

This is the Listening Paper for the Higher Matura Exam.

There are four parts to the test. Before each part, you will have time to look through the questions before you listen.

Write your answers on the question papers. At the end of the test, you will have five minutes to copy your answers onto the answer sheet.

Now open your question paper and look at Task 1.

You will hear 5 people talking about a place they went to. For each recording (1-5), decide the main reason why each person went there. Choose from A to H.

Write one letter next to the number of the recording. Do not use any letter more than once. There are three letters that you do not need. You will hear the recording twice.

You now have 20 seconds to look at Task 1.

[20 seconds pause]

You will now hear the speakers.

1

Things hadn't been going well for me for some time. Business was slow, my love life was zero, and I felt like I was trapped in a dull routine, where each day seemed the same. So when a friend of mine invited me to his second home for the weekend, I jumped at the chance. It was great to be by the sea, relaxing with friends, exploring the area and breathing the fresh sea air.

2

I start university in September and I'll be living away from home. I'm really looking forward to it, and I expect to learn a lot. But it'll be expensive and it won't be easy for my parents to support me, so last summer I got a job on the coast teaching windsurfing. I really enjoyed it. The scenery was wonderful - it made a real change from where I live - and the girls - well, what can I say?

3

When I have a free weekend, I like to do something exciting. There's nothing like bungee jumping to make the daily stress seem unimportant. Lying around is not for me. I love the thrill, the adrenalin rush. For instance, last weekend I went kayaking in a mountain river - really exciting, but dangerous if you're not trained, like I am. Next month, I'm going to take a course in paragliding. I'd love to learn how to do that.

4

I wasn't going to have a holiday last summer because it was my last summer before leaving home to go to university, but then a friend who has a business on the coast selling souvenirs to tourists called me to ask me to give him a hand. So off I went, and I worked hard but had time to relax on the beach during the day and best of all the money will help towards my expenses at university.

5

At the place where I work they organised a team building event, which meant people in the office going away for the day and learning orienteering. I'm not crazy about events like that, I didn't feel like going, but I felt I should, to show I was part of the team. So off I went and in fact I had a great day. It made a real change and I had fun learning orienteering with my colleagues from work.

Now listen again.

[Repeat]

That is the end of Task 1.

Now turn to Task 2, questions 6 to 13.

You will hear people talking in eight situations. For each situation (6-13), choose the correct answer, A, B or C. You will hear each recording twice.

You now have 45 seconds to look at questions 6-13.

[45 seconds pause]

You will now hear the recordings.

6

Voice: So, Sophie, did you enjoy the film?

Sophie: Yes, I did. The characters, of course, were completely unbelievable, I mean, people like that just don't exist in the real world. And there's no depth to them – they're very one-dimensional. But it was a very strong cast and they somehow managed to make you believe in them. So, as a form of escapism, the film did what it was meant to. As I said, good fun.

Now listen again.

[Repeat]

7

Voice: Harry, how was your summer holiday?

Harry: Oh I didn't really have a holiday. I worked.

Voice: Oh yes.

Harry: In a summer camp for young kids. I was teaching them maths.

Voice: What? You?

Harry: Well, it was low level but I must say it was a great experience and I really learned a lot. I think I'll do it again next summer. And I wouldn't have gone if I hadn't been short of cash for university.

Now listen again.

[Repeat]

8

Jessica: I was looking forward to it very much but I didn't know anyone there and I didn't see a friendly face to talk to. The people looked to me like pseudo-intellectuals, taking themselves very seriously and looking fashionably bored. I felt I must be very uninteresting for them, and I couldn't relax and be myself, so I decided to leave before I made a fool of myself or did something to make me lose my dignity.

Now listen again.

[Repeat]

9

Voice: Hey, Alfie, how was the test? Was it difficult?

Alfie: It's hard to say. I wasn't expecting us to have to write what we think about the subject, you know, to give our own views. So whether I did well on the test or not is hard to know. I think those who are interested in the subject had an advantage, but it was the same for everyone so I don't think anyone can complain.

Now listen again.

[Repeat]

10

Voice: Climate comes into it, of course. People are looking for a change of climate, to a hotter and sunnier one. But it's not just a question of sun and sea but the environment in general. And we have to leave this environment unspoiled, for the countryside is a major attraction. But the more popular a place becomes, the greater is the danger of spoiling it with hotels or golf courses. To protect the industry, you must protect the environment.

Now listen again.

[Repeat]

11

Voice: Lily, what do you think of Thomas?

Lily: It's interesting you should ask that because I've been thinking about him. He's a bit of a mystery, I mean he doesn't show his feelings much. I'm sometimes not sure what he's feeling – it certainly makes you think. But he seems to me to be the sort of person you can count on, the sort of person who'll make a good friend. Basically, I like him.

Now listen again.

[Repeat]

12

Voice: Josh, I hear Amelia's angry with you.

Josh: Yes, it was our one-month anniversary yesterday and I completely forgot about it until I was on my way to school, and it was too late to get her anything nice. And when she saw what I'd got her she didn't look pleased and I knew that if I said I was sorry everything would be ok, and I should have, but frankly I couldn't be bothered and now she's angry.

Now listen again.

[Repeat]

13

Voice: Grace, did you do anything yesterday evening?

Grace: Yes, I saw a film.

Voice: Did you enjoy it?

Grace: Well, I'd have liked to have seen it in the cinema rather than at Josie's, on a big screen instead of a TV, because there are loads of visual effects. Also, I wasn't feeling well and I think I had a temperature. In fact, I was really too ill to go out. I should've stayed at home.

Now listen again.

[Repeat]

That is the end of Task 2.

Now turn to Task 3, questions 14-19. You will hear a conversation between two friends about three restaurants. Listen to the conversation and decide which restaurant (A to C) each question (14-19) refers to. Write A for Anna's, B for Bangle's or C for Coster's. You will hear the recording twice.

You now have 20 seconds to look at questions 14 to 19.

[20 seconds pause]

Now listen to the conversation.

Female: I want to take a friend to the restaurant on Saturday. Any suggestions?

Male: Well if it's a nice day, go somewhere where you can eat outside. Anna's got a lovely garden where you can sit, and so does Bangle's, or you can get out of town and go to Coster's. That wouldn't be a problem for you, would it?

Female: Well I don't know if I can borrow the car. Anyway, I'd prefer indoors, where we can have a quiet conversation. I don't want us to be disturbed by insects, or worrying about dark clouds or the wind in our hair.

Male: And is there anything special you want to eat? Coster's specialises in barbecues and it really is good for that, you can get all sorts of grilled meat there, and I can really recommend their steak.

Female: Oh.

Male: But Bangle's is the place to go if you want fish. They always have a wide selection of fresh fish – they have their own boat, you know. Anna's has a greater range of dishes than Bangle's or Coster's since it doesn't specialise but it doesn't have their quality.

Female: Well, which one would you recommend?

Male: It depends. Anna's is very well known locally, and Bangle's is even in the Good Food Guide, and you can't get better than that. But personally I prefer Coster's because of its location and atmosphere.

Female: Oh yes?

Male: Yes. It's run by a family, so there's a nice family atmosphere there, which I like. You can't go into Bangle's in jeans and T-shirt, your friend would have to put on a tie and wear a jacket, which I don't like to do if I don't have to. Anna's is also quite relaxed.

Female: I suppose Bangle's is very expensive.

Male: Well, it's not as expensive as you would think. In fact, it's good value for what you get. And it all depends on what you order, and how much. I mean, you can order something small and just sit back and enjoy it. But if you want a full meal, then, of course, the other places would put you less out of pocket, especially Anna's.
But if you haven't got a car, Anna's within walking distance from here. Mind you, you could always take a taxi. It's a very short ride to Bangle's.

Female: Yes, we'll see about that. Anyway, thanks for the info. I'll tell my friend what you said and he can make the choice.

Male: Good idea.
Now listen again.
[Repeat]
That is the end of Task 3.

Now turn to Task 4, questions 20-25.

You will hear a radio interview with the actor Ricky Jay.

For questions 20-25, choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

You will hear the recording twice.

You now have 30 seconds to look at questions 20 to 25.

[30 seconds pause]

You will now hear the interview.

Voice: Here he is, Ricky Jay! Hi, Ricky.

Ricky: Hi, Ben

Voice: Ricky, first of all, how come you became an actor?

Ricky: Well, when I was a kid, my parents quarrelled all the time, so I'd make funny faces to get their attention and make them smile so they'd love me. And at school, I wasn't good at school, so I entertained my classmates and this way got some respect. Now, of course, I'm a household name, which is great. I've been lucky.

Voice: Do you remember your first professional appearance?

Ricky: Oh yes, it was a stage production of the Wizard of Oz. When I went for the audition, they said 'what have you prepared' and I said 'nothing' so I had to improvise. I got the part of the lion, which I didn't think was really me, I felt I was much more of a scarecrow. And the lion's suit was really sweaty and made me itch.

Voice: And your first film role?

Ricky: That was a piece of luck. I only heard about it from a friend. It was for one of Robin Hood's Merry Men. It wasn't a speaking part, so at the audition I focused on my facial expressions, looking strong and hard. And I got the part. The casting director later told me it was because I looked good in tights.

Voice: Well, now you're a star and the darling of the critics.

Ricky: No, they can always find something wrong. There was a review recently which went on about my charisma and how I command the audience's attention and then said I sounded like a Welshman rather than a Scotsman like I should. Now if I'd had to sing he would really have had something to complain about.

Voice: But you've been nominated for an Oscar. How did you feel at the ceremony?

Ricky: Well I didn't win, of course. Naturally, I'd have been delighted if I had. But I wasn't really expecting to. I was just amazed to be there. It's very humbling to be nominated, because you're nominated by others in your profession and it shows their respect for your work. This is what's important.

Voice: Can you tell us about your next film?

Ricky: Well, as usual, it's an action-packed movie with lots of fabulous locations. And, of course, a beautiful heroine for the love angle. But this time I play it

for laughs. I just hope you'll laugh with me, not at me. But anyway, there'll be lots of thrills and excitement – basically it's a fun roller-coaster ride for all the family.

Voice: Thank you, Ricky.

Now listen again.

[Repeat]

That is the end of Task 4.

You now have five minutes to copy your answers onto the answer sheet.

[4 minutes pause]

You have one more minute.

[1 minute pause]

That is the end of the test.