

Last weekend, Sarah and her friends decided **(1. to go/going)** hiking in the mountains. It was one of **(2. the best/better)** trips they had taken in a long time. The weather was much **(3. nicer/nicest)** than they had expected, with clear skies and cool breezes. They started their hike early in the morning, which they agreed was **(4. the most sensible/more sensible)** choice since the trails are less crowded at that time.

Sarah quickly realized she **(5. should/shouldn't)** have packed warmer clothes because it got colder as they climbed higher. Her friend James said he **(6. had/have)** remembered to bring an extra jacket, so he lent it to her. On the way up, they met another group of hikers who told them they **(7. were/was)** visiting the same area two years **(8. ago/since)** and recommended a new trail. "It's **(9. the most challenging/challenger)** route here, but it's also **(10. the most rewarding/more rewarding),"** one hiker said.

Despite the challenge, Sarah and her friends decided **(11. to try/trying)** the recommended trail. The views along the way were even **(12. more stunning/most stunning)** than those on their usual path. They stopped frequently **(13. to take/taking)** pictures and enjoy the scenery. At one point, James said, "I've never seen anything **(14. more beautiful/most beautiful)** in my life." Sarah agreed, saying, "Me **(15. so/too)!"**

The hike was tiring but worth it. By the time they reached the peak, everyone **(16. was/were)** exhausted but thrilled. "We've never felt so accomplished before," Sarah said. Emma added, "Neither **(17. have/I have)** !" They stayed at the summit for an hour, taking photos and appreciating the views.

On the way down, Sarah tripped on a rock because she **(18. wasn't/weren't)** paying attention. Fortunately, she wasn't hurt, but her friends told her she **(19. should/shouldn't)** be more careful. By the end of the hike, they were all hungry and decided **(20. to stop/stopping)** at a local café for dinner. The food there was **(21. tastier/tastiest)** than they had expected, especially the soup, which James called **(22. the most delicious/more delicious)** meal of the day.

Reflecting on the day, Sarah said, "This was definitely **(23. the most memorable/more memorable)** trip we've had in a while." Her friends agreed, with Emma saying, "I haven't enjoyed a day like this in ages," and James adding, "Me **(24. too/either)!"**

When they got home, Sarah immediately started planning their next trip. She said they **(25. should/shouldn't)** try a multi-day hike next time. "It's going to be much **(26. harder/hardest)**, but also **(27. more rewarding/most rewarding),"** she explained. Her friends hesitated but eventually agreed. Emma joked, "Let's just make sure Sarah remembers **(28. to pack/packing)** warm clothes next time!"

The trip reminded them how much they loved being outdoors and spending time together. They promised each other they **(29. would/will)** keep making time for hikes like this. After all, there's nothing better than exploring nature with good friends.

Sarah looked at her calendar and said, "How about next weekend? We could go somewhere even **(30. more adventurous/most adventurous)** than this!"

SCREENSHOT- LISTENING 1-4: <https://app.engxam.com/pet/listening/1/>

### Part 3: Writing

Task 1: <https://engnovate.com/ielts-academic-writing-task-1-report-checker/>

Write a 120-150 word essay about a recent trip or event you experienced. Use:

- At least **2 comparatives** (e.g., *The weather was better than expected*).
  - At least **1 superlative** (e.g., *It was the most exciting trip of my life*).
  - “**Should**” to give advice or reflect on the experience.
  - At least **1 sentence in the present perfect** (e.g., *I have never seen anything like it*).
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## Task 2:

Respond to the following prompt:

- *"Do you think people should take a gap year before starting university or work? Why or why not?"*

Write 150-180 words. Include:

- **"Should"** to give advice.
  - **"So/too/either/neither"** for agreement/disagreement.
  - At least **2 examples of past experiences** (simple past).
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## Part 4: Speaking

### Task 1: Personal Responses

Answer the following questions aloud:

1. What is the most exciting place you've ever visited? Why?
  2. Do you think people should spend more time outdoors? Why or why not?
  3. Describe something you did a long time ago but would like to do again.
  4. What is something you regret not doing in the past?
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### Task 2: Roleplay

Imagine you are planning a weekend trip with a friend. Discuss:

- Two places to visit and compare them (e.g., *This place is closer, but the other is more beautiful*).
- What each of you should bring (e.g., *You should pack comfortable shoes*).
- What you did on your last trip and whether you would recommend it (e.g., *I went hiking two weeks ago, and it was the best experience!*).
- End with agreeing or disagreeing on a destination using "so," "too," "either," or "neither."