
INTERNATIONAL GCSE

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Listening Paper Transcript

Tuesday 2 November 2021

07:00 GMT

Time allowed: 45 minutes

(including 5 minutes' reading time before the test)

FOR INVIGILATOR'S USE ONLY

The pauses are pre-recorded for this test.

Instructions

This is what you should do for each item.

- After the question number is announced, there will be a pause to allow you to read the instructions and questions.
- Listen carefully to the recording and read the questions again.
- Listen to the recording again and then answer the questions.
- When the next question is about to start you will hear a bleep.
- You may write at any time during the test.
- Answer the questions in **English**.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write on blank pages.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- Write neatly and put down all the information you are asked to give.
- **You must not ask questions or interrupt during the test.**
- You now have 5 minutes to read through the question paper. You may make notes during this time. You may open your answer book now.
- The test starts now.

Once the recording has started, the Invigilator must not pause it at any time as all pauses, including the 5 minutes' reading time, are pre-recorded.

Questions and answers in **English**.

Task 1

- 1 **F1** This summer, the weather has been too hot. My favourite season is autumn when it is still warm but crisp. Winter can be fun and full of celebrations but too cold. In spring, it is nice to see all the flowers, but I don't like the April showers that come.
- 2 **M1** Experts state that we should read at least twenty minutes a day to succeed at school. I read only eight books last year, but my goal is to read twelve this year. I enjoy reading fiction, especially crime and fantasy; now I want to try non-fiction too.
- 3 **F2** The three friends all like sports but only Jane likes badminton. She doesn't like tennis, nor does Mary. They prefer running and there is a competition soon. Jane thinks Lucy will come first. Mary usually wins, but she hurt her knee.
- 4 **M2** For science homework, log onto your school account and answer the questions only after you have watched the video lecture. You won't need to complete the quiz. You can use the internet or your textbook to help but work should be completed on your own.

Task 2

- 5 **F2** I used to use social media all of the time. I would post updates several times a day and follow hundreds of people – many of them strangers. I was addicted, constantly scrolling on all the different apps.
- 6 **M2** I never installed the apps onto my phone so that I could avoid temptation. I occasionally log on when I'm on the computer, but it means I don't waste my time. Though I do end up missing a lot of friends' birthdays without getting notifications!
- 7 **F2** I feel a lot happier now that I don't use social media as much. I was getting worried about how much I depended on getting 'likes' to give me a boost. It can really affect our self-esteem, seeing selfies and believing that's what we should look like.
- 8 **M2** I follow local accounts, so I know of any upcoming events. I'm not a fan of my whole family seeing what I am up to, but I do like keeping in touch with my cousins. When I've had a bad day, watching silly videos can help cheer me up.

Task 3

- 9 **F1** I have been hiking since I first went camping when I was at school. When I first started, I would just be following an adult guide, as I didn't have all the skills to go on my own. They slowly began training me, but I took my main enjoyment from seeing the beautiful countryside.
- 10 **F1** As I got older, I learned how to navigate on my own by using a map and a compass. Reading a map is like learning a new language! There are lots of symbols that show you what you will see when you are hiking. You use these with the compass to make sure you are heading in the right direction, which is important especially when you cannot see the path ahead.
- 11 **F1** This year, I have been training more regularly so that I can get fitter to climb mountains. It is tough but the views from the top make it worth it! I have been hiking up bigger and bigger hills to practise and make my leg muscles stronger. At the gym, I have also been training my back so that it can carry a heavier bag up mountains.
- 12 **F1** I think hiking is a great sport that more people should try. It is an excellent way to stay fit and you can choose how easy or difficult you want each session to be, based on the route you plan. It's great to hike both on your own or in a group too. You will also see places in your hometown and country that you will never have seen before and these spots are truly beautiful.

Task 4

- 13 **M2** Today, we will start revising this term's four major topics. You will have an exam next month that is worth forty percent of your overall grade. We have fourteen lessons until then so we will go over previous work and practise exam techniques. You should also draw up a revision timetable to help you study at home.
- 14 **M1** Sir, please could you explain what the exam will be like so I can revise properly?
M2 Certainly. The exam lasts two hours and will focus on your writing skills. You will answer three questions that are essay based, all of which will be on themes we have already practised during our lessons. The only thing we haven't yet covered is writing these essays in exam conditions, which we will start in a fortnight.
- 15 **M1** Upon reflection, I think I need to spend the most time practising grammar, especially the future tense as I can see in my work that I get it wrong a lot. I know I can spell many English words accurately, but I need to work on increasing the variety of words I use. We have just finished learning essay writing, so I feel confident with that. However, I will improve on this by doing more practice exam questions.
- 16 **M2** As well as identifying topics, you should consider the grade you want to achieve in this exam to help your overall studies.
M1 In the last exam, I got a C. I was disappointed with this as my classwork is usually better. I get nervous during exams and that affects my performance. Doing practice questions will help with this. To make sure I can study English next year, I need to get an A, which is going to be tough and I am anxious about achieving this. Hopefully, this new revision timetable will help a lot.

Turn over ►

Task 5

- 17 F2** Usually, I like to spend the holidays at home celebrating with my family, but we were unable to that year. Therefore, I decided to pack my bags and head somewhere new. I'm not a fan of the parties that happen in city centres over New Year – they can be too crowded and very expensive. Parties at your house can be great as it's less chaotic but I wanted to try something different, so I went to a small village on the coast.
- 18 F2** New Year's Eve itself was uneventful though I enjoyed relaxing. However, in the morning, I met the locals on the beach at dawn to take part in the 'Polar Bear Plunge'. As I stood on the sand I looked at the icy waves; I felt dread at what I was about to do. My teeth chattered and my heart pounded. But then we started running and my fear was left on the shore. As the water hit me, a thrill went through me; this was like nothing else. It was as if a current shocked all my body – I was over the moon!
- 19 F2** I didn't last as long in the glacial water as the locals; they are made of much stronger stuff than I am! I was soon back on the beach with about a hundred towels wrapped around me and a hot chocolate thawing my frozen hands. My heart gradually slowed and I felt strangely relaxed and soothed by the whole experience.
- 20 F2** In the evening, I joined the locals again for dinner at a restaurant. It seemed more appropriate to celebrate the start of a new year rather than the end of another. I missed my family a little, but the locals were so welcoming, I felt part of a new group of friends. We shared our new year's resolutions and I felt ready to tackle whatever the year might bring.
- 21 F2** I had never celebrated New Year's Day like this before and think I will carry on some of these new traditions for many years to come. I used to spend the day being very lazy watching television and resting after all the holiday's festivities. This was a much more rewarding and purposeful way to celebrate and I think it really impacted how I spent the rest of my year. I might not make a habit out of rushing into freezing waters, but I will definitely be open to new experiences!

END OF SOURCES**Copyright information**

For confidentiality purposes, all acknowledgements of third-party copyright material are published in a separate booklet. This booklet is published after each live examination series and is available for free download from www.oxfordaqaexams.org.uk.

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and Oxford International AQA Examinations will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team.

Copyright © 2021 Oxford International AQA Examinations and its licensors. All rights reserved.

