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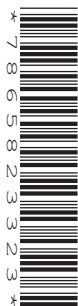
ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

0511/23

Paper 2 Listening

May/June 2026

Approximately 50 minutes (including 6 minutes' transfer time)



You must transfer your answers onto the multiple choice answer sheet.

You will need: Multiple choice answer sheet
Soft clean eraser
Soft pencil (type B or HB is recommended)

INSTRUCTIONS

- There are **40** questions on this paper. Answer **all** questions.
- You will have 6 minutes to transfer your answers from the question paper onto the multiple choice answer sheet.
- Follow the instructions on the multiple choice answer sheet. Shade **one** letter only for Questions 1 to 40.
- Write in soft pencil.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number on the multiple choice answer sheet in the spaces provided unless this has been done for you.
- Do **not** use correction fluid or tape.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 40.
- Each correct answer will score one mark.
- Any rough working should be done on this question paper.

This document has **16** pages.

Exercise 1

You will hear eight short recordings. For each question, choose the correct answer, **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**, and put a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

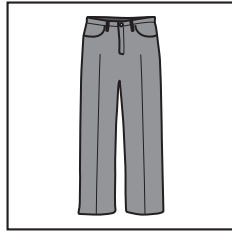
You will hear each recording twice.

Question 1

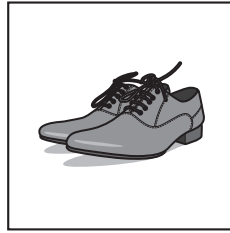
What has the man bought at the department store?



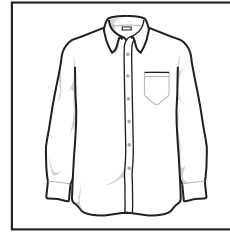
A

☐


B

☐


C

☐


D

☐

[1]

Question 2

Where is the girl's brother at the moment?



A

☐


B

☐


C

☐

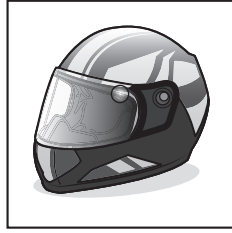

D

☐

[1]

Question 3

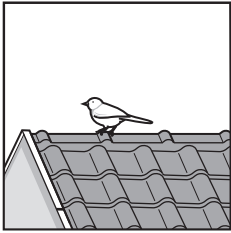
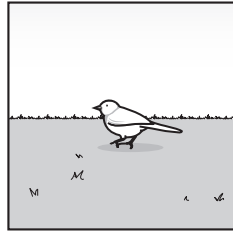
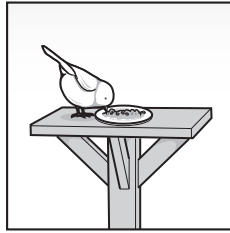
What did the man forget to take on his motorbike trip?

**A**
☐
**B**
☐
**C**
☐
**D**
☐

[1]

Question 4

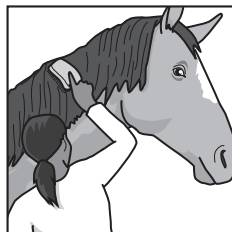
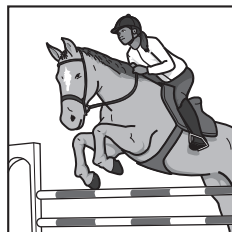
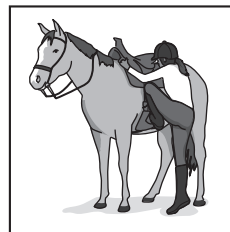
Where was the bird when the woman saw it?

**A**
☐
**B**
☐
**C**
☐
**D**
☐

[1]

Question 5

What was the woman concerned about doing in her recent horse riding lesson?

**A**
☐
**B**
☐
**C**
☐
**D**
☐

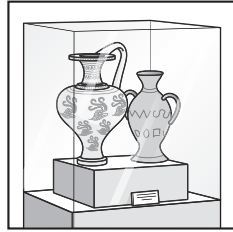
[1]

Question 6

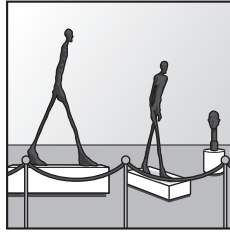
What do the friends agree to look at first in the arts centre?



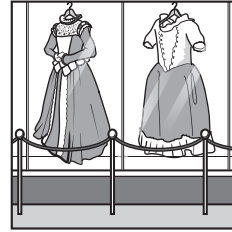
A

☐


B

☐


C

☐


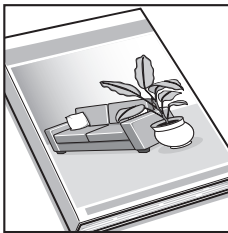
D

☐

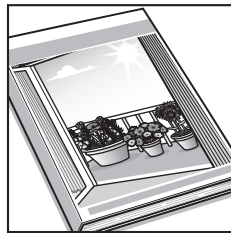
[1]

Question 7

Which book does the woman decide to borrow from the library?



A

☐


B

☐


C

☐


D

☐

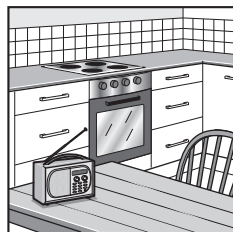
[1]

Question 8

Where does the man prefer to write his diary?



A

☐


B

☐


C

☐


D

☐

[1]

Exercise 2

You will hear five short recordings. For each question, choose the correct answer, **A**, **B** or **C**, and put a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

You will hear each recording twice.

You will hear two friends talking about a carnival parade.

Question 9

Why was the woman late for the parade?

A She had problems with her car.

☐

B She got stuck in traffic.

☐

C She lost her way.

☐

[1]

Question 10

How does the man react to the woman arriving late?

A He's annoyed that she failed to call him.

☐

B He's sympathetic that she missed everything.

☐

C He's surprised that she managed to get there.

☐

[1]

You will hear a man talking about a poem on trees that he's recently read.

Question 11

What did the man particularly like about the poem?

- A** the type of words the poet used
- B** the images it created in his mind
- C** the descriptions of the trees' appearance

☐☐☐

[1]

Question 12

After reading the poem, the man

- A** attempted some writing of his own.
- B** began reading other poets of the same era.
- C** became more aware of the trees in his neighbourhood.

☐☐☐

[1]

You will hear two friends talking about their recent trips to the coast.

Question 13

What did the woman like about the coast?

A the light on the water

☐

B the colours of the sky

☐

C the golden sand

☐

[1]

Question 14

The man says that on his last trip to the coast,

A he was upset about the weather.

☐

B he began to feel bored in the afternoon.

☐

C he enjoyed visiting the shops there.

☐

[1]

You will hear two friends talking about friendships.

Question 15

The woman says that her friend, Maria,

- A** never criticises her.
- B** never lets her down.
- C** never behaves selfishly towards her.

☐☐☐

[1]

Question 16

What does the man say about making new friends?

- A** It's become harder as he's got older.
- B** He thinks it's difficult to find the time for it.
- C** The people he meets are always disappointing.

☐☐☐

[1]

You will hear a woman talking about her country's football team taking part in an international competition.

Question 17

What does the woman say about her team?

- A** She's sorry that they have to play in high temperatures.
- B** She's optimistic about their chances of winning.
- C** She's shocked by the mistakes they've made.

☐☐☐

[1]

Question 18

How does the woman feel about **not** going to the stadium to watch her team play?

- A** cross that she couldn't take any time off work
- B** relieved that she didn't have to make the long journey
- C** sad that she couldn't find anyone else to go with

☐☐☐

[1]

Exercise 3

You will hear a woman called Sarah giving a talk about swifts – small birds that migrate to the UK every summer to spend the season there. For each question, choose the correct answer, **A**, **B** or **C**, and put a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

You will hear the talk twice.

Now look at Questions **19–26**.

Question 19

As a child, Sarah first became interested in swifts when she saw them flying ...

A above her house.

☐

B on a nearby farm.

☐

C close to a tower.

☐

[1]

Question 20

When Sarah found a young swift in her garden a few years ago, she put it ...

A back in its nest.

☐

B on top of a wall.

☐

C among some long grass.

☐

[1]

Question 21

Sarah later learned that when finding swifts on the ground, the best thing to do is to ...

A give them some help to fly away.

☐

B call an expert about them.

☐

C examine them for injuries.

☐

[1]

Question 22

When the swifts failed to arrive at the usual time one year, Sarah ...

A tried to get more information online.

☐

B was certain they wouldn't return.

☐

C blamed the weather.

☐

[1]

Question 23

Sarah thinks that ... is the most accurate estimate for pairs of swifts in the UK last year.

A 63 000

☐

B 87 000

☐

C 111 000

☐

[1]

Question 24

Sarah says that the lack of ... may be the reason for falling swift populations.

A flying insects

☐

B wooded areas

☐

C suitable buildings

☐

[1]

Question 25

When Sarah recently saw a huge group of swifts, she found it hard to ...

A guess how high they were flying.

☐

B work out the direction of their flight.

☐

C observe individual birds flying past.

☐

[1]

Question 26

Sarah particularly loves the ... of the swifts when they're flying around together.

A obvious happiness

☐

B outstanding skills

☐

C sociable nature

☐

[1]

Exercise 4

You will hear six people talking about the most recent novel they've read.

For Questions **27–32**, choose from the list (**A–H**) which idea each speaker expresses. Write the correct letter (**A–H**) on the answer line. Use each letter only once. There are two extra letters which you do **not** need to use.

You will hear the recordings twice.

Now read statements **A–H**.

A I recognised the author from the writing style.

B I found the plot far too complex.

C I didn't like one of the main characters.

D I was thinking about it for a long time afterwards.

E I felt the story was very unrealistic.

F I was surprised how much I enjoyed it.

G I found that finishing it was a huge effort.

H I was completely absorbed by it.

Question 27	Speaker 1		[1]
Question 28	Speaker 2		[1]
Question 29	Speaker 3		[1]
Question 30	Speaker 4		[1]
Question 31	Speaker 5		[1]
Question 32	Speaker 6		[1]

Exercise 5

You will hear an interview with Jamie Frost, a stunt actor who replaces film actors in difficult action scenes. For each question, choose the correct answer, **A**, **B** or **C**, and put a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

You will hear the interview twice.

Now look at Questions **33–40**.

Question 33

How did Jamie become interested in working in film?

- A** His father was already well-known in the field. ☐
- B** He was able to observe for himself what was involved. ☐
- C** He thought he could be better at acting than other family members. ☐

[1]

Question 34

Why did Jamie think working as a stunt actor might suit him?

- A** He felt there was very little that he was afraid of. ☐
- B** He'd experienced doing a few potentially dangerous sports. ☐
- C** He was encouraged to be adventurous when growing up. ☐

[1]

Question 35

What does Jamie say about working as a dancer, before he started stunt work?

- A** It made him realise he lacked physical strength. ☐
- B** It was as demanding as his later work. ☐
- C** It prepared him for jumping from heights. ☐

[1]

Question 36

Jamie initially found out about his first job in film

- A** as a result of a chance conversation. ☐
- B** through people already working on it. ☐
- C** by checking an online acting site. ☐

[1]

Question 37

What does Jamie say about one scene that he acted in?

- A** He became concerned about the level of risk.
- B** He was glad that other people were also taking part.
- C** He felt reassured by the safety checks that had been done.

☐
☐
☐

[1]

Question 38

How does Jamie compare himself with the actor he's often worked with?

- A** They have similar personalities.
- B** They look very similar to each other.
- C** They have a similar approach to acting.

☐
☐
☐

[1]

Question 39

Jamie explains that during the rehearsals, before filming starts, the director

- A** will usually make quite a number of changes.
- B** can check whether the costumes will fit.
- C** is able to see what the finished scenes will look like.

☐
☐
☐

[1]

Question 40

Jamie says that the organisation established for stunt actors now ensures they

- A** are suitable for the work they will do.
- B** feel they belong to a recognised profession.
- C** get offered regular jobs in films.

☐
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☐

[1]

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