer: And why did you call it a 'jewel garden'? Having read about the disasters with the jewellery business, one would have thought you wouldn't want the word 'jewel' in your house at all.

Helena: Well, I like to work on projects and if you have a project where you're thinking only of jewel colours then that starts to limit you, and design is all about reduction. Really it was just a good, positive way of tackling what plants we were putting in, and the way we were going to design the garden [19], wasn't it, Jed?

Jed: Yeah. But for me it was also partly a metaphor, it's making something worthwhile out of a failure. We did spend years doing the jewellery and it wasn't all disastrous; there were good things about it too and we wanted to

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salvage them and treasure them. It seemed a waste not to take that bit of our lives and to somehow incorporate it into our new design venture [20] - to take the bad experience and use it in a creative way. Jed and Helena, thank you for telling us about it today.

Part 4

Speaker 1: Well, we got there late unfortunately. The problem was that Dave couldn't find a parking space anywhere. We drove around for ages. I don't think we realised just how popular it was going to be. We nearly didn't bother, you know. Last month's was such a disappointment - there wasn't much to see and not many people turned up. But this time it was the complete opposite [26]. There were all kinds of food, a huge fish section, clothes, miscellaneous stalls [21] with goodness knows what. A part from it being almost impossible to make progress past the stalls [26] we quite enjoyed it.

Speaker 2: Yes, Pete and I go quite regularly now. He wasn't too keen to begin with but over the last few months we've both got completely hooked. However, we were a bit unlucky last weekend. We were expecting great things and we'd been looking forward to it for ages. This was going to be the big one. We set off early, got the gear ready the night before, but after a couple of hours the weather set in. Couldn't see a thing. The visibility was down to about ten metres. There was no way we were going to reach the summit [22] so we just had to abandon it. Discovered we'd lost one of our ropes when we got back home, just to cap it all [27].

Speaker 3: I haven't been for ages. It was a real treat for me. Of course, before I was married I used to go several times a year, but I don't think I've been now since nineteen ninety-four. It's not that my wife objects to it, it's just, well, I don't know. I suppose I feel a bit guilty going off at the weekend. But it's good fun - I love seeing all the big names. Mind you, not a lot happened. [28] Nothing to clap or cheer about, but it didn't seem to matter. It was just being there, encouraging the players [23] and despairing when they got it all wrong.

Speaker 4: We felt it was a good opportunity to celebrate. Occasions like this don't happen every day and everyone was in a good mood so we thought, 'Why not'? The thing is, we wanted it to be different, something that we'd always remember, something to round off a perfect day. Jamie had heard about this interesting place by the harbour where you sat on cushions and you prepared your own dishes [24]. It sounded different [29] so we set off for there. When we arrived, the manager had already heard about our success and even though he was busy, he still managed to find plenty of room for us all.

Speaker 5: I was on my own at the weekend and I suppose I was a bit restless. You know, I've been working hard recently. I needed to get out in the fresh air and so I just headed off into the country. It was great - a beautiful day. It reminded me of when my father used to take me fishing. Well, I fancied a quick dip and so, as no one was around, I just stripped off and plunged in [25]. It was marvellous, but I got a bit over-ambitious. Before I knew it, I was more than a mile out. It took me a very long time to get back and when I reached the shore again I lay in the sun for ages to get my breath back [30].