

LanguageCert
Mastery C2
Level 3
International ESOL (Listening, Reading, Writing)
Practice Paper 2

Listening part one.

You will hear some sentences. You will hear each sentence twice. Choose the best reply to each sentence.

Number one. Number one. (6 seconds)

I'm feeling a bit peckish.

I'm feeling a bit peckish.

(10 seconds)

Number two. Number two. (6 seconds)

I haven't the faintest idea why he never turned up.

I haven't the faintest idea why he never turned up.

(10 seconds)

Number three. Number three. (6 seconds)

[boss, sounding rather annoyed] Your recent performance leaves much to be desired, I'm afraid.

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(10 seconds)

Number four. Number four. (6 seconds)

I think you should stop taking your girlfriend for granted.

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(10 seconds)

Number five. Number five. (6 seconds)

[reproachfully] You might have been a bit more diplomatic, John.

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(10 seconds)

Number six. Number six. (6 seconds)

[surprised] I reckon he'll get a main part in our school play!

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(10 seconds)

That is the end of Part One.

Listening part two.

You will hear some conversations. You will hear each conversation twice. Choose the correct answers for each conversation. (10 seconds.)

Conversation One

- M: Have you managed to get hold of Mark?
- F: Yes, and he reckons I have a case but it'll probably cost me an arm and a leg to take them to court. Plus all the stress involved – I'm not sure it's worth it.
- M: Of course it is – there's no question about it. Paid holiday is your statutory entitlement and you shouldn't have been denied it.
- F: In principle, I couldn't agree more. But I'll have to work there afterwards day in, day out, and they might always find a way to get rid of me, you know.
- M: I know what you mean, Amy, but I still think you should stand up for yourself, even if you only get minimal compensation. It's the principle that counts, isn't it?

(Wait 10 seconds before repeating.)

(Wait 10 seconds before going onto the next conversation.)

Now, look at the questions for Conversation Two. (10 seconds.)

Conversation Two

- M: And here. That's the last signature I need. Thank you.
- F: I understand your rates include insurance.
- M: That's right, they include everything except petrol and oil. You just need to fill up.
- F: OK. And one last thing – how do I get on the main road into town from here?
- M: When you get to the barrier I'll let you out. Turn right then second left... Where exactly are you heading?
- F: The centre of Glasgow.
- M: There are road works on the ring-road and there have been some terrible jams this week. You'd probably be better off staying on the M8.
- F: Thanks for the warning. I doubt my sat-nav would've picked **that** up. All the latest gadgets and gizmos – you'd think for all I paid for it, it would drive the car itself!

(Wait 10 seconds before repeating.)

(Wait 10 seconds before going onto the next conversation.)

Now, look at the questions for Conversation Three. *(10 seconds.)*

Conversation Three

- F: I thought that when I entered my bedroom I'd just be able to reach round the door and put the lights on.
- M: Well, you didn't make it clear on the plans where exactly you wanted it to be.
- F: True, it wasn't written down, but I would have thought it's pretty obvious, isn't it?
- M: Well, if it wasn't and you weren't here in person to check, how was I supposed to know? I can't read your mind.
- F: I'm not happy with it as it is. Can I have it here instead of where you've put it?
- M: OK, but I'll need to re-plaster afterwards. And I'll have to charge extra. For future reference, perhaps you could check the plans carefully before you go out for the day.

(Wait 10 seconds before repeating.)

(10 seconds.)

That is the end of Part Two.

Listening part three.

You will hear someone talking. You will hear the person twice. Complete the information. Write short answers of one to five words. (20 seconds.)

[beep]

Little is known about the cultures that occupied the southern Sahara at a time when the desert was wetter and more hospitable to life than it is today. But with the discovery at Gobero of some 200 burials, striking evidence is coming to light about two cultures that lived in the now hyper-arid desert in Niger. The Kiffian, who began living there about 10,000 years ago, were a fishing-based culture that inhabited a lush setting abundant with water-adapted animals until about 8,000 years ago. More than a thousand years passed before the next inhabitants, the Tenerian, settled in the same region. We can distinguish between the cultures by their pottery, stone tools, and burial practices.

The Kiffian decorated their ceramic vessels with wavy lines and zigzags. They fashioned harpoons and fishing instruments from bone – the size of some of the tools indicates that they sought Nile perch weighing hundreds of pounds and perhaps hunted hippos and crocodiles.

Before burial, the Kiffian were tightly bundled, perhaps squeezed into a basket or pouch. There's evidence that they stood over two metres tall and had a robust musculature. The skeletons the archaeologists found are dark in colour, probably caused by the lakes flooding around 8,000 years ago, inundating the cemetery and staining the bones.

The Tenerian, who occupied the site some 6,500 to 4,500 years ago, were shorter, with thinner skulls than their predecessors. Their bones weren't darkened from inundation, indicating that the lakes were drying up, which eventually must have forced the Tenerian to leave. The dead were buried on their sides in casual positions. Double burials distinguish these people from the Kiffian.

Most of the cultural artifacts found at Gobero are Tenerian. Their ceramics are decorated with dotted patterns, rather than with the wavy lines seen in the Kiffian ceramics. Many of the stone tools – scrapers, knives, arrowheads – are made from a green stone called felsite and of local rock or bone.

No-one knows where these people came from, nor do we know whether they were nomads or colonisers who traded or waged war with neighbouring communities.

(Wait 10 seconds before repeating.)

(10 seconds.)

You now have thirty seconds to read through and check your answers.

(30 seconds.)

[beep]

That is the end of Part Three.

Listening part four.

You will hear a conversation. You will hear the conversation twice. Choose the correct answers.

You have one minute to look at the task below. (1 minute.)

[beep]

M1: Hi Amy! Hi Jordan! Funny bumping into you two again. Looking for some peace and quiet, I see...

F: Hi, Jack. Yep, we just wanted to go over our notes before today's exam. Won't be long, though. Jordan's dying for a coffee. Obviously, we can't get one in here.

M1: Have you seen this? The article about a new survey on genetically modified food...

M2: The two-page one in yesterday's paper? Yes, I was reading it earlier and... to be honest, I didn't get much out of it. For one thing, it all seems pretty obvious to me. You don't really need a survey to tell you that, do you?

M1: Well,... I think the media definitely have a part to play here... I guess it's not that simple, is it? I mean, some people may be quite oblivious to what genetic modification entails and the current attitudes towards it. So... yes, you might question how the problem is presented or distrust **statistical** methodology but ... this is quite a different issue, isn't it?

F: Yes, I think you've got a point there, Jack. So where do **you** stand on the GM food argument?

M1: When I hear people getting het up about GM foods... I just... Well, for me ... all that ranting and raving against GM is just ignorance. Or rather... some people seem to have conveniently forgotten that cows are not meant to produce milk all year round but are bred, selected and reared to do so. And they have been... for centuries. And by the same token, the original potatoes were not white but again selected and bred to be so. So why has everybody started fussing now?

M2: Well, ... I read about a study in Canada where mice were given corn syrup made of GM corn and another group of mice, corn syrup made of normal corn. The mice that got the GM food lost half their babies. The mice that got the normal food lost only 7% of their babies. Quite revealing, don't you think? We simply don't know what the effects of messing with genes are going to be.

M1: Well, I'm not sure, Jordan. What is this supposed to prove? Research on mice... How much do we have in common with mice? And I've heard of many studies showing that genetic modification has **not** had the **slightest detrimental** effect, not even...

M2: [*sarcastically*] Do you mean research conducted by scientists who work for big corporations, Jack? I can see there's still a big group of people who can't distinguish market-driven scientific mumbo jumbo from reliable research...

M1: [*irritated*] Some people probably can't, but I'm not one of them! You're doing it again, Jordan. Why do you always have to generalise like that and put people in boxes? It drives me crackers when you do that.

(continued)

- F: Alright, alright, you two. Let's drop it then... Have you both read the **whole** article? Remember the last paragraph?
- M1: *[questioning]* Sorry Amy, the last paragraph? Oh, you mean the one where they talk about supermarket chains stocking lots of dairy and meat products from GM-fed animals? What about it?
- F: Just that... we could all be eating food produced from GM crops without even knowing it... simply because there is no requirement to mention that on food packaging. Don't get me wrong – whether you're a GM advocate or its critic, you should be given a choice. And it seems to me we're being deprived of it at the moment.
- M1: Absolutely. I agree with you there, Amy. Although generally **Jordan** and I are still poles apart on the issue. And I'm afraid it would take **him** ages to win me over.

(Wait 10 seconds before repeating.)

(10 seconds.)

That is the end of Part Four.

You now have two hours and forty minutes to complete the rest of the paper.