

LISTENING

Time: 15 minutes

Task 1. You will hear people talking in 8 different situations. For each question 1-8, choose the best answer (A, B, or C). You will hear each recording twice.

1. You hear a shop assistant talking about buying bicycles. What advice does he give?

- A Think about what kind of cycling you do.
- B Get the best bicycle you can afford.
- C Choose a bike with lots of gears.

2. You hear two friends talking about skiing holidays. What did the woman do differently on her last skiing holiday?

- A She booked her holiday a long time in advance.
- B She chose an alternative style of accommodation.
- C She made her own arrangements regarding a hotel.

3. You hear a woman leaving a voicemail message for a friend about a job interview. Why is the woman pleased?

- A She has been offered the job.
- B She was less nervous than she expected.
- C She felt she gave the right answers.

4. You hear two people on holiday in Morocco talking about a camel ride they've just done. What surprised the man about the experience?

- A the beauty of the scenery.
- B the helpfulness of the guide.
- C the nature of the animals.

5. You hear an IT expert talking about passwords. She suggests that

- A changing passwords regularly is advisable.
- B there is an acceptable way to write a password down.
- C people should avoid having the same password for different things.

6. You hear a guide on a tourist bus being asked about a tall building. What does she say about the building?

- A It offers the best views of the city.
- B It's worth visiting at different times of the day.
- C It's a popular meeting place for local residents.

7. You hear a local radio announcer giving a traffic report. There are problems on the motorway because

- A emergency services are working in the road.
- B a broken-down lorry is blocking the road.
- C current weather conditions are slowing traffic.

8. You hear a diving instructor talking to a woman who is learning to dive. According to the instructor, how is the woman's diving improving?

- A** She is handling the equipment well.
- B** She is learning to adjust her speed.
- C** She is controlling her nerves before a dive.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

READING

Time: 30 minutes

Task 1. Read an article about the American rapper Cardi B and fill in the gaps with phrases 9-18.

Cardi B is an American rapper born and **9.** She became an Internet celebrity by achieving popularity on Instagram. From 2015 to 2017, she appeared as a regular cast member on the Video Hits One reality television series, which **10.**

Her debut studio album, *Invasion of Privacy*, debuted at number one on the Billboard 200, was certified **11.** ... , and was the best-selling female rap album of the 2010s.

It made Cardi B the only woman to win the Grammy Award for Best Rap Album as **12.** ... , and became the first female rap album after 15 years to be nominated for Album of the Year. The Spotify's most-streamed female rap album spawned two number-one singles on the Billboard Hot 100. Cardi B became the only female rapper to achieve a Diamond-certified song by the RIAA with 'Bodak Yellow', which also made her **13.** ... with a solo output. It was followed by her feature on 'Girls Like You' with band Maroon 5. She has released two singles from her upcoming second album, **14.**

Cardi B is the female rapper with the most number-one singles on the *Billboard* Hot 100. She also holds other records among women in hip hop as the **15.** ... in 2010s and 2020s, and is the only to achieve multiple number ones with solo songs.

Cardi B is known for her aggressive flow and candid lyrics, which have received **16.** She is the female rapper with the most songs with **17.** ... on Spotify, and the first lead artist to top the inaugural *Billboard* Global 200. In 2018 *Time* magazine included her on **18.** ... of the 100 most influential people in the world, and in 2020, *Billboard* honored her as Woman of the Year.

- A** the second female rapper to top the chart
- B** a solo artist
- C** a billion streams
- D** one chart-topper was 'WAP' and the other was 'Up'
- E** critical praise
- F** triple platinum by the RIAA (Recording Industry Association of America)
- G** their annual list
- H** depicted her desire to build a rapper career
- I** only to achieve number ones
- J** raised in New York

Task 2. You are going to read an article about calligraphy, a form of elaborate decorative writing. For questions 19-23, choose the answer A, B, C or D, which you think fits best according to the text.

What beautiful writing you have: The rise of modern calligraphy

Fiona Wilson tries the art of creating elaborate decorative writing

I am sitting at a desk in an immaculate stationary shop named Quill, attempting to master the letter M. ‘I’ve got this,’ I think with the false confidence of the beginner, as I dip my pen into the ink and drag the tip across the page. ‘Wait,’ says my teacher, Quill owner Lucy Edmonds. ‘You are not holding your pen correctly. Loosen your grip.’ I look at my hand. I am unexpectedly tense, holding it like a caveman might have held a spear. Lucy tells me to stop treating it like a weapon but to regard it as my friend. ‘Try again.’ I make a shape. Ink goes everywhere. ‘Well done!’ Lucy cries politely. The letter may be unidentifiable, but I feel wonderful.

I have always valued good handwriting. I spent three years of my childhood in the USA, where at school I was taught to write using D’Nealian manuscript form, an ornate style of writing that looks rather old-fashioned, and one that I have long since abandoned in favour of general, neat handwriting. With my wedding coming up at the end of the year, and invitation letters to be sent out in the post, this seemed like the ideal time to polish my writing skills. Eighty personalised envelopes to write by hand - does not sound too hard a task under normal circumstances. But modern calligraphy, I am learning, is a completely different animal.

I signed up for a modern calligraphy tutorial with Lucy, a 33-year-old who opened Quill five years ago. She impresses upon me the need to change my mindset: with calligraphy you are essentially drawing a letter rather than writing it. She gives me a dip pen, which can create a finer line than any fountain pen. It is made up of a wooden penholder into which you push a special, delicate tip. Preparing this is an art in itself - you can pass it through a flame, which for me has the right amount of drama and ritual. Others use toothpaste. Then comes the hard bit: holding it correctly. Your fingers should not curl round too much and your thumb should not cross them; the tip has to point to the top of the paper at all times, with the length of your pen in line with your arm.

I am later reassured by one of Quill’s former tutors, Chiara Perano, who runs her own design studio, called Lamplighter, that I am not the only one who has struggled to master this most basic of skills. ‘My job is essentially teaching grown-ups how to hold a pen.’ Among them, she tells me, she has a number of primary school teachers trying to get some quality time for themselves. Their reaction is, ‘Gosh I feel sorry for the kids now.’ Appreciating that it is harder than it looks, the teachers get an insight into what it feels like to learn normal handwriting.

The appeal of modern calligraphy for many is that it looks attractive and requires a fraction of the years that are needed to master the traditional art. Modern calligraphy is loosely based on the ornate cooperative style, but there are far fewer rules and you are encouraged to put your personality into it. With regular practice, you can write reasonably confidently in this style within six months. Which is, mercifully, as long as I have to get my envelopes right.

19. What do we learn from the first paragraph?

- A. Lucy thinks that Fiona is not treating the activity seriously enough.
- B. Fiona thinks calligraphy will be easier than it turns out to be.
- C. Lucy is pleasantly surprised by Fiona’s initial efforts.
- D. Fiona is discouraged by Lucy’s instructions.

20. When Fiona uses the words ‘different animal’ (line 24), she is contrasting modern calligraphy with

- A. regular writing.
- B. the typed out letters of today.
- C. the D’Nealian script she used previously.
- D. the highly decorative style used in wedding invitations.

21. What does Fiona say about using the dip pen?

- A. It looks fragile but in fact it is very tough.
- B. It is easier to draw with than write with.
- C. The technical side of it is what appeals to her.
- D. There are several possible variations in how you can hold it.

22. Chiara Perano says that trying calligraphy has given primary school teachers

- A. a feeling of inadequacy.
- B. a great deal of enjoyment.
- C. ideas for their own lessons.
- D. a sense of sympathy with their pupils.

23. In the fifth paragraph, Fiona says that the version of calligraphy she is learning

- A. has to be followed very strictly.
- B. is ideally suited to wedding invitations.
- C. takes a long time to become proficient in.
- D. is easier to learn than ancient form of the art.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 30 minutes

Task 1. Read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. Use suffixes and prefixes to form words.

Brawl Stars

Brawl Stars is a battle royale game where a player controls a character of choice

from a number of (24) ... characters and battles against other players. Last one standing wins.

This game is simple to play and looks nice as it has cartoonish (25) It appeals to many people ranging from kids to older people.

It lets the player’s team up developing various skills and (26) ... the gaming experience. It also has beautiful background music that is in itself (27)

DIFFER

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TE**

**ELEVA
TE**

ADDIC

Brawl Stars is (28) ... by popular YouTubers and bloggers who make daily streams about it since the game gets (29) ... updates which keep the game fresh and interesting.

T
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H

The game is not completely dominated by pay-to-win players. And this is the biggest factor for any (30) ... game!

COMPE
TE

Brawl Stars does not have a token system as in the games where a player has to wait for a long time for the bar to (31) ... so they can play again. It is so convenient to play (32) It is the supercell game ever!

FILL
INTER
RUPT

Task 2. Read the text and decide which answer A, B, C or D best fits each gap.

Trampolining and its health benefits

When NASA used trampolining to train astronauts, a sporting world (33)..... note. NASA claimed that trampolining was the best all-round (34)..... of fitness, better even than swimming, running, and cycling.

Experts agree that trampolining is excellent background training for sportspeople like sprinters and gymnasts, who need their leg muscles to react very fast. It also (35) the core very well and is good for balance and coordination. Also, if (36) made by trampolining manufacturers are to be believed, trampolining also (37) you strong bones and triggers hormones of happiness.

Mini trampolines, often with a handrail (38), are often used by sportspeople (39) from leg or foot injuries. Since you cannot bounce high on them, you can get gentle repetitive exercise for the muscles - with the strain of (40) on hard ground.

- | | | | | |
|----|------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 33 | A made | B got | C took | D wrote |
| 34 | A way | B form | C manner | D condition |
| 35 | A runs | B plays | C functions | D exercises |
| 36 | A claims | B calls | C challenges | D concerns |
| 37 | A produces | B provides | C enables | D gives |
| 38 | A attached | B involved | C accompanied | D linked |
| 39 | A mending | B regaining | C improving | D recovering |
| 40 | A hitting | B coming | C landing | D putting |

Task 3. Open the parentheses using an appropriate grammar form.

Dr Robert Herdegen of America's Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia, looked at the effects of 12 men riding a bicycle for ten minutes while listening to music on one day. He 41. ... (**compare**) it to the same men riding bicycles without music for ten minutes the following day.

On the days that the men exercised listening to music, they travelled 11 per cent **42.** ... (**far**) compared to the days they didn't listen to music. Researchers also found that the **43.** ... (**men**) levels of exertion were at their lowest when listening to music.

Other studies show that **44.** ... (**listen**) to music releases endorphins - our natural 'feel good' hormones that lift our mood and give us motivation to carry on **45.** ... (**long**) than usual with exercise.

Task 4. Read the text below and think of the word, which fits each gap. You have the first and final letters of the words. The dots correspond to the number of missing letters. Transfer full words into your answer sheet.

Friendship

A friend is someone I can **46. c.....t** any time and expect a quick reply. That is a trait almost all the people I consider friends have. I can pick up my **47. p...e**, text them or send them a voice clip and expect that they will get **48. b..k** to me as soon as they can. There are people you text and will not hear from for days. I do not consider them friends.

A friend is also someone who is **49. i.....d** in you. They will contact you even when they do not want **50. a.....g**. There are people I have as phone contacts who will respond if I send contact them, but who would never **51. m.....e** me unless I text them. I do not consider them friends.

Take someone like John. He and I have talked more days than not for so many years that I do not remember the last time I was not in **52. t...h** with him. On most days, whether I am working or not, we have multiple **53. c.....s** throughout the day. That is a friend.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

WRITING

Time: 45 minutes

Task 1. Express your opinion on the following problem:

During the pandemic many teenagers found new job opportunities. Some of them walked their neighbours' dogs, delivered food, and even chatted with lonely people on platforms for small wages. However, it is often claimed that children should not earn money in their age as work distracts them from study.

Write **150–200** words.

Remember to

- make an introduction;
- express your personal opinion on the problem and give reasons for your opinion;
- make a conclusion.