
FORM 2

ENGLISH
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

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. I shall then read the passage 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. The passage will be read 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 2

ENGLISH
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

TIME: 15 minutes

Listen to Apu describing the cyclone which struck the island in the Indian Ocean where he lives.

It was the middle of the night when my uncle woke me up and told me to climb a tree. I thought he was playing a joke on me, though he's not a person who plays jokes. In fact, he's usually a rather gloomy man and he thinks climbing trees is a waste of time, unless it's to pick coconuts.

My favourite climbing tree is a big branchy one with a thick trunk that stands near our house. (I mean, it used to stand there. I still can't get used to the idea that it's gone.)

When Uncle woke me, it was very dark and I could hear the wind blowing hard and roaring in the branches of the tree. It seemed an odd time to be climbing trees and I started to ask questions, but Uncle told me not to argue and to get climbing.

I knew the best way up with my eyes shut. I felt for the low branch above my head and pulled myself up. I called to Uncle that I was up, and he shouted, 'Higher! Higher!' I felt for the branches and stumps that I knew and climbed upwards until I was clinging to a thick branch that was tossing and swaying and seemed to be doing its best to throw me off.

The grown ups were arguing in the darkness below. My uncle was trying to persuade my aunts and cousins to climb up too. I really thought he'd gone crazy like the man in the village the other side of the island who sometimes sits in the trees like a monkey. (I mean he used to, he's not there anymore.) Uncle kept shouting, 'The water's coming! The water's coming!' Of course he was right, it did come. I don't know how he knew. None of them could climb as well as me: they were either too old or too young. I don't think any of them got into my tree.

The wind tore at me and the branches thrashed me and I was scared I would not be able to hold on. It was still nearly pitch dark but suddenly there was something darker and blacker flying through the air like a huge bat and wrapping itself round the lower branches of my tree. I heard the women's voices wailing, 'The roof! The roof!', and I knew it was the thatch of our house going to pieces. I'd seen this happen before. Roofs blow off quite often in the islands. And quite often the water comes up nearly to the top of the mound on which our house is built. But we'd never climbed trees in the middle of the night before.

FORM 2 **ENGLISH** **TIME: 15 minutes**
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Name: _____ Index No: _____ Class: _____

A. Put a tick (✓) in the correct box according to whether the statement is TRUE (T) or FALSE (F). **3 marks []**

1. Apu's uncle was fond of tree climbing.
2. It was a dark, calm night.
3. Apu was very skilled at climbing trees.
4. The aunts and cousins did not want to climb up a tree.
5. The roof of the house was blown off by the wind.
6. This was the first time that roofs had been blown off.

T	F

B. Answer the following questions.

1. Who is the only person who seems to realise that they are in danger? **1 mark []**

2. Write two adjectives which describe Apu's favourite tree. **1 mark []**

i. _____ ii. _____

3. Which word describes the sound of the wind? **1 mark []**

4. What is flying in the air 'like a huge bat'? **1 mark []**

C. Tick (✓) the correct answer.

1 mark []

While clinging to the tree branch Apu is afraid

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | a. of the darkness around him. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | b. that his relatives will not come up the tree. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | c. he will fall out of the tree. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | d. that he will be sick. |

D. Tick (✓) the two correct answers.

2 marks []

Apu reminds himself of two things that are not there anymore. These two things are:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | a. His gloomy uncle. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | b. His favourite climbing tree. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | c. The man in the village who sits in the trees like a monkey. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | d. His aunts and cousins. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | e. His family's house. |

FORM 2

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE
COMPREHENSION TEXTS**

E. COMPREHENSION

Read the following texts and then answer the questions on the Language Paper.

Text 1.

Stranded

The sun was directly overhead. The breeze that blew did not cool the air; it only moved it. The building of the boat always had to stop at this hour. No one could stand the noonday heat, even though the six girls had lived on the small deserted island for one hundred and fifteen days. Although this great hope for escape had given the girls the strength to work every day, the sun weakened them when it was hottest. Under such a blazing light, none of them could carry even one more log, tie one more knot, or dart safely away from one more **grab** from the tide's watery fingers reaching for the ankle that got too close.

'We must stop now, girls,' Hatty ordered as she usually did at noon. Five girls dropped what they were doing. They were all deeply tanned. With pink, lavender and yellow flowers stuck here and there in their hair, the girls looked like a tribe of island princesses instead of the ordinary girls they really were. So much had changed since they'd arrived. The fears that came with them to the island had gradually left as they became more used to the island. It offered plenty of fruit, fish and fresh water, so their fear of not surviving because of hunger and thirst went away. The cloth from the sails of the *Sea Breeze* combined with the thick, leafy branches of the palms made sturdy enough shelters to shield them from cool night breezes and afternoon rains, so their fears of the elements disappeared also.

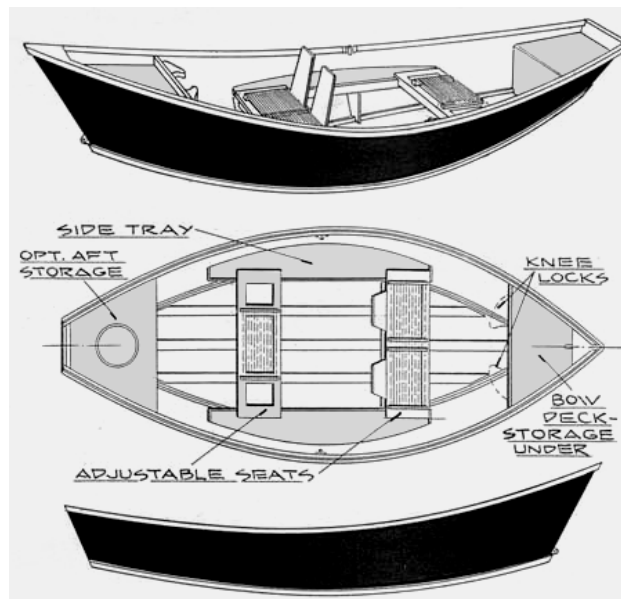
New fears replaced the old ones. The dagger-like leaves of a certain plant could slice through skin. The white fruit that looked good enough to eat caused vomiting and skin rash. In the sea, it wasn't only the tide that threatened; other dangers floated silently and unseen, waiting for a leg to wrap around, a foot to stab, an arm to sting. On the surface, the water looked like an invitation to cool down. It was, but Hatty, who knew all the dangers, warned the girls to keep a good look out while swimming.

Hatty stood back to look at the boat. **It** lacked style and beauty. Secretly she wondered what her father might say if he was ever able to see this thing **they** were calling a boat. She knew he would be proud of how she had put her knowledge to good use. Hatty had paid attention when she and her father had stood in the buildings where boats were made. She had listened to many tales told by the boat-builders. She knew that **timbers** were soaked in sea-water to prevent worms and to make the wood easier to cut. But, for her boat, there were no smoothly cut timbers. There were only tree trunks that had taken weeks to cut with the small axe they had. Dragging heavy logs across the sand to where the tide came farthest and fastest, took the strength of all six girls. Weeks of hard labour had resulted in the strangest-looking boat Hatty had ever seen built.

Adapted from 'Lost Girls Alone' by Linda Williams Aber

Text 2.

Look at the advert below and then answer the questions on the Language Paper.



Self Build Boat Plans

If you have ever thought about building a boat in own backyard, you may be interested to know about wood boat plans.

It is pretty convenient having an internet connection these days. The world is at your fingertips, and wood boat plans are readily available online.

Self Build Boat Plans

FORM 2 **ENGLISH** **TIME: 2 hours**

Name: _____ Index No: _____ Class: _____

Marks			
Oral Assessment	Listening Comprehension	Written Paper	Total

A. Fill in the blanks with a question tag. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Mary and her brother James are organising a surprise party for their parents' anniversary.

Mary: James, you've finished your homework, (0) haven't you ? Let's check that we have everything organised for the party. You ordered the cake yesterday, (1) _____ ?

James: Yes, of course. Don't worry - it's going to be a great party. Most of the people we invited are coming, (2) _____ ?

Mary: Yes, but Great-aunt Mary hasn't phoned yet. You didn't forget to send her an invitation to the party, (3) _____ ?

James: I sent all the invitations last week. She is quite old, (4) _____ ?

Mary: Yes...

James: And her brother Mark won't be coming either, (5) _____ ?

Mary: No, he phoned to tell me yesterday. Mum and Dad will be disappointed, though, (6) _____ ?

James: I'm sure they will understand.

Mary: Don't forget to buy the decorations tomorrow, (7) _____ ?

James: Oh, no! I can't buy them tomorrow after school because I have football training. Let's go and buy them now, (8) _____ ?

Mary: Alright, we'll go after lunch. Your friends, Peter and Mark have promised to help us on the day, (9) _____ ?

James: Yes, they will be here at 6.00.

Mary: They wouldn't mind putting up the decorations, (10) _____ ?

James: Actually, they are looking forward to it!

(5 marks)

B. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form. The first one (0) has been done for you.

I first (0) saw (see) the singer, Mark Thomson, on a TV programme in 2003. The next day I (1) _____ (go) out and (2) _____ (buy) all his CDs. Before that TV programme, I (3) _____ (never hear) a singer I liked as much as Mark Thomson. I (4) _____ (be) to fifteen concerts so far. I went to New York last year while he (5) _____ (perform) in ten shows there. I (6) _____ (attend) three of them. Obviously, you (7) _____ (not travel) all that way and only go to one! Some people say that I am crazy but if you compare me to a football supporter who (8) _____ (watch) his favourite team every week, it (9) _____ (not be) too much. Life can be stressful, but if I have a concert to look forward to, I am excited. One day he (10) _____ (stop) doing concerts but that is something I dare not think about too much.

(5 marks)

C. Fill in the blanks with the correct preposition. The first one (0) has been done for you. You can use the same preposition more than once.

Sydney, Australia is fast becoming one (0) of the main travel destinations (1) _____ UK and US travellers. Sydney is built by the largest natural harbour (2) _____ the world, so the city is a stone's throw (3) _____ the beach, as well as being close (4) _____ some of the most amazing countryside (5) _____ Australia. In fact, Hunter Valley is a short trip (6) _____ and would make an excellent weekend destination. The Harbour Bridge and the world-famous Opera House, (7) _____ its very modern design, are two of the most popular attractions in the city itself. When you go (8) _____ an organised tour, you can enjoy views of the Opera House, which are breathtaking when seen from the top (9) _____ the bridge, or you might prefer to take a harbour cruise and enjoy the view of the Opera House from (10) _____ the water.

(5 marks)

D. Fill in the blanks with ONE word. The first one (0) has been done for you.

I live (0) in Mexico City. It is the capital and largest city in Mexico. To me, it is the (1)_____ exciting and friendliest city in the world, (2)_____ I have to admit that it can be a stressful place to live in. (3)_____ people live there and so it is a very busy city. It is a very old city (4)_____ was built on the remains of an even older city – the Aztec capital city called Tenochtitlan. Nowadays, it is a very modern city and new buildings and roads are always being (5)_____. When I look up, I can see the mountains which surround the city (6)_____ the rim of a dish. In the south there are two volcanoes which are always (7)_____ with snow. If fewer people have cars in Mexico City, we would be able to see them more (8)_____. Unfortunately, the pollution makes it difficult to see that far. Newcomers to the city, (9)_____ young, healthy people, sometimes feel sick (10)_____ the altitude (2,240 metres above sea level) can make it difficult to breathe normally at first.

(5 marks) ☐

E. Comprehension.

(20 marks) ☐

First read Text 1, *Stranded*, an extract from a novel, which is on a separate sheet, and then answer the following questions.

1. Put a tick (✓) in the correct box according to whether the statement is TRUE (T) or FALSE (F). **2 marks []**

- a. The breeze cooled the girls down.
- b. The girls were princesses.
- c. On the island, you can expect it to rain most afternoons.
- d. The girls never cooled down in the sea.

T	F

2. Why did the girls have to stop working on the boat at noon? **1 mark []**

3. Mention **two** fears the girls had when they arrived on the island. **2 marks []**

- a. _____
- b. _____

4. Mention **four** dangers the girls face on the island. 2 marks []
 a. _____
 b. _____
 c. _____
 d. _____
5. How do you think the girls arrived on the island? Quote a phrase from the passage to support your answer. 1 mark []

 Quote: _____
6. Why do you think Hatty was the leader of the girls? 2 marks []

7. In what way was Hatty's boat different from boats built by professional boat-builders? 1 mark []

8. Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage. 2 marks []
 a. grab (line 7): _____ b. timbers (line 28): _____
9. What do the following words refer to in the text? 1 mark []
 a. it (line 24): _____ b. they (line 25): _____

Now read Text 2, an advert, and answer the questions that follow.

10. What is being advertised? 1 mark []

11. Where can you buy the product? 1 mark []

12. What do you think the writer means when he says "The world is at your fingertips"? 2 marks []

13. Why do you think there are three drawings in the advert? 2 marks []

F. Literature

Answer all Sections.

SECTION 1 - PROSE/DRAMA

Answer the following questions about a novel, short story or play you have studied with your teacher this scholastic year.

1. What is the name of the novel / short story / play and who wrote it? (1 mark)

Title: _____ Author: _____

2. Write about an **episode** which you consider to be very important in the story/ play. (3 marks)

3. Explain why this episode is so important in the story/ play. (3 marks)

4. (i) Mention at least one important change in the life of a character at the end of the story. (1 mark)

(ii) Give a reason why this change has made the character's life better **or** worse. (2 marks)

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(10 marks)

SECTION 2 – POETRY: Answer all the questions.

1. Unprepared Poem: “Small Incident in Library” by David Sutton

- The little girl is lost among the books.
Two years old maybe, in bobble cap*,
White lacy tights, red coat. She stands and looks.
‘Can’t see you, Mummy.’ Mummy, next row up,
5 Intent* on reading answers absently:
‘I’m here, love.’ Child calls out again: ‘Can’t see.’
- A large man, his intentions of the best,
Stoops: ‘Where’s Mummy, then?’ Child backs away.
Now the tall shelves threaten like a forest.
10 She toddles fast between them, starts to cry,
Takes the next aisle down and as her mother
Rounds one end disappears behind the other.
- I catch the woman’s tired-eyed prettiness.
We smile, shake heads. The child comes back in sight,
15 Hurtles* to her laughing, hugs her knees:
‘Found you!’, in such ringing pure delight
It fills the room, there’s no one left who’s reading.
The mother looks down, blinking. ‘Great soft thing.’

***Meanings:**

bobble cap: a cap with
a woollen ball on top

intent on:
concentrating on

hurtles: moving at
great speed

a. Give the rhyming pattern of the second stanza. _____ ½ mark []

b. (i) Find and quote a simile in the second stanza. _____ ½ mark []

(ii) Explain what the poet means by these words. _____ 1 mark []

c. Why do you think the poet gives very little detail about what the man looks like, apart from the fact that he is ‘large’ (line 7)? _____ 1 mark []

d. Which lines in the poem bring out a feeling of increasing panic? _____ 1 mark []

Lines _____

e. ‘Found you!’, in such ringing pure delight
It fills the room, there’s no one left who’s reading. (line 16 – 17)
Why did the people in the room stop reading? _____ 1 mark []

