

大学英语学习指导与能力训练答案

Chapter One Listening

Practice One

Section A

News reports

1-7 CC AD BAC

Section B

Long Conversations

BACD ADCB

Section C

Passages

DAD DBCA BAD

Practice Two

Section A

News reports

1-7 CB BC ABD

Section B

Long Conversations

BCDC BDAD

Section C

Passages

DDB DCAC CBD

Practice Three

Section A

News reports

1-7 CA BD CBA

Section B

Long Conversations

CBCA ACCD

Section C

Passages

CAB ADCB ABD

Practice Four

Section A

News reports

1-7 CA AB CDB

Section B

Long Conversations

CBA D ADDB

Section C

Passages

ACDD ABC CBC

Practice Five

Section A

News reports

1-7 BC CB BCC

Section B

Long Conversations

CABD CDCA

Section C

Passages

CBA ACDB CBC

Practice Six

Section A

News reports

1-7 BA BC BAC

Section B

Long Conversations

CABD ABC

Section C

Passages

DBC CDB DAB

Practice Seven

Section A

News reports

1-7 CA AB BCA

Section B

Long Conversations

ABAB BDA

Section C

Passages

BBAB CBC CABD

Practice Eight

Section A

News reports

1-7 CC AC ABC

Section B

Long Conversations

DABB ADB

Section C

Passages

DCD BDC BCA

Practice Nine

Section A

News reports

1-7 BC AD BDA

Section B

Long Conversations

BCD BDDC

Section C

Passages

DDCC CBCB DAA

Practice Ten

Section A

News reports

1-7 BC DA ACD

Section B

Long Conversations

CCDA DBC

Section C

Passages

BCA CAB CDAB

Practice Eleven

Section A

News reports

1-7 BD CD BDA

Section B

Long Conversations

ABBC DBAC

Section C

Passages

ADBB DCC BDA

Practice Twelve

Section A

News reports

1-7 CD DB CDB

Section B

Long Conversations

BCBC CDA

Section C

Passages

CDA DCDC DBA

Practice Thirteen

Section A

News reports

1-7 BC AA DAC

Section B

Long Conversations

DBD DDBB

Section C

Passages

CBCB CAD CBBD

Practice Fourteen

Section A

News reports

1-7 BB AB DCA

Section B

Long Conversations

BDC ADBC

Section C

Passages

ACAB CCA CAB

Practice Fifteen

Section A

News reports

1-7 BC AC BAD

Section B

Long Conversations

CAB ACBD

Section C

Passages

BBA BADB CABB

Chapter Two Reading

Practice one

Section A

Passage One: 1. A 2. C 3. A 4. C 5. B

Passage Two: 1. D 2. C 3. A 4. B 5. D

Passage Three: 1. A 2. C 3. B 4. D 5. C

Section B

1. K 2. A 3. G 4. I 5. B 6. D 7. E 8. H 9. F 10. J

Section C

1. They want personal freedom.
2. Health and safety.
3. More care.
4. Whether age is happy or unpleasant.
5. Doubtful.

Practice Two

Section A

Passage One: 1. C 2. B 3. A 4. B 5. D

Passage Two: 1. A 2. C 3. B 4. A 5. C

Passage Three: 1. D 2. A 3. A 4. D 5. B

Section B

1. C 2. D 3. A 4. E 5. B 6. H 7. F 8. G 9. I 10. G

Section C

1. exposing the food to sun and wind
2. When water is removed
3. to increase the rate of drying/make them drier
4. hot-air chambers
5. they just replace the dried-out moisture with boiling water

Practice Three

Section A

Passage One: 1. B 2. C 3. D 4. D 5. C

Passage Two: 1. A 2. D 3. C 4. B 5. A

Passage Three: 1. C 2. B 3. D 4. C 5. D

Section B

1. E 2. C 3. G 4. A 5. D 6. B 7. F 8. I 9. F 10. H

Section C

1. goods, services
2. natural resources, its natural resources
3. develop its natural resources (peacefully and steadily)
4. is abundant in natural resources
5. it can be invested for further development

Practice Four

Section A

Passage One: 1. C 2. A 3. B 4. D 5. B

Passage Two: 1. C 2. B 3. A 4. A 5. D

Passage Three: 1. B 2. B 3. A 4. D 5. B

Section B

1.D 2. E 3.D 4.I 5.A 6. B 7. F 8. H 9. G 10. C

Section C

1. hitchhiking
2. It is popular in some parts of the world.
3. It presents a danger/ it is dangerous.
4. being rewarded with various prizes
5. promoting mutual respect between strangers/protecting the environment
/enriching one's knowledge.

Practice Five

Section A

Passage One: 1. D 2. B 3. D 4. A 5. C

Passage Two: 1. B 2. B 3. B 4. C 5. D

Passage Three: 1. A 2. C 3. A 4. D 5. A

Section B

1.G 2. A 3. B 4. F 5. D 6.H 7.I 8.E 9.C 10.D

Section C

1. the brilliance of Brin and L. Page.
2. The academic project
3. By word of mouth
4. meet their price
5. advertising

Practice Six

Section A

Passage One: 1. B 2. C 3. B 4. D 5. D

Passage Two: 1. B 2. A 3. C 4. D 5. A

Passage Three: 1. B 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A

Section B

1.D 2.A 3.I 4.B 5.C 6.H 7.E 8.G 9.I 10. F

Section C

1. sad
2. be in the home
3. the reasons for students' sadness
4. they are not needed
5. to go to college

Practice Seven

Section A

Passage One: 1. A 2. B 3. D 4. B 5. D

Passage Two: 1. A 2. D 3. B 4. A 5. B

Passage Three: 1. D 2. C 3. C 4. B 5. A

Section B

1. C 2. A 3. D 4. B 5. F 6. D 7. H 8. E 9. G 10. I

Section C

1. friendly; programmed to behave in a pleasant manner
2. suggestions, information, and opinions; topic
3. gradual/subtle
4. It would make the user irritated.
5. After experiencing a lot of powerful, well-timed friendship indicators
6. respond to the personality of the user

Practice Eight

Section A

Passage One: 1. A 2. C 3. B 4. A 5. D

Passage Two: 1. D 2. B 3. C 4. B 5. D

Passage Three: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. C

Section B

1. C 2. A 3. B 4. D 5. F 6. C 7. E 8. H 9. I 10. G

Section C

1. rejoining with our ex-lovers; freeing criminals from prisons; returning to old jobs
2. the negative ego
3. the willingness to forget; the ability to forget
4. the desire to live with peace of mind
5. repress the anger
6. gradual; instantaneous

Practice Nine

Section A

Passage One: 1. B 2. D 3. C 4. A 5. B

Passage Two: 1. D 2. B 3. C 4. B 5. A

Passage Three: 1. B 2. A 3. C 4. D 5. C

Section B

1. H 2. E 3. C 4. I 5. C 6. G 7. D 8. A 9. F 10. B

Section C

1. Clean technologies like wind and solar.
2. capture and storage of CO₂
3. put it to new use
4. increase their yield of fruits and vegetables
5. the scale of CO₂ emissions

Practice Ten

Section A

Passage One: 1. B 2. D 3. B 4. D 5. C

Passage Two: 1. B 2. A 3. C 4. A 5. D

Passage Three: 1. B 2. B 3. B 4. A 5. C

Section B

1. G 2. D 3. H 4. C 5. A 6. C 7. D 8. I 9. C 10. F

Section C

1. appearance, function and the way of being used
2. work well and give pleasure
3. the curved handle can get too hot to touch
4. it is too complicated
5. are quicker and cheaper

Chapter Three Integrated Training

Practice One

Section A

1.D 2.B 3.C 4.A 5.B 6.C 7.D 8.A 9.B 10.C 11.D 12.A 13.B
14.C 15.A 16.D 17.A 18.B 19.C 20.A

Section B

1. common-----uncommon
2. and-----or
3. however----hence
4. another-----the other
5. its----their
6. a-----an
7. since-----when
8. same-----the same
- 9.necessry-----necessarily
10. of---in

Section C

Passage One 1. I 2. B 3. D 4. E 5. A 6. J 7. H 8. O 9. G 10. M

Passage Two 1. F 2. L 3. A 4. J 5. C 6. O 7. H 8. M 9. I 10. D

Section D

Passage 1.

As the art of writing Chinese characters, Chinese calligraphy, is boasting as long a history as that of China itself. It is one of the highest forms of Chinese art, serving the purpose of conveying thoughts as well as showing the beauty of lines. Calligraphy is one of the four basic skills and disciplines of the Chinese literati, together with painting (huà 画), board games (qí 棋) and stringed musical instruments (qín 琴). However, rhythm, lines, and structure are more perfectly embodied in calligraphy than in the other three skills. Calligraphy has traditionally been regarded as China's highest form of visual art --- to the point that a person's character was judged by the

elegance of their handwriting.

Passage 2.

The Lion Dance is one of the most widespread folk dances in China. The lion is the king of animals. In Chinese tradition, the lion is regarded as a mascot, which can bring good luck. Ancient people regarded the lion as a symbol of braveness and strength, which could drive away evil and protect humans. The dance has a recorded history of more than 2,000 years. During the Tang Dynasty, the Lion Dance was already introduced into the royal family of the dynasty. Therefore, performing the lion dance at the Lantern Festival and other festive occasions has become a custom where people could pray for good luck, safety and happiness.

Passage 3.

China should further develop nuclear energy, because nuclear power currently accounts for only 2% of the total generating capacity. The proportion is in 30th among all nuclear-capable countries, which is almost the lowest.

In March 2011, after the accident of Japanese nuclear power station, China stopped its nuclear energy development, with approvals for new nuclear power plants suspended. National nuclear safety inspection was carried out. Examination and Approval has been restored carefully by October, 2012.

With the improvement of technology and safety measures, the possibility of nuclear accidents can be dropped to a minimum extent. In other words, the nuclear energy can be exploited and utilized safely.

Practice Two

Section A 1.a 2.b 3.d 4.c 5.a 6.c 7.d 8.b 9.b 10.a 11.c 12.b 13.d
14.b 15.d 16.a 17.c 18.b 19.c 20.d

Section B

1. planting-----planted
2. being-----been
3. were-----was
4. or-----nor
5. hardly-----hard
6. smarter-----smartest
7. so-----but
8. saying -----say
9. cannot-----can
10. so-----as

Section C

Passage One 1. C 2. G 3. A 4. O 5. N 6. D 7. J 8. L 9. E 10. I

Passage Two 1. F 2. J 3. A 4. M 5. N 6. H 7. L 8. G 9. D 10. B

Section D

Passage 1.

In order to promote equality in education, China has invested 36 billion Yuan to improve educational facilities in rural areas and strengthen rural compulsory education in Midwest areas. These funds will be used to improve teaching facilities and purchase books, benefiting more than 160,000 primary and secondary schools. Funds will also be used to purchase musical instrument and painting tools. Now children in rural and mountainous areas can have music and painting lessons as children from coastal cities do. Some students who have transferred to city schools to receive a better education are now moving back to their local rural schools.

Passage 2.

The traditional Chinese Lantern Festival falls on the 15th day of the 1st lunar month, just after the Spring Festival. This day's important activity is watching lanterns. When emperor Ming ruled in the East Han Dynasty, Buddhism flourished in China. Emperor Ming heard that Buddhist monks would watch sarira, or remains from the cremation of Buddha's body, and lighting lanterns to worship Buddha on the 15th day of the 1st lunar month, so he ordered to light lanterns in the imperial palace and temples to show respect to Buddha on this day. He also ordered the nobles and the common people to light lanterns. Later, the Buddhist rite developed into a grand festival among common people and its influence expanded from the Central Plains to the whole of China.

Passage 3.

A large part of Chinese culture revolves around food. This holds true for daily greetings ("Have you eaten?"), ritual banquets at festivals, large or small, and special dishes for any occasion, happy or sad. Chinese culinary practices were elevated to an art form long before some other civilizations even started using fire. Food for the Chinese is both maintenance and celebration. It is not just food, even every bite and every sip is beneficial to the body, maintaining a delicate yin-and-yang balance.

Practice Three

Section

1.b 2.c 3.d 4.a 5.c 6.a 7.b 8.a 9.b 10.a 11.d 12.a 13.c 14.a
15.d 16.d 17.b 18.a 19.b 20.c

Section B

1. amount-----number
2. except----expect
3. it-----/
4. that-----what
5. able----unable
6. to read-----reading
7. the-----a
8. preface----prefaces
9. its---it
10. example----rule

Section C

Passage One

1. M 2. L 3. E 4. A 5. B 6. N 7. I 8. J 9. G 10. H

Passage Two

1. F 2. K 3. A 4. L 5. C 6. O 7. D 8. J 9. H 10. M

Section D

Passage 1.

Till today, the custom of lighting lanterns is still held each year around the country. Lanterns of various shapes and sizes are hung in the streets. Children will hold self-made or bought lanterns to stroll with on the streets, extremely excited. Guessing lantern riddles is an essential part of the Festival. Lantern owners write riddles on a piece of paper and post them on the lanterns and hang the lantern at the door. If visitors have the right solutions to the riddles, they will get a little gift. The activity first emerged in the Song Dynasty. As riddle guessing is interesting and full of wisdom, it has become popular among all social strata.

Passage 2.

In Weifang, Shandong, kites are not only for entertainment. It also symbolizes the culture of the city. Weifang is known as the “capital of kites” with a history of nearly 2,400 years in flying kites. It is said that the ancient Chinese philosopher Motze took three years to make the first kite right in Weifang. It fell and broke, however, on its first day of flying. Some also believe that it was the carpenter LuBan that first invented the kite. It’s said that his kite was made of wood and bamboo and it landed after three days’ flying.

Passage 3.

For centuries, the picturesque West Lake in Hangzhou has attracted scholars, artists, lovers and tourists. Now it has gained worldwide attention as one of the five sites newly added to UNESCO’s World Heritage List. Regarded by many Chinese people as one of the country’s most beautiful natural attractions, the 3322-hectare site in the capital of Zhejiang province features numerous temples, pagodas, pavilions, gardens and ornamental trees, as well as causeways and artificial islands. The beauty of West Lake lies not only in its water, its mountains, but also in the art, the culture that is created around it.

Practice Four

Section A 1.c 2.b 3.a 4.c 5.d 6.a 7.b 8.c 9.d 10.b 11.c 12.b
 13.a 14.d 15.a 16.c 17.a 18.d 19.b 20.d

Section B

1. to continue---continue
2. anything-----nothing
3. them----it
4. less----more
5. admiting----admitting

6. at ---- in
7. do---doing
8. to talk-----talking
9. about-----from
10. Thus----As

Section C

Passage One 1. B 2. O 3. H 4. E 5. J 6. C 7. K 8. N 9. L 10. F

Passage Two 1. D 2. B 3. K 4. N 5. C 6. I 7. F 8. O 9. L 10. G

Section D

Passage 1.

Chinese gardens have a long history. As early as 1,500 BC, there were special places for emperors and nobles to hunt and entertain themselves, in which there were plants and trees, flowers and birds, mountains and waters, and pavilions. Chinese traditional gardens were basically built by royalty and nobles and were used for leisure and entertainment. Gardens by the royalty are called royal gardens. And the ones built by general nobles are called private gardens. The Summer Palace, located in Beijing, is the representative of royal gardens. Because it is the royal garden, the Summer Palace shows its royal luxurious style everywhere.

Passage 2.

It is reported that this year China's courier service will deliver about 12 billion packages. This might make China overtake the United States as the world's largest express delivery market. Most of the parcels are full of items ordered online. China provides opportunities to millions of online retailers to sell goods at very competitive prices. Only on November 11th, Chinese consumers buy \$9 billion worth of goods on the largest shopping platform. China has so many special shopping days, so it's no wonder that courier service can be expanded in China.

Passage 3.

The Mid-Autumn Festival falls on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month. The festival has a long history. In ancient China, emperors followed the rite of offering sacrifices to the sun in spring and to the moon in autumn. Historical books of the Zhou Dynasty had had the word "Mid-Autumn". Later aristocrats and literary figures followed and enjoyed the full, bright moon on that day, worshipped it and expressed their thoughts and feelings under it. Thus this ceremony was soon expanded to common people. By the Tang Dynasty, the Mid-Autumn Festival had been fixed, which became even grander in the Song Dynasty. In the Ming and Qing dynasties, it grew to be a major festival of China.

Practice Five

Section A

1.b 2.d 3.c 4.a 5.b 6.a 7.a 8.c 9.d 10.a 11.a 12.d 13.c 14.b
15.a 16.a 17.b 18.c 19.d 20.a

Section B

1.of 去掉

2. rises 改 raises
3. question 后加 that
4. into 改 with , clash with
5. appeal 后面加 to, appeal to
6. reigned 改 reigning
7. faced 改 faces
8. term 改 terms
9. Those 改 That ,
10. Google 改为 A9,

Section C

Passage One 1. D 2. O 3. A 4. F 5. M 6. B 7. E 8. G 9. I 10. K

Passage Two 1. E 2. L 3. O 4. G 5. B 6. F 7. I 8. J 9. M 10. C

Section D

Passage 1.

The Chinese knot originated from the ancient times. It is also known as “woven knot” with each knot woven with one single red rope. As there were no Chinese characters, people made different knots on a rope to remember things. And this was called “keeping records by tying knots”. While helping people remember or record important things in life or production, the knots were also used by young people to express love. As an artistic decoration, the Chinese knot is simple and auspicious. It emits strong national and rural flavor. With graceful appearance, the Chinese knot carries the mystery of the ancient times and presents the wisdom of Chinese people. As a result, the Chinese knots are now used by people during festivities, who hang them in the room or give them to each other as gifts. The beautiful shape and ancient style jointly generate the lucky and auspicious festive air.

Passage 2.

Panda is a kind of docile animal, with unique black and white fur. Because of its scarcity, panda has been listed as the endangered species. Panda has been playing a special role in World Wildlife Fund. Panda has been the logo of World Wildlife Fund since it was founded in 1961. It is the rarest in bear species, living mainly in the forest of the South-east of China. Up to now there are about 1000 pandas all over the world. These animals whose food is mainly bamboo are under serious threats. Thus, the survival of panda is much more important than ever before.

Passage 3.

Chinese New Year is the most important traditional Chinese holiday. In China, it is also known as the Spring Festival. New Year celebrations run from Chinese New Year’s Eve, the last day of the last month of the lunar calendar, to the Lantern Festival on 15th day of the first month. Customs and traditions concerning the celebration of the Chinese New Year vary widely from place to place. However, New Year’s Eve is usually an occasion for Chinese families to gather for the annual reunion dinner. It is also traditional for every family to thoroughly clean the house in order to sweep away ill fortune and to bring in good luck. And doors will be decorated with red couplets

with themes of health, wealth and good luck. Other activities include lighting firecrackers, giving money in red envelopes, and visiting relatives and friends.

Practice Six

Section A 1. B 2. D 3. A 4. B 5. C 6. C 7. D 8. A 9. D 10. B 11. C
12. C 13. D 14. B 15. D 16. B 17. A 18. C 19. C 20. B

Section B

1. introducing--- introduced
2. great --- small
3. was---is
4. as 后面的 if 去掉
5. was 后面加 a
6. with---by
7. been---be
8. it---them
9. requested---required
10. what---that

Section C

Passage One 1. N 2. B 3. D 4. O 5. C 6. F 7. L 8. H 9. K 10. I

Passage Two 1. D 2. I 3. B 4. L 5. C 6. N 7. J 8. F 9. G 10. M

Section D

Passage 1.

The Great Wall is one of the wonders of the world created by human beings. If you come to China without climbing the Great Wall, it's just like going to Paris without visiting the Eiffel Tower; or going to Egypt without visiting the Pyramids. People often say, "He who does not reach the Great Wall is not a true man." In fact, it began as independent walls for different states when it was first built, and did not become the "Great Wall" until the Qin Dynasty. However, the wall we see today, starting from Shanhaiguan Pass in the east to Jiayunguan Pass in the west, was mostly built during the Ming Dynasty.

Passage 2.

The Chinese way of eating with chopsticks is unique in the world. The recorded history of chopsticks started more than three thousand years ago. Chopsticks were named *zhu* in ancient China. They look deceptively simple to use, but possess various functions, such as clamping, turning over, lifting up, raking, stirring, scooping, poking, tearing, and so on. Chopsticks were taken as an auspicious mascot by ordinary people in ancient China. For example, chopsticks are often used by people as a metaphor at weddings to indicate a blessing for the couple to have a baby soon. Unlike using a knife and fork or one's own hands, a pair of chopsticks also implies the meaning of "Harmony is what matters". Chopsticks are highly praised by Westerners as a hallmark of ancient civilization.

Passage 3.

More and more Chinese young people are g e t t i n g interested in t r a v e l i n g , which is a new trend recently. The rising number of young tourists can be attributed to their rapidly increasing income and the curiosity of exploring the outside world. With more travel, young people spend less time in big cities and famous scenic spots. Instead, they are more attracted by remote areas. Some even choose long-distance backpacking trip. A recent survey shows that t h r o u g h traveling, many young people want to experience different culture s , enrich knowledge and expand their horizon.

Practice Seven

Section A

1. D 2. C 3. B 4. C 5. D 6. A 7. D 8. A 9. B 10. B 11. C 12. B 13. A
14. C 15. A 16. B 17. C 18. A 19. C 20. C

Section B

1. had---has
2. directly---indirectly
3. into---on
4. too---so
5. planet---planets
6. head---mind
7. little--- much
8. consider--- considering
9. they---/
10. arriving---arriving at/reaching

Section C

Passage One 1. J 2. N 3. A 4. E 5. B 6. H 7. G 8. K 9. L 10. D
Passage Two 1. F 2. B 3. D 4. H 5. K 6. I 7. O 8. A 9. N 10. M

Section D

Passage 1.

In Chinese culture, yellow is an important color because of its unique symbolic meaning. In feudal society, it symbolizes the rulers' power and authority. At that time, yellow was designed to be used for the emperor—the royal palace was painted yellow and the imperial robe was always yellow too. However, the ordinary people were not allowed to wear yellow clothes. In China, yellow also signifies harvest. The fields grow golden yellow in autumn when the crops mature. People celebrate the harvest cheerfully.

Passage 2.

Paper cutting is one of China's most popular traditional folk arts. Chinese paper cutting has a history of more than 1,500 years. It was widespread particularly during the Ming and Qing Dynasties. People often beautify their homes with paper cuttings. During the Spring Festival and wedding celebrations, in particular, paper cuttings are used to decorate doors, windows and rooms in order to enhance the joyous atmosphere. The color most frequently used in paper cutting is red, which symbolizes health and prosperity. Chinese paper cutting is very popular around the world and it is

often given as a present to foreign friends.

Passage 3.

China is the home country of tea. Before the Tang Dynasty, Chinese tea was exported by land and sea, first to Japan and Korea, then to India and Central Asia and, in the Ming and Qing dynasties, to the Arabian Peninsula. In the early period of the 17th century, Chinese tea was exported to Europe, where the upper class adopted the fashion of drinking tea. Chinese tea—like Chinese silk and china—has become synonymous worldwide with refined culture.

Practice Eight

Section A

1. D 2. A 3. B 4. D 5. A 6. C 7. C 8. C 9. A 10. B 11. A
12. D 13. C 14. D 15. A 16. A 17. A 18. B 19. C 20. C

Section B

1. in---for
2. seventh---seven
3. were--- was
4. now--- then
5. the---/
6. imported---exported
7. are--- were
8. vanished---had vanished
9. better---worse
10. constantly---constant

Section C

Passage One

1. N 2. D 3. M 4. B 5. I 6. L 7. O 8. G 9. F 10. E

Passage Two

1. I 2. B 3. G 4. C 5. M 6. N 7. A 8. E 9. J 10. F

Section D

Passage 1.

In Lhasa, sometimes time seems to stand still. People often seem to be walking at a speed that can hardly be felt. Just like the carefree white clouds in the sky, they comfortably tour the streets and alleyways of Lhasa. Here, you don't need to force yourself to do business, nor worry about stories of partings and reunions. Here, you just need to dedicatedly stay in the moment, forget, and drift about. Here, you don't need to battle with nature; you only need to wait slowly for the arrival of spring. Father Time seems to have treated this land too kindly. He blessed this plateau with much time to "idle away".

Passage 2.

The Yarlung Tsangpo Grand Canyon is more than 500 kilometers long and 2,268

meters deep on average, with the deepest point reaching 6,009 meters and the river running at a top speed of sixteen meters per second. Hence, some people call it a “waterfall on the riverbed”. This world’s deepest and largest canyon in southeast Tibet also accommodates the richest mountainous biodiversity on the globe. Here you can see many rare animals and plants and experience the change of the four seasons within a single day. It could be called “the last wonderland on Earth”.

Passage 3.

The internet community in China is developing at the fastest speed around the world. China has about 420 million netizens in 2010, and the number is still growing quickly. The increasing popularity of internet has produced the major social change. And netizens in China are often different from that of America. American netizens are more driven by practical needs, using the internet to send e-mails, buy and sell goods, plan the journey or pay for the bill. However, Chinese netizens are using internet for the purpose of social contact. Consequently, they are more widely using the QQ and chat-rooms and so on.

Practice Nine

Section A

1-5 CBDBA 6-10 CADBC 11-15 DBCAD 16-20 BACCA

Section B

1. viewing---viewed
2. inaccurate---accurate
3. enjoys---he enjoys
4. up---back
5. evolved---evolving
6. even if---even
7. cooperate---cooperated
8. when---after
9. were---was
10. farming---hunting

Section C

Passage One

1. H 2. A 3. N 4. O 5. D 6. M 7. C 8. G 9. K 10. B

Passage Two

1. O 2. K 3. G 4. J 5. C 6. N 7. M 8. I 9. H 10. D

Section D

Passage 1.

Gardens are the places to provide people with leisure and entertainment. Humble Administrator’s Garden located in Suzhou should be regarded as the representative of private gardens. Humble Administrator’s Garden only covers the area of 4.1 hectares. Though it is small, it is extremely delicate. It comprises eastern, western and central parts with one third of its area being water. Small as it is, compared with the royal gardens, it looks like a beautiful picture when people stand in the garden, viewing it from any angle. The whole garden looks different in different seasons, beautiful and

graceful.

Passage 2.

The phenomenon of holiday economy shows that Chinese people's consumption concept is undertaking great changes. According to statistics, the demands of Chinese consumers are shifting from the basic necessities of life to leisure, comfort and personal development. Chinese consumption concepts are getting mature along with the thriving holiday economy. Therefore, the structure of products should be adjusted accordingly to adapt to social development. On the other hand, services should be improved to satisfy people's demand for an improved quality of life.

Passage 3.

Wuzhen, an ancient water town of Zhejiang province, is located near the Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal. It is a charming place. Many ancient bridges, Chinese style hotels and restaurants dwell there. In the past one thousand years, the water system and the way of life there haven't changed much, so it is a museum of ancient civilizations. All the houses in Wuzhen are made of stone and wood. For hundreds of years, the local people have built houses and markets along the riverbank. Numerous spacious and pretty courtyards hide in those houses, serving as surprises and waiting to be found by the tourists.

Practice Ten

Section A 1-5 DABAB 6-10 DCADC
 11-15 BBAAD 16-20 CBAAC

Section B

1. no---not
2. place---land
3. started---start
4. working---work
5. anyone---everyone
6. but---/
7. before---after
8. But---And
9. it---they
10. house---house as

Section C

Passage One

1. N 2. L 3. H 4. B 5. A 6. J 7. F 8. O 9. E 10. G

Passage Two

1. F 2. B 3. E 4. L 5. K 6. J 7. N 8. A 9. O 10. I

Section D

Passage 1.

Mobile phone addiction has serious consequences. First, like other addictions, it can render the addicts insensitive to the impact of their behavior on others around them. Chinese car, motorcycle, and bicycle drivers are frequently seen driving with

one hand, while talking into a mobile phone held with the other. This practice is extraordinarily dangerous, because utilizing a mobile can distract the driver's attention---long enough to have an accident. Frequent interruption by mobile phone use can disrupt normal thought processes, and particularly those which require calm reflection or consideration. Moreover, additive use of mobile phones can become a replacement in the addict's life for other more important activities---like reading, face-to-face socializing, solving personal problems, serious thinking, etc.

Passage 2.

Shanghai is a dynamic, diverse and stimulating city--- the very epitome of modern China. Though Shanghai cannot rival Beijing in cultural heritage, its varied architectural styles and cosmopolitan feel give it a charm of its own. Today's Shanghai has become a world-famous international metropolis. A walk through this booming city reveals many glimpses of its colorful past. Hidden among the skyscrapers are remains of the original Shanghai. They keep on showing how Shanghai has been developing fast and enormously since its opening as a commercial port in the late 19th century, especially after the founding of new China.

Passage 3.

American people emphasize efficiency, competition and originality while Chinese people give priority to careful planning and encourage close cooperation and unselfish dedication among team members. In American schools, discussion is given top priority while Chinese teachers like to lecture in class and a lot of them are obsessed with examinations. They write consistent and standardized teaching plans, and are happy with bringing up identical and standardized talents. Central to American political, economic and social thought is the concept of individual moral autonomy. Traditional Chinese philosophical systems are based on Confucianism, which sings high praises for communal harmony.

Chapter Four Writing Practice

一. 描写文:

参考范文:

My English Teacher

Our English teacher is a man of medium build, always wearing a pair of gilt-framed spectacles. He looks thin in his loose-fitting suit. Small as his eyes are, they are extremely bright. He looks old for his age, because his hair is all gray.

He is enthusiastic and skillful in teaching his students. He has extensive knowledge. He not only teaches English but also tells us many things about history, geography and literature. His lectures are given in a vivid way. For example, when we take up a new lesson, he introduces the author first, including his biography, his works and main content of those works. In this way we can improve our listening ability quickly, and learn more than the text itself.

His teaching method means more work for us to do in the evenings. For each lecture, he asks several questions from the text for our homework. In order to answer those questions, we must first read the whole text at home. Sometimes it isn't enough to read the whole text at home. Sometimes it isn't enough to read the text only. We have to read other materials concerning those questions. This helps us develop self-reliance.

We learn a lot from our English teacher. We love him very much.

My Hometown

I come from an isolated, mountainous village in Jiangxi province. The village consisted of two parallel streets with old thatched huts on both sides. The villagers were mostly peasants and farmers. They live a slow and simple life. Most teenagers dropped out of school. Barefoot boys water buffaloes and plain-clothed girls did family chores. Pigs, dogs, ducks and chickens wandered casually along dirty streets. A brook, flowing by the village, was paradise for children. In summer, we went swimming and fishing a lot there.

In my recent visit there I found great changes happened. A newly built highway to the nearest town replaced the narrow zigzag stone path. Telephone service is also available. So the village is not isolated from the outside world any more. Mines, saw mills, poultry farms, orchard, a new school and rows of new houses showed up. The villagers are having a colorful life too. In the morning kids go to school in neat clothes; at night, they may watch TV or do homework under electric light.

I enjoyed walking in the evening breeze when the peaceful village and the densely wooded surrounding hills were bathed under the moonlight. However, I found, to my dismay, my beloved brook stinks and the poisonous water kills all fish. How I miss the once beautiful brook with clear water gargling day and night!

Fascinating China

China, one of the cradles of human civilization, possesses so many treasures with Chinese characteristics that numerous foreign friends come to visit her.

The first place to go to is, the Great Wall, which is the symbol of China and one of the seven wonders in the world. What's more, it is said to be the only construction that can be seen from the outer space. In the imperial periods, it was used in defense of the dynasties. Since liberation, it has become a place of interest. There is a famous saying: "He who does not reach the Great Wall isn't a true man."

China is home to Panda, an animal with only two colors, white and black, but very cute. It's our national treasure, often functioning as a friendly diplomat. Terracotta-clay warriors unearthed in Xi'an, a famous ancient city-were sculptured in Qin Dynasty, the first dynasty of China. When former U.S. President Clinton came to China, he visited terracotta's first. The above mentioned are just a wave of the sea. If you want to know more about this ancient nation, come and be our guest.

二. 记叙文 (Narration)

模拟写作练习:

The Happiest Moment in My Life

College life is the happiest period of time in my life.

I went into the college four years ago. Since then I had been enjoying a regular but interesting life. On weekdays I got up early in the morning, went to class during the day and did my assignments in the evening. However, there were all kinds of activities available in my spare time: lectures, shows, football matches or dances. Sometimes I didn't know which one to choose. Life in college was entirely different from any I have known before.

I encountered a brand new world of knowledge at college. The first time I went to the library, I was amazed at the vast number of books stored there. In class the teachers were like magicians leading us to a new world. I felt I was learning bit by bit to become a useful person.

Although I may look the same on the outside when I graduated from the college, something inside have taken place. I am no longer the ignorant girl who first went to college. Four years at college has shaped me into an independent and full grown person.

A Very Special Experience I Have Ever Had

I have always liked to taste special kinds of food in different regions. Many of them are really wonderful. So, on my first day in Hangzhou, I entered a famous

restaurant and ordered a speciality. I did not ask what it was; I thought I would rather surprise myself with a very delicious treat.

In a minute or two, the waitress brought me “fried” fish with a flapping mouth and shining eyes looking at me. It frightened me into cold sweat. Only a savage would enjoy eating a fish alive.

Standing up, I begged the waitress to put the poor fish back into the pool. I quickly paid for it and left. For months the fish haunted me and spoilt my appetite. From the experience I learnt what amazingly different ideas people might have about what was good to eat. That made a very special experience I ever had.

三. 说明文 (Exposition)

How to make Your Resume?

A resume is often the first impression a potential employer has of you and by the way, the first impression is very important.

Take a good look at the various resume formats from books. Think about the type of job you are going to get. List the skills and education related to the job. First, put your list in priority order beginning with the relative experiences. However, if you just graduate, list your education first and highlighting the majors that relate most to the job. Second, use action-oriented words like “responsible for”, “managed,” etc. Avoid too much detail. Details can be covered in your interview. Third, once you have the text of the resume ready, work on the format. You’d better bullet each specific skill. Make sure you have your resume clean, neat and professional. The last, list your contact information on the top of the page.

Once you are comfortable with your resume, print it on good quality paper. Fancy papers are nice, but it’s the content of your resume that matters.

How to Balance Compulsory and Selective Courses?

In view of students’ comprehensive development, most universities offer a wide range of selective courses as the complement to compulsory courses.

However, this well-intentioned design brings about some unexpected problems. One problem to note is that despite the freedom to choose what to learn, students are still required to complete the selective courses with credits, which means they have to put in extra energy and time in order to meet the requirements. This gives rise to a problem of how to strike a balance between compulsory and selective course and many complaints are heard among college students who find it hard to struggle for excellent performance in both selective courses and compulsory courses.

From my point of view, the key to this problem lies in the time management. All that a student needs to do is to make the time distribution between the study of compulsory and selective courses more reasonable. When there is a scientifically-arranged schedule to follow, I believe students will do better when facing the academic challenges, be it compulsory or selective courses.

四. 议论文 (Argumentation)

On the Popularity of Wechat

WeChat provides some basic functions, including various ways of instant messaging, such as text messages, voice messages, walkie talkies and free stickers. Users can also send pictures, videos, name-cards, coupons and lucky money packages to anyone in the contact lists. Besides, WeChat enables group chat, free call, video call, moments sharing and so on. As WeChat supports wifi and 4G network, users can make some free calls or video calls easily by pressing the specified button, which just costs a little. In addition, WeChat holds many other attractive functions. For instance, the user can pay via WeChat. Wechat supports users to register as a public accounts. In China, WeChat public accounts have become a common service or promotion platform for the government, news media and companies. Specific public account subscribers utilize the platforms for different aspects, like hospital preregistration and credit card service, etc.

Combining convenient multi-functions and low cost, WeChat seems to seize the chance to gain great popularity throughout the world. As it keeps the ability of creativity and updates the functions periodically, more and more people are likely to become WeChat users, and that makes the earth becomes a much smaller world.

Volunteer Teaching in the West of China

Every year, college students are inspired to help students with their study in underdeveloped areas in china. They have been trying their best to impart knowledge and offering help to those students who are so eager to learn.

This volunteer practice has been beneficial in two aspects. On one hand, college volunteers are really devoted to the cause. They have opened the eyes of students in underdeveloped regions to the outside world by bringing them new knowledge and thoughts. As a result, they are extremely welcome and respected by the children there. On the other hand, college students have received a rigorous training by adapting to the harsh living conditions. They are learning how to deal with difficulties and face challenges as well. What's more, by any means, this volunteer experience will be always a valuable asset in his or her life.

In my opinion, every Chinese citizen is responsible for the development of education in china. And we college students should take the lead in response to the appeal for offering aid to children in poor areas.

The Safety of Food

Food safety has become a rising concern among Chinese citizens since food additives and poisonous pesticide in foods are frequently reported in recent years. The most notorious case was the tainted milk powder incident several years ago. It's no doubt that food contamination has resulted in not only direct health problems but also harmful problems to economy and social stability because people have lingering fears in a large scale.

Food producers should be firstly blamed for the frequent food safety incidents. In order to sell more products and make more profits, some food producers may take the risk of breaking the law and deliberately add various dangerous chemicals to make their food look or taste better. Another important reason for food contamination may lie in the poor supervision system which leaves chance for some food producers to commit crimes.

In my point of view, to guarantee the food safety, firstly, government should improve the supervision system and pay strict attention to each process of the food production. Secondly, severe punishment should be given to those who break the law of food safety on evil purpose. In this way, the food will conform to the standard and thus become safer for people to have.

On the Practice of Setting off Fireworks

It is well-known to us that setting off fireworks has always been regarded as a very important part of Chinese New Year. However, the convention of setting off fireworks on the festival is confronted with the prohibition from the government, which has aroused heated discussion.

Opinions vary from person to person. Some people think that fireworks should not be banned, as they decorate the dark sky at night and always bring people pleasure and happiness with the colorful light. What's more, the fireworks are often considered the symbol of auspiciousness and people believe they will have a bright future when setting them off during a festival. Others believe that it does more harm than good to set off fireworks because accidents frequently happen and people always get hurt. Also, setting off fireworks will definitely lead to the air pollution which is likely to affect everyone.

There is no doubt that setting off fireworks has its merits as well as drawbacks. The key to solving this problem is to improve the quality of fireworks, which can not only

make sure that it is totally safe to set off fireworks but also cause the least pollution. I do hope that technology will make it true one day.

To Take a Job in a Company or to Go to a Graduate School (A)

Upon graduation, virtually all college students will confront the problem of the career choice, which is truly a tough choice. Students' opinions differ greatly on this issue. Some hold that priority should be given to taking a job, but others take the attitude that going to a graduate school is the most critical factor influencing their future career choices.

As to myself, I prefer the latter view. A higher educational background exerts a tremendous fascination on a great number of people, with no exception to me. This phenomenon that the graduates have difficulties in finding job after their graduation can easily be found anywhere in our daily life, especially on campus. On the one hand, with the improved high education of Chinese college students, there are more and more graduates every year. On the contrary, job vacancies don't increase that fast. There are more people, less food, which is the exact description of the hard condition. On the other hand, an increasing number of people go on to pursue their master and doctor degree; more and more Chinese oversea students come back to China to hunt for better working chances. It is obvious that the competition is more and more fierce.

Therefore, it is high time that we took effective measures to improve our own competitiveness. That is the secret of success in the future employment market after our graduation.

To Take a Job in a Company or to Go to a Graduate School (B)

Job hunting becomes increasingly tough for college graduates, for the larger number of graduates doesn't balance with the limited job opportunities. As a result, more and more graduates choose to further their study. For me, I prefer going to a graduate school to continue my education.

From a personal perspective, further education can equip me with more solid and profound knowledge for my future job, so the education in a graduate school can actually serve as a stepping stone in my future job hunting. On a community level, the experience of internship during school can also well develop my social skills of communicating and cooperating with my workmates. In a larger sense, the increasingly competitive job market is gradually raising its standards for the job hunters. Taking all these into account, the candidates with higher degrees enjoy greater advantage over college undergraduates in job hunting.

As the famous saying goes, slow down to speed up. That is to say, further study may slow us down when entering the job market, but it does speed us up on our way to success!

五. 应用综合类

1. Letter of Thanks

You have just come back from a student exchange program in the U.S. Write a letter to your host family, the Smiths, in Chicago to express your gratitude for their hospitality, describe the help they gave you, offer to repay their help and invite them to visit you. You should write about 120 words and do not sign your name at the end of the letter.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Smith,

I am now back to China safe and sound. In this letter I would like to convey my heartfelt thanks to you and your lovely children for your kindness and hospitality to host me when I was in New York. Your generous help and tender care made me feel warmly welcomed and transformed my first American trip into a beautiful memory. I keep looking through my pictures with you and reliving all of the happy memories. Please keep in touch. You hold a special place in my heart.

I do hope that your whole family could pay a visit to China in future, so that I could have the opportunity to repay your friendship. I assure you that you would enjoy visiting here as I did at your home.

Please accept my gratitude, now and always.

Love,

Li Ming

2. Letter of Inquiry

You are a new student, and you find out that near your school there is a health club. Write a letter to the manager of the club asking:

- 1) what kinds of facilities the club has,*
- 2) whether memberships are available,*
- 3) the details of membership*

You should write about 120 words and do not sign your name at the end of the letter.

Dear Sir,

I am a student at the college near your health club. Not enough students take physical exercise seriously. I do, however, and am writing to inquire about some details of your club with an intention to join.

First, what facilities are available for body-building? I prefer more choices of different facilities because they are interesting for me to avoid boring exercise for a long time. Secondly, what provision does the club have for aerobics? I have in mind a running track and a swimming pool. Thirdly, is membership restricted to any age or gender?

I understand that there may be a limit on the number of members, but if memberships are available, I would appreciate it if you would send me an application, and let me know of the fees involved. Thank you for your time.

Yours sincerely,

Li Ming

3. Letter of Complaint

You are studying in an English-speaking country. You find the accommodation unsatisfactory. Write a letter to the relevant office to:

- 1) lodge a formal complaint,*
- 2) explain what the problem is,*
- 3) make some suggestions.*

You should write about 120 words and do not sign your name at the end of the letter.

Dear Sir,

I am an international student at this college. I am writing to you to make a complaint about the living conditions in my room on campus. I live in room 215 of the self-catering hall, and my neighbor is particularly noisy. He frequently hosts parties with loud music late into the night, and sometimes even until early morning. The thin wall between our rooms is quite inadequate to muffle the sound. I have spoken to my neighbor about the matter, but there is no effect.

The disturbance is seriously affecting my studies and sleep. I cannot accept this situation any longer especially because I have important exams this term. I would appreciate any measures you can take to stop those inconsiderate students from bothering their neighbors. Otherwise, I would like to move to another hall.

Thank you for your consideration. Your early reply will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Li Ming

其他综合类模拟练习题:

1. One of your friends plans to sightseeing in China. You have just come back from a place which you think she might enjoy. Write a letter to your friend to:

- 1) describe the attractions of the place ,*
- 2) recommend places of interest,*
- 3) give her some tips on what she should take with her.*

Write at least 150 words but no more than 200 words.

Dear John,

I learnt that you are planning a trip in China. Well, I have just returned from Suzhou, a beautiful city in Jiangsu province. It's not very far from Shanghai.

Suzhou has consistently been called "paradise on earth" because dozens of classical gardens have been preserved in good condition in this modern city with a long history. The typical examples are Humble Administrator's Garden, Lingering Garden, Garden of the Master-of-Nets. They are all noted for their imagination-inspiring atmosphere, superb artistry and rich cultural content. Another attraction is the night-view around Jinji Lake with colorful lights on the buildings and trees around the lake. There are also many bridges in the city because you can see rivers here and there. People here are also friendly and very polite.

Take enough money with you if you plan to come here. You will not resist the temptation of local products, delicious food, delicate silk, for example. In addition, you should wear good walking shoes and a hat, because the sun is very hot this time of year.

Your friend,

Li Ming

2. Write a composition on the topic: Something I admire about the Western Culture. You should write at least 150 words but no more than 200 words according to the outline given below:

- 1) Is there anything in the Western culture you admire?*
- 2) What is it (are they) and why do you like it (them)?*

Something I Admire about the Western Culture

Despite the cultural conflicts between the Orient and the Occident, there do exist some admirable ingredients in the Western culture.

First and foremost, in my humble opinion, there is equality between parents and children in western families. The parents are not always superior to their children, and the children do not always need to obey their parents' order, that is, they are more like close friends.

Second, independent personality in western countries is very impressive for most Chinese people. Western people have a strong sense of supporting themselves and being independent. They begin earning their pocket money early in their life, even as kids.

Last, Western people do not always assess a person according to his background. If only he can achieve success through personal struggle, he can win status. It's a talent-oriented society, not background-oriented.

Cultural differences do exist while misunderstanding could be removed if we understand and respect each other.

Model Test One

Part II Listening

Section A

News Items

1-7 BD DB BCD

Section B

Long Conversations

8-15 DBDC ACBA

Section C

Passages

16-25 CAD CBA DABA

Part III. Reading

Section A:

26. L 27. G 28. I 29. D 30. O 31. F 32. B 33. M 34. J 35. C

Section B

36. D 37. C 38. I 39. E 40. C 41. H 42. G 43. F 44. A 45. I

Section C

46. D 47. D 48. A 49. C 50. B 51. C 52. A 53. D 54. B 55. C

Part IV. Translation

Different from the western gardens with regular geometry designs, Chinese garden designers strive to make the gardens appear naturally formed, like natural landscape scenery. Chinese gardens are integrated as a whole with particular attention paid to the combination of nature and scenery. General attention is paid to mountains and waters, pavilions and terraces. Mountains and waters, pavilions and terraces look more beautiful in each other's company. Moreover, they are constructed in far and near structure. Therefore, there seem no apertures in the Chinese gardens at whatever angle it may be viewed. What comes into sight is always the picturesque scenery. In fact, Chinese gardens and Chinese paintings interacted with each other and developed together, both of which reflect the idea that Chinese place a premium on nature.

Model Test Two

Part II Listening

Section A

News Items

1-7 CB BC CAB

Section B

Long Conversations

8 – 15 DACB DCBA

Section C

Passages

16-25 BAA ACB DABA

Part III Reading Comprehension

Section A

26. E	27. C	28. O	29. H	30. M
31. N	32. J	33. K	34. I	35. F

Section B

36. F	37. K	38. D	39. A	40. M
41. I	42. B	43. J	44. E	45. H

Section C

46. B	47. C	48. A	49. D	50. D
51. D	52. A	53. B	54. C	55. D

Part IV. Translation

People enjoy watching tragedy movies like *Titanic* because they deliver what may seem to be an unlikely benefit: tragedies actually make people happier in the short-term. Researchers found that watching a tragedy movie caused people to think about their own close relationships, which in turn boosted their life happiness. The result was that what seems like a negative experience---watching a sad story---made people happier by bringing attention to some positive aspects in their own lives.

听力原文

Practice One

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

Four best public high schools in the United States, Stuyvesant High School in New York City, High Technology High School in New Jersey, Staten Island Technical High School in New York City, and Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Virginia, have much in common.

All four high schools have high academic requirements for students interested in admission. The four also offer a mix of challenging courses. And they all have a large percentage of Asian-American students.

The top schools were chosen by the Niche.com website. Niche.com examined nearly 24,000 U.S. public high schools. It rated the schools based on quality of their education programs and teachers, as well as student and parent comments.

Enrollment of Asian-Americans at the top high schools continues to grow. There is only one reason for so many students being Asian-American: the Asian-American students are getting much better test scores.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What is this news report mainly about?
2. What is the reason for a continual increase in enrollment of Asian-Americans at the top schools?

News report two

Former boxer Michael Watson was hurt in a suspected carjacking attempt last week in London. The 51-year-old, who suffered a near-fatal brain injury in a 1991 title fight with Chris Eubank, was in a car with his carer Lennard Ballack when it was hit from behind by a white Mercedes. Mr Ballack got out, intending to tell the driver that no damage had been done. But when he tapped on the car window, the driver leapt out and sprayed him with a poisonous substance. Mr. Ballack fell to the ground while the passenger tried to hijack Mr. Watson's car.

Mr. Watson got caught up in the seatbelt as he tried to get out. As the car was driven off, he was hanging out of the door and was dragged along the road.

Police said both men required hospital treatment, but their injuries were not life-threatening.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. Which of the following is not true about Michael Watson?
4. What happened to Michael Watson and Lennard Ballack in the carjacking?

News report three

The Director of National Intelligence in Washington, Dennis Blair, says the global economic crisis is the main immediate security concern for the United States. Admiral Blair gave his analysis in an annual assessment of the threats the United States believes it's facing, as Richard Lister reports from Washington.

Admiral Blair warned that the longer it takes the economic recovery to begin, the more likely it is that American strategic interests will be seriously damaged. He said about a quarter of the world's countries have already experienced low-level instability, such as changes in government because of the current slowdown, and that most nations in Latin America, the former Soviet Union and Sub-Saharan Africa don't have the financial resources to limit the impact of recession. That, he said, increase their risk of major instability, leading to economic nationalism and ultimately the inability of America's friends and allies to meet their defense and humanitarian obligations.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What does this news item mainly talk about?
6. How much part of the world has experienced low-level of instability?
7. What does the low-level instability increase according to Admiral Blair?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

W: Good morning, Mr. Johnson. How can I help you?

M: Well, I'd like to talk to you about Tim Bond, the department manager.

W: What seems to be the problem?

M: Well, ever since Sandra left the department, I feel like I've been targeted to do all her work as well as mine. I'm expected to attend too many meetings and I seem to be spending a lot of my time doing unnecessary paper work.

W: I'm sorry to hear that.

M: And, on top of that, I specifically asked if I could leave early last Friday as I'd done a lot of overtime during the week. But that afternoon, even though I'd finished my assigned work, I was told to help other colleagues finish their work, too.

W: But surely that's a positive sign, showing that Mr. Bond has a lot of trust in you.

M: Yes, but other colleagues get to leave early, and they don't have such a lot of work to do.

W: So you feel he's remaking unrealistic demands on you?

M: Yes, absolutely.

W: Have you approached Mr. Bond about this particular problem?

M: I've tried, but it seems like he just has no time for me.

W: Well, at this stage, it would be better if you approached him directly. If nothing

else, showing that you've tried to solve the problem yourself before you take it further makes it clear that you're not just a complainer. Why don't you send an email requesting a meeting with him in private?

M: Hmm, I'd been a bit worried about his reaction. But anyway, I'll send him an email to request a meeting, and I'll see what happens from there. Thanks for your advice.

W: Good luck. And let us know the outcome.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. What do we learn about the man from the conversation?
2. What is the man's chief complaint?
3. How does the woman interpret the fact that the man was asked to help his colleagues with their work?
4. What does the woman advise the man to do?

Conversation Two

W: Hey Neal, now that the midterms are over, a bunch of us are getting away for the weekend to go canoeing. Wanna come along?

M: Well, um, it'd be great to get away, but I've never done it before.

W: None of the others have either except for me. I went once last fall. But there'll be an instructor in each canoe the first day.

M: I don't know.

W: Oh, come on. This is our last chance to take a break before finals. The scenery is beautiful, and if it gets too hot we can dive in whenever we feel like it. The river's really calm this time of the year, no rapids to deal with.

M: That's a relief. What would I have to bring?

W: Let's see. Tom's bringing food for the Friday night cookout for everyone. And the people who run the trip have tents set up and they supply food and drinks for all day Saturday. On the way back Sunday morning we'll stop somewhere for breakfast. So, you have to bring a bathing suit and a sleeping bag.

M: Well, I do love camping and sleeping out. Where is this place?

W: Well, it's about an hour and a half to the place where we meet the trip leaders. We leave our car there and they drive us and the canoes upriver to the place where we start canoeing.

M: And who's driving us to the meeting place?

W: Well, I was hoping we could take your car. Mine is in the shop again.

M: Oh, I see. It's not me you want. It's my car.

W: Don't be silly. So what would you say?

M: Oh, why not!

W: Great! I'll give you a call when I find out when everyone wants to leave on Friday.

Questions 5 to 8 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

5. Why did the man hesitate to go canoeing at the beginning?
6. What shall the man bring for the canoeing?
7. Where is the canoeing place?
8. What does the man think is the main reason the woman invites him to go canoeing?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken*

only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

Passage One

If you are in a western country, you often see people walking their dogs. It is still true that dog is the most useful animal in the world. However, the reason why one keeps a dog has changed. Once upon a time, a man met a dog and wanted to help him in a fight against other animals. And the dog listened to him and did what he told him to do. Later, people used dogs for hunting other animals, and dogs did not eat what they got until their master agreed. Dogs were also used for driving sheep and guarding chickens. But now people in towns and cities do not need dogs to fight other animals any more. Of course, they keep them to frighten thieves, but the most important reason for keeping dogs is (that) they feel lonely in the city. For a child, a dog is his honest friend when he has no friend to play with. For a young wife, a dog is her child when she does not have her own. For old people, a dog is also a child when their real children have grown up and left. Now, people do not have to use a dog, but they keep it as a friend, just like a member of a family.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. Which is NOT the purpose of people's raising dogs in the old days?
2. Which of the following is CORRECT?
3. What is the passage mainly about?

Passage Two

Every human being, no matter where they are from, is born with the ability to smile. A smile is a natural reaction to a positive moment, like a friendly face or a clever joke.

Most babies first smile between 6 and 8 weeks old. At first, it is only the expression made when exercising their facial muscles or passing wind, but once they realize a smile gets them a lot of attention, huge smiles in return, happy noises, extra treats, they learn to try it again. And why wouldn't they? It takes 43 muscles to frown, but only 17 to smile.

We smile when we are happy. We smile when we see people we know, but what happens when you are not happy to see someone you know? You smile anyway. You fake a smile. Unfortunately, however, a fake smile never looks quite the same as a real one. In the genuine smile you not only show your lower teeth, but also move the muscles running all the way around the mouth, which in turn makes the skin around the eyes become tighter and then your smile is real. However, when someone smiles politely rather than because they really want to, they use the muscle which only raises the sides of the mouth and which does not move the muscles at the corners of the eyes, this kind of fake smile is sometimes referred to as the Pan-Am smile as it is named after the former airline whose flight attendants welcomed every passenger with the same forced smile.

Questions 4 to 7 are based on the passage you have just heard.

4. According to the talk, what is a smile?
5. What happens in a real smile?
6. What do we learn about the Pan-Am smile?

7. Which of the following is not true according to the talk?

Passage Three

Katherine Gram graduated from the University of Chicago in 1938 and got a job as a news reporter in San Francisco. Katherine's father used to be a successful investment banker. In 1933, he bought a failing newspaper, the Washington Post. Then Katherine returned to Washington and got a job, editing letters in her father's newspaper. She married Phillip Gram, who took over his father-in-law's position shortly after and became a publisher of the Washington Post. But for many years, her husband suffered from mental illness and he killed himself in 1963. After her husband's death, Katherine operated the newspaper. In the 1970s, the newspaper became famous around the world and Katherine was also recognized as an important leader in newspaper publishing. She was the first woman to head a major American publishing company, the Washington Post Company.

In a few years, she successfully expanded the company to include newspaper, magazine, and broadcast and cable companies. She died of head injuries after a fall when she was 84. More than three thousand people attended her funeral, including many government and business leaders. Her friends said she would be remembered as a woman who had an important influence on events in the United States and the world. Katherine once wrote, "The world without newspapers would not be the same kind of world." After her death, the employees of the Washington Post wrote, "The world without Katherine would not be the same at all."

Questions 8 to 10 are based on the passage you have just heard.

8. What do we learn from the passage about Katherine's father?
9. What does the speaker tell us about Katherine Gram?
10. What does the comment by employees of the Washington Post suggest?

Practice Two

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

Police in the southern Indian state of Kerala have arrested three people in connection with the suspected rape of a popular film actress on Sunday night.

The actress has alleged she was raped inside her car by three people who waylaid her vehicle on Friday night as she was on her way to dub a film. The actress has said that the rape lasted almost two hours, and she was threatened that indecent pictures of her would be released on social media.

However, the main accused who has been identified as her former driver is still at large. Police have said they are also searching for three more people.

Prominent actor Mohanlal said: "It's time we stop being candle holding and candle

lighting sympathizers and ensure that the law of the land be strengthened in such ways that nobody even dares contemplating such acts, let alone commit it."

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. How many people were involved in the suspected rape of a popular film actress according to the news report?
2. What did the rapists threaten to do?

News report two

Former Hong Kong leader Donald Tsang has been sentenced to 20 months in prison for misconduct.

Mr Tsang served as chief executive of Hong Kong from 2005 to 2012 and was the most senior official in the territory ever to stand trial for corruption. He was found guilty last week of misconduct in public office, in a case related to a luxury flat in China.

The former leader was popular when he first took office - he was considered competent. He had worked as a civil servant under British rule and was even awarded a knighthood in 1997 for his services to Hong Kong. But by the time his term ended, his reputation was badly damaged by corruption allegations.

Tsang was cleared of a second count of misconduct, while the jury failed to reach a verdict on a third charge of accepting an advantage.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. When did Donald Tsang's term as chief executive of Hong Kong start?
4. How many charges did Donald Tsang face?

News report three

Raging wildfires threatening the Greek capital have forced thousands of people from their homes. The greater Athens local governor has called the fire an ecological disaster. Malcolm Brabant reports from Athens.

The fire has been so enormous that the emergency services have been unable to cope. There weren't enough planes to water-bomb all the hot spots. Other Mediterranean countries are sending reinforcements. But to many homeowners, their arrival would be too late. Mercifully, there have been no fatalities, but the biggest casualty has been the environment. The loss of so much foliage is going to have a negative impact on air quality in Athens. The wooded hillsides on the outskirts of the capital acted as its lungs and air conditioning units, providing much needed oxygen and cooler air.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What is this news item mainly about?
6. What is the biggest casualty according to the speaker?
7. What did the wooded hillsides mean to the capital?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices*

marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.

Conversation One

W: Okay, Nathan. So we are talking about driving and are there any rules or regulations that you'd like to change?

M: I'm not sure I want to change rules, but I'd like the police to be stricter on the rules. Like if people jump the traffic lights, I don't know why there isn't a camera of the traffic lights to stop people doing that. Or like speeding. It's very easy to put speed cameras in certain places.

W: Maybe car manufacturers should have some responsibility in limiting the power of their engines. What's the point in producing an engine that's big and powerful enough to go like 200 kilometers an hour when the speed limit is only 100?

M: Right, but do you know there are no speed limits in Germany?

W: People there do drive responsibly though. Often people break laws simply because the laws are there. If the law isn't there, people will drive within their ability range. When you've got speed limits, this creates situations that actually present dangers on the road.

M: Do you think Germans have better education about personal responsibility when driving?

W: Possibly. They also have very good cars.

M: Right.

W: If you've got a good car that can go at a high speed, then it's really nice to do that.

M: But still with care.

W: So I think it's the restrictions that create the danger sometimes.

M: Okay.

W: Obviously, when driving through a residential area or where there is a school, you've got to have speed policemen.

M: Speed bumps.

W: Yes, speed bumps. Those speed bumps that force you to slow down. I think they are a good idea.

M: So you don't think fining people is useful?

W: Not really, because the police don't have time to police every single driver.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. What are the speakers mainly talking about?
2. What does the woman think car manufacturers could do?
3. What can we learn about people driving in Germany?
4. What does the woman think of the police fining drivers?

Conversation Two

M: I'm phoning up about this job you advertised in the paper. This...er...young sales manager?

W: Oh, yes.

M: I'd like to apply for it. Would you send me an application form?

W: No. You simply send in a written application, a letter.

M: Can you tell me a bit more about the job?

W: Well, we are very looking for someone who isn't too concerned about working fairly long hours.

M: What do you mean by long hours?

W: This is a job which does, as the advertisement says, have travel possibilities, and very often, one would be away at weekends, for instance.

M: Oh, I thought you meant working in the evenings and working overtime.

W: Well, it could also mean working in the evenings. But for a managerial post, I'm afraid we don't pay overtime. Um...that's for other grades.

M: Oh. What kind of money are you paying then?

W: Well, this is to be negotiated. Uh, it depends partly on your experience and education. Perhaps you can tell me briefly what that is?

M: I've just left school and got A level in geography.

W: Oh, I see.

M: And it's the travel that appeals to me. That's why I'm inquiring about the job.

W: Yes, I see. What sort of a salary were you thinking in terms of ...?

M: Starting off, I thought it would be something like £ 500 a week?

W: Well, send in a written application and then we'll consider your case along with all the other applicants.

M: All right. Many thanks. Goodbye.

W: Bye.

Questions 5 to 8 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

5. What does the woman say an applicant should do first to apply for the job?
6. What kind of a person is the company looking for?
7. What does the man like most about the job?
8. What does the woman say about the salary if the man is accepted by the company?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

Some of America's best universities have accepted an unusually low percentage of students for admission this fall. For example, the Wall Street Journal reported that Stanford University had a record low admission rate this year. The newspaper said the California school accepted less than eleven percent of the students who applied.

College admission officers give a number of reasons for the higher rates of rejection letters this year. They say the main reason is that high school seniors are applying to more schools than in the past. Some colleges reported big increase in the number of applications. Another reason is the general increase in students going to college.

Electronic forms make applying easier. For example, students can send an online

form called the Common Application to many different colleges and universities. Many students who apply to top schools are placed on a waiting list. They do not get a decision until the school knows how many who are offered admission will accept the offer. Just as students compete, so do schools.

Wait-listed applicants might not be found out until May or June, at the end of their senior year. Admissions officers say they use wait-listing because it is difficult to know which applicants really want to attend their school.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. According to the passage, which one of the following four statements is wrong?
2. What is the possible way by which high school seniors are applying to more schools?
3. What does it mean if a student is on a waiting list?

Passage Two

As a normal person, you see colors everywhere, so long as you have good eyesight. In fact, color plays a central role in our life. For example, color is used to communicate life-saving information. To the driver of a vehicle, the green color means “go”, and the red color means “stop”. You should always pull up when the traffic light turns red. Besides, colors can irritate or soothe your eyes, raise your appetite, or even change your mood. A delicious meal with appropriate colors can certainly make your mouth water. Good colors also help us in many other ways. Statistics show, that in sports competition a team wearing red has a higher chance of winning. Of course, it’s largely due to the psychology of wearing red. Luck and ability can be more important.

For animals, color reflects their environments and their characteristics. For instance, a male peacock has its tail feathers of bright colors to win the attention of female peacocks. A tree frog can be so green as to indicate its poisonous nature. So don’t eat it, or you might die. A wasp, with its bright yellow color, may warn us that it has a sting, and it is not afraid to use that sting. People often think that rainbow is the most colorful, but for our artists, all they need are three colors, namely, red, blue and yellow. They are called the primary colors—colors that cannot be made by mixing others together. And our artists can mix them together to create any color in the rainbow, and hundreds of other shades in making art.

Questions 4 to 7 are based on the passage you have just heard.

4. Why are green and red colors important to drivers?
5. According to statistics, what team has a higher chance of winning in sports competition?
6. Which animal has green color that warns us of its poisonous nature?
7. What is a primary color?

Passage Three

My mother was born in a small town in northern Italy. She was three when her parents immigrated to America in 1926. They lived in Chicago when my grandfather worked making ice cream. Mama thrived in the urban environment. At 16, she

graduated first in her high school class, went onto secretarial school, and finally worked as an executive secretary for a railroad company. She was beautiful too. When a local photographer used her pictures in his monthly window display, she felt pleased. Her favorite portrait showed her sitting by Lake Michigan, her hair went blown, her gaze reaching toward the horizon. My parents were married in 1944. Dad was a quiet and intelligent man. He was 17 when he left Italy. Soon after, a hit-and-run accident left him with a permanent limp. Dad worked hard selling candy to Chicago office workers on their break. He had little formal schooling. His English was self-taught. Yet he eventually built a small successful wholesale candy business. Dad was generous and handsome. Mama was devoted to him. After she married, my mother quit her job and gave herself to her family. In 1950, with three small children, dad moved the family to a farm 40 miles from Chicago. He worked the land and commuted to the city to run his business. Mama said goodbye to her parents and friends, and traded her busy city neighborhood for a more isolated life. But she never complained.

Questions 8 to 10 are based on the passage you have just heard.

8. What does the speaker tell us about his mother's early childhood?
9. What do we learn about the speaker's father?
10. What does the speaker say about his mother?

Practice Three

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

The Supreme Court is to rule on whether an income barrier stopping thousands of British citizens from bringing a foreign spouse to the UK is lawful.

As of 2012, Britons must earn more than £18,600 before a husband or wife from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) can settle in the UK. The minimum income threshold rises to £22,400 if they have a child who does not have British citizenship - and then by an additional £2,400 for each subsequent child.

When the government introduced the measures, it said they aimed to reduce the burden on taxpayers, promote integration and prevent and tackle abuse of the family migration route.

If the government loses, thousands of couples who currently live outside the UK could move to Britain. If the Supreme Court rules against the government, it could lead to the minimum income threshold being lowered or, potentially, require Parliament to reconsider the entire law.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. How much must a Briton earn for bringing to the UK a spouse and a child who are

- not British citizens?
2. What is the government's purpose when setting the income barrier?

News report two

The accomplished American composer Marvin Hamlisch has died. He was 68. He won many awards in his long career including three Oscars and a Pulitzer prize, as Vincent Dought reports.

Marvin Hamlisch came from a middle class New York church background which has produced so many of the great Broadway's song writers. After "A Chorus Line," he went on to a degree of success with shows such as "They Are Playing Our Songs" and "The Goodbye Girl." That theater work sometimes overshadowed his films. He won two Oscars for "The Way We Were" in 1973 and a third for adapting Scott Joplin's ragtime music for "The Sting".

In 1977 he co-wrote "Nobody Does It Better" for the James Bond film "The Spy Who Loved Me".

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. How many Oscars did Marvin Hamlisch win in his career?
4. Which of the following statements is NOT true?

News report three

Swim suits made from advanced materials that have been credited with helping send world records rising are likely to be banned from next year. The sports governing body FINA says swim suits will in future have to be made of textiles as Alex Capsticks reports.

This new ruling from swimming's world governing body FINA is the latest twist in a long running and confusing event over hi-tech body suits. More than 130 world records have been set since they were introduced last year. The latest designs are made of plastic which many athletes and coaches have said add buoyancy and speed. But from January, they will have to be made of more traditional forms of material although the exact details have not been made clear. FINA has also said they must only cover parts of the body so that they are more like the old-style trunks.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What is this news report mainly about?
6. How many world records have been set since the new swim suits were introduced?
7. What can the latest plastic swim suits add, according to many athletes and coaches?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

W: Hello, Parkson College. May I help you?

M: Yes. I'm looking for information on courses in computer programming. I would need it for the fall semester.

W: Do you want a day or evening course?

M: Well, it would have to be an evening course since I work during the day.

W: Aha. Have you taken any courses in data processing?

M: No.

W: Oh! Well, data processing is a course you have to take before you can take computer programming.

M: Oh, I see. Well, when is it given? I hope it is not on Thursdays.

W: Well, there's a class that meets on Monday evenings at 7.

M: Just once a week?

W: Yes. But that's almost 3 hours from 7 to 9:45.

M: Oh! Well, that's alright. I could manage that. How many weeks does the course last?

W: Mm, let me see. 12 weeks. You start the first week in September, and finish, oh, just before Christmas. December 21st.

M: And how much is the course?

W: That's 300 dollars including the necessary computer time.

M: Ah-hum. Okay, Eh, where do I go to register?

W: Registration is on the second and third of September between 6 and 9 in Frost Hall.

M: Is that the round building behind the parking lot?

W: Yes, that's the one.

M: Oh, I know how to get there. Is there anything that I should bring with me?

W: No, just your checkbook.

M: Well, thank you very much.

W: You're very welcome. Bye!

M: Bye!

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

1. Why does the man choose to take an evening course?
2. What does the man have to do before taking the course of computer programming?
3. What do we learn about the schedule of the evening course?
4. What does the man want to know at the end of the conversation?

Conversation Two

M: Hello. Yes?

W: Hello. Is that the sales department?

M: Yes, it is.

W: Oh, well, my name is Jane Kingsbury of GPF limited. Um, we need some supplies for our design office.

M: Oh, what sort?

W: Well, first of all, we need one complete new drawing board.

M: D044 or D045?

W: Ah, I don't know. What's the difference?

M: Well, the 45 costs 15 pounds more.
W: Um, so what's the total price then?
M: It's 387 pounds.
W: Does that include value-added tax?
M: Oh, I'm not sure. Most of the prices do. Yes, I think it does.
W: Um, what are the boards actually made of?
M: Oh, I don't know. I think it's a sort of plastic stuff these days. It's white anyway.
W: Um... And how long does it take to deliver?
M: Oh, I couldn't really say. It depends on how much work we've got and how many other orders there are to send out, you know.
W: OK. Now we also want some drawing pens, ink and rulers, and some drawing paper.
M: Oh dear. The girl who takes orders for all those supplies isn't here this morning, so I can't take those orders for you. I only do the equipment, you see.
W: Ok. Well, perhaps I'll ring back tomorrow.
M: So do you want the drawing board then?
W: Oh, I have to think about it. Thanks very much. I'll let you know. Good-bye.
M: Thank you. Good-bye.

Questions 5 to 8 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

5. What is the woman's purpose in making the phone call?
6. What do we learn about the man from the conversation?
7. What does the man say about delivery?
8. What does the woman say she will possibly do tomorrow?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

According to a survey on reading conducted in 2001 by the U.S. National Education Association (NEA), young Americans say reading is important, more important than computers and science. Over 50% of the 12 to 18 years old interviewed say they enjoy reading a lot. 79% find it stimulating and interesting. And 87% think it is relaxing. About 68% of those surveyed disagreed with the opinion that reading is boring or old-fashioned.

Over half teenagers interviewed said they read more than ten books a year. The results also show that middle school students read more books than high schoolers. Over 66% of teens like to read fiction, such as novels and stories. Over 26% are interested in non-fiction, such as history books. 64% of students listed read stories about people of my own age. That's a favorite topic. Mysteries and detective stories came second on the list at 53%. Just under 50% said they were interested in reading about their own culture and tradition. Of the teenagers who participated in the survey,

49% said that libraries are where they get most of their books. However, many complain that their school libraries do not have enough up-to-date interesting books and magazines. Even though many teenagers in the US enjoy reading, they still have other interests. When asked which activity would be the most difficult to give up for a week, 48% said listening to music. TV would be difficult to give up for 25% of those surveyed.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. What does the survey on teenage reading show?
2. What books are most popular among teenagers according to the survey?
3. What activity do teenagers find the most difficult to give up for a week?

Passage Two

One of America's most important exports is her modern music. American popular music is played all over the world. It is enjoyed by people of all ages in all countries. Although the lyrics are English, people not speaking English enjoy it. The reasons for its popularity are its fast pace and rhythmic beat.

Music has many origins in the United States. Country music which comes from the rural areas in the southern United States is one source. Country music features simple themes and melodies describing day-to-day situations and the feelings of country people. Many people appreciate this music because of the emotions expressed by country music songs.

The second origin of American popular music is the blues. It depicts mostly sad feelings reflecting the difficult lives of American blacks. It is usually played and sung by black musicians, but it is popular with all Americans.

Rock music is a newer form of music. This music style, featuring fast and repetitious rhythms, was influenced by the blues and the country music. It was first known as rock-and-roll in the 1950s. Since then there have been many forms of rock music: hard rock, soft rock, pop rock, disco music and others. Many performers of popular music are young musicians.

American popular music is marketed to a demanding audience. Now popular songs are heard on the radio several times a day. Some songs have become popular all over the world. People hear these songs in their original English or sometimes translated into other languages. The words may differ but the enjoyment of the music is universal.

Questions 4 to 7 are based on the passage you have just heard.

4. What makes American popular music so popular throughout the world?
5. Where is country music from?
6. What do you know about the blues?
7. How many forms of rock music are especially mentioned in the passage?

Passage Three

Unless you have visited the southern United States, you probably have never heard of Kudzu. Kudzu, as any farmer in the south will sadly tell you, is a super-powered weed. It is a strong climbing plant. Once it gets started, Kudzu is

almost impossible to stop. It climbs to the tops of the tallest trees. It can cover large buildings. Whole barns and farm houses have been known to disappear from view. Wherever it grows, its thick twisting stems are extremely hard to remove. Kudzu was once thought to be a helpful plant. Originally found in Asia, it was brought to America to help protect the land from being swallowed by the sea. It was planted where its tough roots which grow up to five feet long could help hold back the soil. But the plant soon spread to places where it wasn't wanted. Farmers now have to fight to keep it from killing other plants. In a way, Kudzu is a sign of labor shortage in the south. Where there is no one to work the fields, Kudzu soon takes over. The northern United States faces no threat from Kudzu. Harsh winters kill it off.

The plant loves the warmth of the south, but the south surely doesn't love it. If someone could invent some use for Kudzu and remove it from southern farmland, his or her fortune would be assured.

Questions 8 to 10 are based on the passage you have just heard.

8. What do we learn about "Kudzu" from the passage?
9. What will happen if the fields are neglected in the southern United States?
10. Why isn't Kudzu a threat to the northern United States?

Practice Four

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

Police in the Nigerian capital of Abuja have used tear gas to disperse demonstrators protesting against the removal of government subsidies on fuel. Fuel prices have doubled since the removal of the subsidies on Sunday. Here's Tommy Eledical:

Nigerians have reacted angrily to the increase of the price of petrol following the removal of the fuel subsidy. Police fight tear gas to disperse a group of about 200 protestors in the capital of Abuja.

Trade Unions say that they will carry out mass demonstrations in the coming days. The removal of the fuel subsidy has led to a sharp increase in transport costs and analysts fear that this will make life more expensive and tougher for the average Nigerians.

Despite being an oil producing nation, Nigeria does not have functioning refineries. The country exports crude oil and imports refined petroleum products.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. When have fuel prices doubled?
2. Why does Nigeria export crude oil and import refined petroleum?

News report two

Astronaut John Glenn, the first American to orbit the earth, has died.

John Glenn was the last surviving member of a group known as "the Mercury Seven," test pilots who were chosen to become America's first astronauts in 1959.

President Barack Obama released a statement about Glenn's death. "Our nation has lost an icon and Michelle and I have lost a friend," he said. He praised Glenn for a lifetime of breaking barriers, including setting a transcontinental speed record and becoming the oldest man ever to go into space.

Glenn served as a military pilot in World War II and the Korean conflict. On February 20, 1962, Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth. Much later, in 1998, he also became the oldest man to fly in space. He served as a crew member on the space shuttle Discovery.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. When was Glenn chosen to be an astronaut?
4. According to the news report, which of the following is **NOT** true?"

News report three

Police in Helsinki say a ransom demand has been made to the Finnish owners of a Russian-crewed cargo ship that disappeared nearly three weeks ago after passing through the English Channel. The vessel, the Arctic Sea, was reported to have been boarded by armed men in the Baltic. Adam Mynott reports.

Mystery centers on the merchant ship Arctic Sea which has disappeared somewhere in the Atlantic Ocean with a cargo of timber valued over 1.5 million dollars. The police in Finland say the owners of the vessel have received a ransom demand which they are treating as a serious attempt to extort money. No further details were given. Russia has sent naval vessels to hunt for the Arctic Sea and they reported last night that it had been spotted near the Cape Verde Islands off the west coast of Africa, but this was later denied. Other maritime authorities say the vessel is steaming somewhere off the West African coast. 183w

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What does this news item mainly deal with?
6. How much did the cargo of timber value?
7. What did Russia do for the Finnish vessel having disappeared?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

M: Listen, the heating is broken in my room. When are you going to come and fix it?

W: I'm sorry to hear that, sir. I'll get someone right away.

M: You'd better. It's freezing up there. And my room is a disgrace. That maid is useless. I want her replaced.

W: Well, I'll speak to the housekeeper about it, sir, but I'm sure...

M: And that hall porter is another one. You should get rid of him, too. He doesn't know how to treat guests with respect. And look at the money I'm paying!

W: Well, I'm very sorry, sir, but George has been with us for twenty years and we've never had any complaints about him until now.

M: And another thing! What are you going to do about those foreigners in number 27? Carrying on all night in that funny language! Shouting, they were. It shouldn't be allowed.

W: If you like, sir, I'll have a word with them and ask them to be a little more considerate.

M: Yes, do that, will you, and then maybe I'll get some sleep.

W: I'm very sorry you've been disturbed, sir. But are you enjoying your stay apart from that?

M: Well, I don't think much of the restaurant. I can't get a decent plate of fish and chips. It's all salad and fancy stuff. And the service is terrible, too.

W: Well, sir, I'm sure the waiters try to be as helpful as they can, but they are busy at dinner.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

1. What is happening to the heating in the man's room?
2. What is the man doing?
3. What does the man prefer for his meal?
4. Where do you think the conversation most probably took place?

Conversation Two

M: Good afternoon, Linda.

W: Good afternoon, Ken. What brings you here?

M: Well, I just sent my car to the garage so I thought I pop by to say hi, since I'm in the neighborhood.

W: What happened to your car? Didn't you get it fixed last week?

M: I did. But this time it's something else. The filter needs to be changed and the brakes keep making squeaky noises, whenever I tap them. Something must be wrong with the brake pads.

W: I used to have that problem and it worried me every time I stepped on the brakes. I thought I was going to go off the road or something until I took care of it with a few tools.

M: I just received an estimate and it's going to cost me \$ 200 for parts and labor. I hope that's the end of it, because I can't afford to have more work done to it again.

W: I guess you must regret buying such a lemon. Didn't you buy it three months ago?

M: It's embarrassing. I was only looking at the exterior and neglected the engine, which should be the priority when it comes to second hand vehicles. I even thought I'd bargained like a pro, since I got it for next to nothing. Now I think maybe I'd have been better off with nothing. What a headache I tell you!

W: Well, just think of it this way. You paid for your lesson on cars.

M: You're right. But I think it is a costly one and I'm not going to make the same

mistake again.

W: Don't worry. Perhaps it's not as bad as you think. Maybe you just need a little mechanical help from your more mechanically inclined friends --- like me.

Questions 5 to 8 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

5. Why was the woman surprised when she saw the man?
6. What did she do when she had the same problem with her car?
7. What was the man's major mistake when he bought the car?
8. What does the woman imply the man should do at the end?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

Most people are too anxious during tests. Their anxiety overshadows or even interferes with their ability to reason and makes them less efficient than normal. As a result, they score far lower than they should. This is an unnecessary handicap. Especially if you are a student, who is going to spend 12-16 years or more taking tests. The solution of course is to learn the rules and techniques of successful test taking. Success builds assurance and confidence which in turn frees you to perform better and better. Once you realize that eight tenths of your score depends on the way you take a test, it becomes obvious that learning rules of the test-taking game is crucial. It is not complicated. You do not have to be clever, brilliant or dishonest to do it. It is just a matter of observation and practice. Oddly, most people have not really thought much about what it means to make, give and take tests. Once you see tests are school games that have actual little meaning in the real world. Once you realize the game has a format that can be recognized, rules that can be mastered, playing strategies that can be learned, it can become as entertaining as crossword puzzle. Mastering test-taking, like learning to absorb and retrieve from information, is part of process of educating yourself, so the effort will not be wasted or pointless. Figuring out tests is a problem-solving experience and developing confidence to recognize and solve problems is not just a school game but a true educational activity.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. Why do many students score far lower than they should in the test?
2. According to the speaker, what is crucial for successful test-taking?
3. What does the speaker think of school tests?
4. Which of the following is not an educational activity?

Passage Two

Voice and text chat, in addition to instant messaging, are quickly becoming preferred ways of communicating with others online. For language learners, these forms of communication allow users to share ideas about themselves and the world in

almost real time, and students can establish friendship with people from around the globe, and thus, it can be an easy way to learn languages and world cultures.

However, care and consideration should be given when finding friends on the Internet because you really don't know who the person is at the other end. Thus, always use a nickname when chatting online and never give out personal information including your age, where you live, and the name of the school where you attend. Also, be careful about meeting online acquaintances in person, and if you do so, make sure it is in a public place and go with a friend or family member. Finally, contact local authorities if you feel you are in danger.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the passage you have just heard.

5. What is the passage mainly about?
6. Which of the following is NOT true about language learners and Internet communicating?
7. What should one do about chatting on the Internet?

Passage Three

If you visit a big city anywhere in the world, you will probably find a restaurant would serve the food of your own native country. Most large cities in the United States offer international sample of foods. Many people enjoy eating the food of other nations. This is probably one reason why there are so many different kinds of restaurants in the United States. The second reason is that many Americans come from other parts of the world. They enjoy tasting the foods of their native lands. In the city of Detroit, for example, there are many people from Western Europe, Greece, Latin America, and the Far East. There are many restaurants in Detroit which serve the foods of these areas. There are many other international restaurants too. Americans enjoy the foods in these restaurants as well as the opportunity to better understand the people and their way of life. One of the most common international restaurants to be found in the United States is the Italian restaurant. The restaurant may be a small business run by a single family. The mother of the family cooks all of the dishes, and the father and children serve the people who come to eat there. Or it may be a large restaurant owned by several different people who worked together in the business. Many Italian dishes that Americans enjoy are made with meats, tomatoes and cheese, they are very delicious and tasty.

Questions 8 to 10 are based on the Passage you have just heard.

8. Why are there so many international restaurants in the United States?
9. Why do Americans like to go to international restaurants apart from enjoying the foods there?
10. How is a typical Italian family restaurant run in the United States?

Practice Five

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news*

report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.

News report one

The United States government has filed an antitrust case in New York against the technology giant Apple and some major book publishers, claiming they can spy out to limit competition for electronic books. The lawsuit accuses Apple of colluding with the book publishers to change the way books are sold. From Washington, here's Peter Burns:

According to the lawsuit, Apple colluded with publishers such as Macmillan and Penguin to limit competition for the pricing of e-books. The lawsuit alleges Apple and the publishers reached an agreement where retail price competition would effectively end and prices would significantly increase, guaranteeing the computer giant 30% commission on each e-book sold. According to the reports, three other publishers have agreed to settle the case.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. Whom has the United States government filed an antitrust case against?
2. Who can get a commission of 30% on each e-book sold according to the agreement reached by Apple and the publishers?

News report two

Digital textbooks are transforming the way many students learn. All the Fairfax County Public Schools have begun using online course material for their middle and high school students. This school year, the school's shifted from hard cover to electronic textbooks for social studies in its middle and high schools. The switch came after digital books were used in 15 schools last year. "Our students came to us technologically ready to use resources from a variety of different places," says Assistant Superintendent Peter Noonan. "The world is changing consistently. The online textbooks can change right along with the events that are happening." There's a significant financial benefit as well. "Usually it is between \$50 and \$70 to buy a textbook for each student," Noonan says, "which adds up to roughly \$8 million for all of our students. We actually have purchased all of the online textbooks for our students for just under \$6 million."

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. What is happening to the schools in Fairfax County this school year?
4. How much have schools saved with digital textbooks?

News report three

America's most expensive home is for sale in Los Angeles, California for \$250 million. The new 12,000-square-meter home has 12 bedrooms and 21 bathrooms. The home also has three kitchens, a 25-meter swimming pool, a 40-seat movie theater, spa and bowling alley. It has an elevator to take people up and down four floors. The

home sits on a hill in the Bel Air neighborhood, a favorite living area for movie stars and other famous people.

But what makes this home different from the many other expensive ones in Los Angeles? It also comes furnished with many built-in luxuries. The buyer gets \$30 million worth of expensive cars and motorcycles, including a Rolls-Royce, a Ferrari and a Bugatti. The home also includes many furnishings and art pieces created by well-known designers and artists. Included in the price are seven full-time workers who live in a separate part of the home.

One of the most unusual parts of the home is a helicopter sitting on the roof. But the helicopter --- an old model used on an American television show in the 1980s -- is just for show. Even for \$250 million, you cannot buy takeoff and landing rights.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. How many floors are there in the most expensive home mentioned in the news report?

6. Which of the following is not included in the price of the home for sale?

7. Which of the following is true of the helicopter mentioned in the news report?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

M: If I won the five million lotteries, I'd go round the world.

W: Would you? I wouldn't.

M: What would you do?

W: Oh, I don't know. I'd buy a big house with a garden for my family, I suppose. But it's difficult to imagine having a lot of money.

M: One thing is certain. If I had a lot of money, I wouldn't work any more.

W: Wouldn't you? What would you do with all that spare time?

M: As I said, I'd go round the world.

W: What would you do after that?

M: Oh, I don't know. It'd take me a long time to go round the world.

W: It doesn't sound very exciting.

M: Anyway, we haven't won the five million lotteries, and we are not likely to win them. So there isn't much point in talking about it, is there?

W: I'd be happy if I got a rise.

M: And my wife would be happy if I bought her a mink coat.

W: Well, I'm not likely to get a rise and you haven't the money for a mink coat, so let's come down to earth and have another drink.

M: What'll you have?

W: I'll have a pint of the best.

M: I'd have a Scotch if I were you. We deserve it.

W: All right. Make it a double, will you?

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

1. What is the probable relationship between the two speakers?
2. What would the man do if he had won the five million lotteries?
3. How do the speakers think their talking about the lottery?
4. What will the speakers probably do next?

Conversation Two

W: Steve, can you tell me how long you've been a pub owner?

M: Well, four years, I suppose. I've been involved with pubs off and on for ten years.

I've sort of done hotel work and I've also in a restaurant pub. And now I've got what you call a good old-fashioned pub. That is, a public bar, with all the social games going with it, which is what we've always wanted to have, you know.

W: It sounds like you've always worked in pubs, but not always in this one.

M: No. No. I worked in quite a variety of pubs.

W: What makes a good pub? I mean, you said, you know, it has got a good variety of things.

M: Well, I think having the right customers to start with, selling the right beer, keeping it good, and most of all, keeping a good attitude yourself, even though you probably feel very tired. But the idea is, if you generate from your side, it's got to affect the other side, if you're getting the right customers in.

W: Yeah. I must say that's one thing that has always struck me about being a pub owner. I mean, a lot of people seem to think that it's a nice job, you know. Everybody says, "Oh, I'd love to retire and get a country pub." But it seems to me that it's actually very hard work.

Questions 5 to 8 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

5. What does the man say about his involvement with pubs?
6. What characterizes the old-fashioned pub, according to the man?
7. What does the man say is most important in making a good pub?
8. What does the woman think of running a country pub?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

The need for birth control methods has developed fairly recently, with the desire among many women to be able to decide when they want to have a baby. At the same time, there is a growing awareness of the problem of a rapidly increasing world population. This problem of a rising world population is largely the result of improved medical skills, which have lowered the death rate and at the same time raised the birth rate by increasing live births and the number of babies who survive

early childhood. There is a growing realization that food production can not keep pace with these increases, the result of which is that in some countries people are already starving to death while many millions more suffer from malnutrition. This problem is further complicated by the fact that places like America and Europe obtain by trade and consume far more food and resources like oil than, say, the average Indian. Thus leaving even less for the people in the underdeveloped area to survive on. World population is rising at a rate of 2% a year; this means an addition of 70 million people a year to the present population of more than 3 500 million. There are striking regional differences in the population growth trends. The fastest growing region is Latin America which includes South and Central America and the Caribbean, while Africa and Asia closely follow Latin America. However the largest absolute addition to the world population is in Asia which at present contains about three-fifths of the people of the world.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. How does the rising population negatively influence some countries?
2. According to the speaker, how many people have been added per year to the present population?
3. Which of the following regions' population is growing fastest?

Passage Two

Do you want to improve the first impression you make? Do you want people to consider you as capable as a man working in the same field? As a woman, you have to pay more attention to the impression you're making, because you have to overcome the initial stereotype that pops up in the other person's mind "oh, it's a woman."

Here are a few tips: If you are entering a room with others, try to walk in first. This makes a powerful impression on the people already in the room. If you are on your own, walking into a room full of people, stand to the side and quickly survey the room to plan where you'll go. Suppose then, you see a group of higher-ups, you'd better take this opportunity to walk over and ask them a question related to business. If that is something out of your comfort zone, you can approach the group and stand a little outside of their circle and smile. Wait for a lull in the conversation, and I bet someone will say hello. Then, you need to know about the handshake, as a woman, you can't get away with the advice given to man for a powerful handshake. That's the one where he puts his hand out, palm down and dominates the shake. My advice is for you to be the first one to put your hand out, thumb facing up. It's important to be the first, because that's powerful, but more importantly, because men often don't know if you will be OK with a handshake. Let him know you are, also, face him directly, not at an angle, which looks tentative and unsure. Grip his hand firmly and fully, not any of these fingertips stuff, smile, look in his eyes, and say something.

Questions 4 to 7 are based on the Passage you have just heard.

4. What is the initial stereotype mentioned in the talk?
5. According to the speaker's advice, what should a woman do if she is entering a meeting room with other people?

6. What's a woman advised to do if she meets with a group of high-ranking individuals in a room?
7. What should be avoided in a handshake according to the speaker?

Passage Three

The word “university” comes from the Latin word “universitas”, meaning “the whole”. Later, in Latin legal language, “universitas” meant a society or corporation. In the Middle Ages, the word meant “an association of teachers and scholars”. The origins of universities can be traced back to the 12th to 14th centuries. In the early 12th century, long before universities were organized in the modern sense, students gathered together for higher studies at certain centers of learning. The earliest centers in the Europe were at Bologna in Italy, founded in 1088. Other early centers were set up in France, the Czech Republic, Austria and Germany from 1150 to 1386. The first universities in Britain were Oxford and Cambridge. They were established in 1185 and 1209 respectively. The famous London University was founded in 1836. This was followed by the foundation of several universities such as Manchester and Birmingham, which developed from provincial colleges. It was in the 1960's that the largest expansion of higher education took place in Britain. This expansion took 3 basic forms: existing universities were enlarged, new universities were developed from existing colleges and completely new universities were set up. In Britain, finance for universities comes from three sources: the first and the largest source is grants from the government, the second source is fees paid by students and the third one is private donations.

All the British universities except one receive some government funding. The exception is Buckingham, which is Britain's only independent university.

Questions 8 to 10 are based on the Passage you have just heard.

8. What did the word “Universitas” mean in the Middle Ages?
9. Why was the 1960's so significant for British Higher Education?
10. What is the main financial source for British universities?

Practice Six

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

A hearing at the U. S. military base has recommended that Bradley Manning, the soldier accused of leaking a huge number of classified government documents should be sent for court martial. If convicted, he could face a life in prison. Jonathan Blake reports from Washington.

Private Bradley Manning was arrested in May, 2010. The 24-year-old from Oklahoma

is accused of leaking hundreds of thousands of classified documents to the WikiLeaks websites while working as a U. S. army analyst in Iraq. There were 22 separate charges against him for distributing states secrets and aiding the enemy. At a pretrial hearing, defense lawyers said the soldier was emotionally troubled that the government had failed him. The prosecutors described the evidence against Manning as irrefutable.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What was Private Bradley Manning before he was arrested?
2. What was Bradley Manning charged with?

News report two

A man was arrested on suspicion of attempting to carry explosives through a security checkpoint at an airport, authority said. Trey Scoot Atwater was taken into custody Saturday morning after Transportation Security Administration agents spotted what they described as a suspicious item. The item was in his carry-on during X-ray screening at a security checkpoint at the Airport, an FBI spokesman said in a statement. Neither the FBI nor the TSA identified the explosives, though an airport spokeswoman said the items were wrapped in military grade wrapping and are in the possession of the Police. At no time was there any danger to the people at the airport. "The airport terminal was temporarily evacuated while authorities conducted a sweep, and deemed all clear," said the city spokeswoman. Atwater has been arrested on a federal count of attempting to get on an aircraft with an explosive.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. Who found the suspicious item at the airport?
4. Which of the following statements is NOT correct?

News report three

Two thirds of vice-chancellors, speaking anonymously, said they needed to raise fees, suggesting levels of between £ 4,000 and £ 20,000 per year. More than half of university heads want students to pay at least £ 5,000 per year or for there to be no upper limit.

England's Higher Education Minister David Lammy said there was an "important debate to be had". The National Union of Students has warned of debts of £ 32,000 for students if fees rise to £ 7,000 per year. The controversy over tuition fees is set to be re-opened, five years after it sparked one of the biggest backbench rebellions faced by the Labor government. University fees must be reviewed this year by the government, and there are already arguments about whether the present £ 3,500 upper limit on fees should be lifted. Any changes will affect about a million students on undergraduate courses.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What is this news item mainly about?
6. When must the University fees be reviewed by the government?
7. What's the present upper limit on annual university fees?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

W: Do you think families have changed much in the last 50 years?

M: I think families everywhere have changed a lot in the last five decades.

W: What do you think is the biggest change?

M: Well, in the past, three or four generations would live together under the same roof. Nowadays, relatives living in the same city have become rare.

W: That's true. You know, some husbands and wives don't even live in the same city any more.

M: Would you ever consider having your parents live with you when they get older?

W: I guess I'm a bit old-fashioned. I'd rather have my parents live with me than live in a retirement home.

M: That's very respectable, but I could never live with my parents. I usually only see them at our Christmas celebration and that's enough!

W: How about your other siblings? Do they spend a lot of time with your parents?

M: Two of my sisters still live at home, even though they have already graduated from university and had jobs. They enjoy their spending time with my parents. I guess in that respect, I'm the black sheep of the family.

W: I see. Do your parents ever ask you to come home to visit them more often?

M: They're always asking me to come home, but I think our relationship is better if we keep a distance from each other. Whenever we see each other, all we do is fight!

W: Well, you know what they say, "you can choose your friends, but not your family."

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. What does the man think is the biggest change for families?
2. What does the woman wish for when her parents get older?
3. Why does the man say he is the black sheep of the family?
4. Why is the man unwilling to live with his parent?

Conversation 2

M: What should I do about Mr. Romero? Remember? He said it was important and couldn't wait. I think he may want you for that new movie he's directing.

W: That's absolutely correct. Now, we have to fit him in somewhere. Uh... what does Monday morning look like?

M: That doesn't look so good. You have a make-up session starting at 6:00, then filming starts at 8:00, and that's going to take the whole morning.

W: Well, what's after that?

M: You have lunch with your agent to discuss the awards ceremony and you'll have to meet him at one o'clock at the restaurant.

W: Oh, terrific! Listen, I cannot miss that. But I still have to make time for Mr. Romero.

M: Well, now, don't forget you got a three-o'clock appointment with your fashion designer.

W: That's right. You know he's showing the latest fashions from Japan? You know that loose-fitting look? Those clothes are so in this year.

M: At 4:30 you have an appointment with your hairdresser. Then at 7:00, you have dinner with a journalist. Now remember, be nice to that guy.

W: Do I have to? That won't be easy and it's likely to run late. How does Tuesday look?

M: Well, you have to spend the whole morning at the photographer's. They are taking photos to publicize your new movie.

W: What about the afternoon? Am I free then?

M: Let me see... Yes, you are free after 3:30.

W: Then you can set up a meeting with Mr. Romero at 4:00.

M: Ok. I'll get on it right away.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

5. What are the speakers doing?
6. What is the woman going to discuss with her agent over lunch on Monday?
7. What do we learn from the conversation about the man?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

Many substances that come into contact with the surface of the eye can cause chemical burns, allergic reactions or inflammations, or can even be absorbed through the eye. Whenever one of these types of substances does come into contact with someone's eye, the eye should be flushed out immediately with water. Lukewarm water should be poured gently into the inside corner of the eye from a container, two to three inches above the victim's eye. A water tap will do very nicely as it produces controllable pressure. The victim's head should be tilted so that the water will flow across the eyeball and off the face. This procedure should be followed for five to fifteen minutes, depending on the severity of the problem. Adults who can not do the above may use a shower to wash out the eyes. Urgency is the key word in treating eye problems of this sort. Wash out the affected eye immediately and as soon as possible, and then call a physician or a poison control center for additional advice.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. What is the main idea of the topic?
2. How far from the victim's head should the water be poured?
3. What is the key word in the treatment of eye problems?

Passage Two

Miss Susan Brown is twenty five years old and has been a night nurse at a hospital since last April. She works eight nights on, six nights off, from 9:15 at night to 8 o'clock the next morning.

She worked as an office cleaner before she came to the hospital but she hadn't enjoyed that experience at all.

It's perhaps surprising that Susan chose to work nights permanently. She felt she needed a change for one thing. And for another, she hoped eventually to be a head nurse. She has also found that a night nurse's work is physically less demanding than a cleaner's and she can sleep eight hours during the day.

Of course there are some problems in her daily life. The most serious problem is the headache she gets from the dim lighting in the hospital. She doesn't have time to wash her long hair for eight working long days and she has to pack all her social activities into six days out of a fortnight. But on the whole she feels very happy.

Questions 4 to 6 are based on the passage you have just heard.

4. What job did Miss Susan Brown have before she worked as a night nurse in a hospital?
5. Why did Susan choose to do night work?
6. What does the passage tell us about Susan Brown?

Passage Three

In the next few decades, people are going to travel very differently from the way they do today.

Everyone is going to drive electrically-powered cars, so in the few years, people won't worry about running out of gas. Some of the large automobile companies are really moving ahead with this new technology. F&C Motors, a major auto company, for example, is holding a press conference next week. After the press conference, the company will present its new electronically-operated models. Transportation in the future won't be limited to the ground, many people predict that traffic will quickly move to the sky. In the coming years, instead of radio reports about road conditions and highway traffic, news reports will talk about traffic jams in the sky. But the sky isn't the limit. In the future, you will probably even be able to take a trip to the moon. Instead of listening to regular airplane announcements, you will hear someone say: the spacecraft to the moon leaves in 10 minutes. Please check your equipment. And remember no more than 10 ounces of carry-on baggage are allowed.

Questions 7 to 9 are based on the passage you have just heard.

7. What will be used to power cars in the next few decades?
8. What will future news reports focus on when talking about transportation?
9. What will passengers be asked to do when they travel to the moon?

Practice Seven

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

The Federal Aviation Administration, or FAA, the government agency that regulates civil aviation in the United States, announced new rules this month to combat pilot fatigue. The new guidelines, which will go into effect in two years, call for reducing the number of pilots' on-duty hours and giving them a 10-hour rest period between shifts, so they can get at least 8 hours of uninterrupted sleep. The new rules apply to only pilots of passenger airlines. FAA determined that including pilots who fly cargo planes --- a large part of the aviation industry --- would add too much to the cost of implementing the changes. But the Independent Pilots Association has filed a lawsuit asking the government to set one level of safety for all pilots.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What is the main purpose of the new rules announced by FAA?
2. Why was the Independent Pilots Association unhappy about the new rules?

News report two

A tough anti-smoking law has taken effect in Spain. The ban, one of the strictest in Europe, outlaws smoking in all bars and restaurants. Smokers will also be prohibited on television broadcasts, near hospitals or in school playgrounds. The law tightens anti-smoking restriction introduced in 2006. The anti-smoking rules introduced in 2006 outlawed smoking only in the workplace, but let bar and restaurant owners choose whether or not to allow it. Most chose not to impose any ban. Only large restaurants and bars were obliged to provide a smoke-free area. Now, hotel, restaurant and bar owners have said they could face a 10% drop in trade with the new rules. The industry has already seen a sharp fall in sales due to Spain's economic problems. But doctors argue the new legislation will help smokers give up.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. Where was smoking NOT allowed according to the 2006 anti-smoking restrictions?
4. Which of the following groups reacts negatively to the new law?

News report three

FIFA is unhappy that Rangers have taken their case to the Chilean courts of justice as it does not approve of civil or government intervention in football. The governing body has written to the Chilean Football Association urging it to persuade Rangers to drop the case. And Chile's national team may be banned if their FA fails to take action. The decision whether to suspend Chile from the World Cup in South Africa would then be discussed by FIFA's executive committee, who meet next week.

FIFA's letter, which was sent to ANFP president Harold Mayne-Nicholls, read: We ask your association to call on your affiliated club to withdraw the case it took to the Chilean courts of justice within the next 72 hours or announce the relevant sanctions

against your affiliated club. Rangers were relegated after they were docked three points for fielding one foreign player too many in a match.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What is the topic of this news item?
6. When would the FIFA's executive committee meet?
7. What did the FIFA's letter ask the ANFP to do?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

M: Hello, and welcome to our program "Working Abroad". Our guest this evening is a Londoner, who lives and works in Italy. Her name's Susan Hill. Susan, welcome to the program. You live in Florence, how long have you been living there?

W: Since 1982. But when I went there in 1982, I planned to stay for only 6 months.

M: Why did you change your mind?

W: Well, I'm a designer, I design leather goods, mainly shoes, and handbags. Soon after I arrived in Florence, I got a job with one of Italy's top fashion houses, Ferregamo. So, I decided to stay.

M: How lucky! Do you still work for Ferregamo?

W: No, I've been a freelance designer for quite a long time now. Since 1988, in fact.

M: So does that mean you design for several different companies now?

W: Yes, that's right. I've designed many fashion items for a number of Italian companies, and during the last four years, I've also been designing for the British company, Burberry's.

M: What have you been designing for them?

W: Mostly handbags, and small leather goods.

M: Has the fashion industry in Italy changed since 1982?

W: Oh, yes. It's become a lot more competitive. Because of quality of products from other countries has improved a lot. But the Italian quality and design is still world-famous.

M: And do you ever think of returning to live in England?

W: No, not really. Working in Italy is more interesting. I also love the Mediterranean sun and the Italian life style.

M: Well, thank you for talking to us, Susan.

W: It was a pleasure.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

1. Where does this talk most probably take place?
2. What was the woman's original plan when she went to Florence?
3. What has the woman been doing for a living since 1988?
4. What do we learn about the change in Italy's fashion industry?

Conversation Two

M: What's the matter?

W: Oh, I don't know.

M: Oh, come on...it's something. What's it?

W: It's just life...it's so boring.

M: Oh, it's not so bad....You've got Daniel!

W: But he's only a baby! It's all right for you. You'll leave the house in five minutes.

I'll be here all day. When will you come home? You won't come home till seven!

M: One of us must go to work, dear.

W: Yes, but your day will be interesting. My day will be the same as every day.

M: My work isn't always interesting.

W: I know, but you travel around, you meet different people and you do different things. Who will I meet today? What will I do? Eh? I'll wash up, feed the baby, do the washing, clean the house, bath the baby, and take the dog for a walk...

M: But... but...dear.

W: Then I'll go to the supermarket, prepare dinner, meet you at the station, have dinner, wash up again...

M: But...but...dear.

W: Then I'll feed the baby again, put the baby to bed...What a life! Today, tomorrow, this week, next week, this month, next month, next year...for ever!

M: It's just Monday, dear...you will be O.K. later.

W: Will I?

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

5. What is the probable relationship between the two speakers?
6. What is the woman's problem?
7. What does the man think of the woman's problem?

Section C

Directions: In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

Passage One

Sports and games make our bodies strong, prevent us from getting too fat, and keep us healthy. But they also give us valuable practice in making eyes, brain and muscles work together. In tennis, our eyes see the ball coming, judge its speed and direction and pass this information on to the brain. The brain then has to decide what to do, and to send its orders to the muscles of arms, legs, and so on, so that the ball is met and hit back where it ought to go. All this must happen with very great speed, and only those who had a lot of practice at tennis can carry out this complicated chain of events successfully.

Sports and games are also very useful for character-training. In their lessons at

school, boys and girls may learn about good virtues; but what is learned in books cannot have the same deep effect on a child's character as what is learned by experience. The ordinary day-school cannot give much practical training in living, because most of the pupils' time is spent in classes, studying lessons. So it is what the pupils do in their spare time that really prepares them to take their place in society as citizens when they grow up. If each of them learns to work for his team and not for himself on the football field, he will later find it natural to work for the good of his country instead for his own benefit.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. What do we have to do when we play tennis?
2. In what way can sports and games help the children?
3. What can influence a child's character most deeply according to the speaker?
4. What is the most important to a football team according to the passage?

Passage Two

When you were a child, did you ever wonder how your mother knew when you were writing on the wall with crayons, even though she couldn't possibly see or hear you? Or why she always came outside and called you just as you headed for forbidden territory? How did she know? If you asked her, she probably told you that it was her mother's intuition.

Just exactly what is a mother's intuition? Unfortunately, not even mothers who profess to have it can explain exactly what it is. Some would say it was the sixth sense or a funny feeling that prompted them to check on their children's activities.

Some theorize that the close and intimate relationship that mother and child have for the first year of a child's life sets up an understanding that no other relationship could possibly compare. In other words, a mother cares about the thoughts and behavior of her child more than any other person could. Therefore, even though she may be occupied with household chores or social activities, a part of her is constantly alert for her child's safety.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the passage you have just heard.

5. According to the passage, what causes the mothers to know their children's behavior even though they are not present?
6. Why do mothers have the intuitive ability more than any other group of people?
7. What is the main idea of this passage?

Passage Three

During a 1995 roof collapse, a firefighter named Donald Herbert was left brain damaged. For ten years, he was unable to speak. Then, one Saturday morning, he did something that shocked his family and doctors. He started speaking. "I want to talk to my wife." Donald Herbert said out of the blue. Staff members of the nursing home where he has lived for more than seven years, raced to get Linda Herbert on the telephone. "It was the first of many conversations the 44-year-old patient had with his family and friends during the 14-hour stretch" Herbert's uncle, Simon Menka, said. "How long have I been away?" Herbert asked. "We told him almost ten years," the

uncle said, “he thought it was only three months.” Herbert was fighting a house fire December 29, 1995 when the roof collapsed, burying him underneath. After going without air for several minutes, Herbert was unconscious for two and a half months and has undergone therapy ever since. News accounts in the days and years after his injury, described Herbert as blind and with little if any memory. A video shows him receiving physical therapy but apparently unable to communicate and with little awareness of his surroundings. Menka declined to discuss his nephew’s current condition or whether the apparent progress was continuing. “The family was seeking privacy while doctors evaluated Herbert”, he said. As word of Herbert’s progress spread, visitors streamed into the nursing home. “He’s resting comfortably,” the uncle told them.

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the passage you have just heard.

8. What happened to Herbert ten years ago?
9. What surprised Donald Herbert’s family and doctors one Saturday?
10. How long did Herbert remain unconscious?
11. How did Herbert’s family react to the public attention?

Practice Eight

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

Police in India have arrested a Citibank employee accused of cheating clients out of millions of dollars. Shivraj Puri, 32, who is expected to appear in court later, told an Indian newspaper he was innocent. The alleged fraud was discovered earlier this month in a branch of the bank in Gurgaon, a wealthy suburb of Delhi. The bank has said investors were promised quick, high returns from a bogus financial scheme. It is alleged that Mr. Puri transferred the money into accounts controlled by three relatives. Mr. Puri reportedly handed himself in on Thursday, a day after police said he was wanted for questioning. The alleged fraud came to light earlier this month when a client mentioned the scheme to a senior bank manager.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What was Shivraj Puri charged with?
2. When did Shivraj Puri hand himself in?

News report two

A Russian cargo ship with about 30 crew members aboard was in danger of sinking off Russia’s eastern coast while stormy weather interfered with rescue efforts, state-run ITAR-TASS news agency said Friday. Ice had formed on the outside of the ship, and the crew was chipping it off. The crew sent out a distress signal, but there was no explanation of the problem. Because of the severe weather, aircraft can’t be

used to rescue the crew. According to ITAR-TASS, the vessel is about 90 miles off an oil rig where rescue vessels are based, while a tugboat dispatched from land was still about four times farther away. The cargo ship had been on route to a fishing area when it experienced problems, the news agency reported. The ship hauls fish from boats to ports.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. What was the direct cause of the sinking of the Russian cargo ship?
4. Which of the following was NOT mentioned as a possible means of rescue?

News report three

Israel's attorney general has decided to accuse the former President Moshe Katsav of rape and sexual assault. The charges relate to accusations by a number of women who worked for Mr. Katsav when he was in office. Mr. Katsav stepped down from the presidency almost three years ago. Tim Franks reports.

Moshe Katsav will be charged with sexual offenses from his time as president and previously as a government minister. The attorney general's office said that they'd come to the conclusion that the testimony from the women involved was reliable. This has been a complicated legal tale, already lasting nearly three years. Last year, Moshe Katsav was due to sign a plea bargain which would have seen the rape charge dropped. That plea bargain was widely criticized in Israel for its leniency. His spokesman said Moshe Katsav now welcomes the opportunity, as he put it, to prove his innocence in court.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What's the topic of this news item?
6. How long has the legal tale been lasting?
7. What's the people's reaction on Mr. Katsav's plea bargain?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear three or four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

M: Miss Yamada, did you ever think that you would find yourself living and working in the western world?

W: No. Not really, although I've always listened to recordings of great orchestras from Europe.

M: So you enjoyed classical music even when you were very young?

W: Oh, yes. I was an only child.

M: You were born in 1955. Is that right?

W: Yes, I began violin lessons at school when I was six.

M: As young as that, did you like it?

W: Oh, yes, very much.

M: When did you first play on your own? I mean, when did you give your first performance?

W: I think I was... eight? No. Nine. I just had my birthday a week before, and my father had bought me a new violin. I played a small piece at the school concert.

M: Did you know then that you would become a professional violinist?

W: Yes, I think so. I enjoyed playing the violin very much, and I didn't mind practicing, sometimes three or four hours a day.

M: And when did you first come to Europe?

W: I was very lucky. When I was 15, I won a scholarship to a college in Paris. That was for a three-year course.

M: How did your parents feel about that?

W: I think they were pleased and worried at the same time. It was the chance of a lifetime. But of course I would be thousands of miles from home. Anyway, I studied in Paris for three years and then went back to Tokyo.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. What do we know about the woman before she went to Europe?
2. What does the woman say about her music experience?
3. When did the woman first give her performance?
4. What does the woman say about her study in Paris?

Conversation Two

M: Hi. What are you doing?

W: Just sketching. I've been thinking a lot about our responsibilities in the past few weeks.

M: I never stop thinking about them.

W: I've been wrestling with question of whether I go back to work or not.

M: I see.

W: And I'm torn. I really want to go back to work, use my talents, and pursue my career in fashion design like we always thought I would. But now...I want to be with my baby as a fulltime mother, especially when he's a baby.

M: I really understand, but you never have to worry about the baby. There's Mother and Grandpa...and I can always arrange my photo schedule around your schedule, if that will help.

W: It's not the same, Richard.

M: Have you discussed going back to work with your boss?

W: Rita Mae called yesterday.

M: Ah! That's what's got you thinking, isn't it?

W: She wants to know when I think I'll be returning to the boutique.

M: And you said...?

W: I said I'd give her an answer in a few days...that I wasn't sure.

M: I'm sure Rita Mae will understand and wait until you're ready to go back to work.

W: Well, maybe she will, and maybe she won't. Who knows? If I don't accept her offer, maybe she'll find someone else in the meantime, and when I'm ready to go back, there won't be a job for me.

M: That's something to consider. You've got yourself to think about, too.

W: But I am thinking about myself.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

5. What is the probable relationship between the two speakers?
6. What is the woman's problem?
7. How does the man respond to the woman's worrisome thought?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

Linda is a swimming wonder. She is only seventeen. But she holds five world swimming records. Training is very important. And Linda swims between fifteen and twenty kilometers a day. Her father drives her to the swimming pool at five a. m. He collects her again at seven-thirty to take her to school. In the afternoon it is her mother's turn to take her to the swimming pool and she has to have supper ready for all her children. All the family have stopped watching television so that Linda can have ten hours' sleep at night.

Harry is twenty-two and a long-distance runner. He holds his country's record for the five thousand and ten thousand meters. His time for the five thousand meters is fifteen seconds faster than the world record five years ago. In order to run as fast as this, he has to train himself much harder than those athletes did then. He runs forty to fifty kilometers every day. Linda and Harry do what most top athletes do and so much training is necessary if they hope to win international races.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. What have all the family done to ensure Linda ten hours' sleep at night?
2. How many meters does Harry run every day?
3. Why do Linda and Harry train themselves so hard?

Passage Two

Why is the enormous increase in population taking place? It is really due to the spread of the knowledge and the practice of what is coming to be called Death Control. Sure, you have heard of Birth Control. Death Control is something rather different. Death Control recognizes the work of the doctors and the nurses and the hospitals and the health services in keeping alive people who, a few years ago, would have died of some of the incredibly serious killing diseases, as they used to be.

Nowadays medical examinations at school catch diseases early and ensure healthier school children. Scientists are at work stamping out malaria and other more deadly diseases. If you are seriously ill there is an ambulance to take you to a modern hospital. Medical care helps to keep people alive longer. We used to think seventy was a good age? Now eighty, ninety, it may be, are coming to be recognized as a normal

age for human beings. People are living longer because of this Death Control, and fewer children are dying, so the population of the world is shooting up.

Questions 4 to 6 are based on the Passage you have just heard.

4. What is mainly discussed in the passage?
5. What is the direct result of death control?
6. What is meant by saying “shoot up” at the end of the passage?

Passage Three

Were you the first or the last child in your family? Or were you a middle or an only child? Some people think it matters where you were born in your family. But there are different ideas about what birth order means. Some people say that oldest children are smart and strong-willed. They are very likely to be successful. The reason for this is simple. Parents have a lot of time for their first child, they give him or her a lot of attention. So this child is very likely to do well. An only child will succeed for the same reason. What happens to the other children in the family? Middle children don't get so much attention, so they don't feel that important. If a family has many children, the middle one sometimes gets lost in the crowd. The youngest child, though, often gets special treatment. He or she is the baby. Often this child grows up to be funny and charming. Do you believe these ideas of birth order too? A recent study saw things quite differently. The study found that first children believed in family rules. They didn't take many chances in their lives. They usually followed orders. Rules didn't mean as much to later children in the family. They went out and followed their own ideas. They took chances and they often did better in life.

Questions 7 to 9 are based on the passage you have just heard.

7. According to common belief, in what way are the first child and the only child alike?
8. What do people usually say about middle children?
9. What do we learn about later children in a family from a recent study of birth

Practice Nine

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

Kenyan police say one person was killed and 26 injured in an explosion at a bus station in central Nairobi. The blast hit a bus about to set off for the Ugandan capital Kampala. Last July, the Somali group Al-Shabab said it was behind the blasts in the Ugandan capital which killed more than 70 people. Will Ross reports from the Kenyan capital.

The explosion happened beside a bus which was about to set off for an overnight

journey from Nairobi to the Ugandan capital Kampala. Some eyewitnesses report that a bag was about to be loaded on board, but it exploded during a security check. Windows of the red bus were left smashed, and blood could be seen on the ground beside the vehicle. Just hours earlier, Uganda's police chief had warned of possible Christmas-time attacks by Somali rebels.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What is the news report mainly about?
2. When did the incident occur?

News report two

Woolworths is one of the best known names on the British High Street. It's been in business nearly a century. Many of its 800 stores are likely to close following the company's decision to call in administrators after an attempt to sell the business for a token £1 failed.

The company has huge debts. The immediate cause for the collapse has been Britain's slide toward recession, which has cut into consumer spending. However, the business had been in trouble for years.

Known for low-priced general goods, Woolworths has struggled in the face of competition from supermarkets expanding beyond groceries and a new generation of internet retailers.

Many of the store group's 25,000 employees are likely to lose their jobs. Some profitable areas such as the DVD publishing business will survive.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. What do we learn about Woolworths from the news report?
4. What did Woolworths attempt to do recently?

News report three

President Obama has described international talks on Iran's nuclear programs "constructive". However, he said he now wanted to see concrete action from Iran to prove its intentions were peaceful. The negotiations between Iran, the US and other powers took place in Geneva from where Jeremy Bowen reports.

It looks as if the meeting went better than expected. For the first time, the Americans took a full part in a negotiation, and the Russians and the Chinese apparently stood together with the western powers. A potentially highly significant development is an Iranian agreement in principle to allow significant proportion of its stock of low enriched uranium out of the country to be made into fuel for nuclear reactor (核反应堆). If that happens, it would take out of the equation (相等) material that the big powers here feared could be made into a nuclear bomb.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What is this news item mainly about?
6. How did the meeting look like?
7. What can be inferred from the news?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

M: When I say I live in Sweden, people always want to know about the seasons.

W: The seasons?

M: Yeah, you know how cold it is in winter? What is it like when the days are so short?

W: So what is it like?

M: Well, it is cold, very cold in winter. Sometimes it is cold as 26 degrees below centigrade. And of course when you go out, you'll wrap up warm. But inside the houses it's always very warm, much warmer than at home. Swedish people always complain that when they visit England, the houses are cold even in the good winter.

W: And what about the darkness?

M: Well, yeah, around Christmas time there's only one hour of daylight, so you really look forward to the spring. It is sometimes a bit depressing. But you see the summers are amazing, from May to July in the North of Sweden the sun never sets. It's still light in the midnight. You can walk in the mountains and read a newspaper.

W: Oh, yeah, the land of the midnight sun.

M: Yeah, that's right, but it's wonderful. You won't stay up all night. And the Swedes makes most of it. Often they start work earlier in summer and then leave at about 2 or 3 in the afternoon, so that they can really enjoy the long summer evenings. They'd like to work hard, but play hard, too. I think Londoners work longer hours, but I'm not sure this is a good thing.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

1. What do we learn about the man from the conversation?
2. What do Swedish people complain about when they visit England in winter?
3. How does the man describe the short hour of daylight around Christmas in Sweden?

Conversation Two

M: Hi, Ann! Welcome back! How was your trip to the States?

W: Very busy. I had a lot of meetings, so, of course, I didn't have much time to see New York.

M: What a pity! Actually, I have a trip there myself next week.

W: Do you? Then take my advice, do the well-being in the air program. It really works.

M: Oh, I read about that in a magazine. You say it works?

W: Yes, I did the program on the flight to the States, and when I arrived in New York, I didn't have any problem, no jet lag at all. On the way back, I didn't do it, and I

felt terrible.

M: You're joking!

W: Not at all, it really made a lot of difference.

M: En. So what did you do?

W: Well, I didn't drink any alcohol or coffee, and I didn't eat any meat or rich food. I drink a lot of water, and free juice, and I ate the meals on the well-being menu. They're lighter. They have fish, vegetables, and noodles, for example, and I did some of the exercises in the program.

M: Exercises? On a plane?

W: Yes. I didn't do many, of course, there isn't much space on a plane.

M: How many passengers do the exercises?

W: Not many.

M: Then how much champagne did they drink?

W: A lot! It was more popular than mineral water.

M: So, basically, it's a choice. Mineral water and exercises, or champagne and jet lag.

W: That's right! It's a difficult choice.

Questions 4 to 7 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

4. Why did the woman go to New York?

5. What does the woman say about the well-being in the air program?

6. What did the woman do to follow the well-being menu?

7. What did the woman say about other passengers?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

When Mr. Jones went to a restaurant one day, he left his coat near the door. There was nothing in the pockets of the coat when he left, so he was surprised when he took the coat after his meal and found the pockets full of jewelry.

There was a waiter near the door, so Mr. Jones said to him, "Somebody has made a mistake. He has put some jewelry in my coat. Take it, and when he comes back, give it to him." The waiter took it and went away. Suddenly another man came in with a coat just like Mr. Jones. "I'm sorry," said the man. "I made a mistake. I took your coat and you have got mine. Please give my coat and jewelry." Mr. Jones answered, "I gave it to the waiter. He will give it to you."

Mr. Jones called the manager of the restaurant; but the manager said: "we have no waiters here. We only have waitresses." "You gave the jewelry to a thief!" shouted the other man, "I shall call the police!" Mr. Jones was frightened and paid the man a lot of money for the jewelry.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. Where did Mr. Jones go one day?

2. Why was Mr. Jones surprised at his coat?
3. What did Mr. Jones do with the jewelry?
4. What did Mr. Jones have to do at the end?

Passage Two

“High tech” and “state of the art” are two expressions that describe very modern technology. High tech is just a shorter way of saying high technology. And high technology describes any invention, system or device that uses the newest ideas or discoveries of sciences and engineering.

What is high tech? A computer is high tech. So is a communication satellite. A modern manufacturing system is surely high tech.

High tech became a popular expression in the United States during the early 1980’s. Because of improvements in technology, people could buy any new kinds of products in American stores, such as home computers, microwave ovens, etc.

“State of the art” is something that is as modern as possible. It is a product that is based on the very latest methods and technology. Something that is “state of the art” is the newest possible design or product of a business or industry. A state of the art television set, for example, uses the most modern electronic design and parts. It is the best that one can buy.

“State of the art” is not a new expression. Engineers have used it for years, to describe the best and most modern way of doing something.

Millions of Americans began to use the expression in the late 1970’s. The reason was the computer revolution.

Every computer technology claimed that its computers were “state of the art”.

Computer technology changed so fast that a state of the art computer today might be old tomorrow.

Questions 5 to 8 are based on the passage you have just heard.

5. What is the purpose of the passage?
6. What can we infer from the passage?
7. Which of the following is not a high tech?
8. What is the best title for the passage?

Passage Three

A new study reports the common drug aspirin greatly reduces life threatening problems after an operation to replace blocked blood vessels to the heart. More than 800,000 people around the world have this heart surgery each year. The doctors who carried out the study say giving aspirin to patients soon after the operation could save thousands of lives. People usually take aspirin to control pain and reduce high body temperature. Doctors also advise some people to take aspirin to help prevent heart attacks. About 10-15 percent of these heart operations end in death or damage to the heart or other organs. The new study shows that even a small amount of aspirin reduced such threats. The doctors said the chance of death for patients who took aspirin would fall by 67%. They claimed this was true if the aspirin was given within 48 hours of the operation. The doctors believe aspirin helps heart surgery patients

because it can prevent blood from thickening and blood vessels from being blocked. However, the doctors warned that people who have stomach bleeding or other bad reactions from aspirin should not take it after heart surgery.

Questions 9 to 11 are based on the passage you have just heard.

9. What is the finding of the new study of aspirin?
10. In what way can aspirin help heart surgery patients according to the doctors?
11. What warning did the doctors give about the use of aspirin?

Practice Ten

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

Eleven fishing boat crew who had been stranded since October in a remote part of Russia's Far East have been rescued after sheltering nearly three months at an abandoned military base. The eight men and three women took refuge at the base after their small boats collided on October 10th. Their attempts to fix one of the boats did not succeed, and they had to remain at the abandoned base where there were only flour and cooking oil. Other supplies at the base included Christmas ornaments and the crew members put them up on a small tree inside their quarters. But the supplies began running low and early this week, five set off on foot across snow fields. On Friday, after four days' long difficult walk, they reached a working military radio station. The center called rescuers and helicopters were sent to take the eleven to the regional capital.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. Why were the fishing crew stranded on Oct. 10th?
2. How did they survive during those three months?

News report two

The New Year celebration in Thailand was shattered by violence when 9 bombs exploded across Bangkok around midnight. Three Thai citizens were killed and more than 30 injured. No terrorist group claimed responsibility for the bombing by Tuesday. Some believe the explosions were the work of Muslim separatists. Bombings and shootings occur almost daily in Thailand's three southernmost provinces: Yala, Narathiwat and Pattani which have a dominant Muslim population and have long complained of neglect and discrimination in the largely Buddhist nation. They have asked for independence and a separate Islamic state. Since 2004, the insurgencies have carried out numerous attacks in the south, and more than 1,900 people have been killed. The Thai government has been unable to curb the violence, though thousands of troops have been sent to the south.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. What happened during the New Year celebration in Thailand?
4. Why is there a violent situation in the south of Thailand?

News report three

Georgia has strongly condemned the visit by the Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin to its breakaway region of Abkhazia just a year after the two countries fought a brief war over the territory. Mr. Putin promised to spend 500 million dollars next year on military bases in Abkhazia and on fortifying (加固) the territory's border with Georgia. Richard Galpin reports from the Abkhaz capital Sukhumi.

The Russian prime minister was given a hero's welcome here by relatives of those killed in the first war with Georgia in the early 1990s, people calling him a guardian (保护者) angel and thanking him for Russia's military intervention last year which crushed Georgia's hopes of regaining control of its breakaway regions. A top advisor to the Abkhaz government said Abkhazia had no choice but to get help from Russia. Just like in Georgia's, other breakaway region of South Ossetia, Moscow has now taken full control of security here.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What's the main idea of this news?
6. How much did Putin promise to spend next year on military bases in Abkhazia?
7. Why did the Abkhaz people call Putin a guardian angel?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

W: Could you please give me information on airfares from Miami to Bellingham, Washington? We'd like advice on how to fly as cheaply as possible.

M: Let's see. I won't advise you to pay the normal one-way economy class fare of \$555. If you can fly on a Tuesday or Wednesday and buy your tickets at least 21 days in advance, I suggest you book a round-trip excursion flight.

W: But we may not need the return tickets.

M: That's all right. Even if you don't use them, you should be able to save \$89 over the one-way fare. Of course, I'd recommend early booking. You ought to try to reserve the "Super Saver" seats. There are only a few of them and they are 15% cheaper than the others.

W: That sounds like a good idea.

M: Wait, to save another hundred dollars or so, why don't you book a flight to Vancouver, Canada?

W: But that's farther than where we want to go.

M: I know, but you can take a bus from Vancouver back to Bellingham and still save money. And if you are travelling with children, you might be able to get a discount if you fly economy class. But they don't get any discount. But to take advantage of the airline's guaranteed fare policy, you'd have to make reservations and pay for your tickets at least six weeks in advance. Shall I begin the search for available seats?

W: No. Thank you.

M: Excuse me?

W: I may call you back if we don't decide to drive.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. Where is the woman planning to go?
2. What is the woman's purpose in calling the man?
3. What does the man advise the woman to do?
4. What does the man do?

Conversation Two

M: So, Claire, you're into drama!

W: Yes, I have a master's degree in drama and theatre. At the moment, I'm hoping to get onto a PhD program.

M: What excites you about drama?

W: Well, I find it's a communicative way to study people and you learn how to read people in drama. So usually I can understand what people are saying even though they might be lying.

M: That would be useful.

W: Yeah, it's very useful for me as well. I'm in English lecture, so use a lot of drama in my classes such as role plays. And I ask my students to create mini-dramas. They really respond well. At the moment, I'm hoping to get onto a Ph. D course. I would like to concentrate on Asian drama and try to bring Asian theatre to the world's attention. I don't know how successful I would be, but, here's hoping.

M: Oh, I'm sure you'll be successful. Now, Claire, what do you do for stage fright?

W: Ah, stage fright! Well, many actors have that problem. I get stage fright every time I'm going to teach a new class. The night before, I usually can't sleep.

M: What? For teaching?

W: Yes. I get really bad stage fright. But the minute I step into the classroom or get onto the stage, it just all falls into place. Then I just feel like: Yeah, this is what I mean to do. And I'm fine.

M: Wow, that's cool!

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

5. Why does the woman find study in drama and theatre useful?
6. How did the woman's students respond to her way of teaching English?
7. What does the woman say about her stage fright?

Section C

Directions: In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage,

you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

Passage One

This library is an English language teaching and learning library. Unfortunately our resources are limited and so not everyone can join in. Teachers of English, university students and professionals who are in the medical, engineering, and management fields can all join the library. Those from other professions are welcome to apply, but your application will not necessarily be approved.

You must fill in a library application form and put it in the box on the librarian's desk. Because of the high number of applications we receive each week, you must wait for one week. Please bring your student or work card to pick up your library cards. Library application forms which are not picked up within 2 months will be discarded and you will have to reapply.

You may borrow one video at a time. The video must be returned in one week. If you can not return it on time, please call, otherwise your video library card will be cancelled. You may borrow 3 items at one time, i.e. 3 books or 3 cassettes. Items must be returned within 1 month. You can telephone the library to renew items for another month.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. Why can't the library issue library cards to everyone who applies?
2. What will the library do if a reader fails to renew the video when it is due?
3. For how long can a reader keep the book before he renews it?

Passage Two

Some stories go on being repeated for hundreds of years because they show a common human experience. One of these is the tale of the poor hard-working man who was very unhappy. In spite of trying and working very hard, he never seemed to get ahead. There was never enough money.

He heard that great riches could be found in a far-off country and the unhappy man decided that he too would try his luck. He announced to his family that he was leaving to hunt for diamonds in another country. They were very upset, but no matter how much they tried to persuade him to stay, he insisted on going.

For the next twenty years, he wrote letters describing his hardships. At last, his health broken, he came home to die.

With nothing but bills left, his wife sold their house and land for a few dollars and moved away. A few short years later, she heard the astonishing news that the new owners found diamonds on the land they once owned--- and only a few hundred feet from their house, "If only my husband had known where to look," she said sadly, "how different our lives might have been."

Questions 4 to 6 are based on the passage you have just heard.

4. Which of the following statements is true?
5. Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?

6. What moral could we draw from the story?

Passage Three

Patricia Pania never wanted to be a national public figure. All she wanted to be was a mother and a homemaker. But her life was turned upside down when a motorist, distracted by his cell phone, ran a stop sign and crashed into the side of her car. The impact killed her two-year-old daughter. Four months later, Pania reluctantly but courageously decided to try to educate the public and to fight for laws to ban drivers from using cell phones while a car is moving. She wanted to save other children from what happened to her daughter. In her first speech, Pania got off to a shaky start. She was visibly trembling and her voice was soft and uncertain. But as she got into her speech, a dramatic transformation took place. She stopped shaking and spoke with a strong voice.

For the rest of her talk, she was a forceful and compelling speaker. She wanted everyone in the audience to know what she knew without having to learn it from a personal tragedy. Many in the audience were moved to tears, and to action. In subsequent presentations, Pania gained reputation as a highly effective speaker. Her appearance on a talk show was broadcast three times transmitting her message to over 14,000,000 people. Her campaign increased public awareness of the problem and prompted over 300 cities and several states to consider restrictions on cell phone use.

Questions 7 to 10 are based on the passage you have just heard.

7. What was the significant change in Patricia Pania's life?
8. What had led to Pania's personal tragedy?
9. How did Pania feel when she began her first speech?
10. What could be expected as a result of Pania's efforts?

Practice Eleven

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

An eight-year-old girl has been shot to death moments after surviving a car crash in Texas. The girl was asleep in the back seat of her mother's car when the crash occurred. Her mother, Latoyia Jarmon-Thomas, said the collision was caused by two other cars that appeared to be racing. One of the cars involved in the crash was found abandoned at the scene. Ms Jarmon-Thomas said an armed woman driver in the other car rolled down her window and fired about five to seven shots before driving away. "I pulled my daughter out of the car," Ms Jarmon-Thomas told ABC News. "I thought she was still asleep. I laid her on the ground and when I looked at her jacket, I saw a blood stain."

Ms Jarmon-Thomas appealed for the suspects to turn themselves in. Houston Police Department's homicide detectives are looking for the drivers.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What happened to the girl mentioned in the news report?
2. What happened to the drivers of the two cars involved in the collision?

News report two

An Australian grandfather has become a millionaire after cashing in a year-old lottery ticket he found while cleaning his car. The man, who has remained anonymous, bought the ticket in January last year.

After finding the ticket in a shopping bag this month, he checked his numbers online and realized he had won a \$1,020,496 prize.

The winner said he had been "a bit stupid" by forgetting about his ticket for 414 days. The man plans to spend the money on his children's house repayments, and on education for his grandchildren.

Cheryl Tuckerman, who owns the newsagents where the ticket was sold, said she was relieved. "You wouldn't believe how many customers we've had coming in during the past year asking whether the winner had been found," she said.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. What is the news report mainly about?
4. How is the man going to spend the lottery money?

News report three

After recent falls, Australia's gold output has bounced back and is worth about \$7 billion annually. The new gold rush has been boosted by production at the open cast Boddington mine in Western Australia that is owned by American resources company, Newmont. Spokeswoman Annette Dix says the project has lofty ambitions. "For the first five years, we will be the biggest goldmine in Australia. Eventually, it will be the size of the Perth CBD," she said.

Prices for gold are approaching \$1,000 an ounce and international investors, especially those in China, are taking a keen interest in the trade. China remains the world's largest producer of gold. Analysts have predicted that increases to Australia's output could see it overtake the United States and South Africa as the second most important source of a precious commodity that shows few signs of going out of fashion.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What is the main idea of this news item?
6. Which country produces the most gold in the world?
7. What have analysts predicted?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices*

marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.

Conversation One

W: Stan, do you have a minute?

M: Oh, hi, Cathy. Sure. What's up?

W: Well, I've been meaning to talk to you about the situation in the office.

M: I'm not in there very often. It's so noisy that I can't work...

W: That's exactly what I'm getting at. We're supposed to be able to do our preparation and marking in that office, but have you noticed? Jack constantly has students coming in to get help with his course. A lot of people are going in and out.

M: Has anybody spoken to him about it?

W: No, not yet, but someone's going to have to.

M: We can't really ask him to stop having students come in for help, can we?

W: No, of course not. But I'm not able to do my work and neither are you. I imagine it's the same for the others in the office.

M: Hmmm, could we ask for a kind of meeting room? When the teachers have to talk with a student, they could go to the meeting room and not use the office. You know, there's a room down the hall, a rather small room that we could ask to use. It's only for storing supplies.

W: You mean that little storage room? Oh, that would be too small.

M: Are you sure? With the cabinets taken out, it might be bigger than it looks.

W: Come to think of it, you may be on to something. I'd like to have a look at that room. Can we go there now?

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. What problem at the office are Cathy and Stan discussing?
2. Why do Jack's students come to see him?
3. What does Stan suggest they do?
4. What does Cathy say about Stan's suggestion?

Conversation Two

W: Hi, Tom. Nice to meet you!

M: Yeah. What are you doing here?

W: Well, I'm trying to look for a book, but it has been loaned out for the last three weeks. I know it's overdue according to the computer. Just hope the borrower won't hang on to it for too long.

M: What kind of book did you want so much?

W: You might not believe this. But I am interested in the universe, and the book I want to read is by Stephen Hawking. Did you notice my red eyes? I have been staying up late to see the sky and stars.

M: When did you get involved with the universe? I never expected you to have the patience to watch the sky, let alone staying up all night. No wonder you were sleepy during the lecture this morning.

W: I know it's embarrassing. But I'm really interested in the mystery of the universe

and I'm thinking perhaps I'm in the wrong major. I should switch to physics instead of taking drama.

M: Are you serious? You just started your sky adventure not long ago. Perhaps it's just a temporary phase you are going through.

W: No, in fact, I have always been fascinated by the sky. I just don't have the opportunity to explore and discover it.

M: Sounds like you're very sure of what you want. But remember you probably will lose quite a few credits if you change your major.

W: I realize that. But I think it's better to go with my feeling than to regret it later.

M: Well, good luck. Maybe one day you'll be able to locate a new star and have it named after you.

Questions 5 to 8 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

5. What is the woman's problem?
6. What does the man think about the woman's interest in the universe?
7. What does the man think about the woman's desire to change major?
8. Why does the woman stick to the decision to change her major?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

As the new sales director for a national computer firm, Alex Gordon was looking forward to his first meeting with the company's district managers. Everyone arrived on time, and Alex's presentation went extremely well. He decided to end the meeting with the conversation about the importance of the district managers to the company's plans. "I believe we are going to continue to increase our share of the market," he began, "because of the quality of the people in this room. The district manager is the key to the success of the sales representatives in his district. He sets the term for everyone else. If he has ambitious goals and is willing to put in long hours, everyone in his unit will follow his example." When Alex was finished, he received polite applause, but hardly the warm response he had hoped for. Later he spoke with one of the senior managers. "Things were going so well until the end", Alex said disappointedly. "Obviously, I said the wrong thing." "Yes", the district manager replied. "Half of our managers are women. Most have worked their way up from sales representatives, and they are very proud of the role they played in the company's growth. They don't care at all about political correctness. But they were definitely surprised and distressed to be referred to as 'he' in your speech."

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. Who did Alex Gordon speak to at the first meeting?
2. What did Alex want to emphasize at the end of his presentation?
3. What do we learn about the audience at the meeting?

4. Why did Alex fail to receive the warm response he had hoped for?

Passage Two

Men sometimes say: “We are better and cleverer than women. Women never invented things. We do.” It is true that men have invented a lot of useful things: the alphabet, mechanics, rockets, and guns, too. But scientists and archaeologists now agree that women invented one very important thing. It has changed the history. They invented agriculture. Before the invention of agriculture men were hunters. They went out every day. Sometimes they killed animals---sometimes animals kill them. Life was difficult and dangerous. Women had to go out every day, too. They collected roots, fruit and grasses. Then, one day, more than 10 000 years ago, a woman dropped some grass seeds. She dropped them near her home in the Middle East. They grew---and the first wheat was born. The idea grew, too. Women planted roots and fruit trees. Then they could stay at home and look after the children--- and the animals. Women like baby animals. Scientists think that women kept the first domestic animals: dogs, cows, sheep and goats. That idea grew, too. Then their husbands did not have to go hunting for meat. They stayed at home. They built villages and cities. Civilization began. Men began civilization--- after women invented agriculture.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the passage you have just heard.

5. Why was life difficult before the invention of agriculture?
6. What did women invent?
7. What is the main idea of this passage?

Passage Three

Many people catch a cold in the spring time or fall. It makes us wonder if scientists can send a man to the moon, why can't they find a cure for the common cold? The answer is easy. There're actually hundreds of kinds of cold viruses out there. You never know which one you will get, so there isn't a cure for each one. When a virus attacks your body, your body works hard to get rid of it. Blood rushes to your nose and causes a blockage in it. You feel terrible because you can't breathe well. But your body is actually eating the virus. Your temperature rises and you get a fever. But the heat of your body is killing the virus. You also have a running nose to stop the virus from getting to your cells. You may feel miserable but actually your wonderful body is doing everything it can to kill the cold. Different people have different remedies for colds. In the United States and some other countries, for example, people might eat chicken soup to feel better. Some people take hot baths and drink warm liquids. Other people take medicines to relieve various symptoms of colds. There's one interesting thing to note. Some scientists say taking medicines when you have a cold is actually bad for you. The virus stays in you longer because your body doesn't develop a way to fight it and kill it.

Questions 8 to 10 are based on the passage you have just heard.

8. According to the passage, why haven't the scientists found a cure for the common cold?
9. What does the speaker say about the symptoms of the common cold?

10. What do some scientists say about taking medicines for the common cold according to the passage?

Practice Twelve

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

Canadian police and military teams were working Tuesday afternoon to rescue about 300 people stranded after what a local official termed the most brutal storm to hit the Ontario region in 25 years. Some people had been stuck in their vehicles for more than 24 hours following blinding snow that piled up so high it made it almost impossible to open vehicle doors. Ontario Provincial Police initially reported about 360 vehicles and about 300 people had been stranded near Sarnia, Ontario, on Highway 402 --- a major road linking the U.S.–Canada border to London, Ontario. Some of those people have since been rescued, but Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley said it could be another 24 hours before everyone is taken to safety.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What did the rescue efforts concentrate on?
2. How long might the last group of people have been stranded in their vehicles before being rescued?

News report two

The world will need to double food production within the next three decades in order to feed a rapidly growing population, which has expected to grow from 7 billion to 9 billion. A United Nations report says reaching that goal will require major increases in intensive, high-efficiency livestock operations for both meat and dairy production. The report also says that intensive livestock operations can pose serious ecological risks. And that's why environmental critics are calling instead for reductions in global livestock production, and urging people to consume less meat in their diets. Feeding today's population is a challenge for an already-stressed environment. The challenge is how to ensure food without increasing animal numbers and having an impact on fragile lands and our resource bases. Experts agree that the next few decades will present a puzzle, how to feed nine billion people without destroying the planet in the process.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. Why is increase in livestock production necessary?
4. What does the word "challenge" mean in the news item?

News report three

Like the majority of Ugandans, Margaret Okello has never had a bank account. But thanks to an incident involving her mother's cow, the Kampala housewife recently learned that she could use her mobile phone to transfer cash. In east Africa, the mobile banking system was first introduced in Kenya a few years ago. Now, one out of every six Kenyans uses the service to transfer money. In the past two months, telecom providers such as MTN, Uganda Telecom, and Zain have cooperated with local banks to expand this service into Uganda.

Mobile money transfers are popular in several other African countries as well, including South Africa and Nigeria. Telecom operator Zain is now piloting projects across the Middle East and Afghanistan. Statistics indicate the developing world will use their mobiles to transfer more than \$5 billion in the next three years. Some analysts are already dubbing mobile companies like Zain, the "biggest bank in East Africa."

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What is this news item mainly about?
6. How many Kenyans now use the service to transfer money?
7. Who plays the leading role in the mobile banking system of the Middle East?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear three or four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

M: How do you feel today, Mary?

W: Not very well, John. I think I'll stay at home today and rest.

M: That's a good idea. I think you've been knocking yourself out day and night on that research project of yours. And I'm happy that you had finally handed in your report on tourism yesterday. You really could do with a rest. Well, is there anything I can do for you now?

W: Yes, there is. Actually, it's very cold in here. Would you mind turning the air-conditioning off and opening the window?

M: Not at all...there we are. Do you feel hungry? Shall I make you something to eat?

W: No, thanks, although I do feel quite thirsty. Could you bring me some water, please?

M: Sure. Anything else?

W: Well, there were a couple of things that I had to do today. But I don't really want to go outside.

M: No, you should stay in bed. I'll do them for you. What were they?

W: The books I borrowed from the library have to go back today, and I was going to post the letters I wrote yesterday...

M: Don't worry, I'll take the books back to the library, and I can post the letters on the way.

M: That's very kind of you, John.

W: Can I get you anything from outside?

M: Well, a newspaper would be nice, and some magazines. If I'm going to be in bed all day, I'd like something to read.

W: OK, I'll pick those up for you on the way back from the library. Meanwhile, why don't you try to get some sleep?

M: Yes, I will. Thanks, John.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. What do we learn about Mary?
2. What has the woman been doing recently?
3. What does the woman want the man to do?
4. Why does Mary want a newspaper and some magazines?

Conversation Two

W: Hello, Mr. Summerfield. How are you today?

M: Very well. Thank you, Ms. Green.

W: What can I do for you?

M: Well, unfortunately, there is a problem with the order we received from you yesterday. It seems we haven't seen the right quantity of manuals to support the telephone system.

W: Oh, dear, that's bad news. I'm very sorry to hear that, and you don't know how many packs are without manuals?

M: No, because we haven't opened every pack. But in several of those that have been opened there are none, no manuals.

W: I'm very sorry about this inconvenience, Mr. Summerfield. We'll send out the manuals this afternoon by express mail entirely at our cost, and the manuals should arrive tomorrow or the day after at the latest.

M: All of them, right?

W: Yes. It maybe that some have them already, but we cannot be sure. So the best thing is to send out the manual for every pack.

M: Yes. Yes, I see. That would be great.

W: Please accept our apologies for this mix-up. I assure you we will do everything possible to find out why the mistake happened.

M: Right. Thanks for your swift action.

W: Not at all. Thank you and goodbye for now. Do call if there is anything else.

M: All right. Thank you. Goodbye, Ms Green.

W: Goodbye.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

5. What problems are the speakers discussing?
6. What does the woman promise to do?
7. What does the man think of the solution?

Section C

Directions: In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage,

you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

Passage One

The desire for friendship is always with us but we do not always have friends. In fact, the first thing that our own experiences as well as many of the great philosophers tell us about true friendship is that it is very rare. A lot of our associations seem like friendships at first, only to languish and disappear in time.

Aristotle offered us help by pointing out that there are three kinds of friendship: that is, the friendships based on utility, pleasure and on virtue. The friendship of utility and pleasure go together. Everyone has experienced them. People are “friendly” to their business associates, neighbors, and even casual acquaintances on trains, boats, and airplanes. This kind of politeness is a form of friendship of utility and mutual convenience.

These lower forms of friendship are not necessarily bad, but they are inadequate. The Book of Proverbs says, “A friend loves at all times,” it is referring to a higher form of friendship that does not depend on circumstance. In order to surpass the effect of time, it must be based on the qualities of the individuals. Such friendship cannot be a passing friendship.

True friendship, then, surpasses both utility and pleasure. For Aristotle, such a friendship must be based on a good moral character. Only in that way can it last.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the Passage you have just heard.

1. What does the speaker think of true friendship?
2. What are three kinds of friendship based upon according to Aristotle?
3. What can we conclude from the passage?

Passage Two

Bill Smith has a job in a small factory. He doesn't much like the work, but he enjoys the relationships with the other worker, and he gets on well with the boss. He belongs to a trade union, and helps to organize the work of the local branch. Sometimes he has a chance to travel on business, which he enjoys very much.

His wife, Ann, has been unemployed for the last two years. She stays at home and looks after the house. After getting their six-year-old daughter Sally ready and driving her to school, she starts on the house-work. Although she likes being on her own, she finds housework boring, and doesn't like to stay at home all day. So she tries to get through the washing up, the washing, the shopping and so on as quickly as possible. This takes her about two or three hours; after that she usually has lunch. She doesn't like to waste time, so after lunch she goes to the public library and reads books on politics or history until it's time to fetch Sally from school. In the evenings Bill and Ann share the cooking.

At the weekends they try to spend some time outdoors: they often go walking in the country, or take Sally on trips to places like the zoo or the seaside.

Questions 4 to 7 are based on the Passage you have just heard.

4. What does Bill enjoy about his work?
5. What does Ann like to do after doing the housework?
6. Which of the following is not included in their weekend activities?
7. What is the main topic of the passage?

Passage Three

One winter day in 1891, a class at a training school in Massachusetts, U.S.A, went into the gym for their daily exercises. Since the football season had ended, most of the young man felt they were in for a boring time. But their teacher, James Nasmyth had other ideas. He had been working for a long time on a new game that would have the excitement of the American football. Nasmyth showed the men a basket he had hung at the each end of the gym, and explained at first everybody tried to throw the ball into the basket no matter where he was standing. "Pass! Pass!" Nasmyth kept shouting, blowing his whistle to stop the excited players. Slowly, they began to understand what was wanted of them. The problem with the new game, which was soon called "basketball", was getting the ball out of the basket. They used ordinary food baskets with bottoms and the ball, of course, stayed inside. At first, someone had to climb up every time when a basket was scored. It was several years before someone came up with the idea of removing the bottom of the basket and letting the ball fall through. There have been many changes in the rules since then, and basketball has become one of the world's most popular sports.

Questions 8 to 10 are based on the Passage you have just heard.

8. What did Nasmyth do to entertain his students one winter day?
9. According to the speaker, what was the problem with the new game?
10. How was the problem with the new game solved?

Practice Thirteen

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

Big fast food chains in New York City have started to obey a first kind of its rule requiring them to post calorie on its menu. CNN is with New York Department of Health.

We wanted to give people an opportunity to actually see the calories before they purchase the food and make a decision if they want to make a healthier choice. If they want to eat fewer calories, they can. And we expect this will have a huge impact on obesity.

The new rules were introduced as part of anti-obesity campaign that also includes a recent city wide ban on artificial transfat in restaurant food. The menu rule only

applies to restaurants that serve standard portion sizes. Starting last Saturday, chains big enough to fall under the rule will face penalties about 2000 dollars for not showing calorie information in prominent spots on their menus, preferably next to the price.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What are big fast food chains in New York City required to do according to the new rule?
2. What will happen to big restaurant chains that violate the new rule?

News report two

The family of Sarai Sierra, an American woman who went missing in Istanbul nearly two weeks ago, is in mourning after learning that Turkish police found her body Saturday. Turkish police found the woman's body near ancient stone walls in Istanbul's Sarayburnu district. Police suspected she had been killed at another location. Police told CNN's sister network CNN Turk that the body of the 33-year-old mother of two showed signs of stab wounds. However, the police chief of Istanbul, Huseyin Capkin, said Sierra died from a blow to her head. Nine suspects had been detained in connection with the woman's disappearance and death. Sierra's family and friends first sounded the alarm last week after she did not arrive on a return flight from Istanbul on January 22.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. What were Turkish police unsure about according to the news?
4. How many people had been detained by Turkish police?

News report three

Cairo is known for its overcrowded roads, irregular driving practices and shaky old vehicles, but also for its air pollution. In recent months, though, environmental studies indicate there have been signs of improvement. That's due in part to the removal of many of the capital's old-fashioned black and white taxis. Most of these dated back to the 1960s and 70s and were in a poor state of repair.

After new legislation demanded their removal from the roads, a low interest loan scheme was set up with three Egyptian banks so drivers could buy new cars. The government pays about \$900 for old ones to be discarded and advertising on the new vehicles helps cover repayments.

The idea has proved popular with customers — they can now travel in air-conditioned comfort and because the new cabs are metered, they don't have to argue over fares. Banks and car manufacturers are glad for the extra business in tough economic times. As for the taxi drivers, most are delighted to be behind the wheel of new cars, although there have been a few complaints about switching from black and white to a plain white color.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What change took place in Cairo recently?
6. What helped bring about the change?
7. Why do customers no longer argue with new cab drivers?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear three or four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

W: So, why exactly does your job have a reputation for being stressful?

M: Stress is generally driven by the feeling of being out of control of a situation and the feeling of a situation controlling you. Trading in financial markets combines both.

W: How do you relax in the evening?

M: I very rarely do anything work-related so it's easy to escape the markets. I generally go to the gym or go for a run, especially if I've had a bad day. I always cook a meal rather than have a take-away. To do something my brain would regard as creative.

W: Do you think what you do for relaxation is an effective way to beat stress?

M: I don't think there is a specific rule about how to beat stress. I generally find out what I do is effective for me.

W: Would you consider changing your job because of the high stress factor?

M: I have considered leaving my job due to stress-related factors. However, I do think that an element of stress is a good thing, and if used the right way, it can actually be a positive thing.

W: What do you enjoy about the stressful aspects of your job?

M: Having said all that, I do actually enjoy an element of uncertainty. I enjoy a mental challenge. Trading generates a wide range of emotions second by second. How you deal with and manage those emotions dictates short, medium and long term trading performance and success.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

1. What is the man's job?
2. Why does the man prefer to cook a meal rather than have a take-away?
3. What does the man say about an element of stress in his job?

Conversation Two

W: Dr. Smith, how do people prevent heart disease?

M: Well, when it comes to heart disease, preventing is really important. You know, 2,300 Americans die of heart disease every day, about one every second. And at least 600 of those are people who had no idea they had heart disease. They died suddenly of their first heart disease, even though they felt fine. To understand what their risk is, to try to prevent the disease from ever occurring in the first place and to do something about it is important,

W: And who is at high risk?

M: Well, people who have high blood pressure, people who smoke, who are

overweight, and who have a family history for early heart disease. All of these are risk factors, and especially when together, they form very high-risk individuals who really need to do something before they have their first heart attack.

W: Can you tell me, what's the connection between smoking and heart disease?

M: The number one preventable cause of heart disease is cigarette smoking.

W: What does it do?

M: Well, it can cause a blood vessel to close up, triggering a heart attack or a sudden death.

W: And your emphasis is on stopping smoking in the first place, right?

M: This is a subject that needs attention from Americans, because heart disease is preventable if we can succeed in stopping some of the 50 million Americans who currently smoke.

Questions 4 to 7 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

4. Among the Americans who die of heart disease, how many of them had no idea they had heart disease?
5. According to the interview, who are the most likely to develop heart disease?
6. How does cigarette smoking cause death?
7. What can we learn from the interview?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

A lot of people travel to foreign countries in the summer time and it's really a good experience. I've done a lot of that myself and I've seen a lot of interesting things when I've traveled.

One time I was sitting in a restaurant watching the people come in and out, just drinking some coffee, and kind of enjoying the experience of being in another place. I saw two people come in and sit down at a table. They didn't quite know what to order and they didn't speak the language at all, but there were pictures in the menu and they thought they could probably manage just by pointing at things, so they pointed at something and the waiter seemed to think it was reasonable because he didn't ask any questions. So he brought what they were supposed to eat. In doing so, he brought the sauce for the meat that they were going to eat first and put it on the table. The two people who were eating didn't understand what they'd ordered so they didn't know what he'd brought. They looked at it and since it was in the small bowl, they thought, "Well, this must be the soup," and they drank it. You can imagine their surprise to find out that it was almost a hundred percent vinegar!

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. What does the speaker think of the travelling?
2. What did the speaker do in a restaurant when this incident took place?

3. How did the two people order their food?
4. Why did the two people drink the sauce?

Passage Two

American women are used to being independent. They are used to going to places by themselves, earning their own money, and often living alone. Sometimes they will ask men for help, but they usually don't want to be protected. Since the women's movement started, it's not always clear whether women expect men to open doors or help them into their coats. American women may start conversations with men or even ask them to dance.

There are a lot of Americans who don't smoke or drink, and many who don't want people to do those things in their houses. It's always best to ask before you bring alcohol to a dinner or before you light up a cigarette, if you're with people you don't know very well. Nonsmokers have become militant about smoking in public places. Many restaurants, for example, have established special sections for smokers.

House guests may bring gifts when they come to visit, and they often offer to help in some way. As a guest, you may want to ask your host or hostess if there's anything you can do to help in the kitchen. In many cases, the gesture is more important than actually helping. You may also offer to take your friends out to dinner, but it is not expected for you to do so.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the passage you have just heard.

5. Which of the facts is NOT true about American women?
6. What is best for you to do if you want to smoke before someone you don't know very well?
7. What can you do if you are invited to your friend's home?

Passage Three

When my interest shifted from space to the sea, I never expected it would cause such confusion among my friends, yet I can understand their feelings. As I have been writing and talking about space flight for the best part of 20 years, a sudden switch of interest to the depth of the sea does seem peculiar. To explain, I'd like to share my reasons behind this unusual change of mind. The first excuse I give is an economic one. Underwater exploration is so much cheaper than space flight. The first round-trip ticket to the moon is going to cost at least 10 billion dollars if you include research and development. By the end of this century, the cost will be down to a few million. On the other hand, the diving suit and a set of basic tools needed for skin-diving can be bought for 20 dollars. My second argument is more philosophical. The ocean, surprisingly enough, has many things in common with space. In their different ways, both sea and space are equally hostile. If we wish to survive in either for any length of time, we need to have mechanical aids.

The diving suit helped the design of the space suit. The feelings and the emotions of a man beneath the sea will be much like those of a man beyond the atmosphere.

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the passage you have just heard.

8. How did the speaker's friends respond to his change of interest?

9. What is one of the reasons for the speaker to switch his interest to underwater exploration?
10. In what way does the speaker think diving is similar to space travel?
11. What is the speaker's purpose in giving this talk?

Practice Fourteen

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

In a suburb in northern Johannesburg South Africa, Lorrain Melvill's running around trying to organize hospital visits for her clients staying in her guest house. She started her business, "Surgeon and Safari," back in 2000 and since then she has had people from all over the world come to her to facilitate their cosmetic procedures, and perhaps go on safari too. "For most people in the first-world economies like the UK, and especially in America, their biggest desire is to go on African safari," she explains, "and yet their greatest want in their life was to have plastic surgery, so why not put the two together?" Like most companies, however, Surgeon and Safari was hit by the global financial crisis. However, whilst the United States and euro zone economies may have languished, Melvill says that she has benefited from the growth of some African countries' economies. "There is a huge emergence of local Africans that chose to come to South Africa for elective surgery," she says.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What is Lorraine Melvill's business?
2. Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the news item?

News report two

French forces say they have entered Kidal in the north of Mali, the last major town they have yet to secure in their drive against Islamist militants. French forces now control Kidal airport after a number of aircraft, including helicopters, landed there last night. Islamist militants were reported to have already left the town and it was unclear who was in charge. France --- the former colonial power in Mali --- launched a military operation this month after Islamist militants appeared to be threatening the south. French army spokesman confirms that "French troops were deployed overnight in Kidal". One regional security source told the Press that French aircraft had landed at Kidal and that protection helicopters are in the sky. Kidal, 930 miles north-east of the capital Bamako, was until recently under the control of the Islamist militants.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. What is the situation now in Kidal according to the news?
4. Why did the French launch the military operation?

News report three

International students seeking a medical degree in the United States face serious difficulties.

First, there is often a language barrier. Students from non-English speaking countries could have a hard time understanding their work or communicating with professors. Also, a medical education is very costly. First, students must complete an undergraduate degree. Then, most medical schools require at least four years of study. After medical school, students do at least three more years of training in their specific medical fields. They do receive some pay for this work. In addition, many medical programs at public universities in the U.S. do not accept international students. And private universities have fewer openings, creating a great deal of competition.

However, receiving a medical education in the U.S. is not impossible. All that you need to do is, basically, early planning. School administrators suggest international students should apply to residency programs in the U.S. after completing medical school at home. Or they should begin their American medical education at the undergraduate level. But, officials say, even candidates with the strongest history of study will face fierce competition.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What is the news report mainly about?
6. What do you know about a medical education in America from the news report?
7. What are international students advised to do to be able to receive a medical education in America?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear three or four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

M: Hello. Hello there. Are you ready for lunch with your grandpa?

W: Oh! Hi, Grandpa. Yes, of course, I am, but my mind isn't.

M: What's the matter, Susan?

W: A real dilemma.

M: Does it have anything to do with you and Harry?

W: Yes, but I don't know where to start.

M: Maybe I can help. Tell me what it is, Susan.

W: Thanks, Grandpa. Please sit down, oh! Harry has been offered a job in Los Angeles.

M: Well, this is something to think about.

W: There are so many things to consider. There's Michelle. I wonder if a move would be a bad thing for her. And my job. I don't know if I can get a good job in Los Angeles. And what about our family?

M: Can I tell you what I think?

W: Tell me.

M: I think that you're very successful and that you have a fantastic reputation in the toy industry. I think you could talk to Mr. Marchetta, and I think he could help you find a real good job in Los Angeles. He was very helpful to me, remember?

W: I suppose I could call him. But I'm not so sure that I want to leave New York, you, and the rest of our family.

M: Well, I'm not going to kid you, Susan. You know we'd all miss you. But this should be your decision. It's something that only you and Harry can work out.

W: If moving to L.A. is in Harry's best interest, I have to do what I can do to support him.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. What is the probable relationship between the two speakers?
2. What is the woman's problem?
3. What does the woman decide to do?

Conversation Two

M: Miss Jones, could you tell me more about your first job with hotel marketing concepts?

W: Yes, certainly. I was a marketing consultant, responsible for marketing ten UK hotels. They were all luxury hotels in the leisure sector, all of a very high standard.

M: Which markets were you responsible for?

W: For Europe and Japan.

M: I see from your resume that you speak Japanese. Have you ever been to Japan?

W: Yes, I have. I spent a month in Japan in 2006. I met all the key people in the tourist industry, the big tour operators, and the tourist organizations. As I speak Japanese, I had a very big advantage.

M: Yes, of course. Have you had any contact with Japan in your present job?

W: Yes, I've had a lot. Cruises have become very popular with the Japanese both for holidays and for business conferences. In fact, the market for all types of luxury holidays for the Japanese has increased a lot recently.

M: Really? I'm interested to hear more about that. But first tell me, have you ever traveled on a luxury train? The Orient Express, for example.

W: No. I haven't. But I've traveled on the Glacier Express to Switzerland, and I traveled across China by train about eight years ago. I love train travel. That's why I am very interested in this job.

Questions 4 to 7 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

4. What did the woman do in her first job?
5. What gave the woman an advantage during her business trip in Japan?
6. Why is the woman applying for the new job?
7. What is the probable relationship between the two speakers?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage,*

you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

Passage One

Some people have very good memories, and can easily learn quite long poems by heart. There are other people who can only remember things when they have said them over and over.

The famous English writer, Charles Dickens said that he could walk down any long street in London and then tell you the name of every stop he had passed. Many of the great men of the world have had wonderful memories.

A good memory is a great help in learning a language. Everybody learns his own language by remembering what he hears when he is a small child, and some children seem to learn two languages almost as easily as one. In school it is not so easy to learn a second language because the pupils have so little time for it, and they are busy with other subjects as well.

A man's mind is rather like a camera, but it takes photos not only of what we see but of what we feel, hear, smell and taste. When we take a real photo with a camera, there is much to do before the photo is finished and ready to show to our friends. In the same way there is much work to be done before we can keep a picture forever in our minds.

Memory is the diary that we all carry about with us.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. What can some people do if they have a very good memory according to the passage?
2. Why is it difficult for the pupils to learn a second language in school?
3. What is the man's mind like according to the passage?
4. What is a great help in learning a language?

Passage Two

Since early times, people have been fascinated with the idea of life existing somewhere else besides earth. Until recently, scientists believed that life on other planets was just a hopeful dream. But now they are beginning to locate places where life could form. In 1997, they saw evidence of planets near other stars like the sun. But scientists now think that life could be even nearer in our own solar system. One planet scientists are studying very closely is Europa, a moon of Jupiter. Space probes have provided evidence that Europa has a large ocean under its surface. The probes have also made the scientists think that under its surface Europa has a rocky core giving off volcanic heat. Water and heat from volcanic activity are two basic conditions needed for life to form. A third is certain basic chemicals such as carbon, oxygen and nitrogen. Scientists believe there might be such chemicals lying at the bottom of Europa's ocean. They may have already created life or may be about to. You may wonder if light is also needed for life to form. Until recently, scientists thought that light was essential. But now, places have been found on earth that are in total blackness such as caves

several miles beneath the ocean. And bacteria, primitive forms of life have been seen there. So the lack of light in Europa's sub-surface ocean doesn't automatically rule out life forming.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the passage you have just heard.

5. What did scientists once believe according to the passage?
6. What have scientists found about Europa, a moon of Jupiter?
7. What have scientists come to know recently about the formation of life?

Passage Three

Obtaining good health insurance is a real necessity while you are studying overseas. It protects you from minor and major medical expenses that can wipe out not only your savings but your dreams of an education abroad. There are often two different types of health insurance you can consider buying, international travel insurance and student insurance in the country where you will be going. An international travel insurance policy is usually purchased in your home country before you go abroad. It generally covers a wide variety of medical services and you are often given a list of doctors in the area where you will travel who may even speak your native language.

The drawback might be that you may not get your money back immediately. In other words, you may have to pay all your medical expenses and then later submit your receipt to the insurance company. On the other hand, getting student health insurance in the country where you will study might allow you to only pay a certain percentage of the medical cost at the time of service and thus you don't have to have sufficient cash to pay the entire bill at once. Whatever you decide, obtaining some form of health insurance is something you should consider before you go overseas. You shouldn't wait until you are sick with major medical bills to pay off.

Questions 8 to 10 are based on the Passage you have just heard.

8. Why does the speaker advise overseas students to buy health insurance?
9. What is the drawback of students buying international travel insurance?
10. What does the speaker say about students getting health insurance in the country where they will study?

Practice Fifteen

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

Bloomberg published a video showing a quarrel between Uber boss Travis Kalanick and Fawzi Kamel, one of the company's drivers who picked him up in early February. The outburst came after Mr. Kamel complained his income was falling and blamed Uber's fare structure. During back and forth argument about lower prices on Uber's

service, Mr Kalanick swore once at the driver.

After the video emerged, Mr. Kalanick has apologized. In an email to staff, Mr Kalanick said he was "ashamed" of his behavior and admitted he needed to "grow up". In his staff memo, Mr Kalanick said: "By now I'm sure you've seen the video where I treated an Uber driver disrespectfully. To say that I am ashamed is an extreme understatement. I want to profoundly apologize to Fawzi, as well as the driver and rider community, and to the Uber team."

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What did the Uber driver, Fawzi Kamel, complain about?
2. What did Uber boss Travis Kalanick do after his quarrel with Uber driver Fawzi Kamel?

News report two

AT&T plans to spend 18 billion dollars in 2010 upgrading its wireless networks to handle the increasing amount of new traffic. This is roughly \$2 billion more than the company had invested in the previous year. Specifically, AT&T will add 2,000 new cell sites and upgrade existing cell sites with three times more fiber links than it had in 2009. This will increase capacity to connect the cell towers to AT&T's main network. AT&T, which is the only wireless operator in the U.S. selling the iPhone, has been the target of much criticism over this past year, as many iPhone subscribers particularly in densely populated urban areas, have complained about dropped calls, slow Internet access , and poor service. Some critics claim the company has not been spending enough on network upgrades to keep up with growing demand. AT&T has acknowledged that it has faced some difficulties, particularly in big cities. But the company is "closing the gap".

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. What will the additional 2 billion dollars be spent on by AT&T?
4. Where does AT&T face difficulties in particular?

News report three

The American researchers found that the average life expectancy has risen greatly since the 19th century. This has resulted partly from developments in modern medicine, including the use of vaccines, antibiotic drugs and improved treatments for cancer and heart disease. In addition, there have been many improvements in public health and nutrition.

Researchers in the new study said their findings suggest that the greatest average human lifespan was reached during the 1990s. They noted that some individuals born in the U.S., France, Japan and Britain lived to be at least 110 years old between 1968 and 2006. But the number of people living past 110 years is very small, and considered not reachable by most of the population.

The findings show a decrease in the ability to reduce death rates among older adults, which suggests a possible limit to human lifespan.

It is possible that someone might live slightly longer, but the odds of anybody in the world surviving to 125 in any given year is less than one in 10,000. Researchers still

do not expect the average human lifespan to ever break 100.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What is the reason for a great rise in the average life expectancy since the 19th century?

6. What is not expected by researchers?

7. What does a decrease in the ability to reduce death rates among older adults indicate?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear three or four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

W: What kind of training does one need to go into this type of job?

M: That's a very good question. I don't think there is any, specifically.

W: For example, in your case, what was your educational background?

M: Well, I did a degree in French at Nottingham. After that, I did careers work in secondary schools like the careers guidance people. Here is in the university. Then I went into local government because I found I was more interested in the administrative side. Then progressed on to universities. So there wasn't any plan and there was no specific training. There are plenty of training courses in management techniques and committee work which you can attend now.

W: But in the first place, you did a French degree.

M: In my time, there wasn't a degree you could do for administration. I think most of the administrators I've come across have degrees and all sorts of things.

W: Well, I know in my case, I did an English literature degree and I didn't really expect to end up doing what I am doing now.

M: Quite.

W: But you are local to Nottingham, actually? Is there any reason why you went to Nottingham University?

M: No, no, I come from the north of England, from west Yorkshire. Nottingham was one of the universities I put on my list. And I like the look of it. The campus is just beautiful.

W: Yes, indeed. Let's see. Were you from the industrial part of Yorkshire?

M: Yes, from the Woolen District.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. What was the man's major at university?

2. What was the man's job in secondary schools?

3. What attracted the man to Nottingham University?

Conversation Two

M: Cheers, Shirley.

W: Cheers, Paul. What a lovely place for a business lunch. I hope I can concentrate in this heat.

M: I'm sure you will when I tell you about my ideas.

W: You know, I must say I was pleased to hear from you, but from what you said on the phone, everything is so sudden.

M: Well, my father-in-law, who is also the Managing Director of Jayal Motors, has given me two weeks to prepare a report on the possibility of moving into the export market.

W: Ah, now, just one thing Paul. Have you really thought the whole idea through?

M: Of course I have.

W: Now the key thing in the whole operation is to get a good import agent, and you say the bank will help?

M: I'm almost sure of it.

W: Preliminary studies are all very good, Paul. But if the product can't sell, then there's little use in expanding the factory.

M: Yes, I realize that, Shirley. But we have a very good product. The chief designer has just completed a new improved model.

W: I know your bikes have a very good reputation here, but you have to build up a reputation and a market in Africa.

M: Yes, of course. But the immediate problem is that my father-in-law wants a detailed report by next Monday. Two weeks isn't enough time to prepare a report, so I need your help.

W: OK, Paul, you've convinced me. I must say I admire your determination.

Questions 4 to 7 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

4. Where does the conversation most probably take place?
5. What do we learn about the man's father-in-law?
6. What does the woman think is important in the whole operation?
7. What does the woman admire in the man?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

I first met Joe Ganz when we were both nine years old, which is probably the only reason he's one of my best friends. If I had first met Joe as a freshman in high school we wouldn't even have had the chance to get to know each other. Joe is a day student, but I am a boarding student. We haven't been in same classes, sports or extra-curricular activities. Nonetheless, I spend nearly every weekend at his house and we talk on the phone every night. This is not to say that we would not have been compatible if we had first met in our freshman year. Rather, we would not have been likely to spend enough time getting to know each other due to the lack of immediately

visible mutual interests. In fact, to be honest, I struggle even now to think of things we have in common. But maybe that's what makes us enjoy each other's company so much. When I look at my friendship with Joe, I wonder how many people I've known whom I never disliked, but simply didn't take the time to get to know. Thanks to Joe, I have realized how little basis there is for the social divisions that exist in every community. Since this realization, I have begun to make an even more determined effort to find friends in unexpected people and places.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the passage you have just heard.

1. Why does the speaker say Joe Ganz became one of his best friends?
2. Where does the speaker spend most of his weekends?
3. What has the speaker learned from his friendship with Joe?

Passage Two

Hundreds of thousands of young children are being given mobiles by their parents against official health advice. One in nine five-to-ten-year olds has a mobile. This will rise in a year or two, making this the fastest growing group of mobile users.

A report on mobile safety says that while it is not sure whether they hurt users, children should not be allowed to use mobiles as much as grown-ups. This is because their brains are still developing and their bones are thinner, making it easier for mobile phone radio waves to pass through them. Mobile phone companies say they do not aim at under-16s, although some of their mobiles are designed to interest younger children.

Many of the mobiles are paid for as a safety measure so that the child can always call a parent when necessary. However, when children see that their friends have a mobile; it can become popular among them.

Professor Colin at Oxford University, who studies mobile phone radio waves, told BBC News that the technology is new and the science is still developing. People have to be very careful about children because if there are any effects, they would hurt young children more than grown-ups. He suggested that children should be encouraged to use text messages rather than spoken conversations, as this would reduce the amount of radio waves greatly.

Questions 4 to 7 are based on the passage you have just heard.

4. Which age group of mobile users is increasing fastest?
5. What do mobile phone companies say about their business?
6. Which of the following is true according to Professor Colin?
7. What is the main purpose of the passage?

Passage Three

County fairs are a tradition in New England towns. They offer great entertainment. One popular event is the pie-eating contest. If you want to take part in the contest, it is a good idea to remember these guidelines: first, make sure your stomach is nearly empty of food. Eating a whole pie can be hard if you have just finished a meal. Next, it is helpful to like the pie you are going to eat. The cream types are a good choice. They slide down the throat more easily. Placing your hands in

the right position adds to the chances of winning. There is a temptation to reach out and help the eating process. This will result in becoming disqualified. Don't just sit on your hands, if your hands are tied behind your back, you will not be tempted to make use of them. Now you are ready to show your talent at eating pies. The object, of course, is to get to the bottom of the pie plate before the other people. It is usually better to start at the outside and work toward the middle. This method gives you a goal to focus on. Try not to notice what the other people near you are doing.

Let the cheers from the crowd spur you on. But don't look up. All you should think about is eating that pie.

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the passage you have just heard.

8. Where is pie-eating contest usually held?
9. What should a person do before entering a pie-eating contest?
10. Where is the person advised to put his hands during the contest?
11. What suggestion is offered for eating up the pie quickly?

Model Test One

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

Greek firefighters, now numbering over 2,000, have started another day battling wildfires with the help of 12 aircraft, which began operations at dawn on Monday to contain the massive blaze in Marathon, near Athens.

Five water-dropping helicopters are operating non-stop to try and stop the blazes from approaching residential areas and in some cases are starting to make progress. The fires which began on Friday have spread across an area measuring 50 kilometers. A slight drop in strong winds yesterday gave firefighters a well earned break overnight; many have not slept since Friday. There is widespread criticism of the government from the public, many accuse the state of not doing enough to help, some people have complained they have been left alone.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What's the main idea of this news item?
2. What gave the firefighters a one-night break?

News report two

Water scarcity is one of the key issues dominating the Forum. Last week, the United

Nations released its latest research on water, which paints a bleak picture of increasing demand and diminishing supplies. Gerhard Payen is an adviser on water to U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and President of The International Federation of Private Water Operators—association that connects international organizations with private sector providers of water and sanitation services. He says the U.N. report is an important wake up call to the world.

The Middle East, according to the U.N. report, is a potential flashpoint—particularly between Israel and its neighbors—because of dwindling water supplies. Turkey, the host of the World Water Forum, is offering a solution that could help ease those tensions. The Turkish government is proposing to sell water to Israel from its eastern Mediterranean coast.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. What does this news item mainly deal with?
4. Where did the World Water Forum take place?

News report three

A tale of a drug deal gone bad, *No Country for Old Men* was named best picture. Brothers Ethan and Joel Coen shared the honor of best director for the film, and earned Oscars for its screenplay, which was adapted from a novel by Cormac McCarthy. Joel Coen said the brothers have made films since they were youngsters in Minnesota. The pair previously won the original screenplay Oscar for their 1996 film *Fargo*.

Javier Bardem was named best supporting actor for his role as a psychopathic killer in *No Country for Old Men*. Backstage, he praised the other actors in his category. Bardem is from Spain, and other Europeans also won top acting honors. Helen Mirren announced the winner for best actor. Britain's Daniel Day-Lewis was favored to win for his role as a ruthless prospector in the tale of the California oil boom. He thanked the film's director, Paul Thomas Anderson.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. From when have the brothers made films, according to Joel Coen?
6. What does this news item mainly deal with?
7. Who was named best actor?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

M. Mrs. Hampton, we have got trouble in the press this morning.

W. Oh, dear. What about?

M. One of the press operators arrived an hour and a half late.

W. But that's a straightforward affair. He will simply lose part of his pay. That's why

we have a clock-in system.

M. But the point is the man was clocked-in at 8 o'clock. We have John standing by the time clock, and he swears he saw nothing irregular.

W. Is John reliable?

M. Yes, he is. That's why we chose him for the job.

W. Have you spoken to the man who was late?

M. Not yet. I thought I'd have a word with you first. He is a difficult man, and I think there's been some trouble on the shop floor. I've got a feeling that trade union representative is behind this. The manager told me that Jack Green's been very active around the shop the last few days.

W. Well, what do you want me to do?

M. I was wondering if you'd see Smith, the man who was late, because you are so much better at handling things like this.

W. Oh, alright. I'll see him. I must say I agree with you about there being bad feelings in the works. I've had the idea for time that Jack Green's been busy stirring things up in connection with the latest wage claim. He's always trying to make trouble. Well, I'll get the manager to send Smith up here.

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the conversation you have just heard?

8. What will happen to the press operator who was late for the work according to the woman?

9. What does the man say about John who stands by the time clock?

10. Why does the man suggest the woman see the worker who was late?

11. What does the woman say about Jack Green?

Conversation Two

M: Mary, I hope you are packed and ready to leave.

W: Yes, I'm packed, but not quite ready. I can't find my passport.

M: Your passport? That's the one thing you mustn't leave behind.

W: I know. I haven't lost it. I've packed it, but I can't remember which bag it's in.

M: Well, you have to find it at the airport. Come on, the taxi is waiting.

W: Did you say taxi? I thought we were going in your car.

M: Yes, well, I had planned to, but I'll explain later. You've got to be there in an hour.

W: The plane doesn't leave for two hours. Anyway, I'm ready to go now.

M: Now you are taking just one case, is that right?

W: No, there is one in the hall as well.

M: Gosh, what a lot of stuff! You are taking enough for a month instead of a week.

W: Well, you can't depend on the weather. It might be cold.

M: It's never cold in Rome. Certainly not in May. Come on, we really must go.

W: Right, we are ready. We've got the bags, I'm sure there is no need to rush.

M: There is. I asked the taxi driver to wait two minutes, not twenty.

W: Look, I'm supposed to be going away to relax. You are making me nervous.

M: Well, I want you to relax on holiday, but you can't relax yet.

W: OK, I promise not to relax, at least not until we get to the airport and I find my passport.

Questions 12 to 15 are based on the Conversation you have just heard.

12. What does the woman say about her passport?
13. What do we know about the woman's trip?
14. Why does the man urge the woman to hurry?
15. Where does the conversation most probably take place?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

First impressions are often lasting ones. Indeed, if you really play your cards right, you can enjoy the benefits of what is called "halo effect". This means that if you are viewed positively within the critical first four minutes, the person you have met will like to assume everything you do is positive.

Four minutes! Studies tell us that it is the critical period in which impressions are formed by someone we've just met. People tend to focus on dress, eye contact, and movement, how fast or slow we talk, our voices, tone and volume, and even on our actual words.

Most employers believe that those who look as if they care about themselves are more likely to care about their jobs. We know "It's what inside you that counts.", but research shows that physically attractive people are generally perceived by employers as more intelligent, likable and believable.

Here's how to make those critical four minutes count:

First, look your best. It signals success. Studies have linked clothing consciousness to high self-respect and job satisfaction.

Second, control your body language. How you move and gesture will greatly influence an interviewer's first impression of you.

Third, say what you mean. Your goal is to show confidence and be believed. Hold that favorable first impression by making your words consistent with your body language and appearance.

Finally, there is a matter of how you speak. Any professional voice coach will tell you that you can learn to sound more relaxed, more assertive and more confident.

Questions 16 to 18 are based on the passage you have just heard.

16. What should we do in order to benefit from the so called "halo effect"?
17. What do people tend to do when they meet you for the first time?
18. What kind of person is likely to be accepted by the employer?

Passage Two

I was shocked when I received a short message from my father wishing me a happy birthday. I had expected to hear from my mother, my grandmother and my other relatives-but never from my father. Lying in bed, memories of my father flooded

back.

When I was a little boy, I regarded my father as a hero capable of doing anything. He was like a god to me. However, things gradually began to change. The more I learned, the more I tended to doubt what he said. This led to countless quarrels. The gap between us grew and, at last, I didn't even bother trying to communicate with him. Worse still, sometimes I disobeyed him deliberately.

My father, in my mind, had no interest in talking with me. This presented our family with many awkward situations. Dinner was the only time we were together, and my mother often had to negotiate a ceasefire between us. After I entered the university, however, I began to wonder whether my behavior was right. One day, my mother told me that each time I called, father was always listening beside her. Suddenly, I hated myself for my cold behavior toward him. I planned thousands of times to apologize to my father. In the end, however, I was always too embarrassed about what I had done.

But that Saturday, I was so touched by his short message. I realized then that my father's love for me had never ceased. I decided to send a reply: "Thank you, my dear father".

Questions 19 to 21 are based on the passage you have just heard.

19. Whom did the speaker expect not to hear from on his birthday?
20. What was the father's impression on the speaker's mind when he was a little boy?
21. Which of the following describe the speaker's relationship with his father before he entered the university?

Passage Three

In Greece, only rich people will rest in peace for ever when they die. Most of the population, however, will be undisturbed for only three years. Then they will be dug up, washed, compressed into a small tin box, and placed in a bone room. If the body has only partially decayed, it is reburied in a smaller cheaper grave, but not for long, the body will be dug up again some time later when it has fully decayed. Buying a piece of land for a grave is the only way to avoid this process. The cost of the grave is so great that most people choose to rent a grave for three years and even after being dug up, lasting peace is still not guaranteed. If no one pays for renting space in the bone room, the skeleton is removed and stored in a building in a poor part of the town. Lack of space in Athens is the main reason why the dead are dug up after three years. The city is so overcrowded that sometimes dead bodies are kept in hospitals for over a week until a grave is found. Athens' city council wants to introduce cremation, that is burning dead bodies as a means of dealing with the problem. But the Greek church resists this practice, they believe the only place where people burn is hell, so burning dead bodies is against the Greek concept of life after death.

To save space, the church suggested burying the bodies standing up instead of lying down. Some people proposed building multi-storey underground grave yards.

Questions 22 to 25 are based on the passage you have just heard.

22. What must Greeks do to keep the dead resting in everlasting peace?
23. Why are most dead bodies in Athens dug up after three years?

24. What suggestions does the church give about the burying of dead bodies?
25. What practice does the Greek Church object to?

Model Test Two

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C, and D, and then decide which is the best answer.*

News report one

The Sri Lankan cricket team shaken by the attack in Lahore, Pakistan, landed in a special aircraft in Colombo, early Wednesday, to emotional reunions with family and friends. Several cricketers and a British assistant coach were wounded when gunmen attacked their bus as they traveled to a stadium. The captain of the team, Mahela Jayawardene, says they are lucky to be alive. The most seriously wounded player was Thilan Samaraweera, who was shot in the leg.

In Colombo, cricket administrators came under heavy criticism for their decision to tour Pakistan at a time when countries like India had called off tours because of security concerns. The attack in Lahore was the first ever on cricketers and sports officials say cricket teams from around the world are likely to shun Pakistan as a sports venue.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. What does this news item mainly talk about?
2. What is people's attitude to the cricket administrators in Colombo?

News report two

Former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert went on trial on corruption charges that prompted him to resign last year. He spoke to reporters at the courthouse here in Jerusalem. He says he came here as an innocent person and believes his innocence will be proven. Mr. Olmert is accused of fraud, breach of trust and failing to report income. This allegedly occurred when he served as mayor of Jerusalem and a Cabinet minister, but the allegations only surfaced after he became prime minister in 2006.

Mr. Olmert's centrist Kadima party forced him to resign a year ago, after an American Jewish businessman testified that he gave him envelopes stuffed with cash to support a lavish lifestyle, including fancy hotels, expensive cigars and first-class travel. The former prime minister is also accused of double-billing Israeli and Jewish institutions for public trips abroad and pocketing the difference. Mr. Olmert denies it.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. What is this news item mainly about?
4. What's Olmert's reaction to the charges of him?

News report three

Guitar legend and recording industry pioneer Les Paul died on Thursday, August 13, at a hospital in White Plains, New York, of complications from pneumonia. He was 94 years old. Known for his fantastic skill at guitar, Paul made breakthrough discoveries that forever changed the sound of popular music. Les Paul single-handedly changed the course of music when he developed his solid body guitar, and discovered a new way to record voices and instruments. Paul became known as the “Wizard of Waukesha,” by people in his Wisconsin home town. Born Lester William Polfuss, he was self-taught on guitar, and loved to experiment with electronic equipment. He performed country music at a local restaurant when he was 10 years old, and by age 13, had built his own broadcasting station and recording device. He played and traveled with country bands and even hosted his own radio show in Chicago.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. What is this news item mainly about?
6. How did Les Paul change the course of music, according to the report?
7. When did Les Paul build his own broadcasting station?

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must read the four choices marked A, B, C and D and then decide which is the best answer.*

Conversation One

- W. Our topic today is about something that foreigners nearly always say when they visit Britain. It's “why are the British so cold?” and they are talking about the British personality --- the famous British ‘reserve’. It means that we are not very friendly, we aren't very open.
- M. So do you think it's true?
- W. It's a difficult one. So many people who visit Britain say it's difficult to make friends with British people. They say we are cold, reserved, unfriendly...
- M. I think it's true. Look at Americans or Australians. They speak the same language but they're much more open. And you see it when you travel, people ---- I mean strangers ---- speak to you on the street or on the train. British people seldom speak on the train. Or the bus. Not in London anyway.
- W. ‘Not in London’. That's it. Capital cities are full of tourists and are never very friendly. People are different in other parts of the country.
- M. Not completely. I met a woman once, an Italian. She has been working in Manchester for two years, and no one --- not one of her colleagues --- had ever invited her to their homes. They were friendly to her at work, but nothing else. She couldn't believe it. She said that would never happen in Italy.
- W. You know what they say --- ‘an Englishman's home is his castle’. It's really difficult to get inside.
- M. Yeah. It's about being private. You go home to your house and your garden and

you close the door. It's your place.

W: That's why the British don't like flats. They prefer to live in houses.

M: That's true.

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

8. What do foreigners generally think of British people according to the woman?

9. What may British people typically do on the train according to the man?

10. What does the man say about the Italian woman working in Manchester?

11. Why do British people prefer houses to flats?

Conversation Two

M: Hey, Karen, you are not really reading it, are you?

W: Pardon?

M: The book! You haven't turned the page in the last ten minutes.

W: No, Jim, I suppose I haven't. I need to get through it, though, but I keep drifting away.

M: So it doesn't really hold your interest?

W: No, not really. I wouldn't bother with it, to be honest, but I have to read it for a seminar. I'm at a university.

M: It's a labor of labor then rather than a labor of love.

W: I should say, I don't like Dickens at all really, the author, indeed, I am starting to like the whole course less and less.

M: It's not just the book, it's the course as well?

W: Yeah, in a way, although the course itself isn't really that bad, a lot of it is pretty good, in fact, and the lecturer is fine. It's me, I suppose. You see, I want to do philosophy rather than English, but my parents took me out of it.

M: So the courses are OK as such, it's just that had it been left to you, you would have chosen a different one.

W: Oh, they had my best interest at heart, of course, my parents. They always do, don't they? They believe that my job prospect would be pretty limited with the degree of philosophy. Plus, they give me a really generous allowance, but I am beginning to feel that I'm wasting my time and their money. They would be so disappointed, though, if I told them I was quitting.

Questions 12 to 15 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

12. Why can't Karen concentrate on the book?

13. Why is Karen starting to like the course less and less?

14. Who thinks Philosophy graduates have limited job opportunities?

15. What is Karen thinking of doing?

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.*

Passage One

Imagine this: you wake up each morning to find your sister lying beside you, to get dressed and tie your shoes. You use one hand and she uses another. You do everything else together too, even sitting on the same chair at lunch and riding on the same bicycle. That's what life is like for the six-year-old Cathy and Mary. Like most twins, the two girls look very much alike. But unlike most twins, Cathy and Mary share parts of the same body. Twins like Cathy and Mary are rare. Only about forty sets are born in the United States each year. Few survive as long as Cathy and Mary. That's because twins often share vital organs like heart or brain. These shared organs are often badly shaped and may not be stronger enough to support both twins. But Cathy and Mary each has her own head, heart and stomach which function normally. The girls share three or four lungs, which provide plenty of oxygen for both twins. Most of their completely shared organs lie below the waist. Cathy and Mary live relatively normal lives. They attend a regular school and each does her own school work. They prefer to do some projects together though. For example, to cut out paper dolls. One twin holds the paper, while the other uses the scissors. But sometimes the girls don't want to do the same thing. For example, sometimes, they want to play with different toys. What do they do, then? "We toss the coin." Says Mary.

Questions 16 to 18 are based on the passage you have just heard.

16. In what aspect do Cathy and Mary differ from most twins?
17. What does the passage tell us about twins who share parts of the same body?
18. What does the passage say about the education of the twin girls?

Passage Two

The period of engagement is the time between the marriage proposal and the wedding ceremony. Two people agree to marry when they decide to spend their lives together. The man usually gives the woman a diamond engagement ring. That tradition is said to have started when an Austrian man gave a diamond ring to the woman he wanted to marry. The diamond represented beauty.

He placed it on the third finger of her left hand. He chose that finger because it was thought that the blood vessel in that finger went directly to the heart. Today we know that this is not true, yet the tradition continues. Americans generally are engaged for a period of about one year, if they are planning a wedding ceremony and a party. During this time, friends of the bride may hold a party at which women friends and family members give the bride gifts that she will need as a wife. These could include cooking equipment or new clothing. Friends of the man who is getting married may have a bachelor party for him. This usually takes place the night before the wedding.

Only men are invited to the bachelor party. During the marriage ceremony, the bride and her would-be husband usually exchange gold rings that represent the idea that their union will continue forever. The wife often wears both the wedding ring and the engagement ring on the same finger. The husband wears his ring on the third finger of his left hand. Many people say the purpose of the engagement period is to permit enough time to plan the wedding. But the main purpose is to let enough time

pass so the two people are sure that they want to marry each other.

Either person may decide to break the engagement, if this happens, the woman usually returns the ring to the man. They also return any wedding gifts they have received.

Questions 19 to 21 are based on the passage you have just heard.

19. What was the diamond ring said to represent?
20. Why did the Austrian man place the diamond ring on the third finger of the left hand of his would-be wife?
21. What is the chief advantage of having the engagement period?

Passage Three

As a boy, Tim was much influenced by books about sea, but in fact by the age of fifteen he had decided to become a doctor rather than a sailor. His father was a dentist and as a result Tim had the opportunity of meeting with many doctors either at home or elsewhere. When he was fourteen he was already hanging around the clinic of the local doctor where he was supposed to be helping to wrap up medicine bottles, but was actually trying to listen to the conversations taking place between the doctor and his patients in the next room.

During the war Tim served in the Navy as a surgeon. "That was the happiest time of my life, doing major surgery. I was dealing with very real suffering and on the whole making a success of it." In Rhodes Island he taught the country people simple facts about medicine. He saw himself as a life-saver. He had proved his skill to himself and his ability to take decisions. With this proof came the firm belief that those who lived simply possessed qualities and a secret of living which he lacked. Thus, he was able to tell them what to do; he could feel he was serving them.

After the war, he got home, married and chose a practice in the English countryside, working under an old doctor who was popular in the area, but who hated the sight of blood and believed that the secret of medicine was faith. This gave the younger man many opportunities to go on working as a life-saver.

Questions 22 to 25 are based on the passage you have just heard.

22. Why did Tim decide to become a doctor at the age of 15?
23. What did Tim do when he was in the clinic of the local doctor?
24. What did Tim do during the war?
25. What did Tim do when the war was over?

