

Test 1 Training Listening Part 3

Task information

- Part 3 consists of a recording with two or more speakers (e.g. an interview or a discussion).
- The recording lasts approximately four minutes and is played twice.
- You have to answer six four-option multiple-choice questions about the recording.
- The questions focus mainly on the speakers' feelings, attitudes and opinions.
- Some questions will also focus on detailed or gist understanding of the recording.
- The questions follow the order of the recording.

Understanding distraction

- 1** Study the multiple-choice question and the extract from the recording script, and answer the two questions which follow.

- 1** What does Rose sometimes do nowadays instead of writing?
- A She looks after her young children.
 - B She does a variety of paid jobs.
 - C She helps a family member in their business.
 - D She goes for walks.

Interviewer: Thanks for being my guest today, Rose! Tell us, when did you start writing for children?

Rose: I've been writing children's books since I was a child myself! Seriously, I was one of those kids always writing and illustrating stories, and this has been my passion for as long as I can remember. I was an English undergraduate at Middleton University – where my youngest started last term – and took the two children's literature courses offered at the time. I had a patchwork quilt of jobs after graduating and getting married, including working in a college office, writing for newspapers and magazines, helping out in an art gallery and selling a few watercolours of my own, working for a horse-riding for the disabled project, and teaching English part-time. With the publication of my first book in 2010, I began walking this path full-time, apart, that is, from the occasional day in my cousin's restaurant when she needs extra staff for some reason. And I hope that's the way I'll be able to continue.

- 1** What is the correct answer?
- 2** Why might you be distracted by the other options?

Tip! In multiple-choice questions, there will always be something in the recording that suggests each of the distracting options, but only one option will exactly match what the recording says.

Tip! Listen carefully to everything that the speaker says before choosing your answer. Aspects from each option may be mentioned, but only one will reflect exactly what is said and answer the question.

- 2**  **06** Look at the next question and listen to the next part of the recording. Which is the correct option?

What encouraged Rose to start working at the wildlife reserve?

- A her lifelong interest in deer
- B a friend's involvement in the project
- C the need to research a writing project about deer
- D a desire to work in the open air

- 3**  **06** Listen again. Why might you be distracted by each of the other options?

Action plan

- 1 Use the preparation time to read the questions carefully and think about possible answers.
- 2 Underline key words in the question or statement introducing the options to help you focus on what you have to listen for.
- 3 Choose all the correct answers you can the first time you listen to the recording.
- 4 Do not worry about missing a question: leave it and listen for the answer to the next question.
- 5 Check your answers when you listen to the recording the second time. Answer any questions you have missed.
- 6 Do not leave any answers blank. Make a guess if you are not sure.
- 7 At the end of the test, carefully transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

 07 Follow the exam instructions, using the advice to help you.

You will hear part of a radio interview with a travel writer called Marina Vardy. For questions **15–20**, choose the answer (**A, B, C** or **D**) which fits best according to what you hear.

15 What made Marina start travelling?

- A** a sudden desire to overcome her fear of the sea
- B** a difficult problem in the life she had at the time
- C** an unexpected opportunity to escape a boring routine
- D** a friend's wish for a travelling companion

16 What is Marina's main reason for being happy about her decision to go on that first journey?

- A** It led to a successful career as an author.
- B** It gave her a more positive outlook on life.
- C** It offered her some exciting adventures.
- D** It taught her to cope with difficulties.

17 How did Marina first get into writing?

- A** She wanted to describe the different exotic places she visited.
- B** She found it satisfying to write her private feelings in a teenage diary.
- C** She enjoyed the reaction of others to something she wrote as a young girl.
- D** She was keen to be like her father, who was an enthusiastic writer.

18 What does Marina say is her greatest challenge?

- A** feeling uncertain about the quality of her work
- B** coping with some lack of support from her family
- C** having to face danger for the sake of a story
- D** finding things to write about that will interest her readers

Advice

15 Listen to everything Marina says about why she started travelling and pick the option which exactly matches what she says.

16 All these ideas are suggested in the recording, but which does Marina actually say is the main reason why she feels no regrets?

17 Try reading the question and then listening to the recording before reading options A to D. Does this help you to find the right answer without being distracted?

18 Listen to everything Marina says about the challenges she faces and do not jump too quickly to conclusions.

Tip! Remember that the questions follow the order of the recording.

See next page 

19 Marina says that aspiring travel writers must ensure that they

- A work hard to make their writing style as good as they can.
- B try to make their readers experience strong emotions.
- C offer much more than an account of their own adventures.
- D keep their own grandmother in mind as they write.

20 What does Marina say she finds particularly rewarding about being a travel writer?

- A It has developed her powers of observation.
- B It offers her the chance to take revenge on unkind people.
- C It provides her with an adventurous lifestyle.
- D It gives her a satisfying psychological detachment.

Advice

19 You may feel that Marina is implying several of the options, but you must go for the one that she actually says.

20 Think about the gist of what Marina is saying – which of these options conveys that idea?

Follow-up

Did you find any of the distracting options particularly tempting?