



هيئة جودة التعليم والتدريب
Education & Training Quality Authority

English – Grade 12

Listening

Practice Items

Part 1

Sample 1

Questions 1 – 8

You will hear a series of four short extracts.

For each extract there are two questions.

Choose the correct letter **A**, **B** or **C**.

Example

You hear an advertisement on the radio.

0 Who is the advertisement for?

- A** parents
- B** teachers
- C** students

According to the speaker, the UniTrip card would be useful to someone who wants to

- A** book tickets for a holiday.
- B** buy clothes for a holiday.
- C** borrow money for a holiday.

Extract 1

You hear a man talking about a holiday adventure in Botswana.

- 1 What did the man find surprising about hippos?
 - A their amazing speed
 - B their scary sweat
 - C their strange sleep habits

- 2 The hippo became angry because it thought that
 - A its baby was threatened.
 - B its home was threatened.
 - C its life was threatened.

Extract 2

You hear a radio presenter talking about a man called Paul Joan who makes works of art out of chocolate.

- 3 Paul is different from other chocolate artists because of
 - A his amazing pace in creating chocolate sculptures.
 - B his special skill in making chocolate objects.
 - C his extensive use of luxury chocolate.

- 4 How does Paul feel about his chocolate events?
 - A He is satisfied with his guests' reaction.
 - B He is interested to earn more money.
 - C He is keen to attract a bigger audience.

Extract 3

You hear a headmistress talking about the advantages of uniforms.

- 5** Parents prefer uniforms which help students to
- A** get used to dressing formally for work.
 - B** be relaxed when they are at school.
 - C** express themselves as individuals.
- 6** What is the main advantage of wearing a school uniform?
- A** It improves students' security.
 - B** It strengthens students' identity.
 - C** It develops students' pride.

Extract 4

You hear a man talking about going back to college.

- 7** Why did the man decide to go back to college?
- A** to get a new job
 - B** to improve a work skill
 - C** to earn a deserved promotion
- 8** What is the main difficulty the man thinks he will face?
- A** not seeing his family very often
 - B** not being able to afford his studies
 - C** not going to have much free time

[8 marks]

Part 1

Sample 1

Questions 1 – 8

Question Number	Answer	Mark	Total Marks
1	C	1	
2	B	1	
3	A	1	
4	A	1	
5	B	1	
6	A	1	
7	B	1	
8	C	1	8

Part 1

Sample 1

Questions 1 – 8

**You will hear a series of four short extracts.
For each extract there are two questions.
Choose the correct letter A, B or C.**

Pause 2"

Before we start, here is an example.

Pause 2"

The end of term's coming up and it's time to relax. But we know that money can be a problem so, if you're in full time education, we can help! The UniTrip card will give you a bundle of savings whether you're grabbing a bite to eat, catching a movie, or packing your clothes into a suitcase to get out of the classroom, away from your family for a while and fly round the world. You can really start enjoying life! Just fill in the form on our website at www.youth.....[fade]

Pause 2"

The advertisement is for students, so there is a circle around the letter C.

Pause 2"

The UniTrip card would be useful for someone who wants to book tickets for a holiday, so there is a circle around the letter A.

Pause 2"

You now have one minute to look at Questions 1 – 8.

Pause 60"

Now we are ready to start. Listen carefully.

Pause 2"

Extract 1

Pause 5"

(beep)

*

I've always thought of hippos as ugly animals running at great speed with their big bodies and short legs, and I've heard stories that they sweat blood, but until we visited Botswana, I'd never realised they could sleep underwater. We saw a baby hippo sunbathing by the river. Mike, our guide, drove closer to the animal so we could take some photos. Suddenly, we saw a huge hippo crashing angrily past our minibus. It then dived into the water and was gone. We all know they'll attack if they feel threatened and you would have thought it was the mother hippo protecting its little one. However, Mike told us it was in fact a male hippo acting nervously because we got between him and the water where he lives.

**

Pause 5"

Now listen again.

*Repeat from * to * **

Pause 10"

Extract 2

Pause 5"

(beep)

*

Paul Joan is well known as a chocolate artist of genius. He uses his talent and easily creates unusual life-size objects like chocolate bicycles or robots. He uses generous amounts of the most expensive chocolate. He can quickly complete his outstanding chocolate artwork in less than 30 minutes, which makes him the only speed-sculpting chocolate artist in his country. Because of his passion, he now earns thousands of dollars and attracts huge crowds to his chocolate tastings and sculpture events. Paul has been approached by many television programme producers offering to take his profession to a wider audience but he isn't a man of high ambitions. He is perfectly happy just to see his guests admiring his creations down to the last delicious bite.

**

Pause 5"

Now listen again.

*Repeat from * to * **

Pause 10"

Extract 3

Pause 5"

(beep)

*

Most parents believe that uniforms are about standardizing things rather than encouraging students to develop their own styles and look different from each other. But parents think it's more important to have comfortable clothes which allow their children to concentrate on studies. Parents doubt that wearing a uniform prepares students for what they need to wear when they start work, because young people tend to break the rules by wearing their own accessories. For many students wearing a uniform is a badge of pride of belonging to the school. For others, it's a source of identity in the community. However, more than anything, requiring uniforms increases the school security as anyone trying to enter the school who's not a student is easy to spot.

**

Pause 5"

Now listen again.

*Repeat from * to * **

Pause 10"

Extract 4

Pause 5"

(beep)

*

I was thinking of going back to college and starting on an evening and weekends professional development course. Then, as everybody expected, I got a different post. My company offered me a higher position as a personnel manager in their new London branch. So now I'm going to take a course in time management which I have little experience of. I'm really looking forward to it and I hope to learn a lot. I have already arranged for a small loan to pay for my studies. Though my family support me and I'm sure will tolerate my being away from them most of the time, I'm not sure if I can cope with the schedule of all the lectures and homework and not having time to myself.

**

Pause 5"

Now listen again.

*Repeat from * to * **

Pause 30"

Part 2

Sample 1

Questions 9 – 14

You will hear an interview with Owen Jenkins who became rich from a childhood invention. Choose the correct letter **A**, **B** or **C**.

Example

- 0** When Owen Jenkins was a child, he was
- A** an owner of a profitable company.
 - B** a student at the same school as the audience.
 - C** a member of a sports team.
- 9** What encouraged Owen to come up with his invention?
- A** He wanted to observe sea animals better.
 - B** He wanted to study the sounds of sea life better.
 - C** He wanted to communicate underwater better.
- 10** How did Owen feel about starting a business?
- A** relieved that his official papers would be organised
 - B** confident that his invention would be a success
 - C** nervous that his school work would suffer

– Sample of Practice Items –

11 Which of Owen’s latest inventions was the most successful?

- A** Splash-Goal
- B** Scooba-Doober
- C** Floaty-Boaty

12 Owen was embarrassed when he

- A** gave a presentation on a block.
- B** spoke to journalists at school.
- C** had to cancel sports activities.

13 In 2001, Owen’s company was worth

- A** \$ 8 million.
- B** \$10 million.
- C** \$12 million.

14 What will Owen do after his break?

- A** start a new company
- B** complete a book about himself
- C** sponsor a youth programme

[6 marks]

Part 2

Sample 1

Questions 9 – 14

Question Number	Answer	Mark	Total Marks
9	C	1	
10	B	1	
11	C	1	
12	A	1	
13	A	1	
14	B	1	6

Part 2

Sample 1

Questions 9 – 14

You will hear an interview with Owen Jenkins who became rich from a childhood invention.

Choose the correct letter A, B or C.

Pause 2''

Before we start, here is an example.

Pause 2''

Interviewer: Good evening and welcome to our weekly programme 'Promising Steps'. Today our guest is Owen Jenkins, who, at a young age, has achieved a lot! Hi Owen, please tell us about yourself.

Owen: Hello, thank you for having me! I'm from Miami, and I was a student at a school, just like yours. In many ways, I was a typical, young boy, and a fan of my school's baseball team. On the other hand, I became an inventor and used to be president of a company boasting half-a-million dollars annually.

Pause 2''

Owen says that he was an owner of a profitable company when he was a child, so there is a circle around the letter A.

Pause 2''

You have one minute to look at Questions 9 – 14.

Pause 60''

Now we are ready to start. Listen carefully.

Pause 2''

(beep)

*

Interviewer: Good evening and welcome to our weekly programme 'Promising Steps'. Today our guest is Owen Jenkins, who, at a young age, has achieved a lot! Hi Owen, please tell us about yourself.

Owen: Hello, thank you for having me! I'm from Miami, and I was a student at a school, just like yours. In many ways, I was a typical, young boy, and a fan of my school's baseball team. On the other hand, I became an inventor and used to be president of a company boasting half-a-million dollars annually.

Interviewer: Wow! So you are a real millionaire? Please, tell us how did you become an inventor?

Owen: When I was 11, I went on holiday to Bermuda. I was diving underwater with my father, and was amazed by the underwater noises. I was excited to see the colours of the fish and the turtles swimming by and I wanted to tell my father about it but I couldn't. I became irritated, because we both had to come up to the surface. THAT gave me the idea for my invention 'Fishie-Talkie', a toy allowing people to talk to each other underwater.

Interviewer: And to start your business, how did that affect your life?

Owen: Well, my mother had concerns that my grades would drop at school. This was because I had to be absent while my father and I flew to Chicago to present my 'Fishie-Talkie' to a well-known toy store. This resulted in my toy being bought and placed in every branch worldwide. More than anything, I just knew that 'Fishie-Talkie' was a winner. My father felt comfortable that he could deal with the legal documents despite my worries.

Interviewer: That's an understandable concern. And, of course, you had other inventions?

Owen: : Yes, three more – and all very popular. 'Scooba-Doober' allowed divers to see underwater and above water at the same time, this was quite popular. A toy store bought thousands of my 'Floaty-Boaty', a bouncy float with water gun paddles, and it won the "best-selling" award. My underwater hockey game named 'Splash-Goal' had about 45 agents fighting to buy it.

Interviewer: Of course, this made you a star. How did you cope with the media attention?

Owen: Yeah. I had some uncomfortable moments. Annoying reporters kept arriving at school asking for interviews which then appeared in international newspapers. But once, when I gave a speech at a charity event, I had to stand on a step, so the audience could see me, which made me feel shy. And there were times when I couldn't attend baseball matches because of events, and this upset me.

Interviewer: And then in 2001 you sold your company. If you don't mind me asking Owen, how much did you get for it?

Owen: No, I don't mind, over the years I earned a total of \$10 million in salary. I couldn't afford to devote more time to my company because of school. So, in 2001, I decided to sell it. I received a good offer from a toy store which had an annual income of \$12 million. I had to skip an exam at school but I signed a deal with them for \$8 million. I was sad to let it go, but it just kind of got too big for me.

Interviewer: What a story for someone so young! What are your plans for the future?

Owen: I'm currently taking a break. I have a dozen more ideas and may launch another business. Also, I might open a center to financially support young inventors, but that will all have to wait until after I've finished writing the story of my life.

**

Pause 10"

Now listen again.

*Repeat from * to ***

Pause 30"

Part 2

Sample 2

Questions 9 – 14

You will hear part of an interview with a celebrity chef Nick Dobbs discussing his career. Choose the correct letter **A**, **B** or **C**.

Example

0 The chef's cooking career began by

A cooking on school trips.

B working in the army.

C learning from his mom.

9 Chef Nick thinks that due to their impact on people, chefs are considered

A craftsmen.

B scientists.

C coaches.

10 According to the chef, what is the essential cooking resource?

A a cookbook

B the brain

C your knife

– Sample of Practice Items –

- 11** The chef believes that cooking has become simple by
- A** using different cooking methods
 - B** using advanced kitchen equipment
 - C** using technology for multiple tasks
- 12** By working in different countries, the chef realised
- A** the importance of winning international competitions.
 - B** the impact of travel on discovering various flavours.
 - C** the reputation of a chef is based on their latest dish.
- 13** What does the chef consider to be his highest achievement?
- A** establishing the country's best cooking centre
 - B** creating a famous and well-known dish.
 - C** helping to promote his trainees.
- 14** In Chef Nick's opinion, graduates looking for a job in the cooking industry should
- A** have past work experience
 - B** begin creating contacts from day one
 - C** keep a good attitude and obey workplace rules

[6 marks]

Part 2

Sample 2

Questions 9 – 14

Question Number	Answer	Mark	Total Marks
9	A	1	
10	B	1	
11	C	1	
12	C	1	
13	A	1	
14	B	1	6

Part 2

Sample 2

Questions 9 – 14

You will hear part of an interview with a celebrity chef Nick Dobbs discussing his career.

Choose the correct letter A, B or C.

Pause 2"

Before we start, here is an example.

Pause 2"

Interviewer One of the common beliefs about chefs is that they won't share their secrets. Tonight, let's explore the world of cookery with Chef Nick Dobbs. So, Chef, please give us a brief outline of your career. Where did it all start?

Chef I've been cooking now for over 30 years. I learned a lot by watching my Mum, she was a great cook. When I was 10 years old, I started to go away on school trips, and I was always the chosen cook. I left school when I was 16 years old, and the best option was to join the army as a cook because back then, there weren't many cooking schools.

Pause 2"

The chef's cooking career began by working in the army, so there is a circle around the letter B.

Pause 2"

You have one minute to look at Questions 9 – 14.

Pause 60"

Now we are ready to start. Listen carefully.

Pause 2''

(beep)

*

Interviewer One of the common beliefs about chefs is that they won't share their secrets. Tonight, let's explore the world of cookery with Chef Nick Dobbs. So, Chef, please give us a brief outline of your career. Where did it all start?

Chef I've been cooking now for over 30 years. I learned a lot by watching my Mum, she was a great cook. When I was 10 years old, I started to go away on school trips, and I was always the chosen cook. I left school when I was 16 years old, and the best option was to join the army as a cook because back then, there weren't many cooking schools.

Interviewer It may seem like a strange question, but what is the chef's role in our lives? I know it's much more than just cooking.

Chef You're right! You have to be an accountant, a manager and a teacher. And, especially when you are baking bread, a scientist. You should also be a coach for those who may follow in your footsteps. We are craftsmen who affect people's lives, health and well-being and we should always be aware of that.

Interviewer Interesting! Now, what would you say is the most important tool in the kitchen?

Chef Most chefs have a favourite knife. I believe your brain is the most important. You have to mentally figure out the sequence of events in setting up a meal service without using notes and cookbooks.

Interviewer Tell me chef, what do you think has made life in the modern kitchen easier?

Chef Obviously, modern cooking devices have helped chefs achieve high-quality results and save time. Plus, new cooking techniques continue to emerge, allowing us to experiment and discover what we can do. However, computers have made our lives in the kitchen much easier. You can easily change and print menus, quickly calculate food costs, keep records, and find recipes faster.

Interviewer I see that you've worked in many countries. Has this helped the way you cook?

Chef Definitely, travel has influenced my cooking techniques in international cuisine and helped me identify many different flavours. I have worked all over Asia and Europe and won many medals from competitions. The thing that all chefs need to realise is that you are only as good as your last meal Medals are great for pride and industry recognition, but there is more to our trade than competitions.

Interviewer Indeed! So, what is your greatest success as a chef?

Chef I have been blessed with doing many wonderful things in my career. I gradually progressed in many positions as an executive chef, a food and beverage director, and a corporate vice president. Inventing an internationally recognised dish was an important breakthrough. But actually, it was starting and developing the finest cooking centre in the country. And I'm proud to say that our graduates have gone on to have successful careers all over the world.

Interviewer Wow! You certainly have. So, what advice can you give to graduates searching for work?

Chef Well, they need to become familiar with the restaurant's menu items before their interview. And of course, having a positive approach, sticking to work ethics, and being professional goes without saying. Also, jobs for graduates will vary, based on whether they have worked in restaurants before coming to school. I think the best method to get a job in our business is through networking, and a student should start doing so from the first day of class. Your instructors and colleagues may be able to help you in the future.....(fade)

**

Pause 10"

Now listen again.

*Repeat from * to ***

Pause 30"