GOLD experience B1+ 2ND EDITION

Pre-First for Schools

Name: _____

Class: _____

UNIT 2: SKILLS TEST B

DICTATION

You are going to listen to a recording about being honest. Listen to the whole recording once. Then you will hear the recording again with pauses for you to write down what you hear. Make sure you spell the words correctly.

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LISTENING

You are going to listen to five people talking about situations when people didn't tell them the truth.

Task 1

For questions 1–5, choose from the list (A–H) with the reasons the people didn't tell them the truth.

A They found it very funny.
B They wanted me to have a good opinion of them.
C They hoped to make me feel embarrassed.
D They wanted to make me feel guilty.
E They didn't want me to be disappointed.
F They were afraid of causing anxiety.
G They were afraid of what would happen.
H They were trying to make me scared.

Speaker 1 **1** .....
Speaker 2 **2** .....
Speaker 3 **3** .....
Speaker 4 **4** .....
Speaker 5 **5** .....

10

Task 2

For questions 6–10, choose from the list (A–H) how each speaker felt in those situations.

A entertained
B anxious
C angry
D confused
E doubtful
F uncomfortable
G unsatisfied
H shocked

Speaker 1 **6** .....
Speaker 2 **7** .....
Speaker 3 **8** .....
Speaker 4 **9** .....
Speaker 5 **10** .....

10

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Name: _____

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UNIT 2: SKILLS TEST B

READING

Task 1

Read the article and choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

11 What does the writer say about the book at their grandparents' house?

A The stories in it were difficult to understand.
B Some of the stories in it were terrifying.
C It wasn't as good as the encyclopaedia.
D He didn't read it very frequently.

12 Why do fewer people believe Nostradamus' predictions these days?

A They were written by a doctor.
B They only involved negative things.
C They aren't easy to understand.
D They don't predict enough events.

13 What was interesting about the disappearance of the aeroplanes in the Bermuda Triangle?

A It was the first time this had happened there.
B Other strange things had happened there before.
C There were problems with the communications equipment before it happened.
D Nobody had any explanation for it.

14 What makes the writer think there is a natural explanation for the Bermuda Triangle?

A There is no evidence that ghosts or aliens exist.
B There is a great deal of bad weather in the area.
C There are more accidents in other places.
D There is evidence for kidnappings in the area.

15 How do historians think the Nazca Lines were created?

A by aeroplanes flying over the area
B by animals leaving trails on the ground
C by the effect of the wind and rain
D by the removal of objects from the surface of the earth

16 What does the writer say about the Loch Ness Monster?

A No one had heard of it until the 1930s.
B It's one of the reasons the area is so popular.
C Scientists are no longer interested in finding it.
D The footprints are good evidence that it exists.

	12

Task 2

Read the article again and answer the questions in your own words.

17 What is the problem with translations of Nostradamus' predictions? .....

.....

18 What were the aeroplanes doing in the Bermuda Triangle? .....

.....

19 When were most of the Nazca Lines created? .....

.....

20 How many people go to Loch Ness every year? .....

.....

	8

Total:		50

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Unexplained Mysteries?

When I was a kid, my grandparents had an awesome book full of unexplained mysteries. Whenever I went to their house, I couldn't wait to get that book out. It was like an encyclopaedia full of weird and wonderful stories. There were people who could talk to ghosts, alien visitors from outer space and strange symbols from the past. It was so hard to get my head around these stories, but that was what I loved about them! In this article, I'm going to briefly talk about my favourite unexplained mysteries from that wonderful book ...

1 Nostradamus

Nostradamus was a French doctor who lived in the first half of the sixteenth century. He became famous because people believed he could tell what would happen in the future. His predictions covered everything from diseases to inventions to the end of the world, but they were mostly negative! Although his predictions have been popular for hundreds of years, people tend to be more suspicious about them these days. The problem is that because they are poems, it's often unclear what Nostradamus actually meant. They were also written in French and some of the translations have been less than accurate. For those reasons, critics argue that Nostradamus' poems can in fact be used to predict almost any event.

2 The Bermuda Triangle

The Bermuda Triangle is a large area in the shape of a triangle which connects Bermuda, Florida and Puerto Rico. Strange stories appeared in the press in the 1940s after several aeroplanes went missing on a routine flight. One particular magazine article connected their disappearance with other unexplained mysteries in that area. Over the years, similar stories of missing ships and aircraft appeared in the news, talking about communications equipment which mysteriously stopped working and ships found without any sign of life. Some people claimed that the pilots and sailors had been kidnapped by aliens. No one knows the truth, but it's important to remember that a lot of ships sail through the Bermuda Triangle so it's not surprising that there are more accidents than in other places. The area is also particularly affected by storms and hurricanes, so we should probably look for a more natural explanation before blaming aliens or ghosts.

3 Nazca Lines

This collection of lines and designs covers a large area in the south of Peru. Historians believed they were created by the Nazca civilization which lived there until about 1,500 years ago, although it is now thought that some of the lines may be even older. Due to their size, they cannot be seen easily from the ground. This meant that many of them were undiscovered until the 1920s when people started to use aeroplanes to investigate the area. What they discovered were straight lines stretching for tens of kilometres and designs of animals. They had all been built very carefully by removing stones and sand from the ground. The lack of wind and rain has meant that the lines have survived for many years. There are many theories about why people put some effort into making them. However, the strangest one has to be that they were runways for aliens. No one knows the real reason for the Nazca Lines, but it's unlikely they were constructed by aliens.

4 Loch Ness Monster

The story of the Loch Ness Monster is famous all over the world. It's especially popular with the hundreds of thousands of tourists to Loch Ness annually. Many hope to spot Nessie, the legendary creature said to live in the lake ('loch' is the Scottish word for 'lake'). Locals had been talking about a sea monster inhabiting the waters for hundreds of years. In fact, a sixth-century story talks about a man being attacked by a creature from the water. However, in the 1930s, newspaper articles about recent sightings of Nessie attracted global interest. Photographs of this mysterious animal were published and one investigator even claimed to have found footprints. However, none of this was found to be true. Despite this, there are several reported sightings every year. Scientists haven't given up either. They've used all sorts of technology such as satellites and underwater sensors to try to locate Nessie. Sadly, however, there's still no evidence that she actually exists.

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