

Exercise 1

You will hear a woman from a university directing a renovation project at a local primary school

First you have some time to look at questions 11 to 14

Now listen carefully and answer questions 11 to 14

Before anything else I want to thank all of you for volunteering your time for the Bellington Primary School library renovation

By coming here today you help our university to build deeper ties with the community

Schools, especially primary schools, form an important part of any community and this one is no different

To start with I'm going to organise you into teams

Quincy, you're going to lead team red

Um, you'll be dealing with furniture

Now every time we have a team do this kind of work someone will ask if any special gear is needed

The answer is no

You won't need any helmets, knee pads, work boots or anything like that

You also won't need any tool kits since there won't be any assembly work

However I do want everyone on this team to bring a sturdy pair of work gloves along with safety glasses

If you don't have any at home you can buy some online or from any hardware shop

As to your assignment, first you're going to take the current furniture out

It's too old so we're going to have it recycled

Bring those items out onto the pavement

They're too big to dispose of on the grounds so they're going to be carted away by Gordon's Office Supplies for recycling

Speaking of Gordon's Office Supplies, they have been kind enough to donate about £900 worth of new desks, tables, bookshelves and the like

They're going to drop off these items at precisely nine o'clock and take away the old items on the pavement

Irene, you're going to lead team blue which will take charge of stocking or more specifically book stocking

Our university has been kind enough to donate about 75 children's books, all of them in a slightly used condition

You're going to bind those books and stock the library here

You're going to start work after Quincy's team finishes because you're going to use some of the new bookshelves that they're going to place in the room

Jennifer, you and Omar are going to be a two-person team, team green

You're going to install two computers, also donated by our university

They're not top-of-the-range models but they'll do

Since you're both IT students you shouldn't have any problems setting everything up

Make sure that both of the devices work well and have internet connectivity

The library also wants you to install child-friendly web filters on both systems since these will, of course, be used by children

Exercise 2

You will hear two students talking about a research paper

First you have some time to look at questions 21 to 25

Now listen carefully and answer questions 21 to 25

Paul, I think we've come a long way on our battery energy group essay

You're right, Janet

The topic of clean energy has always been of interest to me, especially as it's a technology that's already being employed

It's not something far off like erm, fusion or anything

Well, we all think the same way on that

It's true that it may not be one of the biggest energy sources for consumers right now, but it's got a great future

So true, and this paper has given us all a chance to learn a lot more, like how battery production costs could fall in the future

Yes, and that it could then be more price competitive

Still

Are we doing something wrong

I think we've raised a lot of good points and substantiated what we've written well, erm, with a lot of research

Nevertheless, we may have been, erm, I think we may have erred too much on the side of optimism

How so

Well, our paper seems to be almost entirely positive about the subject

I think that's how it should be

I mean, erm, is there any real downside to this kind of power

The more homes and cars are run on battery energy instead of fossil fuels, the better it is for the environment, it seems to me

I can't see any real risks in this kind of energy

That's true enough in some ways, but, erm, we're leaving out some key shortcomings

For example, battery production has an undeniable negative impact on the environment

We came across that in our readings, and Professor Richards talked about this in class

We need to take note of the type and amount of energy at each phase of the production chain

Hmm, that's true

I'd almost forgotten that

So we ought to go back and add it in now, before we submit the paper

A more balanced report will also make our presentation more persuasive and get the audience more engaged, not like last month

Oh, I remember

We seem to have put half the class to sleep

You're right that we need something more, erm, better this time

Exercise 1

You will hear a woman talking about making a village more environmentally friendly

First you have some time to look at questions 11 to 15

Now listen and answer questions 11 to 15

Good morning everyone

So, Ms Ferguson has explained the main part of our new initiatives to make Henbridge more environmentally friendly, such as constructing new buildings and facilities

I'm going to talk about what she didn't mention about the project

At this point I have to mention what first spurred the whole community to embrace these green initiatives so wholeheartedly

The courageous young lady behind them

Ten years ago Jane Harvey complained that she was scared to ride her bike through the village because of the traffic

She proposed a bypass to reduce through traffic and the construction of cycling paths

Even though she was only nine years old at the time, we listened and we built them

Since the bike paths and bypass were completed, traffic in our village has plummeted by almost 70%

The air is noticeably cleaner and now nearly 60% of you use bicycles more than your cars or public transport

Well done

As a result, we are extending the bike paths and building bicycle car parks near the station

These bicycle parks need very little construction as we will use the existing car park near the station, which has fallen out of use thanks to your new healthy lifestyles

The old lights will be replaced by solar and wind-powered lights

The parking facilities will be free of charge

To wrap up, I'd like to mention some other initiatives that you, our great citizens, have been implementing above and beyond these official ideas

First, our local church group has shown incredible organisational skills by bringing people together for activities which are contributing to a safer, cleaner environment for all of us

Second is the recycling initiative set up by our local businesses

They have installed collection points for cans, bottles, plastics, unwanted clothing, paper and more

This has led to a huge reduction in the amount of litter we see around the village and has also raised funds to help pay for repairs and reconstruction projects

The success of the recycling scheme is testament to the pride we all have in our local area

And third, everybody in the village has helped by planting flowers and trees, mowing lawns, fixing things around the village and keeping things neat and tidy

This sounds simple but in reality it is not

It takes community spirit, camaraderie, commitment and hard work and it has not only made our village look much better but has seen us shortlisted for Britain's best-kept village

It is for all of these reasons that I am a proud citizen of Henbridge and it is for these reasons that I know our environmental initiatives will succeed

Thank you

Exercise 2

You will hear a conversation between a student called Bob and his academic advisor Jan

First you have some time to look at questions 21 to 25

Now listen carefully and answer questions 21 to 25

Come in, Bob

Thank you

I'm guessing you're here about your absences, right

That's right

I'm worried about whether or not I can continue my studies into the next academic year

Well, first of all, the obvious thing to do is to explain why you've been absent so often

As you know, you don't have to attend every lecture, but seminars are mandatory, and you've missed the last three in a row

The reason I've been absent is because I've been working

I have many bills that I'm struggling with, so I need the money

I can understand that, but if you miss much more, you won't be allowed to continue

That means your hard work will be for nothing

Have you applied for the course support programme

That provides some financial support until you've graduated

I hadn't thought of that

If that works, it would be perfect

However, that still leaves me with the study I've missed

I'm not sure what to do about that

You're not the only person in this boat, so the university does provide you with a few options

First of all, for the seminars you missed, there's no getting around it

You have to retake them

Of course

I understand that

How

You have two options

The first is Workshop Bank, which provides independent seminars online

They are okay for reviewing things, but I think you should take advantage of your second option, the StudyPal system here in the university

That pairs you with a postgraduate student who will teach you the seminars

Oh, that sounds fantastic

How much does it cost

It's free, although their hours are limited, so you have to be flexible with your schedule

That's not a problem

I want to make my degree the main priority right now, so I'll be quitting my job

That's good to hear, although there's still the problem of the classes and tests you missed

For the classes, you can use the Peer Supplement system, which gives you access to student-submitted class notes

You can find it along with other resources in the library

You'll have to do at least 20 hours

Thank you

I think I've used that before

As for the tests, you have no choice but to take them

Resit tests are scheduled for summer, so you still have a couple of months to prepare, but that isn't much time given how much you have to catch up on

Thank you so much

Can I apply for them at the main office

I can do it for you, if you like, and ask about the other issues we've discussed to help streamline things a little for you

In the meantime, I suggest you start reviewing your course notes and textbooks

That's wonderful

Thank you

I'll start studying straight away

Exercise 1

You will hear a conversation between a man and a woman about house sitting

The woman has agreed to look after the man's house while he is away for a few weeks

First you have some time to look at questions 11 to 15

Now listen carefully and answer questions 11 to 15

I can't thank you enough for giving up your time to come and look after the house and pets Mandy

Not at all

I'm really looking forward to it George

Thanks

I hope you can enjoy your stay here

First is there anything you want to know

Just some pointers about the local area first

Of course

It was only a flying visit when you came last year so you wouldn't have had time to familiarize yourself with the town

Actually I've got a map that I made for the kids

Why don't I run through that with you

That'd be great

Okay

So can you see our house at the top of the hill in the center of the map

Now if you head east, no I'll start the other way and work back

So when you get about halfway down there's a lovely little bread shop

They open really early and do the most amazing croissants so that's your breakfast sorted

Anyhow so keep going a bit and there's a general store called Ed's on the opposite side for newspapers and daily groceries but bear in mind they're closed on Sundays

Right

This looks like a nice route for a jog actually

It is

In fact if you go right at the bottom of the hill and start heading north you'll see a tiny set of steps just past the bus stop

Go down there and it opens out into a huge field

That's where I take the dogs for a walk of an evening

You get some lovely breezes there in the summer

Anyway so if you rejoin the main road again go on past the library until you come to a crossroads with a police station on the left

Turn right there and there's a new hair salon which according to my wife is very good

There are plenty of amenities aren't there

Yes it's not a bad place at all actually

Across from the hair salon you'll see a post office and a little further on from the post office there is a church and a bank

Now if you keep going along past the hair salon you'll come to a couple of disused old buildings

They're alongside a small gym with a fairly good range of equipment

They offer day passes so don't worry about having to sign up

Brilliant

Oh how about places to grab a bite to eat

Of course in my opinion the best ones are on the street that runs alongside the river

Let's see there's a decent Greek tavern near the end

Oh and Luigi's a new Italian

I haven't tried that yet

But just facing that two down from the mobile phone store is the most amazing French bistro

You will love the soup and wine Mandy

After that it's just a quick walk up the hill to get back to the house

It's a really compact town

I'm sure you won't get lost

Exercise 2

You will hear a woman from a university directing a renovation project at a local primary school

Before you hear the rest of the talk, you have some time to look at questions 15 to 20

Now listen and answer questions 15 to 20

I've sent you an email with directions to get there

One of the school teachers, Miss Collins, will be there to let us in

She's also going to look after us while we're there and answer any questions that we may have

Now you'll probably arrive at the front door at the south of the building, which faces Rain Road

Remember now, the entire premises are walled and the front gate is going to be locked, so you'll have to go around to the northwest gate

The west side of the school runs alongside a car park and you won't be able to cut through there

Instead, go around the east side of the building

There's a footpath that you can use

To your left will be the school wall and to your right, a hedgerow bordering a bakery

As you pass the bakery, you will see a butcher's shop right behind it

Continue along the footpath for a few minutes and it will take you to the rear, north side of the school wall

That's the side facing Walker Lane

Make sure you turn left when you reach the northeast corner of the school, not right

If you go right instead, you'll see a supermarket to your right, which means you've gone the wrong way

Turn back and go in the opposite direction

You're on the right track when you see a clothes shop directly across the road

Go on a little further to reach the northwest entrance of the school

Miss Collins will be waiting to let us in there

Remember not to go too far along Walker Lane, though

The northwest gate is small, so it's easy to miss

If you go past it, you'll see a fish and chip shop next to the school wall and that means that you've gone too far

Turn around and go back

Please arrive no later than 7 a

m

This is going to take up most of the day, but the school has kindly said that they will provide cold lunches for all of us in the canteen

At around noon, we'll take a break to eat

They'll also provide tea and biscuits for us

We should be able to completely finish all of this work by 3 p

m

I'm sure that we'll have a great day

Exercise 3

You will hear the captain of a ship welcoming passengers on board

First you have some time to look at questions 11 to 15

Now listen carefully and answer questions 11 to 15

Good morning ladies and gentlemen and welcome to Suncrest Cruises

I am your captain, Charles Phillips, and it is my pleasure to welcome you on board for this very special commemorative cruise

Before I get into the wonderful itinerary and fantastic destinations we have in line for you, I would first like to help you get familiar with this magnificent ship

If you look at the screen in front of you, or one of the maps that should have been provided for you, let me start by introducing the main deck

The place where we are all sitting now is the main ballroom, which you can find near the center of the map, marked MB

Immediately in front of the main ballroom, facing the front of the ship, is the cabaret ballroom, which will host numerous performances ranging from musicians to magicians

Immediately behind the main ballroom, facing the rear of the ship, you can see the staircases leading to your cabins

Beyond those, you can see three rectangles, the largest of which is an Olympic-sized swimming pool

The medium-sized one is a children's pool and the smallest one, my personal favorite, is the spa

All pools are open between 6am and 9pm, so enjoy them at your leisure

After you have finished doing some laps in the pool or relaxing in the spa, you only need to stroll a couple of feet to the bar, which, looking towards the rear of the ship, you can see on the left

Immediately behind the pools, you can see the spacious viewing deck, where you can view some amazing sunsets with a cocktail or two, or possibly even see the dolphins and whales that accompany us along the way

Now, let's move back to the front of the ship, where you can see a wide, thin rectangle

This is the bridge, where I and the rest of your crew navigate and control the ship

Unfortunately, due to the nature of our work, the main bridge is open only to authorized personnel, but you can apply to visit us for a short tour if that kind of thing takes your fancy

Finally, in front of the bridge, you can see the cinema, which shows the latest films

Now, let's move on to the upper and lower decks

Practice 1

You will hear a conversation between a law professor and a student, Steve, who is preparing to write a thesis

First you have some time to look at questions 21-26

Now listen carefully and answer questions 21-26

Good morning, Steve

Sit down

Have you settled on the topic for your thesis yet

Yes, I have, or at least I think so

I'm planning to write about war law

That's a broad topic, which concerns me a little

You'll need to choose one aspect to focus on

Yes, I thought so too, so I'd like to focus on law during a war

OK, but that could mean covering all the laws related to when a war is happening, so I still think it's a big topic for one paper

Can you tell me a little more

I'd like to focus on prisoners of war, especially the treatment of prisoners

Do you mean from a humanitarian perspective

Yes, exactly

I want to look at how the humanitarian considerations have helped to create the laws

OK, I see

From a legal perspective, I can understand, but I'm still worried about the scope

How far back in history are you planning to go

I'm planning to focus on the Second World War and onwards, and the Geneva Conventions, mainly post-World War II though

Again, that's rather broad

Which Geneva Convention or conventions

As I said, I want to focus on the treatment of prisoners, so the Third Geneva Convention

OK, although the Third Convention was first adopted in 1929, then revised in 1949, so could you elaborate a little on what exactly your focus will be

Well, I'm planning to mention the history, obviously, so I would cover the original Convention from 1929, but I want to mainly focus on more modern conflicts, so I'd like to first look at why the Convention was revised after the Second World War, then look at how the conventions have been applied in armed conflicts since then

That seems to make more sense

I'm still a little worried about when you plan to start

Basically from 1949, and the revised Third Geneva Convention

To get there, I think I have to mention the original Convention from 1929, but only to set the scene, as it were

Right, I see what you mean

And how modern are you planning to go

As you said, this is a broad subject, because conflicts have happened, and continue to happen all over the world

For that reason, I don't want to focus on specific conflicts

Instead, I want to look at why the Convention continues to be necessary

Actually, I believe it matters even more now

What do you mean by that

Well, warfare has changed a lot, and so have the people who fight

That could affect the application of the Convention

In what ways do you think war has changed

There has been a rise in asymmetric warfare, where one side has more power than the other

This is especially true with modern military technology like drones

I see

That's an interesting point

I think you could expand on that a little more

That's what I plan to do

Before you hear the rest of the conversation, you have some time to look at questions 27-30

Now listen and answer questions 27-30

Tell me how you think this relates to prisoners of war

The problem is how fighters are defined, because that affects their designation as prisoners of war

But the Conventions are quite clear, aren't they

To qualify for prisoner of war status, the combatant should wear things like uniforms, carry their weapons openly, be clearly identifiable as soldiers, etc

Yes, but this excludes a lot of groups who might justifiably be fighting for a cause

It also might mean that some states feel that the prisoners they call terrorists are not covered by the Geneva Conventions

Do you think that the rules should be ignored

No

I agree that those fighting for money, like mercenaries, shouldn't be covered, for example, but people engage in conflict for many reasons

These people are often fighting for freedom and may not be fighting under a flag or sign, which is another condition to be accepted as a prisoner of war

What about if they don't follow the rules of war

I think all fighters should follow the rules of war, and those who don't can be reasonably excluded as prisoners of war

But even if they are fighting for causes we may not agree with, that doesn't automatically make them terrorists

So do you think that such groups should be covered

Yes

I think that's one of the main reasons for having the Convention

Not to protect terrorists, of course, but to ensure that everybody who is captured during a conflict is treated humanely

That naturally includes freedom from torture and making sure they have proper food and medical care

There are some people who believe that terrorists don't deserve such treatment

That's why I think the Convention is arguably more essential now than it's ever been, especially when people complain about things like the denial of religious and physical activities

If we don't apply the laws equally to everybody, there doesn't seem much reason to have them

Well, now that you've told me more about it, it certainly seems to have more focus than I originally thought

Could you tell me a little more about your sources

Yes, of course

Naturally, I've looked at the required textbooks for the course and the Geneva Conventions themselves

I've also started contacting some leading international lawyers, military experts and politicians

I see

Well, Steve, you've certainly piqued my interest

Now, let's have a look at some of the people you've chosen to see if I can offer any suggestions

Practice 2

You will hear a guide talking about a new smart house

First you have some time to look at questions 11 to 15

Now listen carefully and answer questions 11 to 15

Hello and welcome to this explanation and tour of the new LIV21st smart house

The house isn't just smart with regard to the technology it uses, which we'll get into later, but also because of the materials employed in its construction

Everything was developed by LIVE21st based on our Replace Network, which is a total system to develop, produce and recycle all materials ensuring zero waste and virtually zero emissions

Let's start by pointing out something that might not be immediately noticeable, which is there are no external cables

All necessary cables are internally housed in the walls as this home is not connected to the electric grid, meaning it and you can be totally self-sufficient when it comes to power

How exactly is this possible when you can only see a few solar panels on the roof

What you can't see are solar cells embedded in not only the windows, but also the panels that look like bricks

On the roof you can also see a series of what resemble extractor fans, which are actually wind turbines

These have proven to exceed our expectations in how much power they generate, accounting for up to 30% of usable and storable energy

Our research shows that when the batteries are fully charged, they hold enough power to ensure that a family of four will not notice any shortages for well over a year of full use

This can all be topped up using the biofuel system in the kitchen, meaning that not even one scrap of food need be thrown away unused

You may have also noticed some things which look like exterior beams you are more likely to see on mock Tudor homes

These are actually a connected system of pipes to harvest and store rainwater, which can be used to flush toilets or, treated on site, to be used as purified drinking water

We also provide an option for an extra treatment system to be installed if you would like to install a swimming pool

Naturally being a smart house, the central control system can be accessed using numerous devices including smartphones and tablets

For security, we provide each house with a private closed network to prevent hacking and the possibility of being affected by malware

The security is backed up by encrypted communication, fingerprint sensors and facial recognition systems

Before you hear the rest of the presentation, you have some time to look at questions 16 to 20

Now listen and answer questions 16 to 20

So that's a brief introduction to what the house holds and what it can do

Let's now have a look at where everything is and how it works together

Before we enter, you can see the central control box on the wall to the left of the front door

This is the brain of the house, so to speak

Nobody can get into this house unless they are registered with the facial recognition system or they enter the passcode

What you can't see are the batteries that lie beneath the floors in the living room, kitchen and dining room

These are specially developed so as not to generate any heat or sound and are easily accessible should they require maintenance by sliding panels in the floor

To the rear of the house, there is a deck where you can enjoy drinks, barbecues and whatever else you like

Like everything on the house, it also serves another purpose because it houses the water treatment plant out of sight beneath your feet

We've designed all of the pipes so that they don't obviously lead there in order to prevent any tampering with the system

This also connects to the biofuel system, which is nestled right under the sink in the kitchen, meaning scraps can be thrown straight in

This allows any residual water to be recycled and used for the toilets or used as fertiliser

Unwanted water can simply be drained away as it is free of toxins

Next, to the main window in each room, you'll also see a small control panel

These control everything in those rooms from lights and heating to entertainment systems and even curtains

However, they are not limited to single rooms as you can access anywhere in the house from any control panel

Want to turn on the heating in the bedroom before you head off to sleep

No problem

You can do it from the comfort of your sofa using your smartphone or tablet

Another feature that doubles up is the intercom at the main gate

Not only does this let you know of any visitors, it also forms the first line of defence in the security system

Anybody not allowed into the grounds by you will be locked out as the gates will automatically lock if anybody tries to gain unauthorised entry

Exercise 1

You will hear a telephone conversation between a car hire service and a woman who wants to hire a car

First you have some time to look at questions 1 to 6

Now listen carefully and answer questions 1 to 6

Good morning

Continental Car Hire

How may I help you

I'd like to hire a car please

Thank you very much

First of all, could I take your name please

Of course, it's Rachel Percival

That's P-E-R-C-I-B-A-L

Thank you

What kind of car are you looking for

Well, I'll be driving a few friends down to London for a birthday party, so something that seats at least six would be best

So something like a large SUV or a people carrier

I'm guessing you don't need a minibus, right

No, no, nothing that big

There will be me and five friends plus a bit of luggage

In that case, I would recommend a people carrier

You could get six people into a large SUV, but there's more room for luggage in a people carrier

Is there a big difference in price

Actually, the people carrier is a cheaper option

It works out at around £25 cheaper per day, plus the fuel economy is better

Great, I'll take a people carrier then

How much would that be for two days

That depends on the days

When would you need the car

At the end of May, so I'd like to pick the car up on the 31st and return it on the 1st of June

In that case, including insurance, it comes to £102 if you pay when you pick the car up

You can save a little more by paying in advance

I would entitle you to a £10 discount plus a free petrol coupon, also worth £10, which you can use at any petrol station

Oh, that sounds great

I can pay immediately if that's possible

I'd prefer to get it all done sooner rather than later

Of course, thank you

With the discount, the final price is £92

Thank you

Is it possible to pay by bank transfer or is it by credit card only

Credit card only, I'm afraid

Is that a problem

No, not a problem at all

Can I give you my details now

Yes, of course, thank you

Along with your credit card details, we will need your address, telephone number and driver's licence details

No problem

Thank you

OK, now I can take your details

Exercise 2

You will hear a lecture on certain unexpected events known as black swans

First you have some time to look at questions 31 to 36

Now listen and answer questions 31 to 36

I want to talk today about planning

Despite advancements in technology, we are still unable to predict what will happen to the markets

Why

One reason is that most planners employ the Gaussian curve as the basis for their business forecasts

The Gaussian curve is a chart that tracks data of many kinds

It is also called a bell curve because the chart looks like a bell

Common business events form a huge bulge at the center of the chart

Rare events such as market panics or depressions exist in the tail ends of the curve

These are called outliers

Outliers are not entirely unexpected, but are rarely fully prepared for

For one thing, there's the matter of cost

If an event has only a remote chance of occurring, it may not make sense for a firm to spend its limited resources preparing for it

Moreover, analysts often disagree on what truly constitutes an outlier

In 1929, for instance, some experts warned that the values of stock markets were rising at unsustainably high rates, creating a bubble that would burst

Others, however, including the renowned economist Irving Fisher, remained enthusiastic about even further growth

For these enthusiasts, a stock market collapse was a possibility, but only a small one

Only after international stock market crashes and the global depression which followed, did it become clear that a stock market collapse had not been an outlier at all

One of the most frustrating things to plan for are events that do not appear anywhere on the Gaussian curve

These are events that are quite literally off the charts, unimagined by any current thinker or computer model

These very rare but extremely impactful events are what scholar, statistician, and author Nassim Nicholas Taleb calls black swans

Black swans often have radical effects that are not fully understood until they have profoundly changed our world

They are not confined to markets but include sudden wars, technological breakthroughs, and mass social movements

Examples may be the first landing of Europeans in the Americas, the invention of the steam engine, and the emergence of the Internet

Taleb claims that firms that survive and thrive during a black swan event often create a false narrative of their success, when in fact it was mostly due to randomness, or more plainly, luck

What is worse, planners build this false story into future models, believing that the same situation, the same black swan will recur, which of course, it never does

After all, by definition, a black swan is unprecedented

Although modern business planning may be more difficult than ever before, it is unlikely firms will abandon their planning departments and rely on randomness

Instead, as we'll learn during this class, greater operational flexibility, financial cushions, and decentralized production are often embedded in planning tools today

It is thought, or at least hoped, that these kinds of structures can make firms robust enough to endure shocks, while nimble enough to take advantage of opportunities

Examples of this type of planning can include spreading manufacturing across several countries, keeping a financial cushion, that is, cash on hand, along with credit lines, and recruiting staff that are both skilled and open-minded enough to deal with sudden changes

Exercise 1

You will hear a conversation between a man and a woman about house sitting

The woman has agreed to look after the man's house while he is away for a few weeks

Before you hear the rest of the conversation, you have some time to look at questions 16 to 20

Now listen and answer questions 16 to 20

Okay, so on to the house itself

I've written up a list of all the things you'll need like phone numbers, alarm codes, Wi-Fi key, security camera settings etc

That should all be fairly straightforward, but I wanted to explain the rubbish collection as that is a bit trickier

We did have a guide, but I'm afraid I threw it out by accident

But don't worry, I've got it all memorized

So food waste first

This little box here in the kitchen is for that

You need to put these light pink bags in it and fill them with any leftover food scraps

Put just the bags out every Monday and Thursday

Be sure to do it before 8 am or else you'll miss the lorry

Okay, do I put them by your gate

Yes, but just in front of the gate post on the pavement

Now this blue wheelie bin is for paper recyclables like drink cartons, flyers, newspapers and cardboard

That all goes out on the first and third Tuesday at the same time and place as the food waste

I see

How about the plastic recyclables

Can I put them in there too

No, they go out in the grey wheelie bin on the first and third Wednesday of the month

They come from midday, so you have a bit more time for those

Okay, how about glass

Ah yes, now glass goes out in this orange basket and is collected every second and fourth Wednesday

So that leaves us with, let me see, Friday

Right, so any non-recyclables have to be put in these purple bags and they take them on the first Friday of each month

I have a bag of those that is nearly full which has to go out, oh, tomorrow

As we'll be leaving for the airport late tonight, if you could put that out for me in the morning, that'd be great

We can't leave things outside the night before because the birds can get to them

What else do I have to tell you

Oh yeah, this same bag is used on the last Friday of the month for soft materials like clothes, curtains, towels and bedding

I also have a bag of that ready to go, so if that's okay, can you put that out on Friday the 30th too, please

Exercise 2

You will hear a college professor and a student, Sean, discussing a study abroad program

First you have some time to look at questions 21 to 26

Now listen carefully and answer questions 21 to 26

Good afternoon, Sean

What can I do for you

Good afternoon

I've been giving the study abroad program you mentioned in last week's lecture a lot of thought and I'd like to apply for it

Could you give me some more information

For example, the application requirements and the process

Of course

Here's a leaflet, so let's go through it together

The first and probably most important thing is the language requirement

All classes for the semester will be taught in Spanish, so you need to have an academic level to qualify

Is there a test I need to pass

Yes, and we can administer it here at the university

There are speaking, listening, reading and writing components

You need to score above 80% on every section to qualify

Based on my performance in class so far, do you think I can pass

You might need to brush up on a few things, but you should be OK

The next part is ensuring that you're eligible for a visa

Do you think that will be a problem

It shouldn't be, but there are special requirements because you won't just be on holiday

Passing the test is obviously part of that requirement

You also need to show that you can be self-sufficient

Do you know exactly how much I would need to save

I can't say for sure because it differs for each placement

The full details are on the website, which is written on the leaflet

Whatever the case, you'll need enough for daily living expenses and, depending on the placement, possibly rent

That's kind of what I imagined

Anything else

Yes, to be quite honest, at that point you're just getting started

If you pass the test and can prove you can finance yourself, you then have to apply for a certificate of eligibility from the university

For this, you'll need two guarantors, including one from the university

The other should be a personal guarantor

Could that one be a family member like my parents

Parents would be fine

For the academic guarantor, you'll need to ask one of your professors

However, as I'm the coordinator, it can't be me

Is that it

No, you'll also have to submit a written application stating why you want to study abroad and what you think you will gain from the experience

You'll also have to sit for an interview, but we can talk about all of that later

That's really helpful

Thank you, Professor

It looks like I have quite a lot of work to do

Exercise 3

You will hear the introduction to a civil engineering lecture about public transport in London

First, you have some time to look at questions 31 to 35

Now listen carefully and answer questions 31 to 35

Good morning

I'm sure that many of you made your way here by rail or bus this morning, so today we are going to learn a little bit about the history of London's extensive, if a little crumbling, public transportation system

So let's start with the biggest and most used, the London Underground

Perhaps better known as the Tube, it was the first rapid transit system in the world

It began operation back in 1863 and, although it is showing its age in some ways, it still manages to get approximately 3 million people around the city every day

As you can imagine, it has expanded a lot since the first line became operational, and it now extends to 11 lines and carries around half of all commuters in London

Despite its popularity and use all over the city, it still greatly favours the north of London, and it is also not the oldest form of public transport in the capital

The honour of being the elder statesman of public transport belongs to the Noble Omnibus, now simply known as a bus

You can't miss the buses in London as they tend to be bright red and double-decker, which is something you don't see everywhere

London buses appeared on our roads in 1829, and back then horsepower was a literal reference, as the first buses were horse-drawn

In fact, it wasn't until around 1902 that the first motor omnibuses began to appear, although it didn't take a great deal of time before the older carriages were phased out

Some of you, or perhaps your parents, can remember a time when you could get on or off buses wherever and whenever you liked

Accidents and dodging the fare have unfortunately consigned such things to the past

Having mentioned the underground railway system, let's move on to the overground system that complements it

This includes the Docklands Light Railway, or DLR, as it is better known, which, as the name suggests, serves the Docklands area

It has had its ups and downs and there are always new extensions being proposed and dropped, which we will look at in another lecture

Finally, it is necessary to mention the fact that London acts as a central hub to many regional lines, linking us not only to the rest of the country, but also directly to Europe, and even the rest of the world if you consider the links to airports

There are also, of course, a number of trams that operate in the city, especially centred around Croydon

Exercise 1

You will hear a curator giving a short introduction to a new museum

First, you will have some time to look at questions 11 to 15

Now listen carefully and answer questions 11 to 15

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to the Norse Museum

It's my great pleasure to welcome you here and open this museum which celebrates the history and culture of the Vikings

The Vikings came from three countries in Scandinavia, Sweden, Denmark and Norway, and are famed for the long voyages they took

As a great seafaring group of people, they travelled far beyond their home countries and are even believed to have reached North America around 1100 AD

We are privileged to have exhibits including genuine remains and replicas of the ships they used

We offer headsets that explain all of the exhibits in six languages, which are available at the main entrance

For the daring amongst you, we also offer a virtual reality experience that puts you thick in the midst of an advancing army

I should warn you that it is not for the faint-hearted, hence we have had to set an age limit of 18 years old for the attraction

That doesn't mean that younger visitors have to miss out, however, as we offer special hands-on experiences so that people of all ages can get a taste of what life was like for the Vikings

That means it's not all about battles and great voyages, even though the popular image of the Vikings is as warriors who invaded and pillaged countries, leaving trails of destruction in their wake

This is certainly true in many cases, and we document much of that history here with an amazing selection of weapons and armour to admire

However, we want to offer a much more complete look at the Vikings, so we are very happy to present many other facets of Viking culture that can get overlooked

The fact remains that many Vikings were not warriors and settled peacefully in other countries as traders, farmers and craftsmen

Here you can find out a lot more about the peaceful side of their nature and the great things they had to offer

I have already mentioned that you can get a virtual taste of Viking life, but you can also get a literal taste in our Viking-themed restaurant

Have you ever wondered what the Vikings ate and drank

Today you can find out

We have used authentic recipes and, wherever possible, locally sourced ingredients from Scandinavia

If, of course, your taste buds crave something a little closer to home, we also offer a number of restaurants and cafes serving food and drinks to suit every palate, including vegetarian and vegan choices

Finally, don't forget to pick up a souvenir of your visit at our gift shop

We hope you have a wonderful visit!

Exercise 2

You will hear two students talking about a research paper

Before you hear the rest of the talk, you have some time to look at questions 26 to 30

Now listen and answer questions 26 to 30

I guess I overlooked the environmental impact of battery production

To begin with, battery production requires a lot of rare earth metals

These are the core elements of batteries, and we can only get them through intensive mining

Moreover, we know how destructive mining is to trees and rivers

When mining takes place, it's usually by means of conventional equipment that uses fossil fuels, tractors and other vehicles, drills and all the other types of petrol-powered equipment one can expect to find on a mining site

Oh yes, we've read about that

Then the rare earth metals, they have to be transported to a battery production facility, usually by conventional transportation

Then the battery production factory itself usually operates on fossil fuels

The impact of all this has to be included in any carbon footprint analysis

Now I remember

The professor said in class that the entire production chain should ideally use clean energy

That's right

Considering that chain and the entire environmental impact battery production has at present, even some small petrol-powered cars are no more harmful than battery-powered ones

Does that make our research worthless then

Not at all

But I think we do have to inject a few caveats, a bit of caution as it were

How can we best do that

I'd say, um, it's not realistic to expect the entire production chain to become clean overnight

However, we can already see some improvements there

For instance, nowadays companies are producing battery-powered lorries and they can be part of the production chain, making it cleaner

It's not a stretch to think that in the future you might find more and more such vehicles in the chain

So we can stick with our original ideas

Yes, as long as we emphasise that batteries are not a perfect clean energy solution

Frankly, nothing is

I see where you're going with this

A battery-powered car is not the product of a 100% clean energy production chain

Yes, but it's a good start and, um, batteries along with other alternative energy sources have the potential not only to be sold to ordinary consumers but also to become an important part of industrial production chains

What's more, a cleaner production chain increases efficiency

So should we go back and rewrite the whole thing

No, we can just add the caveats

The part about creating cleaner production chains at the end

That's important because we want to finish the entire paper on an optimistic note

I think we've just fleshed out the revisions we need
Let's talk to Ramesh and Sandra and get their input

Practice 1 You will hear a woman talking to a customer service representative on the phone

First, you have some time to look at questions 1 to 6

Now listen carefully and answer questions 1 to 6

Good morning

CARP Tax Systems, Carl speaking

How may I help you

Ah, good morning

I'd like to cancel my service please

Actually, there's no need to call

You can simply log in to your account and cancel it online

Well, that's why I'm calling

I don't remember all of my login details

Oh, I see

Which service would you like to cancel

The online tax service

OK

Could I have your name please

Yes, it's Naomi Leeson

That's L-E-E-S-O-N

Thank you

Do you remember which plan you had

I'm not sure

What are the options again

There's Small Business, Business Premium and Platinum Corporate

OK, thanks

I remember now

It was the Small Business plan

Thank you

Could you tell me the email address you used to set up the account

Yes, it was the business address I was using at the time, which was naomi at wizcor
com

Could you spell the last part of that for me please

No problem

It's w-h-i-z-c-o-r-e dot com, all lowercase

Thank you

Yes, that matches our records

You can still log in with that address and reset your password from there

I tried, but the instructions and code are sent to that email address, which I can no longer access

That's why I'm calling, you see

Oh, I see

In that case, can you remember any part of your password

That way we might be able to match it

I've no idea, I'm afraid

No problem

There's a security question that you entered when setting up the account

What is your favourite season

Winter

Thank you

And the last security question is, what was your dream job when you were a child

Oh, that's easy

I wanted to be a mountain climber

That's it

Thank you

Could you tell me your phone number

OK

0558 685 36

I'm sorry, we don't have that number registered with us

Is there another number you might have used

Ah, yes

I might have used the business number

Just a second

Here it is, 0558 97425

OK, yes, we have that on record

Before you hear the rest of the conversation, you have some time to look at questions seven to ten

Now listen and answer questions seven to ten

So, can I cancel the plan now

Yes, you should be able to

I just need to ask a couple more questions

First of all, although you are the account administrator, you are not the only party registered to the account

Could you please give me the names of any other parties and your relationship to them

There should only be one

Edward Smith

And how are you and Mr

Smith related

He's my former business partner

Well thank you, Ms

Leeson

We can now cancel your subscription

The last step is to confirm the changes and cancel the plan

We have nami

supermail

com as a backup email address, so would it be possible to send the notification there

Yes, that would be great

Thank you

When will that arrive

I'll finish up what I need to do in the next few minutes, so you should get it within an hour

All you need to do is click on the link and the cancellation will be complete

You'll then receive another email which simply confirms that the cancellation has been processed

There is no need to reply to that email

Okay, that's great

Thanks

My pleasure, although we're sorry to see you go

Would you mind telling me why you would like to cancel as you've been subscribed for over five years

Well, to be honest, my partner and I closed the business a year ago, so I don't need the service anymore

I'm sorry to hear that

Did you like our service while you were using it

Oh, absolutely

It was a godsend, to be honest

I didn't know where to start with tax-related things, but it was really intuitive to use and made everything a complete breeze

That's very nice to hear

Thank you

You should receive the confirmation soon

If there's any way we can help you again in the future, please don't hesitate to get in touch

Thank you for your help

You're welcome

Thank you

Thank you

Practice 2

You will hear the beginning of a lecture on architecture

First you have some time to look at questions 31 to 40

Practice 2

You will hear the beginning of a lecture on architecture

Now listen carefully and answer questions 31 to 40

Good morning

Before we get started with today's class, I'd just like to let you know that our main course textbook, *Architecture Now*, is available at a specially discounted price in the student bookshop

Okay, so today we are going to be looking at architects who have transcended notoriety in their profession to become well-known names in popular culture

These architects have been labelled using the portmanteau *Starchitect* from star and architect

I know some people do not like this term, but I am not one of them

I happen to believe that these architects fully deserve to be stars for their contributions not only to their field, but to society as a whole with the buildings they have created

I am also aware that appreciation of their architecture, as with most things, can be highly subjective

However, for today's lecture, I ask you to put your preferences aside and to try to objectively appreciate the life and work of some of these famous architects

First of all, although the word *Starchitect* is a recent coinage, first appearing in the early 21st century, its roots go back much further

As an aside, I will only be talking about people whose main profession is or was architecture and will therefore not mention celebrities or other public figures who have tried their hands at designing buildings

Furthermore, many commentators suggest that only modern iconic buildings are worthy of being considered *Starchitecture*

Although I am sure that many of you here today can give many examples of iconic buildings that were not designed in the 21st century

That leads me to perhaps where the modern rise of *Starchitecture* can be traced, and its impact on the world of architecture and culture

Although developers in the 1970s and 1980s were beginning to recognize that a famous architect could earn them more profit, it was later that the larger impact could be seen

Frank Gehry was already a well-established and award-winning architect when the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao opened in Spain in 1997

Not only has this building been described as a masterpiece and the greatest building of our time, it propelled Gehry to new heights of popularity and made developers, cities and countries take note of the effect such buildings could have

The effect in this case is known as the Bilbao effect, named after the city in which the Guggenheim is situated

Prior to the construction of the museum, the area was in economic decline, but the opening of this building generated enormous growth and prestige

Having mentioned the Bilbao effect, it's worth exploring why developers are increasingly keen to hire famous architects

There is the obvious benefit in that their buildings will attract more money from renting or selling apartments and leasing commercial space, but there are more benefits that may not be so obvious

As noted, municipalities and developers who hire architects could transform the areas where their buildings are constructed

I really can't overstate how much of an impact buildings designed by very famous architects can have

If we look through the back catalogues of architects whose names many people may recognise, we will see a virtual who's who, if you like, of some of the world's most iconic buildings

We will see works ranging from Le Corbusier and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe through to Zaha Hadid, Norman Foster and Renzo Piano

Another benefit to attracting star names in architecture is that certain areas might be more willing to allow large-scale developments to go ahead

As has been the case in numerous cities throughout the world, these highly publicised and visible buildings can often spur economic development and urban regeneration

In places where there are many historic, culturally sensitive or valuable buildings, buildings that are very different from others in the area may not get planning permission

However, they are more likely to get it if such buildings are themselves destined to become attractions

As we have seen in many recent developments by leading architects, they often incorporate materials and techniques to improve environmental concerns, waste management and use of resources, which can be a further selling point

It's also worth mentioning here that some of these iconic buildings have helped to advance both design and structural systems

None of these things mean that a building designed by a famous architect will automatically get a seal of approval, however

Any building that clearly adversely affects its surroundings will have a hard time being approved, regardless of the designer's name

Likewise, buildings that, for example, cause undue wind turbulence, noise or glare, or impede aviation, navigation and telecommunications will at the least need to be altered

Then there are other considerations for cities with many established landmarks, namely not blocking them from view

To give an example from the UK, the Leadenhall building, nicknamed the Cheese Grater, had to be modified to preserve a sightline to St Paul's Cathedral

Okay, hopefully that has given you a taste of what we are going to look at, so now let's move on to address things in more detail

Test 1

You will hear a number of different recordings and you will have to answer questions on what you hear

There will be time for you to read the instructions and questions and you will have a chance to check your work

All the recordings will be played once only

The test is in four parts

At the end of the test you will be given ten minutes to transfer your answers to an answer sheet

Now turn to part 1

Part 1

You will hear a telephone conversation between a hotel receptionist and a woman who wants to make a reservation

First you have some time to look at questions 1 to 7

Part 1

You will hear a telephone conversation between a hotel receptionist and a woman who wants to make a reservation

Now listen carefully and answer questions 1 to 7

Good morning, Coniston Hotel

How may I help you

I'd like to make a reservation please

Thank you very much

Could I have your name please

Elizabeth Green

That's G-R-E-E-N-E

Thank you and when would you like to make a reservation for

I'm going to a wedding on the 30th but I'd like to stay for a few days before that to have a good look around the Lake District

Would that be the 30th of this month

I'm afraid we can only accept reservations with at least two weeks notice

No, I'm sorry, I mean next month, April

If possible I'd like reservations for the 28th and 29th

So you would be arriving on the 28th and staying until the 30th but you don't need a reservation for the 30th of April

No, that's the day of the wedding

So my friend booked everybody into another hotel for that night

Just the 28th and 29th please

I see

Would you like a single, double or twin room

Single please

Just one moment while I check

Right

Yes, those dates are available

Would you prefer a view over the lake or a view of the hills

The lake please
That sounds lovely
Lake view, all right
Would it be possible to reserve the same room for a couple of days after the 30th
That way I can leave my stuff there
I'm afraid that's not possible unless you also reserve the room for the 30th
However, if you would like to make a separate reservation, we can keep some of your bags in our secure storage area
Oh, I see
Then just the 28th and 29th for now
How much is it per night
It's £90 per night which includes dinner, breakfast and access to our spa and gym
If you don't require dinner and breakfast it's a little cheaper
If I choose not to have dinner and breakfast, does that still include access to the spa
Yes, it does
Actually, on second thoughts, I'd like to have dinner and breakfast please
Of course
I will book you into room L32
It has an ensuite shower and bath and offers a beautiful, unobstructed view of the lake
Could I take some contact details please
Of course
Could I have your address and phone number please
My address is 13 West Avenue, Northington, London
My number is 333 3427
Thank you
333 3427
Yes, that's right
Do you need my credit card details
If I could have your email address, we will send you confirmation of the reservation and a link to our secure online payment system
I see
My email address is liz124 at happymail.com
That's l-i-z, all lowercase, one two four at happymail.com
Before you hear the rest of the conversation, you have some time to look at questions eight to ten
you you now listen and answer questions 8 to 10 thank you you should receive an email within an hour if it doesn't arrive within two hours could you call us back your reservation number is wal32 I see what time is check-in and check-out check-in starts at 2 pm
and you must check out by 11 am
dinner is served between 6 and 8 p
m
and breakfast between 7 and 9 am
when do you expect to arrive I imagine I'll be arriving around 5 pm

I see thank you what hours are the spa and the gym open the spa and gym are open 24 hours and you are welcome to use both on the day you arrive before check-in and the day you leave after you check out that's great thank you do you have any further questions yes I noticed on your website that you offer some walking and boat tours are they included in the price of the room I'm afraid the boat tours are extra but we offer a short hiking tour which is included in the price of the room would you like to join this you can choose the day and time later a longer hiking tour is 25 pounds per person oh that's wonderful yes please sign me up for the short one do you by any chance have any hiking gear I could borrow or rent like hiking boots poles or a rain jacket I'm afraid we cannot lend or rent out any equipment except trekking poles you can use these free of charge really I'd like to borrow those then sure we'll get them ready anything else no that's it thank you certainly madam I'll send you an email confirming your reservation soon and we look forward to seeing you that is the end of part one you now have half a minute to check your answers you

Now turn to part 2

Part 2

You will hear a sports club owner talking about it being refurbished

First you have some time to look at questions 11 to 15

Now listen carefully and answer questions 11 to 15

Hi and welcome to the refurbished and renamed Adrenaline Sports Club

For those of you who have been members before, I'm sure you have already noticed a lot of changes

For the new members here today, first of all let me offer you both a big welcome and a big thank you for joining us

We used to be known as Adventure Sports South but we have changed our name and the activities we offer to better represent what our members want and the club's aims going forward

Let's start by explaining what facilities and activities we have decided to stop offering

As existing members will know, we based all decisions about what to keep, remove and add not only on attendance and usage but also on a number of interviews and questionnaires

Thanks to all of you who took part and shared your opinions

The first thing to go was the mountain bike track

Although it was used a lot in the beginning, it was only used twice in the last eight months but still required a lot of upkeep

As we're so close to hills and moors that offer better tracks for free, we decided we could make much better use of the space and save ourselves a lot of money in the process

The next thing to go for largely the same reasons was the swimming pool

Quite a few members told us that swimming wasn't exactly what they imagined when they thought of Adventure Sports

They said it was too like a kind of exercise and we agree

Not only that but the new leisure centre in town has a wonderful swimming pool open to the public

That would explain why our swimming pool has been unused for months and virtually none of our members noticed when we closed it for good at the end of November last year

The only other thing we have partly removed is the car park

For this we want to thank our members for their support and suggestions

We're all about a healthy and adventurous lifestyle here and part of that means offering everyone an even greater experience

For that reason we have halved the amount of parking available to cars and doubled the space for bicycles

As we're close to the train station members are free to use the bike parks and showers if they want to add cycling to part of their commute

Before you hear the rest of the announcement you have some time to look at questions 16 to 20

you Now listen and answer questions 16 to 20

Now let's get to the new and exciting stuff

For this part I'd like to refer you to the maps on your orientation sheets

You can see the new parking and shower facilities I've just mentioned at the bottom of the map to the right of the main entrance

To the left of the entrance you'll see that the members clubhouse is still there and the facilities there remain the same

You'll probably notice the biggest change right above the parking area which used to be the mountain bike track

As you can see part of the area has been converted into a paintball arena which was one of the most requested additions to the facilities

But this is no ordinary paintball arena

It's also equipped with obstacles and a state-of-the-art weather replication system that can create almost any kind of weather condition and habitat on earth from a rainforest or a mountain to a desert or a jungle

Directly above the paintball arena is another new and exciting addition the climbing wall

Although I say climbing wall it's actually a series of walls for everyone from beginners to experts to enjoy

We are happy to say that the climbing wall is We are happy to say that the climbing wall area was designed with the help of some of the best climbers in the world

This was by far the most requested addition so we're very pleased to have made it happen

I've tried a few of the walls and they're fantastic

The rectangular building right in the middle of the map is our new rafting training area

We've added two new wave machines so that you can use kayaks, canoes and rafts in a variety of conditions

The square building above that is the boathouse where we will now store our rafts, canoes, kayaks and SUPs

It will also serve as a registration area for the rafting and kayaking expeditions we run

And finally it gives me great pleasure to introduce our biggest new attraction

You can see it on the map marked only as X because we wanted to keep it as a surprise

As our regular members will know we love pushing the limits of adventure sports

We not only arrange skydiving weekends but also go on occasional wingsuit adventures

For the first time we will now be offering wingsuit training right here in our state-of-the-art flying arena

So to members new and old, welcome to Adrenaline Sports Club! That is the end of part two

You now have half a minute to check your answers

you

Now turn to part three

Part three

You will hear two science students, Kate and Mark, discussing an upcoming presentation

First you have some time to look at questions 21 to 25

Now listen carefully and answer questions 21 to 25

Hi Mark

We need to get our presentation moving

Can we talk about it now

Hi Kate

Absolutely

I was actually looking for you for exactly that reason

Oh, great timing then

We're still doing early astronomers, right

Yeah, that's what we agreed

But I want to talk about something meaningful, not just say who some of the first people were and give their biographies

That's what I've been thinking about

Covering how we learn astronomy is fine, but it's not going to get us a good grade

That's why something a bit more obscure might be better

I agree

Although some of the early theories have been discredited, they still help to shape our understanding of astronomy today

Exactly

That's why I thought we should spend more time on the religious aspects

That's what I was thinking

I mean, the belief that the celestial objects were gods and spirits could have influenced people to take an interest in astronomy as much as the later scientific breakthroughs

I'm sure it did for a lot of people, especially followers of early religions

That's what I've been looking into

Me too, although I kind of got sidetracked into a few different areas like astrology

I think we should talk about archaeoastronomy though

I think that's a good idea because it's all about how people thought about the sky in the past, which is important for understanding how we arrived at modern astronomy

Exactly

Understanding what people thought about phenomena in the sky has impacted cultures around the world for centuries, including the scientific community

It might be contentious, but it has influenced agricultural practices, design and more

That's a good point

So how far do we go back

I was thinking of beginning with the origins of Western astronomy and the ancient Mesopotamian kingdoms

Absolutely

Let's start with the Sumerians

They accurately catalogued the stars
Plus, there is evidence they applied mathematical theories to their studies of the sky
That's what I've been reading about
We need to be careful that this doesn't simply become a history presentation though
I don't think we really need to worry about that
The religious and cultural aspects shaped how astronomy developed, so we can't ignore them
I agree
I'm just a bit worried we're veering a little off course
I mean, we're studying science, so we have to make sure we're not missing the point by trying to be a bit too novel
I don't agree
Sure, we're approaching it from a slightly different angle, but it's very much on topic
I'm more concerned about whether the information we need is all in our department
Okay, so let's think about what we need and where we can source it
Before you hear the rest of the conversation, you have some time to look at questions 26 to 30
Now listen and answer questions 26 to 30
A lot of these things are outside my field, so I'll have to research it
Where can we get the books
Well, let's start with the very early pioneers of astronomy, who were mainly professors of astronomy
I'm presuming books on them would be in the School of Religious Studies, right
Actually, no
I've looked into that before
I found all of the stuff I needed in the literature department
Oh, I see
Did you find information about Muslim astronomers there, too
No, but there's a lot about them in the references
I'm sure you'll be able to find a lot more about them in the literature department
Oh, I see
Did you find information about Muslim astronomers there, too
No, but there's a lot about them in the references section, although we can't take the books out
Right
So we'll have to copy what we want
There are photocopiers in the library office, so we can just take them there
Do you want to mention the Romans
For example, Julius Caesar's calendar reform
Yeah, there's a lot about that in the main library
They've got a huge section on the Roman Empire on the second floor
That will tie in nicely with the stuff on Callippus, the Greek astronomer
That's all on the first floor, so I can go upstairs easily
Great
If you don't mind doing that, I'll get some books on the geocentric model
I don't think we should be condescending about it, but we have to mention how people thought that Earth

was the centre of the universe

There are a few good books on it in the annex, so I'll go there later

Great

So that's everything pretty much sorted out, right

Yeah, it seems so

How many copies of the notes do we have to make

Ah, I forgot about that

There are 40 people in the class, plus three professors and a copy each for us, so 45

Do you have a printing card

I don't think I have one

No problem

I'll get one later from the students' office

OK, let's start putting everything together

That is the end of part 3

You now have half a minute to check your answers

Now turn to part four

Part four

You will hear the first lecture from a course on public international law

First you have some time to look at questions 31 to 40

You will hear the first lecture from a course on public international law

First you have some time to look at questions 31 to 40

And you will hear the first lecture from a course on public international law

Now listen carefully and answer questions 31 to 40

Good morning and welcome to this introductory class on public international law

To get started, let me give a brief explanation about what public international law is

Public international law mainly covers interaction between countries

It covers, amongst many other things, the laws of war and environmental law

Because it deals with the behaviour of countries or nations, public international law is often referred to as the law of nations and usually just international law

I will refer to it as simply international law

I should also point out that public international law is different from private international law

Private international law mainly covers conflicts between national laws

We will not be covering private international law in this course

International law also includes international organisations, such as the United Nations and the International Court of Justice

But there is no central body that creates international law as a whole

The law itself comes from four main sources

For this introductory lecture, we will have a brief look at those sources of international law, the first two of which are the most important

The first one we will look at is also the oldest, which is customary international law

Customary international law comes from how countries usually behave, in other words, from their customs

These customs can become law after many years of being in practice

However, practice is not the only thing required for a custom to become regarded as international law

The other necessary element is that any such custom or behaviour must be considered a legal duty in the country

Only when these two elements exist can a new rule of customary international law be created and become binding on all countries that agree to it

The second source is treaties, which are agreements between countries

They are also known as conventions, protocols and, of course, agreements

Although treaties are binding on the states that agree to them, no countries are obliged to sign treaties they don't agree with or ones that they cannot sign

This would explain why the treaties of the European Union fall under international law but are only binding on countries that belong to the European Union who are able to sign them

It also explains why the death penalty is not completely illegal under international law because countries don't have to agree to banning it

Treaties are important sources of international law because they are often created by putting unwritten rules of customary law, which I have just mentioned, into writing

They are also very important because they are usually negotiated freely by many countries, which means all the countries that sign them agree to their contents

In terms of the development of modern international law, the importance of treaties cannot be overestimated

Treaties have led to some of the biggest changes in international law since 1945, especially in areas such as war, terrorism, diplomacy, the sea and even space

They have led to both limits on weapons of mass destruction, like nuclear weapons, and breakthroughs in human rights

For these and other reasons, treaties are now the main source of international law

Due to their extreme importance, we will be covering major treaties in later lectures

The third source of international law is general principles of law from countries that have long established legal systems

By studying the legal systems of certain countries, common elements can be found such as equal rights for all people or how contracts are made, which can help create international law

National laws can therefore become sources of international law when certain principles are agreed upon by many countries, hence the name general principles

It is very rare, however, for the laws of one country to be taken as a whole and made into international law

The final source of international law is decisions made by judicial bodies

This means decisions made by international courts such as the International Court of Justice and also tribunals such as human rights tribunals

However, it is not limited to decisions made only by international bodies

The decisions of domestic courts are by definition part of the practices and customs of states, so their decisions can directly contribute to the formation of customary international law

So, those are the main sources of international law, but in closing, I would like to quickly mention two more

I mentioned the United Nations at the beginning of the lecture, and it would be wrong to overlook it as a source of international law

Although its resolutions are not legally binding, they can often be referred to in the formation of international law

We will, of course, be looking at the UN later in the course

Lastly, the writings of famous legal scholars may be referred to as a guide, but they would not be used as a singular source for the creation of international law

That is a very quick overview of the main sources of international law

For the rest of the class, we will look at customary international law and treaties in more detail

Please turn to page 2 of the handout

That is the end of the listening test

In the IELTS test, you will now have 10 minutes to transfer your answers to the answer sheet

Test 2 You will hear a number of different recordings and you will have to answer questions on what you hear
There will be time for you to read the instructions and questions and you will have a chance to check your work

All the recordings will be played once only

The test is in four parts

At the end of the test, you will be given ten minutes to transfer your answers to an answer sheet

Now turn to part 1

Part 1 You will hear a conversation between two students

First, you have some time to look at questions 1 to 6

Now listen carefully and answer questions 1 to 6

Hi, Carla

Have you made any progress with planning the History Club summer trip

Oh, hello, Ned

Yes, I think I have

I've compared a number of options

All of them, um, are related to our club goals

I follow you

Educational, informative, but also fun, I hope

Of course

Like I said, I've considered a number of tours and packages

But the one that really sticks out is York

York. Up north

When there's so much history right here in London

Yes, that's right

I think that's one problem with the club

We spend too much time researching or travelling to places that are within only a few kilometres of the city

I'd like us to stretch our wings, so to speak, to see more of Britain

Well, yes, you could be right

So, York, then

Tell me more

Like I said, it'd be a nice change from London, and it's got so much, well, it's so rich in culture

Oh, you're absolutely right

The Vikings, the Romans, the Normans, they've all had an influence there

So, what are your ideas

To start with, I thought that we'd catch the train

They depart regularly from London

We could go on the 7th of August

Where from

Your tablet reads King's Cross

Yes, that's right

The earliest train departs from there at 4am

Oh, that's too early

Yes, but we could either sleep on the train, or, well, some of us might want to see the sunrise
The journey's a little over three hours, because it includes one change
Yes, that's a thought
But isn't there anything even a little bit later
It's unlikely that most of the club would look forward to getting up so early
They've got another one departing at 6am
It's direct, so it only takes about two hours
I think it'd be far easier to convince the rest of the club to take that one, and we'd still have the rest of the day ahead of us
Let's go with it
Plus it's only £148 return
OK, good
So we'd arrive there at about 8 o'clock
When we get there, we'd stroll about on our own, I suppose
No, here's the thing
They've got some really great walking tours that we could go on
The one I had in mind starts at 9am
Ah, so I imagine they'd take us to a lot of historic sites
That's right
Take a look at this one
Yorkminster, St Mary's Abbey, Clifford's Tower, and much more
Is that... I mean, how long is the tour
Believe it or not, it's only three hours
And look at the online customer reviews
I see they average 4
5 stars out of 5
It seems most people who take it are very satisfied
Does this tour include lunch
No, but there's a comfort break at around 10:30
We could get something to eat then
I like the sound of that
Oh, I almost forgot to ask
How much is it
It's £17 per person
Any group bookings
No, not that I see anywhere on the website
I believe we'd finish the walking tour around noon
Then what
Do we then come home after that
No, we'd continue on
I thought that we'd take a hop-on, hop-off bus tour
Hmm, that does seem appealing

Lots of flexibility there

What could we see on that

Peaseholme Green, Exhibition Square, and York Museum Gardens, among others

But hold on, how much is it

The pass is only £13 and valid for 24 hours

This one's got group bookings available, so we'd pay even less

Before you hear the rest of the conversation, you have some time to look at questions 7 to 10

Now listen and answer questions 7 to 10

Let's try to see as much as possible before sunset

Let's try to see as much as possible before sunset

And, well, if we're up there late, why not stay the night

That's exactly what I was thinking

I've been looking into accommodation as well

Anything good

Here are a few hotels

They average around £70 per night

Like this one, the Cloud Brook

Oh, well, we already have spent so much money by that time

Isn't there anything cheaper

There are always the hostels

Here's one, for example, the York Wonder

It's located in Stonegate

Stonegate

Never been there

No, Stonegate

One word, not two

As in s-t-o-n-e-g-a-t-e

Oh, I understand

Come to think of it, a friend of mine stayed there last year and it's only £18 per night and even includes a few special amenities

That's right

And the latest one is free continental breakfast every morning in the lounge area

But it seems that Wi-Fi is an extra £2 a day per person

But it's free in the communal areas and that's all we'd need

I say we go with it

OK, I agree

I'm sort of excited already

That is the end of part one

You now have half a minute to check your answers

Thanks for watching!

Now turn to part two

Part two

You will hear an organizer introducing a community fun run

First, you have some time to look at questions 11 to 16

Now listen carefully and answer questions 11 to 16

Good morning everyone and welcome to this special edition of the Far Out Fun Run

This is our 50th anniversary and to celebrate we now offer 10 kilometer, half marathon and full marathon distances

The other big difference you will notice is the color coding we have introduced for different skill levels and ages of everyone taking part

This has been introduced so that everybody can be sure they're in the right place when we give the race directions

Speaking of which, let me tell you where the meeting areas are for your group

We'll start with our average runners taking part to enjoy the atmosphere and the experience who will happily run with the rest of the pack

You have the white number tags and will meet in the main car park

Next up, we have those who are taking part for the first time, who will be wearing blue tags

Please go to the blue tent near the starting line

Next up, we have our veterans wearing gold, some of whom have amazingly competed in every single event we have held

You know the layout better than anyone else, so please just go straight to the starting line

A new group has joined us this year, which we are all very excited about, the greyhounds

It shows how this event has grown over the years because this is the first year that these professional runners will be taking part

They will be wearing grey, so have a good look at them before they zoom off

They are accompanied by professional pace setters to help them run to their full potential

Both groups please go to the sponsors tent near the main car park

Next up, wearing orange tags are our families

It's lovely to see families coming together to enjoy events like this

We've cleared a big space for you in the community centre main hall, so please make yourselves at home there

Last but not least are our under 18 runners, who this year range from our youngest runner to date at only 5 years old, right up to a young lad who is celebrating his 18th birthday with us today

Happy birthday Tom! That group will be wearing green, and we'd like you to go to the gym next to the main hall

There's also one special group, which is our great team of helpers

They're not getting paid and not taking part in the race, hence they will only wear race vests, not numbers

Not only will they be manning some of the aid stations on the course, but they will also be out and about during the race in case any runners need help

They'll be meeting in the food court, so please give them your support

I hope all that makes sense, because now I'd like to move on and give some information about the race itself and the courses

If any runners have any questions, please come to information in the lobby

Before you hear the rest of the talk, you have some time to look at questions 17 to 20

Now listen and answer questions 17 to 20

Now listen and answer questions 17 to 20

The races will start in reverse order, meaning the people running the marathon distances will start first and the people running the 10km race will start last

We have a record turnout this year, so hopefully that will help with congestion on the courses

Also, we've extended the festivities a little more this year due to the expansion of the event

The general market and other attractions will be open all day, then later on we will have the medal ceremonies and the after-race party

Another reason is logistics

Due to the record turnout this year, the starting times will hopefully mean that people watching can support the runners but not get mixed up with them

Please don't enter the start and finish area unless you're running

Thank you

Now a word or two about the courses and races themselves

As you know, this event started off as a fun run, meaning there were no rules

We were all here to enjoy the beautiful countryside and get a bit of exercise

The new distances introduced this year mean that we have had to change things up a little

For the 10km and half marathon, there are no cut-off limits, meaning you can take your time and don't have to worry about being told to stop

Anyone running a full marathon will be subject to time limits

This is to ensure your own safety

For marathoners, you must pass the checkpoints at the times agreed in your applications

Professional athletes also must ensure that their paces do not interfere with other runners

Not only are the time limits there for your welfare, but also so that everyone can enjoy the party later

You've also been given electronic tags to record your times and to allow us to monitor your progress

Good luck! That is the end of part 2

You now have half a minute to check your answers

Thanks for watching!

Now turn to part three

Part three

You will hear a conversation between two students, Steve and Mary, about a report on education

First you have some time to look at questions 21 to 25

Now listen carefully and answer questions 21 to 25

Hi Steve

Are you OK

You look worried

Hi Mary

Actually I am

Ah, now I remember

You told me last week that your report was due in a few weeks and you didn't know what to write about

Are you still worried about it

Yeah, but I've decided on the subject

I want to write about educational theories

I've done the research, but I just don't know how to start

Need any help

Yes, that would be great

Thank you

Well, you want to write about educational theories, right

Why did you choose that topic

That's easy

When I was a child, I met some really great teachers, kind and thoughtful

I always adored teachers and now I want to be one

So I'd like to learn more about different theories of education

What do you mean

I think you should be a bit more specific, like which theories you like the best and why

Actually, I've been researching the people behind the theories that have inspired me

I've narrowed it down to three people, Maria Montessori, Jean Piaget and John Dewey

OK, so I think it would be a good idea to write about why you chose them and why you like their theories of education

Well, I started with Maria Montessori

I really admire her

She started in Italy and now her method is used all over the world, which I think is very impressive

What's more, she didn't just propose an educational theory, but she created a complete method and put it into practice

That sounds great

So is that the reason you chose her as the subject

Well, that's part of the reason, but the biggest thing is that she's the one who inspired me the most

The way she lived is quite interesting

Why do you think so

I don't know if you know much about Maria Montessori, but at the time she started her studies, women

weren't really expected to have the kind of career she made for herself

For example, she started by studying engineering, which was only open to men at the time

I didn't know she was an engineer

Actually, she quit engineering to study medicine and then went into education, especially education related to children with disabilities

That's another reason I respect her, because she believed that children with disabilities should be given the same chances as other children, and she made an effort to realise that

That's interesting, but it doesn't really say much about her method

That's true, but it led to her seeing that children could act independently and that they had a natural desire to learn, and the Montessori method stresses that

She treated children as individuals, and that's important

I think we should see students as individuals with different needs and learning styles, and not just see a group of students as all the same

I think we can apply her theory to all students, not just children

That's the kind of thing you should put in your report, why the educational theory and the person behind it is important to you

Before you hear the rest of the conversation, you have some time to look at questions 26 to 30

Now listen and answer questions 26 to 30

So, what about the others

There are two more people, right

Yes

I don't think anybody can study education and not mention Jean Piaget

He said that education was the only thing to save society, and I agree

That sounds a bit strong

I don't think so

Many people think that education is just the things you learn at school, but education is about learning everything

He showed that there are stages to education, right from when we are babies, right through to us becoming adults

Like him, I think education is a lifelong pursuit

It includes learning how to interact with other people, how to behave properly, and how to be healthy and happy

The academic part of education is just one element of learning

If you can explain that in your report like you've just explained it to me, I think it will be good

Some of these theories sound difficult, but that was easy to understand

Well, what I've just given you is a very basic definition

The idea goes a lot further than that, but maybe I should try to keep it simple and focus on the importance of this theory to me, like you said

That would certainly be easier to understand

Who is the other person

John Dewey

His ideas were similar to Maria Montessori's and Jean Piaget's in many ways, which is why I like his theories

He also stressed how important education is, and he believed that schools are important for society, and also saw children as individuals whose needs and talents should be addressed

I like John Dewey because, like Maria Montessori, he saw experience and social interaction as being as important as academic learning

I really agree

We need to show children and all students that education isn't just about following a textbook

You sound pretty passionate about it, which is really good

I didn't know you were so interested in children's education, though

To be honest, neither did I until I started studying for this, but I think it's really important to give children a complete education so that they can succeed later in life

I agree

I think the passion you have for this is wonderful

If you write about the things you've told me and the reasons you think they are important, it will be a great report

That is the end of Part 3

You now have half a minute to check your answers

Thank you

Now turn to part 4

Part 4

You will hear the first lecture from a course on moral relativism

First, you have some time to look at questions 31 to 40

Now listen carefully and answer questions 31 to 40

Good morning everyone and welcome to this seminar on moral relativism

First of all, let's start by offering a quick definition of what we are going to be looking at

As you should be aware, morality relates to what people believe to be right or wrong

Many definitions of moral norms have been offered through the ages and this seminar does not attempt to address all of them

Moral relativism looks at what may be judged to be right or wrong in any given case and can differ depending on the particular circumstances and the judgment of the participants or observers

For moral relativists, therefore, no particular moral standpoint will ever claim the unique privilege of being perfectly true or false

As I've already said, it depends on many factors

So let's look at some of the major theories

To keep things relatively simple for this seminar, we are going to look at three major schools of thought regarding moral relativism

Descriptive moral relativism, meta-ethical moral relativism and normative moral relativism

In doing so, I will briefly explain the basic thoughts behind each, although we don't have time to explore the intricacies of them all

Descriptive moral relativism is also known as cultural relativism, which goes some way to explaining its basis

The idea is that morals are dictated by culture, meaning it can also be related to anthropology and the work of anthropologists

In its strongest form, it suggests that no moral norms are universal, meaning each distinct culture has distinct morals

Empirical evidence would suggest otherwise

For example, every culture would need to care for its youngest members for the society to survive

Weaker versions of descriptive moral relativism therefore suggest that, while some cultures have the same moral ideals in common, others don't

Indeed, we can see honesty and respect present in almost every culture, although the treatment of men, women and minorities can differ greatly

To sum it up in one simple sentence, descriptive moral relativism suggests that different cultures have different moral standards

Meta-ethical moral relativism seeks to explore the actual nature of ethics

As such, it does not seek to determine whether or not something is right or wrong

Rather, it looks at what it actually means to call any action or thought inherently right or wrong

Under this line of reasoning, there is no agreed-upon standard of correctness, as the fundamental question of what correctness means needs to be answered

Meta-ethical moral relativism suggests that there is no reason to prefer the moral values of one culture over another

The moral choices under this system would depend solely on the unique beliefs, practices and customs of each society, none of which is objectively superior

Again, to summarize in a sentence, there is no single, comprehensively justified moral system which arguably may be true

Nevertheless, as with descriptive moral relativism, we can see some things that seem to be considered universally bad, such as murder, or good, such as honesty

However, this is straying into moral universalist territory, which we will cover later

The final school of thought we will look at today is normative moral relativism, which argues that it is morally wrong to judge the moral practices of different cultural groups

Under this system, therefore, we should be tolerant of different moral norms

On the surface, it appears to be relatively straightforward in accepting that people have different moral norms

Making moral judgments on these differences could disturb peaceful relations and also be very arrogant

In fact, it is historically linked with colonial Europeans who believed they were morally superior to the people they colonized

However, there is a great deal of disagreement regarding this position

For example, just because cannibalism is acceptable in a certain culture, it doesn't follow that other cultures have to accept it as legitimate or cannot condemn it

That's a brief look at some of the theories, so let's have a look at how moral relativism works in practice

Some of you may already know the trolley problem, but for those of you who don't, don't worry as we will revisit it throughout the course

The basic premise is that there is a runaway trolley on a rail track heading towards three people who are tied to the track and we are watching these events unfold

The three people will certainly die if nothing is done

From here, we can change the circumstances to see if our moral judgments change relative to the new information

Let's start by adding that we suddenly notice a lever nearby that would change the direction of the trolley and save the three people

Should we pull the lever and save the people

I would hope that most people would answer with an emphatic yes

The morally right thing to do in these new circumstances is to pull the lever and save three lives

So let's change the circumstances a little more

What if the three people are prisoners who had escaped and will surely commit some crimes again given the chance

Would you still pull the lever

You can also think about various other cases of this problem and you can even think about similar cases without trolleys

For example, if there is a healthy person whose organs could save five patients who are seriously ill, would a doctor be allowed to kill that person

Already many of us would be facing a moral dilemma which shows that morality is relative

That is only the beginning of the classic trolley problem as other scenarios are designed to further test one's moral reasoning

As I have mentioned, we will be examining the problem in more depth later on in the course

That's a short explanation of some of the major theories

So now let's have a look at some of the people behind each of them

That is the end of part four

You now have half a minute to check your answers

That is the end of the listening test

In the IELTS test, you will now have ten minutes to answer the following questions

Which of the following is true

Which of the following is false

Which of the following is true

Which of the following is true

Which of the following is false

Which of the following is true

In the IELTS test, you will now have ten minutes to transfer your answers to the answer sheet