

**FORM 4**

**ENGLISH  
LISTENING COMPREHENSION**

**TIME: 15 minutes**

**Teacher's Paper**

**Instructions for the conduct of the Listening Comprehension Examination**

The teacher should instruct the candidates to answer the questions on the paper provided. The following procedure for reading the Listening Comprehension passage is to be explained to the candidates immediately before proceeding with the examination.

*You have been given a sheet containing the listening comprehension questions. You will be given three minutes to read the questions based on the passage. The passage will be read at normal reading speed. You may take notes during the reading. After this reading there will be a pause of another three minutes to allow you to answer some of the questions. I shall read the passage a second time and you may take further notes and answer the rest of the questions. After this second reading you will be given a further three minutes for a final revision of the answers.*

- a. 3 minutes – Students read questions.
- b. 3 minutes – Teacher reads passage aloud for the first time while students take notes.
- c. 3 minutes – Students answer questions.
- d. 3 minutes – Teacher reads passage for the second time. Students may answer more questions.
- e. 3 minutes – Students revise final answers.

**FORM 4**

**ENGLISH  
LISTENING COMPREHENSION**

**TIME: 15 minutes**

**TEACHER'S PAPER**

**You are going to listen to the 7 o'clock news on the radio.**

And now for the last item in the news today: Postal Service in Statue of Liberty stamp photo mix-up.

The United States Postal Service regrets issuing a stamp featuring a photo of a Las Vegas casino's replica of the Statue of Liberty, rather than the original one which is world famous and which is in New York harbour, a spokesman said.

But the postal service has printed 3 billion of the 44-cent first-class stamps and will continue to sell them, he said. This embarrassing mix-up was noticed by a stamp collector who discovered the mistake after noting discrepancies between the stamp image and the original statue. The mix-up was first reported by Linn's Stamp News, a publication for philatelists. It pointed out that the photo used on the stamp showed a rectangular patch on the crown that is present on the 14-year-old statue which is at the New York Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, but not on the 93-metre copper statue in New York.

In addition, the facial features on the Las Vegas replica are more sharply defined than on the original. The image was taken from a stock photography service available on the internet, the New York Times reported.

Designed by French sculptor Frederic-Auguste Bartholdi and French engineer Alexandre Gustave Eiffel, the statue – entitled Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World – was given to the United States by the French in 1886.

The United States Postal Service is playing down the mistake. The mistake is the first of its kind and there are no plans to withdraw the stamp which can be used as first class indefinitely. In fact, it is possible more will be produced.

Meanwhile, the hotel owners, MGM Resorts International, are celebrating a huge free advertising campaign thanks to the mix-up. Spokesman Gordon Absher said, "The postal service has chosen to honour not one but two great American institutions – the Statue of Liberty and Las Vegas."

**FORM 4** **ENGLISH** **Time: 15 minutes**  
**LISTENING COMPREHENSION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Index No: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Underline the right answer. 1 mark [     ]

The United States Postal Service:

- (i) is sorry about the photo mix-up and will withdraw the stamps.  
(ii) is sorry about the photo mix-up but will not withdraw the stamps.  
(iii) is not sorry about the photo mix-up and will not issue an apology.

2. Who noticed the mistake? 1 mark [     ]

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What do these numbers refer to? 4 marks [     ]

a.	3	
b.	44	
c.	14	
d.	93	

4. The original Statue of Liberty is made of \_\_\_\_\_. 1 mark [     ]

5. Who is happy about the mistake and why? 1 mark [     ]

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Which **TWO** American institutions were honoured by the Postal Service? 2 marks [     ]

\_\_\_\_\_

(10 marks)

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**FORM 4**

**ENGLISH  
COMPREHENSION TEXTS**

**Text 1.**

**Here is the horoscope page of a magazine. Read it and then answer the questions found on the language paper.**

New! Horoscope

**Lori Reid**

REVEALS YOUR HOROSCOPES



Work goes well and you can complete an ongoing job. Take the lead and sort out your finances. Love? Be patient! Check the facts before taking big decisions.



For more details on this sign,  
call my STARLINE on: 0908 191 5429.  
To receive daily texts, send: NW to 83880

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Calls cost €0.77 per minute from a landline. Subscribe to receive daily texts for €0.50 per message per day. You will be sent your personalised horoscope daily. For help call 0870 020 5686 or send an email to: horoscopes@gmail.com

Aquarius: Jan 21 – Feb 19  
Aries : March 21 – April 20  
Gemini: May 22 – June 21  
Leo: July 24 – August 23

Pisces : Feb 20 – March 20  
Taurus: April 21 – May 21  
Cancer: June 22 – July 23  
Virgo: August 23 – September 22

**Text 2: Read the passage and answer the questions on the language paper.****Why are we addicted to horoscopes?**

Superstitious us? Not at all! Yet 8 out of 10 of us admit to regularly reading our horoscopes. How can we explain the fact that so many of us religiously consult those **little paragraphs**? Why do we always want to know the future?

5 Horoscopes can lend guidance to people when it comes to making a decision. Some people *put great stock* into astrological forecasts, while other people feel this type of advice is merely entertainment. People who grew up reading astrological forecasts will probably continue to do so, not because **they** expect real answers to questions and not because they necessarily find it entertaining, but rather because they have simply always done so.

10 However, there is a difference between reading horoscopes occasionally and reading them habitually. While some people may take the advice lightly, other people may become *reliant on* astrological predictions and they refuse to make any major changes or pursue anything new without first having consulted with an astrologer.

15 Most daily newspapers feature horoscopes, as do many magazines. The internet has a vast selection of astrology websites to choose from, and many people have horoscopes delivered directly to their email or text messaged to their phones. If you wonder why people read horoscopes, one of the main reasons may simply be because these entertaining forecasts are so readily available. Whether on the bus or on the train to work, horoscopes call out to us. An astrologer has taken the trouble to dissect our star sign and find words to encourage, motivate and advise us and it feels good to be pampered.

20 However, we forget that these kind words are also for the millions of other Geminis on the planet. But that doesn't matter. We apply our horoscope to our lives and the events that we experience personally. Good horoscopes reassure **us**, either by convincing us that we have made the right decision or by giving us a direction. What our horoscope says can tip the balance when we have doubts or convince us that choices made were the right ones. They can also affect relationships. Is it written in the stars that today you will meet The One? The more extreme among us won't even give a relationship a chance if **it's** not written in the stars! Horoscopes motivate us. 'Nothing will stop Scorpio this week!' It may be Friday morning, yet after reading those few lines you feel your wings spreading and you spring into action.

25 But horoscopes can also give us excuses. 'My horoscope said the presence of Saturn in my sign this year will prevent me from meeting my ideal partner, getting a better job and winning the lottery.' The influence of the planets can *justify* our failures and explain away a lack of *accomplishments*. Of course, failure has more to do with the fact that you stayed at home in your pyjamas instead of going out and looking for success or never even bothered to buy a lottery ticket.

30 Many people do not take those predictions seriously, but still they take a moment to read their horoscope, just for fun or curiosity. They feel great when they read something good about their horoscope signs. No wonder the inclusion of horoscopes can increase the sales of a magazine by 20%.



**FORM 4**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**TIME: 2 hours**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Index No:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

Marks			
Oral Assessment	Listening Comprehension	Written Paper	Total

**SECTION A – LANGUAGE**

**(20 MARKS)**

**A. Fill in the spaces with a word formed from the words in brackets. The first one (0) has been done for you.**

After the (0) discovery (**discover**) that 2,500 Missouri residents have spent the last 10 years being exposed to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (**danger**) levels of chemicals, a state-wide search is being conducted to find other (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (**neighbour**) where hundreds more people may be at serious risk. The (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (**contaminate**) stems from a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (**wide**) followed practice in the early 1970s of mixing (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (**chemistry**) waste with used oil and spreading this (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (**liquefy**) on dirt and gravel roads as a means of dust control. The first (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (**communal**) to have problems was Times Beach. Built on a river bank, it is a shanty town of (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (**work**) class houses which flood every time it rains (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (**heavy**). Last December the town people were evacuated for several days, but some were (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (**will**) to leave their homes.

**5 marks**

**B. Put the verb in brackets in the correct form. The first one (0) has been done.**

Dear Sir,

I (0) have just returned (**just return**) from a holiday in Rome and it  
(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (**be**) a nightmare! When I chose *Swift Holidays*, I  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ (**think**) that I (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (**deal**)  
with a company I could rely on. The trouble started at the airport, since the aeroplane  
(4) \_\_\_\_\_ (**overbook**). We had to get another plane, an hour later. The  
'luxury' hotel (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (**advertise**) in your brochure was still under  
construction! Hardly the peaceful and relaxing holiday I  
(6) \_\_\_\_\_ (**look forward**) to. My room was much smaller than I  
(7) \_\_\_\_\_ (**expect**) and there was no hot water. Your brochure  
(8) \_\_\_\_\_ (**state**) that the hotel was only a few minutes from the sea.  
Fifty minutes (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (**be**) exact – to get to a polluted beach! This  
is the worst holiday I (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (**ever have**) and I want my money  
back.

Yours faithfully,

*Ann Smith*

5 marks



**C. Fill in the spaces with an appropriate word. The first one (0) has been done**

The attitude of the train guard was terrible. When I asked why there was a (0) delay, he shrugged his shoulders. When I (1) \_\_\_\_\_ that I would almost certainly miss the connection and have to spend the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in a hotel, he said, "Look, don't blame me. I'm (3) \_\_\_\_\_ a guard." I then (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to get hold of an inspector but he was in a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and simply took no notice of me, but just walked away. (6) \_\_\_\_\_ rude! He obviously took no (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in his work. I didn't want to hang around (8) \_\_\_\_\_ for a train. I had an urgent appointment to go to. But nobody could give me a definite (9) \_\_\_\_\_ and I felt even more frustrated as I (10) \_\_\_\_\_ that I would miss my appointment.

5 marks

**D. Use the phrasal verbs in the box (in the correct form) to complete the sentences. The first one (0) has been done for you. Each phrasal verb can only be used once.**

throw back	go on	pack up	give in	send off
clean up	take to	go back	join in	go away

Fishing is a very relaxing activity and it is nice to (0) get out in the fresh air for a few hours. Kathy often (1) \_\_\_\_\_ her husband with a basket of sandwiches and his fishing gear. He always (2) \_\_\_\_\_ at the end of the day very calm and relaxed. He often (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the fish in the water after catching it. He had repeatedly asked his sons to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and finally they (5) \_\_\_\_\_. James enjoyed it very much but Peter did not (6) \_\_\_\_\_ it. He turned back and started to walk along the lake. But



there were many fishermen there, so he had to give up. They were very angry with him. He  
 he knocked a basket full of worms and they asked him to (7) \_\_\_\_\_  
 the mess. The fishermen (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to tell him to  
 (9)\_\_\_\_\_. His father decided that the fishing trip was over and started  
 to (10)\_\_\_\_\_ his equipment.

5 marks

## SECTION B – COMPREHENSION

(30 MARKS)

Read **Text 1** which is the horoscope page in a magazine and then answer the following questions. (5 marks)

a.	What is your star sign if your birthday is on 30 <sup>th</sup> March?	
b.	How much does a horoscope received as a text message cost per day?	
c.	Which star sign does the horoscope shown on the magazine page refer to?	
d.	What is the name of the person who prepares this horoscope page?	
e.	How can you get more information about the horoscope service?	

Read **Text 2** which is on a separate sheet and then answer the following questions.

1. What do these words/phrases refer to in the text? (2 marks)

a.	little paragraphs (line 3)	
b.	they (line 7)	
c.	us (line 24)	
d.	it (line 29)	

2. Underline whether these statements are **TRUE** or **FALSE** and give a reason.

(4 marks)

(a) All of us admit to reading horoscopes.

True/False because \_\_\_\_\_

(b) On the internet there are horoscope websites.

True/False because \_\_\_\_\_

(c) People think that what your horoscope sign says applies only to you and not to others.

True/False because \_\_\_\_\_

(d) The author believes that lack of initiative and determination affect our success in life.

True/False because \_\_\_\_\_

3. What do these words/phrases mean in the text?

(2 marks)

a.	put great stock into (line 5)	
b.	reliant on (line 12)	
c.	justify (line 34)	
d.	accomplishments (line 35)	

4. Write down **TWO** contrasting ways in which people look at horoscopes.

(2 marks)

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Mention **FOUR** places where you can find horoscopes.

(2 marks)

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

(d) \_\_\_\_\_

6. How does having a horoscope page affect the sales of a magazine? Give a reason for your answer.

(2 marks)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Which words from lines 14 - 21 mean:

a.	contain	
b.	enjoyable	
c.	analyse	
d.	spoilt	

8. How can you tell that the writer does not believe in horoscopes? (2 marks)

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9. Which sentence from lines 10 – 21 shows that horoscopes are irresistible to many people? (1 mark)

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10. In around 50 words write how horoscopes can affect us. (6 marks)

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